

UK National Action Plan on Women, Peace & Security

Final Annual Review
October 2013



Foreign &
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Office

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UK National Action Plan on Women Peace and Security 2013 Review

Introduction

The UK National Action Plan (NAP) for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions (UNSCRs) on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) is intended to strengthen the UK's ability to reduce the impact of conflict on women and girls and to promote their inclusion in conflict resolution. It provides a framework to ensure that the provisions of UNSCR 1325 and associated Resolutions are incorporated into the Government's work on violent conflict.

The 2010-2013 NAP reflects work on resolutions adopted by the Security Council; UNSCR 1325 (2000), UNSCR 1820 (2008), UNSCR 1888 (2009), UNSCR 1889 (2009), and UNSCR 1960 (2010).¹ These resolutions all inform the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

The Government published a Revised NAP in November 2010, which put in place a clear framework for the UK's work on WPS. The NAP's aims have been to: maximise the impact of UK efforts by focusing on where the UK has the most influence; ensure that UK action covers the four UN pillars of UNSCR 1325 (prevention, protection, participation, and relief and recovery); strengthen the UK's annual reporting and monitoring process; facilitate cross-departmental working; and to work more closely with civil society to improve the NAP on an ongoing basis.

Following a review of the NAP in October 2011, the Government committed to making a further revision of it at the start of 2012. The 2012 NAP revision contained existing commitments from the 2010 revision which are still relevant or have been updated, and new commitments in response to the Arab Spring, following consultation with Parliament and civil society.

This is the final annual review and concludes the 2010–2013 NAP. It details how the UK has made progress against its objectives and paves the way for a new NAP which will be launched in 2014.

¹ Recently adopted UN Security Council Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security, such as UNSCR 2106 (2013) and UNSCR 2122 (2013), are not an explicit part of the 2010-2013 NAP and are not dealt with here. Delivery against these commitments will be covered in the next NAP.

Executive Summary

Violence against women and girls is one of the most systematic and widespread human rights abuses in the world. Women have a vital and largely untapped role in resolving conflict. The promotion of women's participation in building peace and conflict resolution is important because the effective participation of women helps to secure a more sustainable peace. This is vital to the international community's security and stability interests.

Since the UN Secretary General called for the implementation of UNSCR 1325, over forty countries have developed National Action Plans. The UK was among the first. The NAP guides the UK's ability to reduce the impact of conflict on women and girls, and to promote their inclusion in conflict resolution. It draws together the work undertaken across Government. The NAP is jointly owned by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), Department for International Development (DFID) and the Ministry of Defence (MOD). It is also fully integrated into the work undertaken by Lynne Featherstone MP, as Ministerial Champion for Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Overseas (VAWG).

Evaluation of the UK's National Action Plan

In April 2013 Her Majesty's Government (HMG) commissioned an independent evaluation on how far the UK had progressed on delivery of the NAP and the implementation of UNSCR 1325. The evaluation considered activity between November 2010 and April 2013. It describes the UK as a global leader on the WPS agenda and accurately charts the rise of the issue up the political agenda through initiatives such as Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative (PSVI) and the increased ministerial interest in preventing Violence Against Women Girls (VAWG). At the same time, the evaluation also sets out the challenges that remain.

The assessment makes a number of recommendations for the next NAP, which will run between 2014 and 2017. One of the key recommendations is the need for an overarching strategy that: aligns cross-Whitehall work on Women, Peace and Security; brings together the various activities (such as PSVI and VAWG) in a more coherent and coordinated manner; and highlights the UK's priorities. Another key recommendation is the need for better monitoring and evaluation of WPS projects with baselines and indicators that are specific and measurable, in order to better evaluate progress against stated objectives. Many of the recommendations in the assessment will be incorporated in the next National Action Plan, in particular the need for an overarching strategy. The strategy will bring together the various WPS work-streams and more comprehensively embed the NAP into the work carried out cross-Government on WPS.

Key Findings

National Activity

National Activity reflects the range of work that FCO, DFID and MOD have undertaken centrally to support the delivery of UK action on WPS, and sets out how HMG has adapted its policy, programmes, training and operational procedures to ensure that WPS is incorporated into its work on conflict and in conflict-affected countries.

The process of incorporating WPS into HMG conflict policy has been done largely through the new Joint Analysis for Conflict and Stability (JACS). This serves to develop an integrated cross-HMG approach to understanding conflict and stability in fragile countries and contains advice on how to include WPS in its analytical approach. The JACS methodology has been employed in a number of conflict settings including Nigeria and Mali, each of which has set out the main challenges facing women's participation and protection in these countries.

On funding, both Strategic and Programme-level Conflict Pool Guidance advise all Conflict Pool programmes to take a gender sensitive approach, recommending that Programme Managers "should consider how women and girls have been affected by the conflict; how activities can be designed to promote the rights of women and girls and to prevent sexual and gender-based violence; and the scope for identifying and supporting local peace initiatives, mediators and peace building groups with female leadership." There have been examples of projects that are focused specifically on WPS objectives. For example, the Conflict Pool has supported a programme in Zimbabwe that has funded work by grass-roots organisations to increase the participation of women in elections. On a thematic level, Women, Peace and Security criteria has also been included in the Strengthening Alliances Partnerships (SAP) fund within the Conflict Pool, as part of the Building Stability Overseas Strategy and recently funded the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders localisation project. This facilitates implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 in local communities across the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

Work has been undertaken across Government to incorporate conflict issues into staff training. For example the tri-departmental Stabilisation Unit (SU) has continued to run courses which include specific sessions on WPS as well as dedicated one-day training on WPS. Feedback suggests that 85% of participants believe that the training will strengthen their professional effectiveness. The SU is also working to develop an e-learning module on WPS which will have a far greater reach across HMG, in the UK and overseas.

Women, Peace and Security is also on the syllabus for the MOD's Defence Cultural Specialist course and is part of a new course being developed for senior officers. This will ensure that staff are aware of the capability of the specialists but also understand the value of their input in the planning and execution of future campaigns.

Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative (PSVI)

Since the Foreign Secretary and the Special Envoy of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Angelina Jolie, launched the Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative in May 2012, the initiative has received widespread attention and gained momentum worldwide. The UK is addressing the issue of sexual violence in conflict through a high level political campaign underpinned by a set of practical actions, including sustained country engagement with conflict-affected states. Some important milestones have been achieved in the period since its launch. For example, the G8 Declaration on Sexual Violence in Conflict was adopted in April 2013, whereby for the first time the G8 declared that rape and serious sexual violence in conflict constitute grave breaches of the Geneva Convention.

In September 2013, the Foreign Secretary, with UN Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Zainab Bangura, launched the political Declaration on Ending Sexual Violence in Conflict during UN General Assembly (UNGA) Ministerial week. It includes a set of ambitious, action-oriented political and practical commitments which will serve as a platform for future practical activity, particularly at regional level and within conflict-affected states. In particular it supports the development of a new International Protocol on the investigation and documentation of sexual violence in conflict that the UK is taking the lead on facilitating.

A key part of the Initiative is building the capacity of States to tackle sexual violence. With this in mind, a UK Team of Experts, from a wide range of specialist backgrounds in issues relating to sexual violence, was established. The Team includes lawyers, doctors, psycho-social experts, gender advisors and experts in the protection of victims and witnesses. Since December 2012, experts have been deployed to the Syrian borders, Libya, Mali, Bosnia-Herzegovina and the DRC. They have conducted country level assessments, provided training and mentoring to national professionals working on the frontline documenting and investigating crimes of sexual violence.

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

DFID country offices continue to scale up programming to address violence against women and girls across a range of contexts. There are now targeted programmes in over 20 country offices, as well as through mainstreamed interventions in other sector programmes, such as security and justice, health

and education. Globally, since 2011 DFID has helped 6.46 million women to access justice through the courts, police, and legal assistance. The appointment of DFID's Parliamentary Under Secretary to the role of Ministerial Champion for tackling violence against women overseas has provided further impetus to secure commitment to this agenda.

From 2010-14 DFID are also providing £3.25 million to a UN Women Programme 'From Communities to Global Security Institutions: Engaging Women in Building Peace and Security'. The Programme focuses on strengthening women's security and voice in peacebuilding at community, national, and international level.

Afghanistan

The ongoing conflict and security situation has continued to have a disproportionate impact on women and girls. The UK continues to offer practical and political support to the Government of Afghanistan to help it honour its national and international human rights obligations and commitments. The situation for women is fragile and significant challenges remain.

With the forthcoming Presidential and Provincial Council elections in 2014, effort has been concentrated in improving women's participation in the electoral process, for example the ELECT II programme, which the UK has funded with £12 million. This includes supporting female voter registration; building the capacity of the Independent Election Commission (IEC), including their gender unit, and developing gender-sensitive security processes to deliver the elections. The IEC gender unit, set up in 2013, is an active body that is helping to support women's political participation, including outreach to women in both urban and rural areas. DFID's Tawanmandi project to strengthen Afghan civil society also provided grants to 15 organisations working on projects exclusively for women.

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Similar to Afghanistan, DRC has suffered from internal conflict over an extended period and continues to be considered a fragile and insecure country. The primary focus of the UK's work on sexual violence has been carried out through the various instruments of the DRC Government, including the police. An example of this is the Security Sector Accountability and Police Reform (SSAPR) programme. This is a £60 million investment that aims to build a more capable and accountable state in the DRC to deliver greater degrees of security and the rule of law to its citizens. The five-year programme (January 2010-December 2014) includes a specific focus on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), working at the national level and in three pilot provinces to support the government, police and civil society to develop

practical approaches towards improving prevention, reporting, investigation and victim support.

The Foreign Secretary and Ms Jolie visited the DRC in March 2013 to highlight the issue of sexual violence in DRC and show how the UK, along with the G8, is trying to end it. The UK's Team of Experts on sexual violence have deployed to DRC. They have focused on building local Congolese capacity to improve the ability of health, legal and law enforcement professionals to investigate and document sexual violence crimes, and ultimately to support these individuals collect and preserve forensic and other evidence.

Nepal

In 2011, Nepal became the first country in South Asia to develop a NAP. The UK has provided funding to the Nepal Peace Trust Fund (NPTF) which is supporting nine government ministries on implementation of the Nepalese NAP. The UK also provides technical and financial support for the NAP, through the Peace Support Working Group (PSWG). The NAP demonstrates a clear commitment to combating gender-based violence; however much remains to be done in terms of its implementation. On Participation, DFID is supporting the Policy Advocacy and Capacity Building for Women's Political Inclusion Project was instrumental in developing the capacity of women political cadres and leaders. Approximately 1,350 potential women leaders and over 280 members of district committees of political parties have now received training.

The UK is continuing to provide support, through various projects, for women's participation in the forthcoming Nepalese Constituent Assembly elections and in the process of finalising the constitution. Political instability has however, impacted the rate of development on WPS in Nepal.

Middle East and North Africa (MENA)

In the February 2012 revision of the NAP, the UK committed to developing a regional MENA plan in response to the Arab Spring of 2011.

A key theme of the UK's work has been on building the capacity of women in the region to tackle issues relating to WPS, particularly by strengthening regional and national networks. For example in Libya projects to support women's empowerment has included a 14 month project run by Danish Church Aid (DCA). This provides training and mentoring to Libyan civil society throughout the country to promote women's participation in the political and public life and women's inclusion in the constitution drafting process. The security situation and the fluidity of the political situation in the region continues to impact the rate of progress.

Multilateral Engagement:

The UK leads on the WPS agenda in the UN Security Council and continues to champion the women, peace and security agenda at the multilateral level. 2013 has seen the adoption of two UN Security Council Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security. The first of these was UNSCR 2106, adopted in June during an open debate hosted by the Foreign Secretary and under the UK's Presidency of the UN Security Council. The Resolution was co-sponsored by 45 States and puts an important focus on violence in conflict, and makes specific action to protect women from violence, and ensure their participation in all responses to sexual violence and all peace processes.

The second Resolution, UNSCR 2122, was unanimously adopted on 18 October. It has three main objectives: firstly, to strengthen the Security Council's commitment to deliver the WPS agenda by ensuring UN Departments provide effective reporting; secondly, to increase women's leadership and participation in conflict resolution and peace building processes, for example through encouraging Member States to financially support women's leadership and participation in decision making processes; lastly, it reiterates the Security Council's decision to hold a High Level Review of UNSCR 1325 in 2015.

The UK also played an important role in delivering a successful outcome at this year's UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in March. The priority theme was the 'Elimination and Prevention of all Forms of Violence Against Women and Girls' and the agreed conclusions commit Member States to implement recommendations to do this across all contexts.

Beyond the UN, the UK has continued to work across other multilateral institutions to take forward the WPS agenda. In April, G8 Foreign Ministers agreed a historic Declaration on Sexual Violence in Conflict. Importantly, the G8 also agreed that efforts to end sexual violence in conflict must promote women's active and equal political, social and economic participation including in all conflict prevention, conflict resolution, transitional justice and security sector reform processes.

At the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) the UK was one of several countries instrumental in ensuring UNSCR 1325 was on the agenda of the 2012 NATO Heads of State and Government Summit in Chicago. Through this summit, the North Atlantic Council was commissioned to do a review of the practical implications of the Resolution for the conduct of NATO operations and missions. The review was recently concluded and NATO Headquarters will be looking at how this can be implemented.

At the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the UK Delegation has continued to seek full implementation of UNSCR1325 among

participating states. Along with likeminded partners, the UK Delegation has ensured that the WPS agenda features in all relevant OSCE discussions and activities, including within the Secretariat. Throughout 2013 the UK Delegation has endorsed the PSVI agenda, including organising a Forum for Security Cooperation (FSC) Security Dialogue and, in conjunction with Canada, brought it onto the agenda of the Parliamentary Assembly.

Going Forward

The 2014-2017 NAP will build on lessons to date, and address some of the challenges in the current NAP. It will continue to have a bilateral section, targeting countries that are a priority to the Government as a whole. The aim will be to ensure a more joined-up approach to the work on Women, Peace and Security and will ensure the best use of UK Government resources. There will be a greater focus on Participation, as it is essential that peace negotiations provide for the active participation, perspectives and needs of both men and women. Promoting and supporting women's active and meaningful participation in all peace processes, as well as their representation in formal and informal decision-making at all levels, is vital to international peace and security. The engagement of women in early stages of peacemaking can increase gender analysis in post-conflict planning, lead to improved outcomes for women, and enhance their capacity to participate in longer-term peacebuilding. In this context, the UK welcomed the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2122 on 18 October, which reaffirms the integral role women play in peace processes. The new NAP will incorporate UNSCRs 2106 and 2122 into HMG policy on WPS, along with all other successor UN Security Council Resolutions following 1325.

There are various initiatives being taken forward on the WPS agenda across HMG and there is value in bringing these elements together under one framework. With this in mind, the new NAP will be framed around an overarching strategy that aligns the Government's work on Women, Peace and Security. The new NAP will also focus more significantly on Monitoring and Evaluation, to ensure better evaluation of impact on the ground and progress against stated objectives.

The UK will host an international conference on sexual violence in 2014. The aim of this conference will be to build on the momentum of the G8 and UNGA Declarations, looking at how the international community is turning its political commitments into practical action. This will be a major opportunity to raise the profile of Women, Peace and Security and will give the agenda a significant push, both politically and practically. HMG will also ensure the participation of civil society groups through fringe activities around the conference.

HMG will continue collaborating closely with civil society groups to multiply the effectiveness of WPS policy on the ground and in drafting the new NAP. Civil

Society involvement in design and development of a NAP is widely recognised as vital for it to be effective. This collaboration will build on the achievements of the current NAP and will work to progress the WPS agenda over the next three years.

Review of progress against the 2010 – 2013 UK National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security objectives

The following sections focus on HMG’s commitments made in the NAP and report against each of the objectives across National, Bilateral and Multilateral action and reviews direct progress made against these:

1. National Action

National Activity reflects the range of work that FCO, DFID and MOD have undertaken centrally from 2010 - 2013 to support the delivery of UK action on WPS at the international level. This includes how HMG has adapted its policy, programmes, training and operational procedures to ensure that WPS is incorporated into its work on conflict and in conflict affected countries.

Objective	Progress
Evidence and lessons: Ensuring that lessons are learned and best practice shared	
HMG foreign, defence and development policy is informed by evidence based research and lessons learnt on women, peace and security	<p>HMG regularly draws upon reporting from a range of stakeholders including the UN, NGO Working Group, academia, NGOs and Civil Society Organisations (CSO) on Women, Peace and Security, including at Conferences such as the March 2013 Wilton Park-hosted event on Women in Peacebuilding. The SU collates a range of lessons relating to gender through briefs and de-briefs from outgoing and returning SU advisers, which are shared in various formats, but substantively through the Stabilisation Unit’s Gender Stabilisation Issues Note. The cross-Government Women, Peace and Security network seeks to use this research to inform policy makers. DFID ensures that their policies and programmes are evidence based, by providing direct access for staff to external advice and support through the Conflict, Crime and Violence Results Initiative (CCVRI) Helpdesk and the VAWG Helpdesk.</p> <p>Where there are gaps in evidence, new research to build the evidence base is encouraged. For example DFID has recently commissioned research on evidence of women in both peacebuilding and statebuilding processes. This work is on-going and will inform development policy and practice going</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>forward, namely DFID engagement with the Organisation for Economic Cooperation-Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC) to ensure women are included in both peacebuilding and statebuilding processes in a much more comprehensive way.</p> <p>In November 2012 DFID launched a new VAWG Research and Innovation Fund of up to £25million, to generate high quality and policy relevant data and evidence on what works for the prevention of violence against women and girls. One of the three core components of the Fund will generate specific evidence on the prevalence and nature of violence against women and girls in conflict and humanitarian emergencies.</p>
<p>Programming/Provision: Ensuring that gender considerations are incorporated into HMG programmes in conflict affected countries</p>	
<p>DFID Bilateral Aid Review (BAR) reflects strong commitment to empower women and girls, which will include programmes in conflict-affected and fragile states</p>	<p>DFID country offices continue to scale up programming to address violence against women and girls across a range of contexts. There are now targeted programmes in over 20 country offices, as well as through mainstreamed interventions in other sector programmes, such as security and justice, health and education. Globally, since 2011 DFID has helped 6.46 million women to access justice through the courts, police, and legal assistance.</p> <p>Many DFID programmes which reflect strong commitment to empowering women and girls are in fragile or conflict affected states. Please refer to Annex A for examples.</p> <p>From 2010-14 DFID are also providing £3.25 million to a UN Women Programme ‘From Communities to Global Security Institutions: Engaging Women in Building Peace and Security’. The Programme focuses on strengthening women’s security and voice in peacebuilding at community, national, and international level. At the community level there are five focus countries: Uganda, Timor-Leste, Haiti, Liberia and South Sudan with a total number of 10,676 direct beneficiaries to date. Results achieved so far include 622 women in Liberia having received training in peacebuilding and security, concentrating on creating the most conducive and appropriate conditions for women to become agents of peace and</p>

Objective	Progress
	reconciliation and to become financially self-dependent.
HMG funding for conflict and stabilisation includes Women Peace and Security	<p>HMG funding for conflict and stabilisation is derived from a number of sources including: FCO human rights and democracy funding, DFID funding, and the Conflict Pool. The Conflict Pool is divided into five regional and one thematic programme. The work funded within the programmes depends in part on project bids received from implementers. A few examples of Conflict Pool-funded projects focused specifically on delivering Women, Peace and Security objectives include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Support to UNICEF to enhance the capacity of AU forces to protect women and children at risk from the Lord's Resistance Army in Uganda, the DRC, the Central African Republic and South Sudan. II. In Zimbabwe, the programme has funded work by grass-roots organisations to increase the participation of women in elections. III. The Middle East and North Africa programme supports the formation of women's networks and common platforms for advocacy as a national and local level in Libya, and also funds a project encouraging women to stand for election in the Palestinian local elections. <p>On a thematic level, Women, Peace and Security criteria has also been included in the Strengthening Alliances Partnerships (SAP) fund within the Conflict Pool as part of the Building Stability Overseas Strategy. The SAP fund seeks to develop the capacity of regional and multilateral institutions to tackle upstream conflict prevention effectively. The SAP fund provides support over a three year period from April 2012 – March 2015. Women, Peace and Security projects from 2012-2015, totalling up to £2.5 million. Please refer to Annex B for a cross-section of projects being supported.</p> <p>FCO's Human Rights and Democracy Programme (HRDP) supports initiatives that prevent violence against women and girls, particularly by challenging societal attitudes and behaviour, and increased participation of women in political and public affairs. As part of this HRDP have launched a Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative funding round which gives</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>access to £5 million over three years. The funding is aimed at supporting the work of civil society organisations, including women’s organisations and human rights defenders and networks to: Enhance community level prevention and protection against sexual violence in conflict and post conflict environments; help victims and survivors of sexual violence to get better access to justice; and promote greater accountability by national institutions responsible for tackling sexual violence.</p> <p>Both Strategic and Programme-level Conflict Pool Guidance advise all Conflict Pool programmes to take a gender sensitive approach, recommending that Programme managers “should consider how women and girls have been affected by the conflict; how activities can be designed to promote the rights of women and girls and to prevent sexual and gender-based violence; and the scope for identifying and supporting local peace initiatives, mediators and peace building groups with female leadership.” However, the Conflict Pool is clear that it will not adopt a centrally-driven approach: teams in country need to identify the most effective mix of interventions for the local context.</p> <p>DFID’s humanitarian funding guidelines specify that proposals must ensure the needs of specific groups, including women and girls, are taken into consideration; that women and girls are involved in the decision-making; and asks organisations to explain how their project contributes to the protection of civilians and, in particular, identifies and addresses the risks of violence against women and girls.</p>
<p>HMG conflict policy includes Women Peace and Security</p>	<p>HMG conflict policy is developed cross-departmentally along both geographical and thematic lines. The new Joint Analysis for Conflict and Stability (JACS) which serves to develop an integrated cross-HMG approach to understanding conflict and stability in fragile countries contains advice on how to include women, peace and security in its analytical approach. The JACS methodology has now been employed in a number of conflict settings including Nigeria, Mali, Sinai, Sudan and Central Asia, each of which has set out the main challenges facing women’s participation and protection in these countries and regions. In the Mali JACS, the analysis included an assessment of gender under societal resilience. Meanwhile,</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>the Central Asia JACS makes programmatic suggestions around reviewing conflict prevention structures to ensure they are informed by UNSC resolutions on WPS. Finally, the Sudan JACS provides an overview of research on violence against women and a comprehensive assessment of social exclusions and gender inequality.</p>
<p>Training: Raising awareness of Women Peace and Security across HMG and providing specialist training where necessary</p>	
<p>All staff working on conflict issues across FCO, DFID and MOD departments are aware of the women, peace and security agenda and receive specialist training, when appropriate</p>	<p>The SU's Introduction to Conflict course (primarily targeting core HMG staff; six courses per year; 30 participants) and the SU's Practitioners' course (primarily targeting SU deployable experts and HMG operational staff; 4 courses per year; 30 participants) both include a specialised session on Women, Peace and Security led by an SU expert adviser. The training introduces the WPS agenda, international and HMG commitments, plus details of practical efforts to make progress in this area. Over 85% of participant feedback from both courses highlighted that the trainings will strengthen professional effectiveness. The SU also continues to hold two one-day trainings per year on Women, Peace and Security which targets HMG officials across Whitehall. The course content continues to be refined, based on feedback from participants and efforts are constantly made to reach out to a wider HMG audience. The SU also run a Security and Justice Course which has a dedicated Women, Peace and Security element to it, although this course is currently being reviewed and a new iteration will be rolled out in the new year. There are also plans for the SU to develop a specific e-learning module on WPS which will have greater reach across HMG at home and abroad. This module will be rolled out by mid-2014.</p> <p>The FCO's Human Rights Department hold both Introductory and Advanced Human Rights courses, every two months and six months, respectively. Both of these courses include mainstreaming of women's issues. On the introductory course this is interwoven through the two days training, but specific reference to women's issues are raised in the session on Equality & Non-Discrimination. On the advanced course, one day in the week-long course focuses specifically on rights of women and partnership with civil society, with specific sessions on 'Promotion of the Human Rights of Women in Practice:</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>UNSCR 1325 and Implementation of the UK National Action Plan'; 'Supporting Civil Society Groups to Promote Women's Rights in Afghanistan' and 'Project Identification and Delivery'. The courses see 20 people trained every two months on the introductory course and 16-18 people every six months on the advanced course, with those civil servants due to go overseas being prioritised.</p> <p>DFID is working to ensure that all its humanitarian responses consider the risk of violence against women and girls and take appropriate action. At the DFID Humanitarian Advisers Continuous Professional Development Conference in July 2013 training was provided for all delegates on addressing the needs of women and girls as part of a humanitarian response. Guidance is also being developed for advisers and will be available by the end of 2013.</p> <p>In MOD training on UNSCR 1325 is on the syllabus for the Defence Cultural Specialist course and is part of the new course being developed for senior officers, in order to ensure that they are aware of the capability of the specialists but also understand the value of their input into the planning and execution of future campaigns. There will be wider training for the Cultural Specialists during their course to ensure that they are aware of how the importance of engaging with all parts of the community and what the second and third order effects are. There has already been progress in Afghanistan with female engagement Cultural Advisers working with women in Afghan Forces.</p>
<p>Operations: Changing our approach to conflict to incorporate Women, Peace and Security</p>	
<p>Greater integration of gender into UK development, defence and diplomatic activity</p>	<p>The UK is committed to putting women and girls at the heart of our development assistance. In 2011 DFID published a Strategic Vision for Women and Girls which was underpinned by a commitment to build a positive enabling environment for girls and women, allowing them to participate in, benefit from and contribute to economic and social development on an equal basis with boys and men.</p> <p>There has been a concerted effort to ensure a better integration of gender into defence activity. MOD has recently</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>commissioned an independent review of the incorporation of UNSCR 1325 and other strands of WPS, including PSVI, which is ongoing. It will look at the whole spectrum of policy, doctrine, planning and training and make recommendations. In addition closer links are being established with the Personnel and Training Directorate to achieve a greater synergy between operational policy in relation to gender and human resources policy.</p> <p>Doctrine revision continues and the UK is revising the NATO doctrine on Stabilisation and Reconstruction (AJP 3.4.5); Crisis Response Operations (AJP 3.4) and Peace Support Operations (AJP 3.4.1). Each now refers to the principle of UNSCR 1325, highlighting the specific issues surrounding women and children in conflict. The issues of sexual violence are addressed and the need to understand the nature of such action and the beholden need to act with others to prevent such actions. In the coming year the publication of defence's contribution to building stability is being published and this will reflect UNSCR 1325 and the protection of civilians. This in turn will influence British Defence Doctrine.</p> <p>All UK civilians deployed on operations by SU are briefed on UNSCR 1325 and how to integrate it into their stabilisation work. Information on gender is kept up-to-date and used in pre-deployment briefings. The Gender Stabilisation Issue Note is currently being reviewed and refreshed. The Stabilisation Issue Note is provided for all pre-deployment briefings and where a deployment has a specific focus on relevant issues, a more detailed briefing is provided by an expert.</p>
<p>Better engagement by UK armed forces and civilians with women in conflict and <u>post-conflict</u> situations</p>	<p>Female engagement is still very important in operations in Afghanistan and is constantly being developed; it is for example moving away from the use of a Female Engagement Teams to using individuals who increase the understanding and effect. The Defence Cultural Specialist Unit generates the Cultural Advisers to Military Stabilisation Support Group and then to theatre. Some are specifically employed in the female engagement role.</p> <p>The Stabilisation Unit provides stabilisation advisers and mentors to a range of military exercises for both pre-</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>deployment operations and to UK, NATO and international military exercises. Annex C provides an overview of the gender expertise SU currently has on its roster. In addition, other Government departments provide Civil Servant support to a variety of military exercises that covers the whole range of civil, developmental and political advice, including UNSCR 1325. In pre-deployment training the Military Stabilisation Support Group (MSSG) ensure the use of the female engagement Cultural Advisers during all relevant serials. An example of an MSSG-led training exercise incorporating women, peace and security as a central component can be found in Annex D.</p>
<p>Reporting against the NAP: Working for stronger leadership, accountability and visibility of HMG's work.</p>	
<p>HMG progress assessed on an annual basis, presented to parliament and adapted accordingly as appropriate (see annex on reporting process). It will be evaluated in three years</p>	<p>Following the publication of the UK NAP in 2010 HMG has produced annual narrative reports in October 2011, February 2012 and October 2012 identifying successes and challenges to implementation of the NAP and UNSCR 1325. These reports have been presented to Parliament via a Statement, placed in the Library of the House and discussed with the Associate Parliamentary Group on WPS.</p> <p>In April 2013 HMG commissioned an independent evaluation of the UK NAP. The objective of this review was to assess how far the UK had incorporated and achieved the provisions of UNSCR 1325 in its work on conflict through defence, diplomatic and development activity. The review considered activity between November 2010 and April 2013 and made a number of key recommendations, many of which will be incorporated into the next NAP; which will run between 2014 and 2017. These include the need for an overarching strategy that frames the NAP and brings together the various strands of work on the WPS agenda such as PSVI and VAWG, greater mainstreaming of gender into conflict policy, and the need for significant improvements in monitoring and evaluation.</p>
<p>Stronger leadership and cross Government co-ordination</p>	<p>To date the Building Stability Overseas Board (BSOB), as the Director-level chaired tri-departmental body charged with implementing the UK's Building Stability Overseas Strategy, has been the main senior level forum in which issues related to UK's approach to conflict and fragility are discussed, including Women, Peace and Security. The Chair updated the BSO</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>Board on UNSCR 1325 at its 31 January 2012 meeting. As part of HMG's Autumn BSOS Outreach session, an event was hosted by UK Government focusing specifically on Mainstreaming Women, Peace and Security into BSOS. The event had strong representation from across HMG, NGOs and academia and helped to embed best practice.</p> <p>The UK's seventh report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) makes reference to progress against the UK's National Action Plan noting that the UK continues to take a leading role in promoting UNSCR 1325 and has been active in securing agreement for global indicators to track progress and related resolutions 1820, 1888, 1889 and 1960. The report highlights that the NAP, as a cross-Government plan, provides a framework to ensure the provisions of UNSCR 1325 are incorporated into the Government's work on conflict in our defence, diplomatic and development activity. We plan to ensure that the UK's next report to CEDAW in July 2017 and our next examination in 2018 makes greater reference on UK progress against the NAP.</p> <p>The UK remains committed to strong coordination across government and consultation with civil society organisation. Across Whitehall a cross-HMG working group (MOD, FCO, DFID and Stabilisation Unit) is now fully established to coordinate the Government's activity and progress against the NAP. As the group has matured the meetings have become more regular and standardised, bringing in colleagues from the FCO's PSVI Team and geographical desks from priority desks, as and when appropriate. The group now meet every 6-8 weeks. These meetings are in addition to the regular monthly meetings with GAPS and other civil society representatives.</p> <p>In DFID the Secretary of State has made women and girls a key priority for the Department, committing the UK to using every international opportunity to stand up for the rights of girls and women. Whilst Lynne Featherstone MP, the Parliamentary Under Secretary for International Development, since September 2012, continues in the role of Ministerial Champion for tackling violence against women and girls overseas, working with Ministerial colleagues to ensure policy coherence</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>and co-ordination across Whitehall Departments.</p> <p>Internationally, 2013 has been a critical year for securing progress to address violence against women and girls at the international level and the UK has been at the forefront of this effort. The UK played a leading role in delivering a successful outcome at this year's Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). The agreed conclusions commit Member States to implement recommendations to eliminate and prevent all forms of violence against women and girls across all contexts.</p> <p>The recent International Development Committee Inquiry on Violence against Women and Girls sets out in its report that 'the UK Government has carved out an international leadership role on violence against women and girls.' It also recognised that 'through its Strategic Vision on Girls and Women, Theory of Change and related guidance, the Department for International Development has a strong policy framework in place to achieve change for women's lives.'</p>

Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative (PSVI)

This review period encompasses a number of key political and practical milestones for the Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative (PSVI) that was launched by the Foreign Secretary and the Special Envoy for the UN Refugee Agency, Angelina Jolie, in May 2012.

The UK Government believes there is more that can - and must - be done to tackle sexual violence in conflict. Sexual violence in conflict is widespread; it affects not only large numbers of women and girls, but also men and boys. In addition to the physical and psychological trauma suffered by survivors, sexual violence adds to ethnic, sectarian and other divisions. This engrains conflict and instability and undermines peacebuilding and stabilisation efforts. The overarching objective of the Initiative is to address the culture of impunity for sexual violence crimes by increasing the number of perpetrators brought to justice both internationally and nationally.

Since the launch in May 2012 the FCO has worked with a wide range of countries, NGOs, UN agencies and experts to identify what more the UK and international community can do to prevent and respond to these crimes. The UK is addressing the issue through a high level political campaign underpinned by a set of practical actions including sustained country engagement with conflict-affected states. In developing the Initiative we have established a strong working relationship with the office of the UN Special Representative of the Secretary –General (SRSG) on Sexual Violence in Conflict. One of the objectives of PSVI is to improve the coherence of the international community's efforts to address this issue. We strongly support the mandate of the SRSG, particularly the focus on national ownership and responsibility, and believe that a more coordinated international approach in support of UN-led efforts will maximise impact.

On 11 April this year G8 Foreign Ministers agreed an historic a Declaration on Sexual Violence in Conflict which contained a number of key commitments. The G8 declared - for the first time - that rape and serious sexual violence in conflict constitute grave breaches of the Geneva Convention. This means G8 governments are under the obligation to search for and prosecute (or hand over for trial) any individual alleged to have committed or ordered a grave breach regardless of nationality. There should be no safe haven for perpetrators of sexual violence in conflict. The G8 also agreed that peace negotiations, ceasefires and peacebuilding efforts supported by G8 members should include the participation of women and explicitly recognise the need to prevent, address and reduce crimes of sexual violence. The G8 supported the development of a comprehensive International Protocol on the Documentation and Investigation of rape and sexual violence in conflict. The UK is facilitating the development of this new Protocol, drawing on expertise from all over the

world. The International Protocol will set out ideal standards for the investigation of rape and sexual violence to ensure the strongest possible evidence is collected and that survivors receive sustained support. In September the UK convened a conference on the International Protocol in Geneva; participants included government officials, experts, advocates, practitioners and NGOs. The objectives of this Conference were to raise awareness of and develop understanding about why impunity continues to prevail for sexual violence in conflict and also highlight the practical challenges faced by those who document and investigate these crimes. The development of the International Protocol will continue throughout this year and early 2014.

Preventing sexual violence in conflict is central to the pursuit of wider international peace and security. On 24 June, under the UK's Presidency of the UN Security Council, the Foreign Secretary hosted a successful open debate on tackling sexual violence in conflict. The debate was the first opportunity, following the adoption of the G8 Declaration by G8 Foreign Ministers' in April, to build wider international support for the need to tackle the culture of impunity that exists around crimes of sexual violence and to support UN efforts to build national capacity to hold perpetrators of these crimes to account. A new resolution on sexual violence in conflict (UNSC Resolution 2106) – the first for three years - was adopted during the debate and was co-sponsored by 45 States. We hope that this will Resolution will ensure that more attention is paid to this issue throughout the wider UN peace and security agenda and provide the means for survivors' needs to be better addressed.

Delivering global progress on this issue requires support from across the international community. On 24 September the Foreign Secretary with UN Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict Zainab Bangura, launched the political Declaration on Ending Sexual Violence in Conflict during UN General Assembly Ministerial week. It was endorsed by 134 countries. This Declaration was developed with the UN SRSG for Sexual Violence in Conflict and a small group of like-minded countries who also wish to see greater international action on this issue. The Declaration reflects this shared determination to see an end to the use of rape and sexual violence as weapons of war and it includes a set of ambitious, action-oriented political and practical commitments which will serve as a platform for future practical activity, particularly at regional level and within conflict-affected states. The Declaration sends an important message to the survivors of these crimes that the international community has not forgotten them and to the perpetrators of rape that they will be held to account.

A key strand of work under the Initiative is building the capacity of States to tackle sexual violence in conflict and to create the conditions for securing successful prosecutions for these crimes by replacing a culture of impunity with one of accountability. In 2012 we established a UK Team of Experts from

a wide range of specialist backgrounds in issues relating to sexual violence. They can deploy to conflict areas to help support local efforts to investigate allegations of sexual violence and support survivors. Since December 2012 experts have been deployed numerous times to the Syria border with the NGO Physicians for Human Rights to train Syrian health professionals in how to respond to reports of sexual violence; Bosnia-Herzegovina to support OSCE training with the judiciary to combat impunity for wartime sexual violence crimes and deliver justice to survivors; Libya to assess how the UK can provide further assistance in terms of justice and support for survivors of sexual violence; Mali to strengthen the capacity of the Malian armed forces to protect civilians from human rights violations including sexual and gender based violence; and the Democratic Republic of Congo, also with Physicians for Human Rights, to build local capacity among Congolese health, legal and law enforcement professionals to investigate sexual violence crimes through documentation, collection, and preservation of forensic evidence. Further deployments planned for this year include an expanded project to the Syrian borders, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo.

The UK has committed extensive financial support to organisations and projects focussed on preventing sexual violence in conflict. On 25 September 2012 the Foreign Secretary announced increased support to the UN Office of Secretary-General's Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict by providing £1 million of core funding. The Foreign Secretary also pledged £150,000 to support the UN Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict whose mandate includes tackling sexual violence against children in conflict at the launch of the G8 Declaration. The UK will contribute £370,000 over a three year period to the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support. The UK has also donated £1 million over two years to the ICC's Trust Fund for Victims, which includes victims of sexual violence and committed a further £500,000 this year. In July the Human Rights and Democracy Programme launched the bidding process for the £5 million (over three years) additional funding to support grassroots organisations. This is in recognition of the particular role that local groups can play in tackling sexual violence in conflict and supporting survivors including access to justice.

Going forward the UK intends to use the UNGA Declaration to achieve real, practical impact on the ground, particularly through work with regional organisations such as the African Union (AU) and the Commonwealth and increased engagement with conflict-affected countries. The UK will also host an international conference on sexual violence in 2014. The aim of this conference will be to build on the momentum of the G8 and UNGA Declarations, looking at how the international community is turning its political commitments into practical action. HMG will also ensure the participation of civil society groups through a number of fringe activities around the conference.

1. Bilateral Action

Bilateral Action refers to the wide range of work that the FCO, MOD and DFID undertakes through its global network of Embassies and country offices to directly support WPS in conflict or post conflict countries. It does not set out principles and structures behind the work overseas, nor does it try to set out the entire range of work undertaken by the UK. Rather, it is intended to drive an approach that will maximise the effectiveness of the UK Government's work on the ground through individual country plans.

Three Country Plans have been included in this NAP. Plans have been written for countries where WPS is recognised as a prominent issue and where the UK has the capacity to engage in conflict prevention activity. These country plans do not preclude the UK Government from working on WPS in other countries affected by conflict.

The aims of the Country Plans are:

- To better record and coordinate existing activity being undertaken in country by FCO, MOD and DFID staff;
- To structure this activity in a manner consistent with UN definitions of WPS (Prevention, Protection, Participation, Relief and Recovery);
- To raise awareness of WPS amongst UK Government staff in-country and encourage further activity; and
- To begin to better monitor the impact of our activity in-country.

The Country Plans have been coordinated by the London FCO Desk Officer with input from FCO, DFID and MOD staff overseas.

Afghanistan

Outlined below is a summary of progress as highlighted in previous NAP reviews:

November 2010

Security and stability that protects and promotes the human rights of all Afghans was identified in the NAP in 2010 as essential for a future, peaceful Afghanistan. The review noted that Afghan women were increasingly playing a role in decision-making, for example over 20 per cent of the 1600 participants in 2010's Consultative Peace Jirga were female and in Parliamentary elections 399 of the 2,521 candidates and 39% of voters were women

February 2012

The 2012 revision of Afghanistan bilateral action represented the development of work in 2011 and ongoing review of project activity. During 2011, Afghan women played an active role in the Afghan political process. Approximately 20% of the 2,030 Afghan representatives invited to attend in the Traditional Loya Jirga held in October 2011 were women and at least one woman participated on each of the 41 committees. Afghan women comprised over 25% of the official Afghan delegation that attended the International Conference on Afghanistan held in Bonn in December 2011 and one out of every two civil society representatives who participated in the conference was female. There was also significant representation by women in the Afghan civil society delegation that attended civil society events held ahead of the main Bonn Conference. The UK welcomed the positive progress noted by the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan report on the Implementation of the Law of Elimination of Violence Against Women in Afghanistan. This highlighted a growing number of cases where judicial and law enforcement officials had made successful prosecutions and protected women and noted wider improvements in the status and rights of women. However, the report demonstrated that there is a long way to go and it is important that this progress continues.

The UK's country programmes in 2011 encompassed gender issues in a number of ways. In October 2011, DFID with its Nordic partners launched the Tawanmandi: Strengthening Civil Society in Afghanistan project. This five-year project continues to promote greater engagement between the Afghan Government and Afghan civil society and help them to hold the Afghan Government to account.

October 2013

The ongoing conflict in Afghanistan continues to disproportionately impact on women and girls. There has been considerable progress on women's rights since 2001, but this is fragile and very significant challenges remain.

Afghanistan is a deeply conservative country and social attitudes remain a serious barrier to progress. Substantial improvements in the situation of women are only likely to happen over a long time period. Progress is likely to come in small steps, and will require the full commitment of the Afghan Government. The Afghan Government continues to reiterate its commitment to the Women, Peace and Security agenda, but the delay in the publication of the Afghanistan 1325 National Action Plan for Women, Peace and Security remains concerning. In addition, conservative elements, including in Parliament, have been attempting to roll back on progress made on women's rights: there was a lively debate when Parliament considered a draft revision of the Law on the Elimination of Violence Against Women (EVAW) in 2013. It is important that the Afghan Government complete the development of their 1325 NAP in late 2014, as they have indicated, and that there is strong political commitment behind its full implementation.

Afghanistan's performance on women's rights continues to be a subject of international scrutiny. The first ever report on Afghanistan by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, issued in July 2013, called on the Afghan Government to submit an interim progress report within two years on actions taken to uphold women's rights and to tackle violence against women and harmful practices. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, visited Kabul in September 2013 and concluded that violence against women was endemic in Afghanistan and urged the relevant authorities to do more to speed up and improve the implementation of the EVAW Law.

The protection and promotion of women's rights is an important part of the UK's work in Afghanistan. Over the last three years HMG has been working in a broad range of sectors to improve women's rights in the political, social and economic spheres. Women's participation in the 2014 Presidential elections, and implementation of the Afghan EVAW Law and National Action Plan for Women were specifically included in the Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework (TMAF), the partnership between the Afghan Government and the international community, agreed at the Tokyo Conference on Development in July 2012. The UK committed £178 million per year up to at least 2017 to support Afghanistan. At the TMAF Senior Officials Meeting in Kabul in July 2013, the UK made clear that we will continue to hold the government to account on these commitments. At the Afghan Government's request, the UK will co-Chair the first Ministerial review of progress against the TMAF in 2014 and will play a key role in ensuring that commitments made are met.

Objective	Progress
	<p>Prevention: “Mainstream a gender perspective into all conflict prevention activities and strategies, develop effective gender-sensitive early warning mechanisms and institutions, and strengthen efforts to prevent violence against women, including gender based violence” (UN definition).</p>
<p>Securing the needs and priorities of women in Afghan Security Policy and peace-building efforts</p>	<p>There has been female participation in security policy and peacebuilding efforts, but this has been limited. Women often feel excluded from decision-making processes. The UK has tried to address this issue through various routes.</p> <p>Peacebuilding and conflict resolution are two key pillars of the DFID supported, multi-donor funded, Tawanmandi programme to build the capacity of Afghan civil society. As the largest donor (£19.9m up to 2016, 46% of total funding), DFID is supporting women’s contribution to communities, including the empowerment of women through local Peace Councils. There are currently 16 projects across Afghanistan addressing women’s role in this area.</p> <p>The publication the Afghan WPS NAP has been delayed until late 2014. The MFA are working with UN Women and Finland to take this forward. The process will include extensive consultation with civil society, Afghan Ministries and other relevant partners. The UK will continue to push for the development and full implementation of this plan. We have offered technical support, if required.</p> <p>The Afghan Peace and Reintegration Programme (APRP) gender plan was shared with the APRP Joint Secretariat in early 2013. British Embassy, Kabul staff regularly meet gender representatives in the Joint Secretariat to discuss their work and advise how to maximize impact. They also meet the female members of the High Peace Council to discuss the role of women and peace.</p> <p>In October 2012, the Prime Minister and President Karzai signed a Memorandum of Understanding to move training from the Afghan National Army (ANA) Officer Candidate School to a new Officers Academy, based on the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst model. 150 female students per year will be training alongside male students for most aspects of the course, with the first intake of female students is expected to start late 2014.</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>Female accommodation and facilities will be provided. The ANA have not yet been clear regarding the employment opportunities and job specifications for female officers in the ANA. Three UK female mentors will assist with the female training programme and will also look at how they can support the ANA to address this issue.</p> <p>As of September 2013, there were six Cultural Advisors providing support to UK military in Afghanistan on cultural issues, including gender-sensitivity.</p>
<p>Participation: “Promote and support women’s active and meaningful participation in all peace processes as well as their representation in formal and informal decision making at all levels: improve partnership and networking with local and international women’s rights groups and organisations; recruit and appoint women to senior positions in the UN including Special Reps of the SG, and in peacekeeping forces, including military, police and civilian personnel.” (UN definition)</p>	
<p>Increase the number, influence, and capacity of female Afghans in public life</p>	<p>Although female participation in public life has increased considerably over the last decade, women continue to experience high levels of discrimination, particularly in rural areas. Women’s participation in the forthcoming elections will be important if they are to have a voice in Afghanistan’s future.</p> <p>The UK has funded the Afghan Parliamentary Assistance Programme (£1.5m). The project provides core support to building Parliament’s capacity, including training and capacity building on producing legislation and holding the executive to account. The project also includes targeted support to women parliamentarians to ensure they receive the necessary assistance to be effective in their positions.</p> <p>British Embassy staff including the Ambassador, regularly engage with female MPs and provide support and advice on their work. We also encourage UK Ministers and senior government officials to meet female parliamentarians during their visits. We will be looking to raise this agenda with potential presidential candidates.</p> <p>The UK has funded £12 million to the ELECT II programme to support the preparations for the Presidential and Provincial Council elections in 2014. This includes providing support to</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>female voter registration; raising public awareness of the elections, with a focus towards women; building the capacity of the Independent Election Commission (IEC), including their gender unit, and developing gender-sensitive security processes to deliver the elections. The IEC gender unit, set up in 2013, is an active and effective body that is helping to support women's political participation, including outreach to women in both urban and rural areas. In 2013, DFID committed £4.5 million to enhancing women's political participation. Implemented through the Asia Foundation, this programme will offer capacity building for candidates and will support formal and informal dialogue forums to broaden support for women's political participation up to and during the 2014 Presidential and Provincial Council, and 2015 Parliamentary elections.</p> <p>DFID contributes to the Capacity Building for Results Programme which is working to increase female employment in the civil service. This includes working to strengthen the merit based recruitment process to support equality of opportunity for female applicants to the civil service.</p> <p>Over the three year period 30% of the FCO Chevening Scholarships for Afghanistan were awarded to female applicants. HMG continues to encourage female applications and have approached women's networks and civil society groups to cascade scholarship information to women.</p> <p>DFID supports women's participation in public life at national and sub-national levels. For example, in Helmand, seven Afghan Social Outreach Programme Community Councils include women and the District Community Council in Gereshk was the first to include seats for women. The role of women in provincial councils is also improving. Members are selected through an election process every four years. In Helmand, 4 seats out of 15 are reserved for women.</p>
<p>Strengthen the capacity and visibility of Afghan women's Civil Society Organisations</p>	<p>A mapping exercise of Afghan civil society in late 2011 and early 2012 covering 12 provinces identified that whilst civil society has had some positive impact and covered a broad range of sectors, civil society continues to be lacking in coherence, coordination and quality.</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>To date the five year Tawanmandi programme funds 34 projects (66% of total grants awarded to date) that either focus specifically on gender issues or have a strong gender component incorporated in to the project. As a cross-cutting issue, gender considerations and the impact of project activity on women and girls has been built in to the project application process. Tawanmandi regional offices have been set up to monitor and report on project delivery. Work is currently underway to develop independent progress monitoring and assessment at outcome level, though security risks limit access to projects in remote areas. Transition from contracted management to an Independent Afghan Foundation is expected by mid 2015. The uncertainties with the elections, transition and post-2014 security make strategic planning of programmes more challenging. The 2013 annual report on the programme (covering April 2012 – March 2013) indicates that, although still in its early stages, it has provided a strong basis in which to facilitate the engagement of civil society in policy dialogue with government at central and local levels.</p> <p>British Embassy staff meet regularly with Afghan women’s civil society organisations to discuss their concerns. Staff also actively participate in the monthly EU Human Rights & Gender Working Group. The group discusses a broad range of human rights issues, including human rights defenders, and looks for opportunities for EU countries to work together. The EU’s Human Rights Strategy on Afghanistan (2011-2014) contains specific commitments to discuss issues relating to human rights defenders, and in particular women, with the Afghan Government. The UK has also contributed £1.4 million over three years to support the work of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC).</p>
<p>Increase female participation in security and justice structures</p>	<p>Women’s participation in the security sector has seen a small increase, particularly in the police. In 2005 approx 180 police officers were female; by 2013 this had increased to 1,551, though this represents only 1% of Afghan police officers. Conservative social attitudes, including by family members, and concerns about the safety of female officers are some of the barriers to recruitment.</p> <p>The UK supports Afghan policing through the European Union</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>Police Mission to Afghanistan (EUPOL), including the deployment of 15 UK police officers. Strengthening gender and human rights aspects within the Afghan National Police (ANP) is one of six EUPOL strategic objectives. EUPOL provides support to the Family Response Units (FRUs) – 102 nationally – set up to deal with family issues such as domestic violence cases. In addition to mentoring the Ministry of Interior FRU, providing essential equipment and training, and working with other international donors on delivery and development of the units, EUPOL has been working to engage Senior Police Officers on strategic development.</p> <p>EUPOL also works to improve female working conditions and break down barriers to recruitment. The EUPOL funded Gender and Human Rights Unit in the Kabul City Police Headquarters works with female officers to support their needs and raise understanding on gender issues. In July 2013 the former Kabul City Police Commander, now Deputy Minister for Security, signed a Gender Standards Decree which he issued to all Kabul police units for full implementation. EUPOL have set up a system to monitor its delivery and impact in all Kabul police units.</p> <p>UK female MOD Police Officer trainers at the Kabul Police Staff College developed the first ever training course exclusively for Afghan female police officers. The two week course, based on elements of the ‘Springboard’ development programme for conflict/post conflict situations, was launched in September 2013 and focused on personal development, including communication skills. Based on the success of this course, there are plans to deliver a leadership course.</p> <p>In Helmand, female police officer recruitment has increased from 16 in 2011 to 36 in 2013 (44%). The Provincial Reconstruction Team is helping to build their capacity and develop their skills. Officers receive training in key areas such as First Aid, Improvised Explosive Devices Awareness, Situational Awareness, DRT & Ranges, and Officer Safety Training. They also receive daily literacy classes.</p>

Objective	Progress
<p>Protection: “Strengthen and amplify efforts to secure the safety physical or mental well being economic security and or dignity of women and girls promote and safeguard human rights of women and mainstream a gender perspective into legal and institutional reforms” (UN definition)</p>	
<p>Strengthen and protect women’s rights and promote effective mechanisms for women’s access to justice</p>	<p>Access to justice is one of the main challenges for Afghan women. Women’s ability to receive legal representation, particularly in rural areas, is restricted and often cases are dealt with through family mediation, rather than through the formal justice system. The UK is working to increase women’s access to justice by training legal representatives and raising awareness. The full implementation of Afghan laws remains a challenge.</p> <p>Across Afghanistan, the UK supported the representation of women in our justice projects and programmes – for instance at the Criminal Justice Task Force. We have also funded training to female defence lawyers on issues that disproportionately affect female clients, such as family law.</p> <p>In Helmand, we have supported legal education initiatives that raise awareness of women’s rights and, following the UK’s support to the Independent Legal Foundation Afghanistan and the Independent Commission of Women and Children’s Rights, a number of female prisoners are accessing legal representation and social support for the first time.</p> <p>In July 2011, the Provincial Reconstruction Team facilitated 20 women from Helmand, including representatives from the Department of Women’s Affairs, Provincial Council and the Independent Commission on Women and Children’s Rights, to attend a three-week ‘train the trainers’ course in family law, women’s rights and providing counselling to women.</p> <p>In 2011 the FCO Human Rights and Democracy Fund supported a 1-year project to reduce violence against women in Bamiyan Province. The project focused on increasing awareness of women’s rights at the community level and on improving women’s access to legal representation.</p> <p>In 2012, the FCO funded a project to monitor the implementation of the EVAW Law and study barriers to implementation. Delivered through the Research Institute for Women Peace and</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>Security in Afghanistan, it focused on the provinces of Herat, Balkh, Kabul and Helmand. The project report has been used by local civil society groups to lobby relevant authorities on implementation of the EAW Law. The FCO also funded the design phase for the development of a women’s shelter in Helmand.</p> <p>British Embassy staff have regular dialogue with Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) and the Ambassador meets with its Commissioners. The UK has provided £1.4 million to the AIHRC over the last three years. We are working with the AIHRC and national/international partners to ensure the organisation continues to be effective.</p> <p>The Tawanmandi programme has supported women’s access to justice in a number of provinces, including building the capacity of district and provincial authorities and advocacy activities to increase understanding of the EAW Law. There are currently 17 projects supporting this work.</p> <p>The UK has funded the construction of a female, gender-sensitive detention facility in Helmand Province which complies fully with international human rights standards and can accommodate women and their children. The facility also includes an education and vocational training unit.</p>
<p>Relief and Recovery: “Promote women’s equal access to aid distribution mechanisms and services, including those dealing with the specific needs of women and girls in all relief recovery efforts” (UN definition).</p>	
<p>Ensure that Afghan women benefit from economic opportunities and donor funding</p>	<p>Women’s ability to achieve financial independence can be restricted by employment opportunities. However, conservative attitudes towards women’s economic role in society are also a barrier. The UK has supported a number of programmes and initiatives to support women’s economic development.</p> <p>DFID contribute to the Supporting Employment and Enterprise Development (SEED) umbrella programme. Components of this programme focus on women business skills development. These include Market for Artisans (MAA), Afghanistan Rural Enterprise Development Programme (AREDP) and Business Edge (BE). Almost 90% of beneficiaries of MAA are women, almost 48% of the beneficiaries of AREDP in Savings Groups and Enterprise</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>Groups are women, and this trend is increasing, and 20% of beneficiaries of the BE are female.</p> <p>The INVEST programme, under Helmand Growth Programme, is also increasing the number of beneficiaries in vocational training centres. As of end June 2013 the DFID funded Zardozi, specialising in linking chronically poor female home workers (tailors, embroiderers) to local markets through use of female sales agents, has created a total of 4,957 jobs for women across four provinces that include Kabul, Nangarhar, Mazar and Herat.</p> <p>DFID contribute to the multi-donor Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund (ARTF). The ARTF gender working group was established in Dec 2012 as a sub-group to the ARTF Strategy Group. Its aim is to facilitate a strengthened focus on gender across the ARTF programme. Chaired by the World Bank, it meets in Kabul at technical level and reports to the Strategy Group. The ARTF has mainstreamed gender considerations across all projects and monitors trends across key sectors. The ARTF published its results framework in September 2013. ARTF milestones which track progress on women and girls include the percentage of female members of Community Development Council (on track). Donors, including the UK, continue to work with the World Bank to refine measurements and hold them to account on progress.</p>

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

Outlined below is a summary of progress as highlighted in previous NAP reviews:

November 2010

The 2010 NAP Review highlighted that despite an official end to the Congo wars, conflict in DRC continues and the situation for women was not improving. Sexual violence against women was documented as widespread and continued to devastate communities. UNICEF estimated that hundreds of thousands of women and girls had been raped since the conflict began. HMG welcomed the Congolese governments' zero tolerance policy on sexual violence and continued to press the DRC authorities to implement measures to end impunity and hold perpetrators to account. The UK committed to actively supporting Congolese women by supporting efforts to publicly challenge sexual and gender based violence and to increase the number, influence, and capacity of Congolese women in public life.

February 2012

The 2012 NAP Review noted that women in DRC continued to face serious challenges including extremely high levels of sexual violence. The Congolese government took some steps in 2011 to address impunity by successfully prosecuting senior members of the army for mass rape. However, it was noted that they need to do much more to enact their stated zero tolerance policy against sexual violence. There were also disappointing levels of participation of women in the national elections which were held in November 2011. President Kabila was re-elected and set about forming a new government. The UK committed to taking this opportunity to renew its engagement on women, peace and security in the DRC, with DFID planning an audit of their gender programme with the aim of delivering results for women in the country. This would be based on a comprehensive analysis of the situation and a clear theory of change for tackling violence against women and girls, as well as underlying gender inequalities in DRC.

October 2013

Further conflict in eastern DRC has resulted in extensive suffering to women and girls through human rights abuses committed by armed groups, the DRC armed forces (FARDC) and police and rendering nearly 1 million people displaced, forcing more women and girls into vulnerable situations. HMG welcomed the report of the UN Joint Human Rights Office in May that documented mass rapes and other abuses that took place in Minova and Goma by the FARDC and by M23 rebels in November-December 2012. HMG

continue to press for the recommendations to be implemented, particularly bringing perpetrators to justice. A dozen army officers have already been removed from command as a result of international lobbying and new commanders are noted to have responded more quickly to human rights abuses by their troops. The Foreign Secretary and Angelina Jolie, Special Envoy for the UN Refugee Agency, visited DRC in March 2013 to raise worldwide awareness of the grave levels of sexual violence in DRC and champion initiatives to end it through working to break the cycle of conflict and end the culture of impunity. Through its Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative the UK is supporting activities in eastern DRC to tackle impunity and bring justice to survivors.

Objective	Progress
	<p>Prevention: “Mainstream a gender perspective into all conflict prevention activities and strategies, develop effective gender-sensitive early warning mechanisms and institutions, and strengthen efforts to prevent violence against women, including gender based violence” (UN definition)</p>
<p>Publicly challenge sexual and gender based violence</p>	<p>There was widespread coverage in DRC and internationally of the Foreign Secretary’s visit with Angelina Jolie, Special Envoy for the UN Refugee Agency, to DRC in March 2013, which sought to highlight the issue of sexual violence, and show how the UK, the G8 and others were seeking to end it. HMG also ensured that there was local front page newspaper coverage of the UK’s work on UNSCR 2106 in June, as well as radio and internet coverage.</p> <p>UK senior officials (British High Commissioner, Kigali, and Head of DFID DRC) attended Mary Robinson’s event with women’s civil society organisations in Burundi in July 2013.</p>
	<p>Participation: “Promote and support women’s active and meaningful participation in all peace processes as well as their representation in formal and informal decision making at all levels: improve partnership and networking with local and international women’s rights groups and organisations; recruit and appoint women to senior positions in the UN including Special Reps of the SG, and in peacekeeping forces, including military, police and civilian personnel” (UN definition)</p>
<p>Support improved coordination and planning on gender equality, including SGBV</p>	<p>The NGO Trocaire, with DFID support, addresses the problem of marginalisation and exclusion through the ‘Increasing Women’s Participation and Voice in DRC’s Political Processes’ programme and has achieved good results, including 84 women nominated to political parties and 66 nominated to local administrative</p>

Objective	Progress
<p>by the Government of DRC</p> <p>Increase the number, influence, and capacity of Congolese women in public life</p>	<p>positions.</p> <p>In November 2012, the DRC Senate adopted a Gender Equality Law which included a 30% quota for women in Congolese institutions, with sanctions in cases of non-compliance.</p> <p>HMG are working with other donors to ensure that the revision of the International Stabilisation and Security Strategy takes into account gendered drivers of conflict and contributes positively to sexual violence prevention and response as well as broader gender inequalities that impact on stabilisation.</p> <p>The UK works closely with the Congolese government through the thematic working group on gender, and welcomed Mary Robinson’s appointment as the UN Special Envoy for the Great Lakes region. We also hold regular meetings with a range of women’s rights groups across the DRC. As the first female Ambassador to DRC, Ambassador Diane Corner has discussed our concerns about the situation of women and girls in DRC with the Minister of Gender, and possible ways to work together to improve it, for example through role models.</p> <p>There have been developments in the representation of women in the judicial and security sector: the recent promotion by Presidential ordinance of 181 generals included three female brigadier-generals and one woman of the rank of assistant divisional commissioner. 200 women magistrates were also recently promoted.</p>
<p>Protection: “Strengthen and amplify efforts to secure the safety physical or mental well being economic security and or dignity of women and girls promote and safeguard human rights of women and mainstream a gender perspective into legal and institutional reforms” (UN definition)</p>	
<p>Strengthen the legislative and judicial framework to help prevent sexual and gender based violence</p>	<p>The Security Sector Accountability and Police Reform (SSAPR) programme is a £60 million investment that aims to build a more capable and accountable state in the DRC that delivers security and rule of law to its citizens. This five-year programme (January 2010-December 2014) includes a specific focus on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), working at the national level and in the three pilot provinces to support the government, police and civil society to develop practical approaches towards improving prevention, reporting, investigation and victim support.</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>Amongst other things, judicial police officers are trained to deal with SGBV. From early 2013, SSAPR has provided support to develop civil society's capacity to monitor how the national Congolese police handle SGBV, and to increase research and community sensitisation on preventing SGBV.</p> <p>HMG also expect that this programme to deliver an increased sustainability of reforms. Through the programme we have helped increase political engagement and commitment to police reform among Congolese partners including: new legislation on police reform: the organic law of the police and the law on the status of the police through advocacy initiatives by civil society actors (RRSSJ) and parliamentary work.</p> <p>HMG have supported engagement initiatives led by the Civil Society Network for the Reform of the Security Sector (RRSSJ) at both national and provincial levels include advocacy on the 2006 Law on Sexual Violence and DRC's related international obligations and the organic law of the army.</p> <p>HMG also remain in close contact with a range of actors including Congolese Ministers, MONUSCO and civil society organisations to highlight the importance of the fight against impunity and to encourage a stronger judicial response.</p>
<p>Strengthen the ability of the DRC police and military to protect Congolese women</p>	<p>The Security Sector Accountability and Police Reform (SSAPR) programme is a £60 million investment that aims to build a more capable and accountable state in the DRC that delivers security and rule of law to its citizens. The programme includes a specific focus on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), working at the national level and in the three pilot provinces to support the government, police and civil society to develop practical approaches towards improving prevention, reporting, investigation and victim support. Amongst other things, judicial police officers are trained to deal with SGBV. From early 2013, SSAPR has provided support to develop civil society's capacity to monitor how the national Congolese police handle SGBV, and to increase research and community sensitisation on preventing SGBV.</p> <p>In addition, as part of wider army reform, FCO provided bilateral funding in 2013 to teach new Congolese army (FARDC) recruits</p>

Objective	Progress
	about human rights, including the fight against sexual violence and impunity.
Strengthen the ability of peacekeeping troops to prevent sexual violence	UNSCR 2106 strengthens United Nations Organisation Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo's (MONUSCO) ability to prevent sexual violence through its call for Women Protection Advisers to be deployed with peacekeeping forces, including in DRC.
Raising awareness of legal redress for survivors of sexual violence	The EU issued a declaration on 20 May noting the UN Joint Human Rights Office report on human rights violations in the Kivus, and called for the perpetrators to be brought to justice. We also publicised widely, in French, the April G8 Foreign Ministers declaration, which highlights impunity issues.
Relief and Recovery: “Promote women’s equal access to aid distribution mechanisms and services, including those dealing with the specific needs of women and girls in all relief recovery efforts” (UN definition).	
Support survivors of sexual and gender based violence	<p>HMG’s humanitarian programme includes support to victims of sexual and gender based violence as well as efforts to make displacement sites safer for women and girls., Support to the International Rescue committee, for example, from July – December 2013 will ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 400 survivors of SGBV benefit from IRC-supported services • 30 medical personnel are trained to provide clinical care for survivors of GBV • 4000 women and girls receive risk reduction support material • 50,000 displaced women and girls benefit from more protective environments <p>Through our Alternative Responses for Communities in crisis programme we will provide 1,500 victims of SGBV with cash and voucher support to restart their livelihoods.</p> <p>As well as these bilateral projects, DFID’s humanitarian programme provides support to victims of sexual violence through the Pooled Fund and the ICRC.</p> <p>The UK funds more than 50% of the UN-managed humanitarian Pooled Fund in DRC, which supports a number of SGBV response projects each year. In 2012 the Pooled Fund provided medical treatment for 9,614 SGBV victims, psychological</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>treatment for 10, 546 and economic and social reintegration support for 1,768.</p> <p>HMG provide around 10% of the ICRC's funding in DRC and they have a significant SGBV programme, providing medical treatment, counselling, and training of medical professionals and social workers, though they do not disclose beneficiary numbers for confidentiality reasons.</p> <p>Health programme:</p> <p>IMA Worldhealth are the lead implementing partner for the UK's new Access to Healthcare Programme (ASSP) which will be supporting health service delivery in 56 health zones. An overall gender strategy is under development. IMA Worldhealth plan to include an indicator on the number of SGBV survivors receiving PEP in the programme log frame. Services will include the provision of medical care in the form of PEP, treatment for other sexually transmitted infections, and emergency contraception. They will also ensure that all health professionals in health centres and hospitals are trained in managing SGBV survivors, and this will include specific training in SGBV counselling and writing legal medical reports. Finally, they plan to undertake several community awareness-raising activities on SGBV, working through churches, schools, and mass media.</p>
<p>Increased access to public services and income generation for women</p>	<p>DFID DRC's new private sector development programme will work to expand the economic choices of women and adolescent girls, for example we have already supported the World Bank to prepare a Reform Memorandum examining the legal constraints specifically impacting female entrepreneurs and female labour force participation in DRC. Changes are expected to the 'Family Code', which would remove many discriminatory elements from DRC legislation, for example the need for a woman to have her husband's permission to start a business. We hope this will remove legal obstacles to female entrepreneurialism. The legislation is scheduled for consideration by parliament this autumn, and we plan to lobby in support.</p> <p>One of the planned outcomes for DFID DRC's new adolescent girls programme will be the economic empowerment of women and girls, and in particular adolescent girls, in regions covered</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>by DFID DRC's programme. Economic empowerment is an entry point and has been a key building block for broader political and social empowerment of women and girls in a range of contexts.</p> <p>DFID's Vas-y file project will work in five provinces where girls' enrolment, learning and completion are the lowest in DRC – Bandundu, Equateur, Kasai Oriental, Katanga and Orientale Province. The programme aims to reach 137,360 marginalised girls. It will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase parental financial capacity to support girls in primary education • Improve girls' reading and math skills through teacher training, tutoring and community reading programs • Increase community involvement, ensuring girls' access to quality education in a safe environment • Increase civil society engagement in providing alternative learning opportunities that will allow out-of-school girls to complete primary education

Nepal

Outlined below is a summary of progress as highlighted in previous NAP reviews:

November 2010

Sexual violence and gender discrimination were features of the conflict in Nepal. Women also played a key role in building peace and democracy and supported calls for an end to violence and inequality, including a 33% quota for women in the political and public sphere. Since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) the UK has been active in supporting Nepali women and working alongside the Government of Nepal and UN agencies, has assisted with the development of Nepal's own National Action Plan (NAP) on 1325. Furthermore, the UK has been supporting the empowerment of highly excluded communities like Dalit ('untouchable') and indigenous women in their advocacy with the the Government of Nepal.

February 2012

2012 saw the ongoing integration and rehabilitation of the former Maoist combatants (FMCs). It was hoped that 2012 would also see the finalisation of the constitution and agreement on the electoral system. The UK carried on encouraging full consideration of women's issues in these negotiations.

The cessation of Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights activity in March 2011 prior to its departure (in June 2011) reduced the space for and weakened support for Human Rights activity in Nepal, including on implementation of its Universal Periodic Review commitments.

Nevertheless, the UK continued its support of the implementation of Nepal's NAP with HMG's participation on regular meetings of the Peace Support Working Group (PSWG) and through donor support for Saferworld, who are taking forward action on the fifth pillar of the NAP: Monitoring and Evaluation.

October 2013

The continuing political and constitutional stalemate in Nepal has presented challenges for the WPS agenda. A Constituent Assembly (CA) was elected in 2008 but having failed to agree and finalise a constitution, was dissolved in May 2012. This has led to a prolonged period of political instability, however, fresh CA elections have now been scheduled for 19 November. The UK is providing support, through various projects, for women's participation in the elections and in the process of finalising the constitution.

Sexual violence and gender discrimination were features of the decade-long

conflict in Nepal. A Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) ordinance was promulgated in March 2013. However, the UN and international community assessment is that it fails to meet international standards in particular due to ambiguous language which could allow for general amnesties for serious crimes. There is still time for the TRC to be amended once the CA has been established and the UK will engage with the new CA to that effect.

The UK has continued to provide funding to the Nepal Peace Trust Fund (NPTF) which is supporting nine government ministries on implementation of Nepal’s NAP. The UK also provides technical and financial support for the NAP, through the Peace Support Working Group (PSWG). The NAP demonstrates a clear commitment to combating gender based violence; however we assess that much remains to be done in terms of implementation.

Objective	Progress
<p>Prevention: “Mainstream a gender perspective into all conflict prevention activities and strategies, develop effective gender-sensitive early warning mechanisms and institutions, and strengthen efforts to prevent violence against women, including gender based violence” (UN definition)</p>	
<p>Contribute to the consolidation of peace in Nepal through facilitating the implementation of national commitments to women peace and security</p>	<p>UK support to the implementation of Nepal’s National Action Plan (NAP) is mainly through the Nepal Peace Trust Fund (NPTF), a Government led trust fund to which eight pooling partners, including DFID, make significant contributions. The NPTF has approved nine projects addressing WPS issues to be implemented by various Ministries of the Government of Nepal (GoN). UK support is also channelled through our membership in the Peace Support Working Group (PSWG), chaired by the Embassy of Finland and UN Women. This group is influential in shaping GoN strategy and approaches on WPS issues.</p> <p>The Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), with NPTF support, has trained MoHA officials, Nepal Police and Armed Police Forces on gender awareness. The Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare has trained a number of women’s community organisations on UNSCR 1325 and 1820. The Ministry of Law, Justice, Constituent Assembly and Parliamentary Affairs published a Legal Education Awareness booklet and distributed more than 6,000 booklets to the participants of the sensitisation programs in fifty districts in Nepal.</p> <p>The GoN’s development of a NAP shows a clear commitment to the women, peace and security agenda. The development of the NAP was highly participatory and consultative. However,</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>implementation remains patchy. The lack of co-ordination between the different line ministries has hampered efforts to implement the NAP. In addition to the work carried out by the NTPF, the UK has encouraged the GoN to ensure implementation of the NAP remains a priority.</p>
<p>Strengthen the ability of women’s NGOs and networks to promote peace and human rights</p>	<p>The UK, through DFID’s Enabling State Programme (ESP) and Embassy funding, was successful in engaging with a number of human rights NGOs on the role of women in the ongoing peace process in Nepal. The UK provided support to SANJEEVANI, a local NGO, which helped mobilise 54 Women’s Rights Protection Networks (WRPNs) at municipality and district level in Far-West Nepal. Over 2,700 women are now in the networks and engaged in promoting respect for women’s rights.</p> <p>UK support to the Human Rights Protection and Legal Service Centre has helped promote human rights and peace education in at least 25 schools; approx 50% of the students participating in the classes are girls.</p> <p>The UK has provided support to a project aimed at building local capacity to promote peace and human rights which has strengthened the institutional capacity of fifty youth clubs. Approximately 2,400 local youths (about 40% female) are affiliated to these clubs. The club members received training and support to develop and implement the youth club guidelines and code of conduct.</p>
<p>Publicly challenge gender based violence</p>	<p>DFID Nepal have supported various local media organisations that have helped raise awareness of gender based violence (GBV) and provided training to local journalists so that GBV was reported sensitively and effectively. At the local level there has been an increase in collaboration between government agencies and civil society organisations which has improved response mechanism and reduced GBV. For example, the UK provided funding to BBC-WST (World Service Trust) for the production of a radio series, “Companions of Change”, which aims to eliminate gender based violence.</p> <p>DFID have also supported Shilpee – an Art Group – on a project entitled “Combating Violence Against Women and Girls – creating awareness through interactive theatre”. The project has reduced gender based violence in the selected target districts by</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>empowering school students, men, women and government authorities to break the culture of silence, through interactive theatre shows on GBV issues in 27 districts of the country.</p> <p>DFID also supported ‘Sancharika Samuha’, a women’s media institution, on a project “Enhancing Capacity of Journalists on Effective Investigative Reporting Gender Based Violence Issues” which has focused on enhancing the skills and knowledge of local journalists and increasing quality reporting on GBV in the national and local print media.</p> <p>DFID have provided technical support for the development of a National Gender Based Violence Action Plan, owned by the Office of the Prime Minister. The plan is now operational.</p> <p>The GoN have endorsed the Foreign Secretary’s Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative.</p>
<p>Participation: “Promote and support women’s active and meaningful participation in all peace processes as well as their representation in formal and informal decision making at all levels: improve partnership and networking with local and international women’s rights groups and organisations; recruit and appoint women to senior positions in the UN including Special Reps of the SG, and in peacekeeping forces, including military, police and civilian personnel” (UN definition)</p>	
<p>Increase the number, influence, and capacity of Nepalese women in public life</p>	<p>The UK has supported a number of capacity building programmes for women that have empowered women activists and political leaders. An example of this was a recent collective action which asked senior leaders for an assurance of 33% representation in the forthcoming election.</p> <p>The UK funded the National Indigenous Women Forum (NIWF) which helped promote and strengthen the political inclusion of marginalised indigenous women. The NIWF helped to build the capacity of around 4,000 indigenous women on democratic political processes and inclusion through Indigenous Women’s Networks.</p> <p>The UK provided support to the UNDP led ‘Centre for Constitutional Dialogue’ to increase the capacity, participation and organisation of women Constituent Assembly (CA) Members to negotiate and engage in informed debate in parliament,</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>particularly around inclusion, youth issues, and the electoral system.</p> <p>DFID support to the Policy Advocacy and Capacity Building for Women’s Political Inclusion Project was instrumental in developing capacity of women political cadres and leaders. Approximately 1,350 potential women leaders and over 280 members of district committees of political parties have now received training. We have further extended our support to increase participation of women (both as candidates and voters) in the forthcoming CA election and upcoming general elections.</p> <p>Significant progress has been made in the area of participation. The requirement for 33% representation of women has now been extended beyond just the CA to include local and central government. In practice, this has not yet been achieved, but the aspiration at a policy level is there.</p>
<p>Protection: “Strengthen and amplify efforts to secure the safety physical or mental well being economic security and or dignity of women and girls promote and safeguard human rights of women and mainstream a gender perspective into legal and institutional reforms” (UN definition)</p>	
<p>Strengthen and protect women’s rights and promote access to effective remedy</p>	<p>The UK continues to play a leading role in the EU Working Group on Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) in Nepal which regularly considers the situation of women HRDs and agrees steps with local civil society on how to support them.</p> <p>The FCO funded a project to increase the security and protection of women HRDs in Dhanusha district. The skills and knowledge imparted during the project has helped build their confidence to work as HRDs. The FCO also provided funding to a UNDP multi-donor project to strengthen the capacity of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in Nepal. The project aims to develop a responsive and accessible justice system which promotes gender equality, social inclusion and rule of law.</p> <p>The Gender Based Violence (GBV) Unit (situated in the Prime Minister’s Office) have developed a GBV elimination fund to strengthen victims/survivors’ awareness and access to government-provided services at the grassroots level. A draft bill addressing the gaps in current GBV legislation is ready to be tabled in parliament. Legal support has been provided by the GBV</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>Unit to victims through the GBV hotline, which generally receives 10 cases per day.</p> <p>DFID have provided support to a local NGO, 'HimRights', to conduct a 'Sexual Violence Assessment in 6 Districts of Nepal'. The overall objective is to gain a better understanding of circumstances leading to sexual violence against girls and foster dialogue to ensure improved policies are in place to protect children and more specifically girls from sexual violence. This project will explore and document information on how communities and more specifically girls are affected by sexual violence. DFID have also supported training for the government to run safe houses and rehabilitation centres in 23 districts.</p> <p>Despite this work, relief to victims of sexual violence remains poor. A key example is that victims of sexual violence are still not considered eligible to receive official compensation from the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction. Other related laws also remain unreformed – for example, the 35 day statute of limitations on reporting rape cases is still in force, despite efforts by civil society and sections of the media and political establishment for it to be repealed.</p>
<p>Improved Nepal Police response to female victims of crime (part of wider programme, to be approved)</p>	<p>In partnership with Asian Development Bank, DFID has provided support to build five women and children police units. These units have been successful in encouraging women to approach the police. Moreover officers, particularly female ones, have received training on dealing with cases of a gender-sensitive nature.</p>

Objective	Progress
<p>Improved protection and access to justice for women and children</p>	<p>DFID, working in partnership with UNICEF, have supported a women’s ‘Paralegal Committee Programme’ which focuses on providing justice for women and children. The programme is now run by the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare in all 75 districts of the country and the GoN plans to establish GBV Watch Groups in all wards. So far over one thousand GBV Watch Groups have been formed and are active in the country.</p> <p>DFID also support the Madhesh Terai Community Mediation Project through Human Rights and Community Development Academy Nepal (HUCODAN) where Community Mediation Centres (CMC) and Women’s Rights Groups (WRGs) have been strengthened in mediating issues and disputes related to Violence Against Women and women’s rights in 6 Terai districts. Around 1762 members of CMCs and WRGs have been trained on issues relating to VAW and women’s rights through the initiative. The level of ownership of the mediation committees has risen at the local level and among women where case registration by women has increased by 10%.</p>
<p>Relief and Recovery: “Promote women’s equal access to aid distribution mechanisms and services, including those dealing with the specific needs of women and girls in all relief recovery efforts” (UN definition).</p>	
<p>Support survivors of sexual and gender based violence</p>	<p>DFID have contributed to the UNFPA programme ‘Conflict Affected Women’ which aims to; provide comprehensive services to victims of sexual violence, ensure at least 33 per cent women’s representation in all conflict management and peace building structures in target districts; increase the number of cases of sexual violence leading to judicial prosecutions; and develop a special chapter devoted to gender based and sexual violence in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.</p> <p>DFID have provided project support to the Informal Sector Service Centre (INSEC) that has developed Reconciliation Forums in ten districts. The Forums each have approx 600 members; including victims from both sides of the armed conflict and forty per cent of forum members are female. The project has facilitated reconciliation of conflict victims in society and linkages between conflict victims and service provider agencies at the local level.</p> <p>A project supported by DFID in joint collaboration with UNFPA & UNWOMEN to produce a tracking study of GBV cases in Nepal has led to a set of concrete policy and programme</p>

Objective	Progress
	recommendations for government and development partners.
<p>Specific gender needs and requirements of Minors and Late Recruits are met through tailoring elements of the rehabilitation packages to meet their needs</p>	<p>DFID contributed to the UNFPA Verified Minors and Late Recruits (VMLR) discharge programme which has helped build a rehabilitation programme for women and girls linked with awareness building activities on reproductive health, women's rights and civic responsibility. This work has also included monitoring and mentoring on a case by case basis, ensuring that delivery is gender sensitive.</p> <p>By March 2013, 2,743 (90%) of the 3,040 VMLRs had contacted the programme to learn about the rehabilitation options. Most of them (2,538) have gone on to receive career counselling and 2,477 of them have opted for one of the four available rehabilitation options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vocational skills training • micro-enterprise development • health-related training and education • formal or non-formal education.

Middle East North Africa (MENA) 2012

Women and girls played a central role in the 2011 Arab Uprisings where they voiced their demands for improved freedoms, opportunities and social justice. The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region has achieved near gender parity in education, however this is not translating into political and economic opportunities for women. Women's access to justice is also inhibited by legislation, lack of support services and security and policing services that are not adapted to respond to women's specific needs.

The December 2011 Shadow report of the first annual review of the UK Government National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 Women, Peace and Security, from the Associate Parliamentary Group on Women Peace and Security (APG WPS) and civil society group Gender Action for Peace and Security (GAPS) recommended that 'the government should give serious consideration to developing such a strategy for the Middle East and North Africa region'. In December 2011, the Building Stability Overseas Board agreed that a MENA component should be included in the National Action Plan.

UK Objectives for Women Peace & Security

1. To influence the debate inside MENA countries to strengthen the participation of women in political and public life and increase gender sensitivity and awareness among elected representatives, and government officials in the region.
2. To increase women's meaningful participation in political and governance structures, including the legal, social and constitutional role of women in transitional planning, peace building and the security and justice systems.
3. To influence Governments in the MENA region to put in place legislation and mechanisms to protect women from gender based violence.
4. To support the economic and social empowerment of women in the MENA region in order that they enjoy equal opportunities and reduce gender based discrimination.
5. To facilitate cross-learning and sharing of experiences between women activists across the region and beyond.
6. To increase women's capacity to hold security and justice providers to account on violence against women and girls and broader security issues.

HMG will use the following mechanisms to deliver its objectives

- Diplomatic Lobbying and influencing.
- Programme Funding including Bi-lateral Funds, Conflict Pool, Arab Partnership, HRDD, Scholarships etc.
- Building relationships between Women Parliamentarians in the British

Parliament and MENA Parliaments and other women's organisations in the UK and the MENA region.

- HMG will work with a wide range of stakeholders including government, multilateral organisations, civil society, regional networks and NGOS/INGOs.
- Regional Conflict Advisers and Country Stabilisation/Programme Advisers to develop regional approaches to women, peace and security.
- Conduct or co-ordinate baseline studies on the position of women in each of our priority countries, mapping of existing work and international support to identify areas and stakeholders with whom to work.
- Embed women's peace and security issues into Embassy Country Business Plans and DFID country programmes.
- Establish a reporting and monitoring mechanism including indicators to measure progress and impact.

Progress

The Government continues to support and promote work on Women, Peace and Security in all countries in the MENA region. The MENA plan has been taken forward through consultation, diplomatic lobbying, human rights and gender strategies and funding projects. Consultations are ongoing with regional and national stakeholders, including women's groups e.g. Gender Action Peace & Security (GAPS), across government and with overseas posts.

HMG continues to focus its work on the four pillars of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (Prevention, Participation, Protection, and Relief & Recovery). Specific actions against the framework include, for example, the appointment of regional conflict advisers for the Near East (Amman), the Gulf (Bahrain), and North Africa (Tunis). These advisers play a key role in taking forward the women, peace and security agenda, mainstreaming the role of women and women's rights into all conflict pool programmes.

A key theme has been a specific focus on building the capacity of women in the region to tackle issues relating to WPS, particularly by strengthening regional and national networks. HMG has supported consultation projects, for example the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) MENA Agenda 1325 programme also known as 'Ending Discrimination and Reinforcing Women's Peace & Security in the MENA Region'. Phase one of the programme included national consultation in eight MENA countries, an international conference in Geneva, strengthening the network of key national, regional and international stakeholders and the development of a strategic plan for stage two of the programme.

Many of the supported programmes are aimed at mainstreaming women's participation in the political space. HMG are supporting projects both in country and regionally. Some examples are given below:

HMG's work in Libya includes promoting the participation of women and marginalised groups in public and political life. Projects to support this objective include a 14 month project with Danish Church Aid (DCA) to support women's empowerment. This provides training and mentoring to Libyan civil society throughout the country to promote women's participation in the political and public life, and women's inclusion in the constitution drafting process. The UK is also supporting accountability and transitional justice in Libya, through a year-long programme to bolster civil society. This programme is specifically mandated to work with women's groups.

In Libya, the Foreign Secretary's PSVI campaign has carried out a scoping study that will underpin much of HMG's bilateral security, justice and defence capacity building. In Syria, through the PSVI campaign around forty doctors and lawyers have been trained to gather evidence for transmission to international investigatory bodies.

In Tunisia, the UK is funding a national dialogue project, aimed at building spaces for constructive dialogue between conflicting stakeholders, e.g. amongst Islamist, Salafist, Secularist and Leftist interlocutors. A key target for this project is engaging women's civil society organisations.

The UK has supported police training on violence against women in Iraq through the Human Rights and Democracy Fund. This work includes developing an Iraqi police pilot training programme to prevent violence against women. The fund is also supporting a project in combating discrimination against women in the Hodeida Governorate of Yemen which is working towards increasing the capacity of women to achieve equality within Yemeni institutions.

Also in Yemen HMG has been active in raising awareness on the issue of women, peace and security, the importance of women's participation in the National Dialogue and the wider political transition process. DFID support women's political participation in transition and peace-building processes. The UK is a founder member of the Yemen Human Rights Task founded by the Ministry of Human Rights which has particular emphasis on women and girls.

DFID's Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPTs) Gender Strategy 2012-2015 explicitly sits within the framework of the MENA plan, and is a good example of the way in which the NAP and country plans can mutually reinforce actions and strategies. The strategy objectives include: supporting the role of women in the peace process, through the Palestinian Liberation Organisation's Negotiations Affairs Department; supporting the Palestinian Authority to implement its gender strategy; improving women's education, health, and access to economic assets; tackling violence against women, which includes strengthening police and justice services; launching a national media

campaign; and establishing a civil society observatory to monitor cases going through the criminal justice system. Work is co-ordinated through the Palestinian Authority and UN bodies and other stakeholders. Projects support female participation, and project monitoring and evaluation plans consider sex disaggregation.

The UK continues to work in the multilateral fora across the region. For example in Lebanon we are part of a core donor group managed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and as a result part of the process of building an effective lobbying coalition of women’s representation as electoral candidates.

Challenges

Security and the fluidity of the political landscape continue to hamper efforts, particularly in Syria, and in Egypt.

The scale of work underway across the region presents difficulties in ensuring co-ordination and avoiding duplication. Considerable progress is being made on this in a number of countries, such as Libya, where HMG is actively working with the UN to facilitate co-ordination on women’s initiatives, ensuring our action is joined-up. The measurement of projects is difficult given they are in the early stages. Further work is needed on systemising processes for the plan and working with international and multilateral partners.

Arab Partnership fund

Women's participation is a key part of supporting transitions and building stability in the MENA region. In the UK’s programme approach through the Arab Partnership (AP) Programme, HMG have worked with project partners to ensure that gender issues are taken into account, for instance by working to ensure that training courses for journalists have gender-balanced participation. The AP programme also supports projects with a particular gender focus, aiming to strengthen women’s political participation, and in the second year the UK increased its focus on supporting direct initiatives that give women the opportunity to engage in wider political life. For example, approximately £2.6m was allocated to multi-year projects that specifically benefitted women last financial year, primarily building the capacity for women to become actively involved in politics and society. A table listing our project work in this area is listed below.

<p>Regional work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directly worked on 4 multi-year projects worth approximately £2.61m (spending just under 	<p>Country-specific work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance to women candidates in local council elections in <u>Egypt</u> • Improving access to employment and
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<p>£1m in 2012/13) specifically working on women's rights, focusing mainly on political participation with regional wide and country specific projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported over 12,700 women to engage in the political process, along with 3 key women's associations 	<p>vocational training for youth and women with disabilities in <u>Algeria</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening women's participation in the General National Congress in <u>Libya</u> • Work to establish a Women Affairs' Committee in parliament in <u>Morocco</u>. • Two further <u>multi-country projects</u> supporting women's participation in local political processes, and building the organisational capacity of women's rights groups across the region, strengthening their networking and advocacy abilities.
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2. Multilateral Action

Implementation of UNSCR 1325 is a Global task. Multilateral and regional bodies such as the UN and EU are often present on the ground in conflict and post conflict situations and are able to act where individual nations cannot. They therefore play a vital role in implementing UNSCR 1325.

UK action in multilateral forums has been to support the implementation of UNSCR 1325 at a global level, through working to influence international or regional organisations and their Member States, capitalising on where the UK can exert the most influence. 'Support' in the multilateral section of this plan has mainly been political, using UK influence to promote UNSCR 1325 within international decision making bodies, lobbying member states and working for consensus to move the agenda forwards. Progress has not been dependent upon the UK alone and therefore is difficult to measure, but internationally the UK continues to be a driver for progress.

Multilateral Activity reflects the range of work that HMG has taken support the delivery of UK action on WPS at the multilateral level and below charts progress made against objectives.

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UK Mission to the UN (UKMis) Update

The UK is the lead on Women, Peace and Security at the UN Security Council (UNSC). Over the last three years UKMis has drafted and lead negotiations on Women, Peace and Security Presidential Statements and Resolutions, and worked in close collaboration with the United States of America, who lead on

Sexual Violence in Conflict. During the UK's Presidency of the UNSC in June 2013 the Council adopted Resolution 2106 which strengthened and clarified the role of the UN system in preventing and responding to sexual violence in conflict, on which the UK played a large role. In October 2013 Resolution 2122 was adopted which focuses on improving the UNSC's working methods on the implementation of the agenda, increasing women's participation and leadership in conflict resolution and peace-building, and preparing for the High Level Review of UNSCR 1325 implementation in 2015.

We have consistently pressed for language on Women, Peace and Security to be included in the mandates of UN peacekeeping and political operations. This year we have secured good language in a number of significant renewals including DRC (MONUSCO), Afghanistan (ISAF), Somalia (UNSOM and AMISOM), Mali (MINUSMA), South Sudan (UNMISS) and Sudan (UNISFA and UNAMID). We also continue to press for language in thematic Security Council resolutions and presidential statements and have secured good language in the Small Arms and Light Weapons resolution adopted in September 2013.

We continue to chair the Informal Experts Group on Protection of Civilians, which receives briefings from the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) ahead of peacekeeping and political mission mandate renewals. This helps to ensure that protection related issues are adequately addressed in those mandates. This includes violence against women and women's participation. This year women's participation and wider empowerment are for the first time being integrated into OCHA's briefings as requested by the UK. At the end of 2013, UKMis has also requested UN Women to provide an introductory briefing on Women, Peace and Security to country experts at the mission to increase understanding and awareness of WPS issues in specific contexts, the first since 2006

We have ongoing collaboration with UN Women, including on the Secretary General's Report, and regularly host discussions and strategy sessions with Member States and civil society on Women, Peace and Security issues more broadly. We also work very closely with the Office of the Special Representative to the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict. We attend the Women, Peace and Security Group of Friends meetings chaired by Canada to hear from non-Council members and to provide information on UNSC activity. We support all UNSC Arria meetings held on Women, Peace and Security and intend to host an Arria meeting on women's participation in discussions on the future of Syria at the end of 2013. We also attend relevant events throughout the year held by Member States and/or civil society.

In June and September 2013 UKMis hosted two large scale events with the Foreign Secretary in order to raise awareness and support for the UK's Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative and to launch the Declaration of

Commitment to end Sexual Violence in Conflict. As a result of intense lobbying efforts, 135 UN member states have endorsed the Declaration.

We continue to fund UN Women, with a commitment of £10 million for the two years, 2011 – 2013. We welcomed the appointment of the new Executive Director of UN Women in August 2013 and look forward to working with her closely. We also continue to fund the office of Zainab Bangura, the UN Secretary General’s Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, with a total of £3 million from 2012-2015, to strengthen international efforts and co-ordination by supporting the efforts of the UN’s Team of Experts.

Objective	Progress
<p>Ensure prominence of UNSCR 1325 in the UN and regional organisations, supporting appropriate measures to advance the agenda</p>	<p>FCO (UK Mission to the UN (UKMis))</p> <p>UKMis is currently engaged in dialogue with UN Women regarding facilitating consultations with Council members on UN indicators which will most likely start in 2014.</p> <p>UKMis has supported key elements of UNSCR 1960, namely the MARA (monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements) and WPAs (Women Protection Advisors), including through pushing for the adoption of Security Council resolution 2106 during our June presidency of the Security Council. In operative paragraph 6 of resolution 2106 the Council <i>“recognizes the need for more timely, objective, accurate and reliable information as a basis for prevention and response and requests the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations entities to accelerate the establishment and implementation of monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements on conflict-related sexual violence”</i>. In operative paragraph 7 it <i>“calls for the further deployment of Women Protection Advisors (WPAs) in accordance with resolution 1888 to facilitate the implementation of Security Council resolutions on women and peace and security; calls upon the Secretary-General to ensure that the need for, and the number and roles of WPAs are systematically assessed during the planning and review of each UN peacekeeping and political mission”</i>. In addition, it underlines the need to ensure that these experts are adequately trained and deployed in a timely manner; and recognises the role of UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict in facilitating coordinated responses of relevant peacekeeping, humanitarian, human rights, political and security actors. Further, it emphasizes the need for enhanced coordination, information sharing, analysis, response planning and implementation across these sectors.</p> <p>UKMis continually raises the importance of WPA deployment in all relevant bilateral meetings with the UN, and plans to oversee the first ever training of WPAs in early 2014.</p>

Objective	Progress
<p>Promote and support UN Women’s leadership role</p>	<p>DFID (UNCD) UK has been a key supporter of UN Women since its inception and has shown leadership (including being the largest core donor in 2012) and spoken publicly in this regard. The Multilateral Aid Review update is due for completion by the end of 2013 at which point decisions on future funding will be made. This will be a key communication opportunity with other donors.</p> <p>FCO (UKMis) A Security Council debate under the standing agenda item “Women, Peace and Security” on gender, rule of law and transitional justice took place on 18 October 2013, at which the UK delivered a national statement. UKMis liaised closely with UN Women and the Presidency of the Security Council to support preparation for the debate, in particular regarding the concept paper and the briefers.</p> <p>FCO (UKMis) UKMis liaises closely with UN Women in driving forward the WPS agenda at the Security Council, and actively supports increased briefings by their Executive Director. In Resolution 2122, drafted and negotiated by UKMis, the Council “<i>recognizes the need for consistent implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) in its own work and intends to focus more attention on women’s leadership and participation in conflict resolution and peace-building, including by monitoring progress in implementation</i>” and “<i>welcomes more regular briefings by the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of UN Women</i>”.</p> <p>FCO (UKMis) During the Security Council’s visit to the Great Lakes region in October 2013, the Council met with women’s organisations, and sexual violence in conflict was included in the Terms of Reference, both of which UKMis recommended.</p> <p>FCO (UK Representative to the EU (UKRep)) The UK has continued to support the WPS agenda at the EU level and the mainstreaming of gender into Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions, for example at the European Union Monitoring Mission (EUMM) in Georgia steps have been taken to improve gender mainstreaming. Internally, the establishment of a gender adviser position at HQ level and gender focal points in the Field Offices (FOs) has been significant. Each functional team in the FOs features a gender focal point. The gender focal points assist the monitors throughout the monitoring cycle.</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>Specific missions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EUPOL Afghanistan: the mission is trying to increase the number of female police officers and to mainstream gender issues into the Afghan National Police and the Ministry of Interior (MoI). However, numbers of female police being trained remains low (approximately 5%). However, the mission is now running female only training courses and is trying to increase awareness of the need to recruit and train more female police. - DRC: EUSEC DRC has set up a working group (SECAS – Service d’Education Civique, Patriotique, et d’Action Sociale) which is setting up a pilot project to integrate provincial and national coordination mechanisms in the fight against sexual violence. EUPOL DRC has been providing training in Kinshasa and Goma in techniques for interviewing victims of sexual violence (40 police trained), techniques for criminal enquiries (20 trained), training in the fight against sexual violence (60 trained). - JUSTLEX Iraq: In the Iraqi Kurdistan Region, the mission continues to raise awareness of the position of women in general, and the phenomena of domestic violence in particular, by integrating ethical interviewing, human rights and gender issues in the training. The High Council for Women’s Affairs is now a much appreciated integral part of the Kurdish Regional Intensive Investigation Training. The mission’s Judiciary and Human Rights and Gender teams prepared a comprehensive commentary containing specific recommendations on draft amendments to the Iraqi Penal Code, related to domestic violence. The mission conducted awareness-raising courses on how to identify and combat the phenomena of trafficking-in-persons (TiP), protect victims and bring traffickers to justice. The mission delivered two more courses on combating trafficking in persons than initially envisaged. the mission conducted training courses for members of the police and judiciary on ‘Combating Domestic Violence through the Criminal Justice System’ The courses introduced the causes, risk factors and consequences of domestic violence, and covered topics including protection of vulnerable witnesses and victims with special needs, standards of evidence and evidence gathering in domestic violence cases, the Iraqi legal framework, and the role of inter-agency cooperation in preventing and ending domestic violence. Courses delivered in the Iraqi Kurdistan Region include an overview of the ‘Anti-Domestic Violence Law in the

Objective	Progress
	<p>Kurdistan Region-Iraq' (2011), while courses delivered in central and southern Iraq included a discussion and assessment of the Draft version of the 'Family Protection against Domestic Violence Bill'. In addition to strengthening understanding of what constitutes domestic violence and how it is manifested, courses build-up capacity of police and judiciary to combat these crimes through robust legal processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EULEX Kosovo: The Missions' draft Gender Mainstreaming Policy is under review after receiving comprehensive comments from several parts of the Mission. EULEX and the EUSR jointly launched a regular Round Table Meeting on gender equality and women-specific issues. The first meeting was entitled Access to Justice and was hosted by the EUSR and the Head of Mission - EUPOL COPPS (Palestine): EUPOL COPPS maintained its focus on and assistance to the PCP Family Protection Unit. The joint EUPOL COPPS/ PCP/ UN Women Family Protection Unit Project Field Committee reviewed the strategic and regulatory framework of the Family Protection Unit. The programme is funded by DFID and UN Women. Progress has also been made, inspired by the establishment in 2011 of the PCP's Gender Unit, with the establishment of similar gender units in other Palestinian security agencies <p>FCO (UK Joint Delegation to NATO (UKDeI NATO))</p> <p>The UK was one of several nations instrumental in ensuring UNSCR 1325 was on the agenda of the 2012 NATO Heads of State and Government summit in Chicago. At that summit the Heads of Government tasked the North Atlantic Council to conduct a review of the practical implications of UNSCR 1325 for the conduct of NATO operations and missions. That review has now been completed, led by the Nordic Centre for Gender in Military Operations, and drawing heavily on evidence from the Kosovo and Afghanistan missions. With a strong push from several nations, including the UK. NATO HQ has directed the Strategic Commands to take the recommendations of the review and use them to formulate an implementation plan. This plan is currently under development at SHAPE, with the first draft due to be presented to Nations at the end of 2013.</p> <p>MOD has sponsored the Deputy Chair position of the NATO Committee on Gender Perspectives.</p> <p>FCO and the Commonwealth</p> <p>HMG officials regularly meet with the Commonwealth Secretariat.</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>HMG played an active role in encouraging Commonwealth members to agree the Commonwealth Charter, agreed by all member states in December 2012. The Charter represents the Commonwealth's core values, commitments and the aspirations of its members. It confirms the Commonwealth's belief that international peace and security, sustainable economic growth and development and the rule of law are essential to the progress and prosperity of all and that gender equality and women's empowerment are basic human rights.</p> <p>HMG's recent engagement with the Commonwealth has included attendance at the triennial Commonwealth Women's Ministers' meeting held in Dhaka, in June 2013 where all Ministers encouraged the adoption, ratification and domestication of and reporting on international instruments that promote and protect the human rights and dignity of women. They called for urgent measures to address violence against women and children and for the comprehensive implementation of laws and strengthened jurisprudence of equality.</p> <p>FCO (UK Delegation to the OSCE (UKDEL OSCE))</p> <p>UKDEL has continued to seek full implementation of UNSCR1325 among OSCE Participating States (pS), predominantly in the Political-Military dimension but also cross-cutting where appropriate. With Partners (especially Turkey, Finland and Croatia), UKDEL has ensured 1325 and related issues feature in all relevant OSCE discussions and activities, including within the Secretariat.</p> <p>Consensus decision-making precluded the universalisation of reporting within the Code of Conduct information exchange, although 31 pS did voluntarily comply and the Gender Section produced a full analysis for the first time. The OSCE Wide Action Plan was not adopted but remains a topic of active discussion and is a possible deliverable at the Kyiv 2013 Ministerial Council, which we will strongly support.</p> <p>In late 2012 and throughout 2013 UKDEL has pushed the PSVI agenda, including organising a Forum for Security Cooperation (FSC) Security Dialogue and, in conjunction with Canada, brought it onto the agenda of the Parliamentary Assembly. Nick Smith MP, gave a keynote address on PSVI and 1325 at a Gender lunch in Istanbul. Social Media has been used to support these efforts.</p> <p>The UKDEL Military Advisor has become a leading member of the OSCE MenEngage network, seeking to promote gender and 1325 issues. He has also offered the NAP toolkit to all pS, with</p>

Objective	Progress
	Bulgaria responding positively. Despite the objections of a small number of pS, 1325 features regularly at the OSCE, often at the instigation of UKDEL.
<p>Enhance UN measures to protect women and girls in conflict/post conflict situations</p>	<p>FCO (UKMIs) In 2013, the following mandates included strengthened provisions on gender and Women, Peace and Security issues: DRC (MONUSCO), Afghanistan (ISAF), Somalia (UNSOM and AMISOM), Mali (MINUSMA), South Sudan (UNMISS), Sudan (UNISFA and UNAMID), Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI), as recommended by UKMIs.</p> <p>FCO (UKMIs) Through its SAP funding, the UK currently funds a project being undertaken by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations on Conflict Related Sexual Violence (CRSV). As part of this project, a module on CRSV is being developed, which will be included as part of the Core Pre-Deployment Training Materials for the military, police and civilian personnel in peacekeeping missions.</p> <p>FCO All military personnel deployed are trained to UN standards and the UK has been active in permanent and short-term training teams to parts of East, West and South Africa. Most recently sending a team to Uganda; helping to train 1800 members of the Ugandan People's Defence Force (UPDF) in counter-insurgency and basic infantry skills. The UPDF are involved in several UN and African Union missions therefore this type of training is crucial to improving the skills of soldiers deployed throughout Africa.</p> <p>The UK has continued to support the Peace Support Operations Training Centre in Sarajevo and has provided training to Bosnian forces, including on UNSCR 1325 and the WPS agenda.</p> <p>DFID (CHASE) The UK has provided £3.25million of funding to UN Women's 2010-2014 Programme 'From Communities to Global Security Institutions: Engaging Women in Building Peace and Security'. The Programme is now in its final year and has made progress in addressing some of the earlier implementation challenges and is on track to meet most targets.</p> <p>The numbers of community-led interventions and target survivors have exceeded the milestone target, as has the number of new institutional reforms undertaken as part of Security Sector Reform to address violence against women and girls. A total of 18 community-level interventions that address sexual and gender</p>

Objective	Progress
	<p>based violence have been launched in 36 communities, and a total of 12 institutional reforms or policy changes have taken place. In addition to the 1614 women receiving direct services, 2,162 men and women (including youth) have participated in community-led interventions.</p>
<p>Enhance UN ability to promote the participation of women in conflict resolution</p>	<p>FCO (UKMis) On 26th September 2013 the Peace-building Commission's declaration on women's economic empowerment for peace-building (PBC/7/OC/L.1) was adopted. UKMis played a key role in negotiating, defending and strengthening this text, which calls for a greater role for women in all stages of conflict resolution and related processes.</p> <p>FCO (UKMis) In the new Women, Peace and Security Resolution 2122, the Council requested DPKO and DPA <i>"to systematically include information and related recommendations on issues of relevance to Women, Peace and Security, in their reports to the Council"</i>. It also expressed its intention to <i>"increase its attention to women, peace and security issues in all relevant thematic areas of work on its agenda, including in particular Protection of civilians in armed conflict, Post-conflict peace-building, The promotion and strengthening of the rule of law in the maintenance of international peace and security, peace and security in Africa, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts, and maintenance of international peace and security"</i>.</p> <p>DFID UNCD/CHASE Core funding to UN Women since 2011 is being monitored using a logframe that includes an outcome indicator on the Representation of women among mediators, negotiators and technical experts in formal peace negotiations (weight 10%) and an output indicator on the number of countries that adopt Plans for implementation of resolution 1325, including National Action Plans (NAPs) on 1325". Latest information suggests UN Women are on track to meet these targets.</p>

Annex A: Examples of DFID programmes which reflect strong commitment to empowering women and girls in fragile or conflict affected states.

The Nigeria Stability and Reconciliation Programme (2012-2017) aims to identify and respond effectively to potential sources of violent conflict in Nigeria and reduce the negative impacts of conflict on the most vulnerable among the Nigerian population. It focuses on empowering women to engage in political participation, building government and women's rights organisations' institutional capacity, data collection and establishing safe spaces.

The Peace and Development Programme (PDP) (2012-2016) in Ethiopia aims to improve security and justice for 500,000 women and girls through better access to services, improved and enabling governance, and greater political will and capacities of federal, regional, opposition and local stakeholders to transform conflicts.

DFID is also working to empower vulnerable women and girls to make their voices heard. The Aawaz Strengthening Voice and Accountability Programme (2012-2017) in Pakistan aims to contribute towards making democratic processes in Pakistan more open, inclusive and accountable to citizens, by empowering women and girls to demand improved services and engage in political and civil participation.

Annex B: A cross-section of Women, Peace and Security projects being supported by the Conflict Pool SAP fund.

The NGO Working Group (NGOWG) to ensure Action on Accountability: This support holds the UN Security Council and other relevant actors at UN Headquarters accountable for their obligations in the protection and promotion of women's human rights, particularly in conflict situations. The NGOWG serves as a bridge between women's human rights defenders working in conflict-affected situations and policy-makers at U.N. Headquarters,

The Global Network of Women Peacebuilders UNSCR 1325 and 1820 localisation project: This support facilitates implementation of UNSCR 1325, 1820 and others in local communities in DRC. This is an important strategy which promotes implementation at sub-national and regional levels as well as an effort to integrate WPS commitments into legislation, policy-making and planning processes

An evaluation of the UK's NAP: This funded an independent evaluation of the three year UK NAP and provided a review of achievements against objectives and recommendations for the new NAP.

A number of PSVI-projects have also been supported through this fund including:

Deployment of Physicians for Human Rights: This support has funded the embedding of an expert with crime scene investigation skills into a hospital in Eastern DRC, who has directly supporting the training of Congolese authorities and stakeholders to conduct real-time investigations. Women's Initiative for Gender Justice: This seeks to improve accountability for sexual and gender-based crimes by the International Criminal Court (ICC) and national authorities in conflict-affected countries, as well as greater access to justice, medical and other support services to victims/survivors of these crimes.

Annex C: An overview of the gender and conflict expertise currently on the

Stabilisation Unit's roster:

The SU has gender and conflict expertise across its rosters. Of those under the stabilisation category there are 10 Deployable Civilian Experts (DCEs) who have gender as a core skill. There are about 20 DCEs under the security and justice category with explicit gender, conflict and security expertise and knowledge. In addition there are DCEs who are also registered on the PSVI Team of Experts. Besides these identified individuals, gender expertise is one of the competencies tested at interview so the majority of other DCEs will have some level of gender and conflict knowledge and experience. The PSVI Team of Experts has 74 members (32 who of whom are also on the Civilian Stabilisation Group). The breakdown of the Team of Experts is as follows:

Investigative team: 14

Criminal lawyers: 17

Gender-based violence experts: 10

Sexual offences examiners: 4

Psychosocial experts and social workers: 10

Retired police officers, Criminal Investigator- Supervisor (SIO Level): 3

Retired police officers, Criminal Investigator- PIP Level 2 Equivalent: 6

Annex D: An example of an MSSG-led training exercise in Kenya, incorporating women, peace and security as a central component

In November 2012 MSSG led a civilian-military training exercise in Kenya with contributions from the Stabilisation Unit. The aim of the exercise was to provide a base line of understanding of the British Army Training Unit Kenya (BATUK)'s operating environment. A core element of this exercise was to better understand the issues confronting women in the local population. SU Community Engagement and Gender Advisers deployed as part of the exercise and assessed that women are affected differently than men by BATUK activities in the area, and whilst not as present in official 'power' positions are key sources of influence, capital and information flow. Their analysis, derived from consultations with women, women's groups and those concerned with gender issues, made recommendations for regular and direct engagement with women; support to equal opportunities, including those focused on empowering women economically, such as making products for the international market from beads, which fits with their nomadic lifestyle.

Similar training was conducted in Uganda and MSSG personnel were able to conduct gender specific training to various leadership cadres.