



HM Government

# UK National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2018-2022: Annual Report to Parliament 2019



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## Section One: Ministerial Foreword



**Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office**



**The Rt Hon  
Dominic Raab MP**

*Secretary of State for Foreign  
and Commonwealth Affairs*



**Department  
for International  
Development**



**The Rt Hon  
Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP**

*Secretary of State for International  
Development*



**Ministry  
of Defence**



**The Rt Hon  
Ben Wallace MP**

*Secretary of State for Defence*

In this new decade, with this new government, the UK will be defined by Global Britain -- a vision for our country that's ambitious, self-confident and unabashedly global in outlook. And central to that vision is being a force for good in the world.

Our guiding lights have, and always will be, the values of democracy, human rights and the international rule of law. And our Women, Peace and Security agenda is an excellent example of how we are using our moral anchor to drive progress around the world.

20 years ago, the adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 was a watershed moment. For the first time, the Security Council addressed the disproportionate impact of armed conflict on women. It also reaffirmed the important role of women's meaningful participation at all stages, from conflict prevention to resolution. As an early adopter of a Women, Peace and Security agenda, the UK has been a leading voice in promoting its tenets.

This year's report shows our continued grasp of the issues, as well as our global leadership.

We know that countries must work together to share expertise and achieve common goals. So the FCO have worked with a number of countries to develop, adopt, and review National Action Plans, from Afghanistan to Lithuania, Egypt to South Africa.

The UK has backed up this progress by supporting in the UN new resolutions to meet the needs of today, such as securing language on a survivor-centred approach and recognition of the need to support male survivors of conflict-related sexual violence, or the need to support and protect civil society organisations and women peacebuilders.

The FCO continues to focus on the Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative, funding vital projects in countries such as DRC and Iraq in order to support survivors of conflict-related sexual violence, as well as funding expert deployments to Zimbabwe and Bangladesh to support the work of national and international bodies such as UN Women.

We know that Gender-based Violence remains a scourge in every country around the world, whether in the battlefield or in the home. DFID is a world leader in preventing gender-based violence, pioneering approaches around the world that have shown reductions in violence by around half. In the DRC, for example, a project with faith leaders and community action groups has reduced women's experience of intimate partner violence from 69% to 29%. DFID's new £67.5 million programme – What Works to Prevent Violence: Impact at Scale, will help countries to scale up effective interventions to prevent Violence Against Women and Girls and expand the evidence base as a global public good.

We know that women's participation is key, from elected representatives in government, to uniformed peacekeepers, to leaders in civil society. This year, the FCO provided over £2.9 million to support women peacebuilders and mediators for activities to build peace and resolve conflict in their communities. And we also provided £1 million to the Elsie Fund to champion UN uniformed women peacekeepers. And we welcome the work of Her Royal Highness The Countess of Wessex, who has been a vocal champion of our agenda, helping to secure support and drive change.

We know that training is crucial to understanding the specific needs of those caught in conflict. MOD's Human Security Adviser Course trains officers in the UK and national armed forces, so that they can deploy on operations and advise commanders on how to recognise, respond, refer and report on human rights violations. This includes conflict-related sexual violence, which hasn't historically been considered to be part of daily military planning. The more the Armed Forces can do in the planning stages, then the better we can protect vulnerable people through peacekeeping, humanitarian disaster relief and other operations.

There is much to celebrate within the pages of this report – from the unprecedented number of female ministers in Afghanistan to increased focus on women's rights in legislation in Somalia, to faith leaders in DRC using prayer to support communities affected by sexual violence in conflict.

As much progress as there is to celebrate, we still have far to go. But if 20 years of UNSCR 1325 is any indication, we can keep learning, keep responding, and keep building a better world for everyone – as a true force for good.

## Section Two: Introduction

In this 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the first UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (WPS), the UK Government is pleased to publish the 2019 annual report, setting out progress against our objectives as set out in our National Action Plan (NAP) on WPS 2018-2022. Our overarching objective is to reduce the impact of conflict on women and girls and to promote their inclusion in conflict resolution and yet, twenty years on, during peace processes recorded between 1990-2017, women made up only 2%, 5% and 8%<sup>1</sup> of mediators, witnesses and negotiators, respectively. The UK is committed to changing these statistics.

The UK's NAP is owned jointly by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), the Department for International Development (DFID), and the Ministry of Defence (MOD), with support from the Stabilisation Unit. The NAP is primarily funded through the FCO's International Programme Fund and the cross-government Conflict, Security and Stability Fund (CSSF).

### 2019 in brief

2019 has been a significant year for the WPS agenda: there have been a number of successes as well as new challenges. As of 2019, 83 UN Member States have developed NAPs, and this number is set to grow in 2020. In 2019, the UK supported a number of countries to develop and implement their own NAPs including Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Lithuania, and South Africa. This report outlines the increasing breadth and scale of UK activity on WPS beyond our focus countries. There is more to do on strengthening our monitoring and evaluation and this will be a focus in 2020.

As part of the UK Government's practical assistance for women's meaningful participation in peace processes in 2019, we continue to support the Women Mediators across the Commonwealth Initiative and the Global Alliance of Women Mediator Networks, which was launched at the 2019 UN General Assembly. We continue to support women working at the grassroots level including through funding to the UN Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and the International Civil Society Action Network. In March 2019, we were delighted that Her Royal Highness The Countess of Wessex became a champion of WPS and the Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative, helping to raise awareness and drive forward the agenda.

DFID's flagship £67.5 million What Works to Prevent Violence Programme revealed the vast scale and severity of Violence Against Women and Girls in conflict and crisis-affected settings. It also indicated that such violence is preventable. This evidence has been used across the UK Government and by international partners to strengthen approaches to tackle Violence Against Women and Girls. The MOD reaffirmed its commitment that women will make up at least 15% of UK personnel on UN peace operations by 2028. MOD also held the first WPS Chiefs of Defence Network meeting and handed over the chair to Canada and Bangladesh. MOD published their "Human Security in

Military Operations" policy (Joint Services Publication 1325) to give clear guidance on implementing WPS across the Department.

However, the environment remains challenging. At country level, women are largely absent from formal peace processes, for example in Yemen and Libya, and women and girls continue to be targeted during conflict including through the use of conflict-related sexual violence. This is exacerbated by a closing space for civil society, including women peacebuilders, who need sustainable funding and protection from governments to allow them to operate. Some progress is being made on promoting uniformed women in peace operations, for example through the UK-funded Elsie Initiative. Yet there is still a need for greater senior leadership and role models to challenge the narrative that there just are not enough qualified women.

At the United Nations, Germany and South Africa introduced texts on WPS at the UN Security Council (UNSC) in 2019. The UK amongst others lobbied successfully for key commitments in the new resolutions, for example securing language on a survivor-centred approach (UNSCR 2467), the recognition of the need to support male survivors of Conflict Related Sexual Violence (UNSCR 2467), and reference to the need to support and protect civil society organisations and women peacebuilders (UNSCR 2493). The UK Government is pleased to have driven forward global progress on WPS in 2019.

### Looking ahead

The 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UNSCR 1325 is in October 2020. As part of the UK's preparations, the UK funded Gender Action for Peace and Security to conduct civil society consultations in our nine WPS NAP focus countries as well as London and New York. The findings and recommendations (see **Box 1**) have informed UK WPS policy and programming and are available to other governments, multilateral institutions and non-governmental organisations as rich sources of evidence for determining shared priorities in 2020 and beyond.

## The 10 Steps: Turning Women, Peace and Security Commitments to Implementation

The UK funded **Gender Action for Peace and Security** to conduct consultations with civil society in our focus countries. The 10 Steps is the result of these findings.

1. Using gender-conflict analysis as the basis for policy and programming;
2. Funding civil society and Women's Rights Organisations;
3. Strengthening the international community's capacity to implement WPS commitments;
4. Providing technical support to national governments in Fragile and Conflict Affected States to implement WPS commitments;
5. Developing and implementing NAPs;
6. Supporting meaningful participation by women and girls;
7. Taking an integrated approach to preventing and responding to Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG);
8. Implementing legislation and improving access to justice;
9. Raising public awareness and changing social norms; and
10. Implementing entire WPS agenda in a coordinated and accountable way.

The twentieth anniversary is an opportunity for global partners to reflect upon the progress made to date and identify what more needs to be done to see real change on the ground. Looking forward, there are emerging global issues that bring both opportunity and challenge for the WPS agenda, including arms proliferation, climate change, cyber security, and localisation. Ahead of the anniversary, the UK is committed to raising ambition and strengthening implementation of UNSCR 1325.

### Box 2: Key Achievements in 2019

- Championed and protected the WPS normative framework and defended hard won language in multilateral fora, including two UNSCRs and peacekeeping mandates.
- Increased support to women at the grassroots through funding to the UN Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and the International Civil Society Action Network.
- Championed women's meaningful participation in peace processes and advocated for women mediators bilaterally and multilaterally, including supporting the Women Mediators across the Commonwealth Initiative and supporting the launch of the Global Alliance of Women Mediator Networks at the UN General Assembly 2019.

- Strengthened UK capabilities on Women Peace and Security through improved resources. Published *Gender & Conflict: Making Elite Bargaining Processes More Inclusive* and a guidance note to support effective policy and programming on Strategic Outcome 6 (Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism).
- Published ground-breaking evidence through the flagship DFID *What Works to Prevent Violence Programme*. This evidence has been used across the UK Government and international partners to strengthen effective approaches to tackle VAWG.
- Launched a new £67.5 million programme – *What Works to Prevent Violence: Impact at Scale*, to scale up effective interventions to prevent Violence Against Women and Girls across development and humanitarian contexts, and to continue expanding the evidence base as a global public good.
- Reaffirmed the commitment that women will make up at least 15% of UK personnel on UN peacekeeping missions by 2028.
- Committed to produce a study to identify barriers to UK uniformed women joining peacekeeping operations and action the results of the study.
- The UK chaired a WPS Chiefs of Defence Network meeting with 42 nations at UN HQ in March 2019. Canada and Bangladesh are now co-chairs of the network.
- Published Joint Service Publication (JSP 1325) on *Human Security in Military Operations* to give clear guidance on implementing Women Peace and Security across the Ministry of Defence.
- Supported international militaries to send women to top tier courses across defence, training officers from across the globe to deploy as Human Security Advisers on operations.
- Contributed £4 million, out of the £21 million pledged since 2014, to the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women, which provides grants to women's rights organisations and other grassroots organisations to support innovative approaches across multiple countries, including on tackling sexual violence in conflict contexts.
- The MOD and Civil Society established a roundtable meeting to better inform military planners of the threats women and girls can face.

## UK NAP Strategic Outcomes

	<p><b>1: Decision-making:</b></p> <p>An increase in women’s meaningful and representative participation in decision-making processes, including conflict prevention and peacebuilding at community and national levels</p>
	<p><b>2: Peacekeeping:</b></p> <p>A gender perspective is consistently applied in the setting and implementation of international standards and mandates for peace operations</p>
	<p><b>3: Gender-based Violence:</b></p> <p>An increase in the number and scale of interventions that integrate effective measures to prevent and respond to Gender-based Violence, particularly Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) which is the most prevalent form of GBV</p>
	<p><b>4: Humanitarian response:</b></p> <p>Women’s and girls’ needs are more effectively met by humanitarian actors and interventions through needs-based responses that promote meaningful participation and leadership</p>
	<p><b>5: Security and justice:</b></p> <p>Security and justice actors are increasingly accountable to women and girls, and responsive to their rights and needs</p>
	<p><b>6: Preventing and countering violent extremism:</b></p> <p>Ensure the participation and leadership of women in developing strategies to prevent and counter violent extremism</p>
	<p><b>7: UK capabilities:</b></p> <p>HMG continues to strengthen its capability, processes and leadership to deliver against WPS commitments</p>

## Section Three: Focus Countries





This section of the report outlines how the UK Government is delivering the WPS agenda in our nine focus countries.

## AFGHANISTAN

### Afghanistan NAP Phase 1 2015 - 2018; Phase 2 2019 - 2022

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs leads Afghanistan's NAP, launching their NAP Phase 2 in July 2019. The implementation of Phase 1 was mixed with some successes, most notably the Penal Code (2018) and the Elimination of Violence Against Women Law (2009), which criminalised many discriminatory and harmful practices. While the number of cases of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) increased in 2019 to a record high, prosecutions tend to be limited. Implementation is weak, due to limited budget, lack of technical expertise and political will and poor institutional capacity. Civil society consultations confirmed lack of awareness and implementation at provincial and local level. The NAP was not fully resourced and funds received by the Government were not fully disbursed in Phase 1. The UK is providing technical assistance for implementation of Phase 2.

**The Afghan government's commitment to gender equality is set out in legislation and their NAP. Unfortunately, due to continued insecurity, these commitments have not been implemented consistently across the country. The UK's Gender Strategy for Afghanistan prioritises women's rights, inclusion and participation across all our work, and as active members of the WPS Working Group (a group of donors, government, civil society and development agencies), we are able to provide technical assistance for the implementation of Phase 2 of Afghanistan's NAP.**

The Afghan government advocates for protecting women's rights. As of December 2019, the number of female Ministers was at an all-time high at 18 and around 35% of the workforce are women.<sup>2</sup> However, the Georgetown Institute for WPS Index (2019), ranked Afghanistan as one of the worst places in the world to be a woman at 166 out of 167 (ahead of only Yemen). The number of women in senior government positions has increased and women exceed the 25% quota for civil service positions in 2019.<sup>3</sup> However, the number of women holding the most important or influential positions in Government remains low and the majority of positions occupied by women are administrative. Women's political participation is also mixed. Parliamentary elections in 2019 saw record female turnout and 69 seats (or 27%) won by women – though this is equal to the number of reserved seats. According to preliminary results, women cast 31% of valid votes in September's Presidential election (with no female candidates).

### SO1: Decision-making

Afghanistan is a priority country in the run up to the 20th anniversary of UNSCR 1325 in 2020 for women's meaningful participation in peace processes. The UK has been actively pressing for the views of women to be represented in peace talks, looking to protect the rights gained by women in Afghanistan in a future political settlement. We funded the Secretariat of the High Peace Council, an Afghan body involved in the country's peace efforts, in which women constituted 26% of its workforce. A UK-sponsored Wilton Park Conference to examine lessons from other peace processes to inform Afghan peace efforts had 22% female participation, enabling women to share views with former Taliban members in attendance.

### SO3: Gender-based Violence

Gender-based Violence (GBV) is a serious problem across Afghanistan. Over half of married women in Afghanistan have experienced physical violence, while 80% of women believe that a husband is justified in beating his wife in certain circumstances. Access to sexual health and reproductive services remains limited and unavailable in some provinces, resulting in an uncontrolled birth rate and widespread preventable illnesses for women. The Afghan government is committed to addressing the problem, and included GBV in its National Priority Programme.<sup>4</sup> In 2019, UK support focused on scaling up sexual and reproductive health services. The first phase of our DFID Afghanistan GBV programme provided 15,000 women with response services, including medical, legal advice, counselling and referral of survivors for police protection in six provinces. The next phase (2019-2022) will extend these services to six new provinces.

### SO4: Humanitarian

Conditions for women across much of the country have not improved and, in many cases, have deteriorated. Societal or cultural gender and social inequalities disadvantage women and girls, depriving them of basic rights including land ownership. Women and girls have much lower access to basic services including education and it is estimated that 3.6 million children are out of school, including 2.6 million girls. Female-headed households are less likely than male-headed households to have reliable access to food, and twice as likely to be in debt. The UK's humanitarian contribution to Afghanistan in 2019/2020 is £78.5 million, of which £54 million has gone to the UN's Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund (AHF). In 2018, the AHF reached 2.3 million women and girls with emergency food, health, nutrition, protection and shelter support.<sup>5</sup>

[image removed]

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## **SO5: Security and Justice**

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The percentage of women in the security forces since 2018 remains at around 2.5% and those women face discrimination, sexual harassment and abuse. We would like to see greater emphasis placed on supporting women in the security sector, while recognising that an increase in women in that sector will bring its own benefits. The international community, including through NATO, supports women to develop security careers, and the UK is proud to be lead mentor at the Afghanistan National Army Officers Academy, from which over 260 female officers have graduated since 2014. A further 20 graduated in December 2019. We also sponsored a female internship scheme at the Office of the National Security Council (ONSC) to provide young women with workplace experience. In 2019, the UK Ministry of Defence trained two officers from the Afghan ONSC on Defence and Human Security, including WPS.

### **Box 3: HRH The Countess of Wessex**

Her Royal Highness The Countess of Wessex publicly declared her commitment to champion and support the UK Government's objectives on WPS on International Women's Day 2019. This includes work to support survivors and children born of conflict-related sexual violence, women's meaningful participation in peace processes including as mediators, and supporting women building peace at the grassroots level.

In 2019, Her Royal Highness visited Lebanon, Kenya, Kosovo and Norway, meeting women peacebuilders, survivors and influential figures to learn more about the challenges they face and to promote progress on this agenda, raising the profile of these issues in the public domain. In November, she attended the International Civil Society Action Network (ICAN) Forum where she met women peacebuilders from across the globe, learning about their achievements and the challenges they face in their day to day lives. We look forward to supporting Her Royal Highness's work in 2020, including through overseas visits and other public events.



Figure 3: Her Royal Highness The Countess of Wessex meeting with members of The Survivors of Sexual Violence in Kenya Network to discuss conflict-related sexual violence.



Figure 4: Her Royal Highness The Countess of Wessex with UK appointed PSVI Survivor Champion, Kolbassia Haoussou MBE, at an event hosted at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence.

## DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

### DRC NAP Sep 2018-2022

After limited activity following 2018 elections and subsequent Government formation, DRC has resumed implementation of its NAP. President Tshisekedi's government has committed to tackling WPS issues and is working with the UK to see where our existing programmes can support. The 2018 NAP is designed to review and enhance work undertaken through the 2010 NAP, in tandem with the country's National Gender Policy.

**Gender equality is one of the biggest challenges in DRC. The rates of GBV are among the highest in the world and DRC ranks 161 out of 167 countries in the Georgetown Institute for WPS Index (2019). This is exacerbated by the limited capacity of government to tackle deeply entrenched human rights issues and a decades-old conflict in the densely populated east of the country. Despite this, the UK Government has supported the DRC government to make progress in advancing the WPS agenda.**

Progress on DRC's own NAP has stalled since 2018. The absence of a government for eight months following Presidential elections in December 2018 has hampered strategic leadership on WPS issues. However, civil society organisations, with support from the international community, continued to work on the agenda in 2019 and early engagement with the incoming DRC government secured a commitment to integrate all relevant streams of work within a strategic plan on GBV and youth.

### SO1: Decision Making

Ahead of the Presidential, national and provincial elections in 2018, the UK provided training for 700 female candidates on how to stand in and campaign for elections, as well as how to conduct themselves in public office. This £350,000 training programme contributed to the election of several of those trained, and five were appointed as Ministers in the Tshisekedi Government in 2019. Through the International Programme Fund, we have also trained parliamentarians and clerks, including the 2018 alumni, on the role of parliament and on methods of reviewing and creating effective legislation.

### SO2: Peacekeeping

In 2018 the UK's MOD deployed Major Charmaine Geldenhuys, followed by Major Samantha Toop in 2019, as the Force Gender and Child Protection Adviser to the United Nations Organisation Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO). Both officers encouraged MONUSCO Force peacekeepers and leadership to understand the

benefits of incorporating a gender perspective within military planning and activity through developing a clear WPS strategy. This approach included induction packs and briefings of senior leadership; training of gender focal points; regular reporting of WPS activity and supporting the inclusion of a gendered dimension with operational staff work. They also supported training of female peacekeepers and Mixed Engagement Teams to improve communication with Congolese men and women during routine patrols and community based events. This engagement enabled a better understanding of the threats facing that population and for MONUSCO to respond to those threats.

In 2019, the UK protected language on WPS and SEA in the MONUSCO mandate during the mandate's renewals. We secured stronger language on repatriating units when there is evidence of misconduct, and we inserted references to the 'full, effective and meaningful' participation of women in all aspects of MONUSCO operations. The rationale for this language is based on the distinct meaning of "full" (across the board), "effective" (leading to outcomes, not ignored) and "meaningful" (on significant issues). In 2019 we secured a reference on the need to protect all survivors of GBV to highlight that GBV affects men, women, boys and girls. France, with UK support, inserted language into the mandate to request MONUSCO support the government to advance women's political participation, and meet their 30% constitutional quota on women's political participation.

### **SO3: Gender-based Violence**

GBV has long been a driver of the country's displacement crisis. Rape and other forms of sexual violence are used as weapons of war in conflict zones in the south and east, particularly in the Kivus. Despite some improvements in the human rights situation since President Tshisekedi's inauguration, UN figures recognise that there has been an increase in conflict-related sexual violence (407 reported victims) compared to 2018 (208 reported victims), with 22% of reported cases committed by state agents. The real figures are likely to be much higher, but the increase may also reflect an increased willingness by victims supported by UK-funded programmes, to come forward and report these crimes. The conviction of former DRC military commander Bosco Ntaganda at the International Criminal Court in July 2019 for sexual crimes sent a strong message that individuals found guilty of such crimes would be prosecuted. In 2019-2020, the UK continues to support 820 schools to respond to GBV incidents. Under the UK's current DRC humanitarian programme (2017-2020), DFID has supported 5,685 GBV survivors and 2,218 victims of conflict-related trauma and conflict-related sexual violence through the UN Humanitarian Fund and support to International Committee of the Red Cross. The UK also continues to provide prophylaxis kits to survivors of sexual violence. Additionally, DFID's private sector development programme, ELAN, has supported opportunities for women to secure employment, bringing greater financial independence and capability.

Looking ahead, GBV will continue to be an important area of work in-country with the intention that large sector programmes will include a dedicated component to address GBV, supporting the DRC government in their own efforts to tackle GBV, including implementing legal measures to enhance access to justice for victims and survivors.

#### **Box 4. DFID's What Works to Prevent Violence Programme in DRC**

Through DFID's What Works to Prevent Violence Programme, the UK partnered with NGOs, Tearfund and Heal Africa, to implement and evaluate a faith-based norm change intervention working in remote and conflict-affected communities in the DRC's Ituri Province. The project trained faith leaders to address the root causes of VAWG through their sermons, prayer and youth groups. The programme also set up Community Action Groups in villages to provide psychosocial support and medical treatment to survivors. Initial results are encouraging: women's experience of intimate partner violence fell from 69% to 29%. The prevalence of non-partner sexual violence reported by women also decreased from 24% at baseline to just 4% at end-line – a more than five-fold reduction. There were also significant shifts in reported attitudes, for example, around acceptability of violence which fell by half.

### **SO5: Security and Justice**

This year, the UK provided free legal assistance through an implementing partner, TRIAL, to help 269 victims (including 179 women) to bring allegations of conflict-related sexual crimes to local courts. One such case saw the conviction of two combatants of armed group, the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda. Over 100 victims were awarded compensation as a result. We also embedded a gender-sensitive approach in the multi-donor UN International Security and Stabilisation Support Strategy. The multi-donor UN Stabilisation Coherence Fund now requires all programmes to dedicate 15% of their funds to addressing gender inequality.

The UK also contributed funding to the preparatory phase of a Mukwege Foundation fund pilot project in the Kivus region of DRC in 2019. The project consulted on reparations and restorative justice for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence, with the aim of scaling up, with DRC government agreement, to establish a national fund.

## IRAQ

### Iraq NAP [out of date 2014-18]

Iraq was the first country in the Middle East to have a WPS NAP although implementation has not been consistent across the country. The second NAP is currently under development in consultation with civil society, and we look forward to the finalisation of a comprehensive, budgeted, second NAP and full implementation.

**Iraq ranks at 162 out of 167 in the Georgetown Institute for WPS Index (2019). Conservative norms, the fight against Da'esh, elections in 2018, delayed government formation, and lack of budget have stalled implementation of Iraq's NAP. Women's equality in Iraq has declined after decades of conflict, economic sanctions, discriminatory legislation and a reversion to conservative religious and tribal norms.**

Refugee and internally displaced women and girls remain the most vulnerable, alongside widows, children born of rape, and so-called Da'esh affiliated families. The picture in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) is more positive due to a more secular way of life. Currently only the KRI has a law to criminalise domestic violence.

### SO1: Decision Making

There are only two female ministers in the Iraqi cabinet. The picture in the KRI is slightly better. The Kurdistan Regional Parliament Speaker and a Deputy Speaker are female, as are three ministers in the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG). The Conflict Stability and Security Fund Multilateral Strategy Programme (CSSF MuST) provided £1.5 million to the UN Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund in Iraq for financial years 18/19 and 19/20, supporting women building peace and countering violent extremism at the grassroots level in Iraq.

### SO3: Gender-based Violence

UN studies in 2018 show that 37% of Iraqi women think violence towards women is acceptable, and that 63% of GBV is perpetrated within the family. The UK has strongly supported President Salih's endorsement of draft bills to criminalise domestic violence, and to rehabilitate Yezidi and other survivors of Da'esh-perpetrated sexual violence. Our International Programme Fund projects in financial year 2019/20 include seeking to address the causes and effects of GBV among 360,000 people and providing protection services for girls and women in KRI; preventing suicide in mainly Yezidi camps for internally displaced people (IDPs); and legal and psychosocial support for female IDPs in Anbar and Baghdad provinces. In 2019, CSSF Iraq funded a £600,000 project to deliver capacity-building to five women's rights organisations in Iraq, and funded advocacy, women's political participation, GBV prevention and support to survivors.

### SO4: Humanitarian

DFID is the largest donor to the UN's Iraq Humanitarian Fund. To date in 2019, over 1.5 million women and girls have received humanitarian assistance through the Fund. This includes ensuring access to GBV services for survivors and those at risk. This is an increase from 2018 where 72 projects reached 1.4 million women and girls. DFID also supported women's medical needs, protection services for children, and is funding the UN to better understand and respond to protracted displacement, including for the 13% of female-headed IDP households. The UK has provided £23.15 million to the UNDP's Funding Facility for Stabilisation (FFS) since 2015. FFS projects have provided over 5,000 grants to women-headed households and over 4,000 cash for work opportunities for women.

### SO5: Security and Justice

Following the military defeat of Da'esh, checkpoints and a heightened security presence by Iraq's multiple security forces remain a feature of daily life across the country. This affects many women and girls, especially those from minority communities in areas dominated by mostly Shia Popular Mobilisation Forces (PMFs). In 2019, the UK MOD continued to fund members of the Iraqi security forces' participation in human security training in the UK to improve military engagement with women and civilians. In the KRI, three Peshmerga officers, including one woman, have also qualified in such training. In addition, the UK-supported Peshmerga reform programme now includes a gender project that will start to address human security and gender equality issues across the various forces.

### SO6: Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism

Da'esh remains a threat, as does the risk of radicalisation of displaced communities, some of which are perceived as affiliated with Da'esh. We funded UNODC research into the role of women in Counter-Terrorism, to provide analysis and recommendations related to the gender-sensitivity of policies, procedures and practices across Peshmerga.



Figure 5 : Women in Basra - victory sign.

## LIBYA

### Libya does not have a NAP

We stand ready to work with international partners, civil society and government institutions in Libya to support the writing and implementing of a future NAP.

**In a traditionally patriarchal society, dominated by warring militias and armed groups, the UK continues to seek realistic opportunities to support women with the capacity to participate in the transitional process. The instrumental political role of Libyan women as protestors, fighters, smugglers, and doctors in the 2011 uprising that brought down Muammar Gaddafi, led to the belief that society was making an irreversible change. Eight years since the Libyan revolution, divisions along political and societal lines continue to drive tensions within and between communities, affecting women, men, boys and girls. The escalation of conflict in April 2019 and the sustained lack of security not only heightened the vulnerability of women and girls, but has incrementally hindered progress on WPS.**

Since the UK NAP on WPS 2018-2022: Annual Report to Parliament 2018, we have invested in furthering our understanding of barriers to gender equality and its impact on society. In March, we commissioned civil society consultations facilitated by GAPS with our 10 Libyan civil society partners. Participants identified key challenges facing Libyan women including: political instability and war; traditional conservative social and cultural attitudes marginalising their roles; and protection and promotion of women's rights as mandated by law and international conventions. Working across UK Government departments, our priorities are political inclusion, economic opportunities and governance, and tackling social inequalities. Our newly revised cross-government Libya Gender Strategy – derived from the UK NAP on WPS and UNSCR 1325 on WPS – aims to address these multifaceted issues.

### SO1: Decision Making

Libya is ranked 158 of 167 in the Georgetown Institute for WPS Index (2019), ranking near Syria and Yemen. Currently, less than 20% of politicians in Libya are female. The facility for women's participation is limited and the political and security environment discourages women from taking part in political activities. The abduction of female MP Siham Sergiwa in July 2019 has exacerbated this. The UK has been active in calling for her immediate release and for an investigation into her abduction.

The Libya CSSF programme has continued to fund the Institute for War and Peace Reporting's work to build the capacity of local partners across the east, west, and south of Libya. This year, our coalition of civil society partners launched a national advocacy campaign to recognise the contributions of Libyan women to society. This includes the creation of a national database of female experts in, for example, politics, law, human rights and healthcare, on which the Libyan government and international community can draw. Over the past 18 months, our partners' activities have directly trained over 500 women on leadership and citizenship, and reached over 1,500 beneficiaries. The British Embassy's communications strategy includes targeted content promoting the participation of women in the Chevening programme, through which the UK Government funds scholarships and fellowships for exceptional professionals to study in the UK.<sup>6</sup> We were pleased to see a 22% increase this year, bringing our number of female applicants to 46%. We continue to encourage the Libyan government to draw upon women's expertise, and we intend that our lead as gender coordinators across the international community in-country will yield more progress.

## SO3: Gender-based Violence

This year we commissioned internal research into GBV, through the Knowledge, Evidence and Learning for Development Helpdesk service provided to DFID, to build an understanding and evidence base for future programming opportunities. We are also coordinating with the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) and other humanitarian organisations to encourage strategic and complementary responses. During our main intervention at the 42nd session of the United Nations Human Rights Council, we condemned all violations and abuses of human rights, including GBV, during an Interactive Dialogue on Libya.

## SO4: Humanitarian

The CSSF Libya programme supported the rehabilitation of maternity clinics, training of female Mine Risk Educators, and women's economic empowerment through private-sector development and as entrepreneurs. Our humanitarian programme continues to build the capacity of Primary Healthcare staff, which will improve women's healthcare.

## SO6: Preventing and Countering Extremism

The first research of its kind,<sup>7</sup> commissioned by the UK through UN Women and Monash University, found that publicly advocating for women's rights discourages women from joining violent extremist groups. We are working with the Libyan Counter Terrorism Coordinator to develop a national Counter Terrorism strategy, which will consider the role of women in this area – as a result of this mandated objective, they have appointed a woman to their drafting committee.



Figure 6: Gender Action For Peace and Security Director Hannah Bond, and Together We Build It Co-Founder Rida al-Tubuly leading WPS consultations with UK civil society partners from East, West, and South of Libya, March 2019.

## MYANMAR

### Myanmar does not have a NAP.

The UK is part of the WPS Technical Working Group (TWG), which is part of the Government of Myanmar's National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women (NSPAW). We are currently feeding into the TWG's three-year operational plan for WPS, which addresses the four pillars of UNSCR 1325.

**Myanmar's ranking in the Georgetown Institute for WPS Index (2019) continues to fall. Its low position of 150/167 in 2019 reflects systemic oppression of minorities, increased reporting of sexual violence, and a political system which limits the participation of women in decision-making at all levels. Progress is limited by the sensitive nature of WPS and lack of capacity in the Myanmar government.**

Progress is contingent on sustained appetite to pursue this agenda on the part of the Myanmar government that lacks capacity and expertise, and faces competing domestic challenges. The Ministry for Social Welfare is tasked with much of the WPS agenda, in particular GBV. However a ministry lacks the status necessary to drive key changes on issues such as impunity of the military and conflict-related sexual violence.

## SO1: Decision Making

Myanmar has one of the lowest percentages of women in parliament in the world at 63 women MPs out of 493. Aung San Suu Kyi is the State Counsellor and only female minister. Women's potential to contribute to peace is undervalued and only marginally improving, despite parties to the National Ceasefire Agreement agreeing to a 30% quota of women's participation in future dialogues. In the 2018 Union Peace Conference, women's participation increased to 17%, a 2% increase from the previous year, but there remains some way to go to meet the agreed quota. Ethnic Armed Organisations (EAOs) have been more effective in bringing women into peace talks than the military (Tatmadaw). In response, the UK trained over 1,800 women since 2015 to support their political participation and decision-making in rural areas. We also supported the Women's Peace Forum to develop practical ways to approach gender in the peace process; the Forum includes 350 women from Myanmar's different ethnic groups. In addition, we have been working to strengthen eight grassroots women's organisations to address social cohesion and peace in their communities through tribe dialogue, civic education and peace awareness at subnational levels.

## SO3: Gender-based Violence

GBV is endemic but underreported. Latest official figures suggest 15% of women have experienced physical abuse and 3% have experienced sexual violence, but this is a conservative estimate. In August 2019, the UN Fact-Finding Mission report stated that Tatmadaw soldiers and EAOs have used sexual violence as a tactic of war. The Union government is yet to finalise a Joint Action Plan to deliver the 2018 commitments outlined in the Joint Communiqué with the UN on prevention and response to conflict-related sexual violence. In 2019, the UK provided training on GBV to 186 EAO members, ethnic health professionals, and government health and police staff. We have also supported over 500 GBV cases with free paralegal case management support since 2017. Trafficking is an increasing threat for women and girls desperate for livelihoods. We are funding support and therapy programmes for survivors of trafficking.

## SO4: Humanitarian

Women and girls continue to pay a high cost for the conflict in Myanmar, the world's longest civil war. In Rakhine, women live within restrictive social norms and intimate partner violence is common. In Kachin and Northern Shan, women and children make up approximately 75% of the population in IDP camps. We supported water, sanitation and hygiene projects in camps which provide safer places for women to maintain their dignity, provided specialised support to survivors of violence, and built local capacity for sustainable protection services for women in humanitarian settings.

## SO5: Security and Justice

Legal discrimination remains a barrier to women's full participation in society with 35 overtly discriminatory laws against women. There are no laws against domestic violence. The UK is actively working to address these gaps, for example by supporting civil society actors who are inputting into the development of key protection laws, such as the Prevention of Violence Against Women Bill.

## NIGERIA

### Nigeria NAP 2017- 2020

The UK provided funding and technical support to help Nigeria develop their NAP, WPS Networks and the National Technical Working Group responsible for overseeing NAP implementation. This formed part of our peace and security engagement strategy delivered through the 2012-2017 DFID Nigeria Stability and Reconciliation Programme's (NSRP) £38.3 million budget.

In 2019, we recruited two local gender and conflict experts to conduct a WPS scoping study. This will explore how the UK Government's contribution to the WPS agenda in Nigeria could be strengthened. We expect to receive results by 28 February 2020.

**Weak government structures and fragmented civil society limit Nigeria's performance on WPS. We are working across UK Government and exploring new partnerships in particular to reduce sexual violence in conflict and strengthen the overall legislative framework to tackle GBV.**

Nigeria's Constitution enshrines the principle of non-discrimination by gender. Despite the weak government structures, with 11 state-level WPS action plans and four more in development, Nigeria's WPS network is still an example of best practice in West Africa. The Nigerian Chief of Defence Staff is a member of the Chiefs of Defence WPS Network and Nigeria is paired with the UK under the G7 WPS Partnerships Initiative. However, Nigeria needs state and non-state actors to do much more to embed WPS before its current NAP ends in 2020. The UK is exploring options to support the development, implementation and monitoring of Nigeria's third NAP.



Nigeria is ranked 145 out of 167 in the Georgetown Institute for WPS Index (2019). In the Senate, women hold seven of the 109 seats. Social norms disadvantage women and girls across Nigerian society - a recent study found that 28% of Nigerian women aged 25-29 have experienced some form of physical violence since the age of 15.<sup>8</sup> Despite strong commitments among state-level civil society organisations to improve gender rights, the lack of an identifiable unified national movement hampers its impact. The UK Government's effort to support Nigeria's NAP is focussed on increasing women's political empowerment, reducing and responding to GBV, and targeting humanitarian, security and justice and violent extremism interventions. Our WPS objectives will feature in our refreshed UK Nigeria strategy in 2020.

## **SO1: Decision Making**

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Nigerian attitudes are evolving rapidly and women in positions of authority include the Finance Minister and the Minister for Humanitarian Affairs. Gender activists have noticed the UK's leading role in this space with the strong female representation across the leadership team of the UK mission in Nigeria (over 50% of the UK Government's Nigeria leadership team are female). We have engaged through the £1.8 million DFID Women in Politics (WiP) programming which supports the National Democratic Institute to improve women's political participation in Nigeria. Advocacy efforts of WiP stakeholders led to an increase in the number of female candidates in WiP implementing states from 300 in 2015 to 709 in 2019. Since the arrival of the first female British High Commissioner in November 2018, we have been exploring a range of exciting new partnerships, including in the north of the country. This could help increase our impact in parts of the country where gender rights are least respected, and support efforts for legislative reform.

## **SO4: Humanitarian**

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We are mainstreaming gender across the £108 million DFID humanitarian and CSSF conflict programming in the North East. In North East Nigeria, the CSSF continues to support the reintegration of female and child survivors of sexual violence perpetrated by Boko Haram, reaching approximately 16,000 beneficiaries since April 2017.

## **SO5: Security and Justice**

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The proposed Gender and Equal Opportunity Bill (GEO) and the Violence Against Persons Prohibition Act (VAPP) have the potential to significantly reduce discrimination and violence against women. However, leadership at all levels needs to improve to challenge religious-based opposition, which has helped block the GEO's progress in the Senate for the last eight years and prevented the implementation of the VAPP in most northern states. The UK's technical and advocacy support through DFID and CSSF led to the signing of the VAPP into state law in Kaduna and Enugu. We are also providing policy support and training to the Nigerian Police for effective GBV response through the CSSF.

We continue to support the institutionalisation of WPS across Nigerian military operations through a British Human Security Adviser and we provided Human Security training for five Nigerian officials at the UK Defence Academy. The Nigerian Defence and Army Headquarters have established gender posts and the UK continues to encourage the Navy and Air Force to replicate this success. We are also exploring options to support the Nigerian Army to develop a Sexual Exploitation and Abuse policy. The British Military Advisory Training Team (BMATT) is collaborating with an NGO, Center for Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC), to deliver a pilot Human Security/Protection of Civilians course in Nigeria.

## **SO6: Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism**

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As part of our support to Nigerian Government efforts to promote peace, security and stability in the wider Lake Chad Basin region, the 2019 CSSF-funded Defections, Demobilisation, Disengagement, De-radicalisation and Reintegration (4DR) (£500,000) programme supports the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) to provide targeted reintegration support to 200 female former Non-State Actor Groups (NSAG) associates who were either abducted or forced into marriage with active NSAG fighters. Through the IOM, the 4DR programme offers vocational training, economic empowerment initiatives and psychosocial assistance at the individual, family and community levels to promote social cohesion and improve mental health. This IOM programme contributes to the Operation Safe Corridor (OPSC) Government of Nigeria initiative, encouraging potential NSAG defectors to voluntarily surrender to security forces. The initiative also works to prevent their return to, or continued support for the insurgency, by demonstrating that safe and sustainable alternatives exist.

### **Box 5: Women Mediators across the Commonwealth and the Global Alliance**

The UK continues to fund the Women Mediators across the Commonwealth initiative (WMC), coordinated by Conciliation Resources. The network was set up in July 2017 and was launched with a £1.6 million commitment by the UK Government during the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in April 2018. The network aims to increase the participation of women in formal peace processes at the local, national and international levels. The WMC now has 46 members from over 21 countries. 80% of members are currently participating in national or local dialogues, and we have ambitions for them to support international processes in the year ahead. Members have also created new informal country networks, for example in Nigeria, helping to reach more women in need of mediation support. We

support the network by connecting members with other women peacebuilders, for example from Afghanistan, and three regional workshops held in Malaysia, Nigeria and Australia provided opportunities for members to share experiences and trained members in methods of inclusive mediation and conflict analysis.

The Global Alliance of Regional Women Mediator Networks launched at the United Nations General Assembly in 2019. The UK was represented at the launch by Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon. The Alliance brings together the WMC along with the Nordic Women Mediators Network, the Mediterranean Women Mediators Network, the Arab Women Mediators Network and Femwise Africa. The group is using their collective advocacy and outreach to push for greater women's meaningful participation in peace processes, particularly in international fora where few women have access to the negotiating table. The UK is committed to supporting the Alliance, amplifying members' voices and providing them with greater access and accountability. We see the Alliance as a means of advocating for women mediators to be included in UN deployment lists to peace processes.

## SOMALIA

### **Somalia does not have a NAP.**

The UK stands willing to assist with the production of a NAP.

**Over the past year, the profile of Somali women in civil society has steadily increased, and DFID and CSSF programme funds have supported this activity. However, the gains made at a political level seem to be slowing down. The UK hopes that the elections in Somalia and Somaliland in 2020/2 represent an opportunity to press ahead on WPS commitments.**

### **SO1: Decision Making**

Somalia ranks 150 out of 167 in the Georgetown WPS Index 2019. Women, but often dual Western-Somali citizens, are increasingly well-represented in Somali civil society. The DFID-supported National Women's Convention in March brought together 300 female activists from across the country to produce a National Women's Charter that lays out a call for action on specific issues related to women's security, access to justice, economic empowerment and the broader fulfilment of their political, civil and social rights, including in a revised Constitution for the country. The Charter was endorsed by the Prime Minister of Somalia and has informed the priorities in the agreed National Development Plan for Somalia. The link between civil society and the political elite, however, remains weak. We fund the UN's joint programme on women's political empowerment, which is working with women parliamentarians, civil society and the Ministry of Women and Human Rights and its federal member equivalents, to strengthen advocacy around women's involvement in key public policy issues.

As a major donor to the federal elections in 2020/21, the UK will support efforts to encourage women to stand as candidates, civic educators and to exercise their right to vote, and push for an electoral model that fulfils the commitment to a 30% quota for women in parliament (agreed in 2016). Some 40% of the participants in our Early Recovery Initiative are women. This initiative establishes community-level conflict resolution mechanisms in areas recently liberated from Al Shabaab. In Somaliland, the 20% quota for women in Somaliland's parliament is written into a draft elections law that should be voted on ahead of elections. The UK is encouraging political parties to adopt a voluntary quota and a Somaliland CSSF project supports women campaigning for positions in parliament and local councils.

### **SO2: Peacekeeping**

We support training on topics such as conflict-related sexual violence to the troops of the Africa Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). In 2019, we worked with AMISOM police and military contingents to deliver a course to train Female Engagement Teams to better engage with women in AMISOM's area of operations.

### **SO3: Gender-based Violence**

DFID's Social Norms and Participation programme provides £9.9 million over its 2016-2020 lifespan to combat GBV in communities by supporting community dialogues on changing attitudes, strengthening the economic situation of women and advocating with Somali authorities and parliamentarians for clear policy and leadership on eradicating Violence Against Women and Girls. Over 900 religious leaders and 11,000 community leaders have been involved. The CSSF funded community-level discussions on issues such as child marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM) have reached 78,360 people.

Working through UNICEF, CSSF funding helped strengthen structural systems to protect women and children, including the development of a social welfare workforce, changing of social norms at the community-level, the development of a child rights legal framework and the professional delivery of services for GBV survivors. This funding supported 276 survivors of GBV between October 2018 and March 2019.

There has been less progress at a political level in Somalia. Both the Sexual Offences Bill (drafted with UK-funded technical support) and anti-FGM Bill have yet to be tabled in the Parliament. Getting them prioritised ahead of national elections will be challenging. In Somaliland, the landmark Rape and Sexual Offences Act of August 2018 has been reopened and the new law, currently before Parliament, would see sex out of marriage punished alongside rape in a manner that will decrease prospects of rape survivors speaking out. We have raised this with the Somaliland administration.

## **SO5: Security and Justice**

The UK, through the CSSF, continues to build the capability of Somalia's police and military to better include, serve, and protect women. We have built capacity within the Ministry of Defence and Somali National Army to deliver training on gender and are incentivising them to do so. Somaliland's first armed female unit, trained by the UK, became a social media sensation during national day celebrations in May.



Figure 7: Female Police Officers trained to facilitate Women and Child Desks in Somaliland Police Stations.

## **SO6: Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism**

Recent CSSF-funded research by Adam Smith International on 'The Invisible Women of Al-Shabaab,'<sup>9</sup> explored the varied roles women play in Al Shabaab. Women have greater access and freedom of movement than men and provide logistical and intelligence support to the insurgency. However, women family members also play a significant role in defections from Al Shabaab, negotiating with intelligence agencies and clan elders to guarantee the safety of defectors and helping them reintegrate into communities. We have since improved the women defection guidance package and strengthened outreach tools for the Federal Government of Somalia's National Programme of treatment and handling of disengaged combatants.

## SOUTH SUDAN

### South Sudan NAP (2015-2020)

The renewed outbreak of conflict in South Sudan in 2016 was characterised by violence against civilians and sexual violence. Implementation of the NAP lost momentum. The UK stands by to support the South Sudan government in building capacity to implement a fully funded NAP, while encouraging political engagement.

**Despite bold commitments to women's participation in the revitalised peace deal, the parties have made little progress or preparation towards these targets. At all levels of society, women continue to face discrimination and barriers to inclusion. Levels of GBV remain consistently high. Where fighting has continued, despite the peace agreement, conflict-related sexual violence has been prevalent, and women and girls face abuse in a highly militarised environment.**

South Sudan is one of the lowest ranked countries in the Georgetown Institute for WPS Index (2019), at 163 out of 167. Our own understanding is that capacity and capability to support the WPS agenda in South Sudan is expanding. However, huge progress is required on these issues throughout South Sudan's implementation of its Revitalised Agreement of the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS) over the next three years, culminating in elections in which women must be able to participate fully as voters, candidates, campaigners and journalists.

### SO1: Decision Making

South Sudan is a UK priority country for women's meaningful participation in peace processes in the run up to the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UNSCR 1325 in 2020. The united advocacy of women from across the warring parties and civil society during the negotiations that led to R-ARCSS in September 2018 was powerful and effective. It helped to secure a deal between the main parties, in which they committed to ensure that women hold at least 35% of meaningful positions (at national and sub-national levels) and are represented in key institutions. South Sudan's R-ARCSS could offer real opportunities to demonstrate the long term sustainable benefits of women's participation in peace processes. However, to date, the parties have not met their commitments. The UK is supporting women in civil society so they are better able to promote peace and stability in their work and communities. We continue lobbying all of the main parties to honour their pledge for 35% female representation in the executive under the R-ARCSS agreement.

The main parties' first appointments to pre-transitional institutions included few women, which they justified on the basis that *"there are not enough qualified women."* They have done little since to identify the many qualified South Sudanese women who are passionate about building a more peaceful future for their country. There is a high risk that commitments to the inclusion of women and youth in the Transitional Period will not be met. Women activists have struggled to focus attention on inclusivity because faltering progress on security and power sharing have delayed and even threatened to de-rail the entire process. We are working with civil society to help them develop an advocacy strategy that women across the political spectrum can support, calling for genuinely inclusive progress in the peace process.

### SO2: Peacekeeping

The UK has over 300 peacekeepers deployed to South Sudan, whose mission ends in April 2020. UK peacekeepers have delivered self-defence training for women in Bentiu and Malakal. They have also trained women human rights defenders in self-defence, many of whom face threats. The United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) continues to engage with women's groups and organisations to promote their participation in the implementation of the R-ARCSS. The Mission organised seven capacity-building workshops across the country in 2019, resulting in enhanced interest and awareness on the 35% quota for women's participation in all Government institutions. In June 2019, the Mission organised two WPS workshops in Juba, which saw participation of the South Sudan National Police Service and South Sudan People's Defence Force, focusing on preventing and addressing GBV, and the role and engagement of women in security sector reform.

### SO3: Gender-based Violence

While R-ARCSS has led to a reduction in armed conflict, where fighting has continued, the parties have targeted civilians. This has included rape, abduction and sexual slavery of women and girls by South Sudan's army, intelligence services and rebel fighters. In 2019, the UK invited South Sudanese women to brief the UNSC on conflict-related sexual violence. GBV cases continue to increase despite the 2018 peace agreement. This trend is likely to continue due to: the culture of near total impunity; weak justice systems that do little to deter Violence Against Women and Girls; opportunities provided by insecurity and the availability of arms; harmful social practices and low status of women; and incentives such as escalating bride prices and economic insecurity. DFID is funding GBV prevention and response, with recent uplifts to extend prevention and case management and psychosocial support for survivors. We have an ongoing programme with International Medical Corps to deliver GBV prevention and response activities, as well as livelihoods activities for women. The programme is part of the Humanitarian Assistance and Resilience in South Sudan business case to which DFID contributes £16.8 million funding over 4 years. During 2019, DFID provided a £2.1 million uplift bringing their budget to £16.8 million.

## SO5: Security and Justice

Supported by the UK, training on core International Humanitarian Law principles and GBV prevention was included in the unified army's training curriculum. CSSF funding for key roles in regional peace process monitoring mechanisms has increased and improved conflict-related sexual violence reporting. The UK funds a gender adviser in the Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements Monitoring and Verification Mechanism who advises on how to investigate GBV and ensures that reports reflect the importance of disclosing and condemning all known instances of GBV, helping to tackle impunity.

### SYRIA

#### **Syria does not have a NAP.**

The regime has not previously engaged and are not expected to engage in future. UK support for WPS is reflected in the UK NAP and the UK Government Shared Approach to Gender in Syria.

**The Syrian conflict continues to adversely affect women and girls, in a context where women's agency is weak at all levels of society. Our efforts continue to support survivors of GBV; give access to medical and psychological support to Syrian women inside Syria, and those seeking refuge in neighbouring countries; and promote women's empowerment across the country.**

The Syria conflict continues to impact women and girls severely. GBV is widespread. Female-headed households are numerous, as families have lost men to war. Women lack legal rights to inherit property, or pass on nationality. As a result, women and their children are often left without a home or proper documentation when male family members die or go missing in the war. Syria is ranked 165 out of 167 in the Georgetown Institute for WPS Index (2019), ahead of only Afghanistan and Yemen. The protracted nature of the conflict places inordinate pressure on Syrian women refugees. Many face sexual exploitation in camps or informal settlements. As women are not subject to forced conscription and have relative freedom of movement compared to men in Syria, families often encourage them to return first, to check if the whole family should return. This increases women's exposure to the risks of arrest and sexual abuse. Syrians also lose their refugee status if they return to Syria, finding it hard to leave again if they need to.

The "UK Government Shared Approach to Gender in Syria", launched in March 2018, commits the UK to place women and girls at the heart of our response to the Syria crisis. In May, we reviewed progress and overall found a strong programmatic response, with gender equality mainstreamed across almost all programmes. The review found that the UK's public advocacy on gender is increasingly proactive, but that more could be done to place women and girls at the heart of our diplomatic engagement.

## SO1: Decision Making

Women have a limited voice at the local and national level to impact political decision-making. The Constitutional Committee, a body of Syrians from across the political spectrum, met for the first time under UN auspices on 28 October, and could provide Syrian women with an avenue to influence positive change. However, the regime delegation is stalling progress thus far. The UN Special Envoy for Syria has the task of ensuring women play a meaningful role in the work of the Committee: we will be closely supporting him through public statements and diplomatic engagement with key stakeholders. The UN Women-supported Syrian Women's Advisory Board (WAB) could also provide Syrian women with some political influence. This group of 17 Syrian women, appointed by the UN, is involved in the Constitutional Committee process and advises the Office of the Special Envoy.

The visit by The Countess of Wessex and Lord (Tariq) Ahmad to the UK Syria Office, based in the British Embassy Beirut, in June was a manifestation of the UK's commitment to WPS. We continued to build on our diplomatic engagement on the WPS agenda, including through a UK-Germany event on UNSCR 1325 in April 2019, and a side event during the UN General Assembly High Level Week in September 2019 on "Idlib from a Women's Perspective." We supported the development of Syrian-led strategies for women's empowerment in Syria, including through small-scale activity in regime-held areas. The support includes flexible funding to women-led civil society organisations.



Figure 8: Her Royal Highness The Countess of Wessex with Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon and Revd Nadim Nassar, Founder of the Awareness Foundation, at the British Embassy in Beirut, where she discussed the UK's work on Women Peace and Security and the Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative.

### **SO3: Gender-based Violence**

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The UK contributed to programmes run by UNFPA that have enabled almost 24,000 Syrian survivors of GBV to access specialised support services including 64 women and girl safe spaces, ensuring that 19 support services met the standards required for survivors' rehabilitative treatment. We also supported Syrian refugee girls and women in the region to access psychosocial support, legal services and referrals to other specialised services. In Lebanon, the UK funded research into the drivers of GBV among Syrian male refugees.

### **SO4: Humanitarian**

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In 2019, we provided basic medical and psychological support through the White Helmets Women's Points, female-run centres providing medical care to women and girls reaching around 36,000 women, and awareness-raising on unexploded ordnance and the specific risks to women and girls. We supported education services for at least 201,000 Syrian girls.

### **SO5: Security and Justice**

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This year we trained doctors to produce over 45 forensic medical reports providing court-standard evidence of sexual violence to justice actors. We have also supported women-led efforts to develop gender sensitive alternative justice approaches.

### **SO6: Preventing and Countering Extremism**

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Women are key to preventing and countering violent extremism. Syrian women have been victims of enslavement and abuse by Da'esh, but are also known to be perpetrators of violent extremism participating in Daesh violence. The continued presence of extremist groups in Syria limits space for civil society to operate.

## **Box 6: Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative**

The UK continues to build on the previous year's work tackling conflict-related sexual violence around the world through the Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative (PSVI). Lord Ahmad, the Prime Minister's Special Representative on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict, leads this work. In 2019, PSVI objectives were to strengthen justice for survivors of sexual violence and hold perpetrators to account; support all survivors and children born of conflict-related sexual violence, including tackling stigma and promoting access to holistic care; and prevent sexual violence in conflict by addressing its root causes.

In 2019, the UK funded projects in Sudan and Colombia which focused on building capacity to prevent and respond to GBV, and projects in DRC and Iraq to support survivors of conflict-related sexual violence. The UK also funded deployments by the Team of Experts to Zimbabwe and Bangladesh to support the work of national and international bodies, for example UN Women in Bangladesh, and NGOs. Following on from the PSVI film festival in 2018, the UK funded a capacity-building training programme for young filmmakers in Goma, DRC, with the long-term aim of creating a network of advocates for preventing sexual violence in conflict. In November, we brought 10 young international filmmakers to London to develop their filmmaking skills and capabilities.

In June, Lord Ahmad visited Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict. A conference organised by the Bosnian Inter-Religious Council brought together Jewish, Islamic, Orthodox and Catholic faith leaders, and survivors supported by UK funding. Following the visit, Serbia issued its first public statement on the importance of preventing conflict-related sexual violence.

As part of its commitment to place survivors at the heart of our work, the UK appointed two PSVI Survivor Champions. Nadine Tunasi and Kolbassia Haoussou to advocate for, support and champion survivors of conflict-related sexual violence, including children born of rape. In October 2019, they accompanied HRH The Countess of Wessex on a visit to Kosovo to advocate for better care for all survivors, calling for improved access to justice for survivors and an end to the stigma survivors often face from families, communities and wider society.

In October 2019, the FCO hosted an event at the Frontline Club in London with survivor advocates and key stakeholders from the international media community to share best practice on the reporting of conflict-related sexual violence and garner support for a new set of professional media guidelines on how to engage with survivors.

The UK is committed to working with survivor networks. In November, we organised a programme in London for members of the Global Network of Victims and Survivors to End Wartime Sexual Violence (SEMA). Survivors and PSVI stakeholders shared expertise, discussed how to ensure a survivor-centred approach to policy deliverables and visited local network, Survivors Speak Out, to learn best practice for survivor support.

In February, the UK hosted a Wilton Park<sup>10</sup> conference bringing together over 60 experts and practitioners from 23 countries to discuss how to strengthen justice for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence and ensure perpetrators are held to account at both national and international levels. Representatives from civil society, governments, academia, survivor networks, the United Nations, the International Criminal Court and others exchanged ideas and considered mechanisms through which accountability for sexual violence in conflict could be increased. In the margins of the United Nations General Assembly, Lord Ahmad, with former Foreign Secretary and founder of the Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative, Lord Hague, and the Special Representative to the Secretary General, Pramilla Patten, co-hosted a roundtable meeting to consider how best to strengthen justice and accountability.

The UK supported the drafting and adoption of UNSCR 2467 on sexual violence in conflict, which was led by Germany during its term as president of the UNSC. The resolution secured language committing to a survivor-centric approach to conflict-related sexual violence; highlighted the need to support children born of sexual violence, and promoted specific language on sexual violence in sanction regimes. The UK continues to support access to sexual and reproductive healthcare for survivors of sexual violence around the world.

In light of the ongoing COVID19 outbreak, the UK government are currently reassessing dates for the PSVI International Conference. We remain committed to pursuing those agreements and deliverables intended for the conference by other means, including: measures to strengthen justice for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence and hold perpetrators to account; launch the 'Murad Code' to ensure that minimum standards are upheld when documenting evidence of conflict-related sexual violence; support all survivors, including children born of conflict-related sexual violence; and, strengthen support for the 'Declaration of Humanity' amongst global faith and belief leaders to tackle stigma faced by survivors.



Figure 9: Her Royal Highness The Countess of Wessex hosted a reception at Buckingham Palace for International Women's Day, 2019.



Figure 10: Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon meeting with Zorana Mihajlović, Serbian Deputy Prime Minister and Government Coordinator for Gender Equality to discuss increased co-operation on the Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative.

## SPOTLIGHT: YEMEN

### Yemen NAP (2020-2022)

In 2019 Yemen prepared a NAP. The UK continues to encourage the government to implement the NAP and promotes WPS outcomes through its diplomatic engagement, programmes and operational activities.

Although Yemen is not a focus country, due to the current humanitarian crisis and ongoing conflict and peace efforts, the UK identified Yemen as a priority country for 2020 for women's meaningful participation in peace processes.

Yemen boasts ancient and elaborate traditions of mediation and arbitration. However, women rarely have a formal say in conflict resolution, despite suffering disproportionately under the war. The UK agenda for WPS in Yemen focuses on elevating and strengthening the role of women as peacemakers. Yemen is, by many accounts, one of the worst places in the world to be a woman. Yemen sits at the bottom of the 2019 Georgetown WPS Index, with the report stating it was the only country (of 167) to experience "major deterioration." Even before the war, women played a minor role in public life and had limited access to education, livelihoods and health services. This has worsened under the conflict. Only 6% of Yemeni females are active in the formal labour force – this is the lowest of any country, although the (unconfirmed) figures are higher in the informal sector. Almost 40% of girls are out of school.

### SO1: Decision Making

Yemen is a priority country for women's meaningful participation in peace processes in the run up to 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UNSCR 1325 in 2020. There are few opportunities for Yemeni women's voices to be heard and to have impact. The 301-seat House of Representatives does not have a single female parliamentarian. There are two female ministers, Ibtihaj Al-Kamal (Minister of Social Affairs), and Nihal Al-Awlaqi (Minister of Legal Affairs), out of a Cabinet of almost 40. All Ministers are Presidential appointments. None of the Presidential Advisors are women, nor any members of the Supreme Judicial Council. This is despite the 30% quota for women in public bodies recommended by the National Dialogue Conference six years ago.

Moreover, although women are disproportionately suffering under the conflict, they are denied meaningful participation in the peace process. At the Stockholm talks last year, there was only one female representative in attendance. Yet it is clear that women are and must be part of the solution: despite constraints, women have been playing a critical role in peacebuilding within their communities, often partaking in local negotiations on the release and exchange of prisoners. Elsewhere, women in Aden have met with GoY/STC representatives in Aden to boost implementation of the Riyadh



Agreement, while in Taiz local women are involved in an ongoing community initiative to open up the siege. It is for these reasons that UK efforts on WPS are focused on elevating and strengthening women's role in national and local peace processes.

A key recipient of UK support is the Yemeni Women's Pact for Peace and Security (through UN Women), which aims to increase female leadership and inclusion in the official peace processes. Thanks to the combination of CSSF funding and our diplomatic engagement, some members of the group are now part of an official technical advisory group to the UN Special Envoy for Yemen. The Pact has grown to include 60 women with links to 532 individuals and organisations across 13 governorates. In March, we channelled CSSF resource through UN Women to organise a high profile conference for women mediators. Bringing together over a hundred Yemeni women with the Special Envoy and regional/international interlocutors, the conference led to a set of recommendations for a way forward, with action points for future programme work with UN Women.

CSSF is also contributing to the gender component of the UN Special Envoy's Office's Peace Support Project, including funding a new Gender Adviser. The Gender Adviser is supporting the Special Envoy's Office in promoting the meaningful inclusion of Yemeni women and coordinating UN initiatives to ensure gender perspectives are reflected in the peace process, so that when peace comes it is one that benefits all Yemenis.

To ensure that a broader range of stakeholders are able to contribute to the peace process, CSSF also launched a WPS project last year supporting the work of grassroots women leaders and CSOs. By linking grassroots movements to Track I and II actors (including the Yemeni Women's Pact), we hope to amplify the voices of women at all levels and enhance the legitimacy of those advocating at the top.

### **SO3: Gender-based Violence**

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Forced and early marriage of girls, common before the conflict, has tripled in the last four years and NGOs have recorded an increase in GBV of around 60% since the start of the conflict. A 2019 UN report by the Group of International and Regional Eminent Experts on Yemen, identified reasonable grounds to believe that the parties to the conflict in Yemen are responsible for an array of human rights violations and violations of international humanitarian law, including perpetration of GBV.<sup>11</sup> The UK has provided UNICEF and UNFPA £39 million over three years to end child marriage globally in priority countries, one of which is Yemen. We also aim to increase UK support to OHCHR and the Yemeni National Commission of Inquiry so that they have the resources and expertise to identify human rights abuses and advocate for their condemnation. This will be particularly important if Yemen arrives at a point where it will redress its human rights abuses, including GBV, through judicial and community based measures in future.

### **SO4: Humanitarian**

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Women and girls bear a disproportionate share of the misery caused by protracted displacement and conflict. The UK has supported 1,700 survivors of GBV since 2017 with services such as emergency cash assistance over 2018-19, to enable them to access medical assistance, and psychosocial counselling through £19 million of funding to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM).

## Section Four: WPS across the global UK network

In addition to the nine NAP focus countries, the UK uses its overseas network to promote and support WPS aims and objectives. This section outlines some of the work our Posts have conducted over the last year.

The UK supported **Canada's** Elsie Initiative, both as a Contact Group member and by providing £1 million CSSF funding in 19/20 to promote uniformed women in UN peacekeeping and make peacekeeping operations more sensitive to the different needs of women peacekeepers. In July, the UK held the first meeting of the WPS Chiefs of Defence (CHOD) Network at UNHQ in New York, bringing 42 member states together to discuss gender perspectives and promoting the role of women in armed forces and peacekeeping. At the event, the UK handed over the chair to **Bangladesh** and Canada, and we continue to support the network through referral of members.



Figure 11: Elsie Initiative for Women in Peace Operations Bilateral Partnerships – One Year Later event at the UN General Assembly, measuring the progress made on ensuring opportunities for Women in UN Peacekeeping Operations, New York, September 2019.

**Germany** has an active agenda on WPS, which was evident during their tenure as a non-permanent member of the UNSC. In April 2019, the UK and Germany held a joint WPS event at the UN, co-chaired by Lord Ahmad and German Foreign Minister Heiko Mass, bringing together 63 member states, three regional organisations and eight UN entities. 75 pledges on WPS were made during the event. The UK supported Germany's efforts to progress the WPS agenda through the UNSC, including through UNSCR 2467 in April. In January 2020, the UK and Germany hosted a follow-up event to track the pledges that had been made at the event in April 2019. In November, senior UK Government officials shared experience and lessons learned from developing our NAPs to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as they embark on developing their third NAP.

In 2019, there was a significant increase in collaboration between the UK and **South Africa** on the WPS agenda. This was spurred by both countries' interest in promoting WPS through the UNSC. The UK helped to ensure the South Africa-driven UNSCR 2493 passed unanimously in October. The UK also supported South Africa in the finalising of their first NAP during 2019 – it is due to be published in early 2020.

The MOD continued to support international capabilities on WPS in 2019, funding the training of officers from the following countries on the MOD's Human Security Adviser course: Afghanistan (2 officers), Argentina (1 officer), Bosnia and Herzegovina (2 officers) Ethiopia (1 officer), Indonesia (1 officer), Iraq (3 officers), Malaysia (1 officer), Mali (1 officer), Nigeria (5 officers), Pakistan (1 officer), and Uruguay (1 officer). The MOD also conducted a week-long Human Security in Military Operations course in **Uruguay**.

Posts based in conflict-affected countries continue to champion the WPS agenda. In the South Caucasus, UK diplomatic, defence and programming efforts are yielding results. In **Georgia**, the Georgian Chief of Defence Staff joined the Chiefs of Defence Network at our invitation in 2019 and the deputy Minister for Defence became a Gender Champion. **Armenia** adopted a NAP in February and our Post continues to encourage the Government to meet its commitments. In **Azerbaijan**, the UK supported the development of a draft NAP that was publicly presented last summer. We continue to lobby the Government to formally adopt and implement the plan.

In the **Western Balkans**, we helped faith-based organisations to provide sensitive support to survivors of conflict-related sexual violence. This includes developing a joint manual<sup>12</sup> for members of the clergy working with survivors of conflict-related sexual violence. The MOD is engaging with **Bosnia and Herzegovina** Ministry of Defence to support their Gender Action Plan on WPS. The UK is supporting Bosnia and Herzegovina to undertake a gender audit of its armed forces, improve promotion and integration of gender perspectives, and begin formally implementing UNSCR 1325 within the Armed Forces. In **North Macedonia**, the MOD is facilitating the recruitment of a gender expert to support the development of their NAP.

In **Ukraine** we supported the UNFPA project to tackle GBV, and the Ministry of Interior also adopted a new order supporting CSSF-funded Police Gender Based, and Domestic Violence response teams activities in all 24 regions. As part of a UK-funded project on women's political participation, the National Democratic Institute trained female political aspirants, alongside work with political parties and the media to create a more conducive environment.

The British Embassy in **Kenya** undertook a range of activity on WPS throughout 2019. In September, HRH The Countess of Wessex visited the country for the Commonwealth Women's Affairs Ministerial Meeting, spotlighting this shared agenda. The UK supported the Government of Kenya's review of their current national action plan which will inform their next iteration due Spring 2020.

Through the CSSF East Africa Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) programme, we supported women directly affected by terrorism through psycho-social support and reintegration.

The British Embassy in **Mali** commissioned the Stabilisation Unit to undertake a scoping study to identify key issues and strategic entry points for support across the NAP Strategic Outcomes. This was complemented by a gender sensitivity review of the CSSF portfolio where the British Embassy in Mali is developing an action plan to take forward the recommendations. The CSSF Sahel programmes reviewed were deemed to be compliant with the International Development (Gender Equality) Act (2014) with gender sensitivity mainstreamed within the programmes. Through the CSSF Sahel, the British Embassy in Mali will seek to boost women's roles in conflict prevention through new programming in the Kayes and Sikasso regions of Mali. Improving gender equality is also a central objective of the new UK Joint Sahel Department. Broader policy and programme investments in Mali and the Sahel region will contribute to gender equality gains and progress towards UK NAP Strategic Outcomes. The UK will deploy 250 military personnel to MINUSMA, the United Nations' peacekeeping operation in Mali, in 2020. The UK

Government recognises the operational requirement for more equal gender representation in peacekeeping, and has committed to deploying more women on its operations, including Mali. This commitment is captured in the MOD Single Departmental Plan and was announced by Secretary of State for Defence in May 2019. Female peacekeepers can access populations and places that are closed to men, improving intelligence about security risks and concerns, including sexual and gender-based violence.

In **Cameroon**, we provided £40,000 to the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom to conduct a gender analysis methodology of the peace process in country. The project aims to identify factors that prevent inclusive peace processes and to provide proposals on ensuring women's involvement at all stages of the process.

Through CSSF funding, the UK supported **Egypt's** ongoing work to draft its first NAP on WPS this year in support of Egypt's wider aspirations on gender equality. In **Jordan**, the UK gave £4.27 million to help fund a four-year implementation plan for the Jordanian NAP on WPS. This funding supports activities that fully align with the UK Government's National Security Council Strategy for Jordan.



Figure 12: The UK Chief of Defence Staff hosts 42 nations at the WPS CHODS Network Meeting, UN Headquarters July 2019.

## Section Five: Multilateral Organisations

### African Union (AU)

In 2019, the UK provided targeted support to the African Union (AU) on WPS, and we expect to increase collaboration in 2020. Five of the UK NAP's nine focus countries are in Africa. At the AU level, our efforts are concentrated on the strategic outcomes on Decision-Making, GBV and Peacekeeping.

The UK has supported the 'Friends of FemWise' group: a group of donors actively supporting the African Union Commission (AUC) efforts to promote greater female mediation efforts. We are currently exploring whether we can provide programmatic support including how to better link FemWise with the Women Mediators across the Commonwealth Initiative.

On peacekeeping, we supported work to integrate gender-sensitivity into AU peace support doctrine and AUC standards. All training delivered by the British Peace Support Team - Africa (BPST(A)) whether 'collective' pre-deployment training or 'individual' training, has a gendered approach. The BPST also trains regional senior leaders to integrate gender awareness into their mission planning.

Following sustained advocacy by a BPST(A)-trained Nigerian senior officer, an all-female unit was formed to raise awareness and build capacity on preventing and responding to GBV, resulting in increased reporting and prosecution of GBV cases in Mali. UK-trained Zambian peacekeepers were commended for their successful implementation of Female Engagement Teams (FETs) and were praised by the UNSG for their performance in the Multidimensional Integrated Stabilisation Mission in CAR (MINUSCA). The Zambian FETs have trained Malawian FETs with UK mentoring, demonstrating the validity of our 'train the trainer' approach. Following this training by the UK, Malawi adapted the training to become METs (Mixed male/female) recognising that in MONUSCO FIB, there is a need to include men and boys.

Looking ahead, there are a number of shared priorities within the AU-UK strategic partnership. The cross-Whitehall Africa Group agreed the UK should prioritise peace and security, prosperity and climate change and recognised the likely effects of climate change on remote and unstable communities.

### British Peace Support Team (BPST)

Working with international organisations, gender training forms a core part of all BPST(A) delivered training to African countries that provide troops to UN and AU Peacekeeping Missions. This training covers understanding of gender issues and, most importantly, how to mainstream gender into the planning and delivery of Peace Support Operations (PSO). BPST(A) has delivered specialist training on human security to 272 people from countries including Kenya, Ethiopia, Malawi and Uganda since April 2019. It has also supported the delivery of human security training through modules on other training packages, resulting in over 3,000 people representing 26 different African countries being exposed to awareness level training on this subject. Financial year 2020/21 will see a similar programme of activity, with gender awareness, female engagement team training, child protection, gender in PSO, conflict-related sexual violence and gender mainstreaming amongst the specific training packages.

### European Union (EU)

The UK was one of the strongest supporters of the WPS agenda while in the EU. The UK played an active role in the **EU Informal Task Force meetings on WPS** – the main forum for EU decision making on the WPS agenda. We also supported progress through the EU's wider Common, Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) priorities, including ensuring that WPS priorities were reflected in the EU's engagement with third countries, development and humanitarian policy, and mandates for Common, Security and Defence Policy missions.

The **EU Action Plan on WPS**, launched in July 2019, reflects UK ambitions for more tangible, action-orientated efforts by the EU on this agenda. We worked closely with EU partners and the European External Action Service's (EEAS) Principal Advisor on gender, Mara Marinaki, in the Action Plan's development phase. The plan promotes women's meaningful participation in peace processes at local and national level, consistent with our own objectives for women mediators and peacebuilders.

The UK worked closely with EU Member States to ensure that WPS was an integral part of the EU's approach to the broader multilateral agenda and reflected in **Council Conclusions on Multilateralism**, adopted at the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) in June 2019.

The Minister for Africa represented the UK at the **EU-AU Meeting of Foreign Affairs** in January 2019. A [joint communique](#)<sup>13</sup> confirmed commitment to the implementation of the WPS agenda, UNSCR 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security, and compliance with International Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law. Separately, on **Sudan**, the UK supported an EU FAC statement condemning GBV that occurred during the violent attacks on 3 June 2019.

The UK actively participated in negotiations for the EU's proposed "Neighbourhood, Development International Cooperation Instrument" (NDICI). With a budget of nearly €80 billion, we pushed for the instrument to strengthen action on gender across the EU's new financing for development structure. The NDICI is due to be finalised in 2021 and is expected to commit to mainstreaming gender in 85% of future programming, and for at least 5% of these actions to have 'gender equality' as a principle objective. The UK supported this approach, while firmly blocking any weakening of language on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights.

### **Working with civil society**

The UK recognises the important role that civil society plays in implementing the WPS agenda in 2019. Protection of civil society actors, including women peacebuilders and human rights defenders, will be a key theme for the UK in 2020.

The UK funded Gender Action for Peace and Security (GAPS) to facilitate civil society consultations on key issues for the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UNSCR 1325 and the upcoming PSVI International Conference. This included consultations in London, New York, and our nine NAP focus countries. The findings are a rich source of data on the WPS challenges and opportunities for multilaterals, states and CSOs. We will promote the recommendations throughout 2020. Additionally, the MOD hosted a roundtable with the Defence Secretary and CSOs on Nigeria and South Sudan to better understand the WPS threats facing populations there. Lord Ahmad chaired the WPS Steering Group in May 2019 to discuss the UK Government's priorities on WPS in the run up to the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UNSCR 1325. The group brings together key CSOs and academics on WPS and we will continue to meet in 2020.

On programming and funding, the UK continued to support the active participation of civil society representatives, including women peacebuilders in international and regional events. In 19/20, we also provided £800,000 to ICAN and £500,000 to WILPF to support women peacebuilders in our focus countries.

## **G7**

Gender equality was an integrated theme throughout the French presidency of the G7. In April, the G7 Foreign Affairs Ministers adopted the Dinard Declaration on WPS. The UK successfully lobbied for the Declaration to include support for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence and for women's meaningful participation in peace processes.

Each G7 member works with a partner country on WPS. Nigeria is the UK's G7 WPS Partnership Initiative partner with progress captured in the Nigeria section of this report. We look forward to continuing this important work.

The Paris Declaration on Gender Equality was signed at the May G7 Gender Ministerial. The UK lobbied for inclusion of language on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) and defended language on GBV. Although language on SRHR was removed, the UK set out our support for SRHR during the ministerial discussion. At the Leader's Summit in August 2019, the Declaration on Gender Equality and

Women's Empowerment was adopted by G7 members. The Declaration committed G7 members to supporting survivors of conflict-related sexual violence and championing girls' and women's education and training.

## **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)**

NATO Allies have agreed an ambitious WPS action plan for 2018-2020, overseen by the Secretary General's Special Representative on WPS, Clare Hutchinson. The UK provides expertise to support its delivery and UK representatives meet regularly with the Special Representative. NATO Leaders at the 2018 NATO Summit in Brussels agreed the action plan with 19 of NATO's partners. The plan sets out 58 actions to integrate gender perspectives into NATO's work and ensure inclusivity and integrity throughout NATO itself. Over two thirds of the actions are already complete. Key outcomes include: gender perspectives embedded into core NATO documents, such as the Counter Terrorism Action Plan; and a refreshed Civil Society NATO Advisory Panel that includes members from conflict-affected states to better inform NATO strategy. The UK successfully nominated Hannah Bond, Director of Gender for Action on Peace and Security, to the Panel.

NATO's Mission in Iraq is the first to fully incorporate a gender perspective in its planning. The UK is providing technical expertise in 19/20 to establish a methodology for gender analysis in NATO HQ, after which NATO will need to invest in rolling this out more widely to missions, operations and activities. The UK's priority for 2019 was the development of a robust Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) policy, which was launched in December 2019. The UK seconded a staff member to NATO to draft the policy and played an integral role in ensuring agreement of the policy ahead of the London Leaders' Meeting in December 2019. The UK also committed a staff member to support NATO to implement the policy in 2020.

The UK was instrumental in the agreement of a work plan between the NATO Secretary General and UNHCR Special Envoy/PSVI co-founder Angelina Jolie. We are working with both teams on next steps. Looking forward, a UK priority in 2020 will be to support NATO in drafting its first policy on conflict-related sexual violence.

## **Arms Control and Women, Peace and Security**

In 2019, the UK increased its focus on arms control and WPS. In August 2019, the FCO Head of Gender & Conflict joined the UK's delegation for the first time at the Arms Trade Treaty Conference of State Parties and supported the drafting of the UK's intervention. In October 2019, the UK's Disarmament Ambassador spoke at an event in New York co-hosted by the UK, Germany and South Africa on the links between arms control and WPS and opportunities for future engagement. In November 2019, at the Ottawa Convention Review Conference, the UK co-sponsored a paper on gender perspectives and Mine Action that offers recommendations on integrating gender into mine clearance and mainstreaming gender across the convention's work.

## Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)

The UK takes every opportunity to promote the essential role that women contribute to peace and security across the OSCE's three dimensions: the politico-military dimension, the economic and environmental dimension, and the human dimension. The leadership of the UK delegation, in collaboration with likeminded member states, has helped to ensure that WPS remains a priority at the OSCE.

In July 2019, the UK Ambassador to the OSCE became Chairperson of the OSCE Gender Engagement network. In this capacity, the Ambassador, supported by the UK delegation, works to promote better gender equality at all levels in the OSCE; ensure a zero tolerance policy and approach to sexual harassment and SEA, and raise the importance of full and effective women's participation in areas of conflict prevention, mediation and resolution. This includes preventing sexual violence in OSCE conflict zones. The UK's military adviser also led UNSCR 1325 Coordination in the Forum for Security Cooperation covering politico-military aspects of security.

In the OSCE's field operation in Ukraine (responsible for monitoring the situation on the ground, reducing tension and facilitating dialogue), the UK worked to ensure that gender equality remains a priority for the Special Monitoring Mission (SMM).

During the OSCE's Ministerial Council in Milan, the UK worked with participating States to secure a new Ministerial Council Decision on 'Preventing and Combating Violence against Women.' The UK chaired negotiations that led to the successful adoption of an OSCE Ministerial Council Decision on 'Safety of Journalists,' recognising the distinct threats faced by female journalists for the first time.

In 2019, the UK contributed funding to a project to accelerate implementation of the WPS agenda in five countries in the OSCE area: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Ukraine, Moldova and Kyrgyzstan. We also provided UK expertise to assist with the development of a toolkit for

mediation teams on how to incorporate a gender perspective into mediation efforts. This was published in December 2019.

## United Nations (UN)

The UN remains the primary global platform for advancing UK objectives on WPS. As the penholder on the agenda at the UNSC, in 2019 we influenced the WPS agenda in New York through a number of key initiatives and activities.

We participated in negotiations for two new UNSCRs on WPS, successfully defending key WPS language. The most recent resolution, proposed by South Africa and adopted unanimously at the WPS Open Debate in October 2019, called for the implementation of existing WPS resolutions and for safe and enabling environments for civil society to operate.

The UK led a group of likeminded States in the resistance of concessions that threatened to compromise the WPS normative framework. While the resulting text made a small contribution to the WPS agenda, it did not represent the progressive step forward we had hoped for.

During UNGA 74, Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon represented the UK at the launch of the Global Alliance of Regional Women Mediator Networks. At the launch, the UK called for the UN to establish a formal relationship with the Alliance and to set the standard for women's inclusion in peace processes. The UK supported the WPS Co-Chairs of the Informal Experts Group (IEG) on WPS, Germany and Peru and ensured greater consistency by the Council in its consideration of WPS issues in country-specific situations.

The UK remained one of the top donors to the UN on WPS. We championed uniformed women's participation in peacekeeping by providing £1 million CSSF funding to the UN's Elsie Initiative. In financial year 19/20, the UN Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund received £800,000 of CSSF funding to carry out grassroots work with Iraqi civil society organisations such as the Women Parliamentary Committee and the Higher Council of Women Affairs, on NAP implementation, economic empowerment and conflict prevention.



Figure 13: Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon, Minister of State for the Commonwealth and the UN and Prime Minister's Special Representative on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict, speaking at the launch of the Global Alliance of Regional Women Mediator Networks, at the UN General Assembly 2019

The UK doubled its CSSF contribution to the Team of Experts in the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG) on Sexual Violence in Conflict to £1 million, supporting their work to investigate and prosecute acts of sexual violence in conflict. Financial year 19/20 marked the fourth year of funding totalling £2 million to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Sexual and Gender-based Violence team. OHCHR activity complements that of the Team of Experts by supporting projects that improve support to victims by developing and deploying improved mechanisms and tools for UN Agencies and five peacekeeping missions in countries of concern. This includes access to justice; healthcare and counselling, and holistic approaches to treatment for victims of conflict-related sexual violence and their families.

During the UK's Security Council Presidency in November, we invited women briefers from civil society organisations to speak at Security Council sessions. We launched the Group of Friends of Women in Afghanistan, co-chaired by the UK and Afghan Permanent Missions in New York. This group aims to highlight the importance of protecting and enhancing women's rights and the role that women can play in all spheres of society and government, including in peace efforts.

### Box 11: Peacekeeping Mandates

The UK, as a permanent member of the UNSC, has an important role to play on strengthening peacekeeping mandates in the UNSC, including WPS language in UN peacekeeping activities. We strengthened language in over 50% of mandates in 2019, including the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL); the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA); the United Nations peacekeeping force in Cyprus (UNFICYP); the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA); the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO); the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF – Golan), and the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO).

The UK also continues to offer assistance to many troop contributing countries. All our courses for soldiers deploying to missions have a module on SEA and sexual violence. Through our Train the Trainer courses we are able to raise awareness on SEA and GBV more widely. Training is conducted with troops deploying to both AU and UN missions.



Figure 15: Joanna Roper, UK Special Envoy for Gender Equality, speaking at the 'Women Lead Political Solutions to Sustained Peace' event at the UN General Assembly, New York, September 2019.



Figure 14: Dame Karen Pierce, UK Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York, attends the launch of the Group of Friends of Women in Afghanistan, New York, December 2019.

## Section Six: UK capabilities

Improving UK capabilities is a key strategic outcome in the UK's NAP. This year, the UK funded Social Development Direct to conduct a midpoint process evaluation of our NAP, focusing on UK capabilities to examine 'the extent to which the NAP's strategic outcomes have been integrated through the UK Government's planning and delivery processes.'<sup>14</sup> The purpose of the evaluation was threefold: to provide accountability to Parliament, to generate learning; and to make practical, feasible and actionable recommendations to strengthen implementation and future iterations of the NAP. The NAP evaluation will be published shortly. In 2020 the cross-Whitehall WPS Working Group will develop an implementation plan for the recommendations of the evaluation and this will drive forward our future work priorities alongside the civil society consultations conducted in 2019.

### Mainstreaming WPS in 2019

This year has seen a renewed emphasis on mainstreaming WPS across the UK Government. The cross-Whitehall WPS Working Group developed a suite of tools, learning and development opportunities and support for colleagues working internationally on programme and policy priorities, helping apply a gender perspective throughout their work.

**Investing in expertise** was a key priority. The FCO's Gender Equality Unit deployed three Regional Gender Advisers based in Nairobi, UAE and New York to support colleagues working across these priority regions as they implemented the aims of the UK NAP, built networks and capacity to mainstream gender across their work. We also deployed a temporary officer to NATO in 2018-19 to support the integration of gender perspectives into operations and missions, and will continue to support this position in 2020. The CSSF also recruited four new gender advisors to provide strategic and technical leadership on gender equality in our respective regions, while ensuring that gender equality is mainstreamed through conflict and stability programming. The advisers cover the CSSF Joint Funds Unit, Africa, Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Western Balkans, and the Middle East and North Africa.

**The UK Government's training offer** has been a key aspect of our mainstreaming agenda. The Stabilisation Unit continued to run its popular Gender and Conflict course, hosting three sessions in 2019 with over 80 individuals attending from across Government, learning the principles for ensuring work is gender sensitive. The SU also provided tailored training on Gender and Serious & Organised Crime, Gender and Migration, and facilitated a one-day workshop for the FCO Syria Team, organised practical learning sessions for staff on the development of cross-Embassy Gender Strategies, and conducted gender analysis to inform security sector reform.

### Mainstreaming WPS: Iraq

The Embassy Gender Champion is leading work to refresh the UK Government's gender strategy. Our Gender Action Working Group delivered gender learning and development to staff in Baghdad. Gender is mainstreamed across all programme and policy work. Progress on Iraq's NAP and anti-discriminatory legislation are objectives in the Iraq Country Business Plan.

**Research** is the third key area of our capabilities focus. The Stabilisation Unit commissioned Professor Jacqui True to undertake a gender analysis of the Elite Bargains Political Deals Research, and based upon this published the policy brief *Gender & Conflict: Making Elite Bargaining Processes More Inclusive*. This outlines the benefits of introducing women's participation in peace processes at the outset. The Stabilisation Unit supports Posts to embed learning from this research.

**Guidance notes** on how to apply NAP strategic outcomes to policy and programming are in development. In 2019, we completed a note on Strategic Outcome 6 (Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism). The remaining notes will be published in 2020.

### Mainstreaming WPS: Libya

The UK in Libya increased resource towards mainstreaming WPS. A dedicated Gender Champion is in place, who works internally and across the international community. In the absence of a UN coordination mechanism, the UK convened informal Gender Working Groups with the international community and led work to refresh the UK Government's Libya Gender Strategy. A Gender Working Group is in place to oversee implementation of the strategy, which brings together diplomatic and political, programmes and communications efforts. This includes the Country Business Plan and Joint Analysis on Conflict and Stability (JACS).

**Operationalising WPS continues to be a priority.** In January 2019, the MOD launched the first Joint Service Publication on Human Security (JSP 1325).<sup>15</sup> The JSP covers a range of human security issues including WPS, Children and Armed Conflict and Modern Slavery/Human Trafficking. This policy is something that everyone in the armed forces should read and apply in their work, helping to ensure that issues such as WPS are integrated into the military. The policy flows from the UK NAP on WPS as well as other relevant UK Government strategies.



## UK Women Military Personnel in UN Peacekeeping – to Enhance Peacekeeping Operational Effectiveness

To improve gender balance, in May 2019 the former Defence Secretary, Penny Mordaunt, announced a number of new measures to reaffirm the role of servicewomen on these important operations:

- Ensure enough UK women are deployed to the UN peacekeeping operation in Cyprus to enable mixed gender patrols and commit to a minimum of 6% of personnel being women who are available for patrols;
- Conduct a MOD study to identify barriers to women joining peacekeeping operations and take action on the results of the study;
- Reaffirm the commitment that women make up at least 15% of UK personnel on UN peacekeeping missions by 2028



Figure 16: Roundtable with civil society and women's rights activists from across Libya to discuss ongoing challenges faced by women in Libya and the importance of female and youth participation in political processes, Tunis, November 2019.

## Section Seven: Domestic application of the UK National Action Plan

The UK NAP, although outwardly focussed, works to complement domestic strategies implemented in the UK. The FCO has taken steps to strengthen collaboration with domestic departments, in particular the Home Office and Northern Ireland Office, in line with recommendations in the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) report (March 2019) and the GAPS shadow report (Jan 2019).

### ***Violence Against Women and Girls***

In March 2019, the Home Office launched a refresh of the Government's Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2016-2020. The refresh includes 54 new commitments across the UK Government to tackle VAWG. Commitments included a cross-sector, end-to-end review into how rape and sexual violence cases are handled across the criminal justice system, research into the connection between pornography and violence against women, and further measures to support LGBT victims. The VAWG Strategy provides the opportunity to align UK Government activity on GBV overseas with domestic activity, identifying opportunities to share good practice as well as challenges.

### ***Gender, terrorism and extremism***

The Building a Stronger Britain Together (BSBT) programme supports civil society organisations that work to stand up to extremism in all its forms, offer positive alternatives to extremist narratives and create more resilient communities regardless of race, faith, sexuality, age or gender. This includes tackling far right and Islamist extremism, hate crime, forced marriage, Islamophobia and honour-based violence.

Since 2016, BSBT awarded £8.8 million in grant funding to grassroots organisations to build community resilience to and counter the messages of division spread by extremists. This is alongside 115 in-kind support packages, delivering 373 products (each worth up to the value of £75,000) to expand organisations' capabilities in delivering communications aligned to BSBT outcomes. Funding also provided our network of 40 Community Coordinator posts and supported communications campaigns. Independent evaluation by Ipsos Mori shows the programme achieved measured change against its macro outcomes.

We have 39 projects specifically targeting women, covering a range of aims from raising awareness of female genital mutilation, hepatitis B virus, and forced marriage, to building awareness amongst mothers of the dangers of online radicalisation to allow them to better protect their children. In 2020 we will explore opportunities to link up our work overseas on gender, terrorism and violent extremism and our domestic work.

### ***Championing women peacebuilders in Northern Ireland.***

Following the instrumental role women played in achieving the Good Friday/Belfast Agreement, women across society in Northern Ireland continue to be agents for change, sustaining peace in their communities and helping to build the capacity of other women peacebuilders overseas.

Women in Northern Ireland are a crucial part of the work the UK supports around peacebuilding, community cohesion, and preventing and countering violent extremism in the UK. One example of this activity is the Women Involved in Community Transformation (WICT) Programme delivered through the NI Executive's Action Plan to Tackle Paramilitary Activity, Criminality and Organised Crime (TPCOC) which is jointly funded by the UK Government and the NI Executive, with each providing £25 million. Over 500 participants are enrolled on the WICT Programme across 26 locations in Northern Ireland. The programme focuses on five modules including personal development, citizenship, and women and peacebuilding.

The FCO is supporting women peacebuilders in Northern Ireland through the Women Mediators across the Commonwealth Initiative. The initiative is sharing the lessons learned from women's experience of the Northern Ireland peace process, and how this can be connected to other contexts, such as Syria and Afghanistan. These stories have a role to play on the world stage, to inform decision-makers and mediators about how to meaningfully include women, and how to achieve a successful agreement. In May 2019, Monica McWilliams gave a talk at FCO about her work building peace in Northern Ireland. She also met Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon to discuss her experience in Northern Ireland and elsewhere, including through support to women peacebuilders in conflict-affected countries.

### ***Senior appointments***

Women should have equal access to the economic and career opportunities given to their male colleagues; multilateral organisations such as the UN must role model the behaviour we want to see in Member States. We therefore welcome the strategy launched by UN Secretary-General António Guterres in 2017 with the aim of achieving gender parity in the UN by 2028. The UK Government is the largest donor to the UN's flagship gender parity projects: the 'Global Call' and the Senior Women's Talent Pipeline. The UK encourages well-qualified female candidates, including from a wide range of Government Departments, to apply for key roles in the UN. Of the four candidates nominated in 2019 by the UK for the 'Global Call' (which establishes a pool of candidates for the positions of Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) and Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General (DSRSG) in UN peacekeeping operations), three were women. We continued to fund the development of the Senior Women's Talent Pipeline with £434,000 from the International Programme Fund and the Conflict Stability and Security Fund, which aims to improve gender balance at senior levels in UN peacekeeping operations.

In 2019, Professor Penelope Endersby, Chief Executive of the Met Office, was elected to the Executive Council of Region 6 of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). Christa Rottensteiner, formerly Deputy Head of the Migration and Modern Slavery Department in DFID, was appointed as Chief of the International Organization for Migration's mission in Yemen.

# Indicators

Any statistic in bold means that there has been a change in the data from last year's annual report, or that new data has been added for a new indicator.  
NA- Not Applicable; NDA- No Data Available

<b>Strategic Outcome 1: Decision-making</b>									
An increase in women's meaningful and representative participation and leadership in decision-making processes, including conflict prevention and peace building at community and national levels.									
Indicator and source	Afghanistan	DRC	Libya	Iraq	Myanmar	Nigeria	Somalia	South Sudan	Syria
<b>NEW 1.1</b> Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments <sup>16</sup>	28% (2019)	10% (2019)	16% (2019)	25% (2019)	11% (2019)	3% (2019)	24% (2019)	29% (2019)	13% (2019)
<b>NEW 1.2</b> Proportion of women in ministerial level positions (%) <sup>17</sup>	16 (2018)	18 (2018) <sup>18</sup>	NDA	0 (2018)	4 (2018)	8 (2018)	15 (2018)	19 (2018)	13 (2018)
1.3 Representation of women among mediators, negotiators and signatories in formal <sup>19</sup> peace negotiations <sup>20</sup>	No recent formal peace talks in Afghanistan	20% of Mediators; 5% of Signatories; no data for negotiators (2008 peace talks) <sup>21</sup>	NDA <sup>22</sup>	0% mediators; 0% signatories; no data for negotiators (2010 peace talks)	17% of negotiators; no data for mediators; no data for signatories (2018 peace talks) <sup>23</sup>	NDA <sup>24</sup>	0% mediators; 0% signatories; no data for negotiators (2008 peace talks)	33% of negotiators; 17% of signatories; no data for mediators (2018 September peace agreement) <sup>25</sup>	27% of negotiators; no data for mediators; no data for signatories (UN-convened Syrian Constitutional Committee peace talks October/November 2019) <sup>26</sup>
Notes on the data	We have removed indicator 1.2 from the previous report to Parliament, because data is not currently available. This indicator was: 1.2 "Percentage of population who believe decision making is inclusive and responsive, disaggregated by sex, age, disability and population group". We will continue to monitor the situation to see if the data becomes available. We have replaced what was indicator 1.1 "Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments and local governments" with "Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments". This is because data was not available.								

<b>Strategic Outcome 2: Peacekeeping</b>										
A gender perspective is consistently applied in the setting and implementation of international standards and mandates for peace operations										
Indicator	Afghanistan	DRC	Libya	Iraq	Myanmar	Nigeria	Somalia	South Sudan	Syria	
<b>2.1</b> Does the UN Security Council peacekeeping mandate include women, peace & security language? <sup>27</sup>	Yes (2019)	Yes (2019)	Yes (2019)	Yes (2019)	NA <sup>28</sup>	NA <sup>29</sup>	Yes (2019)	Yes (2019)	NA <sup>30</sup>	
<b>2.2</b> Percentage of reported cases of sexual exploitation and abuse allegedly perpetrated by uniformed or civilian peacekeepers that are acted upon <sup>31</sup> , out of the total number of referred cases <sup>32</sup>	No allegations in 2019	<b>27% in 2019 (15 allegations: 5 substantiated, 2 unsubstantiated, 8 pending. The UN repatriated four of the accused. One was dismissed by their national government)</b>	No allegations in 2019	No allegations in 2019	NA	NA	No allegations in 2019	<b>0% in 2019 (9 allegations, of which 2 were substantiated, 1 unsubstantiated and 6 are pending investigation and action)</b>	NA	
<b>2.3</b> Percentage of UN peacekeeping troops who are female (in focus country missions) <sup>33</sup>	0%: 0 female, 0 male (2019) <sup>34</sup>	4%: 609 female, 13,076 male (2019)	<b>7%: 15 female, 214 male (2019)</b>	6%: 14 female, 223 male (2019)	NA	NA	<b>14%: 86 female, 539 male (2019)</b>	4%: 582 female, 13,705 male (2019)	NA	
<i>Notes on the data</i>	Afghanistan, Libya, Iraq and Somalia have Special Political Missions rather than Peacekeeping Missions. The language in Indicator 2.1 has been amended from the language in the 2018 report which was: "Percentage of UN Security Council mandates that include WPS language". The wording in this year's report better reflects the data that was collected both this year and last year.									

<b>Strategic Outcome 3: Gender-based Violence</b>										
An increase in the number and scale of interventions that integrate effective measures to prevent and respond to Gender-based Violence, particularly Violence Against Women and Girls which is the most prevalent form of Gender-based Violence										
Indicator	Afghanistan	DRC	Libya	Iraq	Myanmar	Nigeria	Somalia	South Sudan	Syria	
<b>NEW 3.1</b> Intimate partner violence (experienced by women in the past year, %) <sup>35</sup>	46.1 (2019/20 dataset)	36.8 (2019/20 dataset)	15.3 (2019/20 dataset)	45.3 (2019/20 dataset)	11 (2019/20 dataset)	11 (2019/20 dataset)	21.1 (2019/20 dataset)	47 (2019/20 dataset)	23 (2019/20 dataset)	
<b>NEW 3.2</b> Women who believe a husband is justified in beating his wife (any of five reasons), (%) <sup>36</sup>	80.2 (2015)	74.8 (2014)	NDA	51.2 (2011)	51.2 (2016)	34.7 (2013)	NDA	78.5 (2010)	NDA	
<b>NEW 3.3</b> Community safety (perceptions among women ages 15+, %) <sup>37</sup>	12.2 (2019/20 dataset)	37 (2019/20 dataset)	42.5 (2019/20 dataset)	60.3 (2019/20 dataset)	68.6 (2019/20 dataset)	47.8 (2019/20 dataset)	85.9 (2019/20 dataset)	42.6 (2019/20 dataset)	16.9 (2019/20 dataset)	
<b>NEW 3.4</b> Prevalence of gender violence in lifetime, % women <sup>38</sup>	NDA	50.7 (2017)	NDA	21.2 (2017)	33 (2017)	16.2 (2017)	NDA	NDA	NDA	
<b>NEW 3.5</b> Number of grantee projects in country that were newly awarded grant funding in 2019 by the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women <sup>39</sup>	1	1	0	1	0	2	1	1	0	
<b>NEW 3.6</b> Is this a focus country of the UK Aid funded "What Works" programme to prevent Violence Against Women and Girls? <sup>40</sup>	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	
<i>Notes on the data</i>										
We removed four indicators from the 2018 Annual Report to Parliament: indicators 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4. These indicators were: 3.1 "Proportion of ever-partnered/married women and girls aged 15-49 years who report being subjected to physical or sexual violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months"; 3.2 "Proportion of women and girls aged 15-49 years who record being subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the last 12 months"; 3.3 "Proportion of women and men aged 15-49 who agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife under at least one specified circumstance"; 3.4 "Proportion of VAWG survivors who accessed response services (eg Police, justice/courts, health/medical, shelter, psychosocial support, socio-economic re-integration) who were satisfied that the service met their needs". These indicators have been removed because there was consistently no available data for many of our focus countries, particularly for recent years. We have therefore concluded that these would not be useful indicators to use going forward. We will continue to review this situation to see if such data becomes available.										

### Strategic Outcome 4: Humanitarian Response

Women's and girls' needs are more effectively met by humanitarian actors and interventions through needs-based responses that increase women's leadership and meaningful participation

Indicator	Afghanistan	DRC	Libya	Iraq	Myanmar	Nigeria	Somalia	South Sudan	Syria
<b>4.1</b> Percentage of UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) refugee and Internally Displaced People (IDP) operations that provide 'satisfactory' <sup>41</sup> support to survivors of Sexual and Gender-based Violence <sup>42</sup>	NDA <sup>43</sup>	<b>100%: 3 out of 3 (2018)</b>	100%: 1 out of 1 (2018)	100%: 3 out of 3 (2018)	0%: 0 out of 1 (2017)	50%: 1 out of 2 (2017)	<b>67%: 2 out of 3 (2018)</b>	100%: 1 out of 1 (2018)	<b>33%: 1 out of 3 (2018)</b>
<b>4.2</b> Has the country budgeted for emergency preparedness and response and disaster risk reduction plans which integrate sexual and reproductive health <sup>44</sup>	<b>No (2018)</b>	<b>NDA (2018)</b>	<b>No (2018)</b>	<b>Yes (2018)</b>	<b>No (2018)</b>	<b>No (2018)</b>	<b>Yes (2018)</b>	<b>Yes (2018)</b>	<b>Yes (2018)</b>
<b>4.3</b> Number of health service providers and managers trained on the minimum initial service package with support from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) <sup>45</sup>	<b>43 (2018)</b>	<b>289 (2018)</b>	<b>32 (2018)</b>	<b>25 (2018)</b>	<b>13 (2018)</b>	<b>165 (2018)</b>	<b>22 (2018)</b>	<b>737 (2018)</b>	<b>154 (2018)</b>
<b>4.4</b> Percentage of UNHCR refugee and IDP operations with at least 35% women's participation in leadership and management structures <sup>46</sup>	NDA <sup>47</sup>	<b>100%: 2 out of 2 (2018)</b>	NDA <sup>48</sup>	100%: 1 out of 1 (2018)	50% (2017)	NDA <sup>49</sup>	NDA <sup>50</sup>	100%: 2 out of 2 (2018)	100%: 2 out of 2 (2018)
<b>4.5</b> Has the country applied the UNFPA minimum standards for the prevention and response to Gender-based Violence in emergencies. <sup>51</sup>	<b>Yes (2018)</b>	<b>Yes (2018)</b>	<b>Yes (2018)</b>	<b>Yes (2018)</b>	<b>Yes (2018)</b>	<b>Yes (2018)</b>	<b>Yes (2018)</b>	<b>Yes (2018)</b>	<b>Yes (2018)</b>
<i>Notes on the data</i>	<p>The language in Indicator 4.1 has been amended from the language in the 2018 report which was: "Percentage of UNHCR refugee and IDP operations that provide comprehensive support to GBV survivors". This is because the data provided by UNHCR this year used an indicator which specifically referenced Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV) and the provision of "satisfactory" support, rather than "comprehensive".</p> <p>The language in Indicator 4.2 has been amended from the language in the 2018 report which was: "Number of countries that have budgeted emergency preparedness and response and disaster risk reduction plans which integrate sexual and reproductive health". The wording in this year's report better reflects the data that was collected both this year and last year.</p> <p>The language in Indicator 4.5 has been amended from the language in the 2018 report which was: "Number of countries that have applied the minimum standards for the prevention and response to Gender-based Violence in emergencies". The wording in this year's report better reflects the data that was collected both this year and last year.</p>								

<b>Strategic Outcome 5: Security and Justice</b>									
Security and Justice actors are increasingly accountable to women and girls, and responsive to their rights and needs									
<i>Indicator and source</i>	Afghanistan	DRC	Libya	Iraq	Myanmar	Nigeria	Somalia	South Sudan	Syria
<b>5.1</b> Percentage of women who say they have confidence in the judicial system and courts in their country <sup>62</sup>	<b>23% (2018)</b>	45% (2017, Kinshasa)	<b>38% (2018)</b>	<b>45% (2018)</b>	<b>69% (2019)</b>	55% (2018)	67% (2016)	38% (2017)	19% (2015)
<b>NEW 5.2</b> Right to equal justice 0-1 (worst) <sup>63</sup>	NDA	<b>0.25 (2017)</b>	NDA	<b>0.75 (2017)</b>	<b>0.75 (2017)</b>	<b>0.25 (2017)</b>	NDA	NDA	<b>0.75 (2017)</b>
<b>NEW 5.3</b> Legal discrimination (aggregate score) <sup>64</sup>	<b>40 (2018)</b>	<b>27 (2018)</b>	<b>39 (2018)</b>	<b>41 (2018)</b>	<b>35 (2018)</b>	<b>25 (2018)</b>	<b>25 (2018)</b>	<b>34 (2018)</b>	<b>48 (2018)</b>
<b>NEW 5.4</b> Woman's testimony carries the same evidentiary weight in court as a man's <sup>65</sup>	<b>Yes (2017)</b>	<b>Yes (2017)</b>	<b>No (2017)</b>	<b>No (2017)</b>	<b>Yes (2017)</b>	<b>Yes (2017)</b>	NDA	<b>Yes (2017)</b>	<b>No (2017)</b>
<b>NEW 5.5</b> Law prohibits or invalidates child or early marriage <sup>66</sup>	<b>Yes (2017)</b>	<b>No (2017)</b>	<b>No (2017)</b>	<b>No (2017)</b>	<b>No (2017)</b>	<b>Yes (2017)</b>	NDA	<b>No (2017)</b>	<b>No (2017)</b>
<b>NEW 5.6</b> Legislation exists on domestic violence <sup>67</sup>	<b>No (2018)</b>	<b>No (2018)</b>	<b>No (2018)</b>	<b>No (2018)</b>	<b>No (2018)</b>	<b>Yes (2018)</b>	NDA	<b>No (2018)</b>	<b>No (2018)</b>
<b>NEW 5.7</b> Legislation explicitly criminalizes marital rape <sup>68</sup>	<b>No (2017)</b>	<b>No (2017)</b>	<b>No (2017)</b>	<b>No (2017)</b>	<b>No (2017)</b>	<b>No (2017)</b>	NDA	<b>No (2017)</b>	<b>No (2017)</b>
<i>Notes on the data</i>	We have removed two indicators from the previous report, what were indicators 5.1 and 5.3 in the 2018 Annual Report to Parliament. These indicators were: 5.1 "Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimisation to competent authorities or other officially recognised conflict resolution mechanisms (disaggregated by sex)"; 5.3 "Proportion of positions (by age group, sex, persons with disabilities and population groups) in public institutions (national and local legislatures, public service and judiciary) compared to national distributions". These were removed because there was consistently no available data for many of our focus countries, particularly for recent years. We have therefore concluded that these would not be useful indicators to use going forward. We will continue to review this situation to see if such data becomes available.								

<b>Strategic Outcome 6: Violent Extremism</b>									
Ensure the participation and leadership of women in developing strategies to prevent and counter violent extremism									
<i>Indicator and source</i>	Afghanistan	DRC	Libya	Iraq	Myanmar	Nigeria	Somalia	South Sudan	Syria
<b>NEW 6.1</b> Does the country's WPS NAP reference female participation and leadership in Countering Violent Extremism (CVE)? <sup>59</sup>	No (No reference to CVE)	No (No reference to CVE) <sup>60</sup>	NA (No NAP)	No (Limited reference to Counter-Terrorism in the NAP)	NA (No NAP). CVE is not mentioned in their National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women (2013-2022)	Yes	NA (No NAP)	No (No reference to CVE)	NA (No NAP)
<b>NEW 6.2</b> Does the country's WPS NAP commit to gender sensitive research and data collection relating to Countering Violent Extremism?	No	No	NA (No NAP)	No	NA (No NAP)	No	NA (No NAP)	No	NA (No NAP)
<b>NEW 6.3</b> Does the country's counter-terrorism/countering violent extremism strategy reference women or gender as having a role in counter-terrorism/violent extremism?	NA <sup>61</sup>	NA <sup>62</sup>	NA <sup>63</sup>	No <sup>64</sup>	NA <sup>65</sup>	Yes (2016 and 2017) <sup>66</sup>	Yes (2016) <sup>67</sup>	NA <sup>68</sup>	NA <sup>69</sup>



<b>Strategic Outcome 7: UK Capabilities</b>									
The UK Government continues to strengthen its capability, processes and leadership to deliver against WPS commitments									
Indicator and source	Afghanistan	DRC	Libya	Iraq	Myanmar	Nigeria	Somalia	South Sudan	Syria
7.1 Mainstreaming <sup>70</sup> of gender in National Security Council country strategies <sup>71</sup>	Yes	NA <sup>72</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA <sup>73</sup>	No
7.2 Integration of WPS into cross departmental operational plans and programmes at the country level <sup>74</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
7.3 Mainstreaming of gender where appropriate and applicable in military doctrine and training materials, and appointment of military gender advisers <sup>75</sup>	The UK trains women officers at the Afghan National Army Officer Academy (ANAOA); UK trained the human rights and gender Afghan military lead and trained 2 Afghan officers as Human Security Advisers in 2019.	MOD deploys a Military Gender and Child Protection Adviser every nine months to work with UN HQ in Goma. No host nation women personnel have attended UK training courses in 2019.	There is no UK military presence in Libya.	All UK troops deployed to Iraq receive training in preventing and responding to incidents of conflict-related sexual violence. In 2019 the UK trained 3 officers as Human Security Advisers.	There is no UK military presence in Myanmar. UK and EU sanctions prevent Myanmarese attendance on UK programmes for the military.	The British Military Advisory Training Team has 1 Human Security Adviser based in Nigeria. The UK trained 5 Nigerian officers in 2019 as Human Security Advisers.	The UK provides training on how to prevent and respond to conflict-related sexual violence to Ugandan and Kenyan troops serving in the African Union Mission In Somalia (AMISOM).	Each UK rotation with the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) deploys at least one officer trained by the Nordic Centre for Gender in Military Operations. MOD trained UK personnel due to deploy to South Sudan in 2019/20 as Human Security Advisers. <sup>76</sup>	There is no military presence in Syria.
7.4 Integration of gender analysis into conflict analysis and research <sup>77</sup>	No Joint Assessment of Conflict and Stability (JACS) in 2019 or 2018	No JACS in 2019 or 2018	No JACS in 2019	JACS with gender analysis integrated (completed) JACS not undertaken in 2018	JACS with gender analysis integrated (started 2018, completed) (2019)	JACS with gender analysis integrated (completed in 2018)	JACS with gender analysis integrated (started in 2018, completed in 2019)	JACS with gender analysis integrated (completed in 2018)	JACS not undertaken in 2019 or 2018

7.5 Training and capacity building of UK Government staff to implement the WPS commitments<sup>78</sup>

In 2019 the Stabilisation Unit led:

- Three Gender, Conflict and Stability Training courses for cross-UK Government staff in London;
  - Two tailored training sessions for staff in Latin America and the Caribbean on Gender and Serious & Organised Crime and one tailored training session for staff on Gender & Migration;
  - A one day workshop for the FCO Syria team in how to integrate WPS commitments in their work.
  - The SU facilitated the pilot of a joint DFID-FCO Introduction to Gender Equality Training course. The FCO and CSSF MENA Gender Advisers piloted a three day Gender and Human Rights Course for MENA Gender Focal Points.
- In 2019 the MOD led a one week Human Security Course in Uruguay for military personnel from Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Colombia.

## Endnotes

- 1 Data come from UN Women and the Council on Foreign Relations (5 January 2018). Women's Participation in Peace Processes (<https://www.cfr.org/interactive/womens-participation-in-peace-processes>).
- 2 International Labour Organisation, 2019 <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.TLF.CACT.FE.ZS?locations=AF>
- 3 Data from Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- 4 The Afghan government addresses GBV through its National Priority Programme - gender strategy which has five pillars – (1) implementing global commitments on human rights, security, and freedom from domestic violence for Afghan women; (2) ensuring full access to education and health services, including higher education; (3) launching the Women's Economic Empowerment National Priority Program; (4) securing the constitutional rights for women through the full execution of our laws; and (5) advancing women in government and business.
- 5 In 2019 the UK contribution to the AHF was £54 million or 73% of all contributions received.
- 6 <https://www.chevening.org/>
- 7 *Gender Equality and Violent Extremism: A Research Agenda for Libya*; Monash University's Gender Peace and Security Centre November 2019
- 8 National Population Commission (NPC) [Nigeria] and ICF International (2014) *Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey 2013*. Abuja, Nigeria, and Rockville, Maryland, USA: NPC and ICF International. <https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR293/FR293.pdf>
- 9 <http://www.orlystern.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/The-Invisible-Women-of-al-Shabaab-.pdf>
- 10 An international forum for strategic discussion focus on issues of international security, prosperity and justice. <https://www.wiltonpark.org.uk/>
- 11 [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/GEE-Yemen/A\\_HRC\\_42\\_CRP\\_1.PDF](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/GEE-Yemen/A_HRC_42_CRP_1.PDF)
- 12 <https://ba.unfpa.org/en/news/joint-manual-inter-religious-council-bosnia-and-herzegovina-members-clergy-working-survivors>
- 13 <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/37940/190122-eu-au-joint-communiqué-en.pdf>
- 14 UK Government's National Action Plan on Women, Peace & Security (2018-2022), p.24. Social Development Direct (2020), *Evaluation of the UK's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (2018-2022)*.
- 15 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/human-security-in-military-operations-jsp-1325>
- 16 The World Bank. Available at: [https://databank.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.GEN.PARL.ZS?id=2ddc971b&report\\_name=Gender\\_Indicators\\_Report&populartype=series](https://databank.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.GEN.PARL.ZS?id=2ddc971b&report_name=Gender_Indicators_Report&populartype=series)
- 17 The World Bank. Available at: [https://databank.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.GEN.MNST.ZS?id=2ddc971b&report\\_name=Gender\\_Indicators\\_Report&populartype=series](https://databank.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.GEN.MNST.ZS?id=2ddc971b&report_name=Gender_Indicators_Report&populartype=series)
- 18 Data provided by the Department for International Development.
- 19 We are defining 'formal' as Track 1 negotiations involving governments, the UN, or an official regional organisation such as the African Union.
- 20 Council on Foreign Relations. *Women's Participation in Peace Processes*. Updated January 30 2019. Available at: <https://www.cfr.org/interactive/womens-participation-in-peace-processes>
- 21 More recent formal peace talks took place in 2013 (the Addis Ababa Accord), but we do not have exact figures for female participation (information provided by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office).
- 22 The most recent formal agreement was the Libyan Political Agreement in 2015. Data for female participation, however, is unavailable (information provided by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office).
- 23 These should be defined as 'preparatory talks', rather than 'formal talks' according to our definition. The Council on Foreign Relations has referenced this source: <https://escolapau.uab.cat/peace-talks-in-focus-report-on-trends-and-scenarios/>.
- 24 There are regular dialogues that bring together interested parties and stakeholders, which involve women. State-government agencies supported peace talks at community level in Plateau State and Kaduna State, the Kaduna peace agreement involving women in key roles (information provided by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office).
- 25 The Council on Foreign Relations has referenced these sources: <https://ucdp.uu.se/downloads/index.html#peaceagreement> and [https://www.zambakari.org/uploads/8/4/8/9/84899028/11\\_south-sudanese-women-at-the-peace-table.pdf](https://www.zambakari.org/uploads/8/4/8/9/84899028/11_south-sudanese-women-at-the-peace-table.pdf)
- 26 Data provided by the UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office.
- 27 NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, *Mapping Women, Peace and Security in the UN Security Council: 2018*, p. 31 <https://www.womenpeacesecurity.org/files/NGOWG-Mapping-WPS-in-UNSC-2018.pdf>
- 28 There are no missions in Myanmar.
- 29 There are no missions in Nigeria.
- 30 There are no missions in Syria.
- 31 'Acted upon' is here treated as those moved beyond the pending stage.
- 32 The United Nations. *Conduct in UN Field Missions: Sexual Exploitation and Abuse*. Available at: <https://conduct.unmissions.org/sea-actions>. See the Allegations, Investigations, and Actions tabs for figures.
- 33 United Nations Peacekeeping. *Data: Gender*. Data from December 2019. Available at: <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/gender>.
- 34 UNAMA is a Special Political Mission, so has an Expert on Mission, rather than troops.
- 35 Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security, WPS Index (2019-20 Dataset). Data for this indicator has been collected by the Georgetown Institute for the period 2000-2017. The Georgetown Institute has used the most recent available data in the period specified for each country, which we have used for this indicator <https://giwps.georgetown.edu/the-index/>
- 36 The World Bank. Available at: [https://databank.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.LAW.CHMR?id=2ddc971b&report\\_name=Gender\\_Indicators\\_Report&populartype=series](https://databank.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.LAW.CHMR?id=2ddc971b&report_name=Gender_Indicators_Report&populartype=series)
- 37 Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security, WPS Index (2019-20 Dataset). Data for this indicator has been collected by the Georgetown Institute for the period 2010-2016. The Georgetown Institute has used the most recent available data in the period specified for each country, which we have used for this indicator <https://giwps.georgetown.edu/the-index/>
- 38 *World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap Report 2020*, pp.130, 190, 256, 268. Available at: [http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF\\_GGGR\\_2020.pdf](http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GGGR_2020.pdf)
- 39 UN Women. See details of projects here: <https://untf.unwomen.org/en/grant-giving/untf-grantees/grantees-22nd-cycle-2019> and here: <https://untf.unwomen.org/en/grant-giving/untf-grantees/grantees-23rd-cycle-2019>.
- 40 See "Where we Work" <https://www.whatworks.co.za/>.

- 41 'Satisfactory' is defined by UNHCR according to specific weighted criteria, as one of their Global Strategic Priorities Indicators. The criteria are: 1) the provision of medical treatment to all survivors 2) the provision of psychosocial treatment to all survivors 3) legal assistance to all survivors 4) safety and security assistance to all survivors 5) material assistance to all survivors 6) services being tailored to people with specific needs 7) services provided without discrimination 8) whether services protect survivors' safety and security 9) whether services are provided according to the wishes of the survivor 10) whether services respect confidentiality. All criteria have a weighting of 10 out of 100. "Satisfactory" is defined as equal to or greater than 71%. See their most recent report here <http://reporting.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/2018%20Global%20Strategic%20Priorities%20Progress%20Report.pdf>
- 42 Data collected for the UNHCR 2018 Global Strategic Priorities Progress Report. The report showed the overall figures for all countries studied. We obtained the specific data for the individual focus countries directly from UNHCR.
- 43 Afghanistan did not select this indicator for 2018.
- 44 Data collected for the UNHCR 2018 Global Strategic Priorities Progress Report. The report showed the overall figures for all countries studied. We obtained the specific data for the individual focus countries directly from UNHCR.
- 45 UNFPA Data Transparency Portal for each focus country. 2018 data (2019 data not yet available).
- 46 Data collected for the UNHCR 2018 Global Strategic Priorities Progress Report. The report showed the overall figures for all countries studied. We obtained the specific data for the individual focus countries directly from UNHCR.
- 47 Afghanistan did not select this indicator for 2018.
- 48 Libya did not select this indicator for 2018.
- 49 Nigeria did not select this indicator for 2018.
- 50 Somalia did not select this indicator for 2018.
- 51 UNFPA 2018 data (2019 data not yet available). See here for a full description of UNFPA's minimum standards: [https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/GBVIE.Minimum.Standards.Publication.FINAL\\_.ENG\\_.pdf](https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/GBVIE.Minimum.Standards.Publication.FINAL_.ENG_.pdf)
- 52 Gallup World Poll. This information was provided to us directly from Gallup.
- 53 *The World Economic Forum 2020 Global Gender Gap Report*, pp.130, 192, 258, 270, 328. The possible scores are: 0, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75 and 1. Equal justice incorporates: rights to sue; weight given to evidence; holding public and political office in the judiciary; and whether customary, religious and traditional laws and practices discriminate against women in matters of justice. Please see the report for further details of the scoring: [http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF\\_GGGR\\_2020.pdf](http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GGGR_2020.pdf).
- 54 Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security, WPS. 2019-20 dataset. The score is an aggregate score of laws and regulations that limit women's ability to participate in society or the economy or that differentiate between men and women, as measured by Women, Business, and the Law (World Bank 2019a). Themes include: accessing institutions, using property, going to court, providing incentives to work, building credit, and getting a job. Greater weight is given to six laws: requirement that married women obey their husband, mandate for paternity leave, equal remuneration for work of equal value, nondiscrimination based on gender in hiring, and prohibitions of dismissal of pregnant workers and of child or early marriage. The lower the score the better; the worst potential score is 84. Please see the 2019/20 report, p. 65 for further details about scoring <https://giwps.georgetown.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/WPS-Index-2019-20-Report.pdf>.
- 55 The World Bank. Available at: [https://databank.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.LAW.OBHB.MR?id=2ddc971b&report\\_name=Gender\\_Indicators\\_Report&populartype=series](https://databank.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.LAW.OBHB.MR?id=2ddc971b&report_name=Gender_Indicators_Report&populartype=series)
- 56 The World Bank. Available at: [https://databank.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.LAW.CHMR?id=2ddc971b&report\\_name=Gender\\_Indicators\\_Report&populartype=series](https://databank.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.LAW.CHMR?id=2ddc971b&report_name=Gender_Indicators_Report&populartype=series)
- 57 The World Bank. Available at: [https://databank.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.LAW.CHMR?id=2ddc971b&report\\_name=Gender\\_Indicators\\_Report&populartype=series](https://databank.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.LAW.CHMR?id=2ddc971b&report_name=Gender_Indicators_Report&populartype=series)
- 58 The World Bank. Available at [https://databank.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.LAW.CHMR?id=2ddc971b&report\\_name=Gender\\_Indicators\\_Report&populartype=series](https://databank.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.LAW.CHMR?id=2ddc971b&report_name=Gender_Indicators_Report&populartype=series)
- 59 Country NAPs were accessed through the LSE WPS NAP Database, available here: <https://www.wpsnaps.org/>
- 60 <https://www.wpsnaps.org/app/uploads/2019/09/DR-Congo-NAP-3-2019-2022English-translation-DP160100212.pdf> Unofficial translation, funded by ARC DP160100212 (CI Shepherd).
- 61 The Foreign & Commonwealth Office is not aware of a National Strategy on Counter-Terrorism or Countering Violent Extremism for Afghanistan.
- 62 The Foreign & Commonwealth Office is not aware of a National Strategy on Counter-Terrorism or Countering Violent Extremism for DRC.
- 63 The Foreign & Commonwealth Office is not aware of a National Strategy on Counter-Terrorism or Countering Violent Extremism for Libya.
- 64 Iraq's Strategy for Countering Violent Extremism Leading to Terrorism was provided to us by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office.
- 65 The Foreign & Commonwealth Office is not aware of a National Strategy on Counter-Terrorism or Countering Violent Extremism for Myanmar.
- 66 Nigeria's National Counter Terrorism Strategy (2016) talks about the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development providing support for women who could be susceptible to terrorist ideologies, and to provide more general psychosocial support. The Nigerian National Action Plan for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (2017) has a section dedicated to women and girls' strategic roles in countering violent extremism, including those of women's organisations. These strategies were provided for this report by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office.
- 67 Somalia's countering violent extremism strategy says that women have 'an essential role to play at the heart of our prevention efforts in Somalia' and states that women's experiences, perspectives and knowledge are crucial to developing strategies (The Federal Republic of Somalia's National Strategy and Action Plan for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism, p.13.) Somalia's strategy for countering violent extremism was provided to us by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office.
- 68 The Foreign & Commonwealth Office is not aware of a National Strategy on Counter-Terrorism or Countering Violent Extremism for South Sudan.
- 69 The Foreign & Commonwealth Office is not aware of a National Strategy on Counter-Terrorism or Countering Violent Extremism for Syria.
- 70 Mainstreaming of gender into National Security Council country strategies is defined as follows: 'Plans, commitments and analysis in country strategies will consider the specific needs, roles and activities of women. This will be integrated into the overall country strategy, rather than being confined to a single section'.
- 71 Monitoring from WPS Focus Countries, 2019.
- 72 There is not a country-wide National Security Council Strategy for DRC.
- 73 There is no National Security Council Strategy for South Sudan.
- 74 Monitoring from WPS Focus Countries, 2019.
- 75 Ministry of Defence, 2019.
- 76 No South Sudanese military are allowed to attend UK training courses.
- 77 Stabilisation Unit 2019. The unit of analysis is stand-alone pieces of conflict analysis using the HMG Joint Assessment of Conflict and Stability (JACS) methodology (these are not necessarily carried out annually).
- 78 Stabilisation Unit 2019.



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