



Localization Handbook

January, 2020



Localising Women Peace and Security Handbook

Localization Handbook



Norwegian Embassy
Kampala



January, 2020

Table of Contents

FOREWORD

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT COALITION FOR ACTION ON 1325.....

THE TRAINING HANDBOOK.....

1.1. Introduction and Background.....

1.2 Goal and Objectives of the Training Handbook

2.0 THE TRAINING MODULES.....

MODULE ONE: THE CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR DISTRICT LEADERS

Session 1. Conceptualising Gender.....

Session 2. The Policy Framework for Gender Equality

Session 3. Understanding the Women, Peace and Security the

Session 4. Implementing The Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Uganda.....

Session 5. Understanding Localization.....

Session 6. Identification of Conflict Issues and Strategies.....

Session 7. Formation of The Task Force to Draft the Local Action Plan.....

MODULE 2. TRAINING OF THE LAP TASK FORCE.....

Session 1. Why the Women Peace and Security Agenda.....

Session 2 the Local Action Plan.....

Session 3. The Results Framework for the Local Action Plan

Session 4. Costing the Local Action Plan.....

MODULE 3: VALIDATION AND APPROVAL OF THE LOCAL ACTION PLAN.....

MODULE 4. TRANSLATION, PRINTING & LAUNCH OF THE LOCAL ACTION PLAN.....

MODULE 5. IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING OF THE LOCAL ACTION PLAN.....

MODULE 6. OTHER ELEMENTS OF LOCALIZATION

Foreword.

This handbook has been developed as a guide for partners who implement elements of the women, peace and security agenda, and may want to use Localisation as a strategy to strengthen Local Authorities to design and implement policies and strategies that address the issues that undermine the peace and security of women and girls in their communities. CoACT acknowledges the need to scale up localization across the country and the importance of supporting other partner organisations working on the women, peace and security agenda to utilize the strategy.

The strategy, first pioneered by the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP) in 2010 has been cited as a good practice strategy in the UN Secretary-General reports to the Security Council each year since 2012 and in the Global Study Report on the implementation of Resolution 1325 of 2015, as a key tool for translating policy into practice. It is a people-based, bottom-up approach premised on research findings that have shown over time, that local ownership and participation leads to more effective policy-making and implementation. Localising the implementation of Resolution 1325 and the NAP ensures that WPS programmes and interventions are customized to address local level issues that undermine the peace and human security of women and girls at the family level, the community level and within district and lower local government and community institutions. It also increases the participation of women in decision making processes including in leadership, conflict prevention, peacebuilding and conflict resolution processes.

Localization guarantees the alignment and harmonization of local, national, regional and international policies with community-driven strategies and allows local communities to analyse the everyday functions and policies of government to identify what is promoting or hindering the realization of peace and security at community level. In Uganda, localization is being implemented in the districts of Dokolo, Lira, Bushenyi, Kasese, Gulu, Kitgum, Amuria, Kaberamaido and Yumbe. The process brings together cross section of local leaders including political leaders,

government technocrats, teachers, the police, religious and cultural leaders, civil society leaders, local women groups, private sector leaders, the youth and the media to confront issues within communities that cause insecurity, inner pain and woundedness of women and girls and inhibit their ability to thrive. The process helps all involved to realise that the vision for the future for leaders and communities, whether women, men, boys or girls, should be shaped by dignity, equality, peaceful coexistence and prosperity.

The process of localizing the implementation of resolution 1325 and the NAP results in the development of a multi sectoral Local Action Plan (LAP) for each participating District Local Government that addresses issues that undermine the peace and security of women and girls from the local level. The LAP, in each case, must be adopted by the District Council and integrated in the District Development Plan for sustainable implementation. Once a district local government has a LAP, it becomes the framework for all interventions that contribute to increasing peace and human security at family and community levels and within institutions. This supports district LOCAL Governments to co-ordinate efforts and contributions of different development partners working within the district including international NGOs, national NGOs / CSOs and local CBOs that work on issues that enhance peace and human security.

At CoACT, we are profoundly grateful to everyone that contributed to development of this Localization Handbook. We acknowledge our partners who took part in the retreat that came up with a draft. Thank you Women International Peace Center (WIP Center), Luwero Women's Development Association (LUWODA), Kitgum Women Peace Activists (KIWEPI), Teso Women Peace Activists (TEWOPA), Rwenzori Consortium for Civic Competence (RWECO), Women Peace Initiatives Uganda ((WOPI-U), Care for African Initiatives (CAI), and Isingiro Women's Association (IWA).

I would also like to take this opportunity to appreciate the continued partnership with the Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development who coordinate the implementation of Women Peace and Security agenda in Uganda. Thank you for walking with us every step of the way in the Localization process. We know we can always rely on you.

I acknowledge the effort of Team CoACT for their ideas, dedication and tireless effort in developing this handbook. You are the dream team!

Finally, this handbook would not have been possible without the support and partnership of UN Women and the Embassy of Norway. Thank you for believing in us.

Robinah Rubimbwa
Executive Director

About Coalition For Action On 1325

The Coalition for Action on 1325 (CoACT) is an NGO established in Uganda under certificate number 4678. We bring together women-led organizations to promote gender equality and women empowerment. Our members implement programmes that increase women's capacity to effectively participate in politics and governance, conflict prevention and resolution processes; lead advocacy to address violence against women and girls; provide psychosocial support to women affected by conflict and GBV, increase women's economic empowerment; and, mentor young women to participate in governance and peacebuilding.

Our Goal is to enhance gender equity, justice, inclusive governance and peace. We desire for women's voices and agency to be amplified and included in all levels of key decision making spaces including peace processes. **We envision** a peaceful world where women realise their full potential, and **exist to** inspire women's leadership, amplify their voices and coordinate civil society action to prevent and resolve conflict, and significantly contribute building sustainable peace.

Our Strategies

To achieve our mission, we build women's leadership, and deepen the understanding and appreciation of young women & men, civil society organisations and government institutions for effective design and implementation of policies and programmes that bring about social justice and meaningful peace and security for all. We are locally rooted, and regionally and globally connected.

We are committed to continuing to improve the localization strategy, a proven model for the implementation of the women peace and security agenda. We are informed by the findings of the evaluation of the impact of localisation on NAP implementation, the Global Study on the implementation of Resolution 1325 92015, as well as continuous participatory reviews in Uganda and globally.

We have formed functional coordination mechanisms at the national and Local Government levels which help enhance CSO effectiveness. We continue to consolidate this our flagship Programme- **Localization of the Women Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda** through deepening knowledge and skills of partners and scaling up the programme to cover more districts each year. We continue to be intentional in increasing the numbers of women including young women participating in conflict prevention and resolution processes through our **Women and leadership programme** that enhances women's leadership skills, the **Youth Action for Peace Programme** that grows the next generation of women and men peacebuilders with its three components: the Kids for Peace (KIPs) component, we introduce young people in primary schools to peace education; the Young Women's Peace Academy (YOPA) that trains young as the next generation of women peacebuilding, mediation and peace keepers; and, the Youth in Electoral Processes (YEP) that targets youth to promote peaceful elections as candidates, voters and election observes & monitors. **We coordinate civil society participation in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Uganda National Action Plan (NAP) on Women, Peace and Security each year.** We are members of the National NAP Technical Committee and represent CSOs on the National NAP Steering Committee.

We continue to be a key player in national, regional and global advocacy on WPS, and we have supported the development of the NAP and NAP Localization in Sierra Leone, Kenya and Burundi. We are also part of the African Union-led development of Continental Guidelines for NAP development in Africa. We are members of the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders, the International Civil Society Action Network, the Women's Alliance for Security Leadership and the Women Waging Peace Network.

The Training Manual

Introduction and Background

A desk review by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedoms shows that as of August 2020, a total of 86 UN Member States (45% of all UN Member States) had a National Action Plan (NAPs) on UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325). The study found that while many states had developed a stronger commitment on women, peace and security, women were still invisible in security sector decision-making and in formal peace negotiation processes, thus confirming the need to develop and strengthen the local implementation of the women, peace and security agenda and the National Action Plans (NAPs)¹.

Several studies including the Global Study on the implementation of UN security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325) have found Local Action Plans (LAPs) on UNSCR 1325 highly beneficial as they respond better to localized needs with tangible results and broaden participation of local actors. An impact evaluation of NAPs I and II that CoACT conducted in December 2016 found that the Districts that had implemented localization were far ahead of all others in implementing the NAPs. The districts had strengthened coordination mechanisms at district and sub county levels, had enhanced capacity to prevent and respond to Gender Based Violence, the level of public awareness of the Resolution 1325 was high, and all the four districts at the time had put in place local legislations (Ordinances) to prevent child marriages, increase girls' school completion rates, limit hours of alcohol consumption to increase productivity and family level, and led to increased reporting of violence and GBV.

There has been a growing need therefore for CoACT to develop a handbook to guide partners implementing the WPS agenda in the country to ensure Localization, which

has proved to be a most effective strategy, to be scaled faster than is currently done. Since its piloting in 2012 district, Localization is so far being implemented in the 9 districts Dokolo, Lira, Bushenyi, Kasese, Gulu, Kitgum and Amuria, and is planned to begin in Kaberamaido, Luwero and Yumbe districts in the first half of 2020. This is a drop in the ocean considering that Uganda has 135 districts. Acknowledging that it would take a very long time before we scale up to reach even half of the district local governments in Uganda, we have developed this training handbook to enable other civil society and other actors in the women, peace and security agenda, to adopt the Localization strategy in the districts they work.

This Handbook is therefore a framework for harmonised content targeting different stakeholders to implement local solutions to address local issues that undermine women, peace and security. The Handbook has been developed with the participation of selected members and partners for facilitators of localization processes among CSOs, CBOs, Local Governments and Religious and Cultural institutions. It provides easy to use Sessions that are self-explanatory.

Objectives of the Localization Handbook

The Localization handbook is anchored on the following objectives

1. Increase the capacity of District Local Governments effectively address conflicts within their communities including issues that undermine the peace and security of women and girls and mainstream the women, peace and security agenda in District Development Plans and budgets.
2. Increase the capacity of civil society partners implementing the Women, Peace and Security

¹ <https://eca.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2020/7/localizing-the-women-peace-and-security-agenda-in-the-osce-region>

(WPA) agenda to support and facilitate Localization processes in their districts of operation.

3. Increase awareness, understanding and appreciation among local government officials, cultural and religious leaders, traditional leaders, local women leaders, community elders and other opinion leaders of the important role women play in peacebuilding.
4. Promote local ownership of Uganda's NAP on women, peace and security so that stakeholders take effective actions to prevent and resolve conflicts, and address gender equality in communities.

Module 1. Capacity Building Workshop

Introduction.

This module introduces participants to gender and basic gender concepts, the localization process, the meaning of localization and why localization. It also presents the women, peace and security agenda, explains why the agenda and why women. It introduces participants to the normative frameworks for women, peace and security emphasizing the importance, features and intentions of UN Security Council Resolution 1325. It links this with relevant regional instruments and the national legal and policy framework for WPS. The module enables participants to think through the conflict issues in their communities and institutions, as well as issues that hinder women's participation in conflict prevention and conflict resolution.

Pre-training survey

The Facilitator conducts a pre training survey to enable evaluation of the capacity building workshop at the end.

Session 1: Gender And Development

Module Description

This module presents a precise definition and a discussion of selected concepts central to Gender Equality thinking. The module gives clarity on the concepts and strategies to enhance appreciation of gender relations and how to address relations of inequality in different settings. The module is intended to generate and give meaning to key concepts of gender, their origin and evolution, and application in the day to day activities. The module is intended to help participants explore some of the key ideas and issues in gender mainstreaming and their implications for policy and practice within their institutions. Participants should strive to relate these concepts to their areas of work and experiences

Conceptualisation of Gender Gender

According to the World Health Organisation, Gender refers to the characteristics of women, men, girls and boys that are socially constructed. This includes norms, behaviours, roles, responsibilities, attributes, opportunities, and privileges that are socially nurtured for men and women and roles associated with being a woman, man, girl or boy, as well as relationships with each other. Gender also looks at the different levels of status between women and men, boys and girls as well as their access to and control over resources and benefits in a given society. Gender further describes the characteristics of men and women, boys and girls that are socially or culturally determined, as opposed to those that are biologically determined. It is seen as integral to problem solving, and ignoring it makes it difficult, if not impossible, to solve many societal problems. Gender is often misinterpreted as meaning what concerns women, but actually, gender concerns both men and women. African society is in the process of transformation, and gender necessarily plays an important part in this transformation. Since gender is an integral part of the transformation of African society, gender should be an integral part of policy and strategy development for all our institutions and country as a whole. It is not merely an addition of a few changes of wording or a few interesting projects, but a more comprehensive approach to development.

Sex

Sex refers to the biological differences and attributes between men and women. Sex differences are inborn and universal. However, the social meaning attached to a person's sex may differ depending on the communities they belong to.

Table showing a few differences between gender and Sex

Gender	Sex
Socially learnt behavior	Biologically determined and recognized at birth
Varies among cultures	The same within and among cultures
Keeps changing according to times, generations, space, changes in technologies, social and economic transformation. For example, increasingly men are engaged in care giving work.	Generally constant Women conceive babies Women have breasts Men have beards

The trainer asks participants what the terms below mean. The trainer gives each participant a post-it card for each of the terms. The trainer puts up several flipcharts, each one with one of the terms written on it. After they are done, participants post the cards on the relevant flip chart. The trainer then leads a discussion and guides participants to the meaning of each term.

Gender roles

Gender roles are learned behaviors in a given society/ community or other social group that condition which activities, tasks and responsibilities are perceived as male or female, and define what is considered appropriate for men and women within the society. Gender roles are determined by society (socialisation) while sex are biologically determined. Gender roles are influenced by historical, religious, economic, cultural and ethnic factors. It is important to note that cultures, societies, gender roles and gender relations change.

Gender Stereotypes

These are a set of characteristics that a particular group assigns to women and men, boys and girls. These characteristics are often incorrect, and usually place limitations on what an individual can do. Stereotypes stand in the way of an individual's perception of reality and social change. Women and men tend to internalize stereotypes as standards of behavior which no one can change, and that is why women and men tend to be conditioned to conform to expectations and behave the way the stereotype prescribes. Stereotypes influence people's attitudes towards men, women, girls and boys positively or negatively, and have a strong influence in decision-making about distribution of valued resources amongst family members

or employees in a given institution. Stereotypes affect both men and women, for they do not take into consideration the complex nature of a human being.

Exercise: Participants share how they have experienced gender roles in their families and places of work and how these experiences have made them feel.

Gender Needs

These are requirements that arise from people's positioning in society, determined by the socially constructed attributes. Gender needs are normally classified as either practical or strategic. There are practical gender needs and strategic gender needs. Practical Gender Needs are the immediate requirements for addressing an issue related to one's gender or the socially ascribed roles and responsibilities. For example, sanitary pads are a practical gender need for women. If these were met, the lives of women and/or men would be improved without changing the existing gender division of labour or challenging women's subordinate position. Strategic Gender Needs, on the other hand, arise out of the analysis of women's situation relative to that of men. Examples of strategic gender needs include women's ownership of land, women's access to adequate health services, women's participation in decision making. If strategic gender needs are addressed, the existing relationship of unequal power between men and women is transformed. Interventions at this level challenge the existing gender division of labour and the gender stereotypes.

Gender-Disaggregated Data: Is data that considers culturally defined gender roles and responsibilities for women and men, boys and girls. It involves applying a gender lens to data in order to understand the underlying causes of the differences between men and women in status, roles and responsibilities, access to and control over resources and participation among others. Gender disaggregated data is different from Sex-Disaggregated Data. Gender disaggregated data will consider variables such age, different physical abilities, education levels, etc unlike sex disaggregated data which is broken down by

sex, or where sex is one of the variables in a study. Gender disaggregated data recognises sub-groups of women and sub groups of men because neither men nor women are homogeneous.

Gender Issue

This refers to a point of gender inequality that is undesirable and requires intervention. A gender issue results from some form of gender discrimination or oppression. It arises when there is inequality, inequity or differentiated treatment of an individual or a group of people purely on the basis of social expectations and attributes.

Gender Blindness

Gender blindness describes a situation whereby an organization or institution develops plans, programmes and budgets without recognizing or incorporating gender issues that might influence the functioning of that institution, the implementation of programmes and the outcomes of the programmes. Gender blindness is present when organizations/institutions function as if gender does not matter. It is often reinforced and practiced by people who do not or refuse to consider gender as a factor in institutional settings.

Gender Gap

Refers to the extent of the differences and inequalities between men and women which are ascertainable through qualitative and quantitative data. Gender gaps may arise out of customary practices, religious biases, societal assumptions, myths or taboos. These gaps result into one gender being discriminated against to the extent that one gender cannot get a fair share of opportunities and resources.

Gender sensitivity

Gender sensitivity is the ability to appreciate that gender differences exist between men and women arising from their different social positions and different gender roles; as well as the ability to recognize that those differences have implications for women and men's effective participation in institutional activities and benefiting from the proceeds. Gender sensitivity further deals with the analysis of how the gender differences arise in society. Sadly, gender sensitivity does not always translate into action.

Gender-responsiveness

Gender responsiveness is the ability to take appropriate action to address the gender inequalities to bring about equitable distribution of power and resources between men and women (by addressing practical and strategic gender needs). Gender responsiveness is therefore intended to be transformative.

Gender Equity

Gender Equity is about fairness and justice in the distribution of resources, benefits, and responsibilities between men and women, girls and boys, in all spheres of life. Equity entails recognizing differences and uniqueness between men and women, boys and girls, and designing strategies to prevent the continuation of the inequitable conditions. Equity emphasizes fairness in process and outcome. Attainment of equity in institutions may require special interventions targeting the disadvantaged groups. The table below provides an example of an equity policy.

Gender Equality

Gender Equality means that the rights, responsibilities and opportunities of individuals will not depend on whether they are born male or female. Equality does not mean that women and men will become the same². It can be captured in three dimensions:

- Equality in capabilities, for instance, education and health levels;
- Opportunities to utilize capabilities to earn incomes and live to full potential;
- Agency, which is the ability of an individual or group to make effective choices and transform the choices into desired outcomes, such as:
- Ability to earn and control the income, own and use assets
- Ability to make important household decisions, such as, the number of children, where to buy land
- Ability to exercise freedom of movement.
- Ability to have a voice in society and influence policy through participation and decision making.

2 United Nations (CH rev. August 2001) Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women

Gender equality implies that the interests, needs and priorities of both women and men are taken into consideration. Gender equality is not a women's issue. It should concern and fully engage men as well as women. Equality between women and men is seen as a human right issue and a precondition and indicator of sustainable development'. Gender equality goes beyond equal numbers of women and men or boys and girls, nor does it necessarily mean treating women and men or girls and boys exactly the same. It means recognizing that women/girls and men/boys often have different needs and priorities, face different constraints, have different aspirations and contribute to development in different ways.

Gender Mainstreaming

Gender mainstreaming is a conscious effort by a state or institution to take into account gender equality concerns in all policy, programme, administrative and financial activities as well as in all state or institutional structures and procedures. Mainstreaming gender necessitates that gender perspectives become part of the normal perspective of an institution without its having to resort to special units or offices that isolate and marginalize these issues. It sometimes begins by focusing empowerment initiatives on women because of their historical disadvantage as a process of normalizing women's presence together with men on equitable basis to wield power, control resources and set priorities in institutions. It involves assessment of planned actions, including legislation, policies or programmes, in any area and at all levels, for their implications on women and men. It is thus a strategy that helps to ensure that the concerns of men and women are carefully and deliberately incorporated in the programming and implementation processes to eliminate inequalities.

Gender mainstreaming is also a strategy for attaining gender equality- equality before the law, equality of opportunities (rewards for work done, access to institutional resources, information, promotions, space, education, power and decision making) among others. Policies, plans, budgets and programmes are entry points for addressing gender equality concerns. Gender mainstreaming has to take place at the policy, programme and project levels. Mainstreaming

gender in an institution therefore entails ensuring that all its organizational aspects and levels, including strategy, structure, systems and culture. Gender budgeting is part of gender mainstreaming.

For example: Gender Equity in Education – The Case of 1.5 extra points at Makerere University
In 1990, Makerere University started a policy of giving female applicants extra 1.5 points. This policy was introduced after realizing that females had been few at 24% compared the male students. Every female student coming directly from high school, and applying for any undergraduate course is given a bonus of 1.5 points in order to increase the number of female students. By 2010, as a result of this policy, Makerere University had reached 50% (parity) enrollment for both female and male students.

Table showing the relevance of Gender at policy, planning, budgeting and M&E levels and what gender mainstreaming entails at each level

Level	Importance/relevance	What gender mainstreaming entails?
Policy level	Policy informs programming and action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition that within a society, actors are women and men. • That each is constrained in different and often unequal ways and, • That they may consequently have different needs and interests.

Budgeting process	Budgets are important policy instruments that reflect commitment to address priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application of gender mainstreaming at this level means incorporating a gender perspective in revenue collection and expenditure allocations.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gender budgeting examines how budgetary allocations address and affect the social and economic needs and opportunities for men and women
Planning programmes and projects	Delivery of services to communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporating a gender perspective in the process of setting objectives, articulating strategies and identifying actions for implementation.
Monitoring and evaluation	Reviews progress towards achievement of planned objectives and assessment of impact on men/women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying gender responsive indicators to measure progress towards meeting the gender responsive goals and evaluating the impact on men and women.

programmes and projects, and also provides information that recognizes that gender, and its relationship with race, ethnicity, culture, class, age, disability, and/or other status, is important in understanding the different patterns of involvement, behaviour and activities that women and men have in economic, social and legal structures.” Gender analysis provides the basis for addressing inequalities in policies, programmes and projects, and also provides information that recognizes that gender, and its relationship with race, ethnicity, culture, class, age, disability, and/or other status, is important in understanding the different patterns of involvement, behaviour and activities that women and men have in economic, social and legal structures.”

What is the importance of gender analysis?

1. Gender analysis provides the basis for gender mainstreaming
2. Helps to identify different needs of women and men, boys and girls (practical vs strategic)
3. Inequalities need to be identified to determine mainstreaming or targeted measures
4. Determine how the nature of institutional service delivery affects women and men
5. Analysis helps to demonstrate that there is an economic case for allocating resources to women as well as men.
6. Help planners design more efficient projects and improve productivity
7. Helps to map the levels of women and men’ participation in activities
8. Helps in mapping women and men’s access and control over resources and benefits

Gender Analysis: This means to assess and understand the differences in the lives of women and men, girls and boys and the relationships between and amongst them including: their access to resources and opportunities, their activities, and the constraints they face relative to each other. It provides the basis for addressing inequalities in policies,

Diagram depicting different Aspects of gender analysis



Source: MGLSD 2018: Gender Mainstreaming guidelines

Gender Budgeting

Gender budget is critical for ensuring that resource allocation takes place in a gender sensitive manner. Gender budget involves the examination of all expenditures and revenues from a gender perspective. This implies that all expenditure is examined for its relevance, accessibility, impacts and consequences for women and men. For example, when an institution devotes a percentage of its budget to provision of accommodation or scholarships, how much of it will benefit women? When an institution budgets for a day care Centre for staff children, what is the impact on the male and female workforce? Gender budgeting raises fundamental questions about economic governance and the participation of men and women, rich and poor, young and old, and minorities and other

marginalized peoples. Gender budgeting raises important questions such as those relating to women's unpaid labour and its importance in economic life and development. This applies to all other labour that is not recognized or paid. Gender budgeting provides for an analysis of how the budget caters for the interests of women and men, boys and girls as well as its potential impact on them. Gender budgeting acknowledges the existing differences between men and women in a given society as regards the work they do and the resources they have available to undertake that work. A gender sensitive budget considers these gender differences while allocating resources, thereby addressing issues of equality and equity.

Session 2: The Legal And Policy Framework For Gender Equality

There are a number of International instruments that Uganda is party to as well as national policies and laws that Government of Uganda has put in place a number to promote gender equality and women empowerment. Local Governments are expected to ensure compliance and implementation of these laws and policies.

Instrument	Provisions
Global level	
The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women adopted (UN 1979)	Affirms the obligation of States to take affirmative action to accelerate to participation of women in politics and other public decision making spaces. Uganda ratified CEDAW.
CEDAW General Recommendation 30	<p>CEDAW General recommendation no. 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gives authoritative guidance to member states to ensure women's human rights are protected before, during and after conflict. • It also addresses crucial issues facing women in these settings, including violence and challenges in access to justice and education, employment and health. • It gives guidance on States parties' obligation of due diligence in respect of crimes against women by non-State actors.
The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action 1995	Calls for gender equality in decision making
The Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa- sometimes popularly known as African Women's Protocol or Maputo Protocol (AU 2003)	Requires all member states to implement affirmative action measures for equal representation of women in decision making processes
The African Union Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (AU 1995)³	Reaffirms the gender parity principle adopted for representation of women in the decision making structure of the AU, all organs of the AU, regional economic communities and all national and local level structures- including in political parties and national Parliaments.
The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 35, without prejudice to Article 32 of the Constitution states that women shall have the right to affirmative action for the purpose of redressing the imbalances created by history, tradition and custom.

³ The AU Commission Decision on Gender Parity was taken at the inaugural Session of the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government in July 2002 in Durban South Africa

<p>The Local Government Act</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires Local Governments to establish a democratic, political and gender responsive administration set up at all levels. • Provides for representation of women and other marginalised groups at the local government levels
<p>The National Women’s Council Act</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizing the women of Uganda in a unified body • Engaging the women in activities that are of benefit to them and the nation
<p>The Uganda Gender Policy 2007</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aims to evolve a society that is both informed and conscious of gender and development issues and concerns. • Guides all levels of planning, resource allocation and implementation of development programmes with a gender perspective. • Provides a clear mandate to the MGLSD and other line ministries to address gender inequalities within their mandate
<p>The National Policy on Elimination of GBV in Uganda (2016)</p>	<p>The implementation of the GBV Policy is envisaged to lead to the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced negative attitudes and practices that fuel Gender Based Violence particularly against women and girls • Reduced prevalence of Gender Based Violence • Increased access to justice, health and other psychosocial services among GBV victims/survivors
<p>The National Social Protection Policy (2015)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeks to promote coordination and harmonization of social protection in the country
<p>The Land Act (2010) and Land Policy (2013)</p>	<p>Contains provision for security of tenure and safeguarding of the land rights of women and children</p>
<p>The Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act (2013)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlaws trafficking in persons, provides for the prosecution and punishment of perpetrators and for the protection of trafficked persons.
<p>The Refugee Policy (2006)</p>	<p>The Policy, embodied in the 2006 Refugees Act and 2010 Refugees Regulations, has many impressive aspects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opens Uganda’s door to all asylum seekers irrespective of their nationality or ethnic affiliation. • Grants refugees relative freedom of movement and the right to seek employment. • Provides for a piece of land to each refugee family for their own exclusive (agricultural) use.

<p>The Transitional Justice Policy (2019)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides the overarching framework for addressing justice, accountability and reconciliation needs of post-conflict situations; • Designed to provide holistic interventions to achieve lasting peace; • Proposes various justice mechanisms making it a great deal for victims and survivors of war as well as societies.
<p>The National Equal Opportunities Policy (2006)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The policy guides the planning processes, affirmative action, and implementation of programmes and allocation of resources to all stakeholders. • Empowers marginalized and vulnerable groups for their full participation in all development processes.
<p>The National Community Development Policy (2015)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognises that women and men are social actors for positive change in the communities and affirms the role of Government to enhance capacity to women and men to determine their own destiny and future by providing relevant information
<p>The National Development Plan (NDP) 2015/16 -2019/2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NDP stipulates the Country's medium term strategic direction, development priorities and implementation strategies • NDP II underpins gender equality as a basis for development which provides an overarching framework for socio-economic empowerment

Session 3. The Women, Peace And Security Agenda

What is Localization?

The localisation process has the following objectives:

1. Promoting systematic coordination between national and local government governments in implementing the WPS agenda along with National Action Plans (NAPs) on the resolutions, where they exist;
2. 2) Facilitating greater cross-sectoral cooperation and collaboration on the implementation of WPS agenda between MDAs, Local Governments, CSOs, UN entities and other funding partners;
3. 3) Increasing awareness and understanding of resolution 1325, other WPS resolutions, The NAP and relevant national laws and policies among LG officials, Security agencies, cultural and religious leaders, local women leaders, community elders, and other local actors and stakeholders;
4. 4) Promoting local ownership of the WPS agenda and identifying concrete actions toward implementation at the Local government and community levels; and
5. 5) Contributing towards better national, regional and global implementation of the WPS agenda

Local Governments currently implementing Localization of Resolution 1325 in Uganda. This list will keep growing year by year as more and more partners start implementing Localization and more and more district come on board. The list below is therefore not static and is only as was at the time of writing this Handbook. The following Local Governments are localizing the implementation of Resolution 1325 and the women, peace and security agenda.

1. Dokolo – 2012 Pilot district
2. Lira - 2013
3. Bushenyi -2013
4. Gulu - 2014
5. Kasese -2014, second LAP in 2020
6. Kitgum – 2015, second LAP in 2020
7. Amuria – 2015, second LAP in 2020
8. Kaberamaido -2020

9. Yumbe - 2020

10. Luwero-2020

The United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325, unanimously adopted on October 31, 2000, grew out of concern for protection of women in situations of armed conflict. The resolution marked the first time the security council held a conversation on the situation of women in conflict and post conflict contexts and acknowledged that conflict and insecurity affect women differently from the way it affects men. UNSCR 1325 consists of four pillars of participation, protection, prevention and relief and recovery. The Pillars are listed below:

Participation: Calls for increased participation of women at all levels of decision making, including in national, regional and global institutions

Protection: Calls specifically for the protection of women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence, including in emergency and humanitarian situations, such as in refugee camps

Prevention: Calls for improving intervention strategies in the prevention of violence against women

Relief and Recovery: Calls for advancement of relief and recovery measures to address international crises through a gendered lens

Since 2000, there has been growing evidence that support the increased participation of women in conflict prevention, resolution and peacebuilding. Statistical analysis shows that peace agreements are 35 percent more likely to last at least 15 years if women participate in their creation⁴, and that the participation of civil society groups, including women's organizations, makes a peace

4 Betty Bigombe in a BBC interviewed on <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-49269136>

agreement 64 percent less likely to fail⁵. Higher levels of gender equality are associated with a lower propensity for conflict, both between and within states⁶. It has also been noted that female security sector officials frequently have access to populations and venues that are closed to men, which allows them to gather intelligence on potential security risks.

As of April 2020, there are eight more Security Council resolutions making up the women, peace and security (WPS) agenda. The agenda affirms women's agency and leadership in conflict resolution and broader peacebuilding and has been broadened to include not just women's physical security, but other forms of security such as health and economic security, in addition to insecurity relating from natural and human-made disasters. Together the resolutions provide the global normative framework for Governments, regional organisations and CSOs to drive action around the WPS agenda.

SCR 1820: (2008) Resolution 1820 recognizes that conflict-related sexual violence is a tactic of warfare, and calls for the training of troops on preventing and responding to sexual violence, deployment of more women

5 Belfer Center, International Interactions and World Bank
5 Swedish Defense Research Agency "Northern Uganda: Understanding and solving the conflict" (PDF). ICG Africa Report N°77. Nairobi/Brussels: International Crisis Group. 14

5 Julian Borger (8 March 2012). "Q&A: Joseph Kony and the Lord's Resistance Army". The Guardian. Archived from the original on 10 February 2018. Retrieved 27 December 2017, April 2004. Retrieved 18 March 2009.

5 Julian Borger (8 March 2012). "Q&A: Joseph Kony and the Lord's Resistance Army". The Guardian. Archived from the original on 10 February 2018. Retrieved 27 December 2017

6 O'Kadameri, Billie (2002). "Accord Magazine: Protracted Conflict, Elusive Peace: Initiatives To End The Violence In Northern Uganda". C-r.org/Accord/Uganda. Retrieved 2 March 2015.

6 O'Kadameri, Billie. "LRA / Government negotiations 1993–94" Archived 21 August 2008 at the Wayback Machine in Okello Lucima, ed., Accord magazine: Protracted conflict, elusive peace: Initiatives to end the violence in northern Uganda Archived 6 October 2008 at the Wayback Machine, 2002

to peace operations, and enforcement of zero-tolerance policies for peacekeepers with regards to acts of sexual exploitation or abuse.

SCR 1888: (2009) Resolution 1888 strengthens the implementation of Resolution 1820 by calling for leadership to address conflict-related sexual violence, deployment of teams (military and gender experts) to critical conflict areas, and improved monitoring and reporting on conflict trends and perpetrators.

SCR 1889: (2009) Resolution 1889 addresses obstacles to women's participation in peace processes and calls for development of global indicators to track the implementation of Resolution 1325, and improvement of international and national responses to the needs of women in conflict and post-conflict settings.

SCR 1960: (2010) Resolution 1960 calls for an end to sexual violence in armed conflict, particularly against women and girls, and provides measures aimed at ending impunity for perpetrators of sexual violence, including through sanctions and reporting measures.

SCR 2106: (2013) Provides operational guidance on addressing sexual violence and calls for the further deployment of Women Protection Advisers.

SCR 2122: (2013) Calls on all parties to facilitate peace talks with equal and full participation of women in decision-making; aims to increase women's participation in peacemaking by increasing resources for women in conflict zones; and, acknowledges the critical contributions of women's civil society organizations.

SCR 2242: (2015) Marks the 15th anniversary of the Resolution and reaffirms commitment to Resolution 1325. It highlights the role of women in countering violent extremism and addresses the differential impact of terrorism on the human rights of women and girls.

SCR 2493 (2019) Urges Member States to recommit to the WPS agenda including creating safe environments for women leaders, women peacebuilders, human rights defenders and political actors. It also asks States to facilitate the full, equal and meaningful participation of women,

address threats, harassment, violence and the space to remain committed to increasing the number of uniformed and civilian women in peacekeeping operations.

Resolutions on Youth Peace and Security

CSR 2250 (2015) was the first Security Council resolution on youth, peace and security, highlighting the positive role youth and youth led organisations play in sustaining peace.

SCR 2419 (2018) is the second resolution by the United Nations Security Council on youth, peace and security and was unanimously adopted. It recognizes the positive role young people can play in negotiating and implementing peace agreements and conflict prevention. The resolution urges stakeholders to take young people's views into account and facilitate their equal and full participation in peace and decision making processes at all levels

A supportive policy framework exists at global, regional and national levels that provides opportunities for women to advance gender equality. Uganda is signatory to several international and regional instruments and protocols that promote women's rights. The tables below show examples of such instruments and the provisions therein.

1.3 Other International WPS Frameworks

- i) The Commonwealth Priorities for Gender and Women's Empowerment
- ii) The Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
- iii) The International Covenant for Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR),
- iv) The Convention on the Rights of Children,
- v) International Covenant on economic and social cultural rights,
- vi) International refugee law,
- vii) International Conference on Protocol for the Prevention and the Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity and All forms of Discrimination (2006),
- viii) The Sustainable Development Goals (2030 Agenda), specifically Goal 5 and 16.

1.4 Other Regional Frameworks for WPS

- i. International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region of 2006,
- ii. The Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children, 2006.
- iii. African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child,
- iv. The Goma Declaration on Eradicating Sexual Violence and Ending Impunity in the Great Lakes Region (2008),
- v. The Continental Results Frame Work for the monitoring and reporting on WPS agenda in African. (2018),
- vi. Kampala Declaration on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (2011).

Session 4. Implementation Of The Women, Peace And Security Agenda In Uganda

This is a session that is normally presented by the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD) during the localisation process. It is important the CSO implementing localisation ensure that MGLSD is an active partner in the process. This not only assures Local Governments that the WPS agenda is driven by the Government of Uganda and that GOU is accountable for its implementation. This makes the agenda legitimate, the role of Local Governments legitimate, and the role of the CSO is seen as supportive – a partnership with Government which is very important. As CSOs, we must never forget that accountability for implementation of Resolution 1325 lies with Government.

Uganda's National Action Plan (NAP) on implementation of the Resolution 1325

Uganda is one of the 83 Countries with National Action Plans (NAPs) on women, peace and security. In 2008 and 2011, the government of Uganda launched the first NAP on UNCR 1325, 1820 and the Goma Declaration on Eradicating Sexual Violence and Ending Impunity in the Great Lakes Region. In 2011 Uganda launched the second NAP which was a five-year Plan. The first two NAP focused on protection of women and girls from gender-based violence, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse and increased representation and participation of women in leadership at all levels of decision-making. This was because Uganda was just coming out of the 20 year armed conflict between Government of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). Many other armed groups had been active in different parts of the country from the 1880s but were able to negotiate a settlement with the Government and their armies were integrated in the Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces. Like many post conflict countries, Uganda experienced very high levels of gender based violence that put the lives of women and girls at great risk.

NAP II expired in December 2015 and was followed by a country wide evaluation coordinated by the Ministry

of Gender, Labour and Social Development, in which a number of MDAs and CSOs including CoACT participated. From January 2019, Government of Uganda supported by UN Women designed and started implementing a road map leading to the development of the third NAP (NAP III). As of August 2020, NAP III is going through the review and approval process.

Achievements of and Lessons from NAPs I and II

The reviews and evaluations of the impact of NAPs I and II highlighted successes and achievements that Uganda registered while noting some challenges that hindered effective implementation.

Achievements

- A strong partnership between Government and CSOs
- Localization as a strategy to implement Resolution 1325 as a strategy. District Local Governments develop Local Action Plans (LAPs) that provide the framework for addressing local conflict issues and issues that undermine women's participation in decision making, in conflict prevention and resolution.
- Integrating LAPs into District Development Plans
- Putting in place the legal and policy framework for women, peace and security

Lessons learnt from the Review / Evaluation of NAPs

1. The need for a national coordination mechanism
2. The need for a strong and functional national coordination for NAP design, implementation and accountability of the women, peace and security agenda so that everyone knows who is doing what where to avoid duplication and waste and also to ensure all initiatives re documented

3. The need for costing the NAP to guide MDAs and Local Government in budgeting for WPS interventions
4. The need for a comprehensive M&E framework for each NAP to ensure all achievements and lessons are documented
5. Capacity building for actors to ensure they can all use the M&E framework

The Role of Different Stakeholders in Implementation of WPS Agenda

The UN Global Study on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 recommended, among other things, support and investment in participatory processes, social accountability tools and localization initiatives “to link global, national and local efforts and ensure the voices of most affected and marginalized populations inform and shape relevant responses”⁷. The Localization strategy is a people-based, bottom-up strategy that enhances local ownership and participation for more effective policy-making and implementation. The approach was cited in the UN Secretary-General reports to the Security Council each year from 2012 to 2015, in addition to the Global Study Report⁸, as a key tool for translating policy into practice.

The Role of Local Governments

District Local Governments have the following roles in the implementation of the WOMEN Peace and Security agenda

1. Adopt localization as a strategy for NAP implementation
2. Establish community level structures that promote women participation in conflict prevention
3. Integrate the LAP in the District Development Plan and allocate funds for its implementation.
4. Regularly review, document and report progress on LAP implementation.

⁹ UN Women 2015. Preventing conflict, transforming Justice, securing the Peace: A Global study on the implementation of the united Nations Security Council Resolution 1325.

¹⁰ Ibid

As a result of localization, we have formed coordination committees at both district and sub county levels. At the district, the committee is chaired by the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) with the district community development Officer (DCDO) as the Secretary. This committee meets monthly (every last Wednesday of the month) to review and discuss progress reports, and set new measures to address WPS issues in the district. (Oroma Rhoda, Ag Deputy – Chief Administrative Officer Kitgum District).

5. Monitor Performance of the District Task Force Work to ensure drafting of the LAP is completed within the agreed timelines and the implementation of the LAP.
6. Hold quarterly review meetings with the districts implementing LAPs.
7. The district council should approve and endorse LAP before it is launched and implemented to buy the commitment of the district.
8. Strengthen and follow up on the point of monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the LAP.
9. Take lead in the validation of the LAP to ensure that it addresses the most pressing issues that undermine WPS as they were identified and prioritized by the stakeholders’ meeting. The local authorities should monitor to ensure all comments have been incorporated by the Task Force. One of the members on the district committee should be a member from the CSO/CBO operating in the district.
10. The District Local Government organizes the launch of the LAP to reaffirm their commitment to implement the LAP. The launch is attended by women from all levels, the area MPs, and other key stakeholders so that they become aware of the LAP and what is expected of each stakeholder during implementation. The launch event is popularized on local FM stations to ensure information reaches all corners of the district.
11. Integrating the LAP into district development plan is a very important role for the District Local Governments. This makes the LAP not to be a standalone document but makes it part of the district priorities for funding during the planning and budgeting process.
12. The Local Governments ensure that quarterly review meetings are organized to track progress, lessons

learned, challenges and to generate recommendations on how to mitigate the gaps. This keeps key stakeholders updated on what is being done, what support is needed with regard to implementation of the LAP.

Creating an enabling environment and platforms for women and girls to effectively participate in conflict prevention and resolution processes as participants not victims. Local Governments need to carry out an assessment of the gender-based differences between women and men reflected in their social roles and apply a gender perspective to ensure that women's issues and concerns are addressed to enable them to effectively participate in decisions that affect their lives

The Role of Civil Society Organisations

Resolution 1325 was a product of civil society advocacy, particularly women's CSOs including some from Uganda, who advocated for the creation and passing of the Resolution. CSOs continue to play a significant role in implementing the holistic aims of the WPS Agenda, globally. In Uganda CSOs have been key actors in expanding awareness of the agenda and ensuring that WPS principles are institutionalized and operationalized. Coming from their diverse backgrounds, they have lent their expertise and resources to serve the different aspects of the WPS agenda. Uganda's CSOs have engaged with government institutions, especially the MGLSD, Local Governments, the Police and the Uganda Peoples Defence Forces (UPDF) in the implementation and monitoring of Uganda's NAPs.

While government remains the ultimate duty bearer, CSO initiatives and good practice have helped implementation of the WPS agenda in Uganda. They have also mobilised resources as individual organisations or as groups or coalitions to support of NAP implementation. Many have been involved in promoting women's political participation and leadership through skills and knowledge enhancement, some have developed capacities of women groups from national to grassroots levels for conflict prevention and conflict resolution and established community structures for mediation and peace building. Others have supplemented Government GBV efforts to

increase protection of women and girls from violence while using creative ways of awareness raising and sensitisation to get their message across to community leaders.

A number of CSOs and faith based organisations have supported Government in rebuilding communities devastated by conflict, have implemented income generating programmes and provided psychosocial support to individuals affected by conflict and violence. Others have worked to reconcile communities through traditional transitional justice mechanisms, while some have been involved in monitoring the implementation of the NAP and conducting research that has helped shape the design of NAP III. CSOs have also been part of multi-stakeholder committees and reference groups established by Government such as the GBV Reference Group and the National Task Force for the development of the National Peace Policy coordinated by the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), the National Transitional Justice Committee coordinated by the Ministry of Internal Affairs. They also continue to be part of other such committees and task forces and working groups at national and district levels.

Here below are additional roles CSOs will continue to play to implement the Resolution 1325:

1. Foster good coordination and communication among the CSOs working on women, peace and security at national level and strengthen links with grassroots CSOs to broaden representation and ownership, implement joint initiatives to scale up outreach, increase outputs, and maximize impact;
2. Implement interventions that enhance women's economic empowerment as a means to increasing women's bargaining power in domestic settings promoting self-reliance as this was said to promote peace in the home;
3. Scale up localization of the implementation of the NAP at district level for this was found to increase public awareness within the district, build knowledge and skills of district teams to implement the NAP, and strengthen the capacity of the District to address issues that undermine the peace and security not only of women and girls but also of communities;

4. Scale up training of local community groups to provide psychosocial support to GBV victims and survivors, and link them with economic empowerment programmes;
5. Strengthen linkages between women's grassroots' networks and national networks, and between grassroots networks and regional and international networks to facilitate exposure and knowledge sharing;
6. Increase partnerships with all Security Sector institutions and specifically work closely with the MIA to establish Peace Committees and scale up training of local community groups in conflict early warning, peace building and conflict resolution including mediation and other peaceful means of resolving conflicts while also increasing engagement with men and youth as well;
7. Facilitate initiatives to transform social-cultural norms that undermine women's participation in decision making, particularly in the security sector, and increase effort and engagement with women refugees and host communities for enhanced leadership in relevant committees.
8. Develop multimedia campaigns and awareness raising programmes to sensitize the population about the NAP and the government's commitment to uphold gender equality and the rights of women and girls;
9. Engage men, young men and young women in the design and implementation of GBV interventions but also as a target group.
10. Ensure that the WPS principles are institutionalized and operationalized in policy.
11. Support in the formation of the Women's Peace Coalition mobilizing organizations in the implementation of Women Peace and Security agenda.
12. Strengthen Local government capacity for integration of WPS agenda into strategic plans and district budgeting processes; male involvement as change agents; and contributed to community mobilization for GBV prevention and response.
13. Monitor and report on the implementation of Women Peace and Security agenda and hold the district accountable.
14. Document and conduct research on the WPS trends and share findings with district and other stakeholders for action.
15. Raise awareness on WPS agenda and hold duty bearers accountable.
16. Provide support mechanisms (psychosocial support, referral services, operating procedure) to address WPS concerns.
17. Build the capacity of women led CBOs/CSOs implementing WPS agenda.
18. Map and assess women led CSOs /CBO's in the district to implement WPS agenda.

Other Stakeholders

Stakeholder	Roles
Religious and Cultural Leaders	<p>Raise awareness on the rights and dignity of women and girls and speak out against social and cultural beliefs, attitudes and practices that normalize GBV and the discrimination of women and girls</p> <p>Promote gender equality at all levels within religious and cultural institutions</p> <p>Participate in reviews of Local Action Plans and share ideas and lessons</p>
Media	<p>Raise awareness of human rights and gender equality</p> <p>Speak out on cases of rights violations and oppression and hold leaders accountable</p> <p>Make gender responsive and avoid trivializing efforts of women in leadership and peace building.</p> <p>Ensure gender responsive and conflict sensitive reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate and inform the public on the important role women play in decision making and peacebuilding.
Education institutions	<p>Emphasize the importance of gender equality to pupils and students at every opportunity</p> <p>Post messages that promote gender equality, dignity and respect for all on the school compound.</p> <p>Establish a Peace Committee in the school</p> <p>Provide gender balanced information to learners</p> <p>Provide space for peace education to learners at every opportunity</p> <p>Nurture and develop skills amongst children on conflict prevention.</p> <p>Inform communities on WPS issues and promotion of human rights.</p>

Session 5. Understanding Localisation

What is Localisation?

- A people-based, bottom-up approach to policy-making that goes beyond the local adoption of a law
- Directly engages local authorities, religious and cultural leaders, CSOs & local women in the implementation of the WPS agenda in local communities
- Ensures that the Women Peace and Security (WPS) resolutions—and National Action Plans (NAPs)—are owned and implemented at the local level
- Guarantees the alignment and harmonization of local, national, regional and international policies and community-driven strategies

Objectives of Localisation

The Localization programme has 5 main objectives. Among other things, localization helps to:

1. Promote systematic coordination between national and local government governments in implementing the WPS agenda along with National Action Plans (NAPs) on the resolutions, where they exist;
2. Facilitate greater cross-sectoral cooperation and collaboration on the implementation of WPS agenda between MDAs, Local Governments, CSOs, UN entities and other funding partners;
3. Increase awareness and understanding of resolution 1325, other WPS resolutions, The NAP and relevant national laws and policies among LG officials, Security agencies, cultural and religious leaders, local women leaders, community elders, and other local actors and stakeholders;
4. Promoting local ownership of the WPS agenda and identifying concrete actions toward implementation at LG and community levels; and
5. Contributing towards better global implementation of the WPS agenda

Countries currently implementing Localization (March 2020)

The following countries have localized the implementation of Resolution 1325.

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| 1. Afghanistan | Azerbaijan |
| 2. Armenia | 9. Burundi, |
| 3. Colombia, | 10 Georgia |
| 4. DRC, | 11. Indonesia |
| 5. Kenya | 12. Liberia, |
| 6. Nepal, | 13. The Philippines, |
| 7. Serbia, | 14. Sierra Leone, |
| 8. Sudan | 15. South Sudan, |
| 9. Ukraine | 16. Uganda |

Components of the Localization Program

- 1) Convening of local authorities, key actors and stakeholders across sectors to formulate strategies and plans to address local WPS issues and integrate the agenda into district and community development plans;
- 2) Developing a Local Action Plan (LAP)—A LAP is district framework for all interventions that promote gender equality, women empowerment and, peace and security into community development plans
- 3) Implementation of the LAPs. Developing the LAP is one thing and implementing it is another. It requires resourcing- technical and financial, plus monitoring and evaluating impact.

Why Localization?

The Districts that have implemented Localization have reported the following benefits

1. Increasing awareness of the conflict issues affecting communities
2. Tailoring strategic interventions to address conflicts and issues that normalize gender inequality

3. A well-coordinated district framework for addressing the issues
4. Strengthens multi-sector coordination, coordination with CSOs and funding partners
5. Increases effectiveness- has a monitoring and evaluation frameworks that enables LGs to keep track of resources, progress and impact
6. Increased financing of interventions that promote gender equality and women empowerment
7. Increases networking with other Local Governments involved in programme, national level, regional and global actors
8. Makes leaders and governance relevant, increases credibility of the leaders
9. The Local Government becomes part of a big global agenda

Session 6. Identification Of Conflict Issues And Root Causes

This is a practical module that aims to increase and build a common appreciation of the **women, peace and security status** in the district.

Participants are divided into groups according to their sub counties. Each group answers the following questions:

- 1) What are the **key four conflicts** in this districts that take away people's peace making them feel insecure? What are root cause of these conflicts? Whom do the conflicts affect? How?

- 2) Identify **five major issues** that undermine the peace and human security of women and girls and prevent them from participating in decision making, conflict prevention and conflict resolution. What are the root causes of such issues? How does the lack of women's participation affect women and community?

During group discussions, ensure facilitators provide support to each team.

Participants are given at least one hour for this discussion. They present their work in the following formats:

	Conflict Issue	Root causes	Who is affected	How they are affected?
1				
2				
3				
4				

Issues that undermine women's participation

	Conflict Issue	Root causes	Who is affected	How they are affected?
1				
2				
3				
4				

Plenary Discussion

Following make group presentations, participants identify differences between issues in question one and issues in question 2 as well as who is affected and how. Facilitator must take note of the similarities and point out the fact that what affects women, will usually affect children, families and communities.

They should also identify common issues that run across the sub-counties, and those that may be unique to a particular sub county. It is important to discuss the reasons for either.

Session 7. Strategies To Address The Identified Issues.

Introduction

Once again this is a practical session in which participants in groups by sub county identify conflict issues that affect families, and communities in the district. They then identify issues that undermine the participation of women in conflict prevention and resolution, and finally discuss and agree on strategies to address all in the issues.

Participants begin by prioritizing the issues identified in Session 5. This is important because the lists can be very long. It helps to identify the issues that are common

Issue.....

	Strategies	Lead department / CSO
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

After group presentations, the facilitator leads the plenary in identifying and documenting common strategies that would address multiple issues. A list of the final strategies is agreed.

Goal Statement

The facilitator displays the list of priority issues and the final list of strategic interventions

The facilitator then asks participants in groups of 3 or 4 to draft a goal statement. The facilitator must explain what a goal statement looks like and what it means. The facilitator gives each group an A4 Sheet of paper and a marker.

After 15 minutes or so, the facilitator asks each group to pin their draft goal on the front wall. Participants move close to the drafts and the participants works through each draft by eliminating what is already captured, till there are two or three statements. Participants discuss these and

and write those out, then the unique issues as well. The workshop should identify a maximum of 5 issues to focus on.

Group Work.

The facilitator divides the participants into five groups by counting 12345 repeat.

The Facilitator allocates each group one issue to identify a maximum of 5 strategies to address it.

Group present their work in the following format.

agree how to merge their intentions into one draft Goal statement.

Objectives of the LAP

This is first done in pre- determined groups, and aims to achieve a set of a maximum of 4 objective statements.

The facilitator will need to pre-determine which participants will form which group working which issues and strategies to make sure every participant is placed in a group where they can contribute best. Each group develops one objective statement, and writes it on a flip chart.

All participants in plenary review what each group has presented and refines every statement so that there is agreement in the room on the objective statement at the end of the day.

Session 8: Formation Of The District Lap Task Force

The aim of this session is to form District Task Force that will do the drafting of the Local Action Plan to address the identified issues. **Note:** This Session must be chaired by one of the top District leaders.

The facilitator will present:

Terms of Reference of the Task Force.

The District TLAP Task Force has the following Terms of Reference:

1. Attend LAP development training
2. Hold meetings to draft the LAP
3. Present the draft LAP to the District Technical Planning Committee for review
4. Edit and refine the LAP
5. Present the draft LAP to the District leaders for validation
6. Integrate the comments and finalise the LAP
7. To submit the final draft to the Chief Administrative Officer
8. Present the Draft LAP to the District Council for Approval

The only criteria for selection of members to the District Task Force should really be that the individual is committed and known to keep appointments and work till a task is complete. We advise that selection should take into account the need for a multi-sectoral process, that includes civil society and at least 50% women. Usually the group will know who among them can deliver such a task. We advise that they choose a chairperson who has clout and can whip members.

The Chairperson of the session conducts an election of a minimum of 5 and maximum of 9 individuals to serve on the Task Force.

Once the Task Force is formed, all participants agree on when they would want to launch the LAP. We encourage them to launch LAPS any day during the Peace Week,

or during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence.

Calendar for the Task Force.

Beginning with the launch date, participants work backwards including all stages of LAP development that include:

1. Printing
2. Translation
3. Development of an Abridged Version of the LAP
4. Passing of the LAP by the District Council
5. Circulation of the Draft LAP to all members of the District Council (
6. Final review of the draft LAP by the District Technical Planning Committee (DPT) and submission to the CAO
7. Final editing by CoACT
8. Integration of comments
9. Validation workshop
10. Review and endorsement by DPT
11. Drafting and editing by Task Force

Post Training Survey

TAHE facilitator will conduct a post training survey to determine the change in knowledge, attitudes and practices

Module 2: Training Of The Lap Task Force

Introduction

This session will take participants through an in depth study of why it is essential to have a District LAP, and the women peace and security agenda to ensure participants have a thorough understanding of Resolution 1325, subsequent resolutions and the Uganda NAP so they can develop a comprehensive Local Action to guide the district in addressing conflicts and gender inequality. The Training of the Task Force should be completed in a two-day workshop.

Note to the Facilitator: Engage the Planner and the District Community Development Officer (DCDO) before-hand and give them a role each on the training programme so that it is as participatory as possible.

Review of the Terms of Reference of the Task Force

The District TLAP Task Force has the following Terms of Reference in the previous module:

The Task Force receives a more in depth training in a 3-day workshop, on WPS Agenda, and how to develop a LAP.

Session 1: Why Un Security Council Resolutions On Women, Peace And Security?

UN Security Resolution 1325 and subsequent resolutions emphasize:

- The recognition of women's participation in peace building, conflict resolution process;
- The concern about increased violations/abuses to women during conflict, transition and post conflict situations
- The lack of (or need for) accountability for implementation, monitoring and reporting on the women, peace and security status
- The lack of financing for interventions that address women's concerns and needs during peace making and conflict transformation

The Purpose of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda

The WPS agenda is intended to achieve the following:

- Enhance women's role and legitimacy in making decisions with regard to conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peace building
- Promote stability in post-conflict societies through mainstreaming gender and equality into all military and civilian crisis management activities
- Significantly improve the security of women and girls and emphasizing that women and girls are not viewed as victims but as active participants at all levels and sectors of society

Recap of the UN Security Council Resolutions on women, peace and Security

The facilitator does a recap of the Resolutions highlighting what each resolution emphasizes. It is important to make the link between each subsequent resolution with Resolution 1325. The Task Force needs to understand the connection.

A Recap of the Uganda NAP

The facilitator could request the District Community Development Officer (DCDO) to present a recap of the NAP focusing on NAP Outcomes and Outputs. The DCDO should link each of the priority issues agreed during the Capacity building workshop with the relevant Outcome and output the strategies would contribute to.

Justification for a Local Action Plan (LAP)

- Research has shown that when the peace and security of women is guaranteed, families and communities prosper.
- It is important to have a framework that enables implementation of the district mandate in implementing the WPS agenda.
- Promote human rights and particularly the rights of women and girls, human dignity including the dignity of women and girls, and equality of all persons.

- Have strategies that can be integrated in the next District Development Plan, and the annual district work plan and budgets so that WPS interventions and services are funded, and fast tracked.
- Prevent, resolve and eventually eradicate conflicts and other issues that undermine peace and security especially of women and girls at community level.
- Increase representation of women in all decision making levels so that the needs and interests of women are taken on board during planning
- Put a halt to the culture of violence and impunity by perpetrators of human rights violations including protecting women and girls from oppression- such as wife battering, child & forced marriages, rape and defilement, chasing women from their homes, grabbing of land from widows and Orphans, refusing women to own property etc
- It is the responsibility of each Local Government to customize and implement Uganda's NAP on Resolution 1325 and the WPS agenda

Session 2: The Local Action Plan

This Session aims to equip participants with knowledge and skills to draft the Local Action Plan for the District, to address the conflicts and issues that perpetuate gender inequality in the district as discussed and agreed during the capacity building workshop.

The Format of the LAP

The LAP is expected to follow the following format:

Initial Pages

- i.) Foreword by District LC V Chairperson or RDC
- ii.) Acknowledgements
- iii.) Table of contents
- iv.) List of acronyms
- v.) Executive summary

And the following chapters

1. Introduction and background
2. Context analysis
3. Overall goal and Objectives of the Local Action Plan

4. Strategies and activities
5. Monitoring and Evaluation Results framework – showing indicators at each level
6. Budget

Drafting the LAP

The following information should be in the LAP.

The facilitator guides participants through each of the following explaining what each entails while making reference to the discussions of the Capacity Building workshops.

1. Introduction and Background

This should be a paragraph or two containing information about the district. It might help to include 2 maps – one map of the district showing the borders and sub-counties and towns, and another showing the district on the map of Uganda.

The section should include the demographics of the district- population size, how many female, how many male, how many below the age of 35 (if possible), languages spoken, main economic activities, and any other features worth mentioning.

2. Analysis of the Context

Might include:

- **A brief description of the conflicts in the district and the issues that undermine the peace and human security of women and girls.** The flip charts containing the issues highlighted during the capacity building workshop will be displayed at the front wall of the training to enable recall.
- **An assessment of the impact of conflicts on society, families, men, women and children-**The participants in groups of three should review the impact of conflicts as discussed in the capacity building workshop but also think critically about any other impacts that may have skipped attention. Each group shares their thoughts in bullet form on a flip chart.
- **An assessment of the context in which oppression and violations of the rights of women and girls thrive**

highlighting the different forms of gender based violence and their drivers.

The participants review the different forms of GBV discussed, the root causes and drivers of GBV and the impact on women and girls. They proceed to discuss this impact on communities and the districts.

3. Overall goal and Objectives of the Local Action Plan

- **Well-articulated statements of what the district wants to achieve regarding peace and human security over the next five years- Review of Goal and Objectives.** Participants review the Goal statement from the capacity building workshop and refine it to speak broadly to the key issues. Each group drafts a revised statement. The three statements are displayed on flip chart and the facilitator guides participants to create one smart statement that takes care of each of the groups' ideas. Once the Goal statement is written, participants go through a similar process to refine the Objectives from the capacity building workshop.

4 Strategies and activities

- **Strategic interventions that the district would implement to achieve the objectives and goal over the next five years.** Participants in plenary review the strategic interventions from the capacity building workshop. The facilitator chooses one Objective to work with. Each group then drafts three statements of strategic interventions to achieve the selected objective. The result of group work is displayed on flip chart and once again the facilitator guides the participants to work with the drafts and agree on 2

or 3 strategic interventions for the selected Objective. The facilitator must remind participants that this is only a training workshop and that on their own, they are expected to draft specific interventions for the rest of the objectives.

- **Specific activities for each strategic intervention to achieve the specific objective that the district would implement.** The facilitator selects one strategic intervention from the 3 or 4 agreed by the group for one selected objective. Participants either in plenary or in their groups discuss activities that would be implemented for the selected strategic intervention.

Session 3: The Results (M&E) Framework For The Local Action Plan And Finalizing Lap DraftinG

The main objective of this session is to equip participants with knowledge and skills to develop a Results framework for the district Local Action Plan. Participants will be trained to understand the importance of planning for results and how to use 4X4 matrix.

The participants in groups identify the key players in the implementation of LAP and define the role of each key player. This is followed by a plenary discussion on key players and their roles. The final list of key players and roles in the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda within the district is displayed on the flip chart. Note: It is important to identify all key players at the design stage so that at validation, they are invited to participate in case any had been skipped for the capacity building workshop. It is important for each key player to

be and to feel included in the design process.

The following format might be used.

	Stakeholder(s)	Roles
1	The media	
2		
3		

The Results Matrix

The facilitator will use the following table to explain the results matrix and what each variable means, so that the task force is able to develop a Results Framework that the district can use to conduct a baseline survey, track progress of LAP implementation and to evaluate its impact at the end.

Narrative Statement (SN)	Objectively Verifiable Indicators (OVI)	Means of Verification (MoV)	Assumptions
Goal			
Outcome			
Outputs			
Activities	Inputs	Budget	

Finalizing LAP Drafting

The following steps will be followed to complete drafting of the LAP.

1. After the training, the Task Force must review the roadmap set by the capacity building work workshop and work towards the launch date. The Task Force will need to hold meetings to draft the different chapters of the LAP. On average 5 meetings have shown to be adequate.
2. A fair draft will be shared with the District Technical Planning Committee (the members should have been part of the capacity building workshop) who would review and give input.
3. Once their input is incorporated, the task force shares the draft with the sponsoring organisation / agency for any feedback.
4. Integrating feedback and improving the first draft.

Session 4. Costing The Local Action Plan

It is important to Cost the Local Action Plan to guide the District Local Government planning for resourcing implementation of the Policy.

The Costing Plan will be guided by the activities the District has adopted and will be developed before the LAP is submitted to the District Council.

We have found that members selected to the Task Force are very familiar with budgeting.

Module 3: Validation And Approval Of The Local Action Plan

Participants

The draft LAP is validated in a one-day workshop of all the participants of the capacity building workshop plus any other identified key actors that had been left out. This is a one-day comprehensive review of the draft LAP, in which the Chief Administrative Officer or a representative, makes a PowerPoint presentation of the draft LAP.

The process

Participants are then divided in predetermined groups to review the draft document. Groups may review different sections of the document. Whatever the case, the review must be page by page. The group writes out their comments on flip chart. In plenary these comments from all the groups are shared and discussed. The members of the Task Force will be the Secretariat of the validation and will document all comments.

Integrating comments and finalizing the document.

The Task Force will then take time to carefully integrate all comments as agreed, finalise the LAP document and submit it to the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). The CAO should subject the document to thorough **editing**.

Presentation of the LAP to the District Council.

The LAP is a Policy of the District Local Government and therefore must be approved by the District Council as provided for under the Local Government Act.

After following due process, the Chief Administrative Officer will present the LAP to the District Council for approval. Any comments / changes recommended by the District Council will be integrated making the LAP ready for the next stage.

Submission of the LAP to the Sponsoring Agency

If the District Local Government has a sponsoring agency for the LAP development process, they will send the approved LAP to the agency, together with a signed copy of the relevant Minute of Council to confirm approval.

Module 4. Translation, Printing And Launch Of The Local Action Plan

Once the Local Action Plan has been approved by Council it will be printed in English in adequate copies to be distributed to District Councillors and all policy makers at district and sub county levels including security agencies (the Police and Prisons Officers, and in case there is the presence of the UPDF in the district, Civil Society Organisations and International agencies working in the district, the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, the District Library, extra copies for any new partners.

The Abridged Version of the LAP

A simplified version of the Local Action Plan will be developed either by the district or the sponsor and this too will be designed and printed in adequate copies to be distributed to LC III Councillors, CBOs, Social Protection Committees, Land management committees, Women Councils, Youth Councils, Religious and Cultural institutions, Women of faith leaders, and other relevant committees and groups.

Translation into the Local Language

Once the LAP is approved by the District Council, it is simplified into a shorter version, which is then translated into the local language of the district. This is to enable access to various leaders including Local Council leaders at village level and women groups to access by leaders at different levels including women's CBOs, women of faith, LC I and II etc who make a major contribution to successful implementation and monitoring. The three versions of the LAP (the original document, the summarized version and the translation) are printed in adequate numbers for wide dissemination and implementation.

Launch and dissemination of the Local Action Plan

The district organizes a one-day high publicity event to launch the Local Action Plan. They invite a Chief Guest

of their choice. Other participants include all key actors, different partners and stakeholders. The stakeholders include Local authorities (technical and political), local women leaders, youth leaders, school teachers, the Police, the UPDF, the Prisons Service, religious leaders, cultural and religious leaders, sub county leaders and the media practitioners, development partners, CSOs/CBOs, the media, the business community, among others. Each participant receives a copy of the Local Action Plan in the version and language of choice. Leaders of groups are given copies for their members.

The Chief Administrative Officer presents an overview of the Local Action Plan at the event. The event is a platform to raise awareness on issues the Local Action Plan is intended to address, and the role of different stakeholders calling everyone to action. There may be entertainment by school children and women groups if possible. In addition, a radio talk show is organized to popularize the Local Action Plan.

Module 5. Implementation And Monitoring And Evaluation Of The Local Action Plan

Implementation

After the launch of the Local Action Plan, the LAP Task Force may be expanded and transformed into the District LAP Technical Committee or Working Group to coordinate and track its implementation. All key actors are expected to implement relevant elements of the Local policy.

District Local Governments are expected and encouraged to mobilise resources locally in addition to what is provided by the Central Government. Some districts have used the Local Plan to attract new funding from new funding partners. This is important as the funds from the Central Government may never be adequate. The Local Action Plan is therefore a good marketing tool for support to increase the benefits of the National Action Plan on Resolution 1325. The District Local Government should endeavor to integrate the Local Action Plan in the next cycle of designing the District Development Plan to ensure sustainability.

LAP can be used for resource mobilization, and is also integrated into the district development plan (DPP) as a commitment of the District Local Government to its implementation. It is advisable to review the LAP jointly with the DDP to reflect new district priorities and to address new and emerging challenges.

Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation

In a number of districts implementing localization, the LAP Technical Committee meets every quarter to review progress, document lessons and good practices and address rising challenges. The Technical Committee uses the Results Framework to track progress on each indicator. They are expected to make their findings part of the regular briefing to the District Council.

During the third year of implementation, it is important to have a **mid-term review meeting of the Local Action Plan**. Ideally the District Local Government would hire an

independent consultant to do this. The review should cover each indicator at every level of results and document and recognise key actors doing an outstanding job, any lessons learnt and challenges hindering effective implementation. The findings of the review should be presented in a midterm review meeting of key stakeholders.

The Midterm Review report should be submitted to the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development

Towards the end of the final year of the Local Action Plan, an external Evaluation should be conducted, to assess the **impact of the Local Action Plan** and make recommendations for the design of the next Local Action Plan.

The Evaluation Report should be submitted to the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development.

Module 6. Other Elements Of Localization

So far, the localisation process described is the engagement of governance structures to institutionalise the implementation of Resolution 1325.

However, for the process to be very inclusive so that the voice of more women and the wider public is heard, the process so far described must be accompanied by the following activities.

1) Radio Talk Shows

A radio talk show should be held after each of the modules to disseminate information to women, men and communities about each concluded process, the outcome and what the communities should expect next. It also allows phone ins so that callers are able to contribute to the discussions getting the women, peace and security agenda at the local level to the public debate.

Last day of the Capacity Building workshop. The first radio talk show is thus held at the end of the last day of the capacity building workshop (Module). The purpose of this talks show is to announce to the public that the District Local Government has started the process to develop A Local Action Plan to address conflicts and issues that undermine the peace and security of women and girls, so that more women can participate in decision making, conflict prevention, conflict resolution and in the security sector. Participants to the first radio talk show will include any one of top three district leaders (Chairperson LCV, RDC or CAO), the District Community Development Officer, and a local CSO. During the talk show the team talks about the workshop, the issues they have identified and the strategies they have recommended. They also introduce the LAP Task Force and provide the roadmap for the LAP. This makes it possible for communities to demand accountability in case of situations that reflect no change in practice.

Listeners, women and men, always call in to contribute to the issues and strategies, often giving specific examples on

the ground. They deepen the discussion.

Eve of LAP Validation: The second radio talk show takes place on the eve of LAP Validation. The purpose of this talk show is to inform listeners that the LAP is to be validated, and who is participating in the validation. The team reminds the listeners about the issues the LAP is intended to address and how and invites listeners to contribute to the discussion. CoACT has found that at this stage, new ideas are suggested by listeners after they have shared specific cases of the impact of the conflicts and gender inequality. It is important that any news issues and suggestions are recorded for sharing with validation workshop. It helps make the discussion richer.

After District Council Approves the LAP.

The third radio talk show takes place after the LAP has been approved by the District Council and was therefore now District Policy framework. They team discusses the issues the district has committed to address and how and emphasizes the need for everyone to participate in the implementation of the LAP. The DCDO should explain the roles of different actors in LAP implementation so that local women and community members are sensitized about what they are expected to do.

2) Community Dialogues (Dialogues)

Another important activity which is part of Localisation is community barazas /dialogues. If funds allowed, it would be ideal to hold a community dialogue in each of the sub-counties within the district. However, many times this is not possible. Implementers should plan for at least two community dialogues per year in each district held in different sub-counties. Community members would need to be informed in good time and invited to participate even those from neighbouring sub counties. During the baraza, the District Community Development Officer should present the women, peace and security situation of the district including what the district is doing to address conflicts and violence, GBV and to increase women's participation. Community members, men and women, will then raise their issues and concerns. Usually the RDC chairs the baraza on behalf of the Office of the

Prime Minister. Issues that arise from each baraza are taken seriously, recorded by the DCDO, and tracked for implementation by the RDC. If there conflicting parties, the RDC will initiate a mediation process either through his / her office or by asking civil society to take the lead. So the baraza is a very useful mechanism for resolving conflicts at family or community levels

The must-have participants include the RDC or their representative, a representative of the Chairperson of the District, the CAO's office, district councillors, CSOs and international NGOs, LC III chairpersons and sub county chiefs, and women and men, boys and girls. A baraza is a public forum for articulating issues that undermine peace and security and for leaders to give accountability.

3) Training of women led CBOs and local women leaders

S implementation of the LAP, it is important for CSOs to train local women led CBOs and women teachers, women of faith leaders, women from cultural institutions, and other women leaders in leadership skills, Advocacy, Peacebuilding, conflict prevention, peaceful conflict resolution including mediation. One of the objectives of a LAP is to increase women's participation in decision making and peace processes. For local women to achieve this, they need enhanced capacity to do peacebuilding work with more confidence, to stand for elected office, to advocate for social justice, and to support women that may not be aware of the referral pathways for reporting and getting support when violated.

Resolution 1325 is intended for women to take up public leadership to make decision making gender sensitive, to increase access to social justice, to improve service delivery, and to increase the numbers of women at the decision making table. Civil society organisations must therefore make training of local women-led CBOs to increase their capacity to advocacy and to run their small organisations. Training of women in mediation is important because women have shown that when they participate in mediation processes, the peace agreement has a 65% chance of lasting at least 15 years.

4) Establishment and Training of Peace Committees

The Conflict Early Warning & Early Response Unit (CEWERU) in the Ministry of Internal Affairs is mandated to establish Peace Committees from District level through sub county and parish to village level. Peace Committees drive down decision making and action on peace and security to the most local level and yet remain connected to national and regional efforts. They mediate conflicts peacefully, locally, the better.

As part of localization therefore, it is important to work with CEWERU to establish Peace Committees that a gender responsive. Before CEWERU was established, CSOs in Uganda led the formation of Peace Committees. However, CEWERU is the institutional mechanism for establishing them now. CEWERU may not be able to facilitate training of Peace Committees at sub county level and lower. Therefore, CSOs should partner with the CEWERU for this purpose.

Peace Committees are composed of women and men who live in the community and often are equally affected by the conflicts just like everyone else. They therefore have a stake in ensuring peaceful resolution of conflicts, including mitigating election related violence.

Note: As part of implementation of Resolution of 1325 it is essential that membership of Peace Committees is at least 50% women.

5) Training and Engaging Youth as Peacebuilders

The youth population presents an exceptional potential with energy, talent and creativity. The youth Policy targets all persons aged between 18-30- 22.5% of the population -need to channel the youth in constructive ways. Your needs, your desires, and ambitions if channeled in positive ways can lead to enormous progress.

Youth share of unemployment in Uganda is estimated at 22.5%. The youth play a big role in nation-building and can help move a community out of conflict into peace.

Unfortunately, the youth tend to underplay themselves in peacebuilding, in preventing and resolving conflicts. Often we see them easily attracted to the street to participate in violent protests often incited by opportunistic leaders. CSOs can therefore transform young women and young men as active participants in the constructive process of building social cohesion, economic prosperity and political stability in an inclusive and democratic way. Young people can bring different groups together, whether tribes, ethnicities or races, because such barriers do not exist where the youth are concerned.

The youth of Nigeria after the Biafra war, mobilised from across ethnicities and started supplying food and other essential commodities across ethnic and religious lines and thus brought warring groups together through this effort. Through their organising, implementing community oriented initiatives, the youth can build bridges of understanding across ethnic groups, across political affiliations and religious divide and contribute to peace in their communities and nationally.

As part of localization the youth in the specific district should be targeted and brought on board, trained in leadership skills, conflict early warning and early response, mediation and other forms of non-violent means of resolving conflicts. They can turn from violent groups to peacebuilders, to mediators, to peace activists promoting social cohesion and peaceful co-existence.

References

1. Akina Mama wa Africa, CATRE Uganda and Isis WICCE. Towards an Anti-Sexual and Gender Based Violent Norm in the Great Lakes Region of Africa
2. Amuria District Local Government 2016. Local Action on Gender Based Violence and Other Conflicts
3. Betty Bigombe in a BBC interviewed on <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-49269136>
4. Center for Women in Governance 2013. Women Count. Civil Society Monitoring Report on the implementation of the UGANDA'S National Action Plan on Resolution 1325
5. Coalition for Action on 1325 (2016): Women, Peace and Security: What Uganda has Achieved. A Report of the Evaluation of Uganda's NAPs I &II
6. Global Network of Women Peacebuilders. Women Count: Security Council Resolution 1325: Civil Society Monitoring Report
7. Global Network of Women Peacebuilders 2012. Implementing Locally, Inspiring Globally
8. Isis-WICCE 2016. Inside the Women's Situation Room
9. Julian Borger (8 March 2012). [“Q&A: Joseph Kony and the Lord's Resistance Army”. The Guardian. Archived](#) from the original on 10 February 2018. Retrieved 27 December 2017
10. Kitgum District Local Government 2016: Local Action to Prevent Conflicts and address Gender Inequality and Conflicts
11. O'Kadameri, Billie (2002). [“Accord Magazine: Protracted Conflict, Elusive Peace: Initiatives To End The Violence In Northern Uganda”](#). C-r.org/Accord/Uganda. Retrieved 2 March 2015.
12. O'Kadameri, Billie. [“LRA / Government negotiations 1993–94” Archived](#) 21 August 2008 at the [Wayback Machine](#) in Okello Lucima, ed., [Accord magazine: Protracted conflict, elusive peace: Initiatives to end the violence in northern Uganda Archived](#) 6 October 2008 at the [Wayback Machine](#), 2002
13. Swedish Defense Research Agency “Northern Uganda: Understanding and solving the conflict” (PDF). ICG Africa Report N°77. Nairobi/Brussels: International Crisis Group. 14
14. UN Women 2015: Preventing Conflict, Transforming Justice, Securing the Peace: A Global Study of the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325

Bugolobi Housing Estate, Block 6C5, Luthuli Rise Bugolibi
P.O. Box 26220, Kampala Uganda

www.coact1325.org