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NATIONAL ACTION PLANS ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY: EIGHT COUNTRIES IN FOCUS

BARBARA K. TROJANOWSKA
KATRINA LEE-KOO
LUKE JOHNSON

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NATIONAL ACTION PLANS ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY: EIGHT COUNTRIES IN FOCUS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) through national level policy frameworks has evolved from a general statement of commitments to a sophisticated policy process. As the process has developed, so too has the capacity of states to ensure their activities create positive and enduring impact upon the lives of women and girls living in conflict-affected regions.

The purpose of this report is to identify the lessons learned and emerging best practices of UN Member States committed to the implementation of this agenda through National Action Plans (NAPs). Through an analysis of seventeen NAPs produced by eight countries, this report identifies five best practice guidelines for the development of high-impact NAPs:

1 SPECIFICITY

High-impact NAPs are those that can confidently articulate clearly defined goals and strategies. NAPs are usually implemented by a wide range of actors, therefore specificity in purpose indicates a commonly understood agenda and path. It also reflects a concentration of effort and impact. While NAPs typically work across the WPS agenda, there is also an emerging practice for a country – based on its own context – to specify a focus in its WPS implementation efforts. This might be a geographic region or set of countries (such as the Horn of Africa), contemporary peace and security challenges (such as peacebuilding) or a WPS pillar (such as facilitating women's participation).

2 ENCOMPASSING EMERGING ISSUES

Specificity should not come at the cost of adaptability to emerging issues. Climate change, violent extremism, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are among the emerging issues and frameworks that must be factored into NAP implementation. NAPs should remain 'living documents' with the flexibility to align with new issues. For example, a pre-existing commitment to facilitate women's participation leads to a consideration of women's roles in the implementation of the SDGs.

3 COHERENCE

NAPs need to be coherent in a number of ways. First, NAPs do not sit in isolation of other policies or politics but instead cut across issues and actors at the global, regional and national level. High-impact NAPs align with existing frameworks. They identify areas where activities and reporting requirements overlap, and highlight opportunities to implement lessons learned across cognate agendas. Second, high-impact NAPs are internally coherent. From the design to the reporting phases, these NAPs are animated by a coherent and clearly stated goal. Each element of the NAP (activities, indicators, evaluation framework and reporting obligations) must explicitly relate to each other and the overarching goal.

4 MEASURING IMPACT

The primary failure of most NAPs is that their impact upon the lives of women and girls remains unknown. This denies opportunity for learning and improvement. The resourcing of comprehensive approaches to understanding impact is vital for NAPs to be useful documents that can advance the WPS agenda. Recent NAPs attempt to address this by establishing meaningful quantitative and qualitative indicators.

5 INVOLVEMENT OF CIVIL SOCIETY

The inclusion of civil society enhances each of the abovementioned elements of a high-impact NAP. Civil society supports NAP development as technical and subject matter experts, implementation partners, WPS advocates and in data collection and evaluation. Evidence shows that a participatory approach to NAP design that is inclusive of civil society assists countries in creating a more specific, coherent and impactful NAP.

The following report provides a comparative analysis of seventeen NAPs to identify best practice and emerging approaches to engaging increasingly complex global realities. It begins with an analysis of the global issues that challenge WPS implementation, followed by a technically focused comparative analysis of the details of NAPs. The annexes provide the reader with ready-access to the specifics of each NAP, coded by issue, country, and feature.

ACRONYMS

ATT	Arms Trade Treaty
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CVE/PVE	Countering/Preventing Violent Extremism
GBV	Gender-based Violence
Global Study	A Global Study on the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325
GR	CEDAW General Recommendation
HRC	Human Rights Council
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
NAP	National Action Plan
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
SEA	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-based Violence
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
WPS	Women, Peace and Security

WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY NATIONAL ACTION PLANS: A LESSONS REVIEW

Australia has demonstrated global leadership on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 (2000). However, with the current iteration of the first *Australian National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, 2012-2018* coming to an end, it is timely to identify and assess global practices with regards to the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda by other UN Member States.

This research will analyse the development of the Women, Peace and Security agenda since the release of Australia's first National Action Plan and further examine the implementation of National Action Plans on Women, Peace and Security in eight countries: Canada, Ireland, Japan, Nepal, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States.

CONSOLIDATED FINDINGS: FRAMEWORKS, CHALLENGES, CONTENT

1. FRAMEWORKS

NEW SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

The recent Security Council resolutions request that UN Member States renew commitments to the WPS agenda and consider explicitly:

- Ensuring accountability for sexual violence and sexual exploitation and abuse in conflict-affected areas, including where it is perpetrated by UN peacekeepers
- The renewed focus upon the role of women's participation especially with regards to the role of women's civil society in conflict prevention and peacebuilding
- The alignment of the CVE agenda with WPS

THE 2015 GLOBAL STUDY

The 2015 *Global Study* finds that countries should:

- Better articulate how they will resource WPS implementation at the national level
- Be more reflective of the conceptual framework that drives WPS implementation (and advocate for a rights-based approach)
- Respond to the evidence-base that links women's participation with conflict prevention and sustainable peacebuilding

CEDAW GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The CEDAW General Recommendations no. 30 and 35 have significant overlap with the WPS agenda and have the capacity to strengthen WPS implementation. CEDAW recommends to states that:

- All national action plans are compliant with CEDAW
- Areas of synergy, particularly with GR30, are explicitly identified for the purposes of streamlined and strengthened implementation strategies, monitoring and reporting

THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

The Human Rights Council provides a forum to advocate for gender equality and the overlapping goals of the Security Council and the WPS agenda. It is therefore an opportunity for countries to:

- Ensure national action plans reflect opportunities provided by the Human Rights Council to work collaboratively across all regions for gender equality
- Ensure areas of mutual reinforcement between WPS and the Council are identified to maximise resources, reporting and advocacy

PROLIFERATION OF CONVENTIONAL AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The Arms Trade Treaty, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and UNSCR2117 on Small Arms and Light Weapons acknowledge the link between the proliferation of weapons and gendered violence. This may encourage NAP designers to:

- Identify these links in the NAP's narrative section
- Support the participation of women in policy processes designed to engage the issue of weapons' proliferation and arms' exports in and to zones affected by armed conflict

2. CHALLENGES

COUNTERING/PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Research and recent NAPs suggest CVE can be integrated into NAPs in the following ways:

- Include an evidence-based discussion on the links between CVE and WPS in the NAP's narrative section which highlights women's varied roles and experiences in relation to violent extremism
- Clearly define the distinctions the NAP may be making between CVE, PVE and counter-terrorism strategies particularly regarding short- and long-term approaches
- Articulate activities that will be undertaken to support women's participation in policy design and implementation of CVE/PVE strategies
- Articulate activities that will be undertaken to support women's roles in preventing violent extremism in their own communities

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Research and emerging cases recommend that NAPs acknowledge the interplay between disasters and humanitarian crises (including climate change) in the following ways:

- Recognise the gendered impacts of humanitarian and environmental disasters on women in conflict-affected and conflict-vulnerable regions
- Identify the overlap between strategies for disaster risk reduction and response (including climate change mitigation and adaptation), and those on conflict prevention/peacebuilding. In particular, recognise the positive and mutually reinforcing impact of women's participation in all areas of humanitarian response

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

There are strong connections between gender equality, sustainable development and the prevention of conflict. Despite the global failure to explicitly link these in the SDG framework, national action plans can promote the links by:

- Explicitly noting in the NAP's narrative the relationship between gender equality, sustainable development and conflict prevention and peacebuilding
- Identifying and consolidating areas where WPS and SDGs overlap in order for countries to maximise resourcing and create a consistent and coherent approach between the two agendas. This may occur in the development and implementation of activities, as well as monitoring, evaluation and reporting

DISPLACEMENT

Outward-facing NAPs have largely failed to meaningfully engage with the issue of the forcible displacement of conflict-affected women. However, emerging NAPs show a willingness to:

- Consider the scope of WPS implementation to include conflict-affected women as well as conflict-affected zones, thereby including displaced women regardless of their location
- Facilitate the inclusion of domestic agencies that address asylum claims and refugee resettlement into NAPs to ensure WPS principles are mainstreamed into asylum procedures

CONTINUUM OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

GR 35 and global research demonstrates the links between all forms of gender-based violence. Several NAPs are beginning to similarly acknowledge this continuum of violence by:

- Connecting conflict-related gender-based violence to other forms of GBV such as family and criminal violence both domestically and internationally
- Explicitly linking conflict-related gender violence with national level policy frameworks that deal with violence against women

COMBATTING SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE

A number of emerging NAPs are resisting the separation of sexual exploitation and abuse from both the WPS agenda and the continuum of gender-based violence. This is evidenced in emerging NAPs which link the two issues and advocate stronger measures to address SEA. These NAPs:

- Position SEA alongside conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence

- Ensure domestic procedures to prevent SEA (usually through peacekeeping/pre-deployment training)
- Commit to investigate claims of SEA by nationals through reporting and justice mechanisms
- Advocate regionally and globally for SEA awareness and improved response measures

INTERSECTIONALITY

Effectively engaging the breadth of women's diversity in NAPs is a complex task. Most NAPs do little more than acknowledge women's diversity. To address this countries may:

- Present an analysis of intersectional gendered identity issues in the narrative of NAPs
- Identify the most vulnerable or marginalised groups in each pillar (e.g. most vulnerable to violence or most likely to be excluded from participation)
- Commit to actions that will prioritise particular groups of women in specific contexts

MEN AND BOYS

While NAPs frequently mention the important role men and boys need to play in ensuring successful WPS implementation, few translate this into activities. Where this is the case, NAPs may:

- Consider activities (e.g. training or community engagement) that confront and challenge violent masculinities
- Design activities that identify and support male role models of gender equality

3. CONTENT

GOALS

Second and third generation NAPs develop clearer and more focused overarching goals. Furthermore, high-impact NAPs articulate and map the line connecting the overarching goal to specific outcomes and activities. Three NAPs in this sample have developed a theory of change approach to achieve this. In short, these NAPs:

- Establish an overall goal that guides the NAP's design and implementation
- Demonstrate the purposeful relationship between the NAP's goal and its activities

THEMATIC AREAS

Second and third generation NAPs articulate a clearly defined set of thematic areas which may include the WPS pillars along with technical considerations. This includes efforts to:

- Define thematic areas consistently (e.g. prevention of conflict and/or prevention of violence against women)
- Ensure thematic areas are consistently represented in the overall goal, narrative and activities
- Consider including technical issues (e.g. monitoring and evaluation) as a cross-cutting priority area

GEOGRAPHIC PRIORITY AREAS

Current outward-facing NAPs typically work across aid and development, defence and security, and diplomacy and advocacy sectors, however there has been an emerging practice for NAPs to:

- Identify specific geographic areas of focus based upon transparent criteria
- Consolidate WPS activities and resources in those areas of focus
- Identify national, regional and global platforms as sites of ongoing advocacy for WPS development

OVERLAPPING AGENDAS

NAPs in the research sample identify global, regional and national level frameworks that are considered relevant to that country's WPS implementation. High-impact NAPs may demonstrate a trend to:

- Reference CEDAW GR 30, the SDGs and the Global Study as relevant global frameworks
- Support the development of regional WPS frameworks
- Engage with defence and foreign policy white papers and national violence against women strategies as relevant national frameworks
- Move beyond stating the relevance of these frameworks to identifying opportunities for meaningful engagement in implementation and reporting
- Ensure that NAPs and other global, regional and national obligations are consistent and work together

IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

The *Global Study* describes a high-impact NAP as one that is led by influential agencies with strong leadership and effective co-ordination capacity. In assigning responsibilities these NAPs:

- Ensure the lead agency has the infrastructure, culture and experience to lead implementation
- Where an activity has multiple implementing agencies, consider appointing an agency to co-ordinate and lead on the activity
- Consider assigning activities to divisions within especially large agencies
- Consider the role of agencies responsible for addressing domestic policy issues related to WPS

GOVERNANCE

Current NAPs identify at least two levels of governance: (1) a high-level committee/ inter-departmental working group that is convened by the lead agencies (and usually meets twice a year); (2) a lower level working group that engages the day-to-day workings of NAP implementation and meets more regularly. Best practice principles include:

- Ensuring that the governance framework is multi-levelled, inclusive and accountable with clearly articulated roles and responsibilities
- Including civil society within the formal governance structure

ACTIVITIES

Emerging best practice NAPs are designing activities that are:

- Highly specific in focus
- Owned by implementation agencies with clearly defined responsibilities
- Aligned with overall goals and intended outcomes

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING

The monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) frameworks of NAPs are gradually becoming stronger and more coherent, with greater specificity. There is an increased understanding that these frameworks need to better measure the impact of NAP activities against the stated goals of the plan. Frameworks that are attempting to do this have the following features:

- The establishment of a combination of qualitative and quantitative indictors that are specific and measurable
- The inclusion of baseline data
- The inclusion of timeframes and targets
- The appointment of a consultant to design or advise on the MEL framework
- The collection of in-country impact data for outward-facing NAPs

REPORTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

A common weakness of NAPs under review is that there is no formal accountability mechanism for non-compliance with implementation obligations. The quality of NAP reporting often mirrors the strength of the MEL framework. Examples of high-impact reporting include:

- A combination of internal and external/independent reviews
- Adequate resources dedicated to the reporting process
- A feasible review structure focused upon the quality – rather than the frequency – of reviews
- A timeline and process in which government and the community can reflect upon learnings generated by the review and its recommendations

CIVIL SOCIETY INVOLVEMENT

NAPs produced through strong relationships with government and civil society demonstrate the following features:

- Civil society are resourced to undertake consultations prior to the adoption of the NAP
- Civil society have a clearly defined role in the drafting and feedback processes of NAP design
- The formal roles of civil society are clearly outlined in the NAP
- Civil society play a formal role in governance, accountability and MEL processes

1

INTRODUCTION: THE EVOLUTION OF NATIONAL ACTION PLANS

1. INTRODUCTION: THE EVOLUTION OF NATIONAL ACTION PLANS

In 2002 the UN Security Council called upon Member States to design national level strategies to implement UNSCR 1325.[1] On the fifteenth anniversary of UNSCR 1325, the *Global Study* reiterated this call, stating that:

> Member States have the primary responsibility to ensure that global commitments and obligations on women, peace and security are integrated into domestic policies, laws, planning and budget processes.[2]

In 2012, Australia was the thirty-sixth country to adopt its first National Action Plan (NAP) on Women, Peace and Security (WPS). Since then, over thirty more Member States have adopted their NAPs (see below), while several countries have developed their second and third generation plans.

Figure 1: The adoption of NAPs worldwide[3]

In addition to the increase in the number of national action plans, there is also a growing maturity in their approach to WPS implementation. NAPs now commonly include an action matrix with assigned roles and responsibilities, and often develop monitoring and evaluation frameworks. Consulting civil society throughout NAP development and implementation has also become a common practice.

The Global Study provides the following recommendations for impactful NAPs:

- strong leadership and effective coordination
- inclusive design processes
- costing and allocated budgets for implementation
- monitoring and evaluation frameworks, and
- flexibility to adapt to emerging situations

Box 1: Recommendations from the Global Study[4]

2

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

2. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

2.1 PURPOSE AND GOALS

The purpose of this report is to provide a review and analysis of global lessons learned to support the Australian Government's development of its second National Action Plan. This comparative analysis will:

- Provide a comprehensive **update on the global frameworks** and **global security challenges** that intersect with the WPS agenda and analyse their impact upon NAP design
- Examine the **technical features** of NAP design. Each substantive section provides an overview of the design feature, a comparative analysis of approaches and identification of best practice and lessons learned

The content of the NAPs themselves is coded in Annexes 1, 2 and 3, as below. This provides the reader with easy access to the details of each NAP with reference to emerging issues, the approach of each country/NAP, and a cross-NAP analysis of each country's approach to the main features of NAPs.

ANNEX 1:
Emerging Issues

1. Violent extremism
2. SDGs
3. Disaster response and climate change
4. Displacement
5. Continuum of violence
6. SEA and human trafficking
7. Diversity
8. Men and boys

ANNEX 2:
NAPs by Country

1. Canada
2. Ireland
3. Japan
4. Nepal
5. The Netherlands
6. Sweden
7. The United Kingdom
8. The United States

ANNEX 3:
NAPs by Feature

1. Content (goal, thematic areas, overlapping agendas, priority areas)
2. Implementation (lead and implementing agencies, governance, activities)
3. Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (indicators, outcomes, timelines & targets, reporting and review)
4. Civil Society involvement (consultation, drafting, implementation, M&E)

Figure 2: NAP coding in Annexes

2.2 SCOPE AND RESOURCES

This analysis is based upon an eight-country sample with a total of seventeen NAPs as represented below. These countries were selected due to their similarities in foreign, defence and development goals with Australia. Furthermore, they are countries that have been highlighted globally as having best practice with regards to WPS engagement.

United Kingdom	UNSCR 1325 – United Kingdom High level National Action Plan (2006)	UK Government National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325: Women, Peace and Security (2010, revised 2011)	United Kingdom National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security
Sweden	The Swedish Government's Action Plan to Implement Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000)	The Swediah Government's Actio Plan to Implement Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000)	Sweden's National Action Plan for the Implementation of the UN Security Council Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security (2016)
The Netherlands	Dutch National Action Plan on Resolution 1325: Taking a Stand for Women, Peace and Secutiry (2007)	Women: Powerful Agents for Peace and Security. Dutch National Action Plan (2012)	The Netherlands National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (2016)
Canada	Canada's Action Plan for the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security (2010)	Gender Equality: A Foundation for Peace Canada's National Action Plan 2017-2022	
Ireland	Ireland's National Action Plan for Implementation of UNSCR 1325 (2011)	Ireland's Second National Action Plan on Women,Peace and Security (2015)	
Nepal	Nepal's National Action Plan on Implementation of the United Nations Security Council's Resolutions 1325 and 1820 (2010)		
United States	United States National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (2011)	The United States National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (2016)	
Japan	Japan's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (2015)		

Figure 3: NAPs under review

While the NAPs provide the primary source of data for this study, we draw upon further documents and existing analysis. This includes relevant reporting or shadow reporting documents on NAP implementation, previous academic and NGO work that has engaged in 'NAP-mapping' and references to relevant materials from the global arena (such as documents from the UN Security Council, UN Women, or the Office of the Secretary-General).

3

UPDATE ON GLOBAL FRAMEWORKS (2012-PRESENT)

3. UPDATE ON GLOBAL FRAMEWORKS (2012-PRESENT)

This section provides an update on the main global developments in the WPS agenda since the release of Australia's first NAP in 2012. The section will identify the specific issue, discuss its relevance to the WPS agenda, and examine emerging efforts to integrate it into national action plans.

3.1 THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

Since 2012, the UN Security Council has adopted three resolutions under the WPS thematic agenda, all of which Australia co-sponsored. Furthermore, Australia played a leading role in drafting and advocating for UNSCR 2106 and 2122 while it held a temporary seat on the Security Council (2013–2014):

UNSCR 2106 (June 2013) focuses on **combating impunity for sexual violence** committed in armed conflict. Rather than introducing new obligations, it calls upon Member States and others to operationalise current commitments, including ensuring full accountability for Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) committed by nationals serving as UN personnel. It also includes language around ensuring women's participation in efforts to address and prevent sexual violence.

UNSCR 2122 (October 2013) calls for an integrated UN approach to WPS implementation. It centralises the importance of **women's participation** in decision-making processes related to conflict prevention, conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction. It also underscores **the crucial role of civil society organisations and women's groups**.

UNSCR 2242 (October 2015) brings attention to increasing radicalisation and calls for **a gender-sensitive approach to the prevention of violent extremism**. It further highlights the importance of **collaboration with civil society**.

Moreover, the Security Council passed under its thematic agenda on UN Peacekeeping a resolution addressing sexual exploitation and abuse:

UNSCR 2272 (March 2016) is focused on **combating sexual exploitation and abuse by UN peacekeepers**. It endorses the decisions of the Secretary-General to repatriate those units where credible evidence of SEA exists and renews calls for investigation and justice process in response to claims of SEA. This resolution was not adopted under the WPS thematic agenda, however has obvious overlaps with WPS and – in particular – aligns with UNSCR 2106.

EMERGING ISSUES: NEW SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

The recent Security Council resolutions request that UN Member States renew commitments to the WPS agenda and consider explicitly:

- Ensuring accountability for sexual violence and sexual exploitation and abuse in conflict-affected areas, including where it is perpetrated by UN peacekeepers
- The renewed focus upon the role of women's participation especially with regards to the role of women's civil society in conflict prevention and peacebuilding
- The alignment of the CVE agenda with WPS

3.2 THE GLOBAL STUDY

In 2015, the Security Council undertook three major peace and security reviews into**:** Women, Peace and Security; Peacekeeping Operations; and Peacebuilding Architecture.[5] While all are relevant to the WPS agenda, the WPS review is most significant. On 13-14 October 2015, the Security Council hosted the High-level Review of Women, Peace and Security which received statements from 113 Member States, UN and regional organisations' representatives. As part of this review, the Secretary-General commissioned the report entitled *Preventing Conflict, Transforming Justice, Securing the Peace: A Global Study on the Implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325* [hereafter the *Global Study*].[6] The *Global Study* was drafted by the High Level Advisory Group (of 16 experts), under the lead of Radhika Coomaraswamy, the former Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict.

Among its key findings, the *Global Study* identified the critical importance of resourcing the implementation of the WPS agenda. It explicitly states that:

> [T]he failure to allocate sufficient resources and funds has been perhaps the most serious and persistent obstacle to the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda over the past 15 years.[7]

It further argued that a rights-based approach should be adopted for the implementation of the WPS agenda. This is an approach in which people are supported to understand and pursue their human rights, and actors and institutions are held accountable for ensuring the implementation of human rights. This approach therefore focuses upon the evidential links that have been made between women's participation and the prevention and resolution of conflict.[8] The *Global Study* argues:

> [I]t must not be forgotten that the initial Security Council Resolution [1325] was fully conceived as being part of the international tradition of human rights and that any interpretation of its provisions and any strategies for implementation must be done with that origin in mind.[9]

This recommendation was made in response to the perceived securitisation of UNSCR 1325. In this case, securitisation is an approach where women's identities, experiences, skills and knowledge are deployed as an instrument or approach in strategies to achieve (often militarised) security outcomes. This approach focuses more upon 'winning wars' than 'preventing conflict' and marginalises women's views of peace and security in preference to militarised accounts. The *Global Study* discourages securitised approaches to the implementation of the WPS agenda.

EMERGING ISSUES: THE 2015 GLOBAL STUDY

The 2015 *Global Study* finds that countries should:

- Better articulate how they will resource WPS implementation at the national level
- Be more reflective of the conceptual framework that drives WPS implementation (and advocate for a rights-based approach)
- Respond to the evidence-base that links women's participation with conflict prevention and sustainable peacebuilding

3.3 CEDAW COMMITTEE

In line with the rights-based approach, the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) provides relevant General Recommendations (GRs) for the application of UNSCR 1325.

GR30 (adopted in October 2013) calls for WPS implementation to be premised on the model of substantive equality (see box below). GR30 provides guidance to states on the implementation of CEDAW in situations before, during and after conflict. Thus, it has significant overlaps with the content of WPS resolutions (including women's participation, conflict prevention, gender-based violence, etc.), as well as reporting requirements.[10]

CEDAW GR30, D: Convention and the Security Council agenda on women, peace and security

28. The Committee recommends that States parties:

(a) Ensure that national action plans and strategies to implement Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions are compliant with the Convention, and that adequate budgets are allocated for their implementation;

(b) Ensure that the implementation of Security Council commitments reflects a model of substantive equality and takes into account the impact of conflict and post-conflict contexts on all rights enshrined in the Convention, in addition to those violations concerning conflict-related gender-based violence, including sexual violence;

(c) Cooperate with all United Nations networks, departments, agencies, funds and programmes in relation to the full spectrum of conflict processes, including conflict prevention, conflict, conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction to give effect to the provisions of the Convention;

(d) Enhance collaboration with civil society and non-governmental organisations working on the implementation of the Security Council agenda on women, peace and security.

Box 2: CEDAW GR30 on NAPs[11]

GR35 (adopted in July 2017) recognises the continuum of gender-based violence (GBV) across peace and conflict. Updating GR19 (1992), it frames GBV as a manifestation of gender-based discrimination and a form of gendered oppression. It expands GBV to include violations of sexual and reproductive health rights, stresses the need to change cultural norms around discrimination and violence, and emphasises the importance of women's participation in all forms of decision-making.[12]

EMERGING ISSUES: CEDAW GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The CEDAW General Recommendations no. 30 and 35 have significant overlap with the WPS agenda and have the capacity to strengthen WPS implementation. CEDAW recommends to states that:

- All national action plans are compliant with CEDAW
- Areas of synergy, particularly with GR30, are explicitly identified for the purposes of streamlined and strengthened implementation strategies, monitoring and reporting

3.4 THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

In October 2017, Australia was elected to the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) for the term 2018-2020. Gender equality is the first of five pillars that the successful campaign was built on with Australia pledging to: "Work with other governments and civil society to convert the objectives of the women, peace and security agenda into effective action." Its pledge to: "Work collaboratively across all regions and forums to eliminate violence against women, support women's voices and agency and increase and enhance economic opportunities for women"[13] brings the ambitions for its term on the Council in line with its commitments to the WPS agenda. This provides opportunities for alignment between the WPS and human rights commitments.

EMERGING ISSUES: THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

The Human Rights Council provides a forum to advocate for gender equality and the overlapping goals of the Security Council and the WPS agenda. It is therefore an opportunity for countries to:

- Ensure national action plans reflect opportunities provided by the Human Rights Council to work collaboratively across all regions for gender equality
- Ensure areas of mutual reinforcement between WPS and the Council are identified to maximise resources, reporting and advocacy

3.5 ARMS TRADE TREATY AND TREATY ON PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

In April 2013, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution on the Arms Trade Treaty.[14] Importantly, the Arms Trade Treaty engages with the WPS agenda. Article 7 specifically provides that in making their assessment of arms exports, state parties "shall take into account the risk of the conventional arms […] being used to commit or facilitate serious acts of gender-based violence or serious acts of violence against women and children."[15]

A growing recognition of the links between arms exports and gender-based violence can be also be noted in the work of the Security Council. The Council has further highlighted the important role that women can play in policy development. UNSCR 2117 (2013) on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) urged Member States and UN actors to "facilitate women's full and meaningful participation in all policymaking, planning and implementation processes to combat and eradicate the illicit transfer, destabilizing accumulation and misuse of small arms and light weapons."[16]

In July 2017 the Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted by a vote of 122 UN Member and Observer States. The Treaty takes note that "the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapon […] have a disproportionate impact on women and girls."[17] It also recognises women's roles in nuclear disarmament.

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons
[T]he equal, full and effective participation of both women and men is an essential factor for the promotion and attainment of sustainable peace and security, and committed to supporting and strengthening the effective participation of women in nuclear disarmament.

Box 3: Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons extract[18]

EMERGING ISSUE: PROLIFERATION OF CONVENTIONAL AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS
The Arms Trade Treaty, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and UNSCR2117 on Small Arms and Light Weapons acknowledge the link between the proliferation of weapons and gendered violence. This may encourage NAP designers to:

- Identify these links in the NAP's narrative section
- Support the participation of women in policy processes designed to engage the issue of weapons' proliferation and arms' exports in and to zones affected by armed conflict

4

GLOBAL SECURITY CHALLENGES AND EMERGING ISSUES

4. GLOBAL SECURITY CHALLENGES AND EMERGING ISSUES

NAPs must have "flexibility to adapt to emerging situations."[20] The sample countries have included eight prominent emerging issues that intersect with the WPS agenda. Although many are not new problems in global policymaking, they are singled out because they have moved into the UN Security Council's ambit or there has been an explicit alignment with WPS. The table below presents an overview of which issues are substantially addressed by the sample countries. However, a full account of their inclusion in NAPs can be found in Annex 1.

Country / Emerging issue	UK1	UK2	UK3	SE1	SE2	SE3	NL1	NL2	NL3	CA1	CA2	IE1	IE2	NP	US1	US2	JP
Violent extremism			✓			✓			✓		✓					✓	
SDGs						✓			✓		✓						
Disaster response and climate change			✓								✓				✓	✓	✓
Displacement	✓							✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	
Continuum of violence		✓	✓				✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
SEA and human trafficking			✓	✓						✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Diversity	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Men and boys		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	

Code: UK= United Kingdom; SE= Sweden; NL= Netherlands; CA=Canada; IE= Ireland; NP= Nepal; US= United States; JP= Japan

Table 1: Emerging issues referenced in NAPs

4.1 PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM / COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

The increase in radicalisation and violent extremism has been a growing concern for the international community. The aforementioned UNSCR 2242 (2015) recognises the roles women play in preventing radicalisation and violent extremism and urges Member States to apply a gender-aware approach to prevention efforts. It specifically calls for ensuring "the participation and leadership of women and women's organisations in developing strategies to counter terrorism and violent extremism."[21] The UN-wide Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism[22] and the 2017 Secretary-General's Report on Women, Peace and Security[23] reiterate the importance of gender-sensitive strategies in addressing this global problem.

The issue of violent extremism intersects with WPS across a number of areas. First, women are both victims and perpetrators of violent extremism. Second, the experiences of women – particularly with regard to gender equality – perform an early warning role with regards to growing extremism in a community. For instance, research suggests that restrictions on women's movement, dress, and access to education may be indications of growing radicalisation within a community.[24] Finally, women play a significant role in preventing violent extremism in both public and private spaces.[25] Therefore, addressing violent extremism as a WPS issue falls under the participation, prevention and protection agendas. However, a number of concerns have been raised about how those links should be operationalised.

The *Global Study*, among others, points to the risk of securitising the WPS agenda and co-opting women's rights in counter-terrorism programmes.[26] Such approaches focus upon the operational effectiveness of military or police strategies which seek to forestall an imminent threat however do so in ways that may threaten women and women's rights. For example, approaches that identify local women as useful sources for intelligence gathering may sacrifice women's physical safety, women's trust and standing in the community, and sideline or marginalise gender equality goals (e.g. community building and family resilience).

To avoid this, a gender-sensitive approach should prioritise women's needs and women's rights alongside efforts to both counter (in the immediate term) and prevent (in the longer term) violent extremism. A gender-sensitive approach to *countering* violent extremism (CVE) might include ensuring women's participation in senior decision-making regarding CVE policy, increasing the number of women responders to episodes of violent extremism and working with women's groups to anticipate the impact of episodes of violent extremism and CVE responses on women and women's groups.

A gender-sensitive approach to *preventing* violent extremism requires a strong understanding of the gendered dynamics of radicalisation and supports women's roles and the work of civil society groups in preventing radicalisation. This agenda sits less in the counter-terrorism space and has greater synergies with sustainable development, conflict prevention and peacebuilding/ preventing conflict re-ignition and gender equality. Research suggests that "promoting gender equality is potentially the single most powerful counter-discourse to extremist interpretations of religion."[27]

NAPs adopted after the passing of UNSCR 2242 (in 2015) engage particularly strongly with the issue of violent extremism. The third Swedish NAP commits to ensuring that a gender perspective is integrated in policies and programs to prevent violent extremism and radicalisation (see excerpt below). The third NAP of Netherlands describes the links between WPS and CVE in its narrative section, noting that women's rights are often deliberately targeted by extremism and this must be taken into account when developing appropriate policies. It then provides an output and action points which address CVE through a focus upon supporting women's rights and civil society (see below). In case of the second US NAP, the issue of violent extremism is consistently integrated throughout, making it one of the major issues addressed by this plan. As demonstrated in the excerpt below, this approach tends to securitise the WPS agenda and places gender equality and the rights and safety of women in the background.

Conflict prevention – include women and men to address structural root causes of conflict and violence

Contribute to ensure that women are included and that their experiences are taken into account in designing mechanisms and systems for early warning of conflicts and in conflict analyses. Also strive to ensure the inclusion of gender perspectives in measures intended to counteract and prevent conflict, radicalisation and violent extremism.	The Ministry for Foreign Affairs; the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, the Folke Bernadotte Academy Foreign missions in focus countries The Ministry of Defence; the Swedish Armed Forces. The Ministry of Justice; the Swedish Police Authority

Excerpt 1: The third Swedish NAP's approach to CVE[28]

Understanding the Roles of Women in Countering Violent Extremism

Security actors must first recognize that women's roles in WPS range the entire spectrum—from perpetrator to victim—of violence in conflict before they can fully take into account the full scope of perspectives and experiences women bring to bear in decision-making related to peace and security. A narrow understanding of women's roles in this context unduly limits policy options and perpetuates strategic blind spots, such as failing to recognize women's agency as potential mitigators and perpetrators of violence, and "securitizing" women's roles in countering violent extremism (CVE). These blind spots hinder a thorough examination of how both men and women are affected by and influence the promotion and the prevention of extremist violence in CVE policies and programs. UN Security Council Resolution 1325 helps address these blind spots in CVE by requiring both the participation of women and a gender perspective in policies and programs related to international peace and security. A gender perspective helps to reveal solutions and courses of action that may otherwise be overlooked in highly localized, context-specific, socially and culturally sensitive conflicts.

As violent extremism has evolved into crisis proportions in parts of sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East and North Africa, and South Asia, USAID is conducting regional research and analysis to improve its understanding of the key issues impacting and influencing women and girls as related to violent extremism, including the positive and negative roles women and girls may play. These case studies will explore push-pull factors around violence and extremism and attempt to answer important questions such as: What are the diverse and differential recruitment strategies for men and women by groups prone to violence? What is the role that gender plays in such strategies? What are the key economic and social conditions that play a part in radicalization and violence? What ultimately are the approaches and activities women and girls, men and boys use in the prevention, mitigation, and countering of radicalization and violent extremism? The research and resulting recommendations will help USAID better address key gender and violent extremism challenges. Learning from these research activities will inform USAID's integration of gender-based approaches into broader CVE programming, as well as the development of stand-alone gender and CVE activities.

USAID is addressing the drivers of violent extremism through a holistic, community-based approach, such as through initiatives providing assistance to communities in Niger, Chad, and Burkina Faso designed to reduce risks of instability and increase resilience to violent extremism. These initiatives address socioeconomic, political, and cultural drivers of violent extremism and focus particularly on addressing the concerns of young men and women, who are at greatest risk of being targeted or recruited by violent extremist organizations. USAID's efforts aim to empower young men and women through activities and trainings focused on civic education, vocational, and entrepreneurial skills, and leadership, and to foster moderate voices—both men and women's—and attitudes through radio, social media, civic education and conflict resolution events.

The Department of State is helping integrate women into its counterterrorism and CVE efforts through capacity building, participation, protection, and engagement. For example, State has supported projects promoting women's involvement in CVE efforts, including a global network of women committed to countering violent extremism in their communities to train other women to recognize the signs of radicalization, and to mediate conflict within their communities in order to reduce violent extremism; training for female civil society leaders and dialogues with law enforcement personnel, in partnership with local women's networks, to devise CVE strategies and pilot prevention activities; funding a documentary film tour highlighting the devastation and tragedy faced by Somali diaspora communities in Europe whose youth are recruited to fight with al-Shabaab; and, in northern Nigeria, a Hausa-language multimedia platform that provides alternative messaging to political violence and violent extremism, and promotes inter-ethnic and interfaith tolerance.

Excerpt 2: The second United States NAP's approach to CVE[29]

Output 3.1: Stronger local non-violent strategies for and approaches to conflict prevention and resolution, peacebuilding, relief and recovery, which are incorporated into policies and legislation

Signatories will inspire and encourage governments and other relevant actors to incorporate local non-violent strategies for and approaches to conflict prevention and resolution, peacebuilding, relief and recovery into their policies and legislation. Measures and policies against violent extremism and terrorism will be developed in ways that avoid undermining gender equality and women's organisations in focus countries. Signatories will also showcase successful and effective local non-violent strategies for and approaches to counterterrorism and countering violent extremism (CVE).

ACTIVITY	RELEVANT SIGNATORIES
Share examples and good practices with governments on including non-violent local strategies in laws and policies	CSOs, their local CSO partners and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Raise awareness of the usefulness for laws and policies of local non-violent strategies for and approaches to conflict prevention and resolution, peacebuilding, relief and recovery	CSOs, their local CSO partners and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Monitor and address CVE and counterterrorist policies to avoid undermining gender equality and women's organisations in the focus countries	CSOs, their local CSO partners and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Encourage the integration of local non-violent strategies for and approaches to conflict prevention and resolution, peacebuilding, relief and recovery into peace agreements and new laws and policies	All signatories
Contribute to the visibility of role models working on the local implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda	All signatories

Excerpt 3: The third Netherland NAP's approach to CVE[30]

EMERGING BEST PRACTICE: COUNTERING/PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

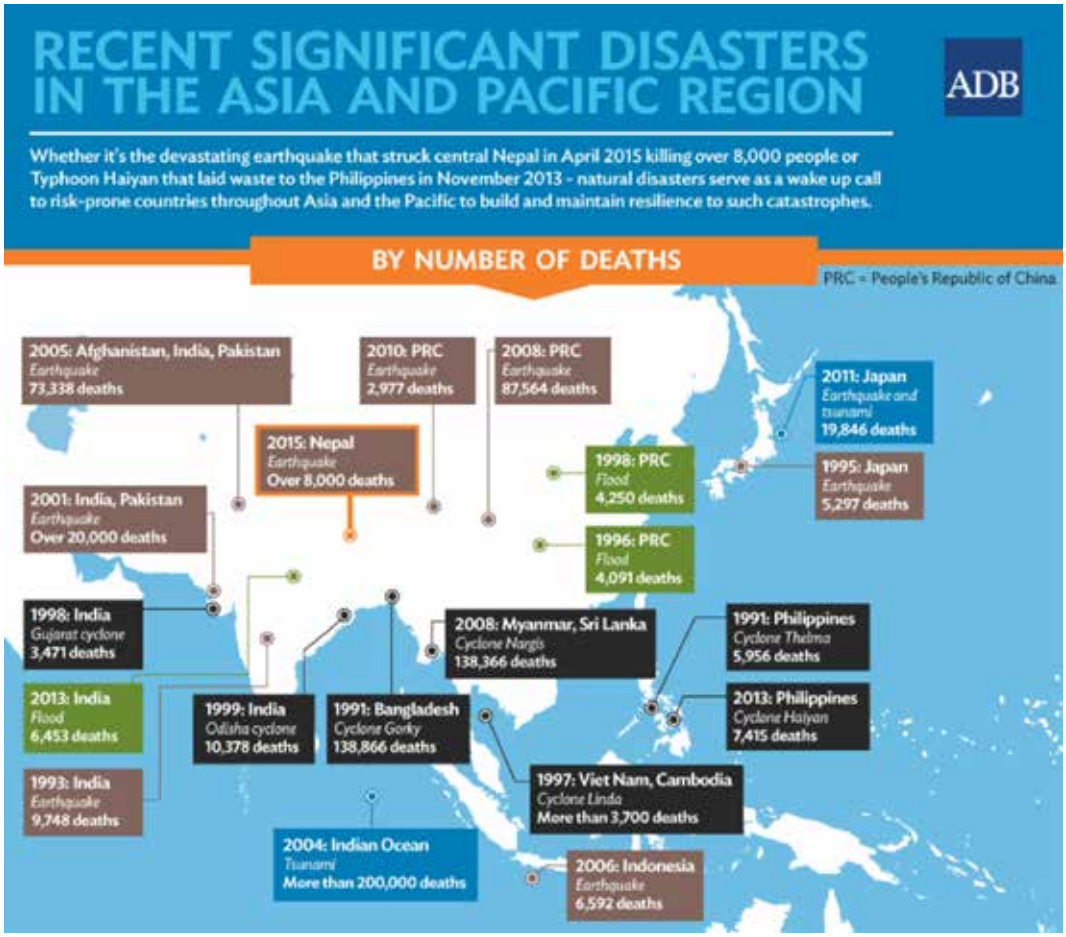
Research and recent NAPs suggest CVE can be integrated into NAPs in the following ways:

- Include an evidence-based discussion on the links between CVE and WPS in the NAP's narrative section which highlights women's varied roles and experiences in relation to violent extremism
- Clearly define the distinctions the NAP may be making between CVE, PVE and counter-terrorism strategies particularly regarding short- and long-term approaches
- Articulate activities that will be undertaken to support women's participation in policy design and implementation of CVE/PVE strategies
- Articulate activities that will be undertaken to support women's roles in preventing violent extremism in their own communities

4.2 HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RESPONSE (INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE)

There is a clear intersection between the WPS agenda and responses to humanitarian crises, including climate change. Sites which experience conflict or are conflict vulnerable are less resilient in the face of humanitarian crisis. Furthermore, issues such as environmental degradation and climate change may heighten pre-existing tensions.

Consequently, the WPS agenda applies to sites of humanitarian activity where disaster and humanitarian need complicate complex emergencies and may trigger or exacerbate existing conflict. This is particularly the case in the Asia Pacific region where many conflict-affected states are prone to natural disasters.



Excerpt 4: Recent significant disasters in the Asia and Pacific region[31]

UN Security Council Resolution 2242

[R]ecognises the importance of **integrating gender considerations across humanitarian programming** by seeking to ensure the provision of access to protection and the full range of medical, legal and psychosocial and livelihood services, without discrimination, and through ensuring **women and women's groups can participate meaningfully and are supported to be leaders in humanitarian action**, and *urges* the Secretary-General to strengthen leadership and political will at all levels on this issue and **ensure accountability to existing humanitarian frameworks related to women's empowerment and gender equality** which contribute to the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

Box 4: UN Security Council Resolution 2242 on humanitarian assistance and disaster response[32]

The need for a gender-sensitive approach to humanitarian response is highlighted in UNSCR 2242 (see box above). Yet there is a scarcity of references to humanitarian disaster and climate change in the NAPs under review. The third UK plan recognises the specific needs of women and girls in humanitarian emergencies while the second US NAP takes note of the impact of climate change and natural disaster on women. However, these issues are mentioned only in passing and without a broader discussion of their complexity.

Of the research sample, the NAP of Japan engages with humanitarian response most strongly. It establishes a gender-sensitive approach to humanitarian and reconstruction assistance as a major goal. This is undoubtedly due to the fact that Japan has suffered from natural disasters and has been a global advocate for integrating a gender perspective into reconstruction processes. As evidence of this Japan sponsored the 2012 Commission on the Status of Women's (CSW) resolution on "Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women in Natural Disasters." The Japan NAP consolidates these efforts by integrating humanitarian response to natural disaster throughout the NAP pillar on relief and reconstruction (see below).

Outside of the research sample it is worth noting that Finland has dedicated one of its eleven objectives in its second NAP to addressing climate change. It states: "Finland will promote women's active participation in issues related to the environment and security as well as support women's participation in the mitigation of climate change and adaptation to its consequences."

IV. Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance

Major goal

Provide humanitarian and reconstruction assistance while reflecting circumstances and needs unique to women and girls, etc., promoting women's empowerment, and ensuring women's participation.

Significance and objective

Conflicts and disasters create refugees and displaced persons, as well as persons stranded and seeking rescue. Under such circumstances, existing mechanisms of protection such as family ties and communities' functions are lost while risks and urgency heighten. In light of such facts, humanitarian assistance needs to be provided promptly. In such cases, it is essential to pay attention to circumstances and needs unique to women and girls, etc. and ensure their rights. When providing assistance, it is also necessary to make efforts to alleviate the burden on recipient countries by cooperating with other donor countries according to various guidelines.[13]

Furthermore, upon providing humanitarian and reconstruction assistance after a conflict or a disaster, women's participation needs to be ensured in all processes of initial investigation, planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation, etc. on both the donor and recipient sides, and women's empowerment should be promoted, with due consideration given to gender equality.

Excerpt 5: Japan's NAP's approach to humanitarian disaster[33]

EMERGING BEST PRACTICE: HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Research and emerging cases recommend that NAPs acknowledge the interplay between disasters and humanitarian crises (including climate change) in the following ways:

- Recognise the gendered impacts of humanitarian and environmental disasters on women in conflict-affected and conflict-vulnerable regions
- Identify the overlap between strategies for disaster risk reduction and response (including climate change mitigation and adaptation), and those on conflict prevention/peacebuilding. In particular, recognise the positive and mutually reinforcing impact of women's participation in all areas of humanitarian response

4.3 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted in 2015, replaced the preceding eight Millennium Development Goals with seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).[34] Goal 5 is dedicated to gender equality, while Goal 16 to peace, justice and strong institutions. Following the release of the SDGs, the **World Humanitarian Summit** adopted its Outcome Document in August 2016. This underscored the critical importance of empowering women in the context of international responses to humanitarian crises.[35] However, despite the overlapping relevance of the WPS agenda to both, neither the SDGs nor the World Humanitarian Summit Outcome Document explicitly draws links with the WPS agenda (see indicators for Goal 16 below). This offers neither guidance nor obligation for UN Member States to link the two agendas.

The NAPs in this research sample demonstrate little substantive engagement with developmental issues or the 2030 Agenda in particular. Exceptions are the Swedish NAPs that recognise that "[t]he work of the [Swedish] Government on Resolution 1325 is based on a holistic view of security, development and human rights" and the second Canadian NAP which similarly argues that "[d]evelopment and security go hand in hand." This is consistent with the UN Secretary-General's statement in his 2017 report highlighting that "[a]cross the three pillars of the United Nations — security, human rights and development — the women, peace and security agenda contributes to transformative change."[36]

Indicators for SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Sustainable Institutions

16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere	**16.2** End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children	**16.3** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all	**16.4** By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime
16.5 Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms	**16.6** Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels	**16.7** Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels	**16.8** Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance
16.9 By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration	**16.10** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements	**16.A** Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime	**16.B** Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development

Box 5: Sustainable Development Goal 16 indicators[37]

Both the third NAPs of Sweden and the Netherlands explicitly reference the 2030 Agenda but without a meaningful discussion. Consistent with its national security focus, the second US NAP is the only plan in the research sample released after the SDGs were launched to exclude reference to the 2030 Agenda.

There is an opportunity for this broad global oversight to be addressed at the national level where states can explicitly commit to 'gender' Goal 16.[38] This can be done by identifying areas of alignment between Goal 16 and the WPS agenda in the design of activities, implementation strategies and reporting of both. In Australia's case it is worth noting, for example, that in 2018 the Australian Government will present its first Voluntary National Review (VNR) of the SDGs at the UN's High-Level Political Forum. The VNR will provide an assessment of Australia's progress in implementing the seventeen SDGs. It therefore presents a unique opportunity for the Australian Government to bridge the WPS agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

EMERGING BEST PRACTICE: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

There are strong connections between gender equality, sustainable development and the prevention of conflict. Despite the global failure to explicitly link these in the SDGs framework, national action plans can promote the links by:

- Explicitly noting in the NAP's narrative the relationship between gender equality, sustainable development and conflict prevention and peacebuilding
- Identifying and consolidating areas where WPS and SDGs overlap in order for countries to maximise resourcing and create a consistent and coherent approach between the two agendas. This may occur in the development and implementation of activities, as well as monitoring, evaluation and reporting

4.4 DISPLACEMENT

There are 65.5 million forcibly displaced persons worldwide.[39] UNSCR 2242 expresses concern about the increased number of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), and the 2016 Secretary-General's Report on Women, Peace and Security[40] reports 8.6 million new cases in 2015. The war in Syria alone has resulted in the biggest refugee crisis in a generation, with over 5 million registered refugees.

Women and children constitute the majority of the population affected by displacement. Displacement increases vulnerability to human rights violations, including sexual and gender-based violence. The protection of forcibly displaced conflict-affected women clearly falls under the protection pillar of WPS. The majority of NAPs acknowledge the relevance of displacement to the WPS agenda. However, in our research sample, displacement is predominantly addressed through foreign and development policies rather than domestic refugee and asylum policies. The exception to this is the first NAP of Canada and the NAPs of Ireland where the impact of displacement on host countries is mentioned, yet without specific strategies and action points. The first Irish NAP provides strong language on this point. It states that:

Ireland's NAP advances understanding of the obligations of UNSCR 1325 and other UN resolutions on WPS, to include reference to migrate women and girls, including asylum seekers, affected by conflict. Another critical dimension of the Irish NAP is the recognition of the relevance of UNSCR 1325 and other UN obligations on WPS to cross border efforts in Ireland to promote gender equality and women's human rights.

Excerpt 6: The first Irish National Action Plan - displacement paragraph[41]

Importantly, the second NAP of Canada has included its immigration agency as a supporting NAP partner with its own implementation plan. Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) commits to support women seeking asylum/ refugee women in the following broad areas:

- Protecting refugees
- Giving consideration in the asylum system to gender-related persecution
- Supporting settlement and integration of refugee women in Canada
- Undertaking actions to address gender-based violence against newcomers to Canada
- Undertaking actions to reduce vulnerability in the immigration system
- Integrating the 'gender-based analysis plus' policy in IRCC's policies and program

IRCC further outlines its plans to integrate its NAP responsibilities into its governance, accountability and training and education mechanisms.[42]

Finally outside of the research sample, the French NAP commits, as part of its *domestic* policy, to the objective: "Increase consideration of issues linked to gender and violence against women in asylum procedures" (see implementation matrix below).

Increase consideration of issues linked to gender and violence against women in asylum procedures	1- Provide mandatory training on taking account of gender for peacekeeping operations (introductory courses, lifelong training) and the other actors involved in the course of the asylum procedure (prefectures, OFII - French agency in charge of migration and welcoming foreign people, regional platforms).	Percentage of trained protection officers	OFPRA (French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons)	2018
	2- Produce gender-based statistics, as well as specific analysis on the situation of women, regarding the processing of requests for international protection at all stages of the procedure.	- Presence in the OFPRA annual activity report of analysis material specific to the status of women. - Internal distribution of analysis material specific to the status of women as regards the processing of asylum requests	OFPRA	2015-2018 (annual)
	3- Make instruments available on carrying out an asylum request interview on the grounds of gender-based persecution.	- Number of instruments to help conduct interviews specific to gender-related persecution, created in 2017	OFPRA	2018
	4- Appointment of "gender" representatives to OFPRA, the	Number of annual meetings of "gender" representatives	OFPRA, CNDA,	2015-2018 (annual)
	CNDA (French National Court of Asylum) and regional welcome platforms.		Ministry of the Interior	

Excerpt 7: The second French National Action Plan - violent against women activity statement[43]

EMERGING BEST PRACTICE: DISPLACEMENT

Outward-facing NAPs have largely failed to meaningfully engage with the issue of the forcible displacement of conflict-affected women. However, emerging NAPs show a willingness to:

- Consider the scope of WPS implementation to include conflict-affected women as well as conflict-affected zones, thereby including displaced women regardless of their location
- Facilitate the inclusion of domestic agencies that address asylum claims and refugee resettlement into NAPs to ensure WPS principles are mainstreamed into asylum procedures

4.5 CONTINUUM OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

One in every three women experience some form of gender-based violence.[44] This statistic reflects a continuum of violence across sites, situations and contexts. However, UNSCR 1820, 1888, 1960 and 2106 have been persistent in the separation of conflict-related sexual violence from other forms of gender-based violence, including structural and family violence. In doing so, the Security Council fails to recognise that some of the root causes of conflict-related sexual violence is in fact everyday gender discrimination, whether in the situation of peace or armed conflict.[45]

This was rectified in the 2016 Secretary-General's Report on Women, Peace and Security which "underlined the need to address conflict-related sexual violence as part of a continuum of violence that is closely intertwined with broader attacks on gender equality and women's human rights."[46] However, as previously noted, it is with the recent adoption of General Recommendation No.35 on Gender-based Violence against Women (GR35) that a more comprehensive global understanding of violence against women has been evident.

While some of the sample NAPs refer to non-conflict related forms of gender-based violence they are usually mentioned only in passing. For example, the second Dutch NAP recognises that "[w]omen repeatedly suffer an increase in domestic violence during and after conflict, which is often related to men and women's shifting gender roles." Similarly, both Irish NAPs mention the National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence.

The second and third UK NAPs can be highlighted as good practice as they position the WPS agenda across wider cross-Government work on violence against women. One of the principles of the third UK NAP is to link the WPS agenda to the Government's "broader work on women's rights, access to justice, and the prevention of violence."

Also worth highlighting is the second Canadian NAP which acknowledges gender-based violence at home, highlighting the disproportionate rates of violence against indigenous women and girls. It notes that the lessons it learns domestically will assist in attempts to engage violence against women globally.

Canada's National Action Plan, 2017-2022.
Although Canada is not a fragile or conflict-affected state, women in Canada face a variety of challenges including gender-based violence. Indigenous women and girls in particular face intersecting discrimination and violence based on gender, race, socioeconomic status and other identity factors, as well as underlying historic causes – in particular the legacy of colonialism and the devastation caused by the residential school system […].

Globally, in the context of this Action Plan, Canada's learning experience with the consequences of colonialism and the continued challenges faced by First Nations, Inuit and Metis will help improve Canada's capacity to respond to challenges faced by women and girls abroad.

Box 6: The second Canadian NAP's focus on continuum of violence[47]

EMERGING BEST PRACTICE: CONTINUUM OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE
GR 35 and global research demonstrates the links between all forms of gender-based violence. Several NAPs are beginning to similarly acknowledge this continuum of violence by:

- Connecting conflict-related gender-based violence to other forms of GBV such as family and criminal violence both domestically and internationally
- Explicitly linking conflict-related gender violence with national level policy frameworks that deal with violence against women

4.6 SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE

Sexual violence by UN peacekeepers against local populations has become a growing concern. The Security Council takes this issue seriously and has adopted UNSCR 2272 on the Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA). The 2016 Secretary-General's Report on Women, Peace and Security similarly recognises that "[t]hese violations are a fundamental betrayal of trust, have devastated the lives of victims and have seriously damaged global perceptions of the Organisation."[48]

However, as previously noted, UNSCR 2272 was not adopted under the WPS thematic agenda. Recent research shows the very real political dangers of separating sexual and gender-based violence in conflict from sexual exploitation and abuse committed in the context of peacekeeping. Peacekeeping experts argue that divorcing these two issues undermines the implementation of SEA strategies.[49]

The NAPs in our research sample commonly mention SEA. In doing so, they recognise the need for the WPS agenda to identify the links between human trafficking, SEA, conflict and post-conflict economies. The first and second NAPs of Ireland provide best practice examples. Ireland's second NAP addresses it in two of its pillars:

- Pillar 1: (Prevention) Prevention of Conflict including Gender-based violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and
- Pillar 3: (Protection, Relief and Recovery) Protection From Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and Other Violations of Women's Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law, and Relief, Recovery, and Rehabilitation

The second Irish NAP has also developed specific action points to address this problem under Pillar 4 (Promotion of WPS agenda in International Regional and National Arenas).

Pillar 4:
Promotion of Women, Peace and Security agenda in International, Regional and National Arenas

Commitment	Actions	Actor	Indicator
4a) Support the inclusion of the Women, Peace and Security agenda where relevant in human rights mechanisms	Advocate, as a member of the UN Human Rights Council 2013-2015, for the integration of a reference to Women, Peace and Security resolutions in relevant country resolutions	DFAT (Political Division)	Number and quality of relevant national interventions
	Advocate for the inclusion of steps taken to implement the Women, Peace and Security resolutions including the protection of women human rights defenders and to combat GBV and SEA as part of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) mechanism of the UN Human Rights Council	DFAT (Political Division)	Number and quality of recommendations and references dealing with WPS, GBV and SEA in UPR processes
	Support the implementation of CEDAW general recommendation No. 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations	DFAT (Political Division, Anglo-Irish Division)	Inclusion of information on the implementation of CEDAW general recommendation No. 30 in Ireland's periodic report to the Committee Support given to the implementation of the general recommendation in international fora as appropriate

Excerpt 8: The second Irish National Action Plan - example of action points targeted at SEA[50]

EMERGING BEST PRACTICE: COMBATTING SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE

A number of emerging NAPs are resisting the separation of sexual exploitation and abuse from both the WPS agenda and the continuum of gender-based violence. This is evidenced in emerging NAPs which link the two issues and advocate stronger measures to address SEA. These NAPs:

- Position SEA alongside conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence
- Ensure domestic procedures to prevent SEA (usually through peacekeeping/pre-deployment training)
- Commit to investigate claims of SEA by nationals through reporting and justice mechanisms
- Advocate regionally and globally for SEA awareness and improved response measures

4.7 INTERSECTIONALITY

Conflict-affected women and girls are not a homogenous group. In addition to their gender, their lives and security might be impacted by other identity markers, such as race/ethnicity, sexuality, (dis)ability, age, religious and economic background and so forth. This intersectionality impacts women's experience of all of the issues covered under the WPS agenda – e.g. vulnerability to violence, capacity for participation and access to resources. In recognition, the 2016 Secretary-General's Report on Women, Peace and Security notes "the need to address multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, including those based on disabilities, indigenous status, sexual orientation or other factors."[51]

> *Gender is simply one axis of difference, which intersects with many other forms of identity and experience. Nationality, ethnicity, political and religious affiliation, caste, indigeneity, marital status, disability, age, sexual preference; all of these, and others, are important factors in determining women's lived experiences of conflict and recovery.*

Excerpt 9: The Global Study – *intersectionality*[52]

"[C]onflict-affected women and children means women and children who due to the impact of armed conflict or as a result of that are suffering from the following conditions notwithstanding their present status:

1. Women or girls displaced from their habitual place of living
2. Single women
3. Women or girls or their husbands or parents who are themselves physically disabled or have lost their limbs or are maimed due to the explosion of landmine or Improvised Explosive Devices, or due to the use of weapons or any other reason
4. Women or girls who have been separated from their husbands or parents or from their families
5. Former women and girls combatants who are pregnant, or nursing mothers or have infants with them and who are either living in the cantonments or outside
6. Mentally-affected women and girls
7. Women or girls who could not continue their studies because the school they were studying in was seized or because of fear and insecurity or because of the displacement of teachers
8. Women or girls who suffered from sexual exploitation or rape
9. Women or girls who because of sexual exploitation or rape became pregnant and were compelled to give birth or to undergo abortion
10. Women or girls against whom action has been taken in suspicion of being affiliated to the security forces or armed groups or helping such forces or groups
11. Women or girls who are in detention or in prison or who have undergone imprisonment
12. Women or girls living in protection homes or child rehabilitation homes
13. Girls against whom cases have been registered in courts for any charges
14. Women or girls who have been abducted or subjected to involuntary disappearance or the women and girls from families whose members have been abducted or subjected to involuntary disappearance.

Excerpt 10: Nepal's NAP identifies groups of conflict-affected women[53]

Nearly all NAPs under evaluation give some recognition to the diversity of women and girls as a group. However, while there is a growing understanding of the intersectional nature of WPS concerns, most NAPs remain tokenistic. Few NAPs design specific implementation strategies that reflect this diversity. An exception is Nepal's NAP which recognises fourteen different groups of conflict-affected women. This diversity is reflected in some of the action points.

EMERGING BEST PRACTICE: INTERSECTIONALITY

Effectively engaging the breadth of women's diversity in NAPs is a complex task. Most NAPs do little more than acknowledge women's diversity. To address this countries may:

- Present an analysis of intersectional gendered identity issues in the narrative of NAPs
- Identify the most vulnerable or marginalised groups in each pillar (e.g. most vulnerable to violence or most likely to be excluded from participation)
- Commit to actions that will prioritise particular groups of women in specific contexts

4.8 MEN AND BOYS

The need to engage men and boys in the implementation of the WPS agenda has been long recognised by the international community. Men and boys are seen as partners and leaders in efforts to address violence against women and facilitate greater women's participation. UNSCR 2106 affirms that "the enlistment of men and boys in the effort to combat all forms of violence against women" is "central to long-term efforts to prevent sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations."[54] UNSCR 2242 reiterates "the important engagement by men and boys as partners in promoting women's participation in the prevention and resolution of armed conflict, peacebuilding and post-conflict situations."[55] The 2016 Secretary-General's Report on Women, Peace and Security added to this the problem of "sexual violence perpetrated against men and boys."[56]

The inclusion of men – as the dominant global leaders in peace and security activities and the dominant perpetrators of violence against women – is necessary for the success of the WPS agenda. However, many argue that the transformative capacity of the WPS agenda lies not just with 'men' and 'women' but with engagement in gendered relations of power. This requires challenging gendered norms of leadership as well as confronting violent and toxic masculinities that enable violence and conflict. In this sense, engaging men and boys must extend to engaging masculinities and gendered power dynamics.

Like intersectionality, the majority of the NAPs in the research sample mention the role of men and boys in the WPS agenda. For instance, the second Canadian NAP notes in its Executive Summary:

> Canada recognises that women and men must be equally committed to changing attitudes, behaviours and roles to support gender equality. This is why Canada's Feminist Foreign Policy requires engaging men and boys, alongside women and girls, as agents and beneficiaries of change in peace and gender equality.

Yet, references to men and boys throughout NAPs are not often followed by specific action points. The third NAP of the Netherlands is an exception. It designed three relatively specific action points to "Increase involvement of men and boys in implementing legislation that contributes to gender equality." The US NAP also has three action points around engaging men and boys which focuses upon family violence, male survivors of GBV, and addressing cultural attitudes.

Outcome 3.4: Men and boys are themselves better protected from GBV, when they are mobilized as partners in the prevention of GBV and other risks of harm, exploitation, and abuse in their communities.	**Actions**	**Implementing Department or Agency**
	Provide support for advocacy campaigns and programs designed to reduce family and community level violence.	State, USAID
	Increase attention to the needs of male survivors, particularly boys, in GBV prevention and response programs.	State, USAID, DoD
	Develop programs that address harmful norms and practices contributing to GBV and other forms of exploitation and abuse, through the engagement of a broad range of potential allies committed to increasing accountability, including faith-based and traditional leaders, youth, the business community, women, men, girls, and boys.	State, USAID

Excerpt 11: The second US NAP - outcome and action points relating to men and boys [57]

EMERGING BEST PRACTICE: MEN AND BOYS

While NAPs frequently mention the important role men and boys need to play in ensuring successful WPS implementation, few translate this into activities. Where this is the case, NAPs may:

- Consider activities (e.g. training or community engagement) that confront and challenge violent masculinities
- Design activities that identify and support male role models of gender equality

5

CONTENT

5. CONTENT

Given the breadth of content of the WPS resolutions, it is crucial for NAPs to explicitly identify their goals, thematic areas and – if desired – priority areas. NAPs that clearly align and resonate with pre-existing policy frameworks (such as those on gender equality, women's rights, foreign policy or defence doctrine) have a higher chance of successful implementation.

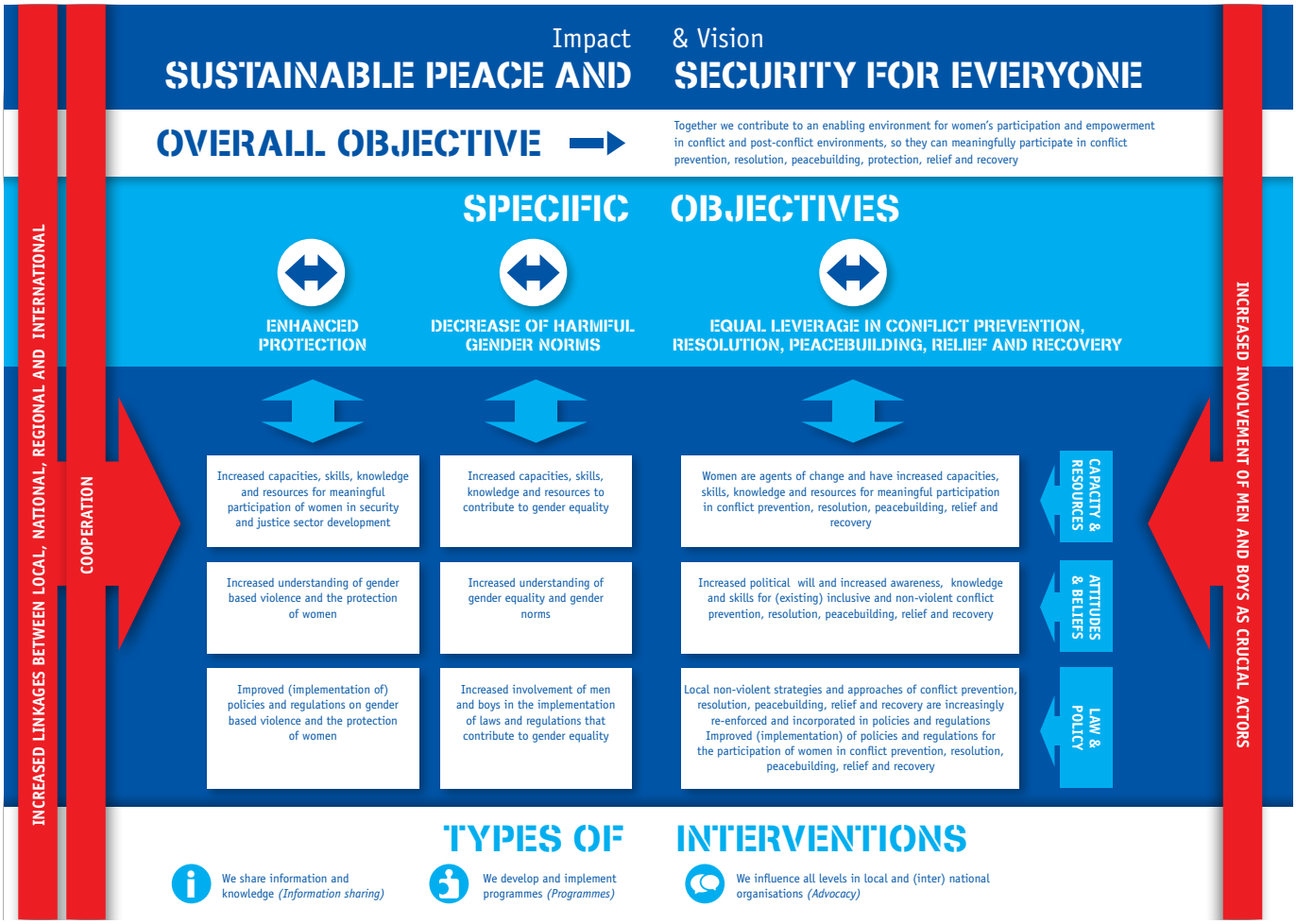
5.1 GOALS AND PURPOSE

A major weakness of the early plans is the lack of a clearly stated goal(s) and purpose. The absence of an overarching goal weakens the coherency of a whole-of-government approach and fosters uncertainty regarding priorities, suitable actions and their desired impact. Such vagueness has been especially the case in NAPs adopted prior to 2010. For instance, the first UK NAP, in 2006, is only two-pages long and consists of twelve objectives with sample activities, lacking a clear overarching goal.

However, there has been a significant maturation in the second and third generation NAPs and those released after 2010. While not always the case, these NAPs develop much clearer and specific goals that remain consistent throughout the NAP's design. The third UK, the third Netherlands and the second Canadian NAPs are best practice examples. These NAPs apply a theory of change approach which presents a coherent overall understanding of the purpose and design of the NAP. In doing so, it offers an overarching vision of what is to be achieved an indication of how it is to be achieved and indicators that help determine when it has been achieved, and what the potential barriers to success might be.

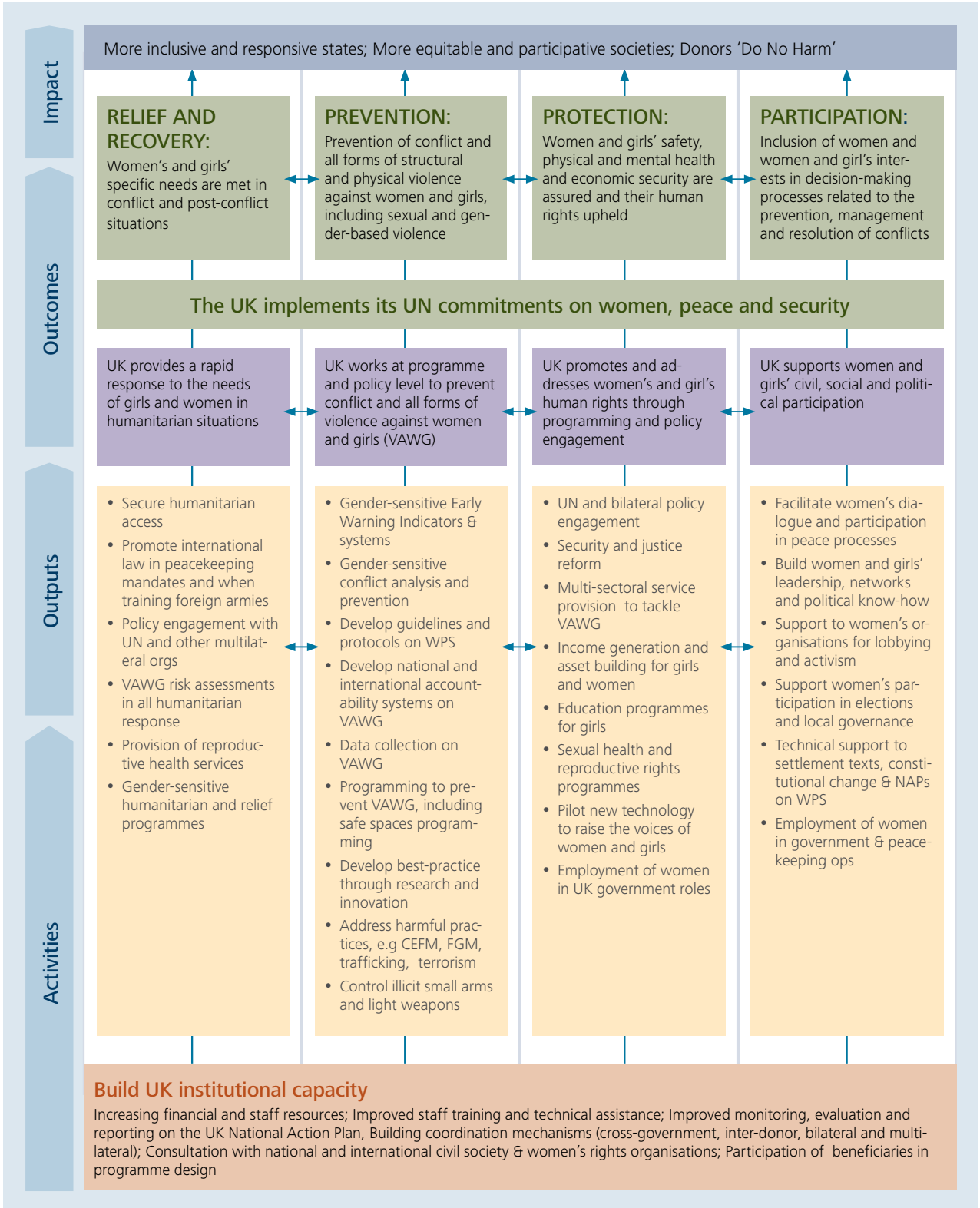
For example, the third Netherlands NAP states that

> Our collective, overarching goal is: to jointly facilitate the creation of an enabling environment for women's leadership and political participation in fragile states, conflict and post-conflict areas and transition countries, allowing for more inclusive, just and sustainable peace, recovery and reconstruction processes.



Excerpt 12: The third Netherlands NAP - Theory of Change[58]

Similarly, the third UK NAP has developed a theory of change approach which demonstrates how its activities are intended to achieve the NAP's overall goal. The UK Government describes its ambition as: "to put women and girls at the centre of all our efforts to prevent and resolve conflict, to promote peace and stability, and to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls." This is reflected in the NAP's intended impact described as "More inclusive and responsive states; More equitable and participative societies" (see below).



Excerpt 13: The third United Kingdom NAP - Theory of Change [59]

Finally, the second Canadian NAP positions "Canada's vision for WPS [as] part of the Government of Canada's feminist agenda, which prioritises gender equality and the rights of women and girls at its core" with its intended impact described as "More inclusive, gender equal and stable societies."

Excerpt 14: The second Canada's NAP - Theory of Change[60]

EMERGING BEST PRACTICE: GOALS

Second and third generation NAPs develop clearer and more focused overarching goals. Furthermore, high-impact NAPs articulate and map the line connecting the overarching goal to specific outcomes and activities. Three NAPs in this sample have developed a theory of change approach to achieve this. In short, these NAPs:

- Establish an overall goal that guides the NAP's design and implementation
- Demonstrate the purposeful relationship between the NAP's goal and its activities

5.2 THEMATIC AREAS

A weakness of early NAPs is that they often seek to encompass the breadth of the WPS agenda but do so in a manner which is superficial or vague. As NAPs have evolved, a stronger focus upon thematic areas began to emerge. Initially those thematic areas aligned with the WPS pillars of Participation, Protection, Prevention, Relief and Recovery. However, a number of NAPs have now included technical considerations among their thematic areas. Although this is not an exhaustive list, seven common thematic areas are identified in the table below.

Country / Priority area	UK1	UK2	UK3	SE1	SE2	SE3	NL1	NL2	NL3	CA1	CA2	IE1	IE2	NP	US1	US2	JP
Participation		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Protection	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Prevention		✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Relief and recovery	✓	✓	✓				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gender mainstreaming and promotion of a gender perspective	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓			
Monitoring, evaluation, reporting and coordination		✓	✓				✓	✓						✓	✓	✓	✓
Normative / Promotion of UNSCR 1325 internationally	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓				

Table 2: Breakdown of NAP thematic areas by country

NAPs adopted after 2010 still divide their priority areas according to the four WPS pillars. Most of them continue to cover the breadth of the agenda reasonably equally. For example, Sweden's third NAP establishes four clearly articulated goals which are then translated into activities (see below).

Excerpt 15: The third Swedish National Action Plan - breakdown of the Swedish plan's goals[61]

In some cases there is now a focus on strengthening the participation pillar. For example, the UK moves from nearly no focus on participation in the first NAP, to covering the four pillars equally in the second NAP, to a strong emphasis upon participation in the third NAP. A focus upon participation is also evident in the case of Japan. In addition to having participation as its first pillar, the NAP further integrates it across the subsequent pillars. In explanation, the NAP of Japan notes:

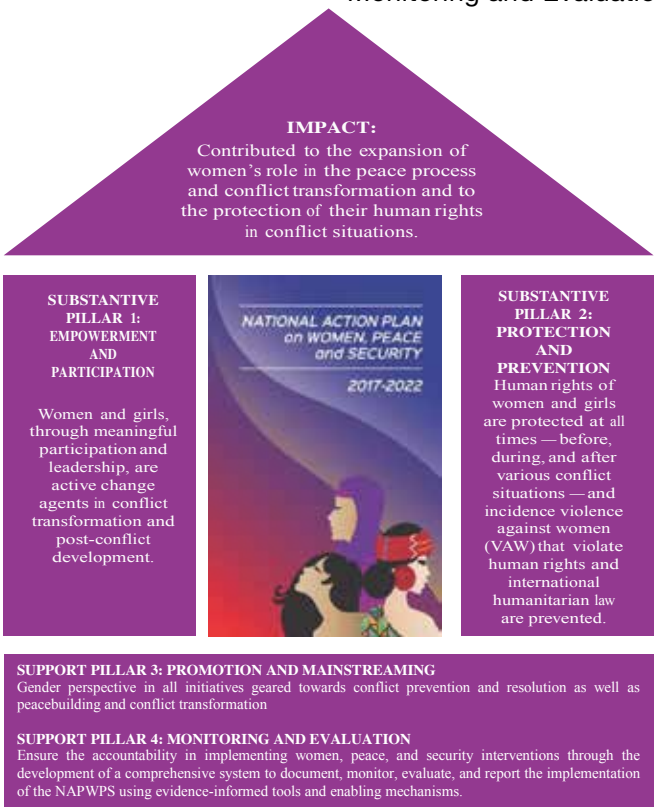
> [W]omen's participation in processes of conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and reconstruction is the core of those pillars, and therefore comes first. Since the issue of participation relates to all other pillars (fields of conflict prevention, protection, and humanitarian and reconstruction assistance), the details for women's participation are classified within each of these fields.

However, it is important to note that the WPS pillars are not consistently understood. In terms of 'women's participation,' while the language of 'inclusive', 'meaningful' or 'substantive' participation is cited in the NAPs' narrative approaches, the activities often facilitate only women's descriptive participation (an increase in the *number* of women) rather than their substantive participation (the capacity for that participation to be transformative). Perhaps in recognition of this, the Secretary-General announced in his 2017 WPS report his intention "to place a special emphasis on assessing the quality of participation and representation of women in peace processes."[62]

Similarly, the prevention pillar may refer to the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence, or all forms of violence (including structural violence), or prevention of armed conflict altogether. Importantly, these understandings differ not only among the plans but often are vague within a given NAP as well. For instance, the third UK NAP states as its outcome for the prevention pillar the following aim: "Prevention of conflict and all forms of structural and physical violence against women and girls, including sexual and gender-based violence." Yet, action points in the UK Implementation Plan predominantly focus on combating conflict-related sexual violence.

Technical considerations are identified as thematic areas in a number of NAPs. These might be gender mainstreaming, monitoring, evaluation, reporting and coordination, and promotion of UNSCR 1325 in international fora. In doing so, these plans usually establish associated indicators and action points for these technical issues and ultimately provide a stronger implementation framework and clearer monitoring and evaluation mechanism. For instance, one of five priority areas of the first Japan NAP is to "Build a framework for effective monitoring, evaluating and reviewing the NAP at an appropriate time and revise the NAP regularly." The 13 associated action points call, among others, for the establishment of the Monitoring Working Group and the Evaluation Committee to oversee the implementation and impact of the NAP.

The infographic below is borrowed from the second Philippines NAP (2017). Although outside the research sample, it is a useful visualisation of interrelations between thematic and technical priority areas. The NAP makes a distinction between two substantive pillars (Empowerment and Participation, and Protection and Prevention) and two support pillars (Promotion and Mainstreaming, and Monitoring and Evaluation).



Excerpt 16: The second Philippines NAP – visualisation of thematic and technical priority areas[63]

EMERGING BEST PRACTICE: THEMATIC AREAS

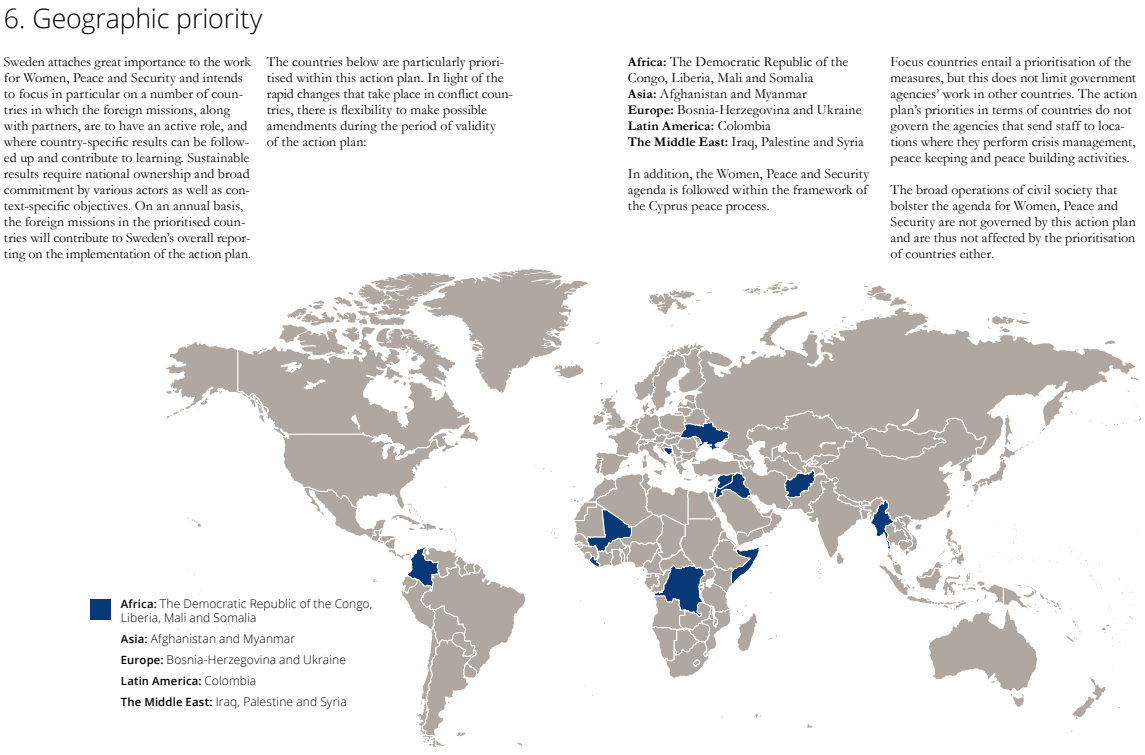
Second and third generation NAPs articulate a clearly defined set of thematic areas which may include the WPS pillars along with technical considerations. This includes efforts to:

- Define thematic areas consistently (e.g. prevention of conflict and/or prevention of violence against women)
- Ensure thematic areas are consistently represented in the overall goal, narrative and activities
- Consider including technical issues (e.g. monitoring and evaluation) as a cross-cutting priority area

5.3 GEOGRAPHIC PRIORITY AREAS

The geographic priority areas of NAPs are shaped by the plan's 'inward' or 'outward' looking policy orientation. Of the research sample, only Nepal has an inward-looking NAP. It focuses on the peace processes following the 1996-2006 internal conflict. The remainder of the NAPs in the research sample have developed outward-facing policies. While many early plans focussed upon UN peacekeeping or peace support operations, recent plans emphasise defence, diplomatic and development activities in their foreign and security policies.

However, there is an evolving trend, especially for third generation NAPs, to select a small number of priority countries. For example, the second and third UK NAPs, the third Swedish NAP and the second and third Dutch NAPs all have between four and twelve geographical areas of concern. Moreover, the second and third UK NAPs developed the implementation matrix specifically according to the priority countries. This enables resources and activities to be focused in areas of national concern and influence, thereby potentially maximising the impact of WPS efforts.



6. Geographic priority

Sweden attaches great importance to the work for Women, Peace and Security and intends to focus in particular on a number of countries in which the foreign missions, along with partners, are to have an active role, and where country-specific results can be followed up and contribute to learning. Sustainable results require national ownership and broad commitment by various actors as well as context-specific objectives. On an annual basis, the foreign missions in the prioritised countries will contribute to Sweden's overall reporting on the implementation of the action plan.

The countries below are particularly prioritised within this action plan. In light of the rapid changes that take place in conflict countries, there is flexibility to make possible amendments during the period of validity of the action plan:

Africa: The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, Mali and Somalia
Asia: Afghanistan and Myanmar
Europe: Bosnia-Herzegovina and Ukraine
Latin America: Colombia
The Middle East: Iraq, Palestine and Syria

In addition, the Women, Peace and Security agenda is followed within the framework of the Cyprus peace process.

Focus countries entail a prioritisation of the measures, but this does not limit government agencies' work in other countries. The action plan's priorities in terms of countries do not govern the agencies that send staff to locations where they perform crisis management, peace keeping and peace building activities.

The broad operations of civil society that bolster the agenda for Women, Peace and Security are not governed by this action plan and are thus not affected by the prioritisation of countries either.

Excerpt 17: The third Swedish NAP - geographic focus areas [64]

Some of the NAPs provide a justification for their selection of priority countries. For instance, the third UK NAP states that "in identifying these countries, we have considered (a) whether it is a priority country for the work of all three Departments and of the National Security Council and (b) that through local consultations in-country, we have determined there is local appetite for change." The third Netherlands NAP is more specific about the country selection and states that:

> We have identified eight countries that meet most of the following criteria: (1) countries in conflict or fragile states, (2) countries that are the focus of a Dutch policy, (3) countries in which signatories have sufficient capacity, local partners and a relevant track record, and (4) countries in which the Netherlands participates in a multilateral civil and/ or military mission.

A potential downfall, however, is that WPS principles may not be applied outside of the NAP's priority countries. For instance, the Implementation Plan for the third UK NAP organises its activities by priority country, leaving other areas of UK foreign engagement unmentioned. This may lead to an inconsistent foreign and security policy where WPS is not mainstreamed across all relevant areas of activity.

EMERGING BEST PRACTICE: GEOGRAPHIC PRIORITY AREAS

Current outward-facing NAPs typically work across aid and development, defence and security, and diplomacy and advocacy sectors, however there has been an emerging practice for NAPs to:

- Identify specific geographic areas of focus based upon transparent criteria
- Consolidate WPS activities and resources in those areas of focus
- Identify national, regional and global platforms as sites of ongoing advocacy for WPS development

5.4 OVERLAPPING AGENDAS

The NAPs under review align with a large number and variety of pre-existing policy instruments, whether global, regional or national. While they are identified as relevant, these frameworks are often mentioned in passing and without a deeper reflection on how they interplay with the WPS agenda. This provides little advice to implementing agencies on how they should manage the relationship between WPS and other agendas.

5.4.1 GLOBAL FRAMEWORKS

Among the global frameworks that intersect with UNSCR 1325, the most commonly referenced are:

Women's Rights/ Gender equality	*Developmental issues*	*Protection issues*
CEDAW and General Recommendation No. 30 on Women in Conflict Prevention, Conflict and Post-Conflict Situations (GR30)	The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (or the Millennium Development Goals)	Protection of Civilians (PoC)
The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPA)	The 2016 United Nations World Humanitarian Summit (WHS)	Responsibility to Protect (R2P)
Preventing Conflict, Transforming Justice, Securing the Peace: A Global Study on the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (Global Study)		International Human Rights Law (IHR) International Humanitarian Law (IHL)

Table 3: Global frameworks frequently referenced in NAPs

As noted above, the discussion on how these global instruments might contribute to WPS is limited in most cases. However, the third Netherlands NAP[65] provides the most comprehensive overview and engages in a reflection upon recent global developments as well as findings of global reviews.

5.4.2 REGIONAL FRAMEWORKS

Scholarly literature and the Security Council resolutions underscore the important role of regional organisations and frameworks.[66] The most recent resolution, UNSCR 2242,

> *welcomes* the efforts of regional organisations to implement resolution 1325, including through the adoption of regional frameworks, and *encourages* them to pursue further implementation.[67]

A number of NAPs mention regional frameworks or partnerships, most commonly relating to the European Union (EU) and NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation). Other regional organisations that appear in passing are the OSCE (Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe), the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) and the AU (African Union).

A weakness of WPS in the Asia Pacific region is the lack of an overarching regional framework for implementation.[68] The most influential regional organisation in the Asia Pacific, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), is yet to develop such a framework. It is worth noting that the Pacific Islands Forum, including Australia, collectively adopted in 2012 the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security. However, the plan was concluded in 2015 and appears to have gained very limited traction, compared to the regional frameworks developed by the EU or NATO.

5.4.3 NATIONAL FRAMEWORKS

At the national level, the most frequently mentioned frameworks cluster around the following five themes:

Figure 5: National frameworks frequently referenced in NAPs

The inward-looking plan of Nepal has extensive engagement with national frameworks and is embedded most strongly in domestic-level policies related to women's issues and post-conflict reconstruction processes. These include: the *2009 Domestic Violence Act*, the *2008 Prevention and Control of Selling and Trafficking of Humans*, the *Three Year Human Rights National Action Plan*, the *National Plan of Action against Gender-Based Violence*, the *National Plan of Action on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women*.

Japan also situates its first NAP within a broader domestic policy framework, including the Constitution of Japan, the Basic Act for a Gender Equal Society, and the Development Co-operation Charter.[69]

EMERGING BEST PRACTICE: OVERLAPPING AGENDAS

NAPs in the research sample identify global, regional and national level frameworks that are considered relevant to that country's WPS implementation. High-impact NAPs may demonstrate a trend to:

- Reference CEDAW GR 30, the SDGs and the Global Study as relevant global frameworks
- Support the development of regional WPS frameworks
- Engage with defence and foreign policy white papers and national violence against women strategies as relevant national frameworks
- Move beyond stating the relevance of these frameworks to identifying opportunities for meaningful engagement in implementation and reporting
- Ensure that NAPs and other global, regional and national obligations are consistent and work together

6 IMPLEMENTATION

6. IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

The *Global Study* states that high-impact NAPs are led by influential agencies with a capacity to effectively coordinate the plan's implementation.[70] These are typically ministries of Defence or Foreign Affairs. The *Global Study* also highlights that it is important for the lead agency to have dedicated funding, human resources and the trust of civil society.

The lead agency needs to have the capacity to effectively co-ordinate the breadth and diversity of implementing agencies. This includes not just the co-ordination of activities, but the capacity to set the 'cultural tone' for NAP implementation, have appropriate experience across the breadth of the WPS agenda, lead by example, and provide the necessary encouragement to agencies that may not be fulfilling obligations. For this reason, the *Global Study* notes that:

> Evidence points to stronger outcomes where these processes are coordinated by line ministries such as the Ministry of Defense or Foreign Affairs, rather than the Ministry of Gender, as this can signal that the plan is central to issues of peace and security and is mainstreamed across all relevant departments.[71]

With the exception of Nepal and the US, all NAPs in the sample are led by the agency responsible for Foreign Affairs. Nepal is an inwardly focused plan that, nonetheless, includes Foreign Affairs as an implementing agency. The US NAP is led by the National Security Council and this reflects its orientation as a more security focused plan. Some NAPs have joint leadership. For instance, the UK plan is jointly owned by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the Department for International Development and the Ministry of Defence.

The second Canadian NAP presents a similar case. It places the Minister for Foreign Affairs with responsibility "for Canada's implementation of the international WPS agenda and for ensuring that implementation across government is aligned with the government's foreign policy priorities." However, the NAP itself has identified "lead" and "supporting" partners for implementation (see below). The supporting partners

> mainly focus on domestic policy and programs, but they also work on issues of global importance – such as migration, justice sector reform, combatting violent extremism and resettlement of refugees from conflict-affected states.

This is the strongest example of a NAP in a non-conflict affected country that links foreign with domestic policy. As such, it is the only NAP that includes its Department of Immigration as an implementing agency.

Finally, it is worth noting that the second Irish NAP assigns responsibility for NAP actions to specific divisions within agencies. For instance, in the activities it assigns to DFAT it specifies the Political Division, Anglo-Irish Division, Legal Division of Development Co-operation Division as areas within DFAT with specific implementation responsibilities.

Implementing Partners: Canada

LEAD PARTNERS
- Global Affairs Canada
- Department of National Defense and the Canadian Armed Forces
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police

SUPPORTING PARTNERS
- Public Safety Canada
- Status of Women Canada
- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
- Department of Justice

Figure 6: The second Canadian NAP - implementing agencies

The table below offers a snapshot of the lead agencies and implementing agencies of the NAPs under review. The dominance of foreign and defence agencies in driving implementation is clear. Only five of the seventeen NAPs surveyed include Gender Equality/ Women's Affairs agencies as implementing agencies.

Ministry / department / bureau	UK1	UK2	UK3	SE1	SE2	SE3	NL1	NL2	NL3	CA1	CA2	IE1	IE2	NP	US1	US2	JP
Foreign Affairs	LA	LA	LA	LA	LA	LA	LA	LA	LA	LA	LA	LA	LA	✓	✓	✓	LA
Defence	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Development / International Cooperation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓					✓	✓	✓
Women / Gender Equality					✓						✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Security Sector (Armed Forces and Police)				✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
Law / Justice				✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Social Welfare / Health						✓							✓	✓	✓	✓	
Trade / Commerce															✓	✓	
Peace and Reconstruction														LA			
Education						✓											✓
Communication				✓										✓			
Home / Interior Affairs							✓	✓		✓	✓			✓			
Finance / Treasury														✓	✓	✓	
Cabinet														✓	LA *	LA *	✓
Embassies		✓					✓	✓	✓								
Other[72]		✓	✓	✓							✓	✓[73]		✓			✓

* US White House National Security Council

Leading agency (LA) and implementing agencies (✓)

Table 4: NAP Implementation agencies by country

EMERGING BEST PRACTICE: IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

The *Global Study* describes a high-impact NAP as one that is led by influential agencies with strong leadership and effective co-ordination capacity. In assigning responsibilities these NAPs:

- Ensure the lead agency has the infrastructure, culture and experience to lead implementation
- Where an activity has multiple implementing agencies, consider appointing an agency to co-ordinate and lead on the activity
- Consider assigning activities to divisions within especially large agencies
- Consider the role of agencies responsible for addressing domestic policy issues related to WPS

6.2 GOVERNANCE

To co-ordinate the implementation of a whole-of-government plan requires an effective governance structure that is inclusive, timely and accountable. Most but not all of the countries evaluated have a high level inter-departmental steering committee, chaired by the lead agency, that oversees NAP implementation. In later generation NAPs, there are often lower level working groups that involve the agencies with implementation responsibilities. These working groups often include civil society actors.

SWEDEN:
For continual follow-up of the action plan, and the enable mutual learning and exchange of experience, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs will convene meetings twice a year. Affected ministries and government agencies will be summoned to attend. These follow-up meetings can also be used as an occasion at which to utilise the knowledge and experience gained by staff stationed abroad.

CANADA:
DFAIT will convene regular meetings of an interdepartmental working group and inform senior management on progress. Canada welcomes, in particular, the contribution of Canadian civil society to the development, implementation and monitoring of the Action Plan and looks forward to continuing and active discussion of Women, Peace and Security.

JAPAN:
In order for appropriate monitoring and evaluation, various experiences of implementing entities will be shared and the Monitoring Working Group consisting of representatives of ministries and agencies ans the Evaluation Committee consisting of experienced experts (including representatives of civil society and NGOs) with sufficient knowledge and experience in the field of Women, Peace, and Security will closely coordinate.

UNITED STATES:
Working through the Inter-Agency Policy Committee, departments and agencies will report on progress made toward achieving the goals and commitments contained in the National Action Plan and agency-level implementation plans, which the Assistant to the President and National Security Advisor will draw upon to provide an annual report to the President.

Figure 7: Governance structure breakdown for Sweden, Canada, Japan and the United States

Nepal has a particularly comprehensive governance framework to coordinate the NAP's implementation. It is multi-layered, includes high-level actors from government, UN and civil society, and allows for international reporting arrangements – making it more transparent. It has three distinct forums – their roles and responsibilities are outlined below:

Governance Structure: Nepal

HIGH LEVEL STEERING COMMITTEE

High level government actors and civil society, responsible for:

- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Policy Development
- Inter-agency coordination
- Advocating for national and international support
- Support for department level working plans
- Reporting progress to the UN

IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

Government actors and UN Women – Nepal, responsible for:

- Implementing the decisions o the Steering Committee
- Support and direction for department level plans
- Resourcing, monitoring and progress reporting to Steering Committee

DISTRICT COORDINATION COMMITTEE

- Operate at the local / community level
- Government, police, education and civil society, responsible for:
- NAP actions implemented
- Monitoring and Evaluation

Figure 8: The Nepal NAP - governance structure

The second Canadian NAP assigns an Advisory Board at the Director General level with responsibility for implementing the WPS agenda. In addition, however, it identifies "WPS champions" in each department who will support the advancement of the agenda (see below).

Canada's second National Action Plan
Each lead Action Plan partner has identified a WPS champion. These individuals will act as key resources on the agenda in their respective departments. The champions are responsible for delivering on the implementation of their commitments and for ensuring the approach is coherent. WPS champions will meet with the Action Plan Advisory Group, as a minimum, in connection with the preparation or tabling of progress reports.

Box 7: The second Canadian NAP - WPS Champions[74]

EMERGING BEST PRACTICE: GOVERNANCE
Current NAPs identify at least two levels of governance: (1) a high-level committee/ inter-departmental working group that is convened by the lead agencies (and usually meets twice a year); (2) a lower level working group that engages the day-to-day workings of NAP implementation and meets more regularly. Best practice principles include:

- Ensuring that the governance framework is multi-levelled, inclusive and accountable with clearly articulated roles and responsibilities
- Including civil society within the formal governance structure

6.3 ACTIVITIES

A NAP's primary goal is to deliver meaningful and measurable change to the lives of women and girls affected by conflict. To deliver these changes, NAPs have activities and actions that are the practical language and tools to deliver on a country's WPS commitments. Typically organised around priority areas (see section 5), these actions and their specificity significantly shape the possibilities of this change.

First generation NAPs, such as those produced by the Netherlands, Sweden and the UK are heavily narrative-focused. No specific action points or implementation matrix resulted in the lack of a mechanism to drive meaningful action. Furthermore, many early plans fail to assign a party specifically responsible for implementation. These issues have been addressed in more recent NAPs where activities have become increasingly specific.

Of the NAPs evaluated, the first Irish plan addresses the gap in ownership. The plan assigns a responsible agency to every activity; however, many activities are broad and require input from multiple agencies to complete appropriately. Where this happens, the Irish plan assigns a lead agency to avoid the debt in accountability. An example of such an activity is: "ensure the ongoing provision of financial support to […] advance the capacity of Irish state and non-state organisations to respond effectively to GBV […]". This activity is assigned to both the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and the Defence Forces – but highlights DFAT as the responsible and accountable owner. Such a set-up ensures traceability for the effective monitoring and evaluation of activities.

P3.O2 Strengthen the institutional and collective capacity of Irish organisations to respond effectively and systematically to GBV and SEA as experienced by women affected by conflict	P3.A2.1 Ensure the ongoing provision of financial support to, and active engagement with, the JC-GBV to advance the capacity of Irish state and non-state organisations to respond effectively to GBV and SEA	**DFAT** Defence Forces	Continue to support and engage actively in the JC-GBV and contribute to the delivery of agreed annual objectives and indicators (reported on an annual basis) Level of funding provided Staff hours allocated to JC-GBV	Ongoing

Excerpt 18: The first Irish NAP - example of 'best practice' activity statement[75]

As previously noted, the second Irish NAP drills down to assign activities to divisions within implementing agencies (see below).

PILLAR 1:
Prevention of Conflict, Including Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA)

Commitment	Actions	Actor	Indicator
1a) Continue the implementation of effective training policies on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, human rights, gender equality, and international humanitarian law for all relevant Irish staff deployed overseas	Promote best practice in effective training on Women, Peace and Security issues by sharing lessons-learned, including through supporting the United Nations Training School Ireland (UNTSI) as a centre of excellence, as well as training of civilian deployees	Defence Forces, DFAT (Political Division)	Number of Irish and international military and civilian deployees and potential deployees trained on Women, Peace and Security issues Regular, quality, up-to-date training on issues relating to Women, Peace and Security
1b) Address the issue of impunity for conflict-related sexual violence in national and international legal systems	Advocate in international fora (in particular the International Criminal Court) and, where appropriate, in domestic legislation for greater accountability for conflict related sexual violence as a war crime, crime against humanity and act of genocide	DFAT (Political Division, Legal Division, Development Co-operation Division (DCD))	Number and quality of references in national interventions and statements Financial contributions to international organisations and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working on fighting impunity

Excerpt 19: The second Irish NAP – assigning activities to divisions within implementing agencies[76]

The third UK NAP and its accompanying implementation plan is a best practice example of activities and shows its increasing maturity, drawing on lessons learned from the previous two plans. The first plan had general objectives and owners that were unspecific, an example of which is "HMG to ensure that gender elements are incorporated in the objectives of Security Council missions to areas of conflict […]". The second plan increased the activity specificity and assigned department level owners, increasing the Government's ability to monitor progress against the plan. The third NAP's implementation plan is divided up into the WPS pillars with specific outcome statements. For example, the outcome for participation is "[a]ctive inclusion of women, and women and girls' interests, in decision-making processes related to the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts." Reflecting its theory of change approach, the outcome is then directly connected to the outputs and activities.

Figure 9: Drawn from the third United Kingdom NAP, translating outcomes to activities

EMERGING BEST PRACTICE: ACTIVITIES

Emerging best practice NAPs are designing activities that are:

- Highly specific in focus
- Owned by implementation agencies with clearly defined responsibilities
- Aligned with overall goals and intended outcomes

6.4 MONITORING AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORKS

The purpose of a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E), or Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) framework is to derive answers to three questions:

1. **Implementation:** Are we doing what we said we would do?
2. **Impact:** Are we achieving the goals we want to achieve?
3. **Reflection:** How can we improve upon our performance?

An MEL framework is essential to tracing the implementation and impact of activities undertaken by states to advance the WPS agenda. The *Global Study* reinforces this by noting that "[f]or NAPs to show concrete results in the lives of women, girls and their communities, their actual impact should be systematically monitored and regularly assessed."[77] However, the failure to implement a strong MEL framework is widely identified as a major weakness of national action plans.[78]

Yet, there is evidence of growing sophistication in the MEL frameworks of NAPs, particularly those that are in their second and third iterations. A general marker of this maturity is a trend towards specificity, clarity and transparency in terms of the features that guide NAP implementation. This includes the:

- Design of qualitative and quantitative indicators (which may also include timelines and targets)
- Establishment of baseline data so that progress can be measured
- Consideration of which evaluation tools should be used and their resourcing
- Appointment of an external MEL specialist to design or advise on the framework

6.4.1 INDICATORS

The establishment of indicators in NAPs is a reasonably recent development. An indicator is a specific and measurable statement that can show progress is being made towards a particular outcome. The first NAPs of the UK, Sweden, Netherlands and the US do not set out any indicators. Ultimately, they make measuring progress against NAPs' goals difficult.

Many of the second and third generation NAPs, as well as those released after 2010 (with the exception of the first US NAP) address this through the development of some indicators. Examples of indicators include those established in the second NAP of Ireland below:

PILLAR 3:
Protection From Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and Other Violations of Women's Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law, and Relief, Recovery, and Rehabilitation

Commitment	Actions	Actor	Indicator
3a) Work to eliminate the scourge of sexual violence in conflict	Support initiatives which increase awareness of sexual violence in conflict and build the capacity of the Irish NGO sector, including continuing to actively support the Irish Consortium on Gender Based Violence	DFAT (DCD), Defence Forces	Continued active engagement including financial support for the ICGBV
	Increase and improve training for Defence Forces personnel who may be investigating cases of sexual assault, to ensure the victim receives the required support whilst an unbiased investigation is carried out	Defence Forces	Training policy implemented
	Continue to work towards ratification by Ireland of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention)	Department of Justice and Equality (DJE) (Cosc)	Convention ratified
	Develop a National Strategy on Sexual and Gender Based Violence	DJE	Strategy reflects principles of Women, Peace and Security, including prevention, protection and participation where appropriate

Excerpt 20: Second Irish National Action Plan – indicator example[79]

The positive trend by more mature NAPs to develop indicators is in line with the 2010 Secretary-General's Report on Women, Peace and Security (see box below).

The 2010 Secretary-General's Report on Women, Peace and Security outlined the principles for WPS indicators as follows:
(a) Indicators must be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound;
(b) Indicators should be gender-sensitive, and include both qualitative and quantitative features, so as to be capable of tracking changes at the local, national, regional and international levels;
(c) The indicators would be organised in line with the five pillars of the 2008-2009 United Nations System-wide Action Plan on implementing resolution 1325 (2000);
(d) The indicators would be developed through a consultative process and would draw from a mapping exercise of existing indicators. New indicators would be developed where gaps in monitoring and data collection were identified.

Box 8: 2010 Secretary-General's Report on Women, Peace and Security - principles of WPS indicators[80]

In this sense, the UK Implementation Plan is a good practice example. It is specific and detailed, and outlines 12 high level indicators evenly distributed across the four pillars (participation, prevention, protection, relief and recovery). It further contains 82 baseline indicators (where a baseline exists) (e.g. three meetings held in the past year) and 82 target indicators (e.g. quarterly meetings held throughout the period to better inform government policy and engagement with the army). It combines qualitative and quantitative indicators. As such, it is the only NAP under review that, to some extent, allows measuring some impact. This framework was designed by independent monitoring and evaluation specialists.

6.4.2 ESTABLISHING A BASELINE

The establishment of baseline data is essential to tracking progress as it provides the starting point from which progress can be measured. For many second iteration NAPs, that baseline was established through data gathered during reporting for the first iteration. However, where that hasn't been the case, or activities have expanded into new areas, building baselines is a core activity.

The UK commits to developing and publishing an Implementation Plan with baseline data on this National Acttion Plan by the end of 2014. This baseline data will be used as a benchmark to access UK efforts on Women, Peace and Security throughout the life of this National Action Plan by each of the FCO, DFID, and MOD.

Figure 10: The third UK NAP - establishing a baseline for future activity measurement

Baseline data can be gathered both qualitatively and quantitatively. For instance, the second Irish NAP commits in its M&E framework to collecting impact statements on WPS issues in its pre- and post-deployment surveys for all relevant civilian and military staff.

6.4.3 EVALUATION TOOLS

Most NAPs adopt a quantitative approach to evaluation which may count the frequency, ratio, percentage or quantity of issue or activity. However, this approach does not necessarily provide the tools to assess the *impact* of NAPs. More recently, it is becoming an emerging practice for NAPs to include a mixture of quantitative and qualitative measurements. Examples of qualitative evaluation techniques include:

- Impact statements (see second Irish NAP referenced above)
- Most significant change stories (see second Dutch NAP below)
- Mapping attitudinal change over the life of the NAP
- Targeted focus group discussions/ interviews

The second Netherland NAP is worth highlighting as it develops an alternative, innovative monitoring and evaluation system that seeks to measure both quantitative and qualitative elements of activities:

THE QUANTITATIVE LEVEL

Collaborative efforts will be evaluated first. A monitoring matrix has been developed for this purpose, listing different forms of collaboration between the different types of Dutch NAP signatory organisations. The results of collaboration on every specific objective of this NAP will be measured annually, in all the focus countries, including the MENA region.

THE QUALITATIVE LEVEL

The outcome and – where appropriate – the impact of the activities will therefore be monitored and evaluated using innovative participatory techniques, such as the Most Significant Change (MSC) technique. MSC involves storytelling to collect information about activities. Designated stakeholders help select stories about the interventions that have prompted the most significant change. This is a participatory method that stimulates discussion among stakeholders about the outcome and impact of their activities.

Box 9: The second Netherland's NAP - example of best practice monitoring[81]

As highlighted below, the third UK NAP commits to the collection of in-country data in its priority countries to assess impact. Given that the goal of National Action Plans is to improve the lives of women and girls affected by conflict, the collection of data on the lived experiences of conflict-affected women and girls is essential to assessing impact. Furthermore, in providing a localised understanding of what is –and is not – achieving the NAP's goals, states are able to scale-up or revise activities throughout the NAPs lifespan.

Section 9: Monitoring and Evaluation

There is a lack of evidence and country-level data on Women, Peace and Security issues and on 'what works' in driving forward gender equality in fragile and conflict-affected states. Through stringent monitoring and evaluation of the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, the UK now has a real opportunity to help build this evidence base by innovating, testing and potentially scaling up the wide range of interventions outlined in this document. The UK has therefore allocated specific funding to the external and independent monitoring and evaluation of this new National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security.

Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of our efforts is crucial in generating evidence and learning about what is working within our Women, Peace and Security programmes and policy engagement and what is not; it will help us identify better ways of doing things, ensure that lessons are learned during the development process; and improve our ability to respond to change. The monitoring and evaluation of our National Action Plan will therefore focus on whether planned changes have taken place, how changes have impacted, or not, on different groups of women and girls, and will investigate the theory behind our Women, Peace and Security Intervention Framework.

To assess the UK's implementation of this National Action Plan, external Monitoring and Evaluation specialists will consider the extent to which Women, Peace and Security has been mainstreamed across the UK's diplomatic, defence and development activities, where appropriate.

Additional resources will be allocated to collect country-specific data, where crucial unknown information (such as the extent of violence against women and girls, the extent to which female parliamentarians are able to influence the policy process or the situation in particular humanitarian situations) can be collected during dedicated country visits. More details of this data will be released with the baseline report by the end of 2014.

Throughout, we will assess whether our work represents good value for money.

In 2017, a final report will evaluate the UK's implementation of the NAP, corresponding outputs and outcomes and will capture and report lessons. It will be publically available and reported to Parliament through the Associate Parliamentary Group on Women, Peace and Security.

Excerpt 21: The third United Kingdom NAP - monitoring and evaluation[82]

6.4.4 SEPARATING NAPS FROM IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

Finally, it is worth noting that a few NAPs develop their M&E framework (or the whole implementation matrix) separately or at a later stage following the release of the NAP. This is often justified by the ambition to make them more context-specific, and to give stakeholders an opportunity to consider the plan before finalising the implementation strategy. However, there is an associated risk that readers (including the implementers) of the NAP will be unaware of the subsequently developed implementation matrix. This may be the case of the third UK NAP which was followed by a very comprehensive Implementation Plan developed a year later.

Annex - detail of activities by country - AFGHANISTAN

Pillar One: Participation of Women in Peace Processes and Decision-making

Outcome	High-level Indicators
Active inclusion of women, and women and girls' interests, in decision-making processes related to the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts.	1. Women's political participation in parliaments, regional parliaments and ministerial positions
	2. Women's political participation as voters and candidates
	3. Representation of women among mediators, negotiators and technical experts in formal peace negotiations

Activity	Indicators	
	Baseline (October 2014)	Target September 2017 (unless otherwise indicated)
Output - 1.2 The UK encourages meaningful political participation by women and girls.		
1.2.1 - Support women's political participation in peace and transition processes taking place in conflict-affected states, including by: supporting local governance programmes, encouraging female voter participation and promoting and strengthening women's participation in elections, constitution-drafting processes and national dialogues, including by working with men and boys.		
In Afghanistan, the UK will continue to encourage female voter participation through training for female candidates and councillors, dialogue forums to foster wider support for women's participation and the incorporation of gender issues in electoral plans.	Unreliable data on number of newly registered women voters. There has been no census in Afghanistan for decades and voter lists are notoriously unreliable.	Independent Election Commission identifies that 30% newly registered voters are women by 2015.
1.2.2 - Work with other donors and UN Member States to lobby for recognition of women as crucial participants in political and peace processes taking place in conflict-affected states, including by: pushing for women's full representation in ongoing peace processes; and supporting UN Special Envoys and SRSGs to involve women in peace building and negotiation processes.		
In Afghanistan, the UK will work with other donors and UN Member States to lobby for the recognition of women as crucial participants in any developing peace process in country.	Limited participation of women in high level peace discussions (nine out of circa seventy members of the High Peace Council are female).	Greater recognition of the importance of women's meaningful inclusion in peace processes including statements from members of the new Afghan government demonstrating commitment to the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

Excerpt 22: The United Kingdom - implementation plan (supporting the third UK NAP)[83]

EMERGING BEST PRACTICE: MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING

The monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) frameworks of NAPs are gradually becoming stronger and more coherent, with greater specificity. There is an increased understanding that these frameworks need to better measure the impact of NAP activities against the stated goals of the plan. Frameworks that are attempting to do this have the following features:

- The establishment of a combination of qualitative and quantitative indictors that are specific and measurable
- The inclusion of baseline data
- The inclusion of timeframes and targets
- The appointment of a consultant to design or advise on the MEL framework
- The collection of in-country impact data for outward-facing NAPs

6.5 REPORTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

With the exception of the early plans (the first NAPs of the UK, Sweden, Netherlands, and the US), most NAPs under review outline some form of reporting and/or review mechanism. However, the frequency, form and the responsible agency/ organisation vary. Moreover, these mechanisms are typically characterised by no or weak accountability.

Early plans mention a reporting requirement in passing – if at all – or they sometimes aim to integrate NAP reporting with other reporting mechanisms already in place (the first NAPs of the UK, Sweden, Netherlands, and the US).

Later NAPs establish, most commonly, an annual reporting mechanism. The annual reports

are typically completed by the leading agency (e.g. the second and third UK NAPs reports are compiled by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the third Sweden NAP by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the first Canada NAP by the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development) or by a specifically appointed working group (the first and second Ireland NAP reports are completed by the Monitoring Group and the first Japan NAP by the Monitoring Working Group).

In addition to annual reporting, most NAPs in the sample establish review processes: typically a final review and/or a mid-term review. While most NAPs are unspecific beyond the year of the reviews, some countries in our research sample undertake independent reviews (e.g. the mid-term review of the first Canada NAP was completed by Inclusive Security, the review of the first Japan NAP is to be conducted by the Evaluation Committee, and the second Sweden NAP has an external evaluation process).

The quality of reporting varies. In some cases, NAP reports reflect a bookkeeping exercise and merely list the number and description of activities without any assessment of impact or evaluation of lessons learned. This is a weakness typically associated with a poor MEL framework.

Most NAP reports and reviews are published and available for the scrutiny of civil society actors and independent experts. Some are further tabled in the Parliament (e.g. the second and third UK NAPs) or presented to the President (e.g. the first and second US NAPs). Ultimately, for most NAPs, the reporting/review processes are the only accountability mechanism.

EMERGING BEST PRACTICE: REPORTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

A common weakness of NAPs under review is that there is no formal accountability mechanism for non-compliance with implementation obligations. The quality of NAP reporting often mirrors the strength of the MEL framework. Examples of high-impact reporting include:

- A combination of internal and external/independent reviews
- Adequate resources dedicated to the reporting process
- A feasible review structure focused upon the quality – rather than the frequency – of reviews
- A timeline and process in which government and the community can reflect upon learnings generated by the review and its recommendations

7

CIVIL SOCIETY INVOLVEMENT

7. CIVIL SOCIETY INVOLVEMENT

CIVIL SOCIETY'S ROLES IN NAPS

DEVELOPMENT
Technical and subject matter experts can assist in shaping the scope of the NAP, providing analysis and lessons learned, and ensuring the NAP is results-focused

ADVOCACY
Civil society can advocate for the WPS agenda by supporting NAP-allies in government, and incresing knowledge about the WPS agenda among the broader community

IMPLEMENTATION
Civil society can be implementing partners in conflict-affected areas, delivering programs and sharing their on-the-ground experience and knowledge

MONITORING AND EVALUTION
Civil society is often well-placed to undertake qualitiative, independent and grounded monitoring, evaluation and learning

Figure 11: Civil society's roles in NAPs

Civil society performs an important role in progressing WPS implementation. Research suggests that where civil society is involved in the NAP process (see above), the NAP itself is more likely to be specific and responsive to women's needs.[84] And yet, the 2017 Report of the Secretary-General on Women, Peace and Security notes that of the adopted NAPs many "have gaps in […] meaningful civil society inclusion."[85] The table below provides a snapshot of the points at which civil society is involved in each NAP, as reported by the NAP itself (see Annex 2 for further details). However, it is important to note that the relationships between civil society and governments are dynamic and change throughout the lifespan of a NAP. Moreover, NAPs outline the formal relationships between government and civil society but rarely highlight the strength of informal relationships which too are important for maintaining commitment to the WPS agenda.[86]

	CIVIL SOCIETY INVOLVEMENT			
NAP	**Consultations**	**Drafting**	**Implementation**	**Monitoring & evaluation**
UK 1	×	×	some	×
UK 2	✓	✓	✓	✓
UK 3	✓	✓	some	✓
Sweden 1	X	some	some	×
Sweden 2	X	some	some	some
Sweden 3	✓	✓	✓	×
Netherlands 1	✓	✓	✓	some
Netherlands 2	✓	✓	✓	✓
Netherlands 3	some	some	some	some
Canada 1	some	×	×	some
Canada 2	✓	×	✓	✓
Ireland 1	✓	✓	some	some
Ireland 2	✓	×	×	some
Nepal	✓	×	✓	some
US 1	some	×	some	some
US 2	some	×	some	some
Japan	some	×	×	some

✓ NAP is relatively specific in its references to civil society involvement

some: NAP mentions civil society but is unspecific about its roles

× NAP doesn't mention civil society in any substantive way

Table 5: Civil society involvement by country and phase

7.1 DEVELOPMENT

UNSCR 2242 calls on member states to develop their NAPs in "broad consultation, including with civil society, in particular women's organizations."[87] The *Global Study* similarly notes that "inclusive design process" is among the key features of impactful NAPs. Although consulting civil society actors has over time become a common practice, we note that the extent of this involvement varies from case to case.

Early plans, including the first NAPs of the UK, Sweden and the US failed to consult civil society. This contributed to these policies being more narrative or tokenistic rather than action-focused and impactful. In response to the global developments in the WPS agenda and the recognition of the crucial expertise held by civil society, the NAPs adopted after 2010 commonly consult women's organisations.

Many plans remain unspecific about the role of civil society actors in NAP development. Sweden's second NAP notes that the drafting process was "guided by a dialogue with various stakeholders: government agencies, NGOs, research institutions, international organisations and other countries." Similarly, the US first plan reports on "consultations with representatives of civil society in the United States […] to inform this document." No further details are given and hence, the meaningfulness of these consultation processes and their impact upon the final NAP is hard to assess.

The NAP of Nepal has been recognised globally as a best practice example. It has been described by its writers as "a result of an *exemplary collaborative process* between the Government, international development partners and the civil society, including women's networks and organizations"[88] (emphasis added) and highlighted as such by the *Global Study*.[89] Over 3,000 participants took part in the consultation processes conducted through 52 district-level meetings and workshops. It is fair to say that these consultations were driven by civil society. Conflict-affected women were among the participants and this translated into the high specificity of the plan's implementation matrix.

Among outward-focused NAPs, the UK and Netherlands are examples of best practice. Both countries engaged in consultations with conflict-affected women. The UK involved their major civil society partner, the network Gender Action for Peace and Security (GAPS), who further supported the Government in conducting consultations with women's organisation in conflict-affected areas.

Civil society involvement in developing UK's third NAP.
Civil Society also played an important role in the developmental process. Regular cross-governmental consultations with, and recommendations from Gender Action for Peace and Security (GAPS) and its members, have all helped inform this National Action Plan […].
GAPS conducted overseas consultative workshops in several of our focus countries. These independent consultations with almost 100 women from civil society and country governments ensured that women's grassroots views have been integrated into this Plan.

Box 10: Overview of civil society's involvement in development the United Kingdom's third NAP[90]

The inclusion of the views from conflict-affected women allowed the UK's third generation NAP to be shaped from multiple perspectives. It was subsequently translated into the highly specific and result-oriented Implementation Plan.

7.2 IMPLEMENTATION

Non-governmental organisations, especially those based in conflict-affected countries, undertake important work related to the WPS agenda. Many of them engage in service provision to conflict-affected women or in advocacy for their empowerment and participation. Yet, there is no common agreement as to whether civil society should be a NAP implementing agency. That is, beyond receiving government funding for their on-ground work, experts' opinions differ as to whether civil society organisations should have a formal outlined role in implementing NAPs or whether they should remain an independent party.[91]

The NAPs in the research sample commonly recognise the important work done by civil society on the ground. However, only two countries are specific about having civil society as implementing partners: Nepal and the Netherlands. In case of Nepal, the NAP includes civil society organisations in the bodies that oversee the course of implementation: The Steering Committee and the District Committees. It is worth noting the civil society members of the Steering Committee are mentioned by organisation name. Furthermore, the implementation matrix assigned some activities to civil society but only as supporting agencies (as opposed to the primary responsible agencies).

The three Dutch NAPs consistently involve civil society as implementing partners. While the first plan noted the important role of civil society in the delivery of the NAP's objectives, this is articulated most strongly in the second and third generation plans. Both explicitly name civil society organisations who appear on the documents as 'signatories,' next to the government agencies. They are effectively the NAP implementers and for this reason the Netherlands is recognised as a best practice example by the *Global Study.*[92]

The Dutch partners listed below (in alphabetical order) have declared their intention to support the active execution of the Dutch National Action Plan for the urgent implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, with respect for each partner's role, mandate and expertise.

African Sky
Burundian Women for Peace and Development
Centre for Conflict Studies – University of Utrecht
Clingendael Netherlands Institute of International Relations
Cordaid
Defence Women's Network
E-Quality
Fund for the Advancement of Women's Human Rights in Francophone Africa
Gender Concerns International
Hivos
ICCO and Church in Action
IKV Pax Christi
Ministry of Defence
Ministry of Education, Culture and Science
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Multicultural Women Peacemakers Network
Netherlands Council of Women
Netherlands Expertisecentre Alternatives to Violence
Netherlands Women's Organizations for Gender and Development
Nuffic
Oxfam Novib
Platform Women and Sustainable Peace
Refugee Organizations of the Netherlands
Rights for Change
SNV Netherlands Development Organisation
StopAidsNow!
Sundjata Foundation
Support Trust for African Development
The Darfur Women Foundation in the Netherlands
TIYE International
Tosangana Foundation
Wageningen University
WO=MEN Dutch Gender Platform
Women for Peace
Women for Peace on the Moluccas
Women in Europe for a Common Future
Women Peacemakers Programme – International Fellowship of Reconciliation
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom - Netherlands
YWCA

Excerpt 23: The second Netherland NAP - involvement of civil society groups[93]

This represents a high-level of cooperation between the Dutch Government and civil society. Furthermore, being a signatory to the plan, civil society organisations have had the opportunity to formally endorse it. Arguably, as a result, the Netherlands' second and third generation plans have a higher chance of being meaningfully implemented and transformative.

7.3 MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING

While experts disagree on the role of civil society in implementing NAPs, they are unanimous about the importance of civil society involvement in monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL). Civil society organisations play a crucial role in holding governments accountable to their policies. Moreover, they often can support governments in data gathering and impact assessment processes. Indeed, members of civil society are best placed to gather independent qualitative data on NAP impact and provide an independent assessment and recommendations.[94]

The early plans traditionally failed to include civil society in monitoring and evaluation processes. Later NAPs place more emphasis on improved monitoring and evaluation controls and recognise that for it to occur, civil society involvement is essential. Yet, despite recurring references to civil society, the majority of them do not provide much detail (e.g. Ireland's and Canada's first plans or the second NAPs of the US and Sweden). Civil society participation in this process is ultimately overwhelmingly unspecific.

There are, nonetheless, good practice examples of NAPs that involve civil society in one of two major ways. The first way is resourcing shadow reporting. Such formal shadow reporting mechanism has been established in UK's second and third NAPs. The Gender Action for Peace and Security (GAPS) Network has been producing such shadow reports on an annual basis since 2011.

BUILDING NATIONAL CAPACITY

Outputs	UK Government Activities	Lead
Output 5.2: The UK is transparent whenever possible about its decisions related to the National Action Plan	UK will develop a cross-Government mechanism to ensure that all training on Women, Peace, and Security is delivered, both externally and internally, to the accredited standard.	FCO DFID SU MOD
	UK will develop an Implementation Plan and publish yearly progress reports, measuring our success against baseline data collected in 2014. We will report from Autumn 2015 in response to this National Action Plan - with the intent of continually improving our delivery on the ground. These reports will be deposited in Parliament, and shared with the Associate Parliamentary Group on Women, Peace and Security.	FCO DFID MOD
	The UK will welcome an annual Shadow Report on the UK National Action Plan each year from the UK Gender Action on Peace and Security (GAPS) network.	FCO DFID MOD
	The UK will engage annually with trusted multilateral and international partners on implementation and reporting of National Action Plans. This includes the six focus countries: Afghanistan, Burma, Democratic Republic of Congo, Libya, Somalia and Syria; and, but not exclusively, the UN, NATO, EU, AU, France, Canada, Australia, and the United States. We hope and will actively encourage future relationships with others.	FCO DFID MOD

Excerpt 24: The third United Kingdom NAP - civil society involvement in shadow reporting[95]

The second way in which governments can meaningfully involve civil society in M&E processes is through their inclusion on monitoring and/or evaluation committees. Ireland's second NAP clearly stipulates that "[t]he Monitoring Group will include at least 50% representation from civil society and academia," while Japan developed an action point on the creation of the Evaluation Committee, with expert members from civil society.

EMERGING BEST PRACTICE: CIVIL SOCIETY INVOLVEMENT

NAPs produced through strong relationships with government and civil society demonstrate the following features:

- Civil society are resourced to undertake consultations prior to the adoption of the NAP
- Civil society have a clearly defined role in the drafting and feedback processes of NAP design
- The formal roles of civil society are clearly outlined in the NAP
- Civil society play a formal role in governance, accountability and MEL processes

CONCLUSION

The *purpose* of a national action plan is to articulate a state's practical commitment to implement the UN's Women, Peace and Security agenda. Its *goal* should be to make a positive impact in the lives of women and girls affected by conflict. However, one cannot be achieved without the other.
This comparative analysis across seventeen national action plans of eight countries demonstrates that high-impact NAPs are those that are able to clearly articulate and explicate both its purpose and its goal. What this means in practice is that the NAP can effortlessly explain – in detail – what it does, why, and with what impact.

High-impact NAPs are also those that seek to *breakdown traditional divides* – between government and civil society; foreign and domestic government agencies and policies; and between 'hard' security issues and those of development and human rights. NAPs that have done this with success have modelled more inclusive design processes. While this may seem burdensome, it is better reflective of the spirit of the WPS agenda and the sites in which it operates. After all, the root causes of conflict will not be addressed if it is seen simply as a government-only responsibility, or a foreign policy issue. It requires recognising the cleavages and overlaps between geographies, agendas and politics.
High-impact NAPs are also more confident in the strength of their relationship with civil society and more willing to be strengthened by external input and scrutiny.

NAPs that have embraced this are ultimately *more focussed, defined and specific*. They offer a clearer explanation of their own WPS vision and can better identify where their interventions are best placed. Finally, high-impact NAPs are those that can provide an *evidence-based account of their impact*. This requires a considered commitment to evaluation tools, independence in analysis, and learning from successes and setbacks.

Certainly, the capacity to achieve these elements of a NAP increases with experience. Second and third iteration NAPs undoubtedly become more mature and refined in their approaches as states become more familiar with their own contexts, limits and opportunities. Yet, there is also an opportunity for all UN Member States to learn from experiences of existing NAPs, to continue to strengthen the global implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

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95 Third UK NAP, p. 19.

9

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: EMERGING ISSUES

Code: UK= United Kingdom; SE= Sweden; NL= Netherlands; CA=Canada; IE= Ireland; NP= Nepal; US= United States; JP= Japan

	Violent Extremism	SDGs	Disaster Response and Climate Change	Displacement	Continuum of Violence	SEA and Human Trafficking	Diversity	Men and boys
UK 1				**Displacement** – Identifies support to UNHCR's work with Age, Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming (AGDM) and reduction of gender based violence against refugees.			**Weak intersectionality** – Identifies support to UNHCR's work with Age, Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming (AGDM) and reduction of gender based violence against refugees.	
UK 2					**VAW** - identified in the narrative report and some action points. Aims to tackle international VAW. Calls for UK NAP to be incorporated into wider cross Government work on VAW.		**Intersectionality**: Identifies local culture and customs, including related gender considerations. Activities also mention diversity training for the UK's armed forces.	Identified in the narrative report the support to locally-led and owned efforts to reduce violence against women and girls, including targeting men and boys.
UK 3	**Terrorism -** Terrorism and 'small arms' are highlighted.		Identifies women and girl's needs in complex emergencies;		Links WPS to the broader work on women's rights, access to justice, and the prevention of violence is one of the guiding principles;	Human trafficking – Identifies that WPS should complement work on human trafficking and SEA;	**Weak intersectionality** - Identifies that discrimination on the grounds of gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, disability, class and caste is endemic across the world;	Identifies that work with men and boys is one of the guiding principles – highlighting that men and boys, women and girls can all be perpetrators.
SE1						Intention for an action plan against prostitution and human trafficking,		Some references throughout the plan.

	Violent Extremism	SDGs	Disaster Response and Climate Change	Displacement	Continuum of Violence	SEA and Human Trafficking	Diversity	Men and boys
SE2								Identifies that men in senior positions have a particular responsibility to include women and facilitate female participation.
SE3	**Violent extremism** – aims/goals framework calls to ensure the inclusion of gender perspectives in measures intended to counteract and prevent radicalisation and violent extremism;	The 2030 Agenda/ Gender equality goal – is identified but without giving any insights into it;						Identifies that implementation requires the broad involvement of women, men, girls and boys; the goals/ aims framework as well as in conflict prevention.
NL1					**VAW** – Identifies patterns of continuity in gender conflict and sexual violence between periods of peace, formal or real, and periods of open conflict, this is not addressed in the action matrix;		**Weak intersectionality** – Identifies intersections between gender and class and other social or ethnic differences; action points mention the need to address the varying interests and needs of women and men.	Narrative report identifies gender relations but this is not addressed in the action matrix;
NL2				**Displacement** - attention will be focused on groups of women who are especially vulnerable because they are widowed, displaced or have been affiliated with the fighting forces.	**VAW** – Identifies that women repeatedly suffer an increase in domestic violence during and after conflict, which is often related to men and women's shifting gender roles.		**Intersectionality** – Special attention paid to groups of women who are especially vulnerable due to circumstance. Calls for Diaspora, migrant, women's and peace organisations to be actively involved in implementation.	Identifies that securing male understanding and support for UNSCR 1325 is crucial for implementation. Achieved by a broader conception of gender by including a masculinities perspective on peace and security.

	Violent Extremism	SDGs	Disaster Response and Climate Change	Displacement	Continuum of Violence	SEA and Human Trafficking	Diversity	Men and boys
NL3	Identifies that violent extremist groups deliberately target women's rights in conflict and post-conflict societies; includes activity to monitor and address CVE and counterterrorist policies to avoid undermining gender equality and women's organisations.			Displacement – Identifies the needs of displaced women and refugees but there are no activities;			**Weak intersectionality** – Identifies that men and women who challenge existing gender norms (e.g. transgender) but there are no associated activities	Identifies the gender analysis of men and masculinity, gendered vulnerabilities of both women and men and the interdependencies between them; one output and three following activities are focused on the engagement of men and boys;
CA1						Makes note of 'Human Trafficking' in the narrative.	**Weak intersectionality** – Identifies indigenous women and sex and age-disaggregated data;	
CA2	Violent Extremism: Mentions the important role of women in counter-terrorism and countering violent extremism; Mentions the Global Coalition against Daesh; Public Safety Canada's Implementation Plan is focused fully on Countering Radicalization to Violence;	SDG: Dedicates a section to SDGs, mentions Goals 5 and 16; Mentions that The WPS agenda aligns with the 2030 Agenda; Notes that building and sustaining peace in fragile and conflict-affected contexts requires rapid and flexible interventions, as well as longer- term efforts to address the root causes of instability.	Mentions the important role of women in humanitarian response; puts women and girls—gender equality, empowerment and human rights—at the centre of decisions on humanitarian action, development assistance; focus on SRHR	Mentions displacement once in passing but mentions refugee in several places; Through the Women at Risk program, Canada provides resettlement opportunities to women abroad in precarious or permanently unstable situations. This includes women who are experiencing significant difficulties, such as harassment by local authorities or members of their own communities.	Recognizes the continuum of violence and discriminative gender norms; mentions its program *It's Time: Canada's Strategy to Prevent and Address Gender-Based Violence*	Dedicates considerable attention to SEA, addresses sexual misconducts in the Canadian Defence; the NAP's second objective is to Prevent, respond to and end impunity for sexual and gender-based violence perpetrated in conflict and sexual exploitation and abuse by peacekeepers and other international personnel, including humanitarian and development staff; Mentions that Canada will advocate for Zero tolerance for sexual exploitation and abuse by peacekeepers and other international personnel, including humanitarian and development staff; This is reflected in several action points on pre-deployment training and peace operations;	Integrates diversity and intersectionality throughout the NAP and the Implementation Plans, both domestically and internationally; Develops a gender and diversity mainstreaming tool: Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA+), an analytical tool used throughout the Government of Canada to assess how diverse groups of women, men, and gender-diverse people may experience policies, programs and initiatives—WPS efforts included. GBA+ reminds all decision makers that policies must be assessed through a feminist lens, based on all identity factors, such as gender, race, ethnicity, religion, age, sexual orientation and ability.	Mentions men and boys multiples times, primarily in the NAP but also in the Implementation Plans Mentions that Canada recognizes that women and men must be equally committed to changing attitudes, behaviours and roles to support gender equality. This is why Canada's Feminist Foreign Policy requires engaging men and boys, alongside women and girls, as agents and beneficiaries of change in peace and gender equality. Also mentions that Canada's feminist approach involves men and boys as partners in transformative change. Men and boys can be powerful actors in preventing gender-based violence and the marginalization of women and girls, as well as in creating opportunities for them.

	Violent Extremism	SDGs	Disaster Response and Climate Change	Displacement	Continuum of Violence	SEA and Human Trafficking	Diversity	Men and boys
IE1				Identifies displacement - “Ireland has also welcomed those fleeing conflict from other parts of the world;” “Ireland’s NAP advances understanding of the obligations of UNSCR 1325 and other UN resolutions on WPS, to include reference to migrant women and girls, including asylum seekers, affected by conflict”	GBV: Identifies national policy on GBV - National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence, 2010-2014			
IE2					GBV – some actions call for developing National Strategy on Sexual and Gender Based Violence;	Human trafficking – some actions call for establishing measures to combat human trafficking;	Weak intersectionality – Identifies the growing diversity of Ireland, including related to women arriving from conflict areas; includes actions on these women but with no further reference to how intersectionality could be addressed in practice; Identifies migrant women, diaspora women and ethnicity	Men – commits to support engagement of men in advancing gender equality and other initiatives which promote the principles of Women, Peace and Security; includes actions on this in the implementation matrix, e.g. 2g) Support engagement of men in advancing gender equality and other initiatives which promote the principles of Women, Peace and Security;
NP						Human trafficking – identified in the narrative report but specifies no actions;	Intersectionality – Identifies 14 types of women affected by conflict (displaced, single, disabled, separated, combatants, mentally-affected, drop out from schools, victims of sexual exploitation, pregnant, targeted by the security sector, in detention, in rehabilitation homes, charged by courts and abducted); separately Identifies girl child; this is to some (limited) extent reflected in the actin matrix;	

	Violent Extremism	SDGs	Disaster Response and Climate Change	Displacement	Continuum of Violence	SEA and Human Trafficking	Diversity	Men and boys
US1			Disaster response – dedicates several action points to gender-sensitive disaster response;	Displacement – the narrative report Identifies that forced displacement associated with crisis and conflict exposes refugees and internally displaced persons, particularly women and girls, to additional risks of violence and exploitation; some action points concern IDPs; other call to Support return and reintegration programs for refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) that address the needs of female returnees;	VAW – an action point Identifies domestic violence overseas and calls to provide support for advocacy campaigns and programs designed to reduce family and community level violence;	Human trafficking and SEA – the narrative report Identifies human trafficking and justice-sector development programs; some notes on this are also included in the action matrix; several action points speak about human trafficking;	Intersectionality – the narrative report seeks participation of a wide variety of stakeholders—women and girls, men and boys, and members of marginalized groups, including youth, ethnic, racial or religious minorities, persons with disabilities, displaced persons and indigenous peoples, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) individuals, and people from all socioeconomic strata; this is reflected by some action points, e.g. 'Support the participation and leadership roles of women from all backgrounds, including minorities and women with disabilities, in peace negotiations';	Men – the narrative report recognizes the role of programs that engage men and boys in challenging norms and practices that contribute to rape and domestic violence; some action points also call for the engagement of men and boys;

	Violent Extremism	SDGs	Disaster Response and Climate Change	Displacement	Continuum of Violence	SEA and Human Trafficking	Diversity	Men and boys
US2	Violent extremism – integrated throughout the plan (see also the box on pp. 11-12 that addresses different impact and roles that women play in CVE);		Climate change – Identifies the impact of climate change and natural disaster on women and men (see also box on p. 16);	Displacement – Forced displacement associated with crisis and conflict exposes refugees and internally dis- placed persons, particularly women and girls, to additional risks of violence and exploitation;		Human trafficking, SEA and also Identifies domestic violence but overseas only;	Intersectionality – the NAP is s guided by the principle of inclusion, seeking out the views and meaningful participation of a wide variety of stakeholders—women and girls, men and boys, and members of marginalized groups, including youth, ethnic, racial or religious minorities, persons with disabilities, displaced persons and indigenous peoples, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) individuals, and people from all socioeconomic strata; Individuals and groups may be targeted on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression, with homophobia and transphobia contributing to high levels of violence against lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons; action points include integrating LGBT into training modules; action points all call to support the participation of women with various backgrounds;	Men and boys – encourages programs that engage men and boys in challenging norms and practices that contribute to rape and domestic violence in their communities; action points mention mobilizing men as allies and protecting men from SGBV; actions call to increase attention to male survivors;

	Violent Extremism	SDGs	Disaster Response and Climate Change	Displacement	Continuum of Violence	SEA and Human Trafficking	Diversity	Men and boys
JP			Disaster response – pillar 4 is dedicated to it;			Human trafficking – including action points;	Weak intersectionality – the narrative report Identifies on a couple of occasions the diverse and unique needs and vulnerabilities of groups such as refugees and internally displaced people due to armed conflicts and heightened tensions; ethnic, religious, or linguistic minorities; people with disabilities; senior citizens; unaccompanied minors; single mothers; LGBT persons etc. – but this is not integrated in the implementation matrix;	

ANNEX 2: ANALYSIS BY COUNTRIES

UNITED KINGDOM (2006-2010, 2 PP.)

NAP: 1st UK NAP		Brief Analysis
Content	Goal	**Not specified;**
	Thematic areas	• **UK support to the UN** • **Training and Policy within the UK Government** • **Gender Justice including gender-based violence** • **Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration** • **Working with NGOs**
	Overlapping agendas	**UNSCR 1325;** **International:** UN peacekeeping/peace support operations, the UNDP/BCPR (Bureau of Crisis Prevention and Recovery) in support of mainstreaming gender and; UNHCR work with Age, Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming (AGDM), the UN Code of Conduct on personal behaviour **National:** Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) Strategy;
	Geographic priority areas	**Outward-looking;** focused on peacekeeping, peace support operation an d the UN Security Council and missions; Priority area Training and Policy within Her Majesty's Government' mentions raising awareness of UK implementing agencies, pre-deployment training and deployment of female personnel but it is all in the context of deployment/foreign engagement;
Implementation	Leading agency	**Not specified**;
	Whole-of-government approach	**Yes** – Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), Ministry of Defense (MOD), and Department for International Development (DFID);
	Governance	**Not specified;**
	Activities and responsibilities	Yes but **unspecific;** The whole NAP is written in the form of **12 general objectives/activities;** they are highly unspecific and only provide examples of actions and responsibilities; E.g. Address gender issues in UK supported disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR) programmes in countries emerging from conflict. For example, by providing guidelines to UK officials involved in DDR programmes to review the appropriate incorporation of gender aspects;
Monitoring, evaluation and reporting	Indicators	**Not specified;**
	Outcomes/impact	**Not specified;**
	Timelines and targets	**Not specified;**
	Reporting and review	**Not specified;**
Civil society involvement	Consultations	**Not specified;**
	Drafting	**Not specified;**
	Implementation	Yes but **unspecific;** One general objective/activity mentions that HMG is to **liaise with NGOs, civil society** and Parliamentarians on the implementation of SCR1325, continuing regular dialogue on gender related issues. For example, by regular contact, using the wealth of resource within the NGO community to assist in developing UK implementation of UNSCR1325;
	Monitoring and evaluation	**Not specified;**

UNITED KINGDOM (2010-2013 (REVISED IN 2012), 75 PP. INCLUDING ANNEXURES)

NAP: 2nd UK NAP		Brief Analysis
Content	**Goal**	Has **a clearly stated purpose**: The UK National Action Plan (NAP) for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325) on Women, Peace and Security and associated UN Resolutions, is intended to **strengthen our ability to reduce the impact of conflict on women and girls, and to promote their inclusion in conflict resolution.** The revision also provides the aims: • **To provide a clear framework** to guide the UK Government's work on WPS at the national, bilateral, regional and multilateral levels and to make the plan more accessible to outside audiences; • **To maximise the impact of UK efforts** by focusing on where the UK Government can exert the most influence at a global level and by developing detailed plans on implementing UNSCR 1325 on the ground in priority conflict or post-conflict situations; • **To encourage cross-Government working** on WPS by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), Department for International Development (DFID) and Ministry of Defence (MOD), and to link the plan with domestic gender strategies, particularly the Home Office-led strategy on tackling Violence Against Women and Girls; • **To ensure that UK action covers the four UN pillars of UNSCR 1325** – Prevention, Protection, Participation and Relief and Recovery, and to reflect international developments; • To set out a process to **better report and monitor our actions on an annual basis** and be able to strengthen and ensure the NAP reflects new developments through adaptations made annually; and • **To work closely with Civil Society** to continue to strengthen the plan through an annual review process;
	Thematic areas	Activities are organized according to **UNSCR 1325's pillars**: • **Prevention:** "Mainstream a gender perspective into all conflict prevention activities and strategies, develop effective gender- sensitive early warning mechanisms and institutions, and strengthen efforts to prevent violence against women, including gender based violence" (UN definition) • **Participation:** "Promote and support women's active and meaningful participation in all peace processes as well as their representation in formal and informal decision making at all levels: improve partnership and networking with local and international women's rights groups and organisations; recruit and appoint women to senior positions in the UN including Special Reps of the SG, and in peacekeeping forces, including military, police and civilian personnel" (UN definition) • **Protection:** "Strengthen and amplify efforts to secure the safety physical or mental well being economic security and or dignity of women and girls promote and safeguard human rights of women and mainstream a gender perspective into legal and institutional reforms" (UN definition) • **Relief and Recovery:** "Promote women's equal access to aid distribution mechanisms and services, including those dealing with the specific needs of women and girls in all relief recovery efforts" (UN definition);
	Overlapping agendas	**UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960;** **International:** CEDAW, VAW, UPR, Convention against Tortureand other UN Human Rights instruments, the UNDP Enhancing Legal and Electoral Capacity for Tomorrow, UNDP Democracy and Accountability Programme, the World Bank Promines project, UNDP project Centre for Constitutional Dialogue (CCD), the UNFPA programme Conflict Affected Women; Also mentions UN, EU, NATO and OSCE; **National:** the work undertaken by Lynne Featherstone MP as Ministerial Champion for Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Overseas, the UK National Security Strategy, the Building Stability Overseas Strategy (BSOS), the Home Office Violence Against Women and Girls Action Plan, DFID's Strategic Vision for Girls and Women and the Overseas Security and Justice Assistance Guidance (OSJAG), MOD Strategic Equality and Diversity Objectives 2012-2016, DFID 2011 Structural Reform Plan, UK Defence Doctrine, HMG Gender Strategy, The DFID programme Supporting Employment Enterprise Development; From those frameworks, it is clear that many of NAP activities have been already undertaken – and not necessarily in the context of WPS of the UK's NAPs;

Content	**Geographic priority areas**	**Outward-looking;** focused on the UK Government's work on conflict in its defence, diplomatic and development activity; **Country plans** have been developed for three countries **Afghanistan, DRC and Nepal** as well as for the region of **MENA** (with immediate focus on Egypt, Yemen, Tunisia, Libya, Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPTs) and Iraq); At the national level identifies three commitments focused on gender training, gender-responsive programmes and gender aware conduct of operations but all these are in the context of foreign engagement/deployment; Also specifies **four main geographical areas of activity**: • **National Action** – Sets out how the FCO, MOD and DFID will adapt our policy, programmes, training and operations to ensure that WPS is incorporated into our policy work on conflict and in conflict affected countries. This will support the delivery of our objectives at the international level. • **Bilateral Action** – Sets out actions being taken in priority conflict or post-conflict countries by means of individual country plans. Country plans set out the work of the UK Government's global network of embassies and country offices. The plan contains three pilot country plans, which we aim to expand over the lifetime of the plan. To assist in this process, a toolbox for overseas posts has been developed to help in the design of additional country plans. • **Regional Action** – Sets out UK actions being taken in priority conflict or post-conflict countries in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region. • **Multilateral Action** – Sets out UK actions in multilateral and regional bodies such as the UN, where we will work to strengthen implementation of UNSCR 1325 at a global level;
Implementation	**Leading agency**	Jointly owned by The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), Ministry of Defense (MOD), the Department for International Development (DFID); **The FCO appears to be the leading agency** as it is the primary one responsible for reporting, leadership, accountability and visibility of HMG's work;
	Whole-of-government approach	Yes – The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), Ministry of Defense (MOD), the Department for International Development (DFID), Stabilization Unit, HMG (?) and global network of Embassies;
	Governance	**Unclear;** from reading the action matrix it appears that **the Cross Whitehall working group on WPS** (comprised of MOD, FCO, DFID and Stabilisation Unit) coordinates the work **at the national level**; while **the Country Plans** will be coordinated by **the London FCO Desk Officer** (with input from DfID, FCO and MoD staff overseas) who will coordinate with DFID, FCO and MOD staff overseas to report against the plan on an annual basis; **Weak accountability** – progress **reported to Parliament and civil society through the Associate Parliamentary Group on Women, Peace and Security (APG-WPS)**;
	Activities and responsibilities	**127 action points;** they are specific and most of them is assigned to only one implementing agency (sometimes specifying the division of the implementing agency); each activity has at least one indicator;
Monitoring, evaluation and reporting	**Indicators**	**158 indicators,** including a range of qualitative and quantitative measures; some are relatively specific (e.g. number of meeting held of report produced) but other are vague (e.g. Secretary General's progress reports on WPS and the prominence of the issue);
	Outcomes/ impact	**36 explicitly stated objectives**; but similarly to indicators they allow to track progress but **not to measure impact;**
	Timelines and targets	**Not specified;** a few actions have an associated timeline but they are often vague; no targets;
	Reporting and review	**An annual report** is completed by the FCO; **a clear timetable of reports and reviews** is presented in a table format (pp. 73-75); **Final evaluation in 2013** – to be 'ideally' conducted by an independent consultant; Also highlight the importance of the 2011 annual review (progress report) that was used for the revision of the whole NAP and the publication of the revised NAP in 2012;
Civil society involvement	**Consultations**	**Yes –** revision of the NAP has been carried out by the three key departments in consultation with civil society, in particular **the civil society coalition group Gender Action for Peace and Security (GAPS);** Specifically, before commencing the revision, the FCO launched a month-long informal consultation exercise in December 2009 and it was followed up with a civil society round-table discussion in April 2010;
	Drafting	**Yes – working drafts were shared** with representatives of the Civil Society groups via GAPs seeking their comments and feedback;
	Implementation	**Yes – civil society is integrated throughout the plan**; civil society owns one action point in the UK NAP (to hold a workshop on UNSCR 1325); Mostly mentions civil society **as beneficiary** – several action in the priority countries call for supporting and strengthening the capacity of NGOs; sometimes names the networks specifically e.g. CAFCO in the DRC or Nepal Women's Network; one of the six aims of the revised NAP is to work closely with Civil Society;
	Monitoring and evaluation	**Yes –** the NAP will continue to be reviewed annually, incorporating feedback from civil society focus groups; the Cross Whitehall working group meets with civil society bi-annually; **GAPS produces shadow reports;**

UNITED KINGDOM (NAP 2014-2017, 36 PP. & IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2014-2017, 60 PP.)

NAP: 3rd UK NAP		Brief Analysis
Content	**Goal**	The UK Government's ambition is to **put women and girls at the centre of all their efforts** to prevent and resolve conflict, to promote peace and stability, **and to prevent and respond to violence** against women and girls. **Establishes a clear **UK Strategic Framework on Women, Peace and Security and the Women, Peace and Security Intervention Framework** (pp.28-31);
	Thematic areas	The **thematic areas** are focused on the pillars of: • **Participation of Women in Peace Processes and decision-making** • **Prevention of conflict and violence against women and girls** • **Protecting the human rights of women and girls** • **Addressing women's and girls' needs in Relief and Recovery** • Also sets three underpinning principles: • **Women's participation** is needed to make and build peace and prevent conflict breaking out; • **Women and girls suffer specific forms of violence** in conflict and emergencies; • In emergencies and conflict situations, **women and girls have specific needs** which need to be met;
	Overlapping agendas	**UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960, 2106 and 2122;** **International:** BPA, CEDAW, CSW, MDGs, Protection of Civilians; also mentions NATO, EU, AU and their frameworks on WPS; **National:** 2011 Building Stability Overseas Strategy, Conflict, Stability and Security Fund 2015-2016DFID's Building Peaceful States and Societies paper, DFID Strategic Vision for Girls and Women, DFID, Theory of Change and guidance notes on tackling Violence against Women and Girls, UK NAP on Violence Against Women and Girls, the Foreign Secretary's Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative, the International Development (Gender Equality) Act 2014, Gender Equality Act 2014; Most of these projects were aligned with the NAP but not necessary initiated by it;
	Geographic priority areas	**Outward-looking;** focused on UK's defence, diplomatic and development activities in conflict-affected countries; Specifies **priority countries: Afghanistan, Burma, Democratic Republic of Congo, Libya, Somalia, Syria;** in identifying these countries, we have considered (a) whether it is a priority country for the work of all three Departments and of the National Security Council and (b) that through local consultations in-country, we have determined there is local appetite for change; Also mentions that the UK Government is committed to action at home; at a national level the UK Government aims to increase women's participation in senior decision making roles; yet section on Building National has no associated action points;
Implementation	**Leading agency**	**Unclear;** **The FCO, DFID and the MOD jointly own the plan;**
	Whole-of-government approach	**Yes** – the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), the Department for International Development (DFID), the Ministry of Defence (MoD) and the Stabilisation Unit (SU); also mentions UK Embassies and DFID Offices in conflict-affected States;
	Governance	**Unclear; The Associate Parliamentary Working Group on Women, Peace and Security (AGP)** (?); **Weak accountability – the annual reports are deposited in Parliament** and shared with the Associate Parliamentary Group (APG) on Women, Peace and Security;
	Activities and responsibilities	**82 activities** specified in the Implementation plan, are broken up by focus country and are specific; responsibility is **broadly assigned** to the FCO, DFID and MOD but the implementation plan specifies that instructions are issued to all diplomatic posts, DFID offices and Defence attaches; **In support of its third NAP, the UK Government developed **a separate Implementation Plan** to establish baseline data and indicators to measure progress against outcomes at country level in the six focus countries;

Monitoring, evaluation and reporting	**Indicators**	**The Implementation Plan has 12 high level indicators** evenly distributed across the four pillars (participation, prevention, protection, relief and recovery); further contains **82 baseline indicators** (where a baseline exists) (e.g. 3 meetings held in the past year) and **82 target indicators** (e.g. quarterly meetings held throughout period to better inform HMG policy and engagement with the army); the indicators are mainly quantitative and very specific; qualitative indicators are more vague;
	Outcomes/impact	**Yes – specifies outcomes, high-level indicators, activities, outputs, baseline and target indicators;** this allows to measure progress (but not necessary impact); Also allocated **specific funding** to the external and independent monitoring and evaluation;
	Timelines and targets	**Yes – all indicators have a specified timeline and there are targets for each activity**; many are quantitative only and some are vague (e.g. local health, legal, and law enforcement professionals in South Kivu province, DRC are better equipped to provide these services);
	Reporting and review	**Annual reports;** **Final review in 2017;**
Civil society involvement	**Consultations**	**Yes and extensive;** Mentions that civil society played an important role in the developmental process through regular cross-governmental consultations with, and recommendations from GAPs. **GAPS conducted overseas consultative workshops** in several of the focus countries with almost 100 women from civil society and country governments;
	Drafting	**Yes** – takes note of **the expert input from members of GAPs** in the production of the Implementation Plan;
	Implementation	**Yes but unspecific:** we will continue to work closely with civil society throughout the implementation of the National Action Plan, in the UK and abroad, particularly in the priority countries; A significant number of activities is **to support civil society** in the priority countries but these are often not specific (do not name concrete organizations);
	Monitoring and evaluation	The UK will welcome an annual **Shadow Report from GAPS**;

SWEDEN (2006-2008, 17 PP.)

NAP: 1st Sweden NAP		Brief Analysis
Content	**Goal**	The overall goal of the action plan […] is to **make visible and strengthen women's participation,** power, influence, importance, security and enjoyment of their human rights before, during and after conflicts.
	Thematic areas	**Yes but not completely clear**; Through the action plan, the Government will give priority to measures with **the following aims:** • **Women in conflict areas will participate fully** and on an equal footing with men at all levels in mechanisms and institutions for conflict prevention, crisis management, peace building, humanitarian operations and other efforts during a post-conflict phase. National and local initiatives will be supported. • **Protection of women and girls** in connection with conflicts will be strengthened through actions that build on women's own analysis of the need for protection and that enhance security and create opportunities for participation without limiting the freedom of movement of women and girls. • **More women will take part in international peace support and security-building operations** within the framework of the UN, the European Union (EU), the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Euroatlantic Partnership Council and the Partnership for Peace (EAPC/PfP) and other regional organisations of which Sweden is a member or with which Sweden cooperates.
	Overlapping agendas	**UNSCR 1325;** **International:** CSW, BPA, Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development, MDGs, IHL, Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP), EU, OSCE, NATO; **National:** a plan of action to strengthen respect for human rights (2005), a policy for international work for sexual and reproductive health and rights (2005), Stockholm Initiative for Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR);
	Geographic priority areas	**Outward-looking**; focused on Sweden's foreign and security policy and its policy for global development; Mentions the mutual dependence of the national and international level, and contains activities for implementation at three levels (national, regional and global) – but activities at the national level concern deployment to peace and humanitarian operations or other business related to foreign affairs and multilateral engagements;
Implementation	**Leading agency**	**Unclear** but it appears to be **Ministry for Foreign Affairs;**
	Whole-of-government approach	**Yes** – Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministries of Defence, Justice, and Industry, Employment and Communications, the Swedish Armed Forces, the National Police Board, the Folke Bernadotte Academy, Sida, the Swedish Rescue Services Agency and the National Defence College;
	Governance	**The Inter-Ministry Resolution 1325 Group;** **A Working Group** (under the leadership of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and with participants from the Prime Minister's Office and the Ministries of Defence, Justice, and Industry, Employment and Communications) was created in 2004 to develop the NAP. It is unclear whether the Inter-Ministry Resolution 1325 Group is another or the same body (?); **Unclear accountability** – each ministry affected is responsible for the implementation in its own operations and in the operations of subordinate authorities. Regular reports will be made to the commissioning group of State Secretaries as well as in connection with meetings of the proposed Delegation for Monitoring Implementation of Resolution 1325;
	Activities and responsibilities	**60 activities** are named and organized according to implementation at national, regional and international levels; they are relatively specific and name the responsible actors; The activities are organized as a narrative rather than action matrix – this format makes a broad overview difficult to access quickly;

Monitoring, evaluation and reporting	**Indicators**	**Not specified;**
	Outcomes/impact	**Not specified;**
	Timelines and targets	**Not specified;**
	Reporting and review	**No specific reporting** for the NAP but reporting on NAP to be **integrated in other reporting** schema: Government authorities will be instructed to include reports on action to implement Resolution 1325 in their annual reports or reports on special issues; **Mentions half-time review;**
Civil society involvement	**Consultations**	**Not specified;**
	Drafting	**Yes but unspecific**: The design and contents of the action plan have therefore been guided by a dialogue with various interested parties: government authorities, NGOs, research institutions, international organisations and other countries. Views and ideas have been formulated in a comparative study, at a seminar on international experience and at a consultative seminar with the participation of representatives of civil society and public authorities;
	Implementation	**Yes but unspecific:** Mentions CSOs contributions to implementation: Representatives of civil society, including organisations and networks that bring together women and girls and/or work to promoting gender equality, are vital cooperation partners over and above official representatives. This also applies to information and analysis, training, and capacity enhancement. Cooperation with organisations and networks in actual or potential conflict areas is of particular importance. **Some action points mention CSOs** but are unspecific, e.g. The Government will continue to support and cooperate with Swedish NGOs in work to implement Resolution 1325, at the national level and together with international cooperation partners, primarily in conflict areas. Through a close dialogue with civil society, Sweden can help to spread knowledge and information to a broader public, and also to corresponding groups in developing countries and countries where armed conflicts are ongoing or are in danger of breaking out;
	Monitoring and evaluation	**Not specified;**

SWEDEN (2009-2012, 24 PP.)

NAP: 2nd Sweden NAP		Brief Analysis
Content	**Goal**	The Swedish action plan focuses on **enabling the active participation** of women in peace processes, and also on ensuring that the **special protection** needs of women and girls are fulfilled.
	Thematic areas	The Government will prioritise measures designed to achieve **three general aims**: • A considerably larger proportion of **women to participate in international peace-support and security-building operations,** within the framework of regional and international organisations, and operations to be implemented with a gender perspective in order to increase their effectiveness. • The **protection of women and girls** in conflict situations to be strengthened and based on analysis in which women participate actively. • **Women in conflict areas to participate** fully and on equal terms with men at all levels in mechanisms and institutions for conflict prevention, crisis management, peace-building, humanitarian operations and other initiatives during a post-conflict phase.
	Overlapping agendas	**UNSCR 1325, 1820** **International:** the World Bank Gender Action Plan, the World Bank Adolescent Girls Initiative, the European Security and Defence Policy, the Common Foreign and Security Policy, the 2008 EU action plan to integrate Resolutions 1325 and 1820, the 2004 OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality, the 2005 UN system's joint Action Plan for Resolution 1325, NATO, Council of Europe; **National:** Project GenderForce;
	Geographic priority areas	**Outward-looking;** focused on development assistance, civilian and military crisis management operations, peace-support and security-building operations; special priority given to countries in conflict/post-conflict situations (not named); Mentions the mutual dependence of the national and international level, and contains activities for implementation at three levels (national, regional and global) – but activities at the national level concern deployment or multilateral affairs; Mentions some actions to increase the proportion of women in peace-support operations, including in senior and decision- making positions;
Implementation	**Leading agency**	**Unclear;** it appears to be the **Ministry for Foreign Affairs;**
	Whole-of-government approach	**Yes –** Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministries of Defence, Justice and Integration and Gender Equality, Swedish Armed Forces, the National Police Board, the Folke Bernadotte Academy, Sida, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency, the Swedish Defence Research Agency, the National Defence College, the Swedish Prison and Probation Service, the National Courts Administration and the Swedish Prosecution Authority;
	Governance	**A working group within the Government Offices (?)** **Weak accountability** – A review of the action plan will take place through annual meetings where the Ministry for Foreign Affairs will call those involved in the Government Offices, agencies and NGOs for discussions;
	Activities and responsibilities	**62 activities**; names responsible agencies but usually several of them without specifying the lead agency; but there are some activities without a responsible agency; relatively specific; Again, this is presented as a narrative rather than an action matrix so it's difficult to have access an overview;

Monitoring, evaluation and reporting	**Indicators**	**Not specified;**
	Outcomes/impact	**Not specified;**
	Timelines and targets	**Not specified;**
	Reporting and review	**Yes but unspecific:** Through appropriation directions, the Government tasks the agencies with reporting (via **their annual reports or regular reports on specific issues**) on initiatives to implement Resolution 1325, and Resolution 1820, which goes into greater depth on the sexual violence aspect of Resolution 1325; **Final review - yes but unspecific:** When the action plan expires, an overall evaluation will be carried out with regard to the aims set in the plan;
Civil society involvement	**Consultations**	**Not specified;**
	Drafting	**Yes but unspecific:** The action plan has been drawn up by a working group within the Government Offices, which in turn has been guided by a dialogue with various stakeholders: government agencies, NGOs, research institutions, international organisations and other countries;
	Implementation	**Yes but unspecific:** Mentions the importance of cooperation with CSOs in implementation efforts: Responsibility for implementing Resolution 1325 is shared, and extends from civil society to international organisations […]. Cooperation with organisations and networks in current or potential conflict areas is therefore of particular importance. Mentions that Swedish NGOs are important partners and a prerequisite for full and effective implementation of the Resolution. Civil society plays an important role in disseminating information at national level, but also in operations through contacts with and support for national women's organisations. The Government is to continue to support and cooperate with Swedish non-governmental organisations in efforts to implement Resolution 1325 nationally in Sweden and in initiatives to support relevant women's organisations in conflict and post- conflict countries;
	Monitoring and evaluation	**Yes but unspecific:** A review of the action plan will take place through annual meetings where the Ministry for Foreign Affairs will call those involved in the Government Offices, agencies and NGOs for discussions.

SWEDEN (2016-2020, 28 PP.)

NAP: 3rd Sweden NAP		Brief Analysis
Content	**Goal**	The overall Swedish priority is […] to **make visible and strengthen women's influence and meaningful participation** as actors for peace and security.
	Thematic areas	**Priorities:** • **Inclusive peace processes and peacebuilding** – make visible and strengthen women's influence and meaningful participation in peace processes and in peace-building and statebuilding; • **Conflict prevention** – include women and men to address structural root causes of conflict and violence; • **Strengthen protection of women and girls** – strengthen protection of women and girls from all types of violence in conjunction with and following armed conflict; • **Leadership and expertise** – reinforced gender perspective and expertise in the work for peace and security.
	Overlapping agendas	**UNSCR 1324, 2122, Global Study**; Also mentions UNSCR 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960, 2106, 2122 and 2242 but only in footnotes; **International:** 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Nordic Women Mediators' Network, the European External Action Services (EEAS), the EU's plan for gender equality and women's empowerment in the EU's external relations (2016–2020), Council of Europe's Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, UN's Protection of Civilians, PSEA, CEDAW (including GR 30), NATO's policy and action plan for Security Council Resolution 1325, the Nordic Centre for Gender in Military Operations, the OSCE's action plan for gender equality, the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security; Also mentions the African Union (AU), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Criminal Court (ICC); **National:** The Swedish International Development Cooperation, Sweden's Ambassador for Gender Equality, The Gender Coach Programme;
	Geographic priority areas	**Outward-looking;** recognizes that the NAP has impact on the skill development of government agencies but focuses fully on the work that has been performed at Sweden's foreign missions in conflict and post-conflict countries; Specifies **12 priority countries**: **Africa:** The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, Mali and Somalia; **Asia:** Afghanistan and Myanmar; **Europe:** Bosnia-Herzegovina and Ukraine; **Latin America:** Colombia; **The Middle East:** Iraq, Palestine and Syria; and the **Cyprus** peace process;
Implementation	**Leading agency**	**Ministry of Foreign Affairs;**
	Whole-of-government approach	**Yes –** **Major agencies:** the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Justice; **Other agencies:** the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs and the Ministry of Education and Research; **Contributing agencies:** the Swedish National Courts Administration, the Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA), the Swedish Armed Forces, the Swedish Defence University, the Swedish Prison and Probation Service, the Swedish Coast Guard, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB), the Swedish Police Authority, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), the Swedish Defence Research Agency (FOI) and the Swedish Prosecution Authority. Has a section on Actors and partnerships and outlines the role and function of the all actors in the NAP;

Implementation	**Governance**	**The Reference Group** – then transformed into Sweden's **Working Group** for implementing the NAP; under lead of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs; Provides agencies and CSOs and **names individual responsibility**; **Unclear accountability –** mentions support from the Swedish Parliament and that: All managers at affected ministries, foreign missions, government agencies and educational establishments are responsible for ensuring that the work on the National Action Plan for Women, Peace and Security is integrated into the planning, implementation and reporting of the strategic and operative work for affected units and embassies, representations and delegations;
	Activities and responsibilities	**There are no action points or implementation matrix** as such but specific goals/aims under each priority are provided; they have assigned multiple responsible agencies without indicating the lead agency; The **action matrix is to be developed later** at the implementation level and by the implementing actors, under the leadership of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in cooperation with relevant government agencies; Affected government agencies are commissioned to draw up agency-specific activities for the implementation of the action plan, using the established thematic priorities in sections 4.1–4.4 as a starting point;
Monitoring, evaluation and reporting	**Indicators**	**Not specified – see above;**
	Outcomes/impact	**Not specified – see above;**
	Timelines and targets	**Not specified – see above;**
	Reporting and review	**Annual reports** compiled by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Affected government agencies are to report annually; **External evaluation** in 2020; Mentions that earlier **external evaluation was conducted** in conjunction with drawing up Sweden's third National Action Plan; the recommendations from the evaluation have been incorporated into this action plan.
Civil society involvement	**Consultations**	**Yes –** the NAP included **a broad consultation process in Sweden, and also in five conflict and post-conflict countries** (Afghanistan, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia and Palestine), including representatives from women's rights organisations, peace organisations, the academic world, the business community, the security sector, governments, government agencies, other donors and the UN; **Published reports on the consultation processes;**
	Drafting	**Yes – the Reference Group/the Working Group included CSOs** and the organisations and representatives are named specifically;
	Implementation	**Yes – the Reference Group/the Working Group oversees implementation and includes CSOs** and the organisations and representatives are named specifically; Mentions that the skills, commitment and experience of civil society actors will be supported and included in the implementation of Sweden's action plan; Supporting civil society is also mentioned specifically in the goals/aims framework;
	Monitoring and evaluation	**Not specified;**

NETHERLANDS (2008-2011, PP. 80 INCLUDING EXTENSIVE ANNEXURES)

NAP: 1st Netherlands NAP		Brief Analysis
Content	**Goal**	The plan's goal is **to obtain systematic attention for, recognition of and support for women's role in conflict and post-conflict situations**. It can perhaps be best characterised as both **a joint approach** to women, peace and security by the Dutch government, civil society and knowledge institutions, and a framework, as concrete as possible, within which these partners can coordinate their work better and more effectively;
	Thematic areas	The Dutch National Action Plan on 1325 focuses on women, peace and security in relation to: • **The legal framework** Resolution 1325 calls upon "all parties to armed conflict to respect fully international law applicable to the right and protection of women and girls, especially as civilians;" • **Conflict prevention, mediation and reconstruction** Resolution 1325 reaffirms "the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building, and [stresses] the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution;" • **International cooperation** Promoting the implementation of 325; • **Peace missions** Part of 1325 is concerned with increasing gender sensitivity in peace missions. • **Harmonisation and coordination.**
	Overlapping agendas	**UNSCR 1325;** **International:** MDGs, CEDAW, BPA, Responsibility to Protect, the Rome Statute, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; also mentions partnerships with NATO, OSCE, OECD, EU, AU and WB; **National:** the 2007 Pact of Schocland;
	Geographic priority areas	**Outward-looking**; focused on foreign and development cooperation and aid policies, bilateral and multilateral programs in conflict-affected countries; Mentions the percentage of women in armed forces in peace missions and an ambition to achieve 50-50 in deployment overseas, mentions promotion of the deployment of women to international operations;
Implementation	**Leading agency**	**Ministry of Foreign Affairs (BZ);**
	Whole-of-government approach	**Yes** – Ministry of Foreign Affairs (BZ), Ministry of Defence, Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations (BZK) and Dutch Embassies and NGOs;
	Governance	**Not specified;** establishing a coordination structure for implementing and monitoring 1325 is an action point; Women, Peace and Security Task Force – made up of experts from the public sector, politics and civil society, was active from 2003 to 2006; **Weak accountability** – the bodies named in this action plan accept responsibility for monitoring the implementation of the action points, and for calling each other to account on their respective progress. The reader is, of course, equally free to request an update on the partners' progress;
	Activities and responsibilities	**72 activities** assigned to one or a couple of agencies (or NGOs), without specifying the leading one; activities are highly unspecific, e.g. Protect women's rights in unofficial legal systems; Has a descriptive part dedicated to activities and then an action matrix, yet these two do not strictly align which is confusing;
Monitoring, evaluation and reporting	**Indicators**	**Not specified;**
	Outcomes/impact	**Not specified;** mentions 19 goals for activities (in the action matrix); those are highly unspecific, e.g. Those violating human rights are prosecuted; Developing instruments for measuring the impact of conflict on women is an action point – assigned to NGOs;
	Timelines and targets	**Not specified;**
	Reporting and review	**Not specified;** making gender-specific evaluations and reports is an action point; **Final review - not specified;**

Civil society involvement	**Consultations**	**Yes and extensive**– civil society was part of the Women, Peace and Security Task Force appointed to provide recommendations on WPS; the NAP is 'a logical follow-up,' the individual members of the Task Force are named; Dutch NGOs Coalition issued in 2007 'Pink Notes' collecting recommendations for the Dutch NAP; this can be seen as the first step towards the NAP; it was coordinated by the Dutch Gender Platform WO=MEN; also specifically mentions knowledge institutions (academia); Is nuanced about civil society, mentions the complexities involved in this concept and that it is "a complex mixture of groupings";
	Drafting	**Yes –** drafted in consultation with the partners, unites people and organisations active in the fields of development (including humanitarian aid), diplomacy and social action in a joint effort for conflict prevention and resolution, peace negotiations and reconstruction; **concrete NGOs are specifically named**;
	Implementation	**Yes** – Civil society are identified in the delivery of the NAP, they are explicitly recognized as **implementers**; Extensive sections on civil society's contributions and roles;
	Monitoring and evaluation	**Yes but unspecific** – Dutch NGOs and women's organisations will work together at international level to establish monitoring systems which will keep track of progress on implementing 1325;

NETHERLANDS (2012-2015, 70 PP. INCLUDING EXTENSIVE ANNEXURES)

NAP: 2nd Netherlands NAP		**Brief Analysis**
Content	**Goal**	We have a vision of a world in which **women and men are safe, live in peace and have equal rights, opportunities and political leverage**. Our collective, overarching goal is: to jointly facilitate the **creation of an enabling environment for women's leadership and political participation** in fragile states, conflict and post-conflict areas and transition countries, allowing for more **inclusive, just and sustainable peace**, recovery and reconstruction processes.
	Thematic areas	In order to achieve this goal we undertake to contribute to four specific objectives: • **Equal participation** by women and men in peace and reconstruction processes at all decision-making levels. • Consistent **integration of gender and UNSCR 1325** into all Dutch signatories' policies and actions on fragile states and countries in transition (DAC countries) and or peacebuilding and reconstruction efforts in these states. • **Increased awareness** in the Netherlands, the European Union, the United Nations, and other regional and international bodies and their member states of the importance of gender and conflict and increased public support for UNSCR 1325. • **Effective and efficient cooperation** between NAP signatories and other relevant stakeholders to ensure worldwide implementation of UNSCR 1325.
	Overlapping agendas	**UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960;** **International:** EU, UN, IECD, NATO; **National:** 'Supporting Women's Political Empowerment in Emerging Democracies' (statement issued by Dutch Minister of Foreign Affairs Uri Rosenthal and US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in 2011); the Spanish-Dutch training course 'A Comprehensive Approach to Gender in Operations;'
	Geographic priority areas	**Outward-looking;** focused on foreign, development and defence policies; Specifies **priority countries** (**Afghanistan, Burundi, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), South Sudan, Sudan**, and the Middle East and North Africa (**MENA**) region); Also mentions that Gender equality and female leadership are important components of the security policy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, but there are no related action points;

Implementation	**Leading agency**	**Ministry of Foreign Affairs**
	Whole-of-government	**Yes –** Ministry of Foreign Affairs (BZ), Ministry of Defence, Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations (BZK); **The Dutch Ministry of Defence has developed its own action plan**, in addition to this joint NAP, to ensure the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in all its military operations;
	Governance	**Not specified;** Mentions that **the Ministry of Foreign Affairs provides an institutional umbrella** for it, practical day-to-day coordination is shared by the Ministry and a representative of civil society;
	Activities and responsibilities	**Yes but unspecific;** **The action matrix is flexible** – actions are to be designed by the implementing agencies and partners; each action is assigned to an implementing agency and partners;
Monitoring, evaluation and reporting	**Indicators**	**Not specified;** The signatories have therefore decided to use **flexible methods to monitor and evaluate the outcome and impact** of their activities; It is therefore almost **impossible to set fixed indicators** for the coming four years at this stage; Also mentions **Monitoring and evaluation** (an annual self-evaluation and an external evaluation after four years) under set result 5;
	Outcomes/impact	**Specified;** mentions an alternative, innovative monitoring and evaluation system, taking place at two levels: the quantitative and qualitative; **Quantitative level** – Collaborative efforts will be evaluated first. A monitoring matrix has been developed for this purpose, listing different forms of collaboration between the different types of Dutch NAP signatory organisations. The results of collaboration on every specific objective of this NAP will be measured annually, in all the focus countries, including the MENA region. **Qualitative level** – The outcome and – where appropriate – the impact of the activities will therefore be monitored and evaluated using innovative participatory techniques, such as the Most Significant Change (MSC) technique.19 MSC involves storytelling to collect information about activities. Designated stakeholders help select stories about the interventions that have prompted the most significant change. This is a participatory method that stimulates discussion among stakeholders about the outcome and impact of their activities. The process also includes discussions about the future direction of programmes concerning UNSCR 1325. Also mentions, under the four specific objectives, result statements, those are unspecific, e.g. Result 4: National Action Plans 1325 to be developed and implemented in the focus countries and region and in other conflict and post-conflict states;
	Timelines and targets	**Not specified;**
	Reporting and review	**Yes but relatively unspecific;** The collaborative initiatives of NAP signatories will be monitored annually (**annual self-evaluation**). The outcomes and the impacts of joint activities will be evaluated every two years. **External evaluation** will be conducted after four years. **Mid-term review in 2013 and final evaluation in 2015 (by independent evaluators)**; Also mentions mid-term review of the previous NAP in 2009 and another one in 2011 (final?);
Civil society involvement	**Consultations**	**Yes and extensive** – **CSOs are signatories** to the NAP and **were consulted upon NAP development;** The civil society organisations that have signed this NAP vary from multinational NGOs to women's peace movements and diaspora organisations run by volunteers;
	Drafting	**Yes and extensive** – **CSOs are signatories** to the NAP and were **included in the drafting process;**
	Implementation	**Yes and extensive** – **CSOs are signatories** to the NAP **and they are effectively among the implementers** (in the Netherlands and in priority countries)**;** Civil society actors, for their part, have all committed to integrating UNSCR 1325 into their strategies, programmes and activities in conflict and post-conflict states, fragile states and countries in transition;
	Monitoring and evaluation	**Yes** – **CSOs are signatories** to the NAP **and just like the implementing agencies, they will be evaluating their activities on an annual basis;**

NETHERLANDS (2016-2019, 48 PP.)

NAP: 3rd Netherlands NAP		Brief Analysis
Content	**Goal**	Overall objective: Together we contribute to an **enabling environment for women's participation and empowerment** in conflict and post-conflict environments, so they can meaningfully participate in conflict prevention, resolution, peacebuilding, protection, relief and recovery; Develops a **theory of change**; again, includes a comprehensive gender analysis with focus on gender norms and harmful practices;
	Thematic areas	**Specific goals**: • **Enhanced protection** – Better protect women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations from violence and violations of their rights; • **Decrease of harmful gender norms** – Subvert harmful underlying gender norms, which are obstacles to sustainable peace; • **Equal leverage in conflict prevention, resolution, peacebuilding, relief and recovery** – Ensure that women have equal leverage in conflict prevention and resolution, peacebuilding, relief and recovery at all levels, and that their efforts are acknowledged and supported; Develops three parallel approaches to these goals ('**pathways of change**'): Capacity building and resources, Attitudes and beliefs, Laws and policies;
	Overlapping agendas	**UNSCR 1325** (1820, 1888, 1889, 1960, 2106, 2122, 2242 are mentioned in footnotes); **International:** BPA, CEDAW GR 30, Global Study on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 (2015), Report of the High-Level Independent, Panel on United Nations Peace Operations (2015), Report of the Secretary-General on Women, Peace and Security (2015), 20-year Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (2015), 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit, IHL, IHR; **National:** Not specified;
	Geographic priority areas	**Outward-looking;** focused on diplomacy at the UN, at missions and in its partnerships with governments and civil society in conflict and post-conflict countries; Specifies **priority countries:** Afghanistan, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Iraq, Libya, South Sudan, Syria and Yemen); Also mentions some activities on educating government agencies and policymakers but in the context of foreign affairs or deployment; **We have identified eight countries that meet most of the following criteria:** (1) countries in conflict or fragile states, (2) countries that are the focus of a Dutch policy, (3) countries in which signatories have sufficient capacity, local partners and a relevant track record, and (4) countries in which the Netherlands participates in a multilateral civil and/ or military mission;
Implementation	**Leading agency**	**Ministry of Foreign Affairs;**
	Whole-of-government approach	**Yes;** Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Security and Justice, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, National Police, Dutch Embassies;
	Governance	**Yes but unspecific;** mentions that **the two coordinating partners are the Dutch Gender Platform WO=MEN and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;** also mentions country groups who will coordinate work in the priority countries but it's unclear how this process will be governed; Mentions that signatories and suitable external actors will meet at least every two months in country groups: context-specific forums in which signatories will share their perspectives on the situation from their different backgrounds, working with partner networks, embassies and staff in the region;
	Activities and responsibilities	**45 activities;** most assigned to more than one implementer, without specifying the lead; unspecific, e.g. Advocate gender-sensitive SSR and women's participation in it; Specifies three types of interventions: knowledge sharing, advocacy and joint programming;

Monitoring, evaluation and reporting	**Indicators**	**Unspecific;** A context-specific monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system based on specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely (SMART) **indicators is to be developed in focus countries**; The Action Plan's two coordinating partners, the Dutch Gender Platform WO=MEN and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, **will design a functioning M&E system based on the country strategies and theory of change;** This will include the number of meetings conducted in the Netherlands and focus countries; the exchange of information; the number of joint training courses conducted by the signatories; the number of organisations involved in developing the proposals, and their contribution to implementing final projects.
	Outcomes/impact	**Yes but unspecific;** Mentions that the gender experts, country experts, policymakers and activists in these groups will develop a **strategic plan with specific, quantifiable activities**. Existing and new country groups will be formed or reconstituted during the first month after the launch of this plan. Has a theory of change with overall objective, specific goals, outputs and activities;
	Timelines and targets	**Not specified timelines;** **Targets specify 10 outputs** (according to specific goals and pathways of change), those are general: e.g. Increased understanding of gender-based violence and ways of protecting women from it;
	Reporting and review	**Not specified;**
Civil society involvement	**Consultations**	**Yes but unspecific;** Addresses shrinking space for civil society; We, the signatories of the Dutch National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, proudly present our third Action Plan for the period 2016-2019. This plan is an expression of our ongoing partnership and a contribution to the full realisation of the ambitions set out in all the UN Security Council resolutions on Women, Peace and Security. Together, we form a platform for cooperation between government and over 50 Dutch civil society organisations and knowledge institutions, with the joint overall objective
	Drafting	**Yes but unspecific;** Ministries, the National Police, knowledge institutions and a wide range of civil society groups **have jointly drafted this Dutch National Action Plan**; Concrete organizations are not named this time – **the signatories are yet to be specified** in implementation practice;
	Implementation	**Yes but unspecific;** Civil society are signatories to the NAP and effectively **the implementers**;
	Monitoring and evaluation	**Yes but unspecific;** Civil society is to act **as the watchdog**;

CANADA (2010-2016, 15 PP.)

NAP: 1st Canada NAP		Brief Analysis
Content	**Goal**	**Relatively unclear;** presented in a form of commitments to: • Increasing the active and **meaningful participation of women**, including indigenous and local women, in peace operations and peace processes, in the management of conflict situations, and in decision making in all of these areas. • Increasing the **effectiveness of peace operations**, including the protection and promotion of the rights and safety of women and girls. • Improving the capacity of Canadian personnel to help **prevent violence** and to contribute to protecting the human rights of women and girls in the context of peace operations, fragile states, conflict-affected situations and in humanitarian crises or relief and recovery operations. • Promoting and supporting **relief and recovery efforts in fragile states and conflict-affected countries** in a manner which takes into account the differential experiences of women and men, boys and girls. • Making the l**eadership of peace operations more accountable** for carrying out their mandated responsibilities by realizing, to the maximum extent practicable, the intent of the SCR's on Women, Peace and Security.
	Thematic areas	• **Prevention** – integrating a perspective that takes into account the differential experiences of men and women, boys and girls in conflict situations into all conflict prevention activities and strategies; strengthening efforts to prevent violence, including sexual violence, against women and girls in peace operations, fragile states and conflict-affected situations. • **Participation** – advocating for the active and meaningful participation and representation of women and local women's groups in peace and security activities, including peace processes. • **Protection** – protecting women's and girls' human rights by helping to ensure their safety, physical and mental health, well-being, economic security, and equality; promoting and protecting the security and rights of women and girls; protecting women and girls from violence, including sexual violence. • **Relief and recovery** – promoting and working to ensure women's equal access to humanitarian and development assistance, promoting aid services that support the specific needs and capacities of women and girls in all relief and recovery efforts.
	Overlapping agendas	**UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889** **International** – Protection of Civilians, Children and Armed Conflict, CEDAW, BPA, Convention on the Rights of the Child; **National** – mentions Canada's Immigration and Refugee Protection Act, however, it isin the context of "denial of access to the refugee determination system, and removal from Canada" (!) for perpetrators of war crimes;
	Geographic priority areas	**Outward-looking** – peace operations, fragile states and conflict situations; Focused on foreign policy and diplomacy, development, humanitarian assistance, defence and security activities; Some actions concern the Canadian Government or Canadian Forces but they are only related to humanitarian assistance or training for the deployed personnel;
Implementation	**Leading agency**	**Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (DFAIT);**
	Whole-of-government approach	**Yes;** Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (DFAIT), the Department of National Defence (DND), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), Public Safety Canada;
	Governance	**DFAIT's Stabilization and Reconstruction Task Force (START)** coordinates the government-wide response to the implementation of WPS; DFAIT convenes regular meetings of an **interdepartmental working group** – no more details on the working group are provided; **Weak accountability –** Departments and agencies will implement the Action Plan as part of their accountability to Canadians for human and financial resources allocated by Government for realization of their mandates; The Government of Canada **tabled its response to the third report of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development**, entitled An Opportunity for Global Leadership: Canada and the Women, Peace and Security Agenda (website);

Implementation	**Activities and responsibilities**	**28 action points** assigned to CIDA, DFAIT, DND, RCMP (most assigned to more than one agency without specifying the lead); The specificity of the action varies: Relatively specific actions: E.g. 1. Ensure that all organizations receiving Government of Canada funds for humanitarian assistance have organizational codes of conduct relating to sexual exploitation and abuse consistent with the core principles of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Plan of Action on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises. Unspecific actions: E.g. 6. Advocate for improved accountability mechanisms on the part of the UN and reporting by Member States on progress made to implement Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security (SCRs 1325, 1820, 1888 and 1889).
Monitoring, evaluation and reporting	**Indicators**	**24 indicators** inspired by the indicators presented by the UN Secretary General in a report to the Security Council (S/2010/173) in April 2010 and follow the same principle of being SMART — Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound; Majority are quantitative (number and percentage), some qualitative (extent); Some action points have their indicators but not all of them;
	Outcomes/impact	**Not specified;**
	Timelines and targets	**Not specified;**
	Reporting and review	**Annual report;** data collected and compiled by DFAIT from the implementing agencies; **Mid-term review;** Inclusive Security was contracted to conduct the mid-term review but the publication is no longer available online;
Civil society involvement	**Consultations**	**Yes but not specific;** members of Canadian civil society, have […] contributed to the development of the Action Plan;
	Drafting	**Not specified;**
	Implementation	**Not specified;** Action 11 urges to Identify Canadian specialists and trainers from various backgrounds with expertise in women, peace and security issues, and assist where practicable their professional development, placement on international deployment rosters or nomination for relevant multilateral assignments. These specialists can also be a source of policy and program advice for Government of Canada departments and agencies – but there are no indicators;
	Monitoring and evaluation	**Yes but unspecific;** Canada welcomes, in particular, the contribution of Canadian civil society to the development, implementation and monitoring of the Action Plan and looks forward to continuing and active discussion on the issues of Women, Peace and Security;

CANADA (2017-2022, 26 PP.; THEORY OF CHANGE, 3 PP.; IMPLEMENTATION PLANS 2017-2022, 46 PP.)

NAP: 1st Canada NAP		Brief Analysis
Content	**Goal**	Clearly stated in the form of a theory of change: **More inclusive, gender equal and stable societies**; ** Note: The theory of change is published separately to the NAP;
	Thematic areas	Guided by UN Security Council resolution 1325 and subsequent UN resolutions on WPS, the Government of Canada Action Plan partners will implement the following **high-level objectives**: • Increase the meaningful **participation of women, women's organizations and networks** in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and post-conflict statebuilding. • **Prevent, respond to and end impunity for sexual and gender-based violence** perpetrated in conflict and sexual exploitation and abuse by peacekeepers and other international personnel, including humanitarian and development staff. • **Promote and protect women's and girls' human rights**, gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in fragile, conflict and post-conflict settings. • **Meet the specific needs of women and girls** in humanitarian set tings, including the upholding of their sexual rights and access to sexual and reproductive health services. • **Strengthen the capacity of peace operations** to advance the WPS agenda, including by deploying more women and fully embedding the WPS agenda into CAF operations and police deployments;

Content	**Overlapping agendas**	**UNSCR 1325, Global Study;** **International:** the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Rome Statute, ICR, ICTY, BPA, CEDAW, Convention on the Rights of the Child, Geneva Conventions, Security Council's Protection of Civilians, the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, the September 2016 New York Declaration, the Global Compacts on Refugees and on Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration; Also mentions the Organization for Security and Co- operation in Europe (OSCE), the International Organisation of La Francophonie, the Commonwealth, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the G7 and the Global Coalition against Daesh. **National:** Canada's Feminist Foreign Policy, Feminist International Assistance Policy and Defence Policy, Feminist International Assistance Policy, It's Time: Canada's Strategy to Prevent and Address Gender-Based Violence, Defence Policy—Strong, Secure, Engaged, Canada's Peace and Stabilization Operations Program, Chief of the Defence Staff (CDS) Directive, CAF Diversity Strategy; The GBA+ Action Plan (2016-2020);
	Geographic priority areas	**Primarily outward-focused; focused on fragile and conflict-affected states (FCAS);** But also heavily focused on **the Canadian Defence, Police and training of the Canadian Government:** Canada will: Strengthen gender and WPS training, including on gender-based violence, for government personnel; Recruit more women to the Canadian Armed Forces; Increase the number of women deployed in multilateral peace operations and other stabilization efforts; Notes how the WPS agenda applies to Indigenous women and girls in Canada; but there are no associated action points; Although Canada is not a fragile or conflict- affected state, women in Canada face a variety of challenges including gender-based violence. Indigenous women and girls in particular face intersecting discrimination and violence based on gender, race, socioeconomic status and other identity factors, as well as underlying historic causes— in particular the legacy of colonialism and the devastation caused by the residential school system. While Indigenous women make up 4% of Canada's total number of women, 16% of all women murdered in Canada between 1980 and 2012 were Indigenous.
Implementation	**Leading agency**	**Global Affairs Canada coordinates the NAP** and doesn't have assigned action points; it contributes primarily through its funds/funding programs;
	Whole-of-government approach	**Yes** – **Lead partners:** Global Affairs Canada, the Department of National Defence (DND) and the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP); **Supporting partners:** Public Safety Canada (PS), Status of Women Canada (SWC), Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and the Department of Justice; **Implementation Plans were developed for each department** (published in one booklet) but they are inconsistent as for their format (especially activities and indicators – see below);
	Governance	**Yes and extensive;** In short: Global Affairs Canada is the focal point department for Women, Peace and Security (WPS) within the Government of Canada, and its Peace and Stabilization Operations Program (PSOPs) co-ordinates the Action Plan between departments, compiles progress reports, and leads on collaboration with civil society. The Director General of the PSOPs is Global Affairs Canada's WPS Champion and the chair of the PSOPs Advisory Board. In long: **The Minister of Foreign Affairs is responsible for Canada's implementation** of the international WPS agenda and for ensuring that implementation across government is aligned with the government's foreign policy priorities. **Global Affairs Canada, through PSOPs, coordinates** the whole-of-government Action Plan efforts. **Separate implementation plans** define specific activities and will serve as public yardsticks against which all stakeholders can measure how Canada is advancing the WPS agenda. **The implementation of the Action Plan will be coordinated in several ways**: **PSOPs Advisory Board –** The PSOPs Advisory Board, a whole-of- government forum at the Director General level, brings together departments and agencies involved in Canada's peace operations and coordinates government policy on the Action Plan and Canada's role in implementing the WPS agenda. **WPS champions –** Each lead Action Plan partner has identified a WPS champion (a focal point in the lead agencies); **Action Plan Advisory Group –** The Action Plan Advisory Group will advise PSOPs—as coordinator of the Action Plan—as well as the PSOPs Advisory Board on the implementation of the Action Plan;

Implementation	**Activities and responsibilities**	**Implementation Plans clearly state roles and responsibility** of lead partners and supporting partners, including individual responsibility of WPS champions in each agency; Implementation Plans of **the Department of National Defence and Canadian Armed Forces, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Department of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada have specific targets, baseline, activities and indicators**; the remaining Implementation Plans (Global Affairs Canada, Public Safety Canada, Status of Women Canada and department of Justice) have statements of actions without specific action points, targets, indicators etc. **The activities, where mentioned, are mostly specific** (and have associated indicators), e.g. Publish a Department of National Defence (DND) GBA + Directive to provide guidance to the L1s; or less specific activities, e.g. Support the participation and leadership of women in delivering peace and security efforts; **But overall the approach to the Implementation Plans is a bit inconsistent**; possibly the responsible agencies put the plans together not working with other departments to ensure consistency (?);
Monitoring, evaluation and reporting	**Indicators**	**There are some indictors (see above – only for DND, CAF, RCMP and IRCC);** Mostly quantitative (as opposed to mostly qualitative targets); e.g. number of Diversity Strategy Action Plan tasks completed; percentage of women who join for non-traditional employment.; some indicators are qualitative, e.g. identify reasons (when possible) why the applicant disengaged from the recruiting process;
	Outcomes/impact	**Specifies baseline for the targets (if applicable and existing);** provides a system to track progress but not necessary impact**;**
	Timelines and targets	**Has targets** and sometimes associated timelines (only few timelines); targets are vague, e.g. Further integration of a Gender Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) perspective within National Defence.
	Reporting and review	**Annual, public progress reporting**, tabled every September. **An independent mid-term review and summative evaluation;**
Civil society involvement	**Consultations**	**Yes** – In developing the 2017-2022 Action Plan, the Government of Canada has consulted with civil society, in particular the Women, Peace and Security Network-Canada (WPSN-C). This input has been invaluable, and the Government of Canada is committed to strengthening this collaboration;
	Drafting	**Not specified;**
	Implementation	**Yes** – **Action Plan Advisory Group** will comprise civil society experts and government officials and will be co-chaired by a PSOPs official and a representative of civil society through the Women, Peace and Security Network- Canada (WPSN-C); Canada's feminist agenda recognizes the role of civil society in advancing, promoting and protecting human rights. This is why Canada will support the full participation of local women's organizations to advance the WPS agenda in areas such as peace negotiations, conflict prevention, humanitarian action, and peacebuilding; Canada will also collaborate with Canadian civil society and women's organizations at the grassroots level to find new and innovative ways to work together; Recognizing the crucial role of civil society, Canada announced $150 million in funding for local women's organizations that will facilitate programming in a range of sectors, including reconciliation and conflict prevention;
	Monitoring and evaluation	**Not specified but the independent reviews will presumably be completed by independent experts;**

IRELAND (2011-2014, 36 PP.)

NAP: 1st Ireland NAP		Brief Analysis
Content	**Goal**	Ireland's National Action Plan **aims to**: • **Listen to the voices of women affected by conflict**; strengthen women's leadership and implement accountability mechanisms; • **Strengthen institutional capacities** and collaboration through comprehensive and effective training of staff deployed overseas and greater accountability; • Support programmes to **promote women's participation** in conflict prevention, peacekeeping, peace negotiations, peacebuilding, and post conflict transition and governance; and • **Leverage Ireland's participation in global and regional fora** to champion the implementation of UNSCR 1325."
	Thematic areas	**Pillar 1:** Prevention of Conflict, Including Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) **Pillar 2:** Participation and Representation of Women in Decision Making **Pillar 3:** Protection From Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation And Abuse (SEA) and Other Violations of Women's Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law **Pillar 4:** Relief, Recovery, and Rehabilitation **Pillar 5:** Promotion of UNSCR 1325 in International, Regional and National Arenas
	Overlapping agendas	**UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960;** **International:** CEDAW, EU's Comprehensive Approach to the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820, MDGs, IHL; **National:** The White Paper on Irish Aid (2006); National Women's Strategy 2007-2016; National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence, 2010-2014; "The priorities of UNSCR 1325 are also reflected in Irish Aid's Gender, Humanitarian Relief, Civil Society and Governance policies;" The Defence Force's Equality, Diversity and Equal Status Policy (2007);
	Geographic priority areas	Combining **inward- and outward-looking** approaches; overall focused on international development co-operation programme, foreign policies and national strategies on gender equality, including addressing gender-based violence; **Mostly outward-looking actions** and strategies focused in fragile states, pre-deployment trainings, and multilateral fora (UN, EU, OSCE etc.) Inward-focused approach includes: mentions of conflict in Northern Ireland as well as conflict-affected refuges living in Ireland; strategies to increase the number of women in the Defence Forces and An Garda Síochána (Police); strategies to respond to migrant women and girls affected by conflict, including those seeking asylum, to ensure raised awareness and increased utilization of services available to all women experiencing domestic, sexual and gender-based violence in Ireland; Cross-learning/twinning with Liberia and Timor Leste;
Implementation	**Leading agency**	**Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade;**
	Whole-of-government approach	**Yes**; Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Department of Defence (DD), Defence Forces, the Department of Justice and Equality (DJE), An Garda Síochána (the Irish Policing Service); Other departments "as appropriate" – mentions the Garda Immigration Bureau and Irish Aid but doesn't specifically assign responsibilities;
	Governance	**Monitoring Group (MG)** comprised of the relevant departments and led by DFAT; **Weak accountability –** A Monitoring Group (MG) oversees progress but no accountability mechanism is specified;
	Activities and responsibilities	**48 actions points;** each action is assigned to a department (where more departments are responsible, the leading agency is specified); Action points are mostly specific, e.g. action: P2.A2.2 Create and maintain list of overseas postings opportunities for special advisors (including gender advisors) and/or investigators and encourage eligible female personnel to apply for same;

Monitoring, evaluation and reporting	**Indicators**	**73 indicators;** each action has at least one indicator; which are relatively specific and come with timeframes. Quantitative (e.g. the number and percentage, amount of funding) and qualitative (revised guidelines, recommendations, audit, list of postings);
	Outcomes/impact	**Yes;** under each pillar outcome objective is specified as well as impact objective E.g. under pillar 1: **OUTCOME OBJECTIVE 1:** Effective GBV and SEA preventive mechanisms established and implemented at local, national and international levels **IMPACT OBJECTIVE 1:** Reduction in levels of all forms of violence against women, especially GBV and SEA;
	Timelines and targets	**Yes;** most actions have a timeframe in 2011, 2012, 2013 or 2014; the life-span of the plan is relatively short – only 3-4 years; **Targets:** the implementation matrix has "target/timeframe" column but it is mostly a timeline; a few actions call for baseline data or mention that targets are to be set up later; another "target" is "annual increase" which is particularly unspecific;
	Reporting and review	**Two progress reports** prepared by the Monitoring Group: 18 months in and 3 years in; **Final review -** the second progress report should also include an **evaluation of the NAP by an independent consultant;**
Civil society involvement	**Consultations**	**Yes and extensive** – Consultation process with **women affected by conflict living in both conflict and non-conflict settings** (i.e. from Ireland, Northern Irelands, Liberia and Timor-Leste); inclusive of women from conflict-affected countries living in Ireland; The Consultative Group included representatives from **academia and civil society**; Includes Annex with a list of explicitly named civil society members and representatives with contact details; Published report based on the consultations;
	Drafting	**Yes and specific** – **Draft by an independent expert:** Dr. Nata Duvvury, based on based on consultation meetings with Government representatives and units, civil society members of the Consultative Group;
	Implementation	**Yes but unscpecific** – Strengthening capacity of, providing support (including financial) to and consulting with **CSOs in conflict-affected countries** is mentioned under pillars 1, 2, 3 and 4 and there are some action points; **Does NOT mention the role of domestic CSOs** in implementation;
	Monitoring and evaluation	**Yes but unspecific;** mentions that it must also include processes for ongoing input from civil society organisations and women affected by conflict but is not specific beyond this Indicators developed by the Technical Working Group on Indicators, comprised of representative from Government, civil society and academia;

IRELAND (2015-2018, 28 PP.)

NAP: 2nd Ireland NAP		Brief Analysis
Content	**Goal**	**Stated clearly** – Ireland's National Action Plan aims to: • Strengthen **women's leadership** and participation in decision-making in conflict and post-conflict situations • Ensure that a **gender perspective** is incorporated into Ireland's engagement in overseas humanitarian and development aid, peace-keeping, governance, post-conflict activities and interventions • Bolster Ireland's ongoing work on protection from and **prevention of gender-based violence** • Leverage Ireland's **participation in global and regional fora to champion the implementation** of the Women, Peace and Security resolutions; The pursuit of international peace, security and sustainable development is the overarching goal of Irish foreign policy. It is the fundamental guiding principle that underpins Ireland's interactions with the wider world. This goal is not achievable without the empowered participation of women.
	Thematic areas	**Pillar 1: Prevention** - Prevention of Conflict, Including Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) **Pillar 2: Empowerment and Participation** - Participation and Representation of Women in Decision Making **Pillar 3: Protection, Relief and Recovery** - Protection From Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and Other Violations of Women's Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law, and Relief, Recovery, and Rehabilitation **Pillar 4: Promotion** - Promotion of Women, Peace and Security agenda in International, Regional and National Arenas
	Overlapping agendas	**UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960, 2106, 2122;** **International:** CEDAW (including GR 30), BPA, IHL, UPR; **National:** Irish Aid's policy One World One Future, National Women's Strategy 2007-2016;
	Geographic priority areas	Mostly **outward-looking;** focused on Ireland's **overseas development aid programme, peacekeeping deployments,** and contributions to post-conflict reconciliation on the island of Ireland; But also integrates **inward-looking actions** and addresses the needs and human rights of women on the island of Ireland who have been affected by conflict; mentions **asylum seekers** as well as the Government's Refugee Resettlement Programme; also commits to Increase the participation of women at senior decision making and **leadership levels in Irish defence, police and foreign services**; Emphasizes cross-learning;
Implementation	**Leading agency**	**Unclear** but it appears to be **DFAT;**
	Whole-of-government approach	**Yes** – Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Defence Forces, Department of Defence (DD), An Garda Síochána (Police), Department of Justice and Equality (DJE), Health Services Executive (HSE), Tusla (Child and Family Agency); By far the most responsibilities are assigned to DFAT;
	Governance	**Monitoring Group** - consist of representatives from the relevant statutory bodies and civil society; chaired independently (Oxfam currently chairs); supported by the **Conflict Resolution Unit**, in cooperation with Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Evaluation and Audit Unit; Monitoring Group will also develop and use **outreach and communications** mechanisms to ensure regular dissemination of updates to wider communities of stakeholders and make sure, in particular, that the perspectives of women affected by conflict are incorporated into the ongoing work of the Monitoring Group;
	Activities and responsibilities	**52 action points** – most are only assigned to one or two agencies and a division of a given agency tasked with implementation is also often specified; some are more specific than other;

Implementation	**Indicators**	**69 indicators;** each action has at least one indicator; Indicators are both **quantitative** (number of personnel, number of references, number of initiatives) and **qualitative** (training, evidence, awareness raising) – both not very specific, e.g. awareness raising among private sector stakeholders of core values including gender equality and CEDAW obligations;
	Outcomes/impact	**Yes but unspecific** – mentions that indicators were designed to measure progress against both output (activities) and outcome (the impact of those activities); Some actions call for baseline data;
	Timelines and targets	**Not specified;**
	Reporting and review	**Two progress reports** – after two years and in the end of the term; It seems that **the second Progress Report will be the final review** (?); Mentions **Mid-Term Progress Report** of the first NAP;
Civil society involvement	**Consultations**	**Yes and extensive – A Consultative Group (CG)** comprised an equal and balanced representation from statutory bodies, civil society and academic experts; Open public consultations – received 37 submissions; Includes Annex with a list of explicitly named civil society members and representatives (but no longer with contact details);
	Drafting	**Not specified;**
	Implementation	**Not specified** but mentions in the implementation matrix capacity-building of CSOs;
	Monitoring and evaluation	**Yes but unspecific – the Monitoring Group** will include at least **50% representation from civil society** and academia;

NEPAL (2011-2015, 74 PP.)

NAP: 1st Nepal NAP		**Brief Analysis**
Content	**Goal**	Goal: **To achieve sustainable peace and just security.** Objective: Ensure **proportional and meaningful participation of women** at all levels of conflict transformation and peace building processes; and **protection of women and girls.**
	Thematic areas	Five pillars: 1. **Participation -** Establish equal, proportional and meaningful participation of women in every decision-making level of conflict transformation and peace building process 2. **Protection and prevention -** Protect and promote the rights of women and girls 3. **Promotion -** Mainstream the gender perspective 4. **Relief and recovery -**Address special needs of women and girls and to ensure their participation in relief and recovery 5. **Resource management, monitoring and evaluation -** Mobilize resources, monitor and evaluate progress;
	Overlapping	**UNSCR 1325, 1820;** **International:** CEDAW, BPA; **National:** The 2007 Interim Constitution of Nepal, The Civil Code, the 1997 National Human Rights Act, the 1997 Act on Compensation for Torture, the 2009 Domestic Violence Act, the 2008 Prevention and Control of Selling and Trafficking of Humans, the 2008 National Commission Act, the 1992 Civil Service Act, Three Year Human Rights National Action Plan (2010/11 – 2012/13), Three Year Plan Approach (2011/12 – 2013/14), National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women, National Plan of Action against Gender-Based Violence , National Plan of Action on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women, Terms of Reference of Local Peace Committees;
	Geographic priority areas	**Inward-looking** and context specific – predominantly focused on the reconstruction efforts and the peace process after the 1996-2006 conflict between the Government and the Communist Party of Nepal; provides comprehensive background to the conflict and is embedded in national policy frameworks;

Implementation	**Leading agency**	**The Gender Unit to be established within the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction;**
	Whole-of-government approach	**Yes –** a truly whole-of-government approach in which basically each agency is supposed to integrate WPS in their work; • Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction • Ministry of Foreign Affairs • Ministry of Law and Justice • Ministry of Finance • Ministry of Home Affairs • Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare • Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers • Ministry of Defence • Election Commission • Ministry of Information and Communications • Office of the Attorney-General • Ministry of Education • Ministry of Health and Population • Ministry of Local Development • Ministry of Industry • Ministry of Labour and Transport • Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
	Activities and responsibilities	**Yes – 59 action points;** each activity is assigned to responsible agency and supporting agencies (can also be NGOs) but most activities have more than one agency without specifying the leading one; Action points are often unspecific, e.g. maintain zero tolerance regarding sexual violence in the security sector; Dedicates section "Implementation of the National Action Plan" to outlining how specific programs will be formulated and implemented as well as to indicate the responsible departments;
	Governance	Lays out **a complex coordination/governance mechanism** comprised of: • **The Steering Committee** – involving all implementing agencies and inclusive of civil society,, chaired by MFA and co-chaired by MPR); • **The Implementation Committee** – under the joint Steering Committee; • **The District Coordination Committees** – involving district-level committees and offices; Dedicates section "Institutional arrangement for the implementation of the Action Plan" to describes the roles of different committees; **Weak accountability** – vaguely mentions that the Steering Committee supervises and monitors the work of the implementing agencies and also mentions that NAP beneficiaries should be part of the monitoring process, but has no accountability mechanism;
Monitoring and evaluation	**Indicators**	**92 indicators;** many quantitative and specific (e.g. number of beneficiaries, capacity building programs and numbers of participants); qualitative are less specific (e.g. evidence of improved justice and security systems or types and quality of services provided to women and girls at risk); Each action point has at least one indicator;
	Outcomes/impact	**Yes** – the Nepalese NAP specifies the action, expected result, an indicator of its progress and the timeline for it to happen within. The outcome and impact is therefore relatively measurable; Mentions that participation of beneficiaries will be sought in M&E;
	Timelines and targets	**Yesbut unspecific**– specifies timelines for action but they are rather general (falls between one and five years from the beginning of the NAP; most are to be met up to five years from the first NAP which ultimately is the lifespan of the NAP); **Targets specified** in the form of **expected results,** e.g. perpetrators involved in incidents of sexual violence in the security sector are processed. They are not, however, always specific, e.g. the special needs of women and girls are promptly and effectively addressed;
	Reporting and review	An Implementation Committee is to prepare **annual progress reports** and submit it to the Steering Committee; Arrangements will be made for conducting **quarterly, half-yearly and annual progress review** for institutionalising the monitoring and evaluation process. **Final review after five years;**

Civil society involvement	**Consultations**	**Yes and extensive – extensive consultations** with women's organisations and networks, including with women and girls directly affected by conflict; 52 district-level consultations with over 3000 participants;
	Drafting	**Not specified;**
	Implementation	**Yes –** The Steering Committee and the District Committees include many civil society representatives as members; specific organizations are mentioned by name; Also assigns "supporting role" to NGOs in the implementation matrix;
	Monitoring and evaluation	**Yes but unspecific** – vaguely mentions that the M&E framework involves the participation of women's organizations; mentions CSOs as supporting actors in the action matrix under pillar 5 (resource management, monitoring and evaluation);

US (2011-2015, 32 PP.)

NAP: 1st US NAP		**Brief Analysis**
Content	**Goal**	The goal of this National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security is as simple as it is profound: to **empower half the world's population as equal partners in preventing conflict and building peace** in countries threatened and affected by war, violence, and insecurity. Achieving this goal **is critical to our national and global security.**
	Thematic areas	A directed by the Executive Order, the US National Action Plan is targeted at meeting the following **five high-level objectives:** • **National Integration and Institutionalization:** Through interagency coordination, policy development, enhanced professional training and education, and evaluation, the United States Government will institutionalize a gender-responsive approach to its diplomatic, development, and defense-related work in conflict-affected environments • **Participation in Peace Processes and Decision-making:** The United States Government will improve the prospects for inclusive, just, and sustainable peace by promoting and strengthening women's rights and effective leadership and substantive participation in peace processes, conflict prevention, peacebuilding, transitional processes, and decision-making institutions in conflict-affected environments • **Protection from Violence:** The United States Government will strengthen its efforts to prevent—and protect women and children from—harm, exploitation, discrimination, and abuse, including sexual and gender-based violence and trafficking in persons, and to hold perpetrators accountable in conflict-affected environments • **Conflict Prevention:** The United States Government will promote women's roles in conflict prevention, improve conflict early-warning and response systems through the integration of gender perspectives, and invest in women and girls' health, education, and economic opportunity to create conditions for stable societies and lasting peace • **Access to Relief and Recovery:** The United States Government will respond to the distinct needs of women and children in conflict-affected disasters and crises, including by providing safe, equitable access to humanitarian assistance
	Overlapping agendas	**UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960** **International** – NATO ISAF, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the Accra Agenda for Action, and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation; **National** – the US National Security Strategy, the 2010 Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review, the Department of State's Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues and USAID's Senior Coordinator for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, USAID's revised Policy on Gender Equality and Female Empowerment, Counter Trafficking in Persons (C-TIP) Policy, the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services, the Marine Corps' Female Engagement Teams and the Army's Cultural Support Teams;
	Geographic priority areas	**Outward-looking** – focused on foreign policy, diplomatic, security and development efforts; in this context the NAP also addresses US government agencies and calls for the gender training of the personnel and integration of the NAP with their departmental-level policies; action points urge for the US delegations to 'serve as a model for the inclusion of women in talks and negotiations';

Implementation	**Leading agency**	**Unclear** – possibly White House National Security Staff (NSS);
	Whole-of-government approach	**Yes –** the White House National Security Staff, the Departments of State, Defense (DoD), Justice, Treasury, and Homeland Security (DHS), and the US Mission to the UN (USUN), the US Agency for International Development (USAID), the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Office of the US Trade Representative (USTR); *Note: **USAID and Department of State developed their departmental NAPs**
	Governance	**Interagency Policy Committee dedicated to Women, Peace, and Security (WPSIPC)** to be established and chaired by **the White House National Security Staff (NSS);** **Weak accountability** (despite strong language, mechanism is weak)**–** As directed by the Executive Order, within 150 days, **State, DoD, and USAID will designate one or more officer or officers**, as appropriate, as responsible **for coordination and implementation**, and will supplement this Plan by **submitting to the Assistant to the President and National Security Advisor agency specific Women, Peace, and Security implementation plans.** These implementation plans will establish a full range of time-bound, measurable, and resourced actions State, DoD, and USAID will take to realize their commitments, and will include meaningful strategies for monitoring implementation and evaluating results; The implementation matrix includes under the first high-level objective (National Integration and Institutionalization) action points that support accountability;
	Activities and responsibilities	**84 action points;** most assigned to more than one agency without specifying the lead; some more specific than other but overall not very specific;
Monitoring, evaluation and reporting	**Indicators**	**Not specified;** Mentions that progress in implementing the objectives of the National Action Plan will be monitored and evaluated against specific indicators, to be identified at the direction of the WPS IPC;
	Outcomes/impact	**16 outcome statements** but they are very unspecific and there are **no tools to measure impact;** E.g. Reintegration and early recovery programs address the distinct needs of men and women.
	Timelines and targets	**Not specified;**
	Reporting and review	**Yes but unspecific** – WPS IPC will establish a mechanism to report progress; it appears that agencies are to submit annual reports: **Working through the WPS IPC, agencies will report annually to the National Security Council Deputies Committee** on progress made toward achieving the commitments contained in the National Action Plan and agency-level implementation plans, which the Assistant to the President and National Security Advisor shall draw upon to **provide an annual report to the President.** **Final review** in 2015, the National Security Staff will coordinate a comprehensive review of, and update to, this National Action Plan;
Civil society involvement	**Consultations**	**Yes but unspecific –** US representatives in the field engaged in consultations with women and women's organizations, gender equality advocates, and government interlocutors to ensure that their perspectives and interests informed the Plan. Additionally, the interagency group conducted consultations with representatives of civil society in the United States and congressional staff to inform this document;
	Drafting	**Not specified;**
	Implementation	**Yes but unspecific –** **The WPS IPC will also establish a mechanism for regular consultation with civil society representatives on the status of the National Action Plan's implementation.** Participating agencies with a field presence will be encouraged to establish or maintain similar mechanisms to promote regular consultation with women and civil society organizations in relevant countries and regions; This is also reflected in the implementation matrix where **some action points call for engagement with civil society,** for example, to Provide support for NGOs to track, analyze, and advocate on behalf of the engagement of women and women's organizations in peace processes;
	Monitoring and evaluation	**Yes but unspecific –** The 2015 review is to be informed, in part, by consultation with international partners and relevant civil society organizations;

US (2016-2020, 37 PP.)

NAP: 2nd US NAP		Brief Analysis
Content	**Goal**	The goal of the United States National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security remains as simple as it is profound: to **empower half the world's population as equal partners in preventing conflict and building peace** in countries threatened and affected by war, violence, and insecurity. Achieving this goal is **critical to our national and global security**.
	Thematic areas	As directed by Executive Order 13595, the U.S. National Action Plan is targeted at meeting the following **five high-level objectives**: • **National Integration and Institutionalization:** Through interagency coordination, policy development, enhanced professional training and education, and evaluation, the United States Government will institutionalize a gender-responsive approach to its diplomatic, development, and defense-related work in conflict-affected environments. • **Participation in Peace Processes and Decision-making:** The United States Government will improve the prospects for inclusive, just, and sustainable peace by promoting and strengthening women's rights and effective leadership and substantive participation in peace processes, conflict prevention, peacebuilding, transitional processes, and decision-making institutions in conflict-affected environments. • **Protection from Violence:** The United States Government will strengthen its efforts to prevent —and protect women and children from—harm, exploitation, discrimination, and abuse, including gender-based violence and trafficking in persons, and to hold perpetrators accountable in conflict-affected environments. • **Conflict Prevention:** The United States Government will promote women's roles in preventing conflict, mass atrocities, and violent extremism, including by improving conflict early-warning and response systems through the integration of gender perspectives, and invest in women and girls' health, education, and economic opportunity to create conditions for stable societies and lasting peace. • **Access to Relief and Recovery:** The United States Government will respond to the distinct needs of women and girls in both natural and conflict-affected disasters and crises, including by providing safe, equitable access to humanitarian assistance.
	Overlapping agendas	**UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 2106, 2122, 2242;** **International** - the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the Accra Agenda for Action, and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation; **National** - US National Security Strategy (2010, 2015) and the Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review (2010, 2015), The Department of State's Ambassador- at-Large for Global Women's Issues and USAID's Senior Coordinator for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, USAID's Gender Equality and Female Empowerment Policy, the Interagency Standing Committee (IASC) Six Core Principles on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, the Guidance for the Employment of the Force, and the Joint Service Capabilities Plan, US Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence Globally, US Global Strategy to Empower Adolescent Girls, the Gender-Based Violence Emergency Response and Protection Initiative (GBVI), the Global Health Initiative and Feed the Future, the Safe from the Start (SFTS) initiative;
	Geographic priority areas	**Outward-looking** – focused on diplomatic, security/defence and development efforts overseas; in this context also addresses the US government agencies and calls for the gender training of the personnel and integration of the NAP with their departmental-level policies;
Implementation	**Leading agency**	**The White House National Security Council (NSC);**
	Whole-of-government approach	**Yes –** Department of State, USAID, DoD, Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), USUN, Treasury, Justice, DHS, USTR, Commerce;
	Governance	**An Interagency Policy Committee (IPC)** dedicated to Women, Peace, and Security priorities – chaired by the White House National Security Council (NSC); **Accountability –** State, DOD, and USAID have designated personnel responsible for coordination and implementation, and have supplemented this Plan by submitting to the Assistant to the President and National Security Advisor agency-specific Women, Peace, and Security implementation plans;
	Activities and responsibilities	**88 action points;** most assigned to more than one agency without specifying the lead; some more specific than other but overall relatively specific;

Monitoring, evaluation and reporting	**Indicators**	**Not specified** but mentions that the **agency-level implementation plans** have established a full range of time-bound, measurable, and resourced actions; Also mentions that the objectives of the NAP will continue to be monitored and evaluated against specific indicators and outcomes as identified by the IPC; **action points call to establish indicators**;
	Outcomes/impact	**16 outcome statements** but they are very unspecific (e.g. More women are effectively engaged in peace negotiations) and there are **no tools to measure impact;**
	Timelines and targets	**Not specified;**
	Reporting and review	Departments and agencies to **report annually** (through the IPC), the Assistant to the President and National Security Advisor will draw upon to provide an **annual report to the President**; **Final review** – Mentions 2015 review of the earlier NAP; also mentions another **review in 2018**;
Civil society involvement	**Consultations**	**Yes but unspecific** – mentions that the NAP promotes regular consultation with women and civil society organizations in relevant countries and regions; mentions that civil society informed the development of the NAP;
	Drafting	**Not specified;**
	Implementation	**Yes but unspecific** – mentions that the NAP will seek to better leverage civil society, including women's networks and organizations, in activities aimed at arresting armed conflict or preventing spirals of violence; mentions that the NAP seeks collaborative partnerships with non-governmental organizations active at the national, regional, and international levels; Several action points mention **supporting civil society** and NGO in conflict countries;
	Monitoring and evaluation	**Yes but unspecific** – **the IPC to engage in regular consultation with civil society representatives** on the status of the National Action Plan's implementation; mentions that civil society is to hold us accountable to these commitments, to help us learn from activities and approaches implemented under the Plan, and to contribute to future revisions of the Plan;

JAPAN (2015-2018, 30 PP.)

NAP: 1st Japan NAP		**Brief Analysis**
Content	**Goal**	**Not fully clear – perhaps women's active participation in all levels of decision making** in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and peacebuilding;
	Thematic areas	Five pillars: • **Participation;** Ensure equal participation of women in all stages in the field of peace and security with the intent of achieving gender mainstreaming. • **Conflict prevention;** Promote women's participation and leadership in all processes of prevention, management, and resolution of conflicts and in decision making while strengthening a gender equal perspective. • **Protection;** Protect various aid recipients including women and girls from violence and other human rights infringement during or after conflict or under a humanitarian crisis such as a large-scale disaster. • **Humanitarian and reconstruction assistance;** Provide humanitarian and reconstruction assistance while reflecting circumstances and needs unique to women and girls, promoting women's empowerment, and ensuring women's participation. • **Framework for monitoring, evaluation and review;** Build a framework to effectively monitor, evaluate, and review the National Action Plan at an appropriate time and revise the National Action Plan regularly; Since the issue of participation relates to all other pillars […] the details for women's participation are classified within each of these fields.

Content	**Overlapping agendas**	**UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960, 2103, 2122;** **International:** Japan's Development Cooperation Charter, the Act on Cooperation for UN PKOs, CEDAW (including GR 30), BPA, 2005 Gender and Development Initiative; **National:** the 1999 for a Gender Equal Society and the Constitution of Japan;
	Geographic priority areas	**Outward-looking;** Narrative report mentions that international measures should be implemented in collaboration with domestic measures, domestic measures and efforts relating to this National Action Plan are also indicated together with international measures in each pillar – yet this is not reflected in the implementation matrix which is outward-focused; some strategies concern increasingly the number of women in Japan's delegations etc. but all are in the context of multilateral agreements and overseas operations;
Implementation	**Leading agency**	**Ministry of Foreign Affairs;**
	Whole-of-government approach	**Yes** – a whole of government approach, applying to agencies per their areas of responsibility: • Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) • Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) • Ministry of Defense (MOD) • Secretariat of the International Peace Cooperation Headquarters, Cabinet Office • Cabinet Office (Disaster Management) • Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office • Reconstruction Agency • Fire and Disaster Management Agency • National Police Agency (NPA) • Ministry of Justice • Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)
	Activities and responsibilities	**86 actions;** each activity is assigned to responsible agency but most activities have more than one agency without specifying the leading one; Action points are often unspecific, e.g. assist women in aid-recipient countries play an active role in peacebuilding activities; but each has at least one associated indicator;
	Governance	**The Monitoring Working Group consisting** of focal points for all relevant ministries and agencies (sits in the Gender Mainstreaming Division of Ministry of Foreign Affairs); **Accountability – the Evaluation Committee (?);** Note: the Monitoring Working Group and the Evaluation Committee are two different bodies;
Monitoring and evaluation	**Indicators**	**156 indictors;** many descriptive (rather than qualitative) and relatively unspecific (e.g. the status of, good practices), also quantitative indicators which are more specific (e.g. the number and percentage); some indicators appear to be action items (e.g. identify personnel in charge of assistance);
	Outcomes/impact	**Yes but unspecific;** There is no explicit way of measuring progress or impact but **mentions under each pillar the major goal, significance, objectives and sub-goals;** Mentions that relevant organizations are required to develop systems and check their awareness on a daily basis so that their capacity to design, plan and implement policies and projects based on the gender equality perspective improves through the implementation of the NAP;
	Timelines and targets	**Not specified;** the NAP itself doesn't specify its life span (perhaps 2015-2018 given that the final report is due after 3 years); **Target are not specified** but mentions goals which might be read as **result statements** (although only general, e.g. increase women's participation);
	Reporting and review	**Annual public reports** prepared by the Monitoring Working Group; **Final review after 3 years,** to be prepared by the Evaluation Committee;
Civil society involvement	**Consultations**	**Yes but unspecific:** When drawing up this National Action Plan, the Japanese government heard views from various parties concerned such as civil society and NGOs in Japan and abroad through meetings as well as through dialogues with UN Women and other UN organizations. Their views are reflected in this Action Plan;
	Drafting	**Not specified;**
	Implementation	**Not specified;** Includes a few scattered references to civil society in the role of beneficiaries of WPS, and aims to provide assistance to those organizations in WPS implementation;
	Monitoring and evaluation	**Yes –** Civil society has been involved in the development of the Monitoring and Evaluation framework, however, they do not actively monitor or evaluate the information; Civil society is not part of the Monitoring Working Groups preparing annual reports; but nominated representatives/experts are part of the Evaluation Committee;

ANNEX 3: ANALYSIS BY ISSUE

CONTENT

NAP / Category	CONTENT			
	Goal	**Thematic Areas**	**Geographic Priority Areas**	**Overlapping agendas**
UK 1	Not specified	• UK support to the UN • Training and Policy within the UK Government • Gender Justice including gender-based violence • Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration • Working with NGOs	Outward-looking; focused on peacekeeping, peace support operation an d the UN Security Council and missions; Priority area Training and Policy within Her Majesty's Government' mentions raising awareness of UK implementing agencies, pre-deployment training and deployment of female personnel but it is all in the context of deployment/foreign engagement;	UNSCR 1325; International: UN peacekeeping/peace support operations, the UNDP/BCPR (Bureau of Crisis Prevention and Recovery) in support of mainstreaming gender and; UNHCR work with Age, Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming (AGDM), the UN Code of Conduct on personal behaviour National: Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) Strategy;

NAP / Category	CONTENT			
	Goal	**Thematic Areas**	**Geographic Priority Areas**	**Overlapping agendas**
UK 2	Has a clearly stated purpose: The UK National Action Plan (NAP) for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325) on Women, Peace and Security and associated UN Resolutions, is intended to strengthen our ability to reduce the impact of conflict on women and girls, and to promote their inclusion in conflict resolution. The revision also provides the aims: • To provide a clear framework to guide the UK Government's work on WPS at the national, bilateral, regional and multilateral levels and to make the plan more accessible to outside audiences; • To maximise the impact of UK efforts by focusing on where the UK Government can exert the most influence at a global level and by developing detailed plans on implementing UNSCR 1325 on the ground in priority conflict or post-conflict situations; • To encourage cross-Government working on WPS by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), Department for International Development (DFID) and Ministry of Defence (MOD), and to link the plan with domestic gender strategies, particularly the Home Office-led strategy on tackling Violence Against Women and Girls; • To ensure that UK action covers the four UN pillars of UNSCR 1325 – Prevention, Protection, Participation and Relief and Recovery, and to reflect international developments; • To set out a process to better report and monitor our actions on an annual basis and be able to strengthen and ensure the NAP reflects new developments through adaptations made annually; and • To work closely with Civil Society to continue to strengthen the plan through an annual review process;	Activities are organized according to UNSCR 1325's pillars: • Prevention: "Mainstream a gender perspective into all conflict prevention activities and strategies, develop effective gender- sensitive early warning mechanisms and institutions, and strengthen efforts to prevent violence against women, including gender based violence" (UN definition) • Participation: "Promote and support women's active and meaningful participation in all peace processes as well as their representation in formal and informal decision making at all levels: improve partnership and networking with local and international women's rights groups and organisations; recruit and appoint women to senior positions in the UN including Special Reps of the SG, and in peacekeeping forces, including military, police and civilian personnel" (UN definition) • Protection: "Strengthen and amplify efforts to secure the safety physical or mental wellbeing economic security and or dignity of women and girls promote and safeguard human rights of women and mainstream a gender perspective into legal and institutional reforms" (UN definition) • Relief and Recovery: "Promote women's equal access to aid distribution mechanisms and services, including those dealing with the specific needs of women and girls in all relief recovery efforts" (UN definition);	Outward-looking; focused on the UK Government's work on conflict in its defence, diplomatic and development activity; Country plans have been developed for three countries Afghanistan, DRC and Nepal as well as for the region of MENA (with immediate focus on Egypt, Yemen, Tunisia, Libya, Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPTs) and Iraq); At the national level identifies three commitments focused on gender training, gender-responsive programmes and gender aware conduct of operations but all these are in the context of foreign engagement/ deployment; Also specifies four main geographical areas of activity: • National Action – Sets out how the FCO, MOD and DFID will adapt our policy, programmes, training and operations to ensure that WPS is incorporated into our policy work on conflict and in conflict affected countries. This will support the delivery of our objectives at the international level. • Bilateral Action – Sets out actions being taken in priority conflict or post-conflict countries by means of individual country plans. Country plans set out the work of the UK Government's global network of embassies and country offices. The plan contains three pilot country plans, which we aim to expand over the lifetime of the plan. To assist in this process, a toolbox for overseas posts has been developed to help in the design of additional country plans. • Regional Action – Sets out UK actions being taken in priority conflict or post-conflict countries in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region. • Multilateral Action – Sets out UK actions in multilateral and regional bodies such as the UN, where we will work to strengthen implementation of UNSCR 1325 at a global level;	UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960; International: CEDAW, VAW, UPR, Convention against Torture and other UN Human Rights instruments, the UNDP Enhancing Legal and Electoral Capacity for Tomorrow, UNDP Democracy and Accountability Programme, the World Bank Promines project, UNDP project Centre for Constitutional Dialogue (CCD), the UNFPA programme Conflict Affected Women; Also mentions UN, EU, NATO and OSCE; National: the work undertaken by Lynne Featherstone MP as Ministerial Champion for Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Overseas, the UK National Security Strategy, the Building Stability Overseas Strategy (BSOS), the Home Office Violence Against Women and Girls Action Plan, DFID's Strategic Vision for Girls and Women and the Overseas Security and Justice Assistance Guidance (OSJAG), MOD Strategic Equality and Diversity Objectives 2012-2016, DFID 2011 Structural Reform Plan, UK Defence Doctrine, HMG Gender Strategy, The DFID programme Supporting Employment Enterprise Development; From those frameworks, it is clear that many of NAP activities have been already undertaken – and not necessarily in the context of WPS of the UK's NAPs;

NAP / Category	CONTENT			
	Goal	**Thematic Areas**	**Geographic Priority Areas**	**Overlapping agendas**
UK 3	The UK Government's ambition is to put women and girls at the centre of all their efforts to prevent and resolve conflict, to promote peace and stability, and to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls. **Establishes a clear UK Strategic Framework on Women, Peace and Security and the Women, Peace and Security Intervention Framework (pp.28-31);	The thematic areas are focused on the pillars of: • Participation of Women in Peace Processes and decision-making • Prevention of conflict and violence against women and girls • Protecting the human rights of women and girls • Addressing women's and girls' needs in Relief and Recovery • Also sets three underpinning principles: • Women's participation is needed to make and build peace and prevent conflict breaking out; • Women and girls suffer specific forms of violence in conflict and emergencies; • In emergencies and conflict situations, women and girls have specific needs which need to be met;	Outward-looking; focused on UK's defence, diplomatic and development activities in conflict-affected countries; Specifies priority countries: Afghanistan, Burma, Democratic Republic of Congo, Libya, Somalia, Syria; in identifying these countries, we have considered (a) whether it is a priority country for the work of all three Departments and of the National Security Council and (b) that through local consultations in-country, we have determined there is local appetite for change; Also mentions that the UK Government is committed to action at home; at a national level the UK Government aims to increase women's participation in senior decision making roles; yet section on Building National has no associated action points;	UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960, 2106 and 2122; International: BPA, CEDAW, CSW, MDGs, Protection of Civilians; also mentions NATO, EU, AU and their frameworks on WPS; National: 2011 Building Stability Overseas Strategy, Conflict, Stability and Security Fund 2015-2016DFID's Building Peaceful States and Societies paper, DFID Strategic Vision for Girls and Women, DFID, Theory of Change and guidance notes on tackling Violence against Women and Girls, UK NAP on Violence Against Women and Girls, the Foreign Secretary's Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative, the International Development (Gender Equality) Act 2014, Gender Equality Act 2014; Most of these projects were aligned with the NAP but not necessary initiated by it;
Sweden 1	The overall goal of the action plan […] is to make visible and strengthen women's participation, power, influence, importance, security and enjoyment of their human rights before, during and after conflicts.	Yes but not completely clear; Through the action plan, the Government will give priority to measures with the following aims: • Women in conflict areas will participate fully and on an equal footing with men at all levels in mechanisms and institutions for conflict prevention, crisis management, peace building, humanitarian operations and other efforts during a post-conflict phase. National and local initiatives will be supported. • Protection of women and girls in connection with conflicts will be strengthened through actions that build on women's own analysis of the need for protection and that enhance security and create opportunities for participation without limiting the freedom of movement of women and girls. • More women will take part in international peace support and security-building operations within the framework of the UN, the European Union (EU), the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Euroatlantic Partnership Council and the Partnership for Peace (EAPC/PfP) and other regional organisations of which Sweden is a member or with which Sweden cooperates.	Outward-looking; focused on Sweden's foreign and security policy and its policy for global development; Mentions the mutual dependence of the national and international level, and contains activities for implementation at three levels (national, regional and global) – but activities at the national level concern deployment to peace and humanitarian operations or other business related to foreign affairs and multilateral engagements;	UNSCR 1325; International: CSW, BPA, Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development, MDGs, IHL, Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP), EU, OSCE, NATO; National: a plan of action to strengthen respect for human rights (2005), a policy for international work for sexual and reproductive health and rights (2005), Stockholm Initiative for Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR);

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	Goal	**Thematic Areas**	**Geographic Priority Areas**	**Overlapping agendas**
Sweden 2	The Swedish action plan focuses on enabling the active participation of women in peace processes, and also on ensuring that the special protection needs of women and girls are fulfilled.	The Government will prioritise measures designed to achieve three general aims: • A considerably larger proportion of women to participate in international peace-support and security-building operations, within the framework of regional and international organisations, and operations to be implemented with a gender perspective in order to increase their effectiveness. • The protection of women and girls in conflict situations to be strengthened and based on analysis in which women participate actively. • Women in conflict areas to participate fully and on equal terms with men at all levels in mechanisms and institutions for conflict prevention, crisis management, peace-building, humanitarian operations and other initiatives during a post-conflict phase.	Outward-looking; focused on development assistance, civilian and military crisis management operations, peace-support and security-building operations; special priority given to countries in conflict/post-conflict situations (not named); Mentions the mutual dependence of the national and international level, and contains activities for implementation at three levels (national, regional and global) – but activities at the national level concern deployment or multilateral affairs; Mentions some actions to increase the proportion of women in peace-support operations, including in senior and decision-making positions;	UNSCR 1325, 1820 International: the World Bank Gender Action Plan, the World Bank Adolescent Girls Initiative, the European Security and Defence Policy, the Common Foreign and Security Policy, the 2008 EU action plan to integrate Resolutions 1325 and 1820, the 2004 OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality, the 2005 UN system's joint Action Plan for Resolution 1325, NATO, Council of Europe; National: Project GenderForce;
Sweden 3	The overall Swedish priority is […] to make visible and strengthen women's influence and meaningful participation as actors for peace and security.	Priorities: • Inclusive peace processes and peacebuilding – make visible and strengthen women's influence and meaningful participation in peace processes and in peacebuilding and statebuilding; • Conflict prevention – include women and men to address structural root causes of conflict and violence; • Strengthen protection of women and girls – strengthen protection of women and girls from all types of violence in conjunction with and following armed conflict; • Leadership and expertise – reinforced gender perspective and expertise in the work for peace and security.	Outward-looking; recognizes that the NAP has impact on the skill development of government agencies but focuses fully on the work that has been performed at Sweden's foreign missions in conflict and post-conflict countries; Specifies 12 priority countries: Africa: The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, Mali and Somalia; Asia: Afghanistan and Myanmar; Europe: Bosnia-Herzegovina and Ukraine; Latin America: Colombia; The Middle East: Iraq, Palestine and Syria; and the Cyprus peace process;	UNSCR 1324, 2122, Global Study; Also mentions UNSCR 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960, 2106, 2122 and 2242 but only in footnotes; International: 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Nordic Women Mediators' Network, the European External Action Services (EEAS), the EU's plan for gender equality and women's empowerment in the EU's external relations (2016–2020), Council of Europe's Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, UN's Protection of Civilians, PSEA, CEDAW (including GR 30), NATO's policy and action plan for Security Council Resolution 1325, the Nordic Centre for Gender in Military Operations, the OSCE's action plan for gender equality, the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security; Also mentions the African Union (AU), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Criminal Court (ICC); National: The Swedish International Development Cooperation, Sweden's Ambassador for Gender Equality, The Gender Coach Programme;

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	Goal	**Thematic Areas**	**Geographic Priority Areas**	**Overlapping agendas**
Netherlands 1	The plan's goal is to obtain systematic attention for, recognition of and support for women's role in conflict and post-conflict situations. It can perhaps be best characterised as both a joint approach to women, peace and security by the Dutch government, civil society and knowledge institutions, and a framework, as concrete as possible, within which these partners can coordinate their work better and more effectively;	The Dutch National Action Plan on 1325 focuses on women, peace and security in relation to: • The legal framework • Resolution 1325 calls upon "all parties to armed conflict to respect fully international law applicable to the right and protection of women and girls, especially as civilians;" • Conflict prevention, mediation and reconstruction • Resolution 1325 reaffirms "the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building, and [stresses] the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution;" • International cooperation • Promoting the implementation of 325; • Peace missions • Part of 1325 is concerned with increasing gender sensitivity in peace missions. • Harmonisation and coordination.	Outward-looking; focused on foreign and development cooperation and aid policies, bilateral and multilateral programs in conflict-affected countries; Mentions the percentage of women in armed forces in peace missions and an ambition to achieve 50-50 in deployment overseas, mentions promotion of the deployment of women to international operations;	UNSCR 1325; International: MDGs, CEDAW, BPA, Responsibility to Protect, the Rome Statute, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; also mentions partnerships with NATO, OSCE, OECD, EU, AU and WB; National: the 2007 Pact of Schocland;
Netherlands 2	We have a vision of a world in which women and men are safe, live in peace and have equal rights, opportunities and political leverage. Our collective, overarching goal is: to jointly facilitate the creation of an enabling environment for women's leadership and political participation in fragile states, conflict and post-conflict areas and transition countries, allowing for more inclusive, just and sustainable peace, recovery and reconstruction processes.	In order to achieve this goal we undertake to contribute to four specific objectives: • Equal participation by women and men in peace and reconstruction processes at all decision-making levels. • Consistent integration of gender and UNSCR 1325 into all Dutch signatories' policies and actions on fragile states and countries in transition (DAC countries) and or peacebuilding and reconstruction efforts in these states. • Increased awareness in the Netherlands, the European Union, the United Nations, and other regional and international bodies and their member states of the importance of gender and conflict and increased public support for UNSCR 1325. • Effective and efficient cooperation between NAP signatories and other relevant stakeholders to ensure worldwide implementation of UNSCR 1325.	Outward-looking; focused on foreign, development and defence policies; Specifies priority countries (Afghanistan, Burundi, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), South Sudan, Sudan, and the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region); Also mentions that Gender equality and female leadership are important components of the security policy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, but there are no related action points;	UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960; International: EU, UN, IECD, NATO; National: 'Supporting Women's Political Empowerment in Emerging Democracies' (statement issued by Dutch Minister of Foreign Affairs Uri Rosenthal and US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in 2011); the Spanish-Dutch training course 'A Comprehensive Approach to Gender in Operations;'

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	Goal	**Thematic Areas**	**Geographic Priority Areas**	**Overlapping agendas**
Netherlands 3	Overall objective: Together we contribute to an enabling environment for women's participation and empowerment in conflict and post-conflict environments, so they can meaningfully participate in conflict prevention, resolution, peacebuilding, protection, relief and recovery; Develops a theory of change; again, includes a comprehensive gender analysis with focus on gender norms and harmful practices;	Specific goals: • Enhanced protection – Better protect women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations from violence and violations of their rights; • Decrease of harmful gender norms – Subvert harmful underlying gender norms, which are obstacles to sustainable peace; • Equal leverage in conflict prevention, resolution, peacebuilding, relief and recovery – Ensure that women have equal leverage in conflict prevention and resolution, peacebuilding, relief and recovery at all levels, and that their efforts are acknowledged and supported; Develops three parallel approaches to these goals ('pathways of change'): Capacity building and resources, Attitudes and beliefs, Laws and policies;	Outward-looking; focused on diplomacy at the UN, at missions and in its partnerships with governments and civil society in conflict and post-conflict countries; Specifies priority countries: Afghanistan, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Iraq, Libya, South Sudan, Syria and Yemen); Also mentions some activities on educating government agencies and policymakers but in the context of foreign affairs or deployment; We have identified eight countries that meet most of the following criteria: (1) countries in conflict or fragile states, (2) countries that are the focus of a Dutch policy, (3) countries in which signatories have sufficient capacity, local partners and a relevant track record, and (4) countries in which the Netherlands participates in a multilateral civil and/ or military mission;	UNSCR 1325 (1820, 1888, 1889, 1960, 2106, 2122, 2242 are mentioned in footnotes); International: BPA, CEDAW GR 30, Global Study on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 (2015), Report of the High-Level Independent, Panel on United Nations Peace Operations (2015), Report of the Secretary-General on Women, Peace and Security (2015), 20-year Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (2015), 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit, IHL, IHR; National: Not specified;
Canada 1	Relatively unclear; presented in a form of commitments to: • Increasing the active and meaningful participation of women, including indigenous and local women, in peace operations and peace processes, in the management of conflict situations, and in decision making in all of these areas. • Increasing the effectiveness of peace operations, including the protection and promotion of the rights and safety of women and girls. • Improving the capacity of Canadian personnel to help prevent violence and to contribute to protecting the human rights of women and girls in the context of peace operations, fragile states, conflict-affected situations and in humanitarian crises or relief and recovery operations. • Promoting and supporting relief and recovery efforts in fragile states and conflict-affected countries in a manner which takes into account the differential experiences of women and men, boys and girls. • Making the leadership of peace operations more accountable for carrying out their mandated responsibilities by realizing, to the maximum extent practicable, the intent of the SCR's on Women, Peace and Security.	• Prevention – integrating a perspective that takes into account the differential experiences of men and women, boys and girls in conflict situations into all conflict prevention activities and strategies; strengthening efforts to prevent violence, including sexual violence, against women and girls in peace operations, fragile states and conflict-affected situations. • Participation – advocating for the active and meaningful participation and representation of women and local women's groups in peace and security activities, including peace processes. • Protection – protecting women's and girls' human rights by helping to ensure their safety, physical and mental health, well-being, economic security, and equality; promoting and protecting the security and rights of women and girls; protecting women and girls from violence, including sexual violence. • Relief and recovery – promoting and working to ensure women's equal access to humanitarian and development assistance, promoting aid services that support the specific needs and capacities of women and girls in all relief and recovery efforts.	Outward-looking – peace operations, fragile states and conflict situations; Focused on foreign policy and diplomacy, development, humanitarian assistance, defence and security activities; Some actions concern the Canadian Government or Canadian Forces but they are only related to humanitarian assistance or training for the deployed personnel;	UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889 International – Protection of Civilians, Children and Armed Conflict, CEDAW, BPA, Convention on the Rights of the Child; National – mentions Canada's Immigration and Refugee Protection Act, however, it isin the context of "denial of access to the refugee determination system, and removal from Canada" (!) for perpetrators of war crimes;

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	Goal	**Thematic Areas**	**Geographic Priority Areas**	**Overlapping agendas**
Canada 2	Clearly stated in the form of a theory of change: More inclusive, gender equal and stable societies;'** Note: The theory of change is published separately to the NAP;	Guided by UN Security Council resolution 1325 and subsequent UN resolutions on WPS, the Government of Canada Action Plan partners will implement the following high-level objectives: • Increase the meaningful participation of women, women's organizations and networks in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and post-conflict statebuilding. • Prevent, respond to and end impunity for sexual and gender-based violence perpetrated in conflict and sexual exploitation and abuse by peacekeepers and other international personnel, including humanitarian and development staff. • Promote and protect women's and girls' human rights, gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in fragile, conflict and post-conflict settings. • Meet the specific needs of women and girls in humanitarian settings, including the upholding of their sexual rights and access to sexual and reproductive health services. • Strengthen the capacity of peace operations to advance the WPS agenda, including by deploying more women and fully embedding the WPS agenda into CAF operations and police deployments;	Primarily outward-focused; focused on fragile and conflict-affected states (FCAS); But also heavily focused on the Canadian Defence, Police and training of the Canadian Government: Canada will: Strengthen gender and WPS training, including on gender-based violence, for government personnel; Recruit more women to the Canadian Armed Forces; Increase the number of women deployed in multilateral peace operations and other stabilization efforts; Notes how the WPS agenda applies to Indigenous women and girls in Canada; but there are no associated action points; Although Canada is not a fragile or conflict-affected state, women in Canada face a variety of challenges including gender-based violence. Indigenous women and girls in particular face intersecting discrimination and violence based on gender, race, socioeconomic status and other identity factors, as well as underlying historic causes— in particular the legacy of colonialism and the devastation caused by the residential school system. While Indigenous women make up 4% of Canada's total number of women, 16% of all women murdered in Canada between 1980 and 2012 were Indigenous.	UNSCR 1325, Global Study; International: the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Rome Statute, ICR, ICTY, BPA, CEDAW, Convention on the Rights of the Child, Geneva Conventions, Security Council's Protection of Civilians, the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, the September 2016 New York Declaration, the Global Compacts on Refugees and on Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration; Also mentions the Organization for Security and Co- operation in Europe (OSCE), the International Organisation of La Francophonie, the Commonwealth, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the G7 and the Global Coalition against Daesh. National: Canada's Feminist Foreign Policy, Feminist International Assistance Policy and Defence Policy, Feminist International Assistance Policy, It's Time: Canada's Strategy to Prevent and Address Gender-Based Violence, Defence Policy—Strong, Secure, Engaged, Canada's Peace and Stabilization Operations Program, Chief of the Defence Staff (CDS) Directive, CAF Diversity Strategy; The GBA+ Action Plan (2016-2020);
Ireland 1	Ireland's National Action Plan aims to: • Listen to the voices of women affected by conflict; strengthen women's leadership and implement accountability mechanisms; • Strengthen institutional capacities and collaboration through comprehensive and effective training of staff deployed overseas and greater accountability; • Support programmes to promote women's participation in conflict prevention, peacekeeping, peace negotiations, peacebuilding, and post conflict transition and governance; and • Leverage Ireland's participation in global and regional fora to champion the implementation of UNSCR 1325."	Pillar 1: Prevention of Conflict, Including Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) Pillar 2: Participation and Representation of Women in Decision Making Pillar 3: Protection From Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation And Abuse (SEA) and Other Violations of Women's Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law Pillar 4: Relief, Recovery, and Rehabilitation Pillar 5: Promotion of UNSCR 1325 in International, Regional and National Arenas	Combining inward- and outward-looking approaches; overall focused on international development co-operation programme, foreign policies and national strategies on gender equality, including addressing gender-based violence; Mostly outward-looking actions and strategies focused in fragile states, pre-deployment trainings, and multilateral fora (UN, EU, OSCE etc.) Inward-focused approach includes: mentions of conflict in Northern Ireland as well as conflict-affected refuges living in Ireland; strategies to increase the number of women in the Defence Forces and An Garda Síochána (Police); strategies to respond to migrant women and girls affected by conflict, including those seeking asylum, to ensure raised awareness and increased utilization of services available to all women experiencing domestic, sexual and gender-based violence in Ireland; Cross-learning/twinning with Liberia and Timor Leste;	UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960; International: CEDAW, EU's Comprehensive Approach to the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820, MDGs, IHL; National: The White Paper on Irish Aid (2006); National Women's Strategy 2007-2016; National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence, 2010-2014; "The priorities of UNSCR 1325 are also reflected in Irish Aid's Gender, Humanitarian Relief, Civil Society and Governance policies;" The Defence Force's Equality, Diversity and Equal Status Policy (2007);

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	Goal	**Thematic Areas**	**Geographic Priority Areas**	**Overlapping agendas**
Ireland 2	Stated clearly – Ireland's National Action Plan aims to: • Strengthen women's leadership and participation in decision-making in conflict and post-conflict situations • Ensure that a gender perspective is incorporated into Ireland's engagement in overseas humanitarian and development aid, peace-keeping, governance, post-conflict activities and interventions • Bolster Ireland's ongoing work on protection from and prevention of gender-based violence • Leverage Ireland's participation in global and regional fora to champion the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security resolutions; The pursuit of international peace, security and sustainable development is the overarching goal of Irish foreign policy. It is the fundamental guiding principle that underpins Ireland's interactions with the wider world. This goal is not achievable without the empowered participation of women.	Four Pillars 1. Prevention - Prevention of Conflict, Including Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) 2. Empowerment and Participation - Participation and Representation of Women in Decision Making 3. Protection, Relief and Recovery - Protection From Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and Other Violations of Women's Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law, and Relief, Recovery, and Rehabilitation 4. Promotion - Promotion of Women, Peace and Security agenda in International, Regional and National Arenas	Mostly outward-looking; focused on Ireland's overseas development aid programme, peacekeeping deployments, and contributions to post-conflict reconciliation on the island of Ireland; But also integrates inward-looking actions and addresses the needs and human rights of women on the island of Ireland who have been affected by conflict; mentions asylum seekers as well as the Government's Refugee Resettlement Programme; also commits to Increase the participation of women at senior decision making and leadership levels in Irish defence, police and foreign services; Emphasizes cross-learning;	UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960, 2106, 2122; International: CEDAW (including GR 30), BPA, IHL, UPR; National: Irish Aid's policy One World One Future, National Women's Strategy 2007-2016;
Nepal	Goal: To achieve sustainable peace and just security. Objective: Ensure proportional and meaningful participation of women at all levels of conflict transformation and peace building processes; and protection of women and girls.	Five pillars: 1. Participation - Establish equal, proportional and meaningful participation of women in every decision-making level of conflict transformation and peace building process 2. Protection and prevention - Protect and promote the rights of women and girls 3. Promotion - Mainstream the gender perspective 4. Relief and recovery -Address special needs of women and girls and to ensure their participation in relief and recovery 5. Resource management, monitoring and evaluation - Mobilize resources, monitor and evaluate progress;	Inward-looking and context specific – predominantly focused on the reconstruction efforts and the peace process after the 1996-2006 conflict between the Government and the Communist Party of Nepal; provides comprehensive background to the conflict and is embedded in national policy frameworks;	UNSCR 1325, 1820; International: CEDAW, BPA; National: The 2007 Interim Constitution of Nepal, The Civil Code, the 1997 National Human Rights Act, the 1997 Act on Compensation for Torture, the 2009 Domestic Violence Act, the 2008 Prevention and Control of Selling and Trafficking of Humans, the 2008 National Commission Act, the 1992 Civil Service Act, Three Year Human Rights National Action Plan (2010/11 – 2012/13), Three Year Plan Approach (2011/12 – 2013/14), National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women, National Plan of Action against Gender-Based Violence , National Plan of Action on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women, Terms of Reference of Local Peace Committees;

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	Goal	**Thematic Areas**	**Geographic Priority Areas**	**Overlapping agendas**
US 1	The goal of this National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security is as simple as it is profound: to empower half the world's population as equal partners in preventing conflict and building peace in countries threatened and affected by war, violence, and insecurity. Achieving this goal is critical to our national and global security.	A directed by the Executive Order, the US National Action Plan is targeted at meeting the following five high-level objectives: • National Integration and Institutionalization: Through interagency coordination, policy development, enhanced professional training and education, and evaluation, the United States Government will institutionalize a gender-responsive approach to its diplomatic, development, and defense-related work in conflict-affected environments • Participation in Peace Processes and Decision-making: The United States Government will improve the prospects for inclusive, just, and sustainable peace by promoting and strengthening women's rights and effective leadership and substantive participation in peace processes, conflict prevention, peacebuilding, transitional processes, and decision-making institutions in conflict-affected environments • Protection from Violence: The United States Government will strengthen its efforts to prevent—and protect women and children from—harm, exploitation, discrimination, and abuse, including sexual and gender-based violence and trafficking in persons, and to hold perpetrators accountable in conflict-affected environments • Conflict Prevention: The United States Government will promote women's roles in conflict prevention, improve conflict early-warning and response systems through the integration of gender perspectives, and invest in women and girls' health, education, and economic opportunity to create conditions for stable societies and lasting peace • Access to Relief and Recovery: The United States Government will respond to the distinct needs of women and children in conflict-affected disasters and crises, including by providing safe, equitable access to humanitarian assistance	Outward-looking – focused on foreign policy, diplomatic, security and development efforts; in this context the NAP also addresses US government agencies and calls for the gender training of the personnel and integration of the NAP with their departmental-level policies; action points urge for the US delegations to 'serve as a model for the inclusion of women in talks and negotiations';	UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960 International – NATO ISAF, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the Accra Agenda for Action, and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation; National – the US National Security Strategy, the 2010 Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review, the Department of State's Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues and USAID's Senior Coordinator for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, USAID's revised Policy on Gender Equality and Female Empowerment, Counter Trafficking in Persons (C-TIP) Policy, the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services, the Marine Corps' Female Engagement Teams and the Army's Cultural Support Teams;

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	Goal	**Thematic Areas**	**Geographic Priority Areas**	**Overlapping agendas**
US 2	The goal of the United States National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security remains as simple as it is profound: to empower half the world's population as equal partners in preventing conflict and building peace in countries threatened and affected by war, violence, and insecurity. Achieving this goal is critical to our national and global security.	As directed by Executive Order 13595, the U.S. National Action Plan is targeted at meeting the following five high-level objectives: • National Integration and Institutionalization: Through interagency coordination, policy development, enhanced professional training and education, and evaluation, the United States Government will institutionalize a gender-responsive approach to its diplomatic, development, and defense-related work in conflict-affected environments. • Participation in Peace Processes and Decision-making: The United States Government will improve the prospects for inclusive, just, and sustainable peace by promoting and strengthening women's rights and effective leadership and substantive participation in peace processes, conflict prevention, peacebuilding, transitional processes, and decision-making institutions in conflict-affected environments. • Protection from Violence: The United States Government will strengthen its efforts to prevent —and protect women and children from—harm, exploitation, discrimination, and abuse, including gender-based violence and trafficking in persons, and to hold perpetrators accountable in conflict-affected environments. • Conflict Prevention: The United States Government will promote women's roles in preventing conflict, mass atrocities, and violent extremism, including by improving conflict early-warning and response systems through the integration of gender perspectives, and invest in women and girls' health, education, and economic opportunity to create conditions for stable societies and lasting peace. • Access to Relief and Recovery: The United States Government will respond to the distinct needs of women and girls in both natural and conflict-affected disasters and crises, including by providing safe, equitable access to humanitarian assistance.	Outward-looking – focused on diplomatic, security/defence and development efforts overseas; in this context also addresses the US government agencies and calls for the gender training of the personnel and integration of the NAP with their departmental-level policies;	UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 2106, 2122, 2242; International - the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the Accra Agenda for Action, and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation; National - US National Security Strategy (2010, 2015) and the Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review (2010, 2015), The Department of State's Ambassador- at-Large for Global Women's Issues and USAID's Senior Coordinator for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, USAID's Gender Equality and Female Empowerment Policy, the Interagency Standing Committee (IASC) Six Core Principles on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, the Guidance for the Employment of the Force, and the Joint Service Capabilities Plan, US Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence Globally, US Global Strategy to Empower Adolescent Girls, the Gender-Based Violence Emergency Response and Protection Initiative (GBVI), the Global Health Initiative and Feed the Future, the Safe from the Start (SFTS) initiative;

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	Goal	**Thematic Areas**	**Geographic Priority Areas**	**Overlapping agendas**
Japan	Not fully clear – perhaps women's active participation in all levels of decision making in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and peacebuilding;	Five pillars: 1. Participation; Ensure equal participation of women in all stages in the field of peace and security with the intent of achieving gender mainstreaming. 2. Conflict prevention; Promote women's participation and leadership in all processes of prevention, management, and resolution of conflicts and in decision making while strengthening a gender equal perspective. 3. Protection; Protect various aid recipients including women and girls from violence and other human rights infringement during or after conflict or under a humanitarian crisis such as a large-scale disaster. 4. Humanitarian and reconstruction assistance; Provide humanitarian and reconstruction assistance while reflecting circumstances and needs unique to women and girls, promoting women's empowerment, and ensuring women's participation. 5. Framework for monitoring, evaluation and review; Build a framework to effectively monitor, evaluate, and review the National Action Plan at an appropriate time and revise the National Action Plan regularly; Since the issue of participation relates to all other pillars […] the details for women's participation are classified within each of these fields.	Outward-looking; Narrative report mentions that international measures should be implemented in collaboration with domestic measures, domestic measures and efforts relating to this National Action Plan are also indicated together with international measures in each pillar – yet this is not reflected in the implementation matrix which is outward-focused; some strategies concern increasingly the number of women in Japan's delegations etc. but all are in the context of multilateral agreements and overseas operations;	UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960, 2103, 2122; International: Japan's Development Cooperation Charter, the Act on Cooperation for UN PKOs, CEDAW (including GR 30), BPA, 2005 Gender and Development Initiative; National: the 1999 for a Gender Equal Society and the Constitution of Japan;

NAP / Category	IMPLEMENTATION			
	Leading agency	**Whole of Government Approach**	**Governance**	**Activities and responsibilities**
UK 1	Not specified;	Yes – Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), Ministry of Defense (MOD), and Department for International Development (DFID);	Not specified;	Yes but unspecific; The whole NAP is written in the form of 12 general objectives/activities; they are highly unspecific and only provide examples of actions and responsibilities; E.g. Address gender issues in UK supported disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR) programmes in countries emerging from conflict. For example, by providing guidelines to UK officials involved in DDR programmes to review the appropriate incorporation of gender aspects;
UK 2	Jointly owned by The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), Ministry of Defense (MOD), the Department for International Development (DFID); The FCO appears to be the leading agency as it is the primary one responsible for reporting, leadership, accountability and visibility of HMG's work;	Yes – The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), Ministry of Defense (MOD), the Department for International Development (DFID), Stabilization Unit, HMG (?) and global network of Embassies;	Unclear; from reading the action matrix it appears that the Cross Whitehall working group on WPS (comprised of MOD, FCO, DFID and Stabilisation Unit) coordinates the work at the national level; while the Country Plans will be coordinated by the London FCO Desk Officer (with input from DfID, FCO and MoD staff overseas) who will coordinate with DFID, FCO and MOD staff overseas to report against the plan on an annual basis; Weak accountability – progress reported to Parliament and civil society through the Associate Parliamentary Group on Women, Peace and Security (APG-WPS);	127 action points; they are specific and most of them is assigned to only one implementing agency (sometimes specifying the division of the implementing agency); each activity has at least one indicator;
UK 3	Unclear; The FCO, DFID and the MOD jointly own the plan;	Yes – the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), the Department for International Development (DFID), the Ministry of Defence (MoD) and the Stabilisation Unit (SU); also mentions UK Embassies and DFID Offices in conflict-affected States;	Unclear; The Associate Parliamentary Working Group on Women, Peace and Security (AGP) (?); Weak accountability – the annual reports are deposited in Parliament and shared with the Associate Parliamentary Group (APG) on Women, Peace and Security;	82 activities specified in the Implementation plan, are broken up by focus country and are specific; responsibility is broadly assigned to the FCO, DFID and MOD but the implementation plan specifies that instructions are issued to all diplomatic posts, DFID offices and Defence attaches; **In support of its third NAP, the UK Government developed a separate Implementation Plan to establish baseline data and indicators to measure progress against outcomes at country level in the six focus countries;

NAP / Category	IMPLEMENTATION			
	Leading agency	**Whole of Government Approach**	**Governance**	**Activities and responsibilities**
Sweden 1	Unclear but it appears to be Ministry for Foreign Affairs;	Yes – Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministries of Defence, Justice, and Industry, Employment and Communications, the Swedish Armed Forces, the National Police Board, the Folke Bernadotte Academy, Sida, the Swedish Rescue Services Agency and the National Defence College;	The Inter-Ministry Resolution 1325 Group; A Working Group (under the leadership of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and with participants from the Prime Minister's Office and the Ministries of Defence, Justice, and Industry, Employment and Communications) was created in 2004 to develop the NAP. It is unclear whether the Inter-Ministry Resolution 1325 Group is another or the same body (?); Unclear accountability – each ministry affected is responsible for the implementation in its own operations and in the operations of subordinate authorities. Regular reports will be made to the commissioning group of State Secretaries as well as in connection with meetings of the proposed Delegation for Monitoring Implementation of Resolution 1325;	60 activities are named and organized according to implementation at national, regional and international levels; they are relatively specific and name the responsible actors; The activities are organized as a narrative rather than action matrix – this format makes a broad overview difficult to access quickly;
Sweden 2	Unclear; it appears to be the Ministry for Foreign Affairs;	Yes – Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministries of Defence, Justice and Integration and Gender Equality, Swedish Armed Forces, the National Police Board, the Folke Bernadotte Academy, Sida, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency, the Swedish Defence Research Agency, the National Defence College, the Swedish Prison and Probation Service, the National Courts Administration and the Swedish Prosecution Authority;	A working group within the Government Offices (?) Weak accountability – A review of the action plan will take place through annual meetings where the Ministry for Foreign Affairs will call those involved in the Government Offices, agencies and NGOs for discussions;	62 activities; names responsible agencies but usually several of them without specifying the lead agency; but there are some activities without a responsible agency; relatively specific; Again, this is presented as a narrative rather than an action matrix so it's difficult to have access an overview;

NAP / Category	IMPLEMENTATION			
	Leading agency	**Whole of Government Approach**	**Governance**	**Activities and responsibilities**
Sweden 3	Ministry of Foreign Affairs;	Yes – Major agencies: the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Justice; Other agencies: the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs and the Ministry of Education and Research; Contributing agencies: the Swedish National Courts Administration, the Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA), the Swedish Armed Forces, the Swedish Defence University, the Swedish Prison and Probation Service, the Swedish Coast Guard, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB), the Swedish Police Authority, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), the Swedish Defence Research Agency (FOI) and the Swedish Prosecution Authority. Has a section on Actors and partnerships and outlines the role and function of the all actors in the NAP;	The Reference Group – then transformed into Sweden's Working Group for implementing the NAP; under lead of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs; Provides agencies and CSOs and names individual responsibility; Unclear accountability – mentions support from the Swedish Parliament and that: All managers at affected ministries, foreign missions, government agencies and educational establishments are responsible for ensuring that the work on the National Action Plan for Women, Peace and Security is integrated into the planning, implementation and reporting of the strategic and operative work for affected units and embassies, representations and delegations;	There are no action points or implementation matrix as such but specific goals/aims under each priority are provided; they have assigned multiple responsible agencies without indicating the lead agency; The action matrix is to be developed later at the implementation level and by the implementing actors, under the leadership of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in cooperation with relevant government agencies; Affected government agencies are commissioned to draw up agency-specific activities for the implementation of the action plan, using the established thematic priorities in sections 4.1–4.4 as a starting point;
Netherlands 1	Ministry of Foreign Affairs (BZ);	Yes – Ministry of Foreign Affairs (BZ), Ministry of Defence, Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations (BZK) and Dutch Embassies and NGOs;	Not specified; establishing a coordination structure for implementing and monitoring 1325 is an action point; Women, Peace and Security Task Force – made up of experts from the public sector, politics and civil society, was active from 2003 to 2006; Weak accountability – the bodies named in this action plan accept responsibility for monitoring the implementation of the action points, and for calling each other to account on their respective progress. The reader is, of course, equally free to request an update on the partners' progress;	72 activities assigned to one or a couple of agencies (or NGOs), without specifying the leading one; activities are highly unspecific, e.g. Protect women's rights in unofficial legal systems; Has a descriptive part dedicated to activities and then an action matrix, yet these two do not strictly align which is confusing;
Netherlands 2	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Yes – Ministry of Foreign Affairs (BZ), Ministry of Defence, Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations (BZK); The Dutch Ministry of Defence has developed its own action plan, in addition to this joint NAP, to ensure the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in all its military operations;	Not specified; Mentions that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs provides an institutional umbrella for it, practical day-to-day coordination is shared by the Ministry and a representative of civil society;	Yes but unspecific; The action matrix is flexible – actions are to be designed by the implementing agencies and partners; each action is assigned to an implementing agency and partners;

NAP / Category	IMPLEMENTATION			
	Leading agency	**Whole of Government Approach**	**Governance**	**Activities and responsibilities**
Netherlands 3	Ministry of Foreign Affairs;	Yes; Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Security and Justice, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, National Police, Dutch Embassies;	Yes but unspecific; mentions that the two coordinating partners are the Dutch Gender Platform WO=MEN and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; also mentions country groups who will coordinate work in the priority countries but it's unclear how this process will be governed; Mentions that signatories and suitable external actors will meet at least every two months in country groups: context-specific forums in which signatories will share their perspectives on the situation from their different backgrounds, working with partner networks, embassies and staff in the region;	45 activities; most assigned to more than one implementer, without specifying the lead; unspecific, e.g. Advocate gender-sensitive SSR and women's participation in it; Specifies three types of interventions: knowledge sharing, advocacy and joint programming;
Canada 1	Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (DFAIT);	Yes; Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (DFAIT), the Department of National Defence (DND), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), Public Safety Canada;	DFAIT's Stabilization and Reconstruction Task Force (START) coordinates the government-wide response to the implementation of WPS; DFAIT convenes regular meetings of an interdepartmental working group – no more details on the working group are provided; Weak accountability – Departments and agencies will implement the Action Plan as part of their accountability to Canadians for human and financial resources allocated by Government for realization of their mandates; The Government of Canada tabled its response to the third report of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development, entitled An Opportunity for Global Leadership: Canada and the Women, Peace and Security Agenda (website);	28 action points assigned to CIDA, DFAIT, DND, RCMP (most assigned to more than one agency without specifying the lead); The specificity of the action varies: Relatively specific actions: E.g. 1. Ensure that all organizations receiving Government of Canada funds for humanitarian assistance have organizational codes of conduct relating to sexual exploitation and abuse consistent with the core principles of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Plan of Action on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises. Unspecific actions: E.g. 6. Advocate for improved accountability mechanisms on the part of the UN and reporting by Member States on progress made to implement Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security (SCRs 1325, 1820, 1888 and 1889).

NAP / Category	IMPLEMENTATION			
	Leading agency	**Whole of Government Approach**	**Governance**	**Activities and responsibilities**
Canada 2	Global Affairs Canada coordinates the NAP and doesn't have assigned action points; it contributes primarily through its funds/funding programs;	Yes – Lead partners: Global Affairs Canada, the Department of National Defence (DND) and the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP); Supporting partners: Public Safety Canada (PS), Status of Women Canada (SWC), Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and the Department of Justice; Implementation Plans were developed for each department (published in one booklet) but they are inconsistent as for their format (especially activities and indicators – see below);	Yes and extensive; In short: Global Affairs Canada is the focal point department for Women, Peace and Security (WPS) within the Government of Canada, and its Peace and Stabilization Operations Program (PSOPs) co-ordinates the Action Plan between departments, compiles progress reports, and leads on collaboration with civil society. The Director General of the PSOPs is Global Affairs Canada's WPS Champion and the chair of the PSOPs Advisory Board. In long: The Minister of Foreign Affairs is responsible for Canada's implementation of the international WPS agenda and for ensuring that implementation across government is aligned with the government's foreign policy priorities. Global Affairs Canada, through PSOPs, coordinates the whole-of-government Action Plan efforts. Separate implementation plans define specific activities and will serve as public yardsticks against which all stakeholders can measure how Canada is advancing the WPS agenda. The implementation of the Action Plan will be coordinated in several ways: PSOPs Advisory Board – The PSOPs Advisory Board, a whole-of- government forum at the Director General level, brings together departments and agencies involved in Canada's peace operations and coordinates government policy on the Action Plan and Canada's role in implementing the WPS agenda. WPS champions – Each lead Action Plan partner has identified a WPS champion (a focal point in the lead agencies); Action Plan Advisory Group – The Action Plan Advisory Group will advise PSOPs—as coordinator of the Action Plan—as well as the PSOPs Advisory Board on the implementation of the Action Plan;	Implementation Plans clearly state roles and responsibility of lead partners and supporting partners, including individual responsibility of WPS champions in each agency; Implementation Plans of the Department of National Defence and Canadian Armed Forces, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Department of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada have specific targets, baseline, activities and indicators; the remaining Implementation Plans (Global Affairs Canada, Public Safety Canada, Status of Women Canada and department of Justice) have statements of actions without specific action points, targets, indicators etc. The activities, where mentioned, are mostly specific (and have associated indicators), e.g. Publish a Department of National Defence (DND) GBA + Directive to provide guidance to the L1s; or less specific activities, e.g. Support the participation and leadership of women in delivering peace and security efforts; But overall the approach to the Implementation Plans is a bit inconsistent; possibly the responsible agencies put the plans together not working with other departments to ensure consistency (?);

NAP / Category	IMPLEMENTATION			
	Leading agency	**Whole of Government Approach**	**Governance**	**Activities and responsibilities**
Ireland 1	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade;	Yes; Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Department of Defence (DD), Defence Forces, the Department of Justice and Equality (DJE), An Garda Síochána (the Irish Policing Service); Other departments "as appropriate" – mentions the Garda Immigration Bureau and Irish Aid but doesn't specifically assign responsibilities;	Monitoring Group (MG) comprised of the relevant departments and led by DFAT; Weak accountability – A Monitoring Group (MG) oversees progress but no accountability mechanism is specified;	48 actions points; each action is assigned to a department (where more departments are responsible, the leading agency is specified); Action points are mostly specific, e.g. action: P2.A2.2 Create and maintain list of overseas postings opportunities for special advisors (including gender advisors) and/or investigators and encourage eligible female personnel to apply for same;
Ireland 2	Unclear but it appears to be DFAT;	Yes – Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Defence Forces, Department of Defence (DD), An Garda Síochána (Police), Department of Justice and Equality (DJE), Health Services Executive (HSE), Tusla (Child and Family Agency); By far the most responsibilities are assigned to DFAT;	Monitoring Group - consist of representatives from the relevant statutory bodies and civil society; chaired independently (Oxfam currently chairs); supported by the Conflict Resolution Unit, in cooperation with Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Evaluation and Audit Unit; Monitoring Group will also develop and use outreach and communications mechanisms to ensure regular dissemination of updates to wider communities of stakeholders and make sure, in particular, that the perspectives of women affected by conflict are incorporated into the ongoing work of the Monitoring Group;	52 action points – most are only assigned to one or two agencies and a division of a given agency tasked with implementation is also often specified; some are more specific than other;
Nepal	The Gender Unit to be established within the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction;	Yes – a truly whole-of-government approach in which basically each agency is supposed to integrate WPS in their work; • Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction • Ministry of Foreign Affairs • Ministry of Law and Justice • Ministry of Finance • Ministry of Home Affairs • Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare • Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers • Ministry of Defence • Election Commission • Ministry of Information and Communications • Office of the Attorney-General • Ministry of Education • Ministry of Health and Population • Ministry of Local Development • Ministry of Industry • Ministry of Labour and Transport • Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives	Yes – 59 action points; each activity is assigned to responsible agency and supporting agencies (can also be NGOs) but most activities have more than one agency without specifying the leading one; Action points are often unspecific, e.g. maintain zero tolerance regarding sexual violence in the security sector; Dedicates section "Implementation of the National Action Plan" to outlining how specific programs will be formulated and implemented as well as to indicate the responsible departments;	Lays out a complex coordination/governance mechanism comprised of: • The Steering Committee – involving all implementing agencies and inclusive of civil society,, chaired by MFA and co-chaired by MPR); • The Implementation Committee – under the joint Steering Committee; • The District Coordination Committees – involving district-level committees and offices; • Dedicates section "Institutional arrangement for the implementation of the Action Plan" to describes the roles of different committees; Weak accountability – vaguely mentions that the Steering Committee supervises and monitors the work of the implementing agencies and also mentions that NAP beneficiaries should be part of the monitoring process, but has no accountability mechanism;

NAP / Category	IMPLEMENTATION			
	Leading agency	**Whole of Government Approach**	**Governance**	**Activities and responsibilities**
US 1	Unclear – possibly White House National Security Staff (NSS);	Yes – the White House National Security Staff, the Departments of State, Defense (DoD), Justice, Treasury, and Homeland Security (DHS), and the US Mission to the UN (USUN), the US Agency for International Development (USAID), the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Office of the US Trade Representative (USTR); *Note: USAID and Department of State developed their departmental NAPs	Interagency Policy Committee dedicated to Women, Peace, and Security (WPSIPC) to be established and chaired by the White House National Security Staff (NSS); Weak accountability (despite strong language, mechanism is weak)– As directed by the Executive Order, within 150 days, State, DoD, and USAID will designate one or more officer or officers, as appropriate, as responsible for coordination and implementation, and will supplement this Plan by submitting to the Assistant to the President and National Security Advisor agency specific Women, Peace, and Security implementation plans. These implementation plans will establish a full range of time-bound, measurable, and resourced actions State, DoD, and USAID will take to realize their commitments, and will include meaningful strategies for monitoring implementation and evaluating results; The implementation matrix includes under the first high-level objective (National Integration and Institutionalization) action points that support accountability;	84 action points; most assigned to more than one agency without specifying the lead; some more specific than other but overall not very specific;
US 2	The White House National Security Council (NSC);	Yes – Department of State, USAID, DoD, Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), USUN, Treasury, Justice, DHS, USTR, Commerce;	An Interagency Policy Committee (IPC) dedicated to Women, Peace, and Security priorities – chaired by the White House National Security Council (NSC); Accountability – State, DOD, and USAID have designated personnel responsible for coordination and implementation, and have supplemented this Plan by submitting to the Assistant to the President and National Security Advisor agency-specific Women, Peace, and Security implementation plans;	88 action points; most assigned to more than one agency without specifying the lead; some more specific than other but overall relatively specific;

NAP / Category	IMPLEMENTATION			
	Leading agency	**Whole of Government Approach**	**Governance**	**Activities and responsibilities**
Japan	Ministry of Foreign Affairs;	Yes – a whole of government approach, applying to agencies per their areas of responsibility: • Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) • Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) • Ministry of Defense (MOD) • Secretariat of the International Peace Cooperation Headquarters, Cabinet Office • Cabinet Office (Disaster Management) • Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office • Reconstruction Agency • Fire and Disaster Management Agency • National Police Agency (NPA) • Ministry of Justice • Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)	86 actions; each activity is assigned to responsible agency but most activities have more than one agency without specifying the leading one; Action points are often unspecific, e.g. assist women in aid-recipient countries play an active role in peacebuilding activities; but each has at least one associated indicator;	The Monitoring Working Group consisting of focal points for all relevant ministries and agencies (sits in the Gender Mainstreaming Division of Ministry of Foreign Affairs); Accountability – the Evaluation Committee (?); Note: the Monitoring Working Group and the Evaluation Committee are two different bodies;

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

NAP / Category	MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING			
	Indicators	**Outcomes / Impact**	**Timelines and Targets**	**Reporting and review**
UK 1	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified
UK 2	158 indicators, including a range of qualitative and quantitative measures; some are relatively specific (e.g. number of meeting held of report produced) but other are vague (e.g. Secretary General's progress reports on WPS and the prominence of the issue);	36 explicitly stated objectives; but similarly to indicators they allow to track progress but not to measure impact;	Not specified; a few actions have an associated timeline but they are often vague; no targets;	An annual report is completed by the FCO; a clear timetable of reports and reviews is presented in a table format (pp. 73-75); Final evaluation in 2013 – to be 'ideally' conducted by an independent consultant; Also highlight the importance of the 2011 annual review (progress report) that was used for the revision of the whole NAP and the publication of the revised NAP in 2012;
UK 3	The Implementation Plan has 12 high level indicators evenly distributed across the four pillars (participation, prevention, protection, relief and recovery); further contains 82 baseline indicators (where a baseline exists) (e.g. 3 meetings held in the past year) and 82 target indicators (e.g. quarterly meetings held throughout period to better inform HMG policy and engagement with the army); the indicators are mainly quantitative and very specific; qualitative indicators are more vague;	Yes – specifies outcomes, high-level indicators, activities, outputs, baseline and target indicators; this allows to measure progress (but not necessary impact); Also allocated specific funding to the external and independent monitoring and evaluation;	Yes – all indicators have a specified timeline and there are targets for each activity; many are quantitative only and some are vague (e.g. local health, legal, and law enforcement professionals in South Kivu province, DRC are better equipped to provide these services);	Annual reports; Final review in 2017;

NAP / Category	MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING			
	Indicators	**Outcomes / Impact**	**Timelines and Targets**	**Reporting and review**
Sweden 1	Not specified;	Not specified;	Not specified;	No specific reporting for the NAP but reporting on NAP to be integrated in other reporting schema: Government authorities will be instructed to include reports on action to implement Resolution 1325 in their annual reports or reports on special issues; Mentions half-time review;
Sweden 2	Not specified;	Not specified;	Not specified;	Yes but unspecific: Through appropriation directions, the Government tasks the agencies with reporting (via their annual reports or regular reports on specific issues) on initiatives to implement Resolution 1325, and Resolution 1820, which goes into greater depth on the sexual violence aspect of Resolution 1325; Final review - yes but unspecific: When the action plan expires, an overall evaluation will be carried out with regard to the aims set in the plan;
Sweden 3	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Annual reports compiled by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Affected government agencies are to report annually; External evaluation in 2020; Mentions that earlier external evaluation was conducted in conjunction with drawing up Sweden's third National Action Plan; the recommendations from the evaluation have been incorporated into this action plan.
Netherlands 1	Not specified;	Not specified; mentions 19 goals for activities (in the action matrix); those are highly unspecific, e.g. Those violating human rights are prosecuted; Developing instruments for measuring the impact of conflict on women is an action point – assigned to NGOs;	Not specified;	Not specified; making gender-specific evaluations and reports is an action point; Final review - not specified;

NAP / Category	MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING			
	Indicators	**Outcomes / Impact**	**Timelines and Targets**	**Reporting and review**
Netherlands 2	Not specified; The signatories have therefore decided to use flexible methods to monitor and evaluate the outcome and impact of their activities; It is therefore almost impossible to set fixed indicators for the coming four years at this stage; Also mentions Monitoring and evaluation (an annual self-evaluation and an external evaluation after four years) under set result 5;	Specified; mentions an alternative, innovative monitoring and evaluation system, taking place at two levels: the quantitative and qualitative; Quantitative level – Collaborative efforts will be evaluated first. A monitoring matrix has been developed for this purpose, listing different forms of collaboration between the different types of Dutch NAP signatory organisations. The results of collaboration on every specific objective of this NAP will be measured annually, in all the focus countries, including the MENA region. Qualitative level – The outcome and – where appropriate – the impact of the activities will therefore be monitored and evaluated using innovative participatory techniques, such as the Most Significant Change (MSC) technique.19 MSC involves storytelling to collect information about activities. Designated stakeholders help select stories about the interventions that have prompted the most significant change. This is a participatory method that stimulates discussion among stakeholders about the outcome and impact of their activities. The process also includes discussions about the future direction of programmes concerning UNSCR 1325. Also mentions, under the four specific objectives, result statements, those are unspecific, e.g. Result 4: National Action Plans 1325 to be developed and implemented in the focus countries and region and in other conflict and post-conflict states;	Not specified;	Yes but relatively unspecific; The collaborative initiatives of NAP signatories will be monitored annually (annual self-evaluation). The outcomes and the impacts of joint activities will be evaluated every two years. External evaluation will be conducted after four years. Mid-term review in 2013 and final evaluation in 2015 (by independent evaluators); Also mentions mid-term review of the previous NAP in 2009 and another one in 2011 (final?);

NAP / Category	MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING			
	Indicators	**Outcomes / Impact**	**Timelines and Targets**	**Reporting and review**
Netherlands 3	Unspecific; A context-specific monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system based on specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely (SMART) indicators is to be developed in focus countries; The Action Plan's two coordinating partners, the Dutch Gender Platform WO=MEN and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will design a functioning M&E system based on the country strategies and theory of change; This will include the number of meetings conducted in the Netherlands and focus countries; the exchange of information; the number of joint training courses conducted by the signatories; the number of organisations involved in developing the proposals, and their contribution to implementing final projects.	Yes but unspecific; Mentions that the gender experts, country experts, policymakers and activists in these groups will develop a strategic plan with specific, quantifiable activities. Existing and new country groups will be formed or reconstituted during the first month after the launch of this plan. Has a theory of change with overall objective, specific goals, outputs and activities;	Not specified timelines; Targets specify 10 outputs (according to specific goals and pathways of change), those are general: e.g. Increased understanding of gender-based violence and ways of protecting women from it;	Not specified;
Canada 1	24 indicators inspired by the indicators presented by the UN Secretary General in a report to the Security Council (S/2010/173) in April 2010 and follow the same principle of being SMART — Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound; Majority are quantitative (number and percentage), some qualitative (extent); Some action points have their indicators but not all of them;	Not specified;	Not specified;	Annual report; data collected and compiled by DFAIT from the implementing agencies; Mid-term review; Inclusive Security was contracted to conduct the mid-term review but the publication is no longer available online;
Canada 2	There are some indictors (see above – only for DND, CAF, RCMP and IRCC); Mostly quantitative (as opposed to mostly qualitative targets); e.g. number of Diversity Strategy Action Plan tasks completed; percentage of women who join for non-traditional employment.; some indicators are qualitative, e.g. identify reasons (when possible) why the applicant disengaged from the recruiting process;	Specifies baseline for the targets (if applicable and existing); provides a system to track progress but not necessary impact	Has targets and sometimes associated timelines (only few timelines); targets are vague, e.g. Further integration of a Gender Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) perspective within National Defence.	Annual, public progress reporting, tabled every September. An independent mid-term review and summative evaluation;

NAP / Category	MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING			
	Indicators	**Outcomes / Impact**	**Timelines and Targets**	**Reporting and review**
Ireland 1	73 indicators; each action has at least one indicator; which are relatively specific and come with timeframes. Quantitative (e.g. the number and percentage, amount of funding) and qualitative (revised guidelines, recommendations, audit, list of postings);	Yes; under each pillar outcome objective is specified as well as impact objective E.g. under pillar 1: OUTCOME OBJECTIVE 1: Effective GBV and SEA preventive mechanisms established and implemented at local, national and international levels IMPACT OBJECTIVE 1: Reduction in levels of all forms of violence against women, especially GBV and SEA;	Yes; most actions have a timeframe in 2011, 2012, 2013 or 2014; the life-span of the plan is relatively short – only 3-4 years; Targets: the implementation matrix has "target/timeframe" column but it is mostly a timeline; a few actions call for baseline data or mention that targets are to be set up later; another "target" is "annual increase" which is particularly unspecific;	Two progress reports prepared by the Monitoring Group: 18 months in and 3 years in; Final review - the second progress report should also include an evaluation of the NAP by an independent consultant;
Ireland 2	69 indicators; each action has at least one indicator; Indicators are both quantitative (number of personnel, number of references, number of initiatives) and qualitative (training, evidence, awareness raising) – both not very specific, e.g. awareness raising among private sector stakeholders of core values including gender equality and CEDAW obligations;	Yes but unspecific – mentions that indicators were designed to measure progress against both output (activities) and outcome (the impact of those activities); Some actions call for baseline data;	Not specified;	Two progress reports – after two years and in the end of the term; It seems that the second Progress Report will be the final review (?); Mentions Mid-Term Progress Report of the first NAP;
Nepal	92 indicators; many quantitative and specific (e.g. number of beneficiaries, capacity building programs and numbers of participants); qualitative are less specific (e.g. evidence of improved justice and security systems or types and quality of services provided to women and girls at risk); Each action point has at least one indicator;	Yes – the Nepalese NAP specifies the action, expected result, an indicator of its progress and the timeline for it to happen within. The outcome and impact is therefore relatively measurable; Mentions that participation of beneficiaries will be sought in M&E;	Yes but unspecific– specifies timelines for action but they are rather general (falls between one and five years from the beginning of the NAP; most are to be met up to five years from the first NAP which ultimately is the lifespan of the NAP); Targets specified in the form of expected results, e.g. perpetrators involved in incidents of sexual violence in the security sector are processed. They are not, however, always specific, e.g. the special needs of women and girls are promptly and effectively addressed;	An Implementation Committee is to prepare annual progress reports and submit it to the Steering Committee; Arrangements will be made for conducting quarterly, half-yearly and annual progress review for institutionalising the monitoring and evaluation process. Final review after five years;

NAP / Category	MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING			
	Indicators	**Outcomes / Impact**	**Timelines and Targets**	**Reporting and review**
US 1	Not specified; Mentions that progress in implementing the objectives of the National Action Plan will be monitored and evaluated against specific indicators, to be identified at the direction of the WPS IPC;	16 outcome statements but they are very unspecific and there are no tools to measure impact; E.g. Reintegration and early recovery programs address the distinct needs of men and women.	Not specified;	Yes but unspecific – WPS IPC will establish a mechanism to report progress; it appears that agencies are to submit annual reports: Working through the WPS IPC, agencies will report annually to the National Security Council Deputies Committee on progress made toward achieving the commitments contained in the National Action Plan and agency-level implementation plans, which the Assistant to the President and National Security Advisor shall draw upon to provide an annual report to the President. Final review in 2015, the National Security Staff will coordinate a comprehensive review of, and update to, this National Action Plan;
US 2	Not specified but mentions that the agency-level implementation plans have established a full range of time-bound, measurable, and resourced actions; Also mentions that the objectives of the NAP will continue to be monitored and evaluated against specific indicators and outcomes as identified by the IPC; action points call to establish indicators;	16 outcome statements but they are very unspecific (e.g. More women are effectively engaged in peace negotiations) and there are no tools to measure impact;	Not specified;	Departments and agencies to report annually (through the IPC), the Assistant to the President and National Security Advisor will draw upon to provide an annual report to the President; Final review – Mentions 2015 review of the earlier NAP; also mentions another review in 2018;
Japan	156 indictors; many descriptive (rather than qualitative) and relatively unspecific (e.g. the status of, good practices), also quantitative indicators which are more specific (e.g. the number and percentage); some indicators appear to be action items (e.g. identify personnel in charge of assistance);	Yes but unspecific; There is no explicit way of measuring progress or impact but mentions under each pillar the major goal, significance, objectives and sub-goals; Mentions that relevant organizations are required to develop systems and check their awareness on a daily basis so that their capacity to design, plan and implement policies and projects based on the gender equality perspective improves through the implementation of the NAP;	Not specified; the NAP itself doesn't specify its life span (perhaps 2015-2018 given that the final report is due after 3 years); Target are not specified but mentions goals which might be read as result statements (although only general, e.g. increase women's participation);	Annual public reports prepared by the Monitoring Working Group; Final review after 3 years, to be prepared by the Evaluation Committee;

CIVIL SOCIETY INVOLVEMENT

NAP / Category	CIVIL SOCIETY INVOLVEMENT			
	Consultations	**Drafting**	**Implementation**	**Monitoring and evaluation**
UK 1	Not specified	Not specified	Yes but unspecific; One general objective/activity mentions that HMG is to liaise with NGOs, civil society and Parliamentarians on the implementation of SCR1325, continuing regular dialogue on gender related issues. For example, by regular contact, using the wealth of resource within the NGO community to assist in developing UK implementation of UNSCR1325;	Not specified
UK 2	Yes – revision of the NAP has been carried out by the three key departments in consultation with civil society, in particular the civil society coalition group Gender Action for Peace and Security (GAPS); Specifically, before commencing the revision, the FCO launched a month-long informal consultation exercise in December 2009 and it was followed up with a civil society round-table discussion in April 2010;	Yes – working drafts were shared with representatives of the Civil Society groups via GAPs seeking their comments and feedback;	Yes – civil society is integrated throughout the plan; civil society owns one action point in the UK NAP (to hold a workshop on UNSCR 1325); Mostly mentions civil society as beneficiary – several action in the priority countries call for supporting and strengthening the capacity of NGOs; sometimes names the networks specifically e.g. CAFCO in the DRC or Nepal Women's Network; one of the six aims of the revised NAP is to work closely with Civil Society;	Yes – the NAP will continue to be reviewed annually, incorporating feedback from civil society focus groups; the Cross Whitehall working group meets with civil society bi-annually; GAPS produces shadow reports003B
UK 3	Yes and extensive; Mentions that civil society played an important role in the developmental process through regular cross-governmental consultations with, and recommendations from GAPs. GAPS conducted overseas consultative workshops in several of the focus countries with almost 100 women from civil society and country governments;	Yes – takes note of the expert input from members of GAPs in the production of the Implementation Plan;	Yes but unspecific: we will continue to work closely with civil society throughout the implementation of the National Action Plan, in the UK and abroad, particularly in the priority countries; A significant number of activities is to support civil society in the priority countries but these are often not specific (do not name concrete organizations);	The UK will welcome an annual Shadow Report from GAPS;

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Sweden 1	Not specified;	Yes but unspecific: The design and contents of the action plan have therefore been guided by a dialogue with various interested parties: government authorities, NGOs, research institutions, international organisations and other countries. Views and ideas have been formulated in a comparative study, at a seminar on international experience and at a consultative seminar with the participation of representatives of civil society and public authorities;	Yes but unspecific: Mentions CSOs contributions to implementation: Representatives of civil society, including organisations and networks that bring together women and girls and/or work to promoting gender equality, are vital cooperation partners over and above official representatives. This also applies to information and analysis, training, and capacity enhancement. Cooperation with organisations and networks in actual or potential conflict areas is of particular importance. Some action points mention CSOs but are unspecific, e.g. The Government will continue to support and cooperate with Swedish NGOs in work to implement Resolution 1325, at the national level and together with international cooperation partners, primarily in conflict areas. Through a close dialogue with civil society, Sweden can help to spread knowledge and information to a broader public, and also to corresponding groups in developing countries and countries where armed conflicts are ongoing or are in danger of breaking out;	Not specified;
Sweden 2	Not specified;	Yes but unspecific: The action plan has been drawn up by a working group within the Government Offices, which in turn has been guided by a dialogue with various stakeholders: government agencies, NGOs, research institutions, international organisations and other countries;	Yes but unspecific: Mentions the importance of cooperation with CSOs in implementation efforts: Responsibility for implementing Resolution 1325 is shared, and extends from civil society to international organisations […]. Cooperation with organisations and networks in current or potential conflict areas is therefore of particular importance. Mentions that Swedish NGOs are important partners and a prerequisite for full and effective implementation of the Resolution. Civil society plays an important role in disseminating information at national level, but also in operations through contacts with and support for national women's organisations. The Government is to continue to support and cooperate with Swedish non-governmental organisations in efforts to implement Resolution 1325 nationally in Sweden and in initiatives to support relevant women's organisations in conflict and post- conflict countries;	Yes but unspecific: A review of the action plan will take place through annual meetings where the Ministry for Foreign Affairs will call those involved in the Government Offices, agencies and NGOs for discussions.

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Sweden 3	Yes – the NAP included a broad consultation process in Sweden, and also in five conflict and post-conflict countries (Afghanistan, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia and Palestine), including representatives from women's rights organisations, peace organisations, the academic world, the business community, the security sector, governments, government agencies, other donors and the UN; Published reports on the consultation processes;	Yes – the Reference Group/the Working Group included CSOs and the organisations and representatives are named specifically;	Yes – the Reference Group/the Working Group oversees implementation and includes CSOs and the organisations and representatives are named specifically; Mentions that the skills, commitment and experience of civil society actors will be supported and included in the implementation of Sweden's action plan; Supporting civil society is also mentioned specifically in the goals/aims framework;	Not specified;
Netherlands 1	Yes and extensive– civil society was part of the Women, Peace and Security Task Force appointed to provide recommendations on WPS; the NAP is 'a logical follow-up,' the individual members of the Task Force are named; Dutch NGOs Coalition issued in 2007 'Pink Notes' collecting recommendations for the Dutch NAP; this can be seen as the first step towards the NAP; it was coordinated by the Dutch Gender Platform WO=MEN; also specifically mentions knowledge institutions (academia); Is nuanced about civil society, mentions the complexities involved in this concept and that it is "a complex mixture of groupings";	Yes – drafted in consultation with the partners, unites people and organisations active in the fields of development (including humanitarian aid), diplomacy and social action in a joint effort for conflict prevention and resolution, peace negotiations and reconstruction; concrete NGOs are specifically named;	Yes – Civil society are identified in the delivery of the NAP, they are explicitly recognized as implementers; Extensive sections on civil society's contributions and roles;	Yes but unspecific – Dutch NGOs and women's organisations will work together at international level to establish monitoring systems which will keep track of progress on implementing 1325;
Netherlands 2	Yes and extensive – CSOs are signatories to the NAP and were consulted upon NAP development; The civil society organisations that have signed this NAP vary from multinational NGOs to women's peace movements and diaspora organisations run by volunteers;	Yes and extensive – CSOs are signatories to the NAP and were included in the drafting process;	Yes and extensive – CSOs are signatories to the NAP and they are effectively among the implementers (in the Netherlands and in priority countries); Civil society actors, for their part, have all committed to integrating UNSCR 1325 into their strategies, programmes and activities in conflict and post-conflict states, fragile states and countries in transition;	Yes – CSOs are signatories to the NAP and just like the implementing agencies, they will be evaluating their activities on an annual basis;

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Netherlands 3	Yes but unspecific; Addresses shrinking space for civil society; We, the signatories of the Dutch National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, proudly present our third Action Plan for the period 2016-2019. This plan is an expression of our ongoing partnership and a contribution to the full realisation of the ambitions set out in all the UN Security Council resolutions on Women, Peace and Security. Together, we form a platform for cooperation between government and over 50 Dutch civil society organisations and knowledge institutions, with the joint overall objective	Yes but unspecific; Ministries, the National Police, knowledge institutions and a wide range of civil society groups have jointly drafted this Dutch National Action Plan; Concrete organizations are not named this time – the signatories are yet to be specified in implementation practice;	Yes but unspecific; Civil society are signatories to the NAP and effectively the implementers;	Yes but unspecific; Civil society is to act as the watchdog;
Canada 1	Yes but not specific; members of Canadian civil society, have […] contributed to the development of the Action Plan;	Not specified;	Not specified; Action 11 urges to Identify Canadian specialists and trainers from various backgrounds with expertise in women, peace and security issues, and assist where practicable their professional development, placement on international deployment rosters or nomination for relevant multilateral assignments. These specialists can also be a source of policy and program advice for Government of Canada departments and agencies – but there are no indicators;	Yes but unspecific; Canada welcomes, in particular, the contribution of Canadian civil society to the development, implementation and monitoring of the Action Plan and looks forward to continuing and active discussion on the issues of Women, Peace and Security;

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Canada 2	Yes – In developing the 2017-2022 Action Plan, the Government of Canada has consulted with civil society, in particular the Women, Peace and Security Network-Canada (WPSN-C). This input has been invaluable, and the Government of Canada is committed to strengthening this collaboration;	Not specified;	Yes – Action Plan Advisory Group will comprise civil society experts and government officials and will be co-chaired by a PSOPs official and a representative of civil society through the Women, Peace and Security Network- Canada (WPSN-C); Canada's feminist agenda recognizes the role of civil society in advancing, promoting and protecting human rights. This is why Canada will support the full participation of local women's organizations to advance the WPS agenda in areas such as peace negotiations, conflict prevention, humanitarian action, and peacebuilding; Canada will also collaborate with Canadian civil society and women's organizations at the grassroots level to find new and innovative ways to work together; Recognizing the crucial role of civil society, Canada announced $150 million in funding for local women's organizations that will facilitate programming in a range of sectors, including reconciliation and conflict prevention;	Not specified but the independent reviews will presumably be completed by independent experts;
Ireland 1	Yes and extensive – Consultation process with women affected by conflict living in both conflict and non-conflict settings (i.e. from Ireland, Northern Irelands, Liberia and Timor-Leste); inclusive of women from conflict-affected countries living in Ireland; The Consultative Group included representatives from academia and civil society; Includes Annex with a list of explicitly named civil society members and representatives with contact details; Published report based on the consultations;	Yes and specific – Draft by an independent expert: Dr. Nata Duvvury, based on based on consultation meetings with Government representatives and units, civil society members of the Consultative Group;	Yes but unscpecific – Strengthening capacity of, providing support (including financial) to and consulting with CSOs in conflict-affected countries is mentioned under pillars 1, 2, 3 and 4 and there are some action points; Does NOT mention the role of domestic CSOs in implementation;	Yes but unspecific; mentions that it must also include processes for ongoing input from civil society organisations and women affected by conflict but is not specific beyond this Indicators developed by the Technical Working Group on Indicators, comprised of representative from Government, civil society and academia;

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Ireland 2	Yes and extensive – A Consultative Group (CG) comprised an equal and balanced representation from statutory bodies, civil society and academic experts; Open public consultations – received 37 submissions; Includes Annex with a list of explicitly named civil society members and representatives (but no longer with contact details);	Not specified;	Not specified but mentions in the implementation matrix capacity-building of CSOs;	Yes but unspecific – the Monitoring Group will include at least 50% representation from civil society and academia;
Nepal	Yes and extensive – extensive consultations with women's organisations and networks, including with women and girls directly affected by conflict; 52 district-level consultations with over 3000 participants;	Not specified;	Yes – The Steering Committee and the District Committees include many civil society representatives as members; specific organizations are mentioned by name; Also assigns "supporting role" to NGOs in the implementation matrix;	Yes but unspecific – vaguely mentions that the M&E framework involves the participation of women's organizations; mentions CSOs as supporting actors in the action matrix under pillar 5 (resource management, monitoring and evaluation);
US 1	Yes but unspecific; US representatives in the field engaged in consultations with women and women's organizations, gender equality advocates, and government interlocutors to ensure that their perspectives and interests informed the Plan. Additionally, the interagency group conducted consultations with representatives of civil society in the United States and congressional staff to inform this document;	Not specified;	Yes but unspecific; The WPS IPC will also establish a mechanism for regular consultation with civil society representatives on the status of the National Action Plan's implementation. Participating agencies with a field presence will be encouraged to establish or maintain similar mechanisms to promote regular consultation with women and civil society organizations in relevant countries and regions; This is also reflected in the implementation matrix where some action points call for engagement with civil society, for example, to Provide support for NGOs to track, analyze, and advocate on behalf of the engagement of women and women's organizations in peace processes;	Yes but unspecific; The 2015 review is to be informed, in part, by consultation with international partners and relevant civil society organizations;
US 2	Yes but unspecific – mentions that the NAP promotes regular consultation with women and civil society organizations in relevant countries and regions; mentions that civil society informed the development of the NAP;	Not specified;	Yes but unspecific – mentions that the NAP will seek to better leverage civil society, including women's networks and organizations, in activities aimed at arresting armed conflict or preventing spirals of violence; mentions that the NAP seeks collaborative partnerships with non-governmental organizations active at the national, regional, and international levels; Several action points mention supporting civil society and NGO in conflict countries;	Yes but unspecific – the IPC to engage in regular consultation with civil society representatives on the status of the National Action Plan's implementation; mentions that civil society is to hold us accountable to these commitments, to help us learn from activities and approaches implemented under the Plan, and to contribute to future revisions of the Plan;

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Japan	Yes but unspecific: When drawing up this National Action Plan, the Japanese government heard views from various parties concerned such as civil society and NGOs in Japan and abroad through meetings as well as through dialogues with UN Women and other UN organizations. Their views are reflected in this Action Plan;	Not specified;	Not specified; Includes a few scattered references to civil society in the role of beneficiaries of WPS, and aims to provide assistance to those organizations in WPS implementation;	Yes – Civil society has been involved in the development of the Monitoring and Evaluation framework, however, they do not actively monitor or evaluate the information; Civil society is not part of the Monitoring Working Groups preparing annual reports; but nominated representatives/experts are part of the Evaluation Committee;

Australian Government
Australian Civil-Military Centre

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Monash University
Gender, Peace & Security

NATIONAL ACTION PLANS ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY: EIGHT COUNTRIES IN FOCUS

A REVIEW INTO EMERGING BEST PRACTICES FROM EIGHT COUNTRIES' NATIONAL ACTION PLANS