



Australian Government



2016 Progress Report on the
Australian National Action Plan
on Women, Peace and Security 2012-2018

**2016 Progress Report of the Australian National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security
2012–2018**

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Front Cover

Group Captain Deanne Gibbon, Senior Gender Advisor to the Resolute Support mission Afghanistan, Mrs Ghani, First Lady of Afghanistan (to Captain Gibbon's right) and advisors. The meeting was held to discuss barriers and challenges faced by women in the Afghan police force and National Army. Mrs Ghani is a strong advocate and champion for Afghan women.

Photo: Department of Defence



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Minister's Foreword



Armed conflict has devastating repercussions for individuals, families, communities and nations. The physical, psychological, and economic damage of conflict remain deeply imprinted in communities, and the effects are felt for generations.

Women and girls are disproportionately affected by conflict, but are also proven and effective agents of change. Women play an important role in preventing and managing conflict and promoting sustainable peace.

In 2015 there were several important peace and security reviews including the Global Study on the Implementation of UNSCR 1325. The reviews coincided with one of the most brutal waves of organised violence in modern history, painting a devastating picture of modern conflict characterised by violations of human rights, complex drivers of conflict, and growing involvement of non-state actors, transnational connections and new technologies.

That is why Australia is so committed to the United Nations Women, Peace and Security agenda. The *2015 Civil Society Report Card on Australia's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security* noted Australia's strong team of women leading the high-level decision-making areas of government connected with Women, Peace and Security. Minister Bishop, Minister Payne, Australia's Ambassador for Women and Girls and I are a powerful team and united in our commitment to achieving better outcomes for women and girls in conflict and post-conflict settings.

We demonstrate our commitment through the implementation of the *Australian National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2012–2018*, our international assistance efforts, the inclusion of the Women, Peace and Security principles in the Australian Defence Force, and through bilateral and multilateral advocacy and leadership and aid programs. We also demonstrate this through our enduring and steadfast commitment to gender equality.

We have been working across government to implement our commitments under the Women, Peace and Security agenda, and I am proud to see we are achieving results. One hundred per cent of the 1525 deployed personnel from the Australian Defence Force has completed training on Women, Peace and Security – up from 53 per cent in 2013. The Australian Federal Police also increased the number of deployed personnel receiving Women, Peace and Security training from 69 per cent in the 2014 Progress Report, to 85 per cent by December 2015.

Australia is one of the leading nations on the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda. I look forward to continuing to work with my Ministerial, civil society and global counterparts to protect and empower women around the world in conflict and post-conflict settings.



Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash

Minister for Women

Minister for Employment

Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Public Service

Regularly Used Acronyms

ACMC	Australian Civil-Military Centre
ADF	Australian Defence Force
AFP	Australian Federal Police
AGD	Attorney-General's Department
APS	Australian Public Service
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
PMC	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
PPDP-R	Pacific Police Development Program-Regional
RAMSI	Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands
UN	United Nations
UNDPA	United Nations Department of Political Affairs
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Emergency Fund
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
WHO	World Health Organization

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Executive Summary

The Australian National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2012–2018 (National Action Plan) is a whole of government policy to implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325) and related Security Council resolutions that comprise the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

The National Action Plan sets out actions Australia will undertake to: integrate a gender perspective into peace and security efforts; protect women's and girls' human rights, especially in relation to gender-based violence; and promote women's participation in conflict prevention, management and resolution.

The Australian Government reports on progress made under the National Action Plan every two years. This is the second Progress Report covering the period from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2015.

Implementation of the National Action Plan is progressing well and includes a staggering increase of 400 per cent (from six to 30) in the number of civil society activities pertaining to Women, Peace and Security supported by the Government between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2015. The number of international assistance activities has also increased dramatically from 23 to 87, representing a 273.9 per cent increase from the *2014 Progress Report, Australian National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2012–2018*. There has also been a 27.3 per cent increase in the number of global and regional institution-building activities (from 22 to 28).

Australia is also making sound progress on the implementation of domestic activities. There has been a 55.2 per cent increase over two years in the number of key government documents referencing Women, Peace and Security (from 29 to 45)¹. The greatest increase in results is in the number of deployed personnel receiving training on Women, Peace and Security. Defence's² exceptional training results include 100 per cent of 1525 deployed personnel (201 women and 1324 men) completing training on Women, Peace and Security. This is an outstanding effort from Defence, which had a 53.1 per cent Women, Peace and Security training rate for deployed personnel in 2013. The Australian Federal Police (AFP) also increased the number of deployed personnel receiving Women, Peace and Security training from 68.8 per cent in the 2014 Progress Report, to 85.1 per cent by December 2015.

In this time of widespread and rapidly changing global conflicts, it is vital that commitment to Women, Peace and Security does not waver. Australia takes this commitment very seriously and will continue to make sound progress implementing the National Action Plan.

¹ This number includes 23 key Defence documents and does not necessarily include all Defence documents referencing Women, Peace and Security.

² Defence includes the Department of Defence and the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

Background

Women, Peace and Security

Conflict causes great human suffering. It takes lives and destroys families, communities, economies and nations. Women and girls experience conflict very differently to men and boys, and are disproportionately affected by war.

The challenges faced by women in conflict and post-conflict situations are wide-ranging and complex, and deeply connected to ongoing issues such as physical and mental health and economic security.

The United Nations Security Council works to address the disproportionate and unique impact of armed conflict on women, recognising the undervalued and underutilised contributions women make to conflict prevention, peacekeeping, conflict resolution and peacebuilding, and stressing the importance of their equal and full participation as active agents in peace and security.

United Nations Security Council Resolutions

The UN Security Council adopted UNSCR 1325 in October 2000. This was the first UN Security Council Resolution to expressly recognise the disproportionate impact conflict and post-conflict situations have on women and girls, and calls on the UN system and Member States to integrate a gender perspective into all peacekeeping operations, peace processes and resettlement programs.

There are a suite of UN Security Council Resolutions complementing UNSCR 1325:

- UNSCR 1820 (2008) identifies sexual violence as a tactic of war requiring specialised military and police responses;
- UNSCR 1888 (2009) established a Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict to provide high-level leadership on this issue;
- UNSCR 1889 (2009) calls for action to accelerate implementation of UNSCR 1325, including a strategy to increase the number of women participating in peace talks;
- UNSCR 1960 (2010) calls for an end to sexual violence in armed conflict and ending impunity for perpetrators of sexual violence;
- UNSCR 2106 (2013) adds greater operational detail to previous resolutions on Women, Peace and Security and conflict-related sexual violence, and reiterates that all actors, including the UN Security Council, parties to armed conflict, and all Member States and UN entities, must do more to implement previous mandates and combat impunity for conflict-related sexual violence;

- UNSCR 2122 (2013) places stronger measures and responsibility on the UN Security Council, UN Member States, and regional organisations to dismantle barriers to enable women to participate in conflict resolution and recovery; and
- UNSCR 2242 (2015) addresses women’s roles in countering violent extremism and terrorism, improving the Security Council’s working methods in relation to Women, Peace and Security and taking up gender recommendations made by the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations and the Global Study on the Implementation of UNSCR 1325.

United Nations High-level Review and Global Study

Marking the 15th anniversary of UNSCR 1325, 2015 was a high-profile year for Women, Peace and Security. The UN undertook a High-level Review and independent Global Study on the Implementation of UNSCR 1325, followed by the *Report of the Secretary-General on Women, Peace and Security*.

The Secretary-General’s report noted the starkness of the current peace and security environment “...characterised by blatant violations of human rights and humanitarian law, complex drivers of conflict, involvement of a growing number of non-state armed actors, new technologies and transnational connections that are changing the nature of warfare”³. The Secretary-General made the following five high-level recommendations to UN entities, Member States and multilateral organisations:

1. Bring women’s participation and leadership to the core of peace and security efforts, including responses to new and emerging threats.
2. Protect human rights of women and girls during and after conflicts, especially in the context of new and emerging threats.
3. Ensure gender-responsive, contextual planning and accountability for results.
4. Strengthen the inclusion of a gendered architecture and technical expertise.
5. Finance the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

Australia actively engaged in the High-level Review and independent Global Study on the Implementation of UNSCR 1325. This included providing a written submission to the Global Study, and making pledges at the 2015 UN High-level Review on Women, Peace and Security (see **Annex A**).

³ S/2015/716, Report of the Secretary-General on Women, Peace and Security, 16 September 2015, accessed 15 October 2016 at http://www.security-councilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_2015_716.pdf.

Australia's National Action Plan

The philosophical underpinning of the Women, Peace and Security agenda is the achievement and maintenance of lasting peace. Australia's National Action Plan⁴ was developed in the context of Australia's engagement in conflict and post-conflict environments, and the overarching goal is to achieve better outcomes for women and girls in these settings.

The UN identified five thematic areas to conceptualise and organise the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda: prevention; participation; protection; relief and recovery; and normative.

Structured around the five thematic areas, the National Action Plan sets out how Australia will integrate a gender perspective into peace and security efforts, protect women's and girls' human rights, and promote the participation of women in conflict prevention, management and resolution.

The National Action Plan is organised under five key strategies describing what the Australian Government will do to achieve better outcomes for women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations.

1. Integrate a gender perspective into Australia's policies on peace and security.
2. Embed the Women, Peace and Security agenda into the Australian Government's approach to human resource management for Defence and the Australian Federal Police and deployed personnel.
3. Support civil society organisations to promote equality and increase women's participation in conflict prevention, peacebuilding, conflict resolution and relief and recovery.
4. Promote Women, Peace and Security implementation internationally.
5. Take a coordinated and holistic approach domestically and internationally to Women, Peace and Security.

Inter-departmental Working Group

The Women, Peace and Security Inter-departmental Working Group (Working Group) operates as the primary mechanism responsible for the implementation of the National Action Plan. The Working Group consists of senior executive representatives from agencies with responsibility for implementing actions under the National Action Plan: the Office for Women in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PMC); the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT); the Department of Defence (Defence)⁵ and the Australian Civil-Military Centre (ACMC) within Defence; the Australian Federal Police (AFP), and the Attorney-General's Department (AGD). A civil society representative is also part of the

⁴ <https://www.dpmmc.gov.au/sites/default/files/publications/progress-report-2014-nap-women-peace-security-2012-2018.pdf>

⁵ This includes the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

Working Group, nominated by the Australian Civil Society Coalition on Women, Peace and Security. The Office for Women chairs the Working Group.

A Sub-Committee of the Working Group is responsible for Women, Peace and Security reporting, research and other relevant work, and liaising regularly with their counterparts across government. The Sub-Committee is made up of executive level officers from each of the implementing agencies and two representatives from the Australian Civil Society Coalition for Women, Peace and Security.

Reporting and Reviews

The Government is required to release a Progress Report against the National Action Plan's Monitoring and Evaluation Framework every two years. The first Progress Report covering 2012–2013 was released in 2014⁶. This is the second Progress Report (covering 2014–2015) and the third will occur in the final year of the National Action Plan in 2018.

The National Action Plan and its implementation will also be independently reviewed twice during its lifespan. The first review occurred in 2015, and the final review will take place as the National Action Plan approaches its expiry in 2018. It will assess the overall success of the National Action Plan and provide advice on how Australia can continue to effectively implement the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

The Office for Women is responsible for developing the Progress Reports and coordinating the independent reviews of the National Action Plan.

2015 Independent Interim Review

The Independent Interim Review of the Australian National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2012–2018 (Interim Review) occurred in 2015 and focussed on assessing the relevance of the actions under the National Action Plan and providing guidance for the remainder of the National Action Plan's implementation.

The Interim Review found the actions under the National Action Plan to be relevant for implementing the Women, Peace and Security agenda because they are broad and offer flexibility to shape activities and respond to changes in the Women, Peace and Security landscape. It also made 16 specific recommendations to improve the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda. Recommendations were based around the following five themes; relevance of current actions; monitoring and evaluating; implementation of actions: gaps and challenges; opportunities for collaboration between the Government and civil society; and laying the groundwork for the Final Review in 2018.⁷

6 <https://www.dpmc.gov.au/sites/default/files/publications/progress-report-2014-nap-women-peace-security-2012-2018.pdf>

7 The Interim Review is available on the PMC website at: <https://www.dpmc.gov.au/resource-centre/office-women/independent-interim-review-australian-national-action-plan-women-peace-and-security-2012-2018>

Representatives from PMC, Defence, DFAT and the AFP provided a response to the Interim Review at a panel presentation at the 2016 Annual Civil Society Dialogue on Women, Peace and Security. A summary of the panel presentations are at **Annex B**.

The Interim Review's recommendations provide context for discussion of progressing the implementation of the National Action Plan. They will be taken into consideration, along with the findings from the independent Final Review, when developing Australia's next National Action Plan, due to commence in 2019.

Accountability

To strengthen the Government's accountability to commitments under the National Action Plan, the Progress Reports are tabled in the Australian Federal Parliament. The 2014 Progress Report was tabled by the then Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women, the Hon Senator Michaelia Cash, on 15 July 2014.

Civil society organisations also play an important role in keeping the Government to account on its responsibilities under the National Action Plan. The Government has provided funding for annual Civil Society Dialogues and Report Cards on Australia's National Action Plan since 2013 (see page 32 and 33).⁸

⁸ The Report Cards are available on the APMC website at: <https://www.acmc.gov.au/civil-society-dialogue/>

Progress Report

This second Progress Report of the National Action Plan provides both quantitative and qualitative information on the activities undertaken by the Australian Government to implement the National Action Plan between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2015.

The first Progress Report provided a stocktake of activities undertaken by the Government relating to Women, Peace and Security. It was an important document, presenting the first comprehensive list and baseline data of what is being done to implement the National Action Plan. This second Progress Report goes further. It contains a more comprehensive account, including information on the new and emerging issue of countering violent extremism and analysis of progress against the 2014 Progress Report. It also discusses progress in relation to: the recommendations of the Interim Review; Australia's statement at the 2015 High-level Review on Women, Peace and Security; the findings of the Global Study on the Implementation of UNSCR 1325⁹; and the 2015 *Report of the Secretary-General on Women, Peace and Security*¹⁰.

Methodology

The second Progress Report is structured on the measures outlined in the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework of the National Action Plan. In response to some of the findings of the Interim Review, including the insufficiency of the parameters of the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, additional information beyond what is required in the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework was collected for this Progress Report.

Information for the Progress Report is collected in a template developed by the Sub-Committee and approved by the Working Group. Each agency has responsibility for populating the template. As agencies have the greatest understanding of the purpose of their activities, they determine which strategies and measures their activities are listed under, and whether a single activity is listed multiple times (for example when an activity addresses the intent of multiple strategies and measures). When activities are listed multiple times in the report, there is a primary listing with a full description of the activity, with other references containing only base information and the page number of the primary listing.

The Interim Review recommended a stocktake or audit of activities be undertaken across government in the lead up to each progress report. Whilst the original Progress Report template already functioned as a stocktake of data and information on programs, policies, and training, it was expanded to capture additional information for this report.

An example of expanded data includes enhanced reporting on resourcing as recommended by the Interim Review. Agencies provide information (including funding amounts) for civil

⁹ Preventing Conflict Transforming Justice Securing Peace: A Global Study on the Implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325. Available at: <http://wps.unwomen.org/~media/files/un%20women/wps/highlights/unw-global-study-1325-2015.pdf>

¹⁰ Available at: http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_2015_716.pdf

society activities supported by the Australian Government pertaining to Women, Peace and Security under Strategy Three, and funding information on international assistance activities under Strategy Four.

The Interim Review also recommended greater evaluative information to be collected. In response, agencies were asked to identify barriers, gaps and challenges impacting on the progress of activities, as well as outlining positive changes and unintended consequences. Whilst this was not always possible to provide, the additional information subsequently included in this report assists in building a more comprehensive picture of the Government's progress to implement the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

Data for the Progress Report is primarily point in time between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2015. Case studies and any data that is not point in time covers the period from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2015.

Information sitting outside the reporting period is also included in this report and is presented under headings as 'current and future work'¹¹. This information is included because the National Action Plan covers multiple years and agencies work with both long-term strategies to build outcomes over time and short-term strategies, such as those that respond to emergency situations. By providing relevant longer-term information the second Progress Report can capture the more strategic work being planned and/or undertaken across government and the evolution of activities over time.

¹¹ The activities presented as 'current and future work' are activities that have commenced or are planned to commence outside the reporting period of this report. The activities presented are not comprehensive and do not capture the breadth of work currently being undertaken or planned across the whole of government.

Strategy 1

Integrate a gender perspective into Australia's policies on peace and security

1a. Policy and Guidance Documents

Number, title and description of relevant official policy and guidance documents that contain reference to the Women, Peace and Security agenda or resolutions 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960, 2106 and 2122.

The Australian Government is making sound progress to ensure gender perspectives are integrated into domestic and international policies and guidance documents relating to peace and security. The Government understands mainstreaming gender into peace and security is fundamental to UNSCR 1325 and incorporating the Women, Peace and Security agenda into key Government documents is an important component of mainstreaming.

In the 2014 Progress Report, 29 relevant official Government policy and guidance documents containing references to the Women, Peace and Security agenda were identified. By the end of this second reporting period, 31 December 2015, there were 45 key government documents referencing Women, Peace and Security, representing a 55.2 per cent increase over two years.

The list of relevant key official policy and guidance documents relating to the Women, Peace and Security agenda, including titles and descriptions, is at **Annex C**.

The 23 policy and guidance documents listed from Defence represent the key documents embedding Women, Peace and Security in Defence business, and do not necessarily represent all Defence documents referencing Women, Peace and Security. Key documents from Defence include operational and single service documents, illustrating the breadth and depth of documents impacted by the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

In addition to documents explicitly referencing the Women, Peace and Security agenda in the AFP, all International Operations program design documents for capacity development missions outline how the AFP will support partner country policing organisations to progress gender equality. Guidance is provided by the International Operation's *Strategic Framework for Police Development*, which includes raising awareness of the need for gender considerations in operational policing and supporting women in policing in the Pacific Region.

Case Study:

Australian Guidelines for the Protection of Civilians

Developed by the Australian Civil-Military Centre after extensive consultation with a broad representation of Australian Government and non-government organisations, the Guidelines were endorsed by the Chief of the Defence Force and the Australian Federal Police Commissioner in December 2015.

The Guidelines are intended to provide a whole of government perspective on the protection of civilians in international situations of armed conflict and other situations of violence. Australia is the third country to develop cross-agency Protection of Civilians Guidelines, alongside the United Kingdom and Switzerland. Defence is currently developing a Joint Doctrine Note to operationalise the Guidelines. The Guidelines are available at www.acmc.gov.au and hardcopies are available on request.

As a complementary action, Defence is investigating the requirement to develop either a Chief of Joint Operations Directive and/or Guidelines for Commanders on Conflict Related Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and Child Protection on Military Operations and Exercises.

Policy and guidance documents are not necessarily the only documents to reflect the extent a gender perspective is incorporated into peace and security issues across government. For example, annual reports provide a comprehensive picture of the work and priorities of an agency. Women, Peace and Security was highlighted as a case study achievement in the *2013–14 PMC Annual Report* (see case study below) and Women, Peace and Security or issues related to Women, Peace and Security are also referenced in the 2013–2014 and 2014–2015 Annual Reports of Defence and DFAT.

Extract from the PMC Annual Report 2013–2014

Australian National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security

The Australian National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2012–2018 (National Action Plan) is a whole of government policy to implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 and other related resolutions on Women, Peace and Security. It sets out Australia's actions in domestic and international arenas to: integrate a gender perspective into peace and security efforts; protect the human rights of women and girls, especially in relation to gender-based violence; and promote the participation of women in conflict prevention, management and resolution.

The Office for Women led the development of the National Action Plan and coordinates Australian Government progress. The Office for Women, the Defence portfolio (including the Australian Civil-Military Centre), the Australian Federal Police, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and the Attorney-General's Department have responsibilities under the National Action Plan.

The Office for Women developed the first Progress Report on the National Action Plan, tabled in Parliament on 15 July 2014. The report is important as it provides a comprehensive picture and baseline data, some of which is being collected for the first time, on how Australia is tracking against its responsibilities.

The Government is tracking well against its responsibilities under the National Action Plan.

A gender perspective has been integrated into 29 official Government policy and guidance documents related to peace and security and over half (54 per cent) of the 1,141 Australian military, police and Australian Public Service personnel deployed in operations are receiving training on Women, Peace and Security issues.

Working with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, we are ensuring that during Australia's term on the UN Security Council all relevant peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations address the impact of conflict on women and girls, prevent impunity for sexual violence, and pursue more comprehensive consideration and integration of these issues across the UN Security Council's entire agenda. Australia is advocating for peacekeeping mandates developed by the UN Security Council to include specific gender equality language and considerations, including the appointment of women protection advisers or gender advisers. We have worked with civil society organisations to provide education on the Women, Peace and Security plan. Activities have included providing funding for a civil society report on Australia's implementation of the National Action Plan, to international aid on programmes such as women's empowerment training in Myanmar, to participating in a panel discussion on conflict-related violence against women and girls in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Current and Future Work

Whilst Progress Reports are backwards looking, designed to report on what has occurred, looking at planned work for the future can also be a good indication of how effectively gender is being mainstreamed into core business.

The DFAT **Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Strategy** was launched in February 2016 to prioritise gender equality and women's empowerment in foreign policy, economic diplomacy and development efforts (see page 97).

The DFAT 2011 **Humanitarian Action Policy** is currently being redeveloped. Noting the lack of specific Women, Peace and Security language in the 2011 policy, its successor presents an opportunity for strengthening the Women, Peace and Security commitment across the Government's humanitarian work stream.

Defence has a number of activities underway to further incorporate a gender perspective and Women, Peace and Security principles into doctrine, policy and practice. For example,

UNSCR 2242 (2015) is being incorporated into operational directives, plans and orders that refer to counter terrorism and violent extremism.

The principles of UNSCR 1325 and related resolutions will be incorporated into the **Multi-National Force, Standard Operating Procedures** to communicate a regionally agreed understanding of the application of the Women, Peace and Security agenda on regional exercises and operations. The Multi-National Planning Augmentation Team, consisting of 31 regional nations led by the United States of America, at the request of Defence, conducted the first writing workshop in June 2016.

The Australian Civil-Military Centre has commissioned a research project on **'Deployed Women: Australian uniformed and civilian female personnel in peace and security operations'** to be undertaken by the University of Queensland. The research will explore the skills and contributions of Australian women to international peace and/or security missions, with a focus on Defence uniformed and civilian personnel, AFP personnel, and DFAT officials. The research will include 100 face-to-face interviews and a survey sample of 250 respondents.

The AFP has commissioned a review of its **Gender Strategy** to ensure it remains contemporary and aligned with AFP commitments under the National Action Plan.

Strategy 2

Embed the Women, Peace and Security agenda in the Australian Government's approach to human resource management of Defence, Australian Federal Police and deployed personnel

2a. Trained Deployees

Number and percentage of Australian Government employees (military, police and Australian Public Service personnel) deployed in operations who have received training on Women, Peace and Security (including their responsibilities under UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889 and 1960), and a description of that training.

As at 31 December 2015, a total of 1,731 Australian military, police and Australian Public Service (APS) personnel were deployed in operations.¹²

Defence deployed 1,525 personnel consisting of 201 women and 1,324 men. All deployed personnel received training on Women, Peace and Security. This is an outstanding achievement from Defence, which in the 2014 Progress Report, reported only a 53.1 per cent Women, Peace and Security training rate for deployed personnel.

The AFP also increased the number of deployed personnel receiving Women, Peace and Security training from 68.8 per cent in the 2014 Progress Report to 85.1 per cent. As at 31 December 2015, the AFP had a total of 141 deployed personnel, consisting of 27 women and 114 men. Of these, 100 per cent (27) of the women and 81.6 per cent (93) of the men were trained in Women, Peace and Security. These numbers include all members currently deployed to AFP Liaison Posts for whom there is currently no requirement to undergo Women, Peace and Security training. This will be addressed by provision of training to members deploying to liaison posts (see page 23).

During the reporting period, 50 DFAT personnel were deployed to the conflict and post-conflict settings of Baghdad, Dili and Kabul. Women, Peace and Security briefings were delivered to 54 DFAT staff members (35 women and 19 men) during the reporting period.

Further information on the number and percentage of personnel deployed in operations by agency and the number and percentage who received training on Women, Peace and Security is at **Annex D**.

¹² This number differs for Defence and the AFP information provided at 2c, which relates to deployees specifically to conflict and post conflict settings.

Description of Training

The delivery of training on Women, Peace and Security is fundamental to the implementation of the National Action Plan. As at 31 December 2015, there were 14 different training courses pertaining to Women, Peace and Security delivered to Australian Government deployed personnel. This is an increase from the 10 courses reported in the 2014 Progress Report.

The ADF has a number of experienced Gender Advisers who help ensure ADF training is best practice and meets the operational requirements of the ADF and international partner organisations, including the UN and North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO). However, Defence has identified the mainstreaming of gender perspectives and the requirements of the Women, Peace and Security agenda are stretching Defence's ability to provide enough trained and experienced personnel to meet demand. It is anticipated this will be mitigated if Defence is able to develop and regularly conduct its own Gender Adviser Training (see page 22).

The range of training received by deployed personnel on Women, Peace and Security is described and listed in alphabetical order below.

39 Operational Support Battalion (39 OSB) Force preparation training – A formal residential period of training conducted for ADF personnel prior to deployment which includes training on Women, Peace and Security and the Protection of Civilians. Liaison between Joint Operations Command and 39 OSB ensures what is being instructed is in line with the intent of the Chief of Joint Operations and relevant to current operations as they develop.

Australian Civil-Military Centre Biannual Women, Peace and Security Workshop – The ACMC conducts a biannual Women, Peace and Security Workshop for Australian Government agencies, including the ADF and AFP, to provide an overview of relevant UN resolutions and the National Action Plan. The Workshop includes practical, real-world examples of Women, Peace and Security agenda issues and implementation considerations.

Australian Defence College Training – Women, Peace and Security training is included in the Australian Command and Staff Course and the Defence and Strategic Studies Course and is taught to cadets at the Australian Defence Force Academy.

Australian Defence Force Peace Operations Training Centre – The Centre conducts training and education for ADF, AFP and civilian agencies which includes topics on UNSCR 1325 and associated resolutions. These activities include the Peace Operations Seminar and the Humanitarian Operations Seminar. Content is focused at government and civilian policy makers, and military and police operational planners. Both seminars focus on the gender and protection issues surrounding the development of policy, planning and the conduct of operations, with a whole of government perspective.

The Centre also manages a regional eLearning platform for partners to access online training on a wide range of peace operation activities. A key package in this platform is the UNSCR 1325 Women, Peace and Security package. This eLearning platform provides unlimited access to training for regional neighbours and selected global partners.

Australian Federal Police International Operations Capacity Development Training, Role of Women in Capacity Development – This is a classroom-based session on the role of women in capacity development, which forms part of a broader package of capacity development training. By the end of the session it is expected participants will be able to: discuss the issues faced by women in failed states/conflict environments that led to the introduction of UNSCR 1325 and 1820; show an understanding of UNSCR 1325 and 1820; and discuss the importance of the role of women in the process of capacity development. A detailed post-course qualitative assessment ensures participants are able to apply gender-related theories and frameworks in practical environments/scenarios.

Collective Training Activities – Collective training is where the ADF exercises at the highest level, often in a joint (more than one service) or combined (more than one nation's forces taking part) environment. Exercise Talisman Sabre 2015 is noteworthy as the first international exercise integrating Women, Peace and Security initiatives into its exercise objectives, scenario development and conduct (case study at page 51).

Defence Attaché Seminar – Women Peace and Security presentations were made to the annual Defence Attaché course in Canberra in 2014 and 2015. This course prepares all 80 attaché staff working at 35 overseas diplomatic missions (Embassies, High Commissions and Consular Posts) who, between them, are accredited to 65 countries and four international agencies (the UN, European Union, North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and the African Union).

Gender Adviser Training – A number of ADF members employed and deployed as Gender Advisers and Gender Focal Points have attended training at the Nordic Training Centre for Gender in Military Operations in Sweden. Defence intends to continue to send key personnel to receive this training, noting the availability of course places is limited and Australian personnel compete with staff from NATO member states and other partner countries for a position. In addition, Defence members are able to complete online training with NATO and the UN Women Training Centre and the UN Peace Operations Training Institute.

Maritime Surveillance Adviser/Training Adviser Course – Women, Peace and Security training has been included in formal training for ADF members posted to regional countries as Maritime Surveillance Advisers and Training Advisers.

Mission Specific Pre-deployment Training – All deploying ADF personnel receive briefings on UNSCR 1325 and related resolutions during pre-deployment training. Mission Rehearsal Exercises conducted prior to deployment for formed bodies and groups also ensure deploying forces are made aware of their obligations outlined in UNSCR 1325 and related resolutions and to ensure practical scenarios are provided to train military personnel on the application of Woman, Peace and Security principles.

National Security College Training – Defence, in collaboration with DFAT, presented on the National Action Plan to the 2014 and 2015 National Security College Senior Executive Development Program. The Program involves approximately 20 senior executive participants drawn from approximately 12 different agencies and departments. The four-week program

includes presentations by senior leaders from Australia's national security and diplomatic community to enhance the participants' understanding of important issues relating to national and international security.

United Nations Core Pre-deployment Training Modules – All AFP personnel deploying to AFP International Operations' missions are required to undertake this training, whether or not the mission they are deploying to is a UN mission. The online training course comprises four modules, two of which relate directly to UNSCR 1325 and associated resolutions: Effective Mandate Implementation; and Standards, Values and Safety of UN Peacekeeping Personnel. Part 1c of the Effective Mandate Implementation module is dedicated to Women, Peace and Security. It outlines the UN position (contained in UN Security Council Resolutions and UN policy) that conflict can only be addressed effectively when peacekeeping operations ensure respect for international humanitarian law, human rights and the rights of women and children in conflict. It provides practical tools for peacekeeping personnel to utilise in the field. Part 1b of the Standards, Values and Safety of UN Peacekeeping Personnel highlights the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse by familiarising UN peacekeeping personnel with UN rules, core values, standards of conduct and discipline, and the consequences of misconduct. The AFP also provides this training for police officers from the Pacific who are deploying to UN peacekeeping missions.

United Nations Pre-deployment Training – Military personnel (staff officers and military experts on Mission) deploying to UN operations undergo training on Women, Peace and Security as part of the United Nations Military Expert on Mission and United Nations Staff Officer's courses, conducted by the Peace Operations Training Centre, using UN accredited/ core training modules.

Women, Peace and Security (UNSCR 1325) Pre-posting Briefing – These verbal briefings on Women, Peace and Security and the National Action Plan aim to promote an awareness and understanding of the Women, Peace and Security agenda, and the way this is progressed through foreign policy and development efforts. The briefings are compulsory for DFAT officers posted to Afghanistan and Solomon Islands and highly encouraged for all other officers pre-posting. Participants are reminded of the importance of making conflict and gender sensitive policy and programming decisions. The content of the briefings are regularly updated to ensure current debates and themes, including recent UN resolutions and DFAT policies.

Gender Equality Analysis and Development Training – This course has been developed specifically for DFAT, and provides an overview of the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Strategy. It looks at evidence and debates on women's economic empowerment; leadership, decision-making and peacebuilding; and ending violence against women and girls. It gives participants tools and approaches to improve gender analysis, and has a particular focus on entry points to strengthen the gender equality outcomes of DFAT's aid program. It includes case studies of work supported by Australia and explores

how gender equality and women's empowerment can be promoted in foreign policy and economic diplomacy.

Current and Future Training

Enhancing the understanding and competence of government personnel in relation to the Women, Peace and Security agenda is an important element of the National Action Plan. The Government is developing and implementing training programs for Defence, police and civilian personnel and will continue to increase the number of training courses and the number of trained deployed personnel.

Capacity Development Training – The AFP is currently undertaking a review of the training curriculum. The review includes a focus on assessing, and where appropriate, updating the gender inclusiveness aspects of all course materials.

Defence identifies the following three areas of Women, Peace and Security training required for its personnel.

Individual Awareness Training – A Women, Peace and Security strategic training framework is being developed for all ADF members, to provide an initial level of awareness and competence on Women, Peace and Security, as part of all members' professional military education and training. This base level of knowledge will be augmented with pre-deployment and mission specific training for members deploying on Defence operations. Individual training currently conducted by the Australian Defence College and ACDM will be maintained and refined.

Specialist Training – Defence currently sources specialist training from the Nordic Centre for Gender in Military Operations. There are capacity limitations on the number of personnel who can attend the training. Defence will therefore scope the creation of an **Australian Gender Adviser Course** in early 2017. The course would qualify Gender Advisers and Gender Focal Points for employment in services, defence groups and operational headquarters, as well as on exercises and operational deployments in a national and international force. The course will comply with UN and the NATO policies and requirements. Once established, course positions may be offered to trainees from international and other Australian Government organisations.

Pre-deployment Training – Pre deployment training requirements are met by the suite of current training (i.e. force preparation training, mission specific training, UN predeployment training). Defence will continue to refine this training. Staff at the Australian Defence Force Warfare Centre will be trained on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in operations. The staff, including course developers and instructors, will further develop the Women, Peace and Security content taught to all Joint Operations Planning Courses.

Gender Equality and Protection Strategy – DFAT is currently developing a strategy to provide guidance on how gender equality, child protection, and ending sexual and gender-based violence can be effectively, practically, and consistently implemented, monitored and measured for all Australian Civilian Corps deployments. The strategy will

make specific reference to the implementation of the National Action Plan. Existing training, such as the Australian Civilian Corps – Gender Briefing, could be strengthened in terms of Women, Peace and Security. The development of a new Gender Equality and Protection Strategy will accomplish this and provide clear direction and guidance in the training required for all deployees, and the subsequent support once deployed.

Conflict Sensitive Approaches (Do No Harm Training) – This DFAT course covers the importance of sound analysis of the context to inform a conflict-sensitive approach to working in fragile and conflict-affected situations. It provides a hands-on example of using the Do No Harm analytical tool, taking participants through a case study exercise, and emphasises the differing impact of conflict on women and men.

The course is regularly reviewed and adjusted in light of feedback received and developments in understanding of the issues. An upcoming internal review will inform future adjustments, including further consideration of gender-sensitive approaches.

2b. Defence and Australian Federal Police Data

Number of women and men employed by the Australian Federal Police, Australian Defence Force, and the Department of Defence, disaggregated by department and level.

Collecting sex-disaggregated data on the number of women in the AFP and Defence is the first step to understanding the untapped potential of women's representation in peace and security issues. Ensuring women have opportunities to participate in overseas deployments, including in decision-making positions, is an important component of ensuring women play a significant role in peace and security.

Across the AFP and Defence, men outnumber and outrank their female colleagues. The total number of employees in the AFP as at 31 December 2015 was 6,770, of which just over a third (34.9 per cent) were women. This is consistent with results from the 2014 Progress Report which were at 34.3 per cent women. For Defence, the total number of full-time ADF and APS personnel at 31 December 2015 was 76,755. This was made up of 60,113 men (78.3 per cent) and 16,642 women (21.7 per cent). This is a slight increase in the representation of women, which was 19.3 per cent in the 2014 Progress Report. Note the 2014 Progress Report also included ADF reservists.

Defence has made significant efforts to increase the representation of women in its ranks over the last three years. The removal of gender restrictions on the employment of women in combat roles was completed on 1 January 2016 and women are beginning to be trained and employed in combat roles, both as trade transfers within the services and as *ab initio*¹³ trainees. This is the end of a 20-year journey to open all roles in the ADF to women. As part

¹³ From the beginning.

of its cultural reform program, Pathway to Change, Defence has completed implementation of the *Review into the Treatment of Women in the Australian Defence Force*.

Australia's pledges made at the 2015 High-level Review on Women, Peace and Security included a commitment to implement the Women, Peace and Security agenda across the military. Defence is working to increase the representation of women in non-traditional roles (such as pilots and maintainers in Air Force), and has introduced recruitment targets for women in the ADF: 25 per cent for Navy (from 18.4 per cent), 15 per cent for Army (from 11 per cent) and 25 per cent for Air Force (from 17.5 per cent) by 2023.

In the two years since the 2014 Progress Report, the ADF has increased the number of women in the ranks of the regular forces by 546, and increased the number of female senior officers from 62 to 70.

As at 31 December 2015, the AFP comprised 6,770 members, of which 2,366 were women. Following the launch of the *AFP International Deployment Group Gender Strategy* in 2014, AFP has targets in place to promote increased participation of women in domestic and international operations including decision making positions. Further, in early 2016 a governing body, called the Gender Board of Management, was established to oversee the ongoing implementation of the AFP International Operations Gender Strategy. The representation on this Board of Management includes all AFP International Operations senior executive and relevant executive level members. This Board meets around three times per year, enhancing the AFP's ability to make strategic decisions, provide high-level guidance and resources to achieve Gender Strategy objectives.

Further information on the number and levels of women and men employed by the AFP and Defence is at **Annex D**.

2c. Deployed Personnel

Number of Australian Government employees (military, police and APS personnel) deployed and posted to conflict and post-conflict settings (as defined by individual agencies) disaggregated by sex and department.

The data on deployments and postings to conflict and post-conflict settings show considerable inequity between women and men. As at 31 December 2015, of the 1,731 women and men deployed, only 14.8 per cent were women. This is a drop from 18.1 per cent in 2013, with Defence, the AFP and DFAT showing decreases in the percentage of deployed women.

Defence

Defence understands the importance of deploying women on operations from both the individual perspective, for whom deployment is often an important career goal, and from an organisational perspective where diversity benefits all teams. Operations in Afghanistan over the last decade have given Defence, and other international partners, an appreciation of the diverse range of benefits women bring to operational roles, including their participation in activities which engage local women in Afghanistan. This awareness reinforces the principles of UNSCR 1325 and will serve to reinforce the need to continue to develop and deploy women across a range of operational roles.

As at 31 December 2015, Defence had 1,525 personnel deployed to conflict and postconflict settings. Of these, 201 (13.2 per cent) were women and 1,324 (86.8 per cent) were men. This represents an increase of 326 deployed personnel compared to 31 December 2013, and yet a decrease in the representation of women deployed (from 16.3 per cent).

Australia committed to implementing the Women, Peace and Security agenda at the 2015 High-level Review on Women, Peace and Security. To meet this commitment, Defence:

- will provide a technical expert on Women, Peace and Security to UN Women (see page 32);
- currently provides the Senior Gender Adviser (Colonel-equivalent position) to the Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan;
- has provided the Military Gender Adviser to the UN Mission in South Sudan, the first officer to take up this position deployed in November 2016;
- provided eight ADF Gender Advisers to Exercise Talisman Sabre in 2015 (see case study at page 51);
- has appointed Gender Advisers to the Chief of the Defence Force and each of the three service chiefs; and
- deployed three Gender Advisers to the Humanitarian Assistance / Disaster Relief Operation in Fiji in early 2016.

Defence has also been successful in encouraging high quality female Defence APS officers to apply for and be appointed to Policy Adviser positions in support of ADF operations. As at 31 December 2015, two of three Policy Adviser positions were held by women.

Further information on the number and rank of deployed ADF personnel to conflict and post-conflict settings, disaggregated by sex, is at **Annex C**.

ADF personnel are deployed as either members of formed bodies or as individuals into an existing Australian, allied or coalition organisation. In terms of formed bodies (for example, Frigates, Infantry Battalions), the number of women deployed reflect the categories and specialisations of those units, such as Army combat teams, which currently have a small percentage of women. This has the effect of reducing the pool of women available to meet operational requirements for some appointments. This limitation will slowly reduce with

the removal of the gender restriction on women serving in combat trades and women gradually being recruited and trained to serve in those trades. However Defence anticipate deployments with a large proportion of land combat forces are likely to have a relatively lower percentage of women for the foreseeable future.

Defence is reviewing operational requirements for individual deployments to reassess the qualifications necessary to perform each deployed appointment / position with the aim of removing restrictions that may preclude the participation of women. It is anticipated this will increase opportunities for women to deploy on individual rotations.

The ADF is seeking more opportunities to employ Gender Advisers on military operations and exercises, which will assist in increasing female participation. While men are not excluded from Gender Adviser appointments, most positions are filled by women due to the specific roles and tasks of the Gender Adviser, in particular, engagement with local women to discuss their security needs and the employment of women within local security forces.

Australian Federal Police

For the purposes of this report, conflict and post-conflict settings are defined as those in which prolonged intra-state conflict is or has occurred, resulting in battle-related deaths, with impacts extending beyond the immediate locale in which fighting occurred.

As at 31 December 2015, 141 AFP personnel were deployed in peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations to the conflict and post-conflict settings of Cyprus, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste. Of the 141 deployed, 27 were women (19.1 per cent) and 114 were men (80.9 per cent). These numbers represent a slight decrease reported in the 2014 Progress Report in both the total number of deployed personnel (from 176) and the percentage of women (from 23.3 per cent).

The ranks of the 27 deployed women include 13 police officers (eight Constables, four Sergeants and one Superintendent/Coordinator). The remaining 14 were support members consisting of eight team members and six team leaders.

Of the 114 deployed men, 97 were police officers (65 Constables, 26 Sergeants, five Superintendents/Coordinators and one Senior Executive members). The remaining 17 men were support members consisting of seven team members, eight team leaders and two coordinators.

Further information on the numbers and rank of AFP deployed personnel to conflict and post-conflict settings, disaggregated by sex, is at **Annex D**.

As well as deploying personnel to conflict and post-conflict settings, the AFP deploys to 'fragile states', predominantly in the Pacific. During 2014–15, the AFP deployed additional specialist response, investigations, and forensic personnel to the Netherlands and Ukraine in response to the downing of flight MH17. As at 31 December 2015, an additional 89 personnel (64 men and 25 women) were deployed to these settings (namely Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Samoa, Tonga, Nauru, Netherlands and Ukraine) and OP AREW (Netherlands and

Ukraine), where they provided support and advice to local policing organisations with the objective of strengthening the rule of law and international law enforcement cooperation.

AFP members are also deployed as Liaison Officers in Posts around the world. An AFP member also holds the role of Police Adviser, UN, New York. This role provides the AFP with further opportunities to participate in international dialogue relating to the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

Case study:

AFP Women in Leadership

Between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2015, two AFP women were deployed in management positions overseas.

Detective Superintendent Gerry Morris was serving in Cyprus as the AFP's Contingent Commander. Superintendent Morris was appointed as the UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus Sector Commander and was the first female Australian Contingent Commander to hold this command.

Superintendent Corey Heldon is serving in Solomon Islands, appointed to the role of Coordinator Crime, Intelligence and Learning and Development. This role is under the Participating Police Force, Regional Assistance Mission in Solomon Islands (RAMSI).

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

During the reporting period, 50 DFAT personnel were posted to the conflict and post-conflict settings of Baghdad, Dili and Kabul. Of these, 22 (44 per cent) were women and 28 (56 per cent) were men. This represents an increase in the representation of women compared to the 2014 Progress Report, which reported 66 postings of whom 39.4 per cent were women.

Further information on the numbers and level of DFAT postings to conflict and post-conflict settings disaggregated by sex is at **Annex D**.

2d. Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

The number of reported cases of sexual exploitation and abuse allegedly perpetrated by Australian Government employees (military, police and civilian personnel) deployed to conflict and/or post-conflict settings reported to Australian and host government agencies.

There were no cases of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse perpetrated by Australian Government employees deployed to conflict or post-conflict settings reported to Australian or host government agencies during the reporting period of 1 January 2014 to

31 December 2015. This is consistent with the results from the 2014 Progress Report, which also reported no cases.

The AFP has a robust Professional Standards regime based upon the AFP's Core Values and Code of Conduct, with all complaints being subject to external oversight by the Commonwealth Law Enforcement Ombudsman. The AFP's integrity regime applies to members operating both domestically and offshore, with members deployed to offshore Missions being subject to Commander's Orders that prohibit sexual fraternisation with members of host nation communities (on account of the inherent potential for abuses of power and inequality). Members who fail to comply with the AFP's integrity framework are removed from Mission, providing both direct personal consequences and a strong disincentive for inappropriate behaviour by other members offshore.

Defence has a zero tolerance policy for all instances of sexual exploitation or abuse. Defence has clear guidance on the requirements for service personnel deployed on operations and clear guidance for commanders in dealing with instances of sexual exploitation or abuse. All deployed commanders have access to service legal advice and ADF Investigative Service and service police resources to investigate and deal with allegations or incidents. Any complaints made to UN assistance missions or other multilateral or human rights agencies by local nationals, and subsequently reported to Defence, are managed under these guidelines.

Defence reports all its sexual offence cases in the Defence Annual Report.¹⁴

Defence continues to implement and reinforce its values-based cultural reform agenda, Pathway to Change. Under this program, all personnel receive formal training on their service values and expected behaviours. Defence provides sexual ethics and healthy relationship training, and training on bystander behaviour to military personnel. This training has raised Defence personnel's awareness of sexual exploitation and abuse by providing greater clarity around what is and is not appropriate at all times in Australia and on deployment. Increased training, higher standards of behaviour, clear guidance and effective reporting and investigative mechanisms will ensure instances of sexual exploitation and abuse are minimised and when they happen, are dealt with in an appropriate and effective way.

Specific training on conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence is also important. In 2015, two female officers participated in pilot Female Military Observers Courses in India and South Africa developed by UN Women and conducted by relevant country peacekeeping centres to specifically address conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence. Future training is also planned, with the current development of a Strategic Training Framework for Women, Peace and Security, which aims to identify the individual training requirement for all ADF members, including training on sexual and gender-based violence. In addition, Defence is developing a Chief of Joint Operations directive for deployed Commanders on conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence, which will take into account the various UN Security Council Resolutions that relate to the issue (see page 24 for information on future training).

¹⁴ Available at http://www.defence.gov.au/annualreports/14-15/downloads/SeMPRO_Report_2014-15.pdf

Strategy 3

Support civil society organisations to promote equality and increase women’s participation in conflict prevention, peacebuilding, conflict resolution and relief and recovery

3a. Funding of Civil Society

Description of civil society activities funded by the Australian Government that pertain to Women, Peace and Security.

A wealth of knowledge and expertise on Women, Peace and Security exists within civil society and the Government recognises proactive engagement with civil society is an important aspect of the National Action Plan.

Civil society organisations play a vital role in the implementation of the National Action Plan by helping to promote equality and increase women’s engagement with the Women, Peace and Security agenda at the grassroots, national and international levels.

This report notes a considerable increase in civil society activities pertaining to Women, Peace and Security delivered through Australia’s aid program, than were reported in the 2014 Progress Report. The number of funded activities has increased from six to 30, an increase of 400 per cent. It is unclear why this number has increased so dramatically and could be a combination of both increased activity due to increased conflict, and more thorough reporting due to increased understanding of the Women, Peace and Security agenda, or both.

The Interim Review of the National Action Plan identified the uneven funding and resource allocation across agencies as a challenge for the implementation of the National Action Plan. Given the allocation of responsibilities under the National Action Plan are aligned with the core business of individual agencies, it is appropriate DFAT provides funding for international programs, which constitute the majority of the activities below.

Listed below in alphabetical order under several subheadings, are a range of civil society activities funded by the Government between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2015.

Domestic Initiatives

Annual Civil Society Dialogue on Women Peace and Security – This annual dialogue provides a forum for civil society and government to discuss progress against the National Action Plan and supports the production of the Annual Civil Society Report Card on Australia’s National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security. The Report Card provides recommendations to government for further enhancing the implementation of the National Action Plan. The

Dialogue is planned and organised by the Dialogue Working Group of the Australian Civil Society Coalition on Women, Peace and Security.

In 2014, the Government provided AUD 40,000 (AUD 30,000 from ACOM and AUD 10,000 from the Office for Women) to the Australian National Committee for UN Women to support the Dialogue and production of the associated Report Card (see case study below).

In 2015, the Government provided AUD 45,000 (AUD 35,000 from ACOM and AUD 10,000 from the Office for Women) to the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom to support the Dialogue and production of the associated Report Card (see case study below).

Annual Civil Society Report Card on Australia's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security

In recognition of the technical expertise in the implementation of UNSCR 1325 within civil society, the Government has supported annual civil society reviews of Government progress against the National Action Plan since 2013. Drawing on a range of information sources including publicly available documents, outcomes from sessions at the Annual Civil Society Dialogue on Women, Peace and Security, and in 2015, online submissions from civil society, a report card assessing Government progress against the strategies and actions in the National Action Plan is developed and submitted to the Government. The Report Card also contains recommendations for Government on ways to enhance the implementation of UNSCR 1325.¹⁵

Engagement with UN Women – The Executive Director of the Australian National Committee for UN Women was appointed as the Chief of the Defence Force's Gender Adviser and was also the civil society representative on the Defence Implementation Plan Working group until June 2015, when she was replaced on that working group by a member of the Australian Council for International Development.

In addition, Defence has been working with UN Women since 2014 to second a senior officer as a technical expert on Women, Peace and Security to UN Women (Arab States team) in New York. Commencing in December 2016, this is a five-year commitment funded by Defence.

Country Programs

Afghanistan: Steps Towards Institutional Development and Stability (Afghan Women's Network), AUD 3.3 million (2014–2017) – Strengthening and expanding women's networks to increase opportunities for Afghan women in both rural and urban areas to influence and contribute to decision-making.

¹⁵ The Report Cards are available on the ACOM website at: <https://www.acmc.gov.au/civil-society-dialogue/>.

Papua New Guinea: Inclusive Development in Post-conflict Bougainville (World Bank and civil society organisation partners), AUD 2.5 million (2010–2015) – Providing funding to women’s organisations and women managed community activities (see page 65).

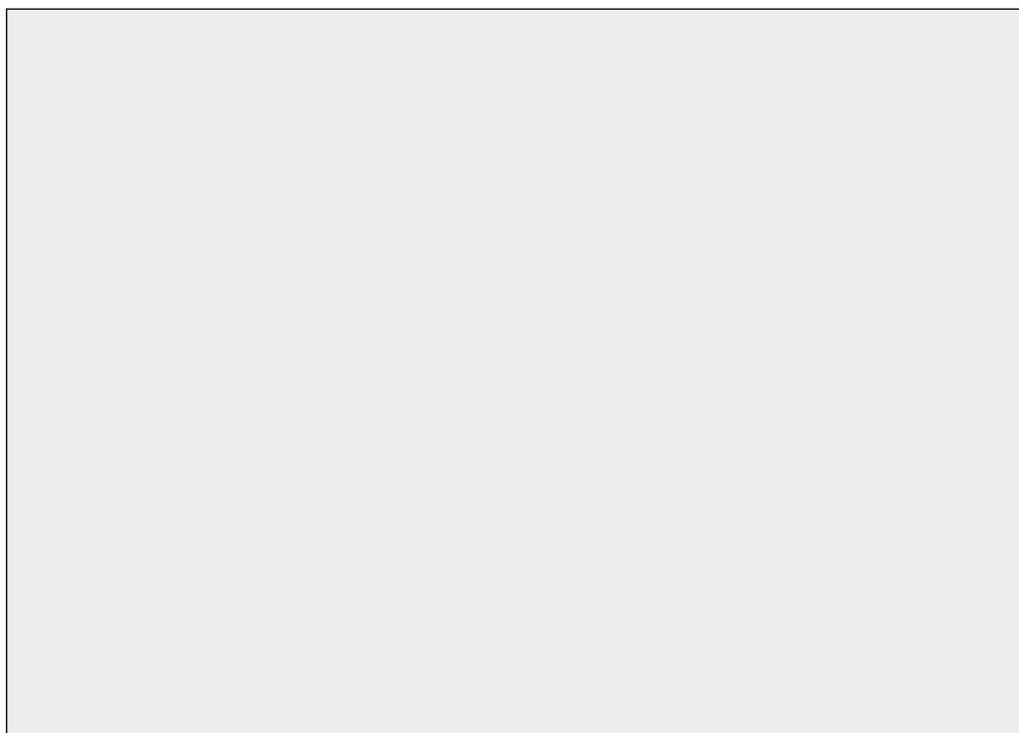
Indonesia: Program Peduli (Satunama sub-grant), AUD 896,000 (2015–2016) – Work with religious minorities and victims of religious-based violence.

Myanmar: Alliance for Gender Inclusion in the Peace Process (through Peace Support Fund¹⁶, Nyein (Shalom) Foundation, Gender and Development Initiative, and WON/WIN-Peace) – USD 849,194 (2015-2017) – (see page 115).

Myanmar: Peace Process Support Programme – Women in Peace (Nyein (Shalom) Foundation), USD 233,319 (2014–2016) – Building sustainable peace by increasing inclusion and participation in the peace process (see page 90).

Nepal: Mediating local conflict and reducing vulnerability surrounding post-earthquake recovery (The Asia Foundation), AUD 2 million (2015–2016) – Develops community mediators and facilitators to help resolve local level conflicts, link people to access recovery and rehabilitation support services, and respond to gender-based violence (see page 85).

Nigeria: Promoting Safer Maternal and Neonatal Care for Internally Displaced Persons (Global Rights: Advocates for Sustainable Justice), AUD 47,298 (2014–2015) – Aimed to ensure pregnant internally displaced women are in the best possible health prior to delivery (see page 76).



¹⁶ All dollar figures referring to the Peace Support Fund do not represent Australia's contribution but the total contribution of the Fund.

The Bougainville Women's Federation, supported under the Pacific Women umbrella, aimed to build young women's leadership and women's campaigning skills in the lead up to the 2015 and 2016 elections. Support to the Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation, in partnership with Australian non-government organisation International Women's Development Agency is supporting a network of women's human rights defenders to lead responses to, and prevention of, family and sexual violence.

Pakistan: Addressing violent extremism through capacity-building of vulnerable and radicalised youth and their mothers (The Pakistan Initiative for Mothers and Newborns (PAIMAN), AUD 100,359 (2015-2016) – Addresses violent extremism through capacity -building of women and mothers, engaging and transforming radicalised youth, and creating environments in communities conducive to rehabilitation and reintegration of youth (see page 82).

Papua New Guinea: Election awareness training for the lost generation of Bougainville (Bougainville Women's Federation), AUD 451,888 (2016–2017) – Aims to help women prepare for local level government elections in 2016 and the Papua New Guinea national elections in 2017(see page 67).

Papua New Guinea: Coalition for Change – The AFP worked with the Coalition for Change on event planning, fundraising and community awareness/messaging on violence against women and children (see case study at page 100).

Philippines: Building Autonomous and Stable Institutions and Communities for Bangsamoo Advancement through National-level and Grassroots Organisations and Networks (B-BANGON) (The Asia Foundation and local civil society organisations), AUD 1.4 million (2014–2017) – Build widespread confidence in, support for, and participation in, the peace process (see page 87).

Philippines: Building Autonomous and Stable Institutions and Communities through Socially Cohesive, Transparent, Accountable and Responsive Transition in the Bangsamoro (BASIC START in the Bangsamoro) (Oxfam, WE Act 1325, consortium of civil society organisations), AUD 900,000 (2014–2017) – Aimed at advancing women's participation and leadership in conflict resolution and peacebuilding (see page 88).

Solomon Islands: Channels of Hope (World Vision), More than AUD 2 million (2013–2017) – Reducing gender-based violence using a faith-based approach to improving gender relations and positively influencing behaviours and attitudes.

Solomon Islands: Let's Make our Families Safe (consortium of local and international organisations led by Oxfam), AUD 5.4 million (2014–2017) – Supporting communities to better prevent and address family violence in Malaita and Temotu Provinces, including through the formation of provincial alliances.

Solomon Islands: Red Cardim Vaelens (Live and Learn), AUD 557,810 (2015–2017) – Uses a sports-based leadership program to mobilise boys and young men against gender-based violence in Honiara and Malaita Province.

Solomon Islands: Supporting Youth in Dealing with Alcohol Use and Violence Reduction against Women and Children (Save the Children), AUD 800,000 (2015–2017) – Aims to reduce alcohol abuse and related violence, particularly gender-based violence, among youth in selected communities in Malaita Province and Honiara.

Solomon Islands: Health Sector Support Program Phase II (Solomon Islands Ministry of Health and Medical Services), AUD 75 million (2012–2017) – Provides direct budget support and technical support to the Solomon Ministry of Health and Medical Services for the delivery of essential health services, including efforts to prevent and respond to gender-based violence.

Solomon Islands: Solomon Islands Justice Program (Solomon Islands Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs, Correctional Services Solomon Islands, and National Judiciary), AUD 41 million (2013–2017) – A key target is strengthening laws on violence against women. Through the Program, Australia helped support the development of Solomon Islands' *Family Protection Act 2014* which criminalises domestic violence and sets up protection mechanisms for victims. The Program supported drafting of the Act, community consultations, and training for local court justices and lawyers. The Act came into force on 1 April 2016, and this program continues to support its implementation. The Program also supports Seif Ples, a sexual assault and domestic violence crisis centre in Honiara.

Case study:

Ensuring inclusion of women and responsiveness to women's needs in relief and recovery efforts

Following the destruction of Cyclone Pam in Vanuatu in March 2015, DFAT funded a number of civil society led responses specifically targeting women and girls. For example, Care International implemented the Leftemap Sista initiative to help build women's and girls' resilience and leadership in emergency recovery and preparedness, as well as broader gender mainstreaming across all response sectors. DFAT supported the Women in Emergency Recovery and Response Forum in June 2015, and continued to provide and share information specifically through the Gender and Protection and other sectoral clusters.

Sri Lanka: Empowerment of Vulnerable Communities for Livelihood Improvement, Sustainable Resettlement, Gender Equality and Inter-Ethnic Understanding (Oxfam), AUD 7 million (2010–2015) – Provided gender-based violence helpdesks in hospitals in Batticaloa and Vavuniya provinces to facilitate access to comprehensive services for women affected by domestic violence (see page 85).

Timor-Leste: Timor-Leste Police Development Program fund PRADET (Psychosocial Recovery and Development in East Timor) through the AFP – PRADET is currently contracted to deliver five pilot gender-based violence investigations training programs. This training is jointly facilitated by PRADET, ALAFELA (Women and Children’s Legal Aid) and Policia Nacional de Timor-Leste.

Uganda: Extension of emergency integrated SRH/HIV services in Nakivale refugee settlement (Partners: The International Planned Parenthood Federation, Reproductive Health Uganda), AUD 50,000 (2015–2016) – This activity responds to the increased demand for services for women and girls following an influx of Burundi refugees as well as the previous population from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, and Somalia (see page 73).

Yemen, Egypt, Tunisia, Libya: FACT: Supporting Women’s Rights as equal citizens after the Changes of Governments (International Peace Institute), AUD 400,000 – Enhancing the capacity of stakeholders to promote the rights of women as equal citizens in postuprising Arab countries (see page 81).

Regional Programs

Pacific Regional: Fiji Women’s Crisis Centre gender and human rights training for Pacific police services, AUD 95,000 for Fiji in October 2015, AUD 145,000 for Micronesia in May 2016 and AUD 160,000 for Fiji in November 2016. See case study below.

Case study:

Fiji Women’s Crisis Centre gender and human rights training

The AFP’s Pacific Police Development Program Regional (PPDP-R) has sponsored Pacific Islands’ police to participate in the Fiji Women’s Crisis Centre gender and human rights training programs for a number of years. PPDP-R have developed and maintained a strong relationship with the Fiji Women’s Crisis Centre and recently collaborated to tailor a training program specifically for police services (Gender and Human Rights Training for Pacific Police Services). The AFP provides funding to the program as a whole and technical support through the delivery of the Police Practices and Procedures in Response to Domestic Violence component of the revised training program.

This training program has continued biannually, with regional programs being conducted in Fiji and Micronesia.

AFP’s support complements broader DFAT funding for the work of Fiji Women’s Crisis Centre. DFAT has funded the Centre since 1989, to enable them to provide services for women and children in Fiji who have experienced violence and to support the work of other organisations in the Pacific to address violence against women. This includes funding to deliver regional training programs and support the Pacific Women’s Network Against Violence Against Women which most recently met in Fiji in August 2016.

Pacific Regional: Linking the Networks – enhancing social media strategies to advance UNSCR 1325 in Asia: A grassroots initiative (JERA International), AUD 168,438 (2013–2014) – Investigates common perceptions and understandings around Women, Peace and Security, and identifies social media strategies to advance UNSCR 1325 (see page 69).

Global Efforts

Disability inclusion in gender-based violence programming in humanitarian settings (Women’s Refugee Commission and International Rescue Committee), AUD 1.2 million for three projects (2013–2016) – Three initiatives have strengthened the capacity of disabled peoples’ organisations and humanitarian organisations to include and respond to the needs of women and girls with disabilities (see page 50).

From Communities to Global Security Institutions (UN Women with various national civil society organisations), AUD 2.9 million (2011–2016) – Implemented in Haiti, Liberia, Timor-Leste, Uganda, and South Sudan. Activities aim to enhance women’s participation and influence in peace and security processes (see page 52).

Global Acceleration Instrument on Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action, AUD 4 million (2015–2019) – Pooled funding mechanism to enhance women’s engagement, leadership and empowerment across peace and development (see page 98).

Sexual Violence Appeal – Strengthening the Response to Sexual Violence (International Committee of the Red Cross), AUD 6.15 million (2014–2015) – Expansion of response and prevention activities in seven priority countries.

Sexual and Reproductive Health Programme in Humanitarian Settings (SPRINT) (International Planned Parenthood Federation and UN Population Fund), AUD 8.5 million (includes funding to UN Population Fund) – Implementation of all components of the international standard, the Minimum Initial Service Package for Reproductive Health in Crisis Situations, across the regions of Africa, East and South East Asia, and Oceania and East Asia (see page 59).

Women Peace and Security Global Facility (various civil society organisations, through UN Women), AUD 4 million (2015–2017) – Supporting women’s leadership and participation in shaping peace and security efforts (see page 64).

3b. Sharing Information with Civil Society

Description of approaches taken by the Australian Government to share information with civil society on the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

Ongoing engagement with civil organisations facilitates government learning through the sharing of experiences and perspectives of a broader range of Women, Peace and Security related practitioners and interested parties. It also enables the sharing of information on government activities relating to Women, Peace and Security.

The Interim Review of the National Action Plan recognised the value government places on the role of civil society in implementing the Women, Peace and Security agenda. It also recognised there is a strong desire from civil society to increase this engagement and that resourcing for such engagement was a limiting factor.

The Government has been working to improve lines of communication and undertakes a range of activities to facilitate information sharing between the Government and civil society on Women, Peace and Security. Examples of Government progress under Strategy Three, highlighted in the *2015 Third Annual Civil Society Report Card on Australia's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security*, include a civil society representative participating in the scoping of the Interim Review, canvassing civil society views as part of the Independent Interim Review's analysis and recommendations, and government engagement with the Australian Civil Society Coalition on Women, Peace and Security. This includes a place for one Coalition member on the Women, Peace and Security Inter-departmental Working Group.

Defence has engaged broadly across government and civil society to support the development of a defence capability in Women, Peace and Security issues and contribute to international best practice and understanding. This engagement has resulted in a deeper and richer understanding of the Women, Peace and Security agenda and facilitated building a positive profile as a leader amongst militaries globally.

Despite the number of information sharing activities dropping compared to the 2014 Progress Report (from 20 to 13), the depth of information sharing has increased, particularly with the inclusion of the civil society representatives on the Inter-departmental Working Group and Sub-Committee.

Activities undertaken from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2015 are listed in alphabetical order below.

2014 Progress Report on the Australian National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2012-2018 – This is the first Progress Report of the National Action Plan and provides the first comprehensive picture of the actions undertaken across the whole of government to implement the Women, Peace and Security agenda from its commencement in March 2012 to 31 December 2014.¹⁷

¹⁷ The report is available on the PMC website at: <https://www.dpmc.gov.au/resource-centre/office-women/2014-progress-report-australian-national-action-plan-women-peace-and-security-2012-2018>.

The Progress Report was tabled in Parliament by the then Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women, Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash, on 15 July 2014.

Senator Cash hosted the launch of the Progress Report the following day, 16 July 2014, at a breakfast event at Old Parliament House. The Chief of the Defence Force, Air Chief Marshall Mark Binskin AC, and AFP Assistant Commissioner Mandy Newton, National Manager, International Deployment Group, also spoke at the event, which was well attended by some 40 representatives from civil society and agencies with responsibilities under the National Action Plan.

Annual Civil Society Dialogue on Women, Peace and Security, 23 September 2014 (see page 31)

Annual Civil Society Dialogue on Women, Peace and Security, 22 October 2015, Australian National University, Canberra – AFP Assistant Commissioner Scott Lee, National Manager International Operations, was a panel member on a session on Solomon Islands. Assistant Commissioner Lee outlined the AFP's support to Solomon Islands, particularly in relation to the Regional Assistance Mission (RAMSI). He discussed the AFP's partnerships with DFAT and how gender equality is integral to a country's development of human rights.

Deputy Chief of Joint Operations, Major General Shane Caughey, represented the ADF in a panel discussion on 'What is Men's Leadership for Women, Peace and Security?' (also see page 31).

Australian Civil-Military Centre/Australian Council for International Development/ActionAid Roundtable – In September 2015, ACMC and ACFID jointly hosted a Roundtable for ActionAid fellows from several African nations. The purpose of the Roundtable was to discuss Women, Peace and Security and Gender Justice more broadly. The Roundtable offered fellows the opportunity to meet with Defence officials working in the Women, Peace and Security space and share their own personal experiences.

Case study:

Australia's term on the United Nations Security Council 2013–2014

Australia regularly engaged with civil society representatives in Canberra and New York to discuss how Australia was progressing the Women, Peace and Security agenda as a member of the UN Security Council. As well as informal and ad hoc engagement, there were a number of formal mechanisms in place. One example is civil society consultations, held in Canberra to discuss Australia's work on the UN Security Council and to give civil society the opportunity to inform DFAT's work agenda. Civil society representatives came from: ActionAid; Australian National University; Amnesty International; Australian Strategic Policy Institute; Australian Institute of International Affairs; Griffith University; Lowy Institute; Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders; Melbourne University; University of NSW; Oxfam; Save the Children; Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Australia; UN Association of Australia; and World Vision.

Australian Civil-Military Centre / Australian Federal Police / OXFAM Afghan Roundtable – In May 2014, ACMC, AFP and OXFAM-Australia hosted a delegation from Afghanistan to discuss 'Long-term Security and Women's Rights in Afghanistan'. The Roundtable brought together the Chief of Police for District 10 in Kabul, the Director of the Afghan Women's Educational Centre and the Policy and Advocacy Officer at OXFAM-Afghanistan with representatives from across Australian Government agencies. The Roundtable offered the opportunity to explore Afghan perspectives on promoting and protecting the rights of women and to discuss the critical importance of addressing insecurity, violence against women and low participation rates of women in the police for the future stability of Afghanistan.

Australian Dialogue on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict – Held in Canberra on 2 June 2014, the Dialogue aimed to harness the combined expertise from the diplomatic, aid, military, policing, civil society and academic communities to develop recommendations and shape Australia's work to eliminate sexual violence in situations of armed conflict. The outcome was a set of agreed actions focusing the efforts of Australian Government agencies to address the prevention of, and response to, sexual violence in conflict. The Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Hon Julie Bishop MP, opened the Dialogue and the then Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women, Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash, provided closing remarks. The Dialogue was held in advance of the Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict in London, 10-13 June 2014.

Defence National Action Plan Implementation Plan Working Group – The Working Group comprises representative from the Groups and Services within Defence to facilitate progress on the National Action Plan. Civil society is currently represented by the Australian Council for International Development.

Case Study:

Promoting information sharing within civil society in Myanmar

Specific efforts to share information with civil society on the Women, Peace and Security agenda have been made through the Australian Government Post. Australia is actively involved within the Overseas Development Assistance-Gender and Development Network, linking also to the Myanmar government through the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process. Australia provides support to address issues affecting women and men during and after conflict including women's organisations, partner governments and international organisations to ensure women participate in the peace process and their needs for protection are met and gender perspectives are included in all activities.

National Women's Alliances – Event details and information on Women, Peace and Security is shared with the National Women's Alliances. The National Women's Alliances represent over 180 women's organisations to bring forward the diverse views, perspectives and issues of Australian women. The National Women's Alliances focus on women's equality and economic security, women's safety and Indigenous and rural women.

Pacific Police Prevention of Domestic Violence Program mentor for the Micronesia region – Funded under the AFP Pacific Police Development Program Regional, the program mentor supported engagement with civil society partners at a country level to address family violence.

Pacific Women's Network Against Violence Against Women – The Pacific Police Development Program Regional (PPDP-R) work in partnership with the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre and meet annually to discuss Pacific Women's Network Against Violence Against Women activities. These discussions in turn inform future PPDP-R planning.

Women, Peace and Security: DFAT's implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2015) – This publication highlights how Australia, through its foreign policy and development program, is contributing to international efforts to implementation of UNSCR 1325 and the Women, Peace and Security agenda. It includes examples of work with the UN and its agencies, partner governments, civil society, women and women's organisations (also listed at **Annex C**).

Women, Peace and Security Inter-departmental Working Group – The Office for Women approached the Australian Civil Society Coalition on Women, Peace and Security in 2015 to select a representative to join the Women, Peace and Security Working Group and two representatives to join the Sub-Committee.

3C. Education Activities

Description of domestic educational activities that relate to the promotion of the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

Noting the crossover between various activities under Strategy Three, the Government has undertaken 13 education activities during the reporting period (1 January 2014 to 31 December 2015). This is consistent with the 2014 Progress Report.

There is still limited knowledge of the Women, Peace and Security agenda among the general public. High profile events such as the Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict, which received considerable media attention both domestically and internationally, help to address this. At the half-way point of the National Action Plan, a main focus for government has been to develop the necessary knowledge and mechanisms to enable government employees working in Women, Peace and Security related areas to implement the National Action Plan.

Defence's primary focus in Women, Peace and Security for example, has been on developing policy, educating the Defence workforce and in the development of subject matter experts. This has included contributing to the development of international military understanding of Women, Peace and Security, in policy terms and operationally, for example through Exercise Talisman Sabre 2015 (see case study at page 51) and the Gender Adviser role at the NATO Headquarters in Kabul.

Specific education activities relating to Women, Peace and Security undertaken during the reporting period of this Progress Report (1 January 2014 to 31 December 2015) are listed in alphabetical order below.

2014 Chief of Defence Force Annual Women in Defence Conference – This two-day conference is conducted annually in Canberra and covers issues of topical significance to Defence's gender diversity agenda. The 2014 conference, held on 16–17 June, was focused on Women, Peace and Security. There were 200 delegates who represented all Defence groups and services, other government agencies, international militaries and civil society organisations. The then Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women, Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash, spoke at the conference about Australia's commitment to the Women, Peace and Security agenda and the importance of women's engagement in peace and security processes.

2015 Chief of Defence Force Annual Women in Defence Conference – This two day conference is conducted annually in Canberra and covers issues of topical significance to Defence's gender diversity agenda. The 2015 conference focused on Our People and Capability and was held 12–13 October.

Australian Civil- Military Centre Biannual Women, Peace and Security Workshop – The ACMC conducts a biannual Women, Peace and Security Workshop for Australian Government

agencies, including the ADF and the AFP, to provide an overview of the UN Security Council resolutions, the National Action Plan and practical, real-world examples of Women, Peace and Security agenda issues and implementation considerations.

Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Policing Information Sessions – The ACT Policing Education and Diversion team regularly deliver information sessions to migrant and refugee groups through Navitas. This group has an ACT Government contract to deliver English language lessons to immigrants whose primary language is other than English. These classes offer an opportunity for ACT Policing to attend and talk to the participants about the role of police in Australia, and the services provided by ACT Policing. This is an important message for immigrants and refugees as law enforcement in their countries of origin can vary considerably to that in Australia.

Australian Defence Force Peace Operations Training Centre – The Training Centre conducts training and education for the ADF, AFP, and international military and civilian personnel which includes topics on UNSCR 1325 and associated resolutions. These activities include the Peace Operations Seminar and the Humanitarian Operations Seminar. Content is focused at government and civilian policy makers, and military and police operational planners. Both seminars focus on gender and the protection of civilians, and issues surrounding the development of policy, planning and the conduct of these operations with a whole of government perspective.

Australia for UN High Commissioner for Refugees photographic exhibition – The then Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women, Senator the Hon Michaela Cash, delivered the official opening speech for the photographic exhibition, “Women Together: Conflict, Courage and Hope in the Congo”. The exhibition, held in Canberra on 2 October 2014, drew attention, through images, words and film, to the dire situation of women living in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, their courage and their resilience, on the occasion of the UN International Day of Non-Violence. The Minister’s speech demonstrated the Australian Government’s deep commitment to the Women, Peace and Security agenda and to addressing sexual and gender-based violence in conflict and post-conflict settings.

Australian Red Cross Seminars 2014 and 2015 – These seminars were conducted in Sydney, Perth and Adelaide. Students from various law faculties undertook one of several seminars on UNSCR 1325 and related resolutions on Women Peace and Security, UNSCR 1674 on the Protection of Civilians, and UNSCR 1612 on Children in Armed Conflict. The seminars focused on the legal framework related to the resolutions, current UN mission mandates, and ADF implementation efforts.

Community of Practice Presentations – The AFP’s Pacific Police Development Program regularly organises Community of Practice sessions. In each session, a program is presented and lessons learned discussed. In September 2015, the Fiji Women’s Crisis Centre conducted a presentation in Canberra on Pacific Women’s Network against Violence against Women activities to AFP staff involved in Pacific Police Development.

Defence Webpage on National Action Plan Implementation – Defence maintains an internet web page outlining its commitment to the Women, Peace and Security agenda and detailing the National Action Plan and Defence’s obligations to it. It includes details of UNSCR 1325 and related resolutions, a gender perspective on military operations and links to relevant sites.

Gender Adviser Network – Defence co-convenes a quarterly, whole of government Gender Adviser Network which includes civil society participation. The Network provides a forum for staff working in the Women, Peace and Security area to share experiences and to develop and propagate best practice in the field.

International Feminist Journal of Politics Conference – Two female ADF officers participated in and presented to the annual International Feminist Journal of Politics conference at University of Queensland in Brisbane in June 2015. The topic of the conference was ‘The Difference that Gender Makes to Peace and Security’.

International Women’s Day 2014 and 2015 – Defence conducted a range of activities across Australia and in the locations of deployed forces to celebrate International Women’s Day. Defence also introduced the inaugural Defence Women of Influence Awards in 2014 recognising the high-profile, long term achievements of a number of Defence women.

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific – Defence supported training on the gender protection of civilians, particularly women and children. Participants include civilian, military and police delegates from South East Asia and the Pacific.

Strategy 4

Promote Women, Peace and Security implementation internationally

4a. International Assistance

Description of international assistance provided for activities pertaining to Women, Peace and Security.

Progress

Defence has made a considerable contribution to the global understanding of the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda in military organisations and military operations. In doing so, Defence has built a reputation as a leader in this area. This profile has reinforced Defence efforts to implement the National Action Plan.

As an active participant in the UN, Australia continues to seek opportunities to exercise influence. During 2015, reviews of UN peacebuilding architecture, peacekeeping operations and the Global Study on the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 were undertaken. Australia was very engaged in these reviews.

Case Study:

Role of DFAT's Gender Specialists to shape aid investments

DFAT's Gender Specialists have worked to shape and influence the development program and provided tailored and ongoing advice on how to best integrate the Women, Peace and Security agenda into Australia's aid investments. One example is the Myanmar Aid Investment Plan 2015–2020 which explicitly connects with the Women, Peace and Security agenda. It specifies the intention to support women to take an active role in peace negotiations, preventing conflict, and reducing exploitation and violence against women when responding to humanitarian emergencies. The Plan includes the performance objective of women completing Australian funded training to engage in the peace process. Myanmar demonstrates some of the clearest work on Women, Peace and Security, in particular, on women's leadership in conflict and post-conflict situations.

Tension between Protection and Participation

DFAT has undertaken two stocktakes on its work on the Women, Peace and Security agenda and both indicate DFAT work is heavily clustered under the protection thematic pillar, in particular, responding to gender-based violence. There are a number of reasons this may

be occurring, including that eliminating violence against women is a key priority of the Australian aid program and DFAT Gender Strategy; violence against women is endemic in the countries where Australia works; and it is a constant feature of conflict.

The 2015 *Report of the Secretary-General on Women, Peace and Security* underlined the “...need for the increased and enhanced participation of women in all areas of peace and security decision-making, both on the basis of legal and human rights obligations and because women’s effective and meaningful participation significantly contributes to the greater operational effectiveness of our peace, security and humanitarian efforts and to the sustainability of peace”¹⁸.

The activity information below includes identification of which National Action Plan thematic pillar/s DFAT activities cover. This is a useful inclusion as it provides transparency on the issue raised in the Global Study of the implementation of UNSCR 1325 that most nations undertake more activity around the protection thematic pillar of the Women, Peace and Security agenda compared to the participation thematic pillar.

International assistance activities supported by the Government between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2015 are listed below in alphabetical order under location subheadings. The 2014 Progress Report listed 23 international assistance activities. This has increased dramatically to 86 activities in this report, representing a 273.9 per cent increase in the number of activities.

Global

Action against Sexual and Gender-based Violence Strategy, 2013–2015 AUD 1 million each for 2013–2014 and 2014–2015.

Location: Global, 19 priority countries.

Partners: UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Thematic areas: Prevention, Protection, Relief and Recovery

UNHCR’s Response to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Strategy, issued in 2011, focuses support on practical activities to prevent and respond to the risk of sexual and gender violence in particularly vulnerable populations. Priority countries are Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chad, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Niger, Pakistan, Rwanda, Sudan, Uganda, and Yemen.

Outcomes: Children of concern are protected against sexual and gender-based violence. Survival sex as a coping mechanism in situations of displacement is addressed by offering alternative income generating activities and raising awareness.

¹⁸ Report of the Secretary-General on Women, Peace and Security (S/2015/716), page 5/155 available at: http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_2015_716.pdf

Men and boys are engaged in the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence, including the setting up of specific men's groups (Ethiopia), involving men and boys in existing community structures (Uganda) or incorporating men into sexual and gender-based committees (Chad), and scaled up community-based sexual and gender-based violence protection and prevention activities (South Sudan).

Safe environments and safe access to domestic energy and natural resources are provided.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender/Transsexual and Intersexed (LGBTI) persons of concern are protected against sexual and gender-based violence, including for example in 2014, UNHCR introduced specific indicators to measure protection of LGBTI persons of concern and with institutional interventions built capacity within UNHCR and partners to identify, prevent and respond to protection risks and incidents faced by LGBTI people. Persons of concern with disabilities are protected against sexual and gender-based violence (see Case Study on page 131).

Case Study:

UNHCR Action against Sexual and Gender-based Violence Strategy

In both 2014 and 2015, Australia provided AUD 1 million towards implementing this Strategy, which focuses on 19 priority countries. From the beginning of 2014 to mid-2015, of reported sexual and gender-based violence incidents, 3,450 survivors were provided with a safe place, 8,770 received legal assistance, 6,677 received medical assistance, and 33,461 received psychosocial counselling.

The Strategy includes addressing survival sex as a coping mechanism in situations of displacement by offering alternative income generating activities and raising awareness. It also includes engagement with men and boys in sexual and gender-based violence prevention, and provision of safer options for accessing domestic energy and natural resources such as water, as these are often a responsibility of women and girls. For example, in Sudan, UNHCR invested in water, sanitation and hygiene infrastructure to reduce risk of sexual and gender-based violence incidents. In Bangladesh, female police officers were deployed in camps to strengthen women's access to law and safety.

**Australian Civilian Corps, 2011–2016 2014–2015 AUD 7.89 million,
2015–2016 AUD 7.5 million**

Location: Global, gender-based violence deployments to Papua New Guinea (Bougainville), Myanmar, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste

Partners: UN Population Fund (UNFPA), UN International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), various government agencies

Thematic areas: Protection; Normative

The Australian Civilian Corps was formed in 2011 to enhance the quality of Australia’s response to situations of disaster and conflict. The Australian Civilian Corps register comprises around 450 experienced civilian specialists with expertise in fields including: disaster management, elections, engineering and planning, operations support and logistics, social safeguards, health, needs assessment and monitoring, aid coordination, and education. The Australian Civilian Corps provides Australian specialists to help build resilience of countries at risk of, or emerging from, conflict or disaster. In 2014–15, DFAT deployed over 50 specialists and continued a further 10 deployments from the previous year. During 2014 and 2015 the Australian Civilian Corps has deployed specialists with expertise in gender-based violence to conflict-affected areas in Papua New Guinea, Myanmar and Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste.

Outcomes: In Timor-Leste, the Australian Civilian Corps Gender Equality Adviser was deployed to work with the AFP Timor-Leste Police Development Program in 2015. The Adviser’s role was to support the improvement of the status of women in the Policia Nacional de Timor-Leste (PNTL) and to reduce gender-based violence by improving the policing response and referral support processes. In 2015, this involved the development and delivery of a pilot affirmative action course for PNTL staff in the majority of districts to deal effectively with gender practices within and outside of policing, and the design of a Gender Focused Environmental Scan to assess the effectiveness of the legal framework for reducing gender-based violence to be implemented in 2016.

Bougainville: Fourteen Australian Civilian Corps specialists were deployed to support the Office of the Bougainville Electoral Commissioner to support an election for Papua New Guinea’s Autonomous Region of Bougainville. Specialists ensured all electoral forms and materials adopted gender inclusive language and advocated for the inclusion of a focus on gender and people with disabilities, to be included in voter awareness training. They worked separately with female members of polling teams to identify genderspecific needs and strategies for engagement with older male voters.

Solomon Islands: Eight specialists were deployed to work collaboratively with provincial election managers and staff to successfully prepare for and deliver the 2014 National Elections from October–December 2014. Specialists made modest progress in advancing the Australian Government priority for gender equality and disability inclusion by supporting women’s participation in provincial offices and polling centres, and ensuring disabled voters could access appropriate support on polling day.

Myanmar: From March 2013 to September 2014 an Australian Civilian Corps Gender Specialist was deployed through UNFPA to support its global mandate to address gender-based violence in humanitarian crises and ensure women and children, particularly girls, affected by the conflict in Kachin and Shan States were protected. The Gender Specialist developed UNFPA's Gender-Based Violence and Peacebuilding Strategy for 2013–2016, supported the development of a national action plan for the implementation of UNSCR 1325, and developed training on Women, Peace and Security issues including gender-based violence data collection, storage and use. An Australian Civilian Corps water, sanitation and hygiene specialist was deployed to the UNICEF office in Rhakine State from March 2014 to March 2015. The specialist contributed to improved latrine infrastructure, access to water, sanitation and hygiene at schools, menstrual hygiene management facilities, disabled access, and privacy, security and dignity for adolescent girls and women in 35 internally displaced persons (IDP) camps and 77 villages hosting internally displaced persons. A Gender Specialist was also deployed to a local non-government organisation to help develop the goals and processes for measuring women's participation in peace processes.

Australian Red Cross Partnership, 2013–2019 2013–2014 AUD 9 million, 2014–2015 AUD 9 million. 2014–2015 additional AUD 2.2 million to respond to the Nepal Earthquake and Tropical Cyclone Pam in Vanuatu and Tuvalu. 2015–2019 Core Funding AUD 28.8 million

Location: Global

Partners: Australian Red Cross

Thematic areas: Protection; Relief and Recovery

The ultimate goal of the Partnership is to save lives, alleviate suffering and enhance human dignity, especially in situations of conflict, natural disasters and other humanitarian crises, with a particular focus on the Indo-Pacific region. Since 2014 the Partnership features a new program theme to address gender equality and disability inclusion. This aims to strengthen existing work to mainstream gender in programming, consolidate lessons learned and identify new activities to empower women and girls. Gender will also be mainstreamed in the organisational development program theme.

Outcomes: From 1 July 2014 to 30 September 2015, the Partnership supported 140 specialists undertaking 203 deployments to 47 countries, to strengthen community resilience and disaster response capacity, and provide essential assistance in the aftermath of disasters and during times of crises. Delegates provided operational coordination and vital health care following an outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease in West Africa, in conflict-ravaged South Sudan, and in response to an earthquake in Nepal. Staff coordinated initial assessments and the provision of emergency shelter and water and sanitation in the immediate aftermath of Tropical Cyclone Pam in Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. Delegates contributed to capacity strengthening and institutional learning in Disaster Law; emergency health; shelter; water, sanitation and hygiene; and protection, gender, and inclusion. This

included hosting pilot training for Gender and Diversity in Emergencies for 44 staff and delegates from Australian Red Cross, the wider Red Cross movement, and external partners.

Building Capacity for Disability Inclusion in Gender-Based Violence Programming in Humanitarian Settings, April 2013–July 2015, AUD 599,916

Location: Global, four priority countries of Ethiopia, Burundi, Jordan and Northern Caucasus (Russian Federation).

Partners: Women’s Refugee Commission and International Rescue Committee.

Thematic areas: Prevention; Participation.

This project focused on: identifying gaps and opportunities for disability inclusion in gender-based violence prevention and response programs; piloting and evaluating actions to improve accessibility and inclusion for persons with disabilities in gender-based violence programs; and documenting and sharing effective strategies for disability inclusion through the wider humanitarian sector.

Outcomes: Increased information on disability inclusion in gender-based violence prevention and response programs, including consultations with persons with disabilities and caregivers to identify gaps in disability inclusion within International Rescue Committee’s Women’s Protection and Empowerment programs, as well as opportunities and entry points to strengthen access and participation. More than 330 people participated across the four countries, 221 persons with disabilities (126 female) and 113 caregivers (76 female), with a quarter under the age of 24 years.

Actions to improve accessibility and inclusion for persons with disabilities in gender-based violence prevention and response were piloted for effectiveness, including participatory evaluation assessed outcomes from the perspective of people with disabilities and caregivers. Changes identified included: social empowerment activities being taken closer to women and girls with disabilities; development of protective peer networks; participation in economic strengthening activities; recruitment of women and girls with disabilities in gender-based violence programs, highlighting their skills and capacities and foster greater equality among teams and the community; and advocating for inclusion of women and girls with disabilities in women’s and disability associations in refugee contexts.

For effective strategies for disability inclusion in gender-based violence programming, as determined in result 2, to be documented and shared with the humanitarian sector. The 2015 Global Practitioner Meeting brought together advocates, practitioners, and leaders on gender-based violence and disability to discuss global learning, continued collaboration and how to include women and girls with disabilities in gender-based violence programming, to improve interventions.

Commanding Officer’s Seminar and Key Leader Seminars at the Nordic Centre for Gender in Military Operations – In 2015, Defence staff participated in and presented to Key Leader and Commanding Officers’ seminars conducted at the Nordic Centre for Gender in Military operations, on Defence’s implementation of UNSCR 1325, Defence’s leadership perspective on gender reform, and operational experience as Gender Advisers.

Exercise Talisman Sabre 2015 (see Case Study below)

Case study:

Exercise Talisman Sabre 2015 (TS15)

Exercise Talisman Sabre is a bilateral Australian and United States military training activity, designed to train our respective military forces in planning and conducting Combined Task Force operations in order to improve the combat readiness and interoperability between the two nations. Conducted in July 2015, the exercise was a complex series of live, virtual and constructed events with, for the first time, a significant focus on integrating Women, Peace and Security.

The selection of TS15 as the backdrop to the integration of Women, Peace and Security into military planning and operations was an outcome of significant effort by Defence staff to include UNSCR 1325 into the initial planning stages in early 2014, and bilateral talks between Australian and United States government officials in August 2014. Based on this guidance, the Exercise Commander, Vice Admiral Robert Thomas, USN, Commander 7th Fleet, directed his staff to integrate Women, Peace and Security into the ongoing planning and conduct of TS15.

In addition to incorporating Women, Peace and Security considerations into Commander's Intent, Strategic Communications, Rules of Engagement, Targeting Directives and Human Terrain Analysis, there were three Women, Peace and Security objectives for the exercise:

- Exercise forces receive focused education and training, conducted in an incremental and targeted manner, to ensure wide awareness and understanding of the key Women, Peace and Security messages and themes.
- Integration of Women Peace and Security considerations into the planning and execution phases. A particularly challenging objective, this was successfully achieved through a process of education, the presence and participation of Gender Advisers and a strong and committed Command Team who reinforced the importance and necessity of Women, Peace and Security at key times throughout the exercise.
- Ensure that the lessons learnt during TS15 were not isolated but rather shared across the military forces in a manner which provides a sound basis for future activities.

A number of specific initiatives were also included to focus Women, Peace and Security investment in future military operations. Among the successful initiatives was the establishment of female population protection units and patrol plans, compilation and distribution of gender intelligence reports, and the identification of, and engagement with, key female leaders within local communities. The aims of the Women, Peace and

Security activities for TS15 were simple: to make a stepped change in the Women, Peace and Security conversation from theory to practice; to operationalise Women, Peace and Security; and to leave a documented record as the start point for future military activities.

An enduring outcome of TS15 has been the production of a ‘Commander’s Guide to Implementing UNSCR 1325 in Military Operations and Planning’, which provides military commanders with a greater understanding of UNSCR 1325 and how to incorporate the intent of the Resolution into military operations.

The ADF has been strongly credited for these steps to embed Women, Peace and Security in TS15. In an article published in the Small Wars Journal in November 2015, Brenda Opperman, a stability operations adviser, gender expert, and human rights lawyer who also served as a Gender / Women, Peace and Security expert for TS15, highlighted the ADF’s efforts to integrate Women, Peace and Security into military exercises.¹⁹

From Communities to Global Security Institutions Program, May 2011–2016

AUD 2.9 million (this includes AUD 1 million earmarked funding for Women, Peace and Security as part DFAT’s Core Funding agreement to UN Women).

Location: Liberia, Timor-Leste, Uganda, and South Sudan

Partners: UN Women

Thematic areas: Prevention; Protection; Participation

The Program aims to: strengthen women’s security and voice in peacebuilding at community, national and international levels; institutionalise the protection of women in national security services and in peacekeeping forces; and build accountability for UNSCR 1325 through the development of improved indicators. The Program’s overall goal is to empower women in conflict and post-conflict contexts to contribute to the reduction of conflict through their involvement in peacebuilding, security sector reform, and increasing accountability for national and international commitments to the set of UNSCR 1325 resolutions.

Outcomes: Implemented in Liberia, South Sudan, Uganda and Timor-Leste, the Program has helped: strengthen women’s security and voice in peacebuilding at the community, national and international level; institutionalise protection of women in national security services and in peacekeeping forces; and build accountability for UNSCR 1325 through improved production and population of indicators on UNSCR 1325 and UNSCR 1820.

¹⁹ Available at: <http://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/dod-finally-gets-the-point-of-women-peace-and-security>.

Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility (GBV AoR), 2013–2016, AUD 1.2 million

Location: Global

Partners: UNICEF, UNFPA

Thematic areas: Prevention, Protection, Relief and Recovery

The GBV AoR is the global-level forum for coordination of, and guidance on, gender-based violence prevention and response in humanitarian and other crisis settings. It involves many partners including UN agencies, donors, non-governmental agencies, academics and independent gender-based violence experts to ensure efficient, predictable and accountable approaches to gender-based violence prevention and response globally, including in the field.

Outcomes: In 2014–2015, the Gender-Based Violence Coordination Team and the GBV AoR implemented a new model for improved gender-based violence capacity building and surge response. Regional Gender-Based Violence Advisers provided gender-based violence capacity building support with four advisers in place in Cairo, Bangkok, Dakar and Nairobi. The GBV AoR website was repurposed and updated regularly and the GBV AoR advocacy handbook, including a detailed strategy, was completed. Revisions to the ‘2005 Inter-Agency Standing Committee Guidelines for Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Settings’ were progressed, including a detailed implementation strategy. The Learning Task Team made significant progress on the development of the GBV AoR’s five-year Capacity Development Strategy. The Coordination Team participated in the UN High Commission for Refugees-led Global Protection Cluster and engaged with other clusters, such as Child Protection. Australian funding provided staff and project support to the GBV AoR, supporting an annual retreat and work planning process, advancing the work of key task teams, managing the website and member communications, and providing consistent support to Regional Emergency Gender-Based Advisers.

Global Peace Operations Initiative Capstone 15 – In August 2015, Defence provided subject matter expert support for the largest peacekeeping exercise ever hosted by the Malaysian Army Training Centre. The exercise was designed to certify trainers and platoons deploying to UN missions. Australian Defence staff were responsible for integrating UNSCR 1325 and related resolutions, UNSCR 1612 on Children in Armed Conflict and UNSCR 1674 on the Protection of Civilians, into exercise scenario design as well as formal presentations and assessment of platoon actions. This involved the education and training of over 1,000 participants from more than 30 partner militaries.

Humanitarian Partnership Agreement, June 2011–June 2016 AUD 13.5 million, Disaster Risk Reduction / Disaster Risk Management Capacity Building activities; AUD 41.5 million, Response funding

Location: Global

Partners: CARE, Caritas, Oxfam, Plan International, Save the Children, World Vision

Thematic areas: Protection; Relief and Recovery. These programs form part of Australia's commitment to protect the human rights of women and girls during and after conflict.

The Humanitarian Partnership Agreement facilitates the Government's engagement with preselected Australian non-government organisations to deliver better outcomes for people affected by humanitarian crises, by enhancing collaboration, coordination and ensuring the rapid release of funds. The Humanitarian Partnership Agreement provides multi-year funding for Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Risk Management activities implemented by the non-government organisations to help strengthen community resilience and preparedness. As a partnership, the Humanitarian Partnership Agreement also aims to improve collaboration, shared learning and dialogue on relevant policy issues amongst all seven Humanitarian Partnership Agreement partners and the broader Australian humanitarian sector. Humanitarian Partnership Agreement partners have committed to progress the Australian Government's commitments on Women Peace and Security outlined in relevant government policies under their individual head agreements.

Outcomes: Overall, the Humanitarian Partnership Agreement has been an effective mechanism for the Australian Government, with Australian non-government organisations, to respond quickly to disasters and strengthen community resilience and preparedness. The focus on gender equality within the Humanitarian Partnership Agreement was improved by the introduction of Gender Action Plans, and gender-related lessons from early Humanitarian Partnership Agreement reviews were successfully applied in later activations.

In Lebanon, for example, Caritas developed a Gender Action Plan to better support vulnerable Syrian refugees. Host community members receive vital sexual and gender-based violence treatment, recovery and rehabilitation services to increase both their immediate and long-term wellbeing. Appropriate protection services have been provided to 3,125 Syrian refugees and Lebanese women and children including cash support, shelter, group therapy and individual counselling. Training on protection issues — human trafficking, rights and sexual and gender-based violence identification and referral — has been delivered to 420 security and police personnel, youth and adult volunteers. Recovery and rehabilitation services have benefited 26,990 people, including cash assistance for shelter and food, life skills training, legal counselling and representation, residency status resolution and psycho-social peer support. This program costs AUD 806,558.

Inclusion of women and girls with disabilities in humanitarian settings,

July 2014–June 2015, AUD 300,000

Location: Global

Partners: Women’s Refugee Commission

Thematic areas: Participation; Normative

This project focused on strengthening the capacity of host country organisations of persons with disabilities to advocate on issues affecting displaced and refugee women and girls with disabilities. This work targeted three areas: promoting change in practice at field levels; strengthening networks of women with disabilities; and promoting global policy and practice change.

Outcomes: Provision of technical support to community-based organisations delivering sexual and reproductive health services in eastern Myanmar; and training for the Network of African Women with Disabilities on both sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence in humanitarian settings.

Strengthening networks of women with disabilities through technical support, training grants, and workshops. An Africa Regional Women’s Persons with Disabilities Workshop on Humanitarian Issues, attended by over 45 participants from nine different countries, resulted in advocacy at national levels and at the Commission on the Status of Women in New York.

Exploring innovative approaches to data analysis were documented in the report *“I see that it is possible”: Building Capacity for Disability Inclusion in Gender-Based Violence Programming in Humanitarian Settings*²⁰. Lessons were presented to the Women’s Refugee Commission Research Working Group and will be used in future publications.

Promoting global policy and practice change: Women’s Refugee Commission presented the findings from sexual and reproductive health and disability research at the 15th annual meeting of the Inter-agency Working Group on Reproductive Health in Crises, attended by more than 130 people; briefed the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; participated in an expert meeting on Protection of Persons with Disabilities in Armed Conflict; and made written submissions on disability inclusion to the World Humanitarian Summit.

²⁰ Available at: <https://www.womensrefugeecommission.org/resources/document/download/945>.

Inter-Agency Standby Capacity Support Project (ProCap) and Gender Standby Capacity Project (GenCap), 2014–2015 AUD 750,000 each to ProCap and GenCap

Location: Global.

Partners: Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Inter-Agency Standing Committee, Norwegian Refugee Council.

Thematic areas: Protection, Relief and Recovery.

Through these initiatives, registers of senior protection and gender specialists are maintained and deployed to increase capacity and collaboration between humanitarian agencies globally. ProCap and GenCap also provide protection and gender training on context-specific analysis and program design.

Outcomes: In 2014 ProCap mobilised 144 months of deployment and five training events with 125 participants, and a further 180 months of deployment and four regional training events with 100 participants were arranged in 2015. GenCap provided 216 months of deployment in 2014, and 210 months in 2015. This includes deploying five regional gender-based violence advisers in 2015. During 2014 and 2015, GenCap developed and delivered the training course, Gender in Humanitarian Action, in seven locations.

International Crisis Group, 2009–2016 2014–2015 AUD 590,000; 2015–2016 AUD 500,000

Location: Global with a focus on Pakistan, Myanmar, Syria, Bangladesh, Iraq, Indonesia, Thailand and Afghanistan

Partners: International Crisis Group

Thematic areas: Prevention; Normative

Australia has provided core funding to the Crisis Group since 2009 to support the International Crisis Group's research, analysis, policy formation and advocacy efforts to prevent or resolve conflict and build lasting peace. The Crisis Group is one of the world's leading independent, non-partisan sources of analysis and advice to governments and inter-governmental bodies, on the prevention and resolution of deadly conflict.

Outcomes: During 2014–2015 DFAT funding (with other donors) enabled the Crisis Group to deliver some 75 detailed policy and background reports and briefings covering up to 40 different conflicts across Asia, the Middle East and Africa and influencing international debate. The Crisis Group's research, analysis and policy recommendations supported more informed Australian policies and decisions in conflict-affected contexts. The Crisis Group made specific recommendations promoting a gendered perspective on the prevention of deadly conflict and supported the equal representation of men and women in political leadership, building gender-sensitive security forces. The Crisis Group raised the plight of women, who tend to be disproportionately affected by gender-based violence, in conflict and post-conflict settings.

International Visitors Leaders Program – In September 2015, the Gender Adviser to the Chief of Defence Force participated in the International Visitors Leaders Program in the United States, with the theme of Women Leaders: Promoting Women, Peace and Security. This initiative brought together approximately 60 international participants to examine topical issues.

Malaysian Defence Ministry and UN Development Program 2014 and 2015 Seminars on Gender and Child Protection in Military Operations – Defence supported the seminars and workshops in 2014 and 2015, conducted in Malaysia, with over 100 participants representing more than 25 partner militaries and a number of civil agencies. The seminars focussed on the civil military comprehensive approach to integrating UNSCR 1325 and related resolutions, 1612 on Children in Armed Conflict, and UNSCR 1674 on the Protection of Civilians into operations including within humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations.

NATO Science for Peace and Security Program ‘UNSCR 1325 Reload’ Project – This project, which commenced in June 2014, is a major study of the participation of women in NATO member and partner nations’ armed forces. The project was led by NATO and Rey Juan Carlos University in Madrid, Spain. Australian participation included Defence and the Australian Human Rights Commission. The ADF was highlighted in the project as an exemplar of the integration of women into a nation’s armed forces. The project included high visibility conferences in Madrid, Sydney and Brussels. An Interim Report was released in June 2015.²¹

Peacekeeping Capability Building Technical Working Group (PKCB TWG) – The ADF Peace Operations Training Centre is a full member of the PKCB TWG, which was established to harmonise the efforts of the leading peace operations military training providers in the Asia Pacific. Members of the group include Australia, France, the United States, New Zealand, Canada and Japan with the United Kingdom an observer. Central to discussions has been the development of a common understanding of UNSCR 1325 and associated resolutions for regional training establishments with an aim of ensuring a common standard is delivered by all parties. Australia is recognised as leading the development of training materials in the group.

Presentation on Women, Peace and Security at the Civil-Military Interactive Workshop in Malaysia – In April 2015, Defence presented on: the role of Women, Peace and Security in civil-military-police operations; the principles, legal underpinnings and mandates for action on Women, Peace and Security; the range and purpose of strategies to address Women, Peace and Security in civil-military-police interaction; and the challenges faced by actors in addressing Women, Peace and Security concerns in civil-military-police interaction.

²¹ Available at: http://www.nato.int/issues/nogp/meeting-records/2015/UNSCR1325-Reload_Report.pdf.

RedR Australia Partnership, 2013–2015, AUD 5.1 million

Location: Global

Partners: RedR Australia

Thematic areas: Protection; Relief and Recovery

RedR is an official UN Standby Partner. It aims to relieve suffering by selecting, training, and placing experienced and effective relief personnel in response to humanitarian emergencies and disaster response worldwide. RedR is committed to gender equality as a critical goal in humanitarian disaster response. RedR deploys protection and gender specialists into states and contexts affected by conflict, for example in response to the crisis in Syria and to Rakhine state in Myanmar.

Outcomes: In 2013–2014, RedR deployed 94 people to 24 countries — 54 per cent were female and delivered 75 training events reaching 1,500 participants in 12 countries with 61 per cent female participation.

In 2014, RedR deployed an Interagency Coordinator for Accountability to Affected Populations, and Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse with Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in the Philippines. The deployee ensured community feedback and accountability mechanisms were integrated into future policies and planning. This process enabled the most marginalised and unrepresented voices, including women and girls, to participate in decision-making processes. In 2015, RedR deployed a gender expert to the Nepal earthquake response to work with UN Population Fund (UNFPA) integrating gender-based violence prevention strategies into all aspects of the humanitarian response to ensure women and girls were not exposed to any increased risk of gender-based violence, as a result of the aid efforts. In Myanmar in 2015, RedR deployees worked with the UNFPA to oversee the distribution of 3,700 clean delivery kits to expectant mothers in case they were not able to get medical attention in time or had no access to skilled birth attendants and gave birth at home or within Internally Displaced Persons camps. They identified more than 300 high risk pregnancies and ensured emergency referral to a hospital, resulting in the survival of both mother and child and helped distribute 5,300 hygiene kits to women and girls of reproductive age.

Sexual Violence Appeal: Strengthening the Response to Sexual Violence, 2013–2016, AUD 6.15 million.

Location: Central African Republic, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lebanon, Mali, South Sudan and Mexico City (regional).

Partners: International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

Thematic areas: Prevention, Protection, Relief and Recovery

The ICRC has made a four-year commitment to expand its response to sexual violence, including improving the delivery of quality, impartial and holistic responses, while strengthening prevention activities. This includes work to overcome barriers to reporting incidents, provision of medical, psychological, and social care, encouraging states to improve their response and prevention efforts, staff sensitisation and training. Prevention activities

include working with weapon bearers, national authorities and community, religious and traditional leaders to promote awareness of and adherence to the prohibition of violations and ensure prosecution of perpetrators.

Outcomes: In 2014, the ICRC systematically provided its delegations with professional and technical support to initiate activities in response to the problem of sexual violence and to scale up efforts. In 2014, 26 delegations included activities related to sexual violence in their budget, activities and overall strategies for 2015. To improve future planning, the ICRC mapped its prevention-based initiatives related to sexual violence in 37 countries.

ICRC teams, particularly those in Afghanistan, Côte d'Ivoire, Jordan, Lebanon, Mexico, Niger and Papua New Guinea, assessed the prevalence of sexual violence in their contexts and the circumstances in which it takes place. These assessments helped teams determine the need and whether space existed for its neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action and, if so, on the scale and type of response. Delegations initiated activities to target the problem of sexual violence or scaled up existing efforts.

Sexual, Reproductive Health Programme in Humanitarian Settings (SPRINT) 2012–2014, AUD 8.5 million.

Location: East and South East Asia and Oceania Regions: Central African Republic, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Indonesia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka

Partners: International Planned Parenthood Federation, UN Population Fund.

Thematic areas: Prevention; Protection; Relief and Recovery

SPRINT implements all components of the international standard, the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for Reproductive Health in Crisis Situations. Across the regions of Africa, East and South East Asia and Oceania and East Asia, the program addressed three priority objectives: advocating for a policy and funding environment which is supportive of sexual and reproductive health; improving national capacity to coordinate and implement the minimum international standards for sexual and reproductive health in humanitarian settings; and responding to sexual and reproductive health needs, particularly of women and adolescents, in a timely and effective manner during a crisis. The program is designed to prevent and manage the consequences of sexual and gender-based violence, reduce HIV transmission and prevent excess maternal and newborn morbidity and mortality in acute humanitarian settings.

Outcomes: In 2014, SPRINT helped more than 328,000 people recover from conflict and disasters across the three regions, including representing people affected by crises around the world at all levels to ensure their rights to sexual and reproductive health care were respected. SPRINT also carried out three regional Training of Trainers courses, building the capacity of 141 new trainers to implement the MISP in the priority countries and training more than 1,000 people at the regional, national, and community level to coordinate the implementation of the MISP.

African Region

In 2014, SPRINT provided sexual and reproductive health assistance to more than 196,543 refugees in Ethiopia, Uganda and Central Africa Republic. The interventions included: providing comprehensive services for victims of gender-based violence; providing clinical equipment, safe blood transfusion kits, standard universal precaution materials, dignity kits, Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) kits, clean delivery kits; condom distribution; referral for emergency obstetric care; and other necessary sexual and reproductive health, maternal health, and family planning services. SPRINT conducted several awareness raising activities including radio broadcasting, youth dramas, tea talk sessions to inform refugees on their rights to sexual and reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, sexual violence prevention as well as how to access available services.

East and South East Asia Region and Oceania Region

In Myanmar, Indonesia, the Philippines, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste, SPRINT provided more than 8,000 maternal and newborn health services, referred 30 cases in need of emergency obstetric care to nearby hospitals, assisted in 2,000 family planning services, and distributed more than 200 clean delivery kits, 2,000 dignity kits, and 37,000 condoms. The program assisted 30 survivors of sexual violence and ensured 14 health delivery sites were equipped with the capacity for clinical management of rape, and also equipped 77 health care centres with the capacity for standard precautions. In 2014, SPRINT funded three emergency responses: Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, the Guadalcanal Floods in Solomon Islands, and conflict in Kachin State of Myanmar. SPRINT assisted more than 18,000 people, 73 per cent of whom were women, in the Philippines and Solomon Islands to access sexual and reproductive health services.

South Asia Region

In Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka SPRINT ensured survivors of sexual violence received necessary services and helped prevent sexual violence by conducting awareness raising sessions in the affected areas, reaching more than 130,000 affected populations, most of them are women and girls. The South Asia Regional Office distributed more than 2,000 clean delivery kits and dignity kits, and provided 16,000 condoms; treated sexually transmitted infection patients and ensured that the anti-retroviral drugs are available for HIV treatment. SPRINT also prevented maternal and newborn death through the assistance of trained birth attendants who helped deliver 150 babies and provided 4,200 family planning services to affected populations.

Strengthening the Capacity of Networks of Women with Disabilities in Humanitarian

Action, June 2015–December 2016, AUD 300,000.

Location: Global

Partners: Women's Refugee Commission

Thematic areas: Participation; Normative

The organisation makes humanitarian practice responsive to the needs and capacities of affected populations by providing the opportunity for them to inform and drive solutions. This project has three objectives to strengthen the capacity of networks of women with disabilities to engage in advocacy on humanitarian issues: conducting a global mapping of the role of women with disabilities in humanitarian responses, to identify strengths, opportunities and capacity development goals; providing technical support and training to women representatives of disabled people's organisations in Africa and South Asia on humanitarian issues; and promoting global policy and practice change through advocacy with the UN, non-government organisations, donors and other key groups regarding inclusion of women and girls with disabilities in humanitarian action, and the importance of engaging national disabled people's organisations in humanitarian policy and practice work.

Outcomes: The project builds on the Women's Refugee Commission's previous grants from the Australian Government (see inclusion of women and girls with disabilities in humanitarian settings), which resulted in substantive improvements in the lives of women, children and youth with disabilities displaced by conflict and crisis. This next phase focused on including women and girls with disabilities in humanitarian action, expanding the Women's Refugee Commission's current partnership with the Network of African Women with Disabilities and establishing a new partnership with the South Asia Disability Forum.

United Nations Department of Political Affairs, November 2014, AUD 1 million; May 2015, AUD 650,000

Location: Global

Partners: UN Department of Political Affairs (UNDPA)

Thematic areas: Prevention; Participation

The UNDPA is the lead department in the UN system for political analysis, early warning, peacemaking and preventive diplomacy. The UNDPA monitors and assesses global political developments, detects potential crises before they escalate and devises effective responses. It can also facilitate mediation for conflicting parties to agree peace agreements, and provides support to peacekeeping missions. The UNDPA is committed to implementing the Women, Peace and Security agenda, is mainstreaming Women, Peace and Security issues across all engagements, and promotes women's effective participation in conflict mediation and peacemaking efforts.

Outcomes: During 2014–2015, the UNDPA deployed mediation experts on more than 100 occasions to assist with peace negotiations and provide technical expertise on gender, constitutions, elections and natural resources. In 2015, all UN mediation support teams

included women and specific gender expertise was requested and provided to nine out of 12 UN co-led mediation processes. All UN-led or co-led formal peace negotiations include consultations with civil society and women's organisations. The UNDPA supported 65 countries with their electoral processes, among them milestone elections in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The UNDPA tailored responses, through its regional offices and its 40 Special Political Missions in three continents. In 2014, all UN mediation support teams included women. Civil society, including women's organisations, were consulted in all UN-led or co-led mediation processes and specific gender expertise was requested in 75 per cent of processes. In 2014, women's representation on negotiating parties' delegations showed a steady upward trend, with women represented on 17 delegations participating in 10 processes, compared to 10 delegations in eight processes in 2013.

The UNDPA translated the norms and indicators in UNSCR 1325 into its policies, guidance and training. By the end of 2015, eight high-level seminars on Gender and Inclusive Mediation Processes had been conducted for 164 envoys, UN mediators, regional organisations, Member States and international mediation organisations. Over 200 UNDPA staff were trained in implementing the UNDPA Women, Peace and Security commitments. To effectively mainstream Women, Peace and Security in all prevention and mediation-related activities, the UNDPA has full-time gender posts in half of the current Special Political Missions. Part-time Gender Focal Points are also appointed in all Special Political Missions, at near gender parity, at an increasingly senior level.

United Nations Fund for Population and Development Partnership, 2014–2015

2014–2015 AUD 600,000 (pre-positioned stores); AUD 4.72 million (sexual and reproductive health in emergencies).

Location: Global, priority responses in Philippines, Nepal, Iraq, and Burma

Partners: United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Thematic areas: Relief and Recover

Australia has a long-standing relationship with the UNFPA, the lead UN agency for sexual and reproductive health and family planning. UNFPA focuses on pregnant women and post-partum mothers, female-headed households, single women, elderly, disabled women and adolescent girls.

Outcomes: Stores were prepositioned in priority countries in the Indo-Pacific region – Philippines, Nepal, Papua New Guinea and Fiji. The funding also supported an analytical study to identify the specification of sexual and reproductive health items in the region for emergency preparedness. Sexual and reproductive health activities were mobilised for various emergencies including responses to Typhoon Hagupit and Rammasum in the Philippines, the Nepal earthquake, Iraq, and Myanmar.

United Nations Peacebuilding Fund, December 2013–December 2015

December 2013 AUD 3 million; December 2014 AUD 3 million;

December 2015 AUD 4 million; 2015–2016 AUD 4 million

Location: Global. From January 2014 to December 2015, the top 10 countries with the highest funding allocations by order were: Central African Republic, Guinea, Yemen, Cote d'Ivoire, Mali, Somalia, Kyrgyzstan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Papua New Guinea and Burundi.

Partners: UN Peacebuilding Fund

Thematic areas: Prevention; Protection; Normative

The UN Peacebuilding Fund is currently supporting more than 200 projects in 27 countries. This includes a specific funding stream (the Gender Promotion Initiative) to support the UN Secretary General's commitment to 15 per cent peacebuilding funds dedicated to gender-focused activities. The UN Peacebuilding Fund allocates funding to initiatives that respond to one or more of the following four criteria: imminent threats to the peace process and initiatives supporting peace agreements and political dialogue; build or strengthen national capacities to promote coexistence and peaceful resolution of conflict; stimulate economic revitalisation to general peace dividends; and/or re-establish essential administrative services.

Outcomes: In 2014, the UN Peacebuilding Fund launched its second gender promotion initiative to deepen support for women's empowerment and gender equality, a key element of the Peacebuilding Support Office's business plan, and build on the results of an independent review of gender and peacebuilding conducted early in 2014. The Initiative resulted in the selection of nine projects in six countries (Guinea, Kyrgyzstan, Mali, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Somalia), and enabled the UN Peacebuilding Fund to launch new activities focusing on women's participation in politics, security sector reform, local governance and land reform, and projects for the prevention of and response to gender-based violence. For example, in Papua New Guinea, the UN Peacebuilding Fund aims to transform social norms around gender-based violence through community-wide trauma healing and access to support services.

With the Initiative's support, just over nine per cent of the Fund's allocations in 2014 went to projects promoting women's empowerment and gender equality as their principal objective. While that figure remains below the Secretary-General's target of 15 per cent, it masks the UN Peacebuilding Fund's significant progress in mainstreaming gender, as 81 per cent of funds in 2014 were allocated to projects that significantly promote gender equality.

United Nations Special Female Military Officer's Courses (see Case Study below)

Case study:

Special Female Military Officers' Course – India

In a first of its kind initiative, UN Women (India) in partnership with the Centre for UN Peacekeeping developed a special technical course for female military officers of major Troop Contributing Countries which was piloted in New Delhi, India, in March 2015. The intensive two-week course is intended to become a standard for national peacekeeping training centres in all Troop Contributing Countries.

The pilot course at the Centre for UN Peacekeeping in India, involved 40 female military officers from major Troop Contributing Countries around the world. A female officer represented the ADF. The course is designed to enable female officers to function effectively in a UN Peacekeeping environment as armed military staff officers or unarmed military experts in mission, performing a range of tasks including observation, liaison, and protection.

Since returning to Australia the officer has been liaising with various stakeholders to identify how Defence can integrate this course material into pre-deployment and UN Military Observer training.

United States Naval War College Women Peace and Security Conference – The ADF was represented at this important international military and academic conference on Women, Peace and Security, held in May 2015. Defence's Director of the National Plan on Women, Peace and Security delivered a paper on the implementation of the Australian National Action Plan in Defence. Defence was also represented at the 2016 conference, including participation of ADF officers on a panel discussing their operational experience of Women, Peace and Security.

Women Peace and Security Global Facility, March 2015–March 2017 AUD 4 million

Location: Global

Partners: UN Women

Thematic areas: Prevention; Participation

The goal of the Global Facility is to support women and men's equal leadership and participation in shaping peace and security and humanitarian action. DFAT identified earmarked funding in the Global Facility, including for peacekeeper training (specifically pre-deployment training on prevention of conflict related sexual violence), strengthening women's organisations and women's civil society organisation participation in peace and security processes, supporting the Global Acceleration Instrument on Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action (see page 95), as well as an un-earmarked contribution to support activities such as the Global Study on the Implementation of UNSCR 1325.

Outcomes: As well as implementing the specific activities above, the program enabled UN Women to play a key role in advocacy around the 15th anniversary of UNSCR 1325, culminating in the adoption of UNSCR 2242, the formation of the Security Council Informal Expert Group on Women, Peace and Security, and the endorsement of the Global Acceleration Instrument.

Asia-Pacific

Asia-Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect (R2P), 2009–2017 2015–2017

AUD 1.166 million; 2012–2015, AUD 2 million

Location: Asia-Pacific region

Partners: Asia-Pacific Centre for R2P, Monash University

Thematic areas: Prevention; Protection

DFAT has funded the Asia-Pacific Centre for R2P since 2009 to promote and build support for the international R2P principle in the region. The Asia-Pacific Centre for R2P works to deliver on four key goals: advance awareness of R2P and foster policies conducive to the prevention of mass atrocities; transfer knowledge that builds regional capacity to analyse and develop R2P implementation measures; provide expert recommendations to decision makers on measures to advance human security and prevent mass atrocities, and to communicate R2P policy developments among stakeholders; and advance knowledge and build research capacity on R2P and human protection. The Third Phase (September 2015–September 2017) focuses on the practical implementation of R2P and has established a prevention of sexual violence unit with Monash University to develop a framework for early warning and assessment around mass sexual and gender-based violence and use regional security sector reform to improve the protection of women and girls.

Outcomes: The Asia-Pacific Centre for R2P has argued for R2P advocates to engage with and promote the Women, Peace and Security prevention, protection and participation framework. Sexual and gender-based violence can constitute mass atrocity crimes and R2P and Women, Peace and Security share a common focus on prevention. The Asia-Pacific Centre for R2P organised the ASEAN Prevention of Violence Against Women in Conflict and Humanitarian Situations workshop to examine existing work, and to explore ways of assisting ASEAN states to fulfil their responsibility to eliminate violence against women.

In 2015 they held a Women, Peace and Security training course and are currently developing a training manual on R2P, genocide and mass atrocity crimes and Women, Peace and Security. The Asia-Pacific Centre for R2P has partnered with DFAT, UN agencies and the United Kingdom's Department for International Development and convened a meeting with 25 women leaders to develop recommendations for advancing the protection of women and girls from sexual violence.

Australia Awards Capacity Building Program – Advancing Women, Peace and Security in ASEAN – In June 2015, Defence presented on Australia’s approaches to Women, Peace and Security implementation in the security sector, and some of the challenges to, and channels for, promoting gender inclusivity in the defence force to a delegation of 25 gender advocates from the Philippines, Cambodia and Indonesia. Delegates included members of the armed services, judiciary, civil society, and human rights institutions.

Bougainville Gender Investment Plan, 2014–2019, AUD 14 million

Location: Autonomous Region of Bougainville, Papua New Guinea

Partners: Various government and non-government agencies

Thematic area: Participation; Normative

The *Autonomous Bougainville Government Bougainville Gender Investment Plan* was launched in December 2014. Strengthening women’s leadership and influence in decision-making, particularly in the final stages of the Bougainville peace process, is one of the three core components of the Plan. To achieve this, Australia is working with the International Women’s Development Agency to build the capacity of the Bougainville Women’s Federation. The support includes a Bougainville Women’s Federation young women’s leadership program, and programs to educate voters on women’s roles and rights in elections. Australia is also funding the implementation of the Papua New Guinea Government’s Gender Equity and Social Inclusion policy in Bougainville.

The other components of the Bougainville Gender Investment Plan relate to reducing gender-based violence and improving women’s economic opportunities. Addressing these issues has important flow-on effects for women peace and security issues on the island.

Enhancing Women’s Participation in Decision Making through Strengthened Community Radio Transmission, May 2014–November 2015

Location: Fiji

Partners: FemLINKPACIFIC (FemLINK)

Thematic area: Participation; Normative

The activity aims to contribute to the development of politically action-oriented women’s civil society and women’s groups, through use of community radio and increasingly mobile phone, social media and television. The activity also aims to enable civil society partners, particularly women’s civil society, to influence the democratisation process in Fiji.

Outcomes: The activity has a specific focus on enabling women to understand and use UNSCR1325 and other international instruments to claim their rights, influence disaster risk management strategies and responses, and engage better in local governance structures.

Outcomes and progress related to this objective include:

- After making a written submission to the Fiji National Security Defence Review, FemLINK was invited to provide a briefing on UNSCR 1325, UNSCR 2122, and CEDAW

to assist the Ministry of Defence fulfil its commitment to full implementation and mainstreaming of these into policies and plans.

- Following a presentation regarding the Pacific Small Arms Action Group at the University of the South Pacific, FemLINK was approached by the Pacific Islands Development Forum to present at their 3rd Summit, and to co-convene the Gender, Youth, Disability and Human Security strand of the Summit, for which they contributed a video and presented a paper. FemLINK also had media accreditation for the event.
- Recording and broadcasting 477 women's stories related to women's lives and peace and security between January and November 2015.
- Inclusion of FemLINK's experience and recommendations from the Pacific region in UN Women's Global Study on the Implementation of UNSCR 1325.

Election Awareness Training for Women in Bougainville, 2015–2016, AUD 451,888

(under Pacific Women)

Location: Autonomous Region of Bougainville, Papua New Guinea

Partners: Bougainville Women's Federation

Thematic area: Participation

Addressing the leadership gap of young women between the ages of 18 and 30 is vital, and one of many challenges in the aftermath of the 10-year Bougainville Crisis (1988–1998). Bougainville Women's Federation, comprising 13 district women's federations is an umbrella organisation and representative body for the women of Bougainville. A Bougainville Women's Federation study on young women's leadership found that illiteracy and lack of mentoring by mature women leaders were major contributing factors to the leadership gap.

Outcomes: The Bougainville Women's Federation has conducted leadership training for 30 young women. It has also delivered training on effective campaigning for women who wanted to run for local-level government elections. Twelve of the women contested the 2015 elections. While just one of them was successful, the other women are ready to contest the 2016 elections.

Exercise Garuda Kookaburra 2015 – The ADF Peace Operations Training Centre, in partnership with the Indonesian Defence Force, conducted training in Indonesia in April 2015 on gender and Protection of Civilians. The training, conducted both in the classroom and in the field, focused on the practical methods of enhancing UN Peace Operations utilising UNSCR 1325 and associated resolutions. Indonesian Defence Force participants were junior officers who were to deploy on a UN mission within 12 months.

Exercise Pirap Jabiru 2016 (PJ16) – In partnership with the Royal Thai Defence Force, the ADF Peace Operations Training Centre conducted PJ16 over the period September 2015 to May 2016. The multinational seminar-based activity was conducted in Thailand for a panel of 100 military and police officers from the Asia Pacific region. The seminar format focused

specifically on the Protection of Vulnerable People in Conflict and Peace Operations. UNSCR 1325, UNSCR 1674, UNSCR 1612 and associated resolutions formed the basis of training and discussions, which included the consideration of gender, protection of civilians, and sexual and gender-based violence. In the lead up to the activity, the ADF Peace Operations Training Centre conducted an instructor workshop for selected Thai instructors to develop local knowledge and skills on the related subjects.

Inclusive Development in Post-conflict Bougainville, Phase 1:

November 2010–March 2015; Phase 2: 2016, AUD 2.5 million (Phase 1)

Location: Autonomous Region of Bougainville, Papua New Guinea

Partners: World Bank, various local government and civil society entities

Thematic area: Participation; Protection

Prior to the Bougainville conflict, women played vital roles in community-level decision-making and were key agents of development. These roles have been weakened, and women have been marginalised from community decision-making processes in the post-conflict period. This, combined with the need for increased local government capacity, is viewed as a significant challenge to development. The project provides funding to women's organisations and women-managed community activities (e.g. for building water supply and sanitation facilities, resource centres, local markets).

Outcomes: Through Component 1: Building Capacity for Inclusive Community Development, training has been delivered to 450 participants, exceeding the goal of 400 in the implementation plan. More than two-thirds of the participants have been women, exceeding the target of about 40 per cent.

Through Component 2: Small Grants for Inclusive Community Development, grants have been awarded to 41 women's groups, including at least one project in each of Bougainville's 13 districts. It is estimated that over 48,000 people, nearly 25 per cent of the population, have benefitted from completed grant projects.

An Independent Monitoring Group concluded public goods from the project have reached communities with overall sound management of funds, and women's roles have been being strengthened through their direct management, ownership and leadership in the whole process. Of the 31 women who recently ran for Parliament in Bougainville elections, 21 identified as active participations within this program.

Linking the Networks – Enhancing Social Media Strategies to Advance UNSCR 1325 in Asia: A grassroots initiative, May 2013–May 2014, AUD 168,438

Location: Asia Regional: Australia, Burma, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

Partners: Justice, Equality Rights, Access (JERA) International with Isis International (Philippines) and Asia Pacific Women’s Watch.

Thematic Areas: Participation; Normative

This research project explored common perceptions and understandings around UNSCR 1325 and national action plans on Women, Peace and Security. The project also aimed to advance understandings through the use of social media in the Asia region. Civil society plays a key role in the advocacy and lobbying of governments to develop national action plans and implement UNSCR 1325. The grant was provided to JERA International which then partnered with Isis International, a Philippines non-government organisation, to promote women’s human rights and facilitate networking and information sharing forums in the global south, and Asia Pacific Women’s Watch, a regional non-government organisation network of women’s organisations and groups in the Asia Pacific region.

Outcomes: Research from the project indicated that even in countries where there is a national action plan on UNSCR 1325, there is a lack of information on ways to localise the principles of the Women, Peace and Security agenda. Following the Regional Research Workshop in Manila, Philippines (October 2013) with 12 participants from seven countries, individual and organisational multimedia strategies were reviewed and developed. A joint strategy of building and maintaining the new network *Women’s Action for Peace Asia* was developed and the Twitter # 1325socmed and user name @WAP_Asia are used to share information across the network of participants, organisations and mentors. As a result, groups of young women advocates were trained in the use of social media to build peace and share information.

Four participants from the newly formed Women’s Action for Peace Asia Network and two mentors attended the CSW in March 2014. They launched the Women’s Action for Peace Asia Network and presented at two parallel events with 70 attendees per event: ‘Social Media and Engaging young women in UNSCR 1325 in Asia’ and ‘Raising Young Women’s Voices in the Localisation of UNSCR 1325’. Approximately 35,000 people received the tweets sent by the team during the workshops.

Pacific Police Development Program (PPDP) – Under the PPDP, AGD, in partnership with the AFP, works with Pacific Island countries to strengthen laws and build capabilities of law and justice officers. Assistance on law and justice projects was provided to Solomon Islands’ Government, including training workshops for prosecutors and police on new family violence and policing legislation and building the legal policy advice and legislation capabilities of senior policymakers through AGD’s Pacific Legal Policy Champions and Twinning programs.

AGD has also worked with Solomon Islands through the Pacific Island Law Officers Network (PILON) Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Working Group, which focused on improving implementation of sexual and gender-based violence legislation. In 2015 the Working Group developed monitoring and evaluation frameworks for sexual and gender-based violence legislation, which were presented and discussed at the PILON annual meeting in Solomon Islands in December of the same year.

Pre-Recruit Education Program, February–July 2015, AUD 827,138

Location: Autonomous Region of Bougainville, Papua New Guinea

Partners: Bougainville Police Service, Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary and Box Hill Institute of TAFE

Thematic area: Participation; Protection

The program is helping young people in Bougainville to qualify for police cadet training to help rebuild the post-crisis Bougainville Police Service.

Outcomes: In July 2015, 40 young people (24 men and 16 women) completed this program preparing them to meet educational entry requirements to the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary's Police Recruit Training Course at the Bomana Police Training College. Of those who completed the course, 15 men and eight women attended the Recruit Training Course, graduated in May 2016 and have taken up postings in the Bougainville Police Service. The remaining students are expected to complete the Recruit Training Course in 2017.

Provision of an Adviser to the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs, 2015– 2017

Location: Solomon Islands

Partners: Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs

Thematic area: Normative

Australia is supporting Solomon Islands Government to develop a National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security through the provision of strategic technical assistance, including the provision of an adviser. This work builds on earlier work done, with consideration of shifts in the Women, Peace and Security policy environment in the last two years. The CEDAW committee made several explicit Women, Peace and Security recommendations for Solomon Islands, which provides momentum to progress the issue.

Outcomes: Solomon Islands Government has developed a draft National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security and is currently in the process of finalising the document.

Public consultations on the Development of the New Zealand National Action Plan – Defence Director National Action Plan for Women, Peace and Security contributed to and participated in public consultations for the New Zealand National Action Plan in May 2015. This included speaking on a panel regarding Defence's implementation of the Australian National Action Plan and its strategy to embed UNSCR 1325 into Defence business and operations. Defence staff continue to provide advice to New Zealand Defence Force staff on an implementation strategy, including the development of a Defence Implementation Plan and Gender Adviser capability.

Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI), July 2003–June 2017.

Location: Solomon Islands

Partners: Royal Solomon Islands Police Force

Thematic area: Protection; Participation; Normative

RAMSI is now solely a policing mission, working to develop a modern, effective and independent police force which has the full confidence and support of the community. Australia leads the Mission and contributes 95 per cent of its funding. The focus on responding to violence against women has increased in recent years.

Outcomes: Capacity development of the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force, which included sensitivity training to assist recruits and frontline officers to understand the impact of family violence on victims, training in lawful responses to reports of family violence, and data collection and reporting.

Supporting the review, development and implementation of critical legislation, including the *Family Protection Act 2014*. RAMSI is assisting the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force develop a training package to ensure all officers have an understanding of the new legislation and will invoke their new powers appropriately.

Training to Solomon Islands' Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions – In September 2014, AGD provided training to Solomon Islands' Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and other law and justice sector officers to raise awareness of key powers and duties created by the *Police Act 2013* and the *Family Protection Act 2014*. The Family Protection Act creates the new offence of 'domestic violence', provides for 'police safety notices' and 'protection orders', and imposes duties on police and prosecutors.

Women in Pacific Defence Forces Seminar – This three-day seminar, hosted by Defence, was held in Canberra in October 2015 for female participants from a number of South Pacific Defence Forces. The seminar included a presentation on Defence's implementation of the Australian National Action Plan.

Africa

Common Humanitarian Fund, 2014 USD 7.86 million total, USD 4.38 million Australian contribution

Location: Somalia

Partners: Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, WHO, UNICEF, UNHCR, Food and Agriculture Organization, World Food Program

Thematic areas: Protection

Drought, insecurity, surging food prices, increasing malnutrition and funding shortages led to a significant increase in humanitarian needs in 2014. More than one million people in Somalia were unable to meet their basic food requirements, an increase of 20 per cent since February 2014. Two-thirds of these people were internally displaced, and approximately 80 per cent of them were women and children. The Fund responds in the areas of the enabling environment, education, food security, health, nutrition, protection, multisector refugee responses, shelter and non-food items, and water, sanitary and hygiene.

Outcomes: Relevant areas of programming and associated outcomes are: Health programming – Managed by the WHO to help increase access to life-saving primary and secondary health care services, such as emergency health services and life-support services to the most vulnerable people. This includes international development programs, women and children, and to increase access to high-impact reproductive health, maternal, newborn and child health services as per national priority package for Somalia. Support was provided for continued health service provision at Beletweyne Hospital in Central Somalia, but was otherwise directed to responding to the measles outbreak response.

Nutrition activities – Managed by UNICEF to help mitigate risks associated with malnutrition, including for pregnant and lactating women. Education and counselling activities reached 14,916 pregnant women and women with children (0–24 months).

Gender-based violence activities – Under the protection program (UNCHR and DRC), 1,322 people received training on gender-based violence case management, and services for survivors of violations were increased (client data not disaggregated). Approximately 400 gender-based violence survivors in Gaalkacyo received support including psychosocial support, first aid, counselling and provision of dignity kits. Four maternal and child health facilities, as well as the obstetric ward in Kismayo Hospital, were supported to provide case management referrals which included provision of post-rape kits, sexually transmitted infections and HIV rapid testing materials, and medical equipment for surgical care.

Other support – The refugee program (UNHCR) provided support for equal access to fair protection processes and documentation, basic needs, essential services and durable solutions to women.

Exercise Joogo Emu 2015 – In November 2015, the ADF Peace Operations Training Centre, in partnership with the East African Stand-by Force and the Kenyan Defence Force, conducted military observers' training for East African Stand-by Force officers deploying to either an African Union or UN mission. Training included the full suite of Women Peace and Security training objectives and Protection of Civilians training was delivered in both classroom and practical field environments. The student panel of 25 were deployed to the African Union Somalia mission immediately on completion of the training.

Extension of Emergency Integrated SRH/HIV Services in Nakivale Refugee Settlement in South Western Uganda, December 2015–March 2016, AUD 50,000

Location: Uganda

Partners: International Planned Parenthood Federation, Reproductive Health Uganda

Thematic areas: Protection

As part of the Sexual and Reproductive Health Programme in Humanitarian Settings – SPRINT initiative (see page 57), this activity responded to the increased demand for services for women and girls following an influx of Burundi refugees to Nakivale in Southwestern Uganda. Already hosting more than 90,000 refugees, mainly from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda and Somalia, the arrival of the Burundians rapidly increased the strain on existing sexual and reproductive health services.

Outcomes: Activities under this assistance included prevention, identification and referral of sexual and gender-based violence cases, including awareness sessions and monthly meetings with refugee leaders on prevention of sexual and gender-based violence; and a range of sexual and reproductive health services. The activity aimed to reach 35,000 women of reproductive age and 11,500 adolescent girls.

Girls' Safety Initiative, 2015 AUD 28,560

Location: Nigeria

Partners: Tabitha Cumi Foundation

Thematic areas: Protection

Funded through the Direct Aid Program, this activity was developed to respond to the large number of internally displaced persons from areas affected by conflict in Nigeria. It aimed to bring security awareness, conflict resolution, life-building skills, and mentorship to girls within the ages of 15 to 25 years. The activity worked to convince families to enrol and keep their daughters in school in a context where many were afraid to do so following the abductions by Boko Haram.

Outcomes: On completion of the Initiative, girls' clubs had been established in five communities to enable the girls to speak freely about issues affecting them and to make informed positive decisions. Single adolescent mothers and girls disengaged from their education were encouraged to return to school. The implementing non-government organisation reported community leaders and parents were motivated to protect girl children, to ensure their enrolment, retention and completion of education.

Humanitarian Assistance, 2014–2015 November 2014–November 2015, AUD 3 million

Location: Democratic Republic of the Congo

Partners: International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

Thematic areas: Protection

The ICRC Appeal responded to continuing armed conflict in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. The conflict has resulted in mass displacement and widespread abuses – including looting, destruction of property, child recruitment, and sexual violence against women, men and children.

Outcomes: In 2014, the humanitarian response was designed to enable conflict-affected communities, including sexual violence victims, to access adequate medical and psychological care in five hospitals, 12 health centres and 40 counselling centres in North and South Kivu and Province Orientale.

The ICRC reported some 14,000 women received ante/postnatal consultations, and about 4,100 patients were referred to higher levels of care. In North and South Kivu, 2,906 victims of sexual violence were assisted through psychosocial support offered at 29 counselling centres. More than 1,220 of those counselled were referred to nearby health facilities for medical treatment. Six centres were built or renovated. Regular awareness raising sessions and six sensitisation campaigns, partly aimed at preventing stigmatisation linked to sexual abuse, reached more than 80,000 community members.

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Humanitarian Programming

April 2014–April 2015 AUD 4 million; January 2015–December 2015, AUD 2 million.

Location: Central African Republic

Partners: ICRC

Thematic areas: Protection

The ICRC focuses on protecting and assisting people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence by providing emergency relief, medical, surgical and psychological care, helping people restore their livelihoods, and rehabilitating water and sanitation facilities. It visits detainees, restores links between separated relatives, promotes international humanitarian law and humanitarian principles among the authorities, armed forces and other armed groups, and civil society. The ICRC also supports the Central African Red Cross Society's development. Targets for 2014 included the provision of specialised care to victims of sexual violence and support for awareness raising and prevention.

Outcomes: Health centres in Dissikou, Mbrès and Ouandago resumed their activities with ICRC material and staff support. This enabled violence-affected people, including children and pregnant women, to obtain basic services including ante/postnatal care. For eight months previous to the reopening of the health centres, ICRC mobile health clinics delivered services to five locations. In total, 63,307 consultations were conducted.

In Nana-Grébizi, 283 people suffering from conflict-related trauma, including 146 victims of sexual violence, were assisted with psychosocial and medical support from ICRC-trained

counsellors in three villages. Many patients had several follow-up sessions. Some 5,000 community members learnt more about the consequences of violence, particularly against women. This helped to set up referral systems and prevent stigmatisation.

International Committee of the Red Cross Humanitarian Programming

2014–2016 April 2014–April 2015 AUD 5.5 million; June 2015–June 2016 AUD 2 million

Location: Somalia

Partners: International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

Thematic area: Protection

The ICRC, often working with the Somali Red Crescent Society, focuses on providing emergency aid to people directly affected by armed conflict. This includes an extensive first aid, medical and basic health care program, and support to help restore or improve livelihoods.

Outcomes: Vulnerable women and victims of sexual violence received specialised care from midwives who were trained to address these specific health concerns. The nutritional status of 8,700 pregnant or lactating women was improved through therapeutic feeding at National Society clinics.

Women were involved in livelihoods activities (generally about 20 per cent of participants). The program also involved education in international humanitarian law, but reporting includes no mention of UNSCR 1325.

Making Justice Work for Women: Rights, Resilience and Responses to Violence Against Women, April 2013–October 2015, AUD 580,941

Location: Democratic Republic of the Congo, Northern Uganda and Kenya

Partners: ActionAid, University of Sydney, University of Technology Sydney

Thematic Areas: Participation, Normative

This research project investigated transitional justice processes for addressing women's rights and justice priorities in three countries in Sub-Saharan Africa: Kenya, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda. Transitional justice is a means to address past human rights violations experienced during civil war and other mass violence, and to promote lasting peace and stability. Researchers spoke to women impacted by violence who have lived through conflict or ongoing violence, to better understand women's views of justice, and their needs and experiences of trying to access justice.

The research aimed to identify where justice is failing and barriers to women's access to justice, and was supplementary to an Australia Awards Fellowships program led by the University of Sydney, in collaboration with ActionAid.

Outcomes: Twenty one Fellows (18 women and three men) developed practical strategies for rebuilding post-conflict societies. They focused on reconciliation and delivering justice to survivors of human rights abuses, particularly women and girls. The Fellows discussed best practice in administering transitional justice to address the needs of women affected

by violence in conflict settings, and developed practical strategies for implementing gender-sensitive transitional justice policy in their own countries

Promoting and Protecting the Rights of Women and Children through the Implementation of the Violence Against Persons Prohibition Act/Law, 2015–2016, AUD 54,914

Location: Nigeria

Partners: International Federation of Women Lawyers Nigeria (FIDA)

Thematic areas: Protection

This initiative was implemented in three focal states (Abuja, Lagos and Ekiti) to raise awareness of gender-based violence laws. It provided free legal representation and assistance to women who have experienced violence. The project focused on increasing societal awareness on the provisions of the Violence Against Persons Prohibition Law and encouraging citizens to seek justice through it.

Outcomes: During 2015–2016, FIDA continued to advocate for victims to seek justice and provided free legal support and assistance to children whose rights had been violated. During the project period FIDA provided free legal assistance in 15 cases appearing before the court in Ekiti state, 16 in Lagos, and 19 in Abuja. These cases helped to further the implementation of laws and provide legal precedence. FIDA developed radio programs in English and local languages to inform the general public of the provisions under the Violence Against Persons Prohibition Law and how individuals could be protected. FIDA also worked with legal professionals to ensure they were well informed and better prepared to provide services and seek justice for victims of gender-based violence.

Promoting Safer Maternal and Neonatal Care for Internally Displaced Persons in North East Nigeria, 2014–2015, AUD 47,298

Location: Nigeria

Partners: Global Rights: Advocates for Sustainable Justice

Thematic Areas: Protection

This project responded to the mass movement of women, children, persons with disabilities and the elderly to more secure locations, resulting in the internal displacement of more than 1,500,000 individuals. It aimed to ensure pregnant internally displaced women were in the best possible health prior to delivery and to ensure they were equipped with basic survival materials for potential complications arising in the first 30 days after delivering, and to increase the ante/neonatal knowledge of women.

Outcomes: Global Rights formed sub-grant agreements with project partners, the Brown Button Foundation and the Centre for Women and Adolescent Empowerment, Yola. The team procured and delivered 500 maternal delivery kits, 500 neonatal delivery kits, and 10 community health workers support kits. Three-days of training was delivered to community-based health workers who served as maternal care volunteers at Yola.

Research into the Status of Women in the Security Sector, 2015 AUD 200,000

Location: Africa Regional

Partners: Institute for Security Studies

Thematic Areas: Participation

The Institute for Security Studies was supported through the Australia Africa Partnerships Facility to undertake research into the status of women in the security sector in Africa. The research and a culminating conference explored questions of the changing representation of women in the security sector in the post-UNSCR 1325 period; difficulties creating a gender sensitive culture; the current situation of women in combat; and challenges and lessons learned in gender transformation in the security sector in Africa.

Outcomes: Research commenced in early 2015 on the status of women in the military in Kenya and the status of the wives of non-state armed combatants in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. Key findings were presented and discussed in June 2015 at a Gender and Security conference in Africa, co-hosted by the Institute for Security Studies and Pretoria Australian High Commission. At the opening dinner speech on 7 June, Head of Mission referenced UNSCR 1325 and Australia's implementation progress.

Understanding and Working with Local Sources of Peace, Security and Justice in West Africa: an investigation of selected rural and urban environments, April 2013–March 2015, AUD 704,309

Location: Ghana and Liberia

Partners: University of Queensland and Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre

Thematic areas: Normative

This project investigated the nature and scope of non-state actors' contribution to security, peace and justice in Ghana and Liberia, and their interaction with state and international actors and institutions. It explored the potential for constructive engagement among these different parties, asking whether greater links with non-state actors contributes to state formation and to more effective and legitimate security services.

Middle-East

Australian Civil-Military Centre / Australian Federal Police / OXFAM Afghan Roundtable – A delegation from Afghanistan joined discussions on the 'Long-term Security and Women's Rights in Afghanistan' (see page 40).

Elimination of Violence Against Women Program, June 2013–December 2017

AUD 33.6 million (excluding the DFID delegated cooperation agreement)

Location: Afghanistan

Partners: UN Women, The Asia Foundation, Afghan Women’s Network, UNFPA, UK Department for International Development (DfID), Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission

Thematic areas: Protection; Relief and Recovery; Normative

The Program builds on Afghan efforts to: improve the provision of shelter services, including legal aid and counselling, for women and girls that have been affected by violence; improve access to justice for survivors of violence, through training and support for justice sector stakeholders on the implementation of Afghanistan’s Elimination of Violence Against Women Law; and prevent violence, through working with organisations to help change community attitudes toward violence and to advocate for the protection of women’s rights. This is expected to contribute to a long-term goal of a sustained reduction in violence against women in Afghanistan.

Outcomes: Women affected by violence have increased access to better services in target areas through the UN Women Afghan Women’s Protection Program (AUD 9.9 million, 2013–2017, nine provinces). The program strengthened Government and non-government organisations to manage up to 10 women’s protection centres and one family guidance centres. DFAT has also contributed an additional AUD 2 million (2016–2018) for UN Women to research and pilot economic empowerment options for survivors of violence and vulnerable women.

Women affected by violence have increased access to justice in target provinces, through both formal and community-based justice mechanisms through three programs: The Asia Foundation Strengthened Access to Justice for Women Affected by Violence through Proven Culturally Sensitive Approaches (AUD 11.9 million, AUD 7 million 2013–2017, up to 12 provinces)²², and the UNFPA Strengthening the capacity of Afghanistan’s National Police Force and other legal actors towards combating violence against women (AUD 4.5 million 2013–2016, 10 provinces), and the DFAT/DfID Delegated Cooperation Arrangement (AUD 5.4 million, commenced 2014, 12 provinces).

Improved violence prevention practices, including more effective community awareness and advocacy and engagement of women in peace processes. The program worked with the Afghan Women’s Network Steps Towards Institutional Development and Stability (AUD 3.3 million, 2014–2017) (see page 32) and Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AUD 2 million 3 years) to strengthen national and international advocacy and leadership on the elimination of violence against women, and peace and security.

²² Note this was included in the 2014 Progress Report.

Humanitarian Response to Syria Crisis, 2014–2015, AUD 91.9 million (Syria)

AUD 40 million (Iraq), AUD 3 million (Lebanon)

Location: Syria, Iraq, Lebanon

Partners: Various

Thematic area: Protection; Relief and Recovery.

Most humanitarian assistance is provided un-earmarked to multilateral agency appeals so partners have flexibility to fill gaps in their responses or respond to emerging priorities. However, these humanitarian partners (e.g. UNHCR, World Food Program and UNICEF) target their assistance to the most vulnerable populations, including women and girls who are disproportionately impacted by conflict in the region.

Outcomes: UNFPA (AUD 2 million, February 2014 to December 2014, Syria): Increased availability of, and access to, life-saving reproductive health services and information for affected pregnant and lactating women, as well as for adolescent girls and young women; immediate access of gender-based violence survivors to life-saving interventions; and increased community-driven protection mechanisms to prevent new gender-based violence cases.

International humanitarian organisation²³ (AUD 8 million, June 2013–present, Syria): For delivery of preventive and curative health care services including gender-based violence prevention and response, reproductive health, chronic disease management, psychiatric care, surgical care and physical rehabilitation activities.

Plan International Australia (AUD 1.5 million, June 2015–November 2016, Lebanon): This assistance targeted men, women, boys and girls within host and Syrian refugee communities at high risk of violence with an integrated package of protection services. This includes gender-based violence case management, health, psychosocial support, and community-based activities (parenting and youth programs) and referrals. Activities target 2,150 direct beneficiaries and 133,500 indirect beneficiaries.

Caritas Australia (AUD 1.5 million, June 2015–November 2016, Lebanon): The provision of vital sexual and gender-based violence treatment, recovery and rehabilitation services to vulnerable Syrian refugees and host community members. Total beneficiary target of approximately 40,395 adults and children directly and 242,370 indirectly.

UNFPA (AUD 2 million, October 2014–June 2015, Iraq): The provision of secure obstetric services for around 250,000 pregnant women in eight affected governorates and other activities to address the needs of displaced women and girls, as well as people who have experienced gender-based violence.

Plan International Australia (AUD 3 million, December 2014–April 2016, Iraq): The provision of primary health care, reproductive health, mental health services, community health education and outreach and support for survivors of gender-based violence to at least 20,040

²³ Identity of this organisation is undisclosed for security reasons.

Iraqi internally displaced persons and returnees to newly liberated areas. This included awareness sessions on gender-based violence, response services and case management.

Case study:

Response to the Syria crisis

An independent evaluation of Australia's response to the Syria crisis, completed by the Office of Development Effectiveness in 2014, found Australia's response included a clear focus on gender, with a number of DFAT partners implementing programs specifically targeting women and girls, including female-headed households. UNICEF and Save the Children have maintained a particular focus on mothers and children in their Syria responses, consistent with their mandates, while World Food Program targets pregnant and lactating women in its food distributions within Syria. The evaluation also noted Australia's engagement with UN agencies at headquarter-level on the importance of gender within programming.

Provision of Primary Healthcare, and Vocational Training Services for Palestinian Families in the Gaza Strip, 2012–2015, AUD 300,758

Location: Palestinian Territories

Partners: Act for Peace National Council of Churches Australia

Thematic area: Prevention

The Gaza health and vocational training program supports health and livelihood needs of the targeted population of 20,188 people through primary healthcare and market linked vocational training services in Shija'ia, Darraj, Kherbat Al Adas and Al Qarara neighbourhoods in Gaza.

Outcomes: A total of 1,625 new pregnant women were newly registered and received the full complement of antenatal care services. At least four antenatal care visits were provided to 97 per cent of pregnant women in the supported neighbourhoods of Shija'ia, Darraj and Rafah.

In Darraj, 92.8 per cent of women received three postnatal visits, while the figure was 89.8 per cent in Rafah. Approximately 36.9 per cent of women in Shija'ia received postnatal visits. The lower figure was largely due to the significant level of destruction and displacement in Shija'ia following the 2014 conflict, which impacted on access to the clinics or for Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees health staff visiting people in their homes.

A total of 9,281 mothers benefited from child health and nutrition education sessions, with 1,699 women and children developing better preventative practices for hygiene-related diseases including parasitic infections, skin diseases and waterborne disease.

A total of 974 women received reproductive health services and awareness raising support. There were 248 women who made the decision to accept contraception.

There was a 21.8 per cent reduction in malnutrition observed in Darraj and Shija'ia localities. There was however an observed increase in the prevalence of anaemia, likely related to the impacts on iron and vitamin intake particularly for children. More than 50 per cent of anaemic and malnourished cases recovered, improved or stayed the same.

A total of 5,311 children and 7,529 women received psychosocial support through assessment, treatment and referral services. This support is fully integrated into the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees primary healthcare system, includes stress and trauma management, individual/family counselling and interactive open days promoting improved mental health and wellbeing for patients.

One hundred and nine male students developed new skills and expertise in carpentry/furniture making, welding and aluminium work with a further 73 male students supported in electrical skills and motor and transformer rewinding. Of the 2013–2014 male graduates, 65 per cent are employed or self-employed within one year of graduation.

Supporting Women's Rights as Equal Citizens after the Changes of Governments in Egypt, Tunisia, Libya, Yemen, April 2014–Oct 2015, AUD 400,000

Location: Egypt, Tunisia, Libya, Yemen

Partners: International Peace Institute

Thematic areas: Participation; Normative

This is a regionally and locally-led research project in countries that have undergone tumultuous political transitions. The Forum for Arab Citizenship in Transition is an independent working group aiming to influence governing authorities in Arab countries undergoing post-authoritarian transitions by providing non-partisan, balanced and objective policy recommendations on gender equality and equal citizenship. The research examined how equal citizenship can be enhanced in order to guarantee women's rights during the post-authoritarian transitions in Egypt, Libya, Tunisia and Yemen. The project was part of an ongoing collaboration between the International Peace Institute and UN Women to create a regional knowledge hub.

Outcomes: This research project faced numerous challenges and provided a rare opportunity for civil society leaders in Egypt, Tunisia, Libya and Yemen and from across the region, to exchange experiences and lessons learnt on advancing women's equal rights. The research team produced and disseminated 14 research policy papers and one book, with targeted recommendations, and advocacy plans for empowering women and advancing their rights as citizens. They held 16 workshops and discussion events in rural and urban areas with civil

society activists and policymakers as well as students, journalists, academics and ordinary citizens.

The Forum for Arab Citizenship in Transition members further contributed to the public discussions on citizenship and related topics through media interviews, printed articles; and created a dedicated website called *Muwatana* (Arabic for ‘Citizenship’) at www.muwatana.net. In Egypt for example, the policy paper *Women and Equal Citizenship in the 2014 Constitution – an Analytical View* was produced and shared with the members of the subcommittee responsible for revising the 2012 Constitution.

Women for Change: Supporting Women’s Goals and Livelihoods in Southern Hebron

July 2014–June 2015, AUD 176,991

Location: Palestinian Territories

Partners: ActionAid Australia

Thematic area: Participation

Women in Southern Hebron struggle to overcome the challenges of living under occupation and discriminatory cultural values. By investing in women’s livelihoods and visions for community change, ActionAid supported women to increase their income, skills and status.

Outcomes: Twenty one vulnerable women developed increased economic empowerment through new livelihoods. Women in Al Karmel, As Samu’ and Susiya received business and skills training and start-up capital. Seventeen women purchased sheep and five established other businesses – two tailors; a grocery store; a cosmetics shop, and a perfume shop. The average monthly profit is USD 52.50. Sheep farmers were connected with the Department of Agriculture for training and veterinary support, and report benefits from access to meat and dairy products for family food needs. Women reported that their participation in women’s REFLECT groups gave them the confidence to start business activities.

Women’s Health – Women’s Rights, July 2012–June 2015, AUD 106,493

Location: Palestinian Territories

Partners: Anglican Overseas Aid

Thematic area: Prevention

The Ahli Arab Hospital breast screening clinic seeks to improve breast cancer survival rates in Gaza. Breast cancer sufferers face difficulties in diagnosis and treatment, particularly when accessing treatment outside Gaza. The project also works with community-based organisations to improve breast cancer awareness.

Outcomes: Ahli Arab Hospital aims to improve the survival rates of women with breast cancer in Gaza. This project aimed to address gender inequalities and stigma associated with breast cancer that limit a woman’s ability to access health care in Gaza, particularly among vulnerable women, including refugees.

In 2014–2015, Ahli Arab Hospital’s education program about breast cancer and early detection was attended by 8,556 women. Delivered at the hospital and through 54 community-based trainers, the program addressed attitudes of stigma toward those diagnosed with breast cancer and their family, trained women in breast self-examination, and encouraged breast screening. This program reached 70 per cent more women than expected due to very active community-based trainers.

Male trainers also delivered workshops on breast cancer for male community leaders, promoting the importance of early detection and encouraging men to give permission for their wives to attend breast screening. There were 885 male participants who attended this training.

In 2014–2015, Ahli Arab Hospital was able to provide a free breast screening clinic for 1,103 women. The 15 women diagnosed with breast cancer were referred to the Ministry of Health for treatment. A pilot program was undertaken to test the benefits of psychosocial support for 80 women with breast cancer, with 80 per cent of participants reporting increased self-esteem and reduced anxiety. This activity was included in the project plan for 2015–2016.

Four years into the program the cohort of women diagnosed with cancer who received treatment and support are examples of successful early detection and treatment, contributing to a shift towards health-seeking behaviour among women.

The project also facilitated a cancer network that includes representatives from the hospital, the Ministry of Health, other health providers, community-based organisations, and cancer survivors. The outcome is improved cancer detection and care, improved reach to vulnerable groups, and avoiding duplication across Gaza.

East Asia

Support to the Japanese Self Defense Force implementation of the Japanese National Action Plan – Defence provided support in 2015 and 2016 to the Japanese Self Defense Force implementation of the Japan National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, released in September 2015. As part of this development, the Japanese Self Defense Force sought to produce a Defence Implementation Plan to operationalise UNSCR 1325, and create a Gender Adviser network, including exploring the employment of Gender Advisers and Female Engagement Teams on peacekeeping operations. The ‘Australian Protection of Civilian Guidelines’ has been translated into Japanese by the Japan Peacekeeping Training and Research Center.

Australia’s General Approach

International assistance provided by the Australian Government to advance the Women, Peace and Security agenda spans the four key thematic areas in which Australia aims to improve outcomes for women and girls through the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security.

- **Prevention** – incorporating a gender perspective in conflict prevention and recognising role of women in preventing conflict.
- **Participation** – recognising and enhancing the important role women play in all aspects of peace and security,
- **Protection** – protecting human rights of women and girls with special consideration for gender-based violence.
- **Relief and Recovery** – ensuring a gender perspective is incorporated in all relief and recovery efforts to support specific needs and recognise the capacity of women and girls.

Australia provides practical support through a range of development partners working on Women, Peace and Security including multilateral organisations, partner governments, and non-government, research and women’s organisations. Support is provided in individual countries, regionally and globally through mechanisms that deliver assistance in fragile, conflict and post-conflict countries and in humanitarian emergencies.

The Interim Review of the National Action Plan found that implementation of the National Action Plan is uneven across agencies, however, this is probably more a reflection of the nature of the core business of each agency and the consequential differential in the number of activities allocated to agencies under the National Action Plan. For example, it is not surprising, or considered a limitation of the implementation of the National Action Plan, that the majority of activities listed under international assistance are supported by DFAT.

South Asia

Addressing Violent Extremism through Capacity Building of Vulnerable and Radicalised Youth and their Mothers, August 2015–August 2016, AUD 100,359

Location: Pakistan

Partners: PAIMAN

Thematic area: Prevention

This project addressed violent extremism through capacity building of women and mothers, engaging and transforming radicalised youth, and creating environments in communities conducive to rehabilitation and reintegration of youth in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas. This involved identifying vulnerable and radicalised youth including current and former prisoners, and providing them with psychosocial counselling, and livelihood and life skill development. The program also targeted the mothers of radicalised and vulnerable youth, and other vulnerable women, to promote awareness of their potential to influence and guide their children’s lives, as well as discourage their engagement in extremist activities.

Outcomes: Following project establishment, PAIMAN undertook a rapid situation assessment of awareness of and factors contributing to, violent extremism, and of its impact. This was used as the basis for development of the curriculum and project approach.

PAIMAN established consultative relationships with stakeholders, including provincial and local government officials, the police, media and community organisations, and shared their approach to conflict mapping, de-radicalisation, and gender-responsive early warning and early response systems.

Five female and three male trainers have been trained in psychological analysis, identity, peacebuilding and mediation, and citizenship. Following this, the first deradicalisation training of vulnerable youth was planned.

Australian Community Rehabilitation Program, 2010–2015 AUD 45 million

(total program budget)

Location: Sri Lanka

Partners: International Organization for Migration, Oxfam, International Labour Organization, UN Development Programme, the Asia Foundation, ZOA (Dutch non-government organisation), GIZ (German international development cooperation body), World Vision

Thematic area: Protection

Overall, this program supported and strengthened local government and community-based organisations to increase the number of conflict-affected communities across Sri Lanka able to live a secure and productive life. Assistance was focused on: improving socio-economic development in vulnerable and disaster-affected communities; resettlement and rehabilitation support to people displaced and affected by natural disasters conflict; improving local governance structures and strengthening the skills of local government officials; and strengthening the role of community-based organisations in socio-economic development and community reconciliation.

Outcomes: Two sub-projects achieved outcomes specifically related to women: Empowerment of Vulnerable Communities for Livelihood Improvement, Sustainable Resettlement, Gender Equality and Inter-Ethnic Understanding: Oxfam, 2010–2015, AUD 7 million (total project budget) – The project established gender-based violence helpdesks in hospitals in Batticaloa (Eastern Province) and Vavuniya (Northern Province) to facilitate access to comprehensive services for women affected by domestic violence. It worked to improve the attitudes of medical service providers and reduce community tolerance of domestic violence. It also supported the establishment of women’s shelters in these areas. There was a further focus on rights awareness and network building to strengthen women’s voice.

Local Empowerment through Economic Development Project: International Labour Organization, 2010–2015, AUD 7.26 million (total project budget) – This project created employment and increased incomes for war-affected women by facilitating partnerships

with public and private sector. An example includes supporting the establishment of a crab processing plant in Poonakary that provides employment to local women who otherwise had limited or no job opportunities. The plant provides free crèche facilities for staff, many of whom are from female-headed households. To date over 180,000 kg of crab has been processed, creating 15,000 working days of employment and creating nine million rupees (approx. AUD 90,000) in income for the workers, 90 per cent of whom are women.

A second project under the Local Empowerment through Economic Development Project includes the rehabilitation of small-scale farms, including market support to sell produce and businesses development support. This project supported more than 500 farmers (60 per cent women and mostly war widows) in some areas worst affected by the conflict, to cultivate papaya and develop cooperatives. Women form the majority of the cooperative management boards, including in senior positions. For example, a woman was elected as Vice President of the Vavuniya North fruit Growers Cooperative Society, and in Mullaitivu, a woman was elected secretary to the board. Crops are being exported through a number of different exporters who have formed joint partnerships with these cooperatives. More than 230 acres are used for papaya cultivation in the three districts, providing an additional income source for 400 vulnerable women and 230 men. About 23 million rupees (AUD 230,000) has been earned so far exclusively from export. A similar amount has been earned through sales of second grade papaya to the local market.

Empowering Women Entrepreneurs in Crisis and Disaster Affected Areas of Pakistan

December 2015–June 2017, AUD 600,000

Location: Pakistan

Partners: Sarhad Rural Support Program

Thematic areas: Protection

The project aims to economically empower women in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province and as a result improve their self-image and wellbeing, and curb gender inequality. The project is working with both potential and existing small-scale female entrepreneurs. It supports value chains and greater access to market-oriented information and technology, links to appropriate business development and private sector partnerships, and provides support for organising women into groups to increase their production capacity and voice. Planned interventions include vocational and business skills training, provision of smart subsidies and establishment of financial services.

Outcomes: The intended outcomes of the project are for economically disadvantaged women to increase their employment opportunities, market access and incomes; and for women to have greater participation in and benefit from economic activities; as well as a greater voice in household and community decision-making.

Ensuring Life-saving Services for Women and Girls, May–December 2015, AUD 500,000

Location: Nepal

Partners: UNFPA

Thematic areas: Protection; Relief and Recovery

This activity aimed to ensure access to life-saving sexual and reproductive health services and the protection of women and girls in earthquake-affected areas.

Outcomes: Support to District Health Offices and WHO in the 14 most affected districts to rehabilitate damaged facilities, or establish temporary maternity units where facilities had been destroyed (80 birthing facilities in total). Fourteen transition homes in five districts were established to provide temporary shelter for women during pregnancy and immediately after birth.

Seven comprehensive mobile reproductive health camps were completed, reaching out to 4,394 earthquake-affected people (91 per cent adolescent girls and women). A total of 132 mobile reproductive health camps were conducted in the most affected districts. Camps offered a range of life-saving reproductive health services including responses to gender-based violence.

Funding of a gender-based violence coordinator, provided through RedR Australia, to coordinate humanitarian activities aimed at preventing and responding to gender-based violence following the emergency, through the gender-based violence sub-cluster, which was co-led by UNFPA.

Case Study:

Gender Integration in Afghanistan's Premier Officer Training Establishment

Defence provides a number of personnel to support the training of men and women in the Afghan National Security Forces. This has included the recruitment and retention of women, including the inclusion of women in the Afghan National Army Officer Academy (ANAOA) at Qargha plateau, west of Kabul. The ANAOA, modelled on the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst in the United Kingdom (and similarly the Royal Military College Duntroon), is designed to teach Afghan National Army officers key leadership and tactical skills.

ANAOA strives to train the finest and most fervent officer cadets in the country. ADF personnel are at the forefront of this goal, providing mentors to advise and assist the academy's Afghan instructors as part of a five-nation, British-led, task force. This includes mentoring in areas such as communications, logistics, physical training and selection.

A large part of the Defence staffs' job is to change the perceptions of what females can do. More than 40 female cadets have graduated from Afghanistan's premier officer training institution in the last six months. In February 2016, 275 cadets, including 13 females, graduated from the academy. The event marked the fifth graduation since the inaugural term commenced in October 2013, and the total number of graduates now exceeds 1,300.

The last training cycle saw unprecedented levels of integration, with female cadets fully integrated into the field training exercises alongside their male colleagues. Women participate in tactical manoeuvres at night and command both male and female officer cadets during leadership training. Many graduates will go on to branch school and develop careers in areas such as human resources, logistics, information technology and medicine, with many women now aspiring to be pilots, or to command infantry platoons.

Approximately 34 Australian Defence Force women are deployed across Afghanistan in a variety of roles on Operation Highroad, Australia's contribution to the NATO-led Resolute Support mission, including the training at ANAOA.

Mediating Local Conflict and Reducing Vulnerability Surrounding Post-earthquake

Recovery in Nepal, May 2015–November 2016, AUD 2 million

Location: Nepal

Partners: The Asia Foundation

Thematic areas: Prevention; Relief and Recovery

The breakdown in social cohesion and traditional support systems following the 2015 earthquake left vulnerable groups further exposed to risks and exclusion. Combined with the greater access to relief money and resources of those in power, the potential for conflict in an already generally tense situation was predicted to increase.

This initiative developed community mediators and facilitators to help resolve local level conflicts, link people to access recovery and rehabilitation support services, and respond to gender-based violence.

Outcomes: A rapid situational assessment of four highly affected districts identified women as the most vulnerable group in Nepali society, and recommended state and non-state organisations and institutions design gender-responsive reconstruction involving them in labour market, health, income, credit, legislative role and governance. This can drastically reduce the level of direct violence.

Fifty mediation centres were established and 1,207 mediation trainers trained, 475 (39 per cent) of whom were women. Within the first six months, cases had started to be

registered for mediation. By November 2015, 11 cases had been resolved and two were in the process of mediation.

Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) and Baluchistan – Border Areas, April 2010–December 2015 AUD 41.3 million (USD 37.7 million of the total USD 183 million)

Location: Pakistan

Partners: World Bank administered, other funders are Denmark, European Union, Finland, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom and the United States of America

Thematic area: Participation; Protection

The Fund was established on the request of the Government of Pakistan to respond to the Post-Crisis Needs Assessment, which is a 10-year development, peacebuilding and stabilisation plan for Pakistan's border regions, FATA and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, bordering Afghanistan. A separate needs assessment was carried out later for Baluchistan. The Fund's aim is to support a responsive and transparent state that is stable, consultative and trusted by its citizens. It has been designed to enhance the provincial government's institutional capacities and processes for better service delivery, opportunities for economic growth and livelihood earnings. Gender mainstreaming and peacebuilding have been the key cross-cutting themes to date, and will continue to be the main components in Round-II (2016–2020).

The Fund's projects, implemented through counterpart governments, developed outreach to women and worked towards addressing gender issues. Eleven projects were supported across various sectors in the focus regions. Five were ongoing in 2016, and Round II projects commenced in July 2016.

Outcomes: Outcomes supporting Women, Peace and Security:

- The Promoting Girls' Education Project in Baluchistan, which reached 33,414 girls (of the total 38,920 children) through better education facilities and service delivery.
- The Economic Revitalisation Project in FATA assisted 25 women-led enterprises with financial grants, an outcome that reflects the very few women entrepreneurs in the region.
- Under the Southern Area Development Project, 102 women-led community-based organisations and 135 economic interest groups, of the total 441 and 310 respectively, were established in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, with a total membership of 4,442. A total of 75 Community Action Plans developed by the women-led organisations were approved, many relating to drinking water supply.

North East Local Services Improvement Project (NELSIP), 2012–2016, AUD 25.37 million

Location: Sri Lanka

Partners: Government of Sri Lanka, World Bank

Thematic area: Protection; Relief and Recovery

The primary objective of NELSIP is to improve local infrastructure services in the Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka. In these Provinces, much local infrastructure was destroyed through three decades of conflict. The new economic infrastructure provided through NELSIP, including roads, market places, and water supply, has contributed to increases in income and employment and enhanced access to services.

A key feature of NELSIP is improved community participation (including war widows and female heads of households) in the prioritisation, planning and construction of local infrastructure by Local Authorities.

Outcomes: The completed works include 623 km of access roads, 81 market places, 37 recreation parks, 52 drainage systems, seven community water supply projects and 10 rural electrification schemes.

A recent Social Impact Survey (2014) found greater community participation in local planning activities has socially and economically empowered women; and construction of sub-projects gave due consideration to women's needs, ensuring women's welfare and safety.

Women's Economic Empowerment and Market Development, August 2015 June 2018, AUD 5 million

Location: Pakistan

Partners: Sarhad Rural Support Program

Thematic areas: Protection

Delivered in three districts (Charsaddah, Nowshera and Peshawar), this project closely aligns to the local government priorities of inclusive economic growth and poverty alleviation, with a strong focus on participatory development and rebuilding state-citizen trust. It aims to contribute to sustainable livelihoods for the poor, particularly women, in border districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. The area is characterised by poverty, vulnerability to conflict and natural disasters, large internally displaced populations and refugees from neighbouring conflict zones. Traditionally women are confined to the home; the effects of which are compounded during security crises and disasters when social structures are disturbed and women are often left unaccompanied.

Outcomes: The first report is not due until 2016. The intended outcomes include increased employment opportunities, market access and incomes for poor and marginalised, particularly for women; improved value chains to facilitate access of poor, and women, to viable markets with appropriate products and services; improved value of labour by the poor; increased access of women to financial services and income generating activities; and improved literacy, skills and leadership opportunities for women through community organisations.

Southeast Asia

Building Autonomous and Stable Institutions and Communities for Bangsamoro Advancement through National-level and Grassroots Organisations and Networks (B-BANGON), November 2014–June 2017, AUD 1.4 million

Location: The Philippines

Partners: The Asia Foundation

Thematic area: Participation

This initiative aims to protect and extend the gains of the peace process to date by bolstering the confidence of various stakeholders, including marginalised groups; and to avert local conflict that could destabilise peace. A key strategy is building widespread confidence in, and support for, the peace process. The project proposal recognises engagement with women is important. It specifies that in line with thematic area two of Australia's National Action Plan, the Initiative will actively engage women to participate in rapid response mechanisms, and that it is directly supportive of UNSCR 1325 and 1820.

Outcomes: The Asia Foundation expects B-BANGON will bolster confidence and transform institutions by leveraging the comparative strengths of women and men, while promoting deeper understanding and commitment at the institutional level to respond to their different needs and interests. The Asia Foundation reports it has provided partners gender mainstreaming training to enable them to understand key gender terms; identify common gender roles, responsibilities, and social identities; understand how to integrate or mainstream gender in program; and improve gender-related monitoring and evaluation. This has reportedly resulted in improvements in provision of sex-disaggregated data, increased the number of women participants in various activities, increased the use of women leaders as resource persons, increased activities exclusively for women, and improved the ability to design activities tailored women's special needs. Thirty-seven per cent of the 6,205 participants in project activities were women, including peacebuilding activities, conflict mediation, capacity building and peace forums. The first six-monthly report claims roles among women are shifting in Bangsamoro communities, with women moving from passive participation to assuming leadership positions.

Building Autonomous and Stable Institutions and Communities through Socially Cohesive, Transparent, Accountable and Responsive Transition in the Bangsamoro (BASIC START in the Bangsamoro), November 2014–June 2017, AUD 900,000 (DFAT contribution)

Location: The Philippines

Partners: Oxfam, Women Engaged in Action on 1325 (WE Act 1325), consortium of civil society organisations

Thematic areas: Participation; Prevention

The project goal is to support enhanced stability, development, and a sustainable end to armed conflict in the Bangsamoro area of the Philippines. It intends to support a successful transition from the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao to the Bangsamoro, with

attention to the broad-based participation of women, men and youth. The project has two components. Component A, 'Advancing women's participation and leadership in conflict resolution and peacebuilding,' is fully funded by DFAT.

Outcomes: Component A has the identified outcome of strengthening women's leadership and participation in conflict resolution and peacebuilding. Between July and December 2015, 115 women completed training on women's leadership and political participation in the Bangsamoro, in partnership with WE Act 1325 and its partner members. Training focused on early warning and early response, conflict resolution, human rights monitoring, platform development, advocacy and public speaking. This contributes to their level of preparation for political participation in the Bangsamoro political entity.

Oxfam and WE Act 1325 organised 'Ready to Break the Glass Ceiling: Responding to the UNSCR 1325's Call for Women's Participation', a roundtable discussion and launching of the training manual on Women's Participation in Politics, Peace and Security in celebration of the 15th anniversary of the adoption of the UNSCR 1325. Action research linked to policy development was also completed. This employed participatory approaches to generate women's ideas and perspectives on what safety and security meant to them. A set of indicators on women's security were identified, which will also serve as input in developing WE Act 1325's policy advocacy on women's security in the Bangsamoro. The results of the research are currently being developed into a knowledge product that will be published in time for the Women's Month celebration in March 2016.

In addition, WE Act 1325 is also currently undertaking a research project to review and assess the Local National Action Plan for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, which was adopted by the Philippine government in 2010. The research project seeks to review and look into the implementation of the action plan in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao to identify recommendations and inputs to the new Philippine National Action Plan currently being developed.

Community preparations, consultations, community assemblies and training have been conducted in Maguindanao and Tawi-Tawi, with further assemblies scheduled in 2016 (in Lanao del Sur). The community assemblies were predominantly attended by women (271 out of 277 participants), and helped to facilitate identification of women leaders, needs assessments for possible peace and development projects, and capacity needs assessments relevant to women assuming leadership roles in community peacebuilding and conflict transformation activities.

Oxfam has invested in a range of monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning activities, resulting in revisions to program activities. Additional activities agreed to include reviewing the Local National Action Plan for Women, Peace and Security (WE Act 1325); development of the Bangsamoro Grassroots Women's Agenda for the May 2016 national elections (UnYPhil Women); a policy study on enhancing women's representation in local mandated participatory bodies (Ateneo School of Government); and revival of the Grassroots Peace Monitoring Network, in preparation for any possible outbreaks of violent conflicts in

the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao in reaction to the Bangsamoro Basic Law and the national elections.

Integrated Gender-based Violence and Reproductive Health Programme Rakhine State

June 2015–June 2016, AUD 1 million

Location: Myanmar

Partners: UNFPA

Thematic area: Protection

This program supported the operation of six mobile clinics across Rakhine state, with a focus on accessing villages and communities in the north where there are currently no gender-based violence or reproductive health specific programs. The expected overall caseload was approximately 60,000 pregnant and lactating women. The initiative included staffing of the mobile clinics, medical equipment, reproductive health kits, medicines and dignity kits (used as an entry point for engaging women and girls). Inter-communal violence in the target area has compounded the problems of the lack of access to social services, including reproductive health. Domestic and sexual violence against women is pervasive, including sexual and other forms of violence perpetrated by the military.

Outcomes: Identified outcomes include quality health services provided for pregnant and lactating women and survivors of gender-based violence, and strengthened state and community capacity to identify and prevent harm to women and girls²⁴.

Peace Process Support – Building Women Peace Leaders, June 2014–February 2016

USD 147,000

Location: Myanmar

Partners: Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, Siem Reap

Thematic area: Participation

The goal of this initiative was to support the Myanmar peace process through strategic interventions with key stakeholders – the government, armed groups and local civil society. It included a specific objective to increase the impact of a handful of dedicated, key women to the promotion of peace in the Asia region through the Building Women Peace Leaders sub-program.

Outcomes: The Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies promotes UNSC 1325 and the involvement of women in peace processes. As part of this project the Centre is developing a Women's Strategic Peace Leadership Training program for women with practical experience in peace and conflict work to develop stronger leadership skills. The workshop will be provided to ten women who are key actors in their contexts.

²⁴ Note reporting is not yet available.

Peace Process Support Programme – Women in Peace, June 2014–December 2016,

AUD 233,319

Location: Myanmar

Partners: Nyein (Shalom) Foundation

Thematic area: Participation

This initiative has the goal of building sustainable peace in Myanmar by increasing inclusion and participation in the peace process through linking Track I, negotiations between the conflicting parties, with Track II, civil society, and Track III, grassroots communities. It includes the specific objective to enhance the role of women in the peace process.

Outcomes: Nine negotiation skills workshops were implemented over 2014 and 2015 for women from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Bamar, Yakhine, Shan, Karen, and Rakhine states who can influence grassroots women, link up with women negotiators, and engage with key stakeholders at the peace table. Three peer-to-peer exchange meetings were facilitated for female participants at peace tables and other female negotiators and decision-makers in the peace process. These contributed to building trust between women involved in the peace process, and enabled sharing of their achievements and challenges, and the development of strategies to work together on common challenges.

A strategy workshop, involving the five leading gender and peace entities was facilitated to explore increasing women's participation in the peace process using UNSCR 1325. The workshop resulted in establishment of the Alliance for Gender Inclusion in the Peace Process (see page 95).

Peace Support Fund, May 2014–September 2018 (current funding round)

June 2015–June 2017, AUD 2 million

Location: Myanmar

Partners: United Kingdom Department for International Development, Government of Sweden (cofundors with DFAT)

Thematic area: Participation; Normative

The Peace Support Fund's goal is to enhance the likelihood of sustainable peace in Myanmar by supporting initiatives which increase trust, confidence, engagement and participation in the peace process, and which reduce inter-communal tensions. Contributing to a strengthened role for women in peacebuilding in Myanmar and reducing the impact of violence and conflict upon the lives of women and girls is one of the four areas of funding support.

Outcomes: Relevant activities supported by the Fund include:

- Nyein (Shalom) Foundation: Women, Peace and Security Regional Strategic Dialogue (October–December 2015, budget up to AUD 41,000). The Dialogue facilitates exchange on approaches to increasing women's participation in peace processes. The program focuses on how women in other peace processes have operationalised Women, Peace and Security norms and concepts, examining tactics that women have used to gain

access to and influence peace negotiations. DFAT provided additional direct funding for this activity.

- Alliance for Gender Inclusion in the Peace Process (August 2015–August 2017, budget up to USD 849,194). The Alliance involves the Gender Equality Network, Women’s League of Burma, Nyein (Shalom Foundation, Gender and Development Initiative, and WON/WIN-Peace. It aims to secure greater participation of women in peace negotiations and ensure peace process outcomes are gender inclusive. This provides a platform for future advocacy on women’s inclusion in the peace process, particularly given openings resulting from the political dialogue. The first phase (August – September 2015) established the Alliance secretariat and a coordination mechanism for women’s organisations advocating for Women, Peace and Security. The second phase (October 2015 – August 2017) focuses on participation and provided a set of recommendations to strengthen women’s future involvement and more inclusive outcomes from the peace process.
- Women, Peace, and Security in Myanmar Research “The Women Are Ready: An opportunity to transform peace in Myanmar” (December 2014–March 2015, budget up to USD 38,463). The funding of commissioned research to identify how and where women are participating in the peace process and barriers to women’s involvement in the peace process (such as discriminatory social norms, gender-based violence, and religious and cultural beliefs about the role of women).
- Non-Violent Peace Force – Improving Women’s Participation in and Ability to Monitor Ceasefires and Human Rights in Support of the Peace Process at the Grassroots (December 2014–September 2015, budget up to USD 215,439). Focused on Chin, Kayin and Kachin States, the project aims to build the capacity of local communities with a focus on women’s participation in monitoring generic ceasefires, including protection of civilians, while enhancing the ability of communities to protect themselves.
- UN Women – Women and Their Priorities at the Core of Myanmar’s Peace Process (November 2014–December 2015, budget up to USD 214,445). The project aims to ensure and increase the inclusion of women and their strategic priorities at the core of Myanmar’s peace process; strengthen women’s capacity and strategy to influence and have their voices included in the peace process; and build the political will of key Myanmar government stakeholders and parliamentarians to ensure women and their priorities are integrated in different levels of the peace process and associated policy processes.
- Rakhaing Women’s Union – Promoting of peace towards establishment of peaceful and stable society in Rakhine State (August 2015–April 2016, up to USD 119,579). To address intercommunal violence and a lack of harmony and social integration between different ethnicities in Rakhine state, Rakhaing Women’s Union will establish a cadre of peacemaking leaders. Through a training-of-trainers approach, an initial cadre of 36 peacemaking leaders will be developed. They are then expected to train 900 community members to engage in peer education within their communities.

Reintegration of Survivors of Extreme Human Rights Abuse

March 2013–February 2016, AUD 75,000 a year

Location: Cambodia, all provinces

Partners: Hagar Cambodia. Various other Cambodian institutions involved in referral networks and services.

Thematic area: Protection

Hagar provides services including residential care, medical and psychosocial treatment, legal services and education and training to survivors of trafficking and human rights abuses.

Outcomes: The project aims to meet four objectives. Reintegration into safer violence free environments of 118 female clients and 42 male clients has been facilitated. They are supported and their situation monitored by case managers and counsellors. Of the female clients in the last year, 112 report feeling safe in their current living situation (objective 1); 108 reported their relationship with their families had improved, 109 feel less stigmatised in their families and 107 less stigmatised in their community (objective 2); 106 clients or their families reported improvement in their economic situation (objective 3); and all had access to counselling if needed (objective 4).

Vietnam People's Army UN Role 2 Hospital Mobile Training Team

In September 2015, Defence delivered training to the Vietnam People's Army on the conduct and procedures of providing a Level 2 Field Hospital to a UN Mission. Training included discussions on medical support and considerations under UNSCR1325 and associated resolutions.

Ways for Women to Participate in Peacebuilding Activities (Philippines),

April 2013–December 2016, AUD 755,213

Location: Mindanao, Philippines

Partners: Australian National University

Thematic areas: Participation; Prevention; Normative

This research project examines how state and non-state justice systems encourage or constrain community peacebuilding through their treatment of women in Mindanao. It investigates how justice institutions are developing after the peace process and how regional autonomy is affecting women, particularly in Moro and Indigenous communities. Using violence against women as a case study, this project creates an evidenced-based account of legal pluralism in Mindanao. It seeks to encourage practices where the courts, the Shari'a courts, Church affiliated groups, and clan or community based justice systems can be encouraged to promote gender equity in Mindanao.

Outcomes: This project has made an innovative contribution to Australia's initiatives in peacebuilding, gender and development in Muslim Mindanao. This project delivers new data for local, national and donor policy making and programming in law and justice in gender equity; develops profiles of key individuals and institutions in the state and non-state justice sector in Mindanao; and identifies attributes, capacities and practices

that may be useful for, and could be strengthened in support of, local gender equity and peacebuilding.

Atlantic

Dialogue with Canadian Armed Forces Representatives

Defence provided advice to Canada on its plan to devise a Defence Implementation Plan on integrating Women, Peace and Security within the Canadian Armed Forces, as well as on operationalising UNSCR 1325 and creating a Gender Adviser at the Canadian Joint Force Headquarters.

Current and future assistance

Australia's international engagement and provision of assistance pertaining to Women, Peace and Security will continue for the foreseeable future. Many of the activities provided under Section 4a, of this report, are ongoing. Below are some activities outside the timeframe of this report.

Assistance to Fiji following Cyclone Winston

The Chief of Defence Force has committed to provide assistance to Fiji, with an emphasis on capability building in gender and Women, Peace and Security following on from Australia's Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief efforts after Cyclone Winston in Fiji.

Australian Defence Force technical expert on Women, Peace and Security seconded to UN Women.

Future Leaders Summit in Papua New Guinea

Defence conducted the Summit on the 15–17 March 2016, in response to a recommendation of the 2015 South Pacific Defence Ministers' meeting. A key objective of the Summit was to build an appreciation of the importance of considering Women, Peace and Security across a range of defence and security challenges.

Symposium on the Implementation of a National Action Plan for the Japanese Self Defense Force and Ministry of Defence

Defence contributed to the Symposium in Tokyo in June 2016.

United Nations Special Female Military Officers Course

Defence representation on the course will continue, with the most recent course held in India in April 2016 (see Case Study from 2015 at page 32).

Australian Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Strategy

Launched In February 2016, the Gender Strategy prioritises gender equality and women's empowerment in Australia's foreign policy, economic diplomacy and development efforts, as well as internally to DFAT. The Gender Strategy provides the platform for DFAT work on

gender equality focusing on three priorities: enhancing women's voice in decision-making, leadership and peacebuilding; promoting women's economic empowerment; and ending violence against women.

Most of DFAT's work relating to Women, Peace and Security is under the first priority, with women's participation in decision-making, leadership and peacebuilding addressed as an important right in itself. Women bring particular perspectives, priorities and strengths resulting from their life experiences, which are often different to men's, making it likely women will make different decisions to men.

Using the Gender Strategy as its platform, DFAT will continue to support small, niche Women, Peace and Security initiatives where appropriate, as well as larger, more holistic investments to address different aspects of women's lives. Some examples of longer-term commitments include:

- An additional AUD 4 million to *UN Women's Global Acceleration Instrument on Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action* was announced at the 2015 High-level Review on Women, Peace and Security. Australia was the first, and currently the biggest donor, to the Global Acceleration Instrument. The Global Acceleration Instrument was established as part of UN Women's Global Facility on Women, Peace and Security in partnership with UN Member States, the UN and civil society, to better coordinate donor support for UN Women's work on the Women, Peace and Security agenda. The Global Acceleration Instrument is a pooled funding mechanism to help build knowledge, advocacy and technical support for inclusive conflict resolution and peacebuilding. The Global Study on the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 recommended support to a dedicated funding mechanism to further women's participation and support women's organisations in crisis contexts, including in particular the new Global Acceleration Instrument. This recommendation is in the Secretary-General's 2015 Report to the Security Council on Women, Peace and Security.
- DFAT is a major donor to the UN Peacebuilding Fund, contributing AUD 9 million between January 2014 and the end of 2015, and committing a further AUD 10 million for 2016–2018. The 2015 Peacebuilding Fund Report showed progress in implementing the Women, Peace and Security agenda, from a previously low base. In 2015, for the first time, the UN Peacebuilding Fund exceeded the Secretary-General's 2010 target for gender-responsive peacebuilding. A total of 15.7 per cent of funding was allocated to women-centred initiatives, including projects with a principal objective to promote women's empowerment and gender equality, as well as targeted activities within projects that mainstream gender equality.

Case Study:

Enhancing Female Engagement within the Pacific through Operation RENDER SAFE

Operation RENDER SAFE is the ADF annual series of operations to safely dispose of World War II-vintage Explosive Remnants of War from South Pacific Island nations. The ADF led mission involved Explosive Ordnance Disposal teams from Australia, the United States, the United Kingdom, New Zealand, Canada and Solomon Islands. The operation was conducted at the request of the Autonomous Bougainville Government and with the approval of the Government of Papua New Guinea.

Driving the operation's success was extensive community engagement conducted in the months leading up to the mission, to explain to the local population the safety procedures to be used during the operation. A number of key leader engagements with influential Bougainvillean women were led by the female Commanding Officer of the 6th Engineer Support Regiment. A local women's forum was held and attended by a group of women from the ADF contingent. The forum was designed to pass key messages regarding public safety while the ADF and coalition forces conducted Explosive Ordnance Disposal operations. Key messages included: mothers knowing where their children were at all times; following instructions; and reassurance of the safety of everyone in the community. The ADF members also spoke to the local women about serving in the military and how the education of their daughters would help them access opportunities not previously available to them.

The engagement of these ADF women within the community made a lasting impression. An Australian civilian working with the police Pre-Recruit Education Program in Bougainville advised of the following: "The next program starts today, with two young women from Torokina being selected, which is a real breakthrough and an amazing result. They were inspired by the Defence women from Operation RENDER SAFE who helped them to believe in themselves and that women could make it in a man's world. So many positive things came out of the operation. We have young people from all over Bougainville starting the program – 16 women and 24 men."

Case Study:

16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence – Public Diplomacy Events in Asia and the Pacific

From 25 November to 10 December 2015, Australia marked the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence campaign. The 16 days campaign raises awareness and galvanises action to end violence against women and girls around the world. Over the 16 days, Australia's diplomatic missions in Asia and the Pacific hosted events and shared experiences to highlight a range of issues related to ending violence against women

and girls, and the work Australia is undertaking with governments, civil society and multilateral organisations to address it.

Australia's missions in the Pacific held events to raise awareness of the work Australia is undertaking to address violence against women and girls. The AFP and the Australian High Commission in Port Moresby worked with the Coalition for Change (see page 34), a not-for-profit advocacy group that addresses gender-based violence, on White Ribbon Day event planning, fundraising and community awareness messaging on violence against women and children activities throughout the year.

The AFP initiated and facilitated a strategic partnership between Coalition for Change and Cricket PNG. This partnership will see the national cricket team champion the 'no violence' message and allow Coalition for Change to embed with Cricket PNG Women's Village Cricket Program, where family and sexual violence education and awareness sessions will be facilitated along with cricket coaching.

Other events in the Pacific included the launch of the Red Cardem Vaelens (Red Carding Violence) program that will work with sporting clubs to influence positive change in young men's behaviours towards women in Solomon Islands.

DFAT's South East Asia Regional Office jointly hosted an interactive art exhibition on women survivors of trafficking, as well as the first Asia Pacific Forum on preventing violence against women and girls through social norms change. The two-day regional forum brought together close to 100 policymakers, advocates and practitioners from across 22 countries working to prevent violence against women and girls.

Paul Robilliard, Australia's Ambassador to Thailand, also represented the Pacific region at the UN commemorative ceremony for the International Day on 25 November and opened the first Bangkok International Film Festival on Ending Violence Against Women and Girls on 26 November. The Festival featured nine award-winning feature films and documentaries from around the world. He also jointly launched the UNFPA *State of World Population Report 2015 – Shelter from the storm: A transformative agenda for women and girls in a crisis prone world* on 4 December.

4b. Engagement and Protection of Local Women

Description of strategies employed by the ADF and AFP to facilitate the engagement and protection of local women in peace and security efforts

Where Defence organisations and personnel have a direct role in engaging with and protecting local populations, the principles of Women, Peace and Security have been used to guide those actions, most recently during relief operations in Fiji following Cyclone Winston, where Defence deployed Gender Advisers.

In other operations, where Defence personnel serve in multilateral staff or other teams, Defence's ability to support local women and girls is more limited, although the organisation has deliberately sought opportunities to do so, such as providing the Gender Adviser to the Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan, and creating a Gender Adviser network amongst the deployed forces in the Middle East.

The AFP recognises multiple barriers to increasing women's meaningful participation in international police services. These include, but are not limited to:

- inequality in selection processes for recruitment, promotion and training opportunities;
- gender bias and/or discrimination in policies and processes, for example limited or no access to motor vehicle licenses and/or use of vehicle; and
- organisational and cultural norms and standards.

Despite these barriers, the AFP continues to make progress. One of the examples of positive change is through the Vanuatu Policing and Justice Support Program. The AFP, in partnership with DFAT, has been supporting the Vanuatu Police Force to increase women's participation in policing for a number of years. A recent independent evaluation highlighted the program is improving the situation by providing guidance and advice to local police and influencing policies and procedures behind the scenes. In 2006, the percentage of women in the Vanuatu Police Force was six per cent, in 2011 it was nine per cent and in 2016 it is 13.9 per cent. It was also acknowledged that the program advisers are raising culturally sensitive issues regarding women's rights and gender equality with male leaders.

Listed below in alphabetical order are the 11 strategies undertaken by the ADF and AFP between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2015. This is a slight increase from the nine strategies reported in the 2014 Progress Report.

Deployment of Gender Advisers to Operation Enduring Freedom, the Resolute Support mission and South Sudan

Defence has filled Gender Adviser positions in the NATO-led missions in Afghanistan since 2013. Five female officers have been deployed to date and a further rotation is planned for 2017.

Defence has also accepted the responsibility to fill the Gender Adviser role in the UN mission in South Sudan from November 2016. This activity is an initiative that assists meeting Australia's pledge to implement the Women, Peace and Security agenda across the military, made at the 2015 High-level Review on Women, Peace and Security.

Gender Adviser and Gender Focal Point network on operations in the Middle East Region

In early 2015, Defence created a Women, Peace and Security Adviser to the operational headquarters in the Middle East. Defence is establishing a deployed network to allow sharing of good practice for training Australian forces and ensure planners are better informed on gender-related issues within the Operational Area.

Security Sector Reform in Afghanistan

Defence continues to deploy personnel to support the Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan, particularly in relation to the recruitment and retention of men and women into the Afghan National Security Forces.

International Operations Gender Strategy

The AFP is committed to supporting the development of representative policing organisations, noting that the majority of partner countries (including policing agencies) have existing commitments to the promotion of gender equality. Building upon gender analysis undertaken during the mission/program design phase, the AFP assists partner countries to promote and develop the role of women in policing by addressing barriers to their participation through policy and practice. Example activities are set out below.

Timor-Leste Police Development Program (TLPDP)

- In Timor-Leste, two members of the AFP Gender Equity and Equality Team are supporting the Policia Nacional de Timor-Leste (PNTL) to eliminate barriers to women's opportunities in PNTL. The 2015 PNTL Women's Conference, supported by the AFP, produced a number of key recommendations. Responding to a request from conference participants, the Australian Civilian Core Gender Equality Adviser designed and delivered a pilot training course to improve the capacity of women PNTL officers to more effectively engage with the community, particularly at community council meetings. The course has now been delivered to all districts and has been requested by other PNTL units. Furthermore, the PNTL Inspector in charge of Community Policing was supported to present the course in 2016 and beyond.
- The TLPDP Gender Equity and Equality Team have provided financial support to upgrade eight PNTL Vulnerable Persons Units to ensure that the PNTL officers providing services to victims of gender-based violence are afforded basic human rights such as sanitation and protection.
- The TLPDP Gender Equity and Equality Team continues to support the PNTL Women's Focal Group (25 representatives) which facilitates the engagement of women across the PNTL to raise issues of concern to the PNTL Comandante General. Eight Women's Focal Group meetings have occurred in eight districts, to provide PNTL women with the voice and ability to raise concerns.
- TLPDP Gender Equity and Equality Team provided support to PNTL Chief of Gender to author an article for the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police Women's Advisory Network newsletter regarding the work being undertaken in Timor-Leste.

Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI)

- In their roles as influencers, RAMSI Participating Police Force executive members continue to promote gender equality and women's participation in discussions with their Royal Solomon Islands Police (RSIPF) counterparts. The Participating Police Force demonstrates its support for gender equality within the Mission by ensuring

there is a good gender balance, especially in leadership roles and the executive. The Participating Police Force continues to lobby for gender representation in operational and leadership roles within the RSIPF.

- The AFP supported a member of the RSIPF to attend the Australasian Council of Women and Policing (ACWAP) conference in Sydney. The RSIPF member delivered a presentation on ‘Challenging the Culture: Barriers to Policing Family Violence in Solomon Islands’.
- In June 2015, AFP supported two RSIPF members to attend the Pacific Island Chiefs of Police Women’s Advisory Network in New Zealand. RSIPF attendance improves the standing of officers in the force and enables attendees to improve their ability to manage work place issues through the building of formal networks.
- There are four Participating Police Force members placed within the RSIPF Community Policing/Domestic Violence Directorate in Honiara to support and assist the RSIPF in raising awareness of domestic violence issues in the community.
- The AFP participated in the RSIPF Rearmament Community Engagement Working Group, which conducted 67 community consultation events around the rearmament of the RSIPF. Five of these events were specifically targeted towards women’s community groups such as Solomon Islands Women in Business Association and Catholic Women’s meeting.

Papua New Guinea – Australia Police Partnership (PNG-APP)

- In Papua New Guinea, the AFP is supporting the newly formed Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary (RPNGC) Women’s Coordinator Desk to assist in the development and implementation of policies and strategies that facilitate the engagement of women within the organisation. Strategies include, developing the Future Leaders List for females, supporting the Women’s Adviser Network and setting up ‘Motivating Monthly Monday’ meetings for women, including prominent guest speakers.
- The AFP and the Australian Government funded the Papua New Guinea-Australia Law and Justice Program are also supporting the RPNGC to increase awareness of and implement the Gender Equity and Social Inclusion Policy, which is the Papua New Guinea National Public Service policy related for gender equality and EEO.
- The AFP and RPNGC members attended the ‘PNG – Women in Leadership in the Public Service – 40 years Seminar’ in December 2015. The theme of the seminar was ‘Honouring our pioneer women, celebrating our achievements and empowering women leaders of tomorrow’ and provided attendees with the opportunity to liaise with senior female leaders within a range of organisations.
- AFP Gender/Family Sexual Violence Unit Advisers in Papua New Guinea supported fundraising and event preparations for the Commissioners Women’s Conference, held in Lae from 15 to 17 March 2016.

- PNG-APP sponsored the attendance of four female police officers at the Australasian Council of Women and Policing in Sydney from 31 August to 3 September 2015. During this event an RPNGC member delivered a presentation on Sorcery-related violence.
- PNG-APP has influenced recruitment of female members through its active involvement in RPNGC selection and recruit program activities. In 2003, 5.4 per cent of the RPNGC were women. By 2012, the figure had increased to nearly 10 per cent. In 2013, women comprised 20 per cent of the recruit intake. Female recruits made up 19 per cent of Recruit Course One in 2015, the highest number of women in a course in the recent history of the college.
- PNG-APP advisers actively seek opportunities to ensure women receive more equitable access to learning and development programs. PNG-APP offers a four-week placement program for RPNGC members to work in Australia with a state or territory police force. To date, 23.5 per cent of participants in this program have been women.
- PNG-APP also supports RPNGC officer attendance at family and sexual violence forums. In 2015, this included two female officers attending the PNG Women's Forum at the United States Embassy and an RPNGC Juvenile Justice Officer attending an NCD Urban Children's Development Program meeting.
- PNG-APP currently support four Family Sexual Violence Units; three in Port Moresby and one in Lae.

Tonga Police Development Program (TPDP)

A trilateral program between the Tonga Police Service, AFP and New Zealand Police.

- In Tonga, the AFP supported the construction of new police barracks at Longolongo, which included single rooms for recruits and separate male/female shower blocks.
- The AFP supported the professional development of Tonga Police women in the workplace through the coordination of several Australian Institute of Police Management courses focused on developing women as leaders, along with ongoing mentoring for these members in the workplace. Additionally the program supports the Tonga Police Women's Advisory Network by facilitating attendance at regional meetings.

Samoa-Australia Police Partnership (SAPP)

- In Samoa, the AFP supported the Samoa Police Service to increase transparency and merit-based principles in promotion and transfer processes by participating in (and advising on) panels, and supporting the Samoa Police Service Commissioner to transfer capable female officers from administrative roles to operational roles. The aim of the latter is to increase female officer exposure to operational duties and enhance their prospects for future promotion.

- The AFP supported the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police Women’s Advisory Network Pilot Mentoring Program, held in Samoa in October 2015.

Vanuatu-Australia Police Partnership (VAPP)

- In Vanuatu, the AFP, in partnership with DFAT and civilian advisers, supported the participation of a number of senior female Vanuatu Police Force members in the development of the Vanuatu Police Force’s 2015-2020 Strategic Plan. This was the first time female officers were involved in a strategic planning exercise.
- The AFP, in partnership with DFAT, supported the Vanuatu Police Force to revise Standard Operating Procedures for Driving Police Vehicles to allow females to drive police vehicles, a current barrier to women’s participation in operational roles.
- The AFP, in partnership with DFAT, is also supporting the revision of the Standard Operating Procedures Human Resources Manual. This includes open, transparent and merit-based processes for promotion and transfers.

International Operations – Pacific Police Development Program – Regional (PPDP-R)

- PPDP-R sponsored six female police members’ attendance at the Australasian Council of Women and Policing Conference in Sydney from 31 August to 3 September 2015. Countries represented included Cook Islands, Niue, Tuvalu, Kiribati, Federated States of Micronesia and Republic of Marshall Islands. Three women were nominated for and awarded recognition for leading changes in their organisations.
- The AFP provided funding support to the 2015 Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police Women’s Advisory Network held in New Zealand, which promotes the participation of women in policing.
- The AFP supported the professional development of Pacific Police women in the workplace through the provision of scholarship opportunities on several Australian Institute of Police Management Leadership and Development courses focused specifically on developing women as leaders.
- PPDP-R, in partnership with New Zealand’s Pacific Prevention of Domestic Violence Program, funded the establishment of domestic violence units in the Palau Bureau of Public Safety, Federated States of Micronesia in the State Police in particular Pohnpei, Chuuk and the Republic of Marshall Islands Police Department.
- In partnership with civil society groups, such as the Fiji Women’s Crisis Centre, PPDP-R fund activities for police and community members to raise awareness of domestic violence and gender-based issues whilst promoting the implementation of local solutions. This included funding a Religion and Culture Symposium for key stakeholders in the region to confront religious and cultural barriers to addressing domestic violence. This activity included traditional leaders, heads of churches, community leaders, civil society and police members.

Upcoming Work

Timor-Leste Police Development Program (TLPDP) will provide support to Policia Nacional de Timor-Leste (PNTL) for the planning and staging of the Third Gender Conference. Men and women from all 13 districts will be invited to attend. Focus will be on making gender equity and equality a reality in the PNTL.

TLPDP Gender Equity and Equality Team will support further development of the PNTL Women's Focal Group, including developing governance processes and terms of references.

Case Study:

Federal Agent returns to Mauritius to Establish New Women's Network

Federal Agent Tina Westra was posted to Mauritius in 2014 with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Counter Piracy Program. During her time there, she successfully set up Women in Uniform Networks in Mauritius and Seychelles, and was asked to return in 2016 to assist set up another network.

The Networks aim to raise the profile of Mauritius women in uniform and provide mentoring and networking support for police, prisons, fire, nursing, customs and revenue services. They also contribute to policy initiatives on issues including gender-based violence and gender equality in the workplace.

4c. Peace Processes

Description of peace processes in which Australia has played a prominent role

The Global Study on the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 identified a number of achievements, including the significant increase in the number of peace agreements including references to women (from 11 per cent between 1999 and 2000 up to two per cent since the adoption of UNSCR 1325). However, women's representation in such processes is very low.

Australia has played a prominent role in supporting local institutions, including civil society organisations and government partners, to build sustainable and inclusive peace (see Case Study below).

Case Study:

Supporting Civil Society Organisation Participation in Peacebuilding in Conflict-affected Mindanao

Due to continued armed conflict, social and economic inequalities and poor governance, the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao has consistently been among the poorest and least developed regions of the Philippines. While the region's Indigenous Muslim, or 'Moro' women, experience discrimination and marginalisation, including limited political and economic participation, they have played key roles in bringing about the peace process. After four decades of violence, the 'Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro' was signed between the Government of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front in March 2014, creating a roadmap for peace and stability in the newly established Bangsamoro.

Australia recognises women are essential agents of sustainable peace in Mindanao. Australia supports the Government of the Philippines through the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process, women's organisations, and international organisations to ensure women participate in the peace process, their protection needs are met and gender perspectives are included in all activities. Through the Building Autonomous and Stable Institutions and Communities in the Bangsamoro (BASIC Bangsamoro) program, DFAT funds international non-government organisation Oxfam to advance women's participation and leadership in peacebuilding, in partnership with a number of national civil society organisations.

Since 2014, BASIC Bangsamoro has supported enhanced stability, development, and a sustainable end to armed conflict by focusing on broad-based participation of civil society, particularly women, in peacebuilding. Oxfam and the Women Engaged in Action on 1325 (WE Act 1325), a national network of women in peace, human rights, and women's organisations, organised 'Ready to Break the Glass Ceiling: Responding to the UNSCR 1325's Call for Women Participation' in October 2015 to celebrate the 15th anniversary

of the adoption of the UNSCR 1325. The event included a roundtable discussion and launching of a training manual on women's participation in politics, peace and security.

In 2015, 115 women completed training on women's leadership and preparation for political participation in the Bangsamoro, and 271 women attended community assemblies designed to increase women's understanding of their rights and capacity needs of women leaders. The project reaches out to male leaders to educate them on the importance of women's roles in peacebuilding and engages men as allies and advocates for women's rights. Oxfam has also invested in the development of the Bangsamoro Grassroots Women's Agenda for the May 2016 national elections and the revival of the Grassroots Peace Monitoring Network, in preparation for possible outbreaks of violence. Training for the network includes a focus on knowledge and skills in relation to women's rights, child protection and gender-based violence. A quarter of the 81 grassroots peace monitors trained to date are women.

In Myanmar, DFAT is supporting a range of civil society actors to promote equality and increase women's participation in conflict prevention, peacebuilding, conflict resolution and relief and recovery. DFAT supported Nyein (Shalom) Foundation's **Women in Peace Initiative** to implement a series of negotiation skills workshops for women from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Bamar, Yakhine, Shan, Karen, and Rakhine states who can influence grassroots women, link up with women negotiators, and engage with key stakeholders at the peace table. Peer-to-peer exchanges were facilitated for female participants at peace tables and other female negotiators and decision-makers in the peace process. DFAT also supports the **Alliance for Gender Inclusion in the Peace Process** involving a number of civil society organisations aimed at securing greater participation of women in peace negotiations to ensure the outcomes of the peace process are gender inclusive (see page 95).

The **Non-Violent Peace Force's** 'Improving Women's Participation in and Ability to Monitor Ceasefires and Human Rights in Support of the Peace Process at the Grassroots' (December 2014–September 2015) focuses on conflict-affected Chin, Kayin and Kachin States. The project aims to build the capacity of local communities with a focus on women's participation in monitoring generic ceasefires, including protection of civilians, while enhancing the ability of communities to protect themselves.

The **Building Women Peace Leaders program**, implemented by the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies from Cambodia, aims to increase the impact of a small group of dedicated women to the promotion of peace in Myanmar and the Asia region and focuses on leadership development for women participating in peace processes. Support to the Rakhaing Women's Union is enabling establishment of a cadre of peacemaking leaders who can work with communities to address intercommunal violence and a lack of harmony and social integration between different ethnicities.

4d. Institution-building Strategies

Description of institution building strategies Australia has been involved in that promote Women, Peace and Security

Strengthening domestic and international institutions that promote women's participation in peace and security issues is an important aspect of advancing the Women, Peace and Security agenda. The Government engages in a broad range of institution-building strategies with formal and informal institutions. These range from promoting the rule of law through police capacity development in the Pacific, to assisting other nations to develop National Action Plans.

There is momentum for change, impact and engagement on Women, Peace and Security within the UN system. The three UN reviews conducted in 2015 show significant improvement in the recognition of Women, Peace and Security as a critical part of sustainable peacebuilding. However, the UN system is experiencing unprecedented strain and there is broad acknowledgment that UN systems need reform to better respond to complex conflicts.

Our own region also experiences barriers to building stronger institutions to support the Women, Peace and Security agenda. Citizens in the majority of developing countries do not access law and justice sector services equitably. For example, women in many cultural contexts face challenges when attempting to travel without their husbands or male relatives, are often threatened when attempting to take law enforcement action against men, have lower literacy than men, and find it difficult to interact with male law enforcement officials.

The AFP is committed to assisting partner policing organisations to address the specific law enforcement needs of women, particularly in relation to gender-based violence, including supporting the development of relevant and effective legislation where it is absent. The AFP recognises the specific role of non-state actors in this space and is supportive of partnerships between police and non-state actors.

Despite the social norms around gender inequality that challenge changes to institutional behaviour and attitudes, progress is being achieved. For example, under the Papua New Guinea-Australia Policing Partnership, referrals by Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary to Family Support Centres in Port Moresby have increased 121 per cent since the introduction of the Family and Sexual Violence Referral Guidelines (see page 111).

Listed below in alphabetical order under sub-headings of global and regional institution-building are 28 activities undertaken between 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2015. This is an increase of 27.3 per cent from the 22 activities listed in the 2014 Progress Report.

Global

Association of Asia Pacific Peace Training Centres and International Association of Peace training Centres – The ADF Peace Operations Training Centre is a full member of both associations. These bodies develop common statements to the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations on training standards and requirements. The implementation of Gender and Protection training materials and common standards globally are key discussions in both forums. The ADF Peace Operations Training Centre provides a leadership role in the Association of Asia Pacific Peace Training Centre.

From Communities to Global Security Institutions Programme – The program has worked to institutionalise protection of women in national security services and in peacekeeping forces (see page 52).

Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility (GBV AoR) – In 2014–15, the Gender-Based Violence Coordination Team and the GBV AoR implemented a new model for improved prevention and response to gender-based violence through a new advocacy handbook, strategy and institutional guidelines (see page 53).

Support to Malaysia through Global Peace Operations Initiative Capstone 15 and Malaysian Defence Ministry and United Nations Development Program 2014 and 2015 Seminar Gender and Child Protection in Military Operations (see page 53).

Women Peace and Security Global Facility (2015-2017) – The Global Facility builds knowledge, advocacy and technical support for inclusive conflict resolution and peacebuilding (see page 54).

South Pacific

New Zealand: Public consultations on the development of the New Zealand National Action Plan – The Director National Action Plan for Defence contributed to and participated in the public consultations for the New Zealand National Action Plan in May 2015 (see page 70).

Papua New Guinea-Australia Police Partnership (PNG-APP) – In Papua New Guinea, the AFP, AGD and Papua New Guinea Australia Law and Justice Partnership (PALJP) supported two Pikinini Witness Workshops that took place in October 2015. The workshops focused on family and sexual violence and were attended by 12 prosecutors and 12 Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary (RPNGC) members.

An AFP Prosecutions Adviser is supporting the RPNGC to implement a Cells Management database and system in the Boroko Police Station. The system includes objectives such as: employing a female RPNGC member in the station; separating detainees according to gender; including gender details in the intake form; and ensuring female detainees are only searched by female RPNGC officers.

AFP and the Australian High Commission worked with the Coalition of Change PNG on event planning, fundraising and community awareness messaging on violence against women and children activities throughout the year (see Case Study at page 99).

PNG-APP supports RPNGC active membership of the Family Sexual Violence Action Committee which was established in 2000 as a Consultative Implementation and Monitoring Council sectoral committee. The Committee's mandate is to work towards eliminating occurrence and suffering from physical, sexual and psychological violence within families by implementing the *Family and sexual violence in PNG: an integrated long-term strategy*.

PNG-APP supports RPNGC's participation in the Multi-Agency-Case Conferences held under the auspices of the Family Sexual Violence Action Committee. The Multi-Agency-Case Conferences share information to reduce harm to survivors and victims of gender-based violence, and focus on the needs, safety, health and wellbeing of the individual survivor.

Attendees of the Multi-Agency-Case Conferences meeting held on 16 February 2016 considered the pack rape of four women on New Year's Eve in Port Moresby. This included assault details, hospital treatment, police investigation, initial and subsequent care, and treatment of the four women involved.

Present at the Multi-Agency-Case Conferences were the RPNGC, Family Sexual Violence Action Committee members, court representatives, hospital staff, non-government organisations, UN and welfare groups. The group discussed actions and ongoing activity with the case, primarily focusing on the victims. For police, this referred to obtaining evidence to arrest the offenders. At the completion of the meeting a number of action items were delegated to the relevant stakeholders. Another meeting took place 9 March 2016 to update all parties.

The AFP and PNG-Australia Law and Justice Program supported community-based services and non-government organisations in the production of 'Family and Sexual Violence Referral Guidelines'. The guidelines set out responsibilities and options for all parties providing frontline services to victims of family and sexual violence. PNG-APP coordinated the delivery and prominent display of the Guidelines in all Port Moresby and Lae stations. In late 2015, Child Fund introduced the 1-Tok Kaunselin Helpim Lain hotline which provides support and assistance to victims seeking immediate medical attention, safe housing and counselling. PNG-APP has arranged presentations to be conducted by local Child Fund staff to RPNGC stations and management resulting in this service being utilised regularly by RPNGC members in support of victims.

Members of PNG-APP Family Sexual Violence team, in conjunction with the PNG-APP members at Bomana College, were involved in the preparation of a 'train the trainer' Family Sexual Violence course. Once complete the course will enable members of the RPNGC to present courses to the wider constabulary, highlighting the skills needed when dealing with victims and complaints of family sexual violence and gender-based violence.

Pacific Police Development Program-Regional (PPDP-R)

The AFP works with the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police, New Zealand Aid Program and New Zealand Police to cooperatively address domestic violence in the Pacific region. An AFP-funded adviser has worked with police in Palau, Guam, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and Federated States of Micronesia to establish specialised domestic violence units, train police staff and build partnerships with non-government organisations that support victims of domestic violence. Similar work is planned throughout the region as is support for gender-based violence training, to be delivered by the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre, and the promotion of White Ribbon Day in 2016.

Funding is provided for Forensic Consumables, including sexual assault kits, to provide extra capacity to the forensic areas of Pacific nations to assist in the investigation of sexual assaults. This contributes to improving policing responses to sexual and gender-based violence.

The AFP is providing advisory support to help strengthen local Women's Advisory Networks. In 2015 PPDP-R developed a concept paper for the mentoring of Pacific police officers, which has been further developed into a pilot program currently being conducted in Samoa.

The AFP is funding a Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police Secretariat scoping activity to explore driver training requirements for women working in policing in the Pacific. Not holding a drivers licence was identified as a gap that restricted women's ability to equitably undertake policing roles.

Papua New Guinea: AGD prosecutions adviser – Since 2011, an AGD family and sexual violence prosecutions adviser has worked in the Papua New Guinea Office of the Public Prosecutor to strengthen the capacity of the Office to prosecute sexual violence offences.

Regional: Peacekeeping Capability Building Technical Working Group – The ADF Peace Operations Training Centre is a full member of the Peacekeeping Capability Building Technical Working Group, established to harmonise the efforts of the leading Peace Operations military training providers in the Asia Pacific (see page 57).

Solomon Islands: Adviser to the Ministry of Women, Youth and Child Affairs – An adviser is deployed to the Ministry to develop Solomon Islands' National Action Plan on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 (see page 70).

Solomon Islands: Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI) – RAMSI has supported the review and development of critical legislation, including the *Family Protection Act* passed by Parliament in 2014.

Timor-Leste: Nabilan: Ending Violence Against Women – The programs aims to improve outcomes for women and children affected by violence, including through providing access to justice, improving capacity in key ministries and strengthening justice processes.

Timor-Leste Police Development Program (TLPDP) – Support is provided to the Policia Nacional de Timor-Leste (PNTL) with planning and development, especially the PNTL Business Plan and Annual Action Plan and reviewing the Norms of Organisation and Procedures, including removing gender bias which may be implicit in existing versions.

All TLPDP members promote and support the PNTL use of the Incident Management System to record crimes against gender-based violence.

TLPDP Gender Equity and Equality Team facilitated seven public speaking workshops in Dili and districts, which have been particularly beneficial to female participants. The team also delivered gender content in various contexts within the PNTL and non-government organisation networks, including ongoing development of PNTL Women’s Focal Group and regular PNTL consultation with non-government organisations to improve referral of gender-based violence incidents.

The TLPDP Gender Equity and Equality Team addressed gender-based violence with infrastructural and mentoring support to PNTL Vulnerable Persons Unit, and facilitated Vulnerable Persons Unit cooperation with the broader referral network. TLPDP is also seeking to strengthen gender mainstreaming in three key areas:

- development of a standard template for all positions, to support merit-based transfers and promotion;
- program-related budgeting where components assisting women in the PNTL and women in the community can be identified and reported on; and
- reporting on gender components of the PNTL Strategic Plan 2014–2018 via Achievement Reports such as the level of women representation on training courses, the upgrade to victim support facilities, and the increased visibility of female officer in community policing activities.

Tonga Police Development Program (TPDP) (Trilateral program between the Tonga Police Service, AFP and New Zealand Police) – In Tonga, the AFP is funding the refurbishment of Central Police Station (Nuku’alofa), which includes domestic violence-related considerations in the infrastructure design.

The AFP supported the development and revision of training programs such as Recruit Course, Basic Investigation Program to ensure all courses incorporate modules on Diversity, Family Violence responses and UN Humans Rights.

The AFP sponsored a Tonga Police Domestic Violence Unit member to visit AFP Strategic Communications in Canberra to assist develop a domestic violence crime prevention strategy for the Tonga Police Service. This strategy includes a number of recommendations to enhance awareness of family violence in the community through enhanced collaboration with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and non-government organisations. The AFP is working with Tonga Police to implement a number of these recommendations this calendar year.

Policing and Justice Support Program Vanuatu – This DFAT and AFP program strengthens institutional responses to violence against women and children. The program includes support to the Department of Women’s Affairs to develop policy and a national gender strategy, implementation of the *2008 Family Protection Act*, and training.

The program funded a renewed roll out of the Family Violence policy, Standard Operating Procedures and associated training. The program is also supporting senior Vanuatu Police Force members to reiterate messages around Vanuatu Police Force responsibilities, particularly involvement in family violence matters in officer’s personal lives.

The program is supporting the Vanuatu Police Force College to develop an Ethical Workforce Behaviour Program. The program targets sexual harassment and is delivered in conjunction with the Vanuatu Police Force’s Professional Standards Unit. The Professional Standards Unit will undertake sessions on how to make complaints against officers who breach these standards.

The program supported the Vanuatu Police Force to initiate a system where a police officer from the Family Protection Unit operates out of the Vanuatu Women’s Centres (a local non-government organisation funded by DFAT that offers counselling, legal and other support services to women and children survivors of violence), in Port Vila, Tanna and Luganville, one day per week. This approach aims to provide greater assistance and access to the criminal justice system to women and children survivors of violence.

The program has supported the Vanuatu Police Force to deliver community awareness training on family violence for Chiefs, church and community leaders.

East Asia

East Asia Regional: Australia-Asia Program to Combat Trafficking in Persons – Assistance is provided to law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, judges and court officials and regional bodies to reduce the incentives and opportunities for the trafficking of persons in the ASEAN region.

East Asia Regional: Tripartite Action to Protect Migrant Workers within and from the Greater Mekong Sub-region from Labour Exploitation (TRIANGLE) program – TRIANGLE has worked primarily with governments, the private sector and civil society organisations to strengthen labour protection policies and practices. Training of government and local officials has resulted in better integration of gender equality into final legislative and policy instruments.

East Asia Regional: Preventing the Exploitation of Women Migrant Workers – ASEAN institutions are supported through training to effectively advocate for greater cross-border collaboration to prevent and eliminate exploitation of women migrant workers.

Japan: Support to the Japanese Self Defense Force implementation of the Japanese National Action Plan – (see page 83).

Southeast Asia

Myanmar: Alliance for Gender Inclusion in the Peace Process – This program established the Alliance secretariat and a coordination mechanism for women’s organisations across Myanmar advocating for Women, Peace and Security (see page x).

Philippines: ADRAS Grant, ANU – The research seeks to identify practices where justice institutions (the courts, the Shari’a courts, church affiliated groups, and clan or community-based justice systems) can be encouraged to promote gender equity in Mindanao.

Philippines: Building Autonomous and Stable Institutions and Communities for Advancement through National-level and Grassroots Organisations and Networks in the Bangsamoro – The program has revived the civil society group Grassroots Peace Monitoring Network in preparation for monitoring any possible outbreaks of violent conflicts (see page 101).

Philippines: Building Autonomous and Stable Institutions and Communities through Socially Cohesive, Transparent, Accountable and Responsive Transition in the Bangsamoro – B-BANGON will bolster confidence and transform government and civil society institutions to build widespread confidence in, and support for, the peace process (see page 91).

South Asia / Middle East

Afghanistan: Elimination of Violence Against Women Program – A number of programs aim to strengthen government and civil society institutions to improve access to justice for survivors of violence, through training and support for justice sector stakeholders on the implementation of Afghanistan’s Elimination of Violence against Women Law and to strengthen national and international advocacy and leadership on the elimination of violence against women and peace and security.

Gender Adviser and Gender Focal Point Network for operations in the Middle East Region – (see page 101).

Pakistan: Challenging Gender-Based Violence – Assistance to strengthen the capacity of police, medical institutions and the judiciary to respond to cases, and to build capacity of parliamentarians to enable them to strengthen relevant legislation.

Pakistan: Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Federally Administered Tribal Areas, and Baluchistan – The program supports the provincial government’s institutional capacities and processes for better service delivery, opportunities for economic growth and livelihood earnings to increase development, peacebuilding and stabilisation for Pakistan’s border regions.

Atlantic

Canada: Dialogue with Canadian Armed Forces Representatives –(see page 97).

North Atlantic Treaty Organisation Committee on Gender Perspective annual conference

– Defence has participated in the NATO Committee on Gender Perspective conference, which meets annually in Brussels, since 2012. The 2015 committee meeting was focused on the recruitment and retention of women for operations, but included drafting guidance for commanders on the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence in conflict. ADF participants provided presentations on the recruiting of women for the ADF and recruiting women in Afghanistan as part of the security force assistance missions.

Current and Future Strategies

Peace Operations training Centre – The ADF Peace Operations Training Centre has been tasked to develop a Gender and Protection Office in 2016 as a regional centre of excellence. The first goal of the office is to develop and deliver a Military Gender and Protection Course. This course will be offered to ADF personnel and partner nations.

Defence has committed to provide of additional staff to allow the ADF Peace Operations Training Centre to develop a Gender Protection Office and regional centre of excellence and for ADF Peace Operations Training Centre to act as a gender and protection training establishment.

ADF technical expert on Women, Peace and Security seconded to UN Women (see page 32).

Defence hosted a Multi-national Force Standard Operating Procedure Workshop in Brisbane in June 2016. The Multi-national Force Standard Operating Procedures are utilised by 30 regional nations who are members of the Multi-national Planning Augmentation Team and the Asia Pacific Network. This year the workshop included a working group to incorporate Women, Peace and Security within the Standard Operating Procedures, conducted by Gender Advisers from Joint Operations Command.

Case Study:

Integrating women into the Afghanistan Security Forces

Since 2012, the ADF has deployed a senior officer as the Gender Adviser to the NATO International Security Assistance Force mission in Afghanistan, as well as forming female engagement teams to assist in ascertaining the security needs of local Afghan women. At the commencement of the NATO led Resolute Support Mission in January 2015, the ADF committed to the Senior Gender Adviser appointment working directly for Commander Resolute Support. This Colonel position directs the Resolute Support Gender Office and oversees the network of Resolute Support Gender Advisers working throughout Afghanistan to improve the opportunities for women to join the security forces and to improve security for women in Afghan communities. This network ensures policies

developed by the Government of Afghanistan and security ministries at the strategic political level are synchronised and coordinated with the security requirements identified at the provincial level. Solutions, plans and policies may vary from province to province, based on the needs of women in specific ethnic groups and their varied security situations.

The Resolute Support Mission Gender Office was created as part of the mission to ensure the appropriate mainstreaming of UNSCR 1325 within the Afghan Security Forces as well as to integrate a gender perspective into the planning and conduct of the Resolute Support Mission. The priorities of the Gender Office are aligned with Afghanistan's Ministerial Development Plans and all integration efforts and tasks are devised and enacted by the Afghan Security Ministries with the training, advice and assistance of Resolute Support forces. Women, Peace and Security initiatives are closely synchronised, de-conflicted and coordinated with the efforts of the international community, local government organisations, non-government organisations and Afghan Civil Society. To aid in future transition planning, the Resolute Support Mission established the Women in Security Advisory Committee to ensure that there is an executive level steering committee overseeing the priorities of the Gender Office in accordance with Afghanistan's Women Peace and Security priorities and international donor expectations. The Committee is Chaired by Commander Resolute Support and Co-chaired by the First Lady of Afghanistan, Mrs Rula Ghani who sits in an honorary position. The other members of the Committee are regarded as key stakeholders and agents of change and include: the Minister of the Interior and the Minister of Defence and their NATO advisers, the Minister of Women's Affairs, the Women's Adviser to the President, the Women's Adviser to the Chief Executive Officer, The Chair of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, the International Community including the NATO Trust Fund Chair, the NATO Ambassador to Afghanistan, UN Mission in Afghanistan and European Police Heads of Mission, and a senior civil society representative.

Significant progress has been made within the past 12 months with Afghanistan launching its first 'National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security,' the number of women in the Afghan National Police doubling, while the Afghan National Army Officer Academy had its first female top graduate and sword of honour winner. Of utmost importance is the security of the women joining the forces with prevention and protection measures being put in place which include continuing work on the implementation of a robust complaints system for serving women. Policies have also been introduced to ensure the equitable employment, promotion and training opportunities for women within the security forces. The ADF remains committed to fulfilling the Senior Gender Adviser position at Headquarters Resolute Support until at least the end of 2017.

'A secure future for Afghan women is one they have secured for themselves'. Resolute Support Women in Security Committee motto.

4e. United Nations Interventions

Number and description of interventions and support of resolutions and policy in the UN Security Council, General Assembly, UN Human Rights Council and other relevant fora addressing Women, Peace and Security issues

Australia remains actively engaged as a Member State of the UN, and seeks opportunities to progress the Women, Peace and Security in the UN Security Council, UN General Assembly and the UN Human Rights Council.

A full list and description of the 23 interventions and support of resolutions between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2015 is at **Annex E**.

Case Study:

Australian Leadership on the Sustaining Peace Agenda (2015–2016)

Australia's Head of Mission in New York led the intergovernmental consultations on new, parallel resolutions to implement the peacebuilding review findings, outlined in the report: *The Challenge of Sustaining Peace*. The review called on the UN system to prioritise conflict prevention and ensure that sustaining peace was a shared task and responsibility for all three pillars of the UN's engagement. Informal consultations in New York commenced in November 2015. The resolutions were adopted by the Security Council and the General Assembly in April 2016, and set out an ambitious reform plan for improved conflict prevention and greater UN system coherence to sustain peace. During the negotiations, we supported the inclusion of language on gender equality and women's empowerment in peacebuilding. As a result, UNSCR 2282 on Sustaining Peace encourages the Secretary-General to promote the gender dimensions of peacebuilding, including through the strengthening of women's participation in peacebuilding; calls for support for women's organisations; and acknowledges the importance of financing which targets women's needs, advances gender equality and empowers women.

Case study:

Australia's term on the UN Security Council (2013–2014)

Australia co-authored three resolutions focused on improved humanitarian access in Syria during its term on the UN Security Council (2013–2014). These were Resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014) and 2191 (2014). These resolutions promote safe and unhindered access to all vulnerable populations, and make specific reference to women, children and the widespread use of sexual violence as a weapon of war:

2139 (para 1) – 'Strongly condemns the widespread violations of human rights and international humanitarian law by the Syrian authorities, as well as the human rights

abuses and violations of international humanitarian law by armed groups, including all forms of sexual and gender-based violence ...’

2139 (para 11) – ‘Strongly condemns the arbitrary detention and torture of civilians in Syria ... demands the immediate end of these practices and the release of all arbitrarily detained persons starting with women and children ...’

2139 (para 15) – ‘... further stresses that rapid progress on a political solution should include full participation by all groups and segments of Syrian society, including women ...’

2165 (p. 2) – ‘Expressing grave alarm in particular at the continuing indiscriminate attacks in populated areas ... and the widespread use of torture, ill-treatment, sexual and gender-based violence as well as all grave violations and abuses committed against children ...’

2191 (pp. 1-2) – ‘Gravely concerned at the lack of effective implementation of its resolutions 2139 (2014) and 2165 (2014) ... including by the besiegement of populated areas, and the widespread use of torture, ill-treatment, arbitrary executions, extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, sexual and gender-based violence ...’

4f. Good-practice Guidance

Description of initiatives that contribute to the development of good-practice guidance on issues relating to Women, Peace and Security.

Australia is building a reputation as a leading nation when it comes to the Women, Peace and Security agenda. Our National Action Plan, considered a good-practice example of a National Action Plan, and being two years into implementation, provides us with an opportunity to share our experiences and contribute to the development of good-practice on Women, Peace and Security.

Defence’s engagement internationally, and the developmental work undertaken in Australia, has provided a means to understand and further develop operational concepts that support the incorporation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda throughout the ADF and our international partners.

Below is a list of nine good-practice guidance activities relating to Women, Peace and Security that Australia contributed to between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2015. This is a slight increase from the seven activities listed in the 2014 Progress Report, however, with Australia’s increasing experience and international profile as a good-practice nation on the implementation of Women, Peace and Security, the examples listed below represent a stronger Australian role in the development of global good-practice guidance.

Exercise Talisman Sabre 15 – (refer to case study at page 51).

Global: Building capacity for disability inclusion in Gender-Based Violence programming in humanitarian settings. Partner: Women’s Refugee Commission – (see page 50).

Global (Haiti, Liberia, Timor-Leste and Uganda): From Communities to Global Security Institutions (FC2GSI) Programme. Partner: UN Women – (see page 52).

South East Asia: Leveraging technical tools, evidence and community engagement to advance the implementation of laws and provision of services to women experiencing violence in South-East Asia. Partner: UN Women – Advances the implementation of laws and the provision of services to women and girls experiencing violence by providing governments and national stakeholders, including civil society and women’s groups, the means to access, cost and accelerate the implementation and resourcing of laws, National Action Plans and services.

Asia Regional: Linking the Networks – enhancing social media strategies to advance UNSCR 1325 in Asia: A grassroots initiative. Partner: Justice, Equality Rights, Access (JERA) International – (see page 69).

Australian Guidelines on the Protection of Civilians – (see page 17).

Commander’s Guide to Implementing UNSCR 1325 in Military Planning and the Conduct of Operations and Major Exercises – This product is an artefact Exercise Talisman Sabre 2015 (refer to case study at page 141).

North Atlantic Treaty Organisation Science for Peace and Security Program ‘UNSCR 1325 Reload’ Project – (see page 57).

Defence representation at the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation Committee on the Gender Perspective annual conference – (see page 116).

Current and Future Work

International good-practice in the operationalising of the Women, Peace and Security agenda is evolving and Defence is taking considerable efforts to ensure Australia remains at the forefront of that evolution. Defence has deliberately taken a leadership position internationally on Women, Peace and Security, allowing Defence to actively influence other nations and multilateral organisations on Women, Peace and Security issues. Defence has committed to second a senior ADF officer to UN Women as a technical expert on Women, Peace and Security (see page 32) and provided a senior officer as the Gender Adviser to Operation Enduring Freedom and the subsequent Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan. Additional near-term contributions to the development of good practice are below.

Multi-National Force, Standard Operating Procedures – (see page 116).

Exercise Talisman Sabre 2017 – This exercise is the next in the series following on from Talisman Sabre 15 (see case study at page 51). It will include further consideration of the

Women, Peace and Security agenda in all facets of exercise planning and conduct, and will further institutionalise Women, Peace and Security in military operations of Australia and the United States.

Defence Representation on the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations, Integrated Training Services –Core Pre-deployment Training Materials Revision Workshop

– UN Core Pre-deployment Training Materials (CPTM) are the common mandated training that all individuals deploying on a UN mission (military, civilian and contractor) must complete before entering the mission area. This workshop will allow Defence to ensure UNSCR 1325 and associated resolutions are contained within the CPTMs at the required level and standard of training. The CPTMs are a global training requirement that will be delivered by all troop contributing countries. The most recent workshop occurred in Germany in March 2016.

4g. Senior United Nations Positions

List of Australian women and men in senior UN decision-making positions relating to peace and security.

Below is a list of Australian women and men in senior UN positions. Whilst these individual positions are not directly mandated to cover peace and security, they do cover Women, Peace and Security issues.

- Robert Glasser, SRSG for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Peter Drennan, Under Secretary-General for Safety and Security
- Kate Gilmore, Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Gillian Bird, Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the UN New York
- Gary Quinlan, Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the UN New York
- Caitlin Wilson, Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN New York
- Philippa King, Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN New York
- Tanya Bennett, Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN Geneva

Multilateral and Bilateral Engagement

The Australian Government has a steadfast and ongoing commitment to be at the forefront of efforts to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. One of the many ways this is progressed through international engagement with the UN and other bilateral and multilateral engagement.

The UN Secretary-General pointed to Australia as a good-practice example with the establishment of the position of an Ambassador for Women and Girls as a high-level champion and advocate for women’s human rights around the globe²⁵.

Case Study:

Australia’s Ambassador for Women and Girls

Australia established the role of Ambassador for Women and Girls in 2011, as a dedicated advocate for the promotion and protection of women’s human rights around the globe. During the reporting period, Australia’s then Ambassador for Women and Girls, Natasha Stott Despoja, worked to reinforce Australia’s diplomatic and development efforts to integrate a gender perspective into global peace and security efforts, across all elements of the Women, Peace and Security agenda, and to promote this agenda internationally. Her strong and consistent advocacy during Australia’s term on the UN Security Council (2013–2014) assisted in further embedding the Women, Peace and Security agenda into the Security Council’s work.

In October 2014, the Ambassador for Women and Girls spoke at the annual Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security, highlighting the disproportionate impact of conflict on women and girls, including their vulnerability to violence; early and forced marriage; sex trafficking; and the need to access sexual and reproductive health services. The Ambassador reinforced Australia’s commitment to encouraging women’s leadership in humanitarian settings affected by conflict:

*‘Displaced women and girls are not merely victims. Their leadership and participation in preventing and resolving conflict, as well as reconstructing post-conflict societies, must be harnessed. This includes in refugee camps and displacement settings where women must play a central role in the design and delivery of gender-sensitive programs’.*²⁶

Australia also works to prevent and respond to sexual violence in conflict, both as a tactic of war and an international war crime. At the Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict in London in June 2014, the Ambassador advocated for more targeted and comprehensive international responses to eliminate sexual violence in situations of armed violence, noting: *‘As international actors, it is essential we use all tools at our disposal, including diplomatic means, to engage in collective action to recognise hidden victims of sexual violence and improve our responses to the diversity of their needs’.*²⁷

25 S/2015/716, Report of the Secretary-General on Women, Peace and Security, 16 September 2015, accessed 15 October 2016 at http://www.security-councilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_2015_716.pdf.

26 Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security: Displaced Women and Girls – Leaders and Survivors, Statement by Ms Natasha Stott Despoja AM, Ambassador for Women and Girls, 28 October 2014

27 Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict, Ministerial Dialogue B: Hidden Victims of Sexual Violence, Speaker, Intervention by Ms Natasha Stott Despoja AM, 12 June 2014

During a visit to Myanmar in February 2015, at a roundtable on Women, Peace and Security, the Ambassador underscored Australia's advocacy for women in civil society to be actively involved in conflict prevention and peace processes. She highlighted our practical commitment to build the capacity of women to participate in Myanmar's peace process.

Speaking at the Advancing the Rights of Displaced Women and Girls with Disabilities, a side event at the 59th Commission on the Status of Women in New York in March 2015, the Ambassador reported that: *'Australia has been working actively in the Indo Pacific region to assist women and men with disabilities in developing countries to find pathways out of poverty, and we have prioritised support for women with disabilities in humanitarian contexts globally'*.²⁸

Outlined below are activities undertaken by Government to promote the global advancement of gender equality, including the Women, Peace and Security agenda, through international engagement with the UN and other multilateral and bilateral and engagement.

3rd World Conference of Women's Shelters – The then Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women, Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash, attended the conference on eliminating violence against women from 3-6 November 2015, at the Hague, Netherlands. Senator Cash held bilateral meetings with Her Majesty Queen Maxima to discuss women's economic security, Crown Princess Mary of Denmark to discuss eliminating violence against women and girls, Ms Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women, and Ambassador Marriot Shuurman, NATO Secretary-General's Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security, who praised Australia's leadership progressing the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

58th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW58), (10–21 March 2014) – The then Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women, Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash, led the delegation which also included the then Australian Ambassador for Women and Girls, Natasha Stott Despoja AM, and the then Australian Sex Discrimination Commissioner, Elizabeth Broderick. The delegation succeeded to secure strong CSW58 Agreed Conclusions (E/2014/27) for which they advocated to adopt measures to implement and monitor the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls in armed conflict and post-conflict situations and women and girls affected by violent extremism, and ensure women's effective participation at all levels, and all stages, in peace processes and mediation efforts, conflict prevention and resolution, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding and recovery, as laid out in relevant Security Council resolutions on Women, Peace and Security. The Agreed Conclusions also included ending impunity by ensuring accountability and punishing perpetrators of the most serious crimes against women and girls under national and international law,

²⁸ Advancing the Rights of Displaced Women and Girls with Disabilities: Stories from the Frontlines, Statement by the then Australian Ambassador for Women and Girls, Natasha Stott Despoja AM, 10 March 2015

and ensuring the alleged perpetrators of those crimes are held accountable under national justice or, where applicable, international justice.

Senator Cash provided the opening remarks at a CSW side event ‘Women’s Participation in Peace Processes: How can the international community support women’s leadership in conflict mediation?’ on 12 March 2015. Other speakers at the event included Australia’s Ambassador for Women and Girls, Natasha Stott Despoja AM, Debir D’hejal Valdemar Martelo (Colombia), Nawal Yazeji (Syria), Rita Martin (South Sudan), and the Hon Maria Miller AM (United Kingdom).

Senator Cash participated in many bilateral meetings at CSW, including a meeting with Ms Zainab Hawa Bangura, UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, and with Ms Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women.

59th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW58), (9-20 March 2015) – The then Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women, Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash, led the delegation which also included the then Australian Ambassador for Women and Girls, Natasha Stott Despoja AM, and the then Australian Sex Discrimination Commissioner, Elizabeth Broderick. Senator Cash delivered a strong Statement to CSW59, where she highlighted the importance of the Women, Peace and Security agenda and eliminating violence against women and girls harmful practices against women and girls such as female genital mutilation and early and forced marriage.

Senator Cash delivered the opening remarks to a CSW side event on ‘Women in Political Leadership: Achieving equality in political decision-making’. Also participating at the event was Ms Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women, and the Senator’s counterparts from Chile, Algeria and Switzerland.

As per CSW58, Senator Cash met with Ms Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women, who praised Australia’s aid commitment to gender equality. Senator Cash also met with Zainab Hawa Bangura, the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, who noted with appreciation, Australia’s time on the UN Security Council and our efforts to end sexual violence in conflict.

Asian and Pacific Conference on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment: Beijing+20 Review Side Event – ‘Women and Girls at the Crossroads: The nexus of Women, Peace and Security with Development’– An official from the Office for Women represented Australia at the panel event at the UN Convention Centre in Bangkok on 20 November 2014. The objectives of the panel discussion were to: increase awareness of and advocacy for the Women, Peace, and Security agenda, particularly as it relates to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action; share experiences and knowledge on Women, Peace and Security; and identify the nexus between Women, Peace and Security and development, and how this can inform the post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda.

Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict (10–13 June 2014) – Government representatives from over 120 countries, and over 1,000 experts, faith leaders, youth

organisations and representatives of civil society and international organisations, came together in London at the Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict (Global Summit). The Global Summit agreed practical steps to tackle impunity for the use of rape as a weapon of war, and to begin to change global attitudes to these crimes, as summarised in the Chair's Summary and the Statement of Action. Australia's Ambassador for Women and Girls attended the Global Summit and signed the Statement of Action.

The *International Protocol on the Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence in Conflict*, supported by Australia, was launched at the Global Summit, setting out international standards on how to collect the strongest possible information and evidence, whilst protecting witnesses, in order to increase convictions and deter future perpetrators.

Australia continues to be strong advocates of preventing sexual violence in conflict and sexual and gender-based violence more broadly through foreign policy and development fora.

Human Rights Council – 30th Regular Session. Annual discussion on integrating a gender perspective (15 September 2015) – Australia welcomed the report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. This was an opportunity to affirm Australia's strong commitment to gender equality, the full and equal realisation of women's and girls' human rights, and efforts to achieve gender balance in international human rights bodies.

We urged all states promote the full and equal realisation of women's rights and were pleased with the strong commitments to gender equality in the Sustainable Development Goals.

Human Rights Council – 29th Regular Session. Item 2: Response to the Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on Discrimination and Violence against individuals based on their sexual orientation and gender identity (22 June 2015) – While noting progress since 2011, Australia condemns continuing acts of violence, torture, discrimination and other denials of human rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender/Transsexual and Intersexed persons.

Human Rights Council – 29th Regular Session, Panel Discussion: women's human rights and participation in power and decision-making (19 June 2015) – Women's full and equal participation in conflict prevention and resolution, peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction is critical to inclusive and sustainable peace and security, and greater gender equality.

Human Rights Council – 27th Regular Session, Statement after Action (26 September 2014) – Australia warmly welcomed the Human Rights Council's adoption of the resolution on human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity. We were pleased to have co-sponsored this timely initiative. It is clearly within the mandate of the Human Rights Council to discuss and adopt resolutions on discrimination and violence against persons on the basis of their perceived or actual sexual orientation and gender identity. We should be united in our common objective to end such violence and discrimination.

Human Rights Council – 27th Regular Session, Annual Discussion on the Integration of a Gender Perspective (15 September 2014) – Australia and New Zealand recognised that women and girls are disproportionately affected by serious human rights violations, in particular the use of sexual and gender-based violence as a weapon in conflict and post-conflict settings.

More broadly, respecting women’s and girls’ human rights is critical to achieving universal human rights and fundamental freedoms. However, all too often protecting and promoting women’s and girls’ rights are not seen as interlinked to and mutually reinforcing the achievement of this objective which we should all share.

If we are to ensure respect for human rights, we must all be seized of the imperative to fully integrate gender perspectives through the entirety of the Council’s country-focused work. Such perspectives must take into account the challenges and relative disadvantages particular to the circumstances of women and girls which they face in securing their fundamental human rights and freedoms. The emphasis of the Council’s work should be on how these challenges and disadvantages can be overcome.

Human Rights Council – 26th Session, Clustered Interactive Dialogue with the Working Group on discrimination against women and Special Rapporteur on right to education (16 June 2014) – Australia agreed with the Working Group that gender-based violence against women can severely impact and restrict women’s economic and social potential, including access to education and employment. Keeping women and their families safe is the most fundamental step towards ensuring their security and prosperity.

Human Rights Council – 26th Session. High-level Panel discussion on Female Genital Mutilation (16 June 2014) – Australia strongly agreed that Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is a harmful practice that violates the human rights of women and girls. FGM constitutes a serious threat to the health of women and girls, including their psychological, sexual and reproductive health.

Australia’s aid program has a strong focus on maternal and child health. This includes strengthening health systems necessary to promote the appropriate care and support for women affected by FGM.

Human Rights Council – 26th Regular Session. Item 3: Clustered Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, its Causes and Consequences and the Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights (11 June 2014) – Australia’s commitment to empowering women is reflected in our domestic policies and foreign policy and development agenda.

Statement to Australia Human Rights Council – 25th Regular Session, Item 10 General Debate (27 March 2014) – Australia acknowledged the progress made in strengthening frameworks on women’s rights, with the passing of the ‘2009 Elimination of Violence Against Women Law’. We urge that Afghanistan take action to fully implement and enforce this law. Australia encourages Afghanistan to finalise and implement a National Action Plan on

Women, Peace and Security and to support the active participation of women in the peace and reconciliation process.

Australia welcomed the unanimous adoption by the UN Security Council on 17 March of a resolution renewing the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission to Afghanistan for a further twelve months and the *strong focus on protecting human rights, especially the rights of women and girls*.

Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 18th Session, Universal Periodic Review of Afghanistan (27 January 2014) – Australia acknowledged the progress made by Afghanistan in strengthening women’s rights with the passing of the ‘2009 Elimination of Violence Against Women Law’ but recommended that Afghanistan take action to fully implement and enforce this law. Australia also recommended that Afghanistan finalise and implement a National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security.

North Atlantic Treaty Organisation Science for Peace and Security Program ‘UNSCR 1325 Reload’ Project – (see page 57).

Strategy 5

Take a coordinated and holistic approach domestically and internationally to Women, Peace and Security

5a. Government Meetings

Number and key outcomes of Australian Government inter-departmental meetings that address the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

The Government understands the importance of fostering cooperation and information sharing across government to ensure effective implementation of the National Action Plan.

The primary mechanism for implementing the National Action Plan is the Women, Peace and Security Inter-departmental Working Group. The Working Group is made up of Senior Executive representatives from each implementing agency. In 2015 a civil society representative from the Australian Civil Society Coalition for Women, Peace and Security joined the Working Group. The Office for Women chairs the Working Group, which meets twice a year. High-level decisions, new and emerging issues and progress on the implementation of Women, Peace and Security are discussed at the meetings. The Women, Peace and Security Inter-departmental Working Group met four times between January 2014 and December 2015. This is consistent with the number of meetings held during the reporting period in the first Progress Report.

A Sub-Committee supports the Working Group and under their direction, is responsible for the reporting, research, and day-to-day liaison across government. The Sub-Committee is made up of Executive Level officers from each of the implementation agencies and two representatives from the Australian Civil Society Coalition for Women, Peace and Security. The Sub-Committee meets as needed, more often during peak times such as the scoping of the interim review, and in the future, the development of the next National Action Plan. The Sub-Committee met 13 times during the reporting period, although much of the day-to-day interaction between the Sub-Committee occurs via email, including to progress work such as developing the submission to the Global Review and developing the progress reports.

A list of the Working Group meetings is at **Annex F**.

Countering Violent Extremism

The Global Study on the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 (Global Study), launched in October 2015, was a timely opportunity for the international community to reflect on progress made implementing this important resolution. The Global Study also allowed the international community to consider how the Women, Peace and Security agenda has evolved since the adoption of UNSCR 1325 and to explore the changing nature of conflict, peace and security. While the Global Study covered many themes, violent extremism and counter-terrorism were highlighted as significant issues of concern.

Australia supported the adoption of UNSCR 2242 at the 2015 High-level Review on Women, Peace and Security. This resolution connects violent extremism with Women, Peace and Security and calls for greater integration by Member States and the UN of these agendas. Like the Global Study, UNSCR 2242 notes the changing global context of peace and security, in particular to the rise of violent extremism. It recognises the differential impact on the human rights of women and girls of terrorism and violent extremism in terms of health, education and participation in public life. It highlights the centrality of women's rights, and the importance of women's participation and leadership in developing strategies to counter violent extremism.

Australia's Approach to Countering Violent Extremism

Internationally, Australia contributes to global conversations about violent extremism and its impacts on women. It engages with processes that strengthen international frameworks and works with partner governments and civil society organisations to respond to violent extremism. For example, at the 2015 High-level Review on Women, Peace and Security, Australia's statement made clear that women, girls and women's organisations are vital to promoting gender equality in countering terrorism and violent extremism. Australia's aid program supports efforts to build more peaceful and inclusive societies, especially in fragile and conflict-affected states, which can strengthen community resilience to conflict, violence and extremism.

Australia has focused on countering violent extremism within our region by hosting the *Regional Summit to Counter Violent Extremism* in Sydney on 11–12 June 2015. Participants included civil society, industry and government representatives from across the region. The Summit provided an important platform for regional engagement, including the role of women in addressing radicalisation and violent extremism. The key focus was the shared challenge posed by dissemination of terrorist propaganda.

The Summit delivered practical training and capacity building workshops, enabling collaboration and exchange of good-practice approaches to countering violent extremism. One theme of the summit was the role of women and families in challenging terrorist narratives. Discussions addressed the need to empower women and families, amongst

others, to facilitate change and effectively prevent violent extremism. This dialogue informed the development of the agreed outcomes of the Summit.

The outcomes included establishing a regional network of civil society groups to promote stronger engagement with leaders; a regional guide for government and civil society for effective engagement with the private sector; a regional guide on responding to the dissemination of terrorist propaganda; and a compendium of regional counter-narratives and messages. The final outcome aims to enhance communities in challenging terrorist propaganda.

The Australian Government continues to work in partnership with state and territory governments to develop new countering violent extremism initiatives. These initiatives consider the needs of families, schools, high priority communities and correctional facilities. Community engagement efforts focus on raising awareness and aim to build resilience to radicalisation to violent extremism. These efforts aim to discourage Australians from supporting or participating in overseas conflicts.

The Australian Government has supported a number of initiatives to empower women as powerful voices against violent extremist propaganda and the recruitment of members of their families or their communities to radicalised groups. Initiatives have included building women's capacity to identify early signs of radicalisation within members of their communities and provide support to those at risk of radicalisation, and cultivating women's understanding of, and a capacity to positively work on, inter-sectarian tensions. Programs have also been established to assist mothers of school children in culturally and linguistically diverse communities to better understand what their children are viewing online, the dangers of online radicalisation, and how to deal with these challenges at home.

In addition, the Australian Government has provided support for research projects aimed at improving understanding of the motives, drivers, roles and social-cultural contexts of women that are supporting, enabling or becoming directly involved in violent extremism and foreign conflict.

Additional Case Studies

Case Studies: Case studies that highlight the Government's efforts to promote the Women, Peace and Security agenda

Case Study:

Protection and empowerment of women and girls with disabilities

Just as women and men have differential experiences of conflict, conflict affects diverse groups of women and girls differently. Women with disability may find it difficult to access support or infrastructure to meet their specific needs, or be more likely to experience gender-based violence. War increases the incidence of impairment, which intersects with gender to create further vulnerabilities for women and girls with disabilities. Women with disabilities must be included in peacebuilding processes, bringing their varied backgrounds, perspectives and skills to the negotiating table to achieve sustainable peace.

DFAT works with the United States – based non-profit organisation, the Women's Refugee Commission to strengthen the advocacy of organisations of persons with disabilities on the issues of women and girls with disabilities affected by crisis and conflict, and, in partnership with International Rescue Committee, to research effective strategies to foster inclusion of women and girls with disabilities in gender-based violence prevention in humanitarian contexts. The Women's Refugee Commission's work focuses on the participation, protection and normative themes of the women, peace and security agenda.

The Women's Refugee Commission provided technical support and integrated training on disability inclusion to gender-based violence practitioners working in Ethiopia, Burundi, Jordan and the Northern Caucasus in the Russian Federation. They also provided training for the Network of African Women with Disabilities on sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence in humanitarian settings. The Women's Refugee Commission stressed the importance of increasing representation of women and girls with disabilities in both community leadership and organisational staff. A social worker in the My'Ayni Camp, Ethiopia explained, "We never had persons with disabilities on our team before. My friends who have disabilities are doing the same job that I am. This is a good way to start to make a change in the way persons with disabilities are viewed".

In February 2015 the Women's Refugee Commission strengthened networks of women with disabilities by supporting Network of African Women with Disabilities and the Africa Disability Alliance to convene a regional women's Disabled People's Organisations workshop on humanitarian issues, attended by over 45 participants from nine different countries, including refugee women with disabilities. A participant asserted, "I have always felt that I am of no value in the community, but the workshop showed that we are recognised worldwide and in Africa as a whole". Since this workshop, the Network

of African Women with Disabilities members are increasingly consulting with refugee women and girls with disabilities, and published a briefing on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for this group. In Ethiopia, Network of African Women with Disabilities members have brought the UN, Disabled People's Organisations and government actors together to discuss strengthening protection and participation of refugee women and girls with disabilities.

Women with disabilities affected by crisis and conflict are often excluded from the humanitarian sector, and marginalised in the disability and women's rights movements. The Women's Refugee Commission used its research and participation in regional and international humanitarian meetings, to promote global policy and practice change. In late 2015, with DFAT support, the Women's Refugee Commission expanded its partnerships to networks of women with disabilities in South Asia, and will facilitate participation of women with disabilities at the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit.

Case Study:

Working across the National Action Plan thematic areas in Afghanistan

Australia plays an important role internationally supporting Afghanistan's women and girls. Australia used our UN Security Council term of 2013–2014 to focus Security Council attention on the continued need for the protection and promotion of women and girls' rights in Afghanistan. As the Security Council's policy lead on Afghanistan, Australia secured agreement to a resolution which renewed the mandate of the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan post-2014 which noted the importance of protection from sexual and other forms of gender-based violence, and recognised the importance of women's political participation.

Since the inauguration of President Ghani in September 2014, there has been greater public and political focus by the Afghan Government on women's empowerment.²⁹ Australia is working with the Afghan Government to protect, promote and empower Afghan women and girls, including implementing Afghanistan's 'Elimination of Violence Against Women Law' and the 'UNSCR 1325 National Action Plan'³⁰.

Australia has advocated for an inclusive peace and reconciliation process that recognises the vital role of women in Afghanistan's social, political and economic life. Australia has also advocated for gender equality to be incorporated in the Self Reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework, the overarching development compact that guides donor and Government engagement in Afghanistan.

²⁹ AQC INK88o 2015.

³⁰ EVAW Factsheet July 2015

The Australian Government has a longstanding commitment to gender equality and women's empowerment, and understands that equal opportunity for women is critical for prosperity, security and peace. This is why Australia prioritises empowering women and girls by addressing barriers to their social, political and economic participation in our Afghanistan development program. Australia funds The Asia Foundation to strengthen access to justice for women in up to twelve provinces through training of formal and community-based justice sector workers on the Elimination of Violence Against Women Law, women's rights within Islam and actions to prevent violence against women³¹. Support to UNFPA strengthens the capacity of Afghanistan's National Police Force and other legal actors towards combating violence against women through better reporting, registration and investigation of violence against women incidents³². Through CARE Australia, we are helping to increase access to education, particularly for girls, in some of the most remote parts of the country.

Australia's investments in ending violence against women have increased women's access to better services in target areas. Australia funds UN Women to support four Afghan non-government organisations to manage up to ten women's protection centres (shelters) and one family guidance centre across nine provinces that deliver protection, legal, health and rehabilitation services. In addition, support is provided to the Ministry of Women's Affairs to strengthen the functioning of its Shelter Directorate³³. Engagement on conflict prevention, participation, and normative efforts has improved violence prevention, including more effective community awareness, advocacy and engagement of women in peace processes. Australia supports the Afghan Women's Network, and its 115 member organisations, strengthening their national and international networking, advocacy and leadership efforts on ending violence against women. Another of the initiatives being supported is the Young Women's Leadership Program, which is building a network of young women leaders in Afghanistan to advocate and raise awareness of violence against women and women's rights, and to prevent violence from occurring.

³¹ *ibid*

³² *ibid*

³³ *ibid*

Annex A – Australian Statement

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

14 October 2015

High-level Review on Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325

**Statement by H.E. Gillian Bird
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of Australia to the United Nations**

(Check against delivery)

Thank you Mr President.

Australia welcomes the Secretary-General's Report on Women, Peace and Security and yesterday's unanimous adoption of UNSCR 2242, which we were proud to co-sponsor. And we were pleased to participate in today's launch of the ground breaking Global Study.

Mr President, while there have been advances since UNSCR1325 was adopted, there are areas where the international community is still failing.

Women and children continue to suffer disproportionately in conflict and post-conflict countries - maternal mortality rates are twice as high; education parity has not been achieved; there are record numbers of people forcibly displaced; and rates of violence, including sexual violence, against women are escalating.

Australia is pleased to make a number of pledges today to help address this dire situation.

Firstly, Australia is committing an additional AUD 4 million over three years to the Global Acceleration Instrument on Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action bringing our total contribution to AUD 5.5 million. This is in recognition of the fact that more is needed to support the critical role of women's organisations in preventing and resolving conflict, building peace and ensuring relief and recovery.

Second, the Women, Peace and Security Agenda must be implemented across the military. Accordingly, the Australian Defence Force is deploying more women and increasing their number in senior decision-making roles; has introduced recruitment targets for women in non-traditional roles; and is developing a gender adviser and female engagement team capability.

The Australian Defence Force will also provide a Technical Expert for Women, Peace and Security to UN Women for five years from 2016.

Our third pledge recognizes that women, girls and women's organisations are vital to promoting gender equality in countering terrorism and violent extremism. We will therefore support new research to be conducted by Monash University in Melbourne on 'Preventing

Conflict and Countering Fundamentalism through Women's Empowerment and Civil Society Mobilization'.

Australia will also support women's organisations to participate in the regional network of civil society groups being established as an outcome of the June 2015 Regional Summit to Counter Violent Extremism held in Sydney.

Fourth, Australia understands that humanitarian efforts need to do more to prevent and support survivors of sexual and gender-based violence. This is why Australia has dedicated specific funding to address sexual and gender-based violence in response to the Syria crisis – AUD 7 million as part of our overall commitment of AUD 59 million in the last 12 months.

Finally, Australia is reviewing its National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security and we will use the Global Study to inform future actions under our Plan.

Mr President, we call on the UN system as a whole to respond to the Global Study's recommendations. Women, Peace and Security must be considered and implemented as part of the Secretary-General's Review of Peace Operations and the Review of the UN Peacebuilding Architecture, as well as through this High-level Review.

Global Leaders have now agreed to the historic 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and recognised the links between development, human rights, and peace and security, and placed gender equality at the heart of these efforts.

We must, as a global community, do more to deliver on these promises for women around the world.

Annex B – Interim Review response

Summary of the Australian Government response to the Independent Interim Review presented at the 2016 Annual Civil Society Dialogue on Women, Peace and Security

The agencies represented on the panel were PMC, Defence, AFP and DFAT.

The Government welcomes the Interim Review and appreciates the recommendations. In particular, the recommendations provide Government with the opportunity to look at the National Action Plan in terms of what we need to think about as we prepare for the development of the next National Action Plan.

The Government was particularly pleased the Interim Review assessed the National Action Plan as still relevant and broad enough to offer flexibility on how the Government shapes and responds to Women, Peace and Security issues.

Each agency has analysed the recommendations against their responsibilities under the National Action Plan, and the Sub-Committee has met to discuss this from a whole of government perspective.

The Government genuinely values the contribution civil society makes to the National Action Plan. DFAT noted the recommendations around collaboration between civil society and Government are of particular interest and is keen to strengthen this engagement. Defence is planning to expand their civil society engagement by having an academic join the Defence Implementation Plan Working Group.

Defence is planning changes around training. For example, they will look at supplementing quantitative data on personnel trained and deployed with post-deployment perceptions about impact and applicability, noting the complexity of being a minor partner in coalition operations (i.e. NATO in Afghanistan has Gender Office and considers Women, Peace and Security, and the United States-led coalition in Iraq does not). Defence is also reviewing the pre-deployment training to include women from Diaspora groups.

The AFP International Operations portfolio is undertaking a training review for all pre-deployment operations. This is a timely opportunity for the AFP to revise training that aims to improve member competence and understanding of Women, Peace and Security and gender equality more broadly.

Most of the recommendations from the Interim Review apply at the whole of government level and many will be addressed in the next National Action Plan, however, that does not mean the Government is not taking action now.

The Government notes the assessment of the National Action Plan Monitoring and Evaluation Framework as weak and requiring strengthening in a number of ways. This is something we are very aware of and discussions on how to rectify this have already commenced in terms of developing the next National Action Plan.

The Review called for the Government to build assessment of new and emerging issues into the National Action Plan. A new section on countering violent extremism is included in the second Progress Report of the National Action Plan. In addition, PMC recently hosted a meeting between the Working Group and Senior Executives from across Government working on countering violent extremism to discuss the intersection between Women, Peace and Security and their work. This was a highly valuable conversation, where the importance of having a social cohesion approach to countering violent extremism was discussed. Also discussed was how gender equality needs to be at the centre of the understanding of, and efforts to, counter violent extremism.

Other recommendations from the Review are also addressed in the 2016 Progress Report. For example, a stocktake or audit was recommended in the lead up to each progress report. This is indeed how we collect data and information on programs, policies, and training etc. Each agency receives a reporting template which is disseminated across the agency and a stocktake of what each area is doing in terms of Women, Peace and Security is undertaken.

The Interim Review also recommended enhanced reporting on resourcing in the Second Progress Report. This has been included in the reporting template and agencies provided funding amounts for civil society activities funded by the Australian Government that pertain to Women, Peace and Security, as well as international assistance activities. While this does not provide a full picture of how much money in total is being spent on activities relating to Women, Peace and Security, but it is a start. The Government will continue to explore options to address this comprehensively.

Stronger evaluative information was also built into the second Progress Report. Agencies were asked to identify barriers, gaps and challenges that impact on the progress of activities, as well as outlining positive changes and unintended consequences.

We have come a long way with the National Action Plan and have learnt a lot. We want to take all of those lessons, and more, into the development of the next National Action Plan, including the recommendations from the Interim Review. For example, Defence has undertaken to more closely monitor National Action Plan reviews by other nations (especially non-English speaking, and countries where Defence operate). We want to develop a better National Action Plan for 2019, a more accountable one, but one that is still flexible enough to adjust activities according to changes in the Women, Peace and Security landscape by maintaining a broad approach to actions to allow agencies to build activities that advance the Women, Peace and agenda and align with individual agency strengths and priorities, as recommended in the Interim Review.

We want to work closely with civil society in the development of the next National Action Plan, and we do not want to shy away from the difficult questions we know we will need to answer during its development. To achieve this we need to work together. We need to draw on the expertise from across Government and civil society. We need to draw on international good-practice, including recommendations from reviews and the Global Study. We are committed to this, and to developing an even better National Action Plan for 2019.

Annex C – Documents

List (alphabetical) and description of relevant official policy and guidance documents that contain reference to the Women, Peace and Security agenda or resolutions 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960, 2106 and 2122 (refers to Strategy 1a)

1. **2015 Australian National Report to the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation on Women in the Armed Forces** – An annual report provided by Defence to NATO on behalf of Australia as a partner nation.
2. **2015–2016 Defence Corporate Plan** – This is the principal planning document for Defence and sets out the purposes (as defined by the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*) and activities Defence will pursue and the results it expects to achieve. The plan covers four financial years and is updated annually. Defence’s Women, Peace and Security efforts are nested in the corporate purpose of ‘Provide Advice to Government’.
3. **2015–2017 Defence Business Plan** – The plan provides all Defence personnel with guidance to implement the activities in the 2015-2016 Defence Corporate Plan. Outcomes for the implementation of the National Action Plan identified in the Business Plan are that: a gender perspective is integrated into Defence policy, practice and doctrine; local women are engaged and protected in Defence operations; and the Women, Peace and Security agenda is embedded in the management of deployed Defence personnel. The Chief of the Defence Force is accountable for these outcomes in the Department
4. **ADF Operational Planning Documents** – The principle themes of UNSCR 1325 have been applied to planning for all ADF operations and exercises and have been incorporated into all planning directives, operational plans and orders.
5. **AFP International Deployment Group Gender Strategy (2014)** – The AFP Gender Strategy outlines the ways in which the AFP will operationalise its commitment to the promotion of gender equality and support for women in the states to which AFP personnel are deployed. The strategy articulates specific objectives, which are aligned with the National Action Plan. It also outlines potential targets, to be refined by 2018 through the establishment of baseline data and subsequent development of indicators for incorporation into corporate reporting processes and monitoring and evaluation frameworks.
6. **AFP International Operations Gender Concept Note** – this guidance note outlines the ways in which the International Operations Gender Strategy, the National Action Plan and Women, Peace and Security agenda can inform the design of new and continuing stability missions and capacity building programs.
7. **AFP International Operations Pacific Police Development Program - Regional (PPDP-R) – Gender Implementation Plan** – The plan is aligned to the National Action

Plan and the International Operations Gender Strategy (2014). The plan introduces gender as a cross-cutting theme across all programs being delivered with a goal to actively improve gender outcomes within all PPDP-R activities by raising awareness of the need for gender considerations in operational policing and supporting women in policing in the Pacific Region.

- 8. Aid Investment Plan: Afghanistan 2015–2016 to 2017–2018** – Objective 2 of the plan, Empowering women and girls by addressing barriers to their social, political and economic participation, provides direction in accordance with the protection thematic area of the National Action Plan. This includes focus on girls' education; access to services for women and girls who have experienced violence; and training for police, law and justice, and government officials in gender-based violence case management and national legislation. It also includes a target of 30 per cent female participation in livelihoods activities under Objective 3, Building resilience and supporting at-risk populations. Australia also commits to working with the Government of Afghanistan to promote and protect the rights of women and girls (relevant to normative and protection thematic areas).
- 9. Aid Investment Plan: Bangladesh 2015–2016 to 2018–2019** – The plan identifies extremely poor people, predominantly women, as the primary target population. Australian Aid in Bangladesh will include a focus on communities in Cox's Bazar district, which is host to Rohingya refugees and undocumented Myanmar nationals. The focus is on women and nutrition, food distribution and income generation support which are relevant to the National Action Plan Relief and Recovery thematic area.

The plan recognises that broadening the impact of growth, supporting good governance and increasing gender equality will be mutually beneficial to the cross-cutting goal of furthering reconciliation. Objective 3, to increase gender equality aims to address the underlying drivers of gender inequality, including social exclusion and inter-communal and domestic-based violence, and will include mainstreamed and stand-alone activities. Supported activities will expand women's economic opportunities to earn an income and accumulate economic assets, increase the effective representation of women at all levels of decision-making, reduce violence against women and increase access to support services and justice for survivors of violence.

- 10. Aid Investment Plan: Philippines 2015–2016 to 2018–2019**³⁴ – Objective 3 of the Plan is to improve conditions for peace and stability. Support to Building Autonomous and Sustainable Institutions and Communities in the Bangsamoro (BASIC), (2014-2016) aims to ensure the peace process is more credible and widely supported, and recognises that the role of women in peacebuilding is critical. Through BASIC women's engagement in the implementation of the peace agreement and in the establishment of the new Bangsamoro regional entity will be prioritised. The number of women actively participating in peacebuilding is a performance benchmark.

³⁴ <http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/aid-investment-plan-aip-the-philippines-2015-16-to-2017-18.aspx>

- 11. Aid Investment Plan: Sub-Saharan Africa 2015–2019** – Objective 3 of the plan is to respond appropriately to humanitarian crises in Africa through working with effective humanitarian partners and supporting advocacy efforts for effective international humanitarian action. The plan highlights the disproportionate impact of conflict and disasters on women and girls as being of utmost concern, and commits to advocating for better monitoring of gender and protection issues. Australia will advance the interests of affected populations and influence policy decisions in line with best-practice humanitarian principles.
- 12. Aid Investment Plan: Timor-Leste 2015–2019** – The plan incorporates the role of the AFP and their support to the Timor-Leste National Police (PNTL) to reduce the risks of future conflict, given on-going poverty, unemployment and post-conflict fragility. The AFP will work with PNTL to increase community access to formal justice systems, particularly in cases of violence against women.
- 13. Air Force Gender Equality Strategy ‘From Marginal to Mainstream’** – The intent of the strategy is to attract, develop and retain an agile, capable, talented and diverse workforce, including a greater proportion of women, particularly in the non-traditional employment roles (pilots, engineers, technical and security trades) in the Air Force. This will be met by increasing the rate of enlistment of women, maximising their participation across the Air Force, intensively managing their opportunities at all ranks, and increasing their retention. The Air Force is working towards increasing the participation of women to 25 per cent by 2023. Subordinate to this target, the Air Force is dedicating targeted efforts to increase participation in the areas where women are under-represented to 15 per cent. The other services have similar goals to increase the representation of women over the same time frame.
- 14. Army Force Preservation Directive 41/14** – This directive requires that all Army members undertake an annual Women, Peace and Security training package.
- 15. Australia – UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Partnership Framework 2013–2016** (referenced in 2014 Progress Report) – This document outlines overarching global objectives for the DFAT-UNCHR partnership including agreement to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women within all UNHCR programs and policies, including UNHCR staffing, in line with the UN system-wide policy on gender equality. It also identifies that Australia will encourage full implementation of UNSCR 1325.
- 16. Australian Defence Doctrine Publication 3.20, Operations Series, The Military Contribution to Humanitarian Operations** – Planning considerations for the protection of civilians including Women, Peace and Security and child protection is embedded throughout this publication. The doctrine explains how to integrate a gender perspective into planning humanitarian operations and explains the five thematic areas of the National Action Plan: Prevention, Protection, Participation, Relief and Recovery and Normative.

- 17. Australian Defence Doctrine Publication 3.8, Operations Series, Peace Operations –** Planning considerations for the protection of civilians including Women, Peace and Security and child protection are embedded throughout this doctrine publication. The doctrine explains how to integrate a gender perspective into planning peace operations and explains the five thematic areas of the National Action Plan: Prevention, Protection, Participation, Relief and Recovery and Normative.
- 18. Australian Guidelines for the Protection of Civilians –** Developed by the Australian Civil-Military Centre, after extensive consultation with a broad representation of Australian government and non-government organisations, these guidelines are intended to provide a whole of government perspective on the protection of civilians in international situations of armed conflict and other situations of violence.
- 19. Chief of Air Force Directive on the Air Force Implementation of the on Women, Peace and Security –** This directive outlines the Air Force’s commitment to the Women, Peace and Security agenda and provides the direction required to implement National Action Plan in the Air Force. It incorporates the Air Force Women, Peace and Security Implementation Plan and the Air Force Women, Peace and Security Communication and Engagement Plan.
- 20. Chief of Joint Operations Directive on Women Peace and Security, UNSCR 1325 –** This document outlines the specific actions and processes to implement Joint Operations Command’s responsibilities under the National Action Plan. It specifies the areas within the Joint Operations Command Headquarters and other operational headquarters that will undertake the work and timeframes for delivery. This Directive will be revised and updated in 2016.
- 21. Chief of the Defence Force’s Directive to Director for Women, Peace and Security –** This document directs the implementation of the Defence related strategies and actions outlined in the Defence Implementation Plan and the National Action Plan.
- 22. Commander Forces Command Directive 142/15 Operations Order Training Year 16/17 –** This is the capstone document that defines the requirement for conventional Army forces for force generation and foundation war fighting. This includes support to the Army Gender and Diversity Council; Women in Defence; Women in Combat; and the National Action Plan.
- 23. Commander’s Guide to Implementing UNSCR 1325 in Military Planning and the Conduct of Operations and Major Exercises –** This product is an artefact from the Australian/United States of America bilateral exercise, Exercise Talisman Sabre 2015. It reflects the lessons learnt from that exercise, which was the first occasion, globally, that Women, Peace and Security principles had been included as a priority in a large, multilateral military exercise. This guide will continue to evolve through future iterations of the Exercise and experiences learnt from Defence’s operationalisation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

- 24. Commonwealth of Australia, DFAT, Australian Aid: Promoting prosperity, reducing poverty, enhancing stability (June 2014)** – This document supersedes An Effective Aid Programme for Australia: Making a real difference – Delivering real results (2012). It notes that women and children are often the most exposed to risks of losing income and opportunities, and of sexual and gender-based violence during crises. It sets the target that at least 80 per cent of investments, regardless of their objectives, will effectively address gender issues in their implementation. Enhancing women’s voice in decision-making, leadership, and peacebuilding, and implementing the UN Security Women, Peace and Security commitments through effective aid program investments in countries affected by conflict are identified as specific strategies.
- 25. Conflict-related Sexual and Gender-based Violence** – An ACOM civil-military occasional paper that is intended as an introductory overview to support prevention and response efforts.
- 26. Consular Operations Handbook (referenced in 2014 Progress Report, however updated in January 2016)** – These DFAT guidelines for Australian consular services include advice on managing allegations of criminal conduct - extraterritorial offences and the responsibility to report. Offences encompass allegations of involvement in transnational organised crime such as people smuggling and human trafficking; child sex offences; slavery and slavery-like practices, including forced marriage; female genital mutilation; breach of UN Security Council or Australian autonomous sanctions; and international peace and security, such as war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and foreign incursions and recruitment.
- 27. Country and Regional Aid Investment Plan: Aid Investment Plan: Myanmar 2015-2020**³⁵ – The Plan includes the objectives to enhance human development by improving access to quality education; promote peace and stability through support to the peace process and elections, and humanitarian assistance as required; and promote inclusive economic growth and government management. The Plan explicitly commits to promoting the voice and interests of women and girls, and to applying the principles of the women, peace and security agenda. This includes protecting vulnerable women and supporting women to take an active role in peace negotiations and in preventing conflict and working to reduce exploitation and violence against women when responding to humanitarian emergencies. The Plan includes the performance objective that women who have completed Australian-funded training are engaged in the peace process.
- 28. Defence Implementation Plan** – The plan reflects Defence’s responsibilities under the National Action Plan and contains the activities and tasks that Defence will undertake to implement the five high level National Action Plan strategies and the 17 of 24 National

³⁵ <http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/aid-investment-plan-aip-myanmar-2015-20.aspx>

Action Plan actions for which Defence is the responsible agency. The plan also contains the six actions for which the Australian Civil Military Centre is responsible.

- 29. Defence White paper 2016** – This document sets out the Australian Government’s direction to Defence to guide strategy, capability and organisational and budget planning. Paragraphs 5.79 and 5.80 make specific reference to Defence’s obligations and initiatives under the National Action Plan.
- 30. DFAT Code of Conduct for Overseas Service** (referenced in 2014 Progress Report) - DFAT Corporate Policy and Guidelines – Employees of DFAT travelling overseas on official business, including those on long-term postings, are required to provide an undertaking that they will comply with the Code of Conduct for Overseas Service, which is underpinned by the Australian Public Service Code of Conduct. This contains provisions on appropriate personal behaviours, which includes sexual behaviour. This is relevant to the National Action Plan provisions intending to mitigate exploitation of vulnerable persons and advocating of zero tolerance for gender-based violence.
- 31. Discussion Paper on Women Peace and Security in the Royal Australian Air Force** – This paper outlines Women, Peace and Security with respect to how it relates to Air Force’s Air Power roles.
- 32. Humanitarian Action Policy 2011** (referenced in 2014 Progress Report) – This document guides Australia’s commitments to deliver effective and appropriate humanitarian action. It references Australia’s long-term support of UN Security Council resolutions on Women, Peace and Security and Australia’s intention to expand international work to end violence against women. It also builds on the strategic partnerships formed with government, UN agencies and civil society to prevent and respond to sexual violence in conflict, post-conflict and other humanitarian settings.
- 33. Humanitarian Action Policy Implementation Plan 2011–2016** (referenced in 2014 Progress Report) – This document sets out how Australia will meet its commitments under the Humanitarian Action Policy to deliver effective and appropriate humanitarian action through Australian aid. It includes the on-going commitment that Australia will support protection activities that align with internationally accepted guidelines, and those that address gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive health. The plan for the financial year 2013-2014 provided an initial statement that Australia is committed to gender equality in humanitarian action. This was followed by new commitments to promoting humanitarian action that equally meet the needs of women, girls, boys and men and includes their active participation in its planning and implementation; increased sex-disaggregation of data to enable better planning for, and understanding of the impacts of, humanitarian action; and on-going strong advocacy for protection internationally.
- 34. Joint Doctrine Development Guide** – This Guide is the foundation document for the development of all Australian Defence Force joint doctrine. Incorporation of the requirement to consider Women, Peace and Security principles will ensure that all

future ADF joint doctrine, and all existing doctrine as it is periodically reviewed, will include consideration of those principles.

- 35. Military Appreciation Process Land Warfare Doctrine 5-1-4** – This document provides guidance on military planning processes to commanders and staff at all levels. Consideration of the requirement for protection of civilians, including Women, Peace and Security principles, has been included in its most recent revision.
- 36. PMC Office for Women Operational Plan 2015–2016** – The coordination of the National Action Plan is listed as a key activity for the Office for Women that aligns with outcomes from the Portfolio Budget Statement.
- 37. PMC Office for Women Operational Plan 2014–2015** – The coordination of the National Action Plan, in particular supporting the Annual Civil Society Dialogue on Women, Peace and Security and facilitating an independent review of progress are listed as key priorities and deliverables for the Office for Women.
- 38. PMC Office for Women Operational Plan 2013–2014** – Women, Peace and Security is included in the plan with the first Progress Report of the National Action Plan identified as a key priority and deliverable for the Office for Women.
- 39. PMC Social Policy Divisional Plan 2015–2016** – This document outlines the key priorities and deliverables for the division and includes the coordination of the National Action Plan as a key activity that aligns with outcomes from the Portfolio Budget Statement.
- 40. PMC Strategic Framework for Women’s Policy** – This document outlines the Government’s four priority areas for assisting women to further their economic independence and participation in their communities free from violence. International engagement and reporting is one of the priority areas and the implementation of the National Action Plan is listed as a key outcome.
- 41. Promoting Opportunities for All: Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment 2011** (referenced in 2014 Progress Report and superseded in June 2014 by new policy) – This document outlines the overall approach to gender equality and women’s empowerment in the delivery of Australian aid, which is organised around four thematic pillars: (i) advancing equal access to gender-responsive health and education services, including through targeted support in fragile states and conflict-affected countries; (ii) increasing women’s voice in peacebuilding, including supporting the participation of women in peacebuilding processes by promoting the implementation of UNSCR 1325; (iii) empowering women economically, and (iv) ending violence against women and girls, including in disaster and conflict situations. It identifies the importance of working with partners in security sector and emergency response teams to address the specific vulnerabilities experienced by women and girls living in conflict and fragile states and regions experiencing a humanitarian disaster. It also identifies the importance of contributing to international debate on ending violence against women through support for UN agencies with a global mandate supporting implementation of UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889 and 1960.

- 42. Protection in Humanitarian Action Framework 2013** (referenced in 2014 Progress Report) – This framework provides guidance for improving the safety of men, women, and children affected by natural and human-induced crises through humanitarian action. The approach includes mainstreaming protection and basing assistance on a context analysis that identifies the threats women, girls, boys and men are exposed to, their vulnerabilities and ability to protect themselves. It refers to Australia’s commitment to address gender-based violence in the National Action Plan and 2011 Humanitarian Action Policy. It identifies that Australian aid will support global capacity for preventing and responding to gender-based violence.
- 43. Secretary and Chief of the Defence Force’s Direction to Deputy Secretary Strategy and Head of Military Strategic Commitments (respectively)** – written in 2014 to include Women, Peace and Security considerations into planning directives for all current and future operations.
- 44. Women Peace and Security Reflections from Australian Male Leaders** – An APMC civil-military occasional paper that draws together real life reflections and lessons of male leaders, from the ADF, AFP and civilians, showing how Women, Peace and Security can be incorporated into military or organisational planning to improve operational outcomes and achieve mission objectives.
- 45. Women, Peace and Security – DFAT’s implementation UN Security Council Resolution 1325** – This publication highlights how Australia, through its foreign policy and aid program, is contributing to international efforts to implementation of UNSCR 1325 and the Women, Peace and Security agenda. It includes examples of work with the UN and its agencies, partner governments, civil society, women and women’s organisations.

Annex D – Statistics

Table 1: Number and percentage of Australian Government employees deployed in operations that have received training on Women, Peace and Security as at 31 December 2015 (refers to Strategy 2a)

Agency	Total number of deployed personnel	Number of deployed women	Number of deployed men	Total number and % of deployed personnel trained	Number of deployed women trained	Number of deployed men trained	% of deployed women trained	% of deployed men trained
Defence ³⁶	1,525	201	1,324	1,525 (100%)	201	1,324	100%	100%
AFP ³⁷	141	27	114	120 (85.1%)	27	93	100%	81.6%
DFAT ³⁸	50	22	28					
Total	1,716	250	1,566					

Table 2: Number of women and men employed by Defence and the Australian Federal Police as at 31 December 2015 (refers to Strategy 2b)

Agency	Total number of employees	Number of women employees	Number of men employees	% of women employees	% of men employees
Defence ³⁹ (fulltime)	76,755	16,642	60,113	21.7%	78.3%
AFP	6,770	2,366	4,404	34.9%	65.1%
Total	83,525	19,008	64,517	22.8%	77.2%

³⁶ Deployed to operation ASLAN Zone A, South Sudan; Operation ASLAN Zone B, Uganda; Operation AUGURY, Jordan; Operation MAZURKA, Sinai; Operation PALADIN, Israel; Operation PALATE II, Afghanistan; Operation HIGHROAD; Operation OCCORDIANACCORIDON; Operation MANITOU; Operation OKRA Zone A; Operation OKRA Zone B.

³⁷ Deployed to Solomon Islands, East Timor and Cyprus.

³⁸ DFAT deployments are to Baghdad, Dili and Kabul.

³⁹ Fulltime ADF members and APS employees

Table 3: Number of Permanent Defence employees by Rank/Level as at 31 December 2015 (refers to Strategy 2b)

Service and Rank/Level	Women	Men	Total
Navy			
Senior Officers	21	148	169
Junior Officers	630	2,504	3,134
Senior Other Ranks	295	2,298	2,593
Junior Other Ranks	1,684	6,382	8,066
Navy Total	2,630	11,332	13,962
Army			
Senior Officers	26	221	247
Junior Officers	973	5,013	5,986
Senior Other Ranks	541	4,547	5,088
Junior Other Ranks	2,003	16,103	18,106
Army Total	3,543	25,884	29,427
Air Force			
Senior Officers	23	176	199
Junior Officers	1,038	3,688	4,726
Senior Other Ranks	418	2,532	2,950
Junior Other Ranks	1,196	5,165	6,361
Air Force Total	2,675	11,561	14,236
ADF Total	8,848	48,777	57,625
APS			
Senior Executive Service	31	89	120
Executive Level 1-2	1,599	3,863	5,462
APS Level 1-6	6,164	7,384	13,548
APS Total	7,794	11,336	19,130
Defence Total	16,642	60,113	76,755

Table 4a: Australian Federal Police employees by rank as 31 December 2015 (refers to Strategy 2b)

Band	Total number of employees	Total number of female employees	Total number of male employees
Casual	11	4	7
Band 2	428	139	289
Band 3	1574	481	1093
Band 4	1520	629	891
Band 5	1241	369	872
Band 6	488	236	252
Band 7	961	343	618
Band 8	221	83	138
Executive Level	241	62	179
SES 1	59	16	43
SES 2	20	3	17
SES 3	6	1	5
Total	6770	2366	4404

Table 4b: Australian Federal Police sworn police employees by band level as at 31 December 2015 (refers to Strategy 2b)

Band	Total number of employees	Total number of female employees	Total number of male employees
Band 2	172	44	128
Band 3	702	156	546
Band 4	819	187	632
Band 5	878	173	705
Band 6	95	30	65
Band 7	587	134	453
Band 8	55	8	47
Executive Level	130	20	110
SES 1	40	10	30
SES 2	15	2	13
SES 3	5	1	4
Total (from table 2)	3498	765	2733

Table 4c: Australian Federal Police unsworn employees by band level as at 31 December 2015 (refers to Strategy 2b)

Band	Total number of employees	Total number of female employees	Total number of male employees
Casual	11	4	7
Band 2	103	66	37
Band 3	494	299	195
Band 4	628	434	194
Band 5	299	194	105
Band 6	390	206	184
Band 7	363	206	157
Band 8	155	74	81
Executive Level	107	41	66
SES 1	18	6	12
SES 2	5	1	4
SES 3	1	0	1
Total	2574	1531	1043

Table 7: Deployed⁴⁴ AFP personnel by level as at 31 December 2015 (refers to Strategy 2c)

Level	Total number deployed	Number of women deployed	Number of men deployed	% of women deployed	% of men deployed
Constable/Team Member	88	16	72	18.2%	81.8%
Sergeant/Team Leader	44	10	34	22.7%	77.3%
Superintendent/Coordinator	8	1	7	12.5%	87.5%
SES	1	0	1	0%	100%
Totals (from Table 5)	141	27	114	19.1%	80.9%

Table 8: The levels of all deployed⁴⁵ DFAT women and men for the reporting period 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2015 (refers to Strategy 2c)

Classification Level	Total number deployed	Number of women deployed	Number of men deployed	% of women deployed	% of men deployed
SES	3	0	3	0%	100%
EL2	11	5	6	45.5%	54.5%
EL1	19	8	11	42.1%	57.9%
APS6	12	7	5	58.3%	41.7%
APS5	3	1	2	33.3%	66.7%
APS4	2	1	1	50.0%	50.0%
Total	50	22	28	44.0%	56.0%

⁴⁴ Deployed to Solomon Islands, East Timor and Cyprus.

⁴⁵ Deployed to Baghdad, Dili and Kabul

Annex E – Interventions

Number and description of interventions and support of resolutions and policy in the UN Security Council, General Assembly, UN Human Rights Council and other relevant fora addressing Women, Peace and Security issues (refers to Strategy 4e)

Number	Resolution / policy title	Description (of policy and support)
S/RES/2139 (2014)	Calls on all parties in the Syrian Civil War to permit free access to humanitarian aid	Co-authored by Australia and unanimously adopted on 22 February 2014.
S/RES/2145 (2014)	UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan	Adopted by the Security Council at its 7139th meeting, on 17 March 2014.
S/RES/2165 (2014)	Supplements UNSCR 2139 (2014) and allows direct humanitarian access across four border crossings not controlled by the Syrian government	Co-authored by Australia and unanimously adopted on 14 July 2014.
S/RES/2191 (2014)	Renews authorisation allowing agencies and humanitarian partners continued aid access across Syrian borders	Co-authored by Australia and unanimously adopted on 17 December 2014.
A/69/968 -S/2015/490	(December 2015) Review of the UN Peacebuilding Architecture Report	Prepared a position paper to inform negotiations on new General Assembly and Security Council peacebuilding resolutions held in February 2016. The paper noted the need to include women in all peacebuilding processes, and encouraged the Peacebuilding Fund to surpass the 15 per cent target for funding allocations dedicated to supporting gender-sensitive approaches.
A/70/95 -S/2015/446	(January 2015) Uniting Our Strengths for Peace - Politics, Partnership and People: High-level Independent Panel on UN Peace Operations (launched 16 June 2015)	Developed a submission to the review that identified gender as a priority, and incorporated many of the key themes in UNSCR 1325. The submission recommended a gender-sensitive approach to policing and the protection of civilians.
	(15 April 2015) UN Security Council Open Debate on sexual violence in conflict	Called on the UN to integrate the Women, Peace and Security agenda into counter-terrorism and counter-insurgency efforts.
	(30 January 2015) At the UN Security Council Open Debate on Protection challenges and needs faced by women and girls in conflict and post-conflict settings	Called for the parallel reviews on UNSCR 1325, peace operations and peacebuilding architecture to make concrete and practical recommendations on how the UN's peace and security architecture could work more effectively and consistently to protect civilians and promote the rights of women and girls.

	(28 October 2014) UN Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security: Displaced Women and Girls – Leaders and Survivors	Australia's statement delivered by the Australian Ambassador for Women and Girls.
	Renewal of the mandate of the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (post-2014)	<p>Australia as UN Security Council policy lead on Afghanistan.</p> <p>Includes new text noting the importance of protection from sexual and other forms of gender-based violence, highlighted the need to hold perpetrators to account and called for adequate legislative protections for women.</p> <p>Also recognises the importance of women's political participation, including in elections and the peace and reconciliation process, supported increased recruitment of women into the Afghan National Security Forces, and expresses concern at the targeted killing of women and girls, including high level female officials.</p>
	(15 September 2015) Debate regarding UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan	Australia's Permanent Representative to the UN stated that full implementation of the Elimination of Violence Against Women Law and UNSCR 1325 National Action Plan are essential elements of the Afghan Government's reform agenda.
	(3-5 September 2015) Senior Officials Meeting, Kabul	<p>Australia reconfirmed its commitment to empowering Afghan women and girls, and urged both the Afghan government and the international community to prioritise implementation of the Elimination of Violence Against Women Law and UNSCR 1325 National Action Plan.</p> <p>Australia also advocated for an inclusive peace and reconciliation process that recognises the vital role of women in Afghanistan's social, political and economic life, and supported including National Action Plan implementation as a key deliverable of the Self-Reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework.</p>
S/RES 2210 (2015)	UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan	Adopted by the Security Council at its 7403rd meeting on 16 March 2015.
S/RES/2242 (2015)	Women, Peace and Security	Adopted by the Security Council at its 7553rd meeting on 13 October 2015.
S'RES/ 2258 (2015)	Syria	Adopted by the Security Council at its 7595th meeting on 22 December 2015.
A/RES/70/133	UN General Assembly	Co-sponsored by Australia follow-up to the fourth World Conference on Women (17 December 2015).

A/RES/70/132	UN General Assembly	Resolution on the situation of women and girls in rural areas (17 December 2015). Co-sponsored by Australia.
A/RES/70/138	UN General Assembly	Resolution on the girl child refers to the role of women and girls in peacekeeping (17 December 2015).
HRC resolution 26/5	UN Human Rights	Recalls UNSCR 1325. Resolution presented by Colombia and Mexico (2014) Australia co-sponsored. Elimination of discrimination against women.
HRC resolution 26/15	UN Human Rights	Resolution presented by Canada (2014) Australia co-sponsored. Accelerating efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women: violence against women as a barrier to women's political and economic empowerment.
HRC resolution 23/7	UN Human Rights	Recalls UNSCR 1325. Elimination of discrimination against women – resolution presented by Colombia and Mexico (2014) Australia co-sponsored.
HRC resolution 23/25	UN Human Rights	Recalls UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960, 2010. Resolution presented by Canada (2013). Accelerating efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women: preventing and responding to rape and other forms of sexual violence. Australia co-sponsored resolution.
HRC resolutions 25/23, 26/23, 28/20, 29/16	UN Human Rights Syria	Influenced role of women in achieving a political solution to Syria. Australia co-sponsored resolutions.
HRC resolution	UN Human Rights Libya	References the maintenance of peace and security and post-conflict peacebuilding in accordance with relevant Security Council resolutions 1325 and 2122.
HRC resolution 29/13	UN Human Rights South Sudan	Emphasised that persistent barriers to the implementation of UNSCR 1325 will only be dismantled through a dedicated commitment to women's empowerment, participation and human rights, and through concerted leadership etc. Australia co-sponsored resolution.
HRC - 2015	Statement delivered by Australia at the Human Rights Council on 19 June 2015	States that Australia is strongly committed to UNSCR 1325. Annual full-day discussion on the human rights of women. Australian statement on panel: women's human rights and participation in power and decision making

Annex F – Meetings

Working Group meetings

30 May 2014:

- A representative from the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) attended the meeting and discussed the outcomes of the recent Regional WILPF meeting in New Zealand, and the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security and how it intersects with the Australian National Action Plan.
- Agreed to keep the Sub-Committee active for the life of the National Action Plan.
- Approved the draft Progress Report and to the inclusion of an additional section to outline future activities.
- Agreed approach for the launch of the Progress Report.

5 September 2014:

- Agreed new ways of engaging with civil society need to be established to facilitate stronger engagement and discussed the participation of permanent civil society representatives on the Working Group.
- Agreed agencies provide reports on activities to the Office for Women annually instead of bi-annually.
- Agreed the Terms of Reference for the Working Group need to be updated to reflect the role of the Sub-Committee and changes to agency reporting requirements.

23 January 2015:

- Members of the Steering Committee for the Civil Society Report Card on the National Action Plan attended the meeting and provided an early copy of the draft recommendations for the Civil Society Report Card on the National Action Plan.
- Agreed to the approach for the Interim Review.
- Agreed to invite civil society representatives to join the Sub-Committee to assist in the scoping of the independent Interim Review of the National Action Plan.
- Agreed to invite a civil society representative to join the Working Group.
- The Secretary-General’s letter inviting Member States to make a submission to the Global Study on Women, Peace and Security was discussed and it was agreed the Office for Women would coordinate and develop the submission.
- Agreed to recommend Government provide funding for the 2015 Civil Society Dialogue and Report Card.

8 December 2015:

- Agreed the updated Terms of Reference for the Working Group.
- Agreed to full participation of the civil society representative on the Working Group, other than when conflict of interest or confidentiality requirements would necessarily exclude their participation, for example, in the case of government procurements, contracts or grant decisions.
- Agreed the second Progress Report as an opportunity to capture analysis against a range of recommendations and reporting requirements that emerged in 2015:
 - Recommendations of the Independent Interim Review of the Australian National Action Plan.
 - Recommendations from the Report of the Secretary-General on Women, Peace and Security.
 - Australia's pledges at the 2015 High-level Review on Women, Peace and Security.
- Agreed the Progress Report template will require updating by the Sub-Committee.
- A representative from the Civil Society Coalition on Women, Peace and Security outlined changes in format to the 2015 Civil Society Dialogue where data was also captured for the Report Card via an online survey for organisations that could not attend.
- Agreed it would be useful for a Government Women, Peace and Security representative to join the Coalition's Steering Committee.

