

JOINT PROGRAMME

FOR WOMEN, NATURAL RESOURCES, CLIMATE AND PEACE

Final report | 2016-2020

UN environment programme

UN WOMEN
United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

DPPA
Preventing Conflict. Sustaining Peace

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

C2SP	UNDP Community Security and Stabilization Programme
CEAP	Community Environmental Action Planning
CSM	Climate Security Mechanism
FARC	Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
MOOC	Massive Online Open Course
NAP	National Action Plan
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
UN	United Nations
UN CC: LEARN	One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership
UN DPPA	United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs
UN PBF	United Nations Peacebuilding Fund
UN WOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
UNSOM	United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia
WPS	Women, Peace and Security

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INTRODUCTION

Since the adoption of Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security in 2000, there is a growing body of evidence showing that the meaningful participation of women in peacebuilding processes contributes to more inclusive and sustainable peace. This is especially crucial in contexts experiencing the compound risks associated with climate change, environmental degradation and conflict, where gender-based inequalities often leave women and girls disproportionately exposed and less prepared to cope with economic, political, and environmental shocks. However, in contexts where local tensions center on access, use or control of critical natural resources, women often remain marginalized in governance mechanisms and largely excluded from peacebuilding processes and conflict prevention efforts.

In 2013, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), and the United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) came together to explore how natural resources and the environment could serve as an entry point for women's meaningful participation in conflict prevention and peacebuilding rather than a basis for exclusion. The joint report "Women and Natural Resources: Unlocking the Peacebuilding Potential" produced by the four agencies showed that in conflict-affected settings, pervasive gender-based inequalities can expose women to particular risks associated with their natural resource-related roles, but that interventions around natural resources, environment and climate change adaptation could also provide significant opportunities to empower women politically and economically, and to strengthen their contributions to peace.

Building on the partnership established between these four agencies, the Joint UN Programme for Women, Natural Resources, Climate and Peace was born in 2016 to test untapped potential for advancing women's meaningful participation in conflict prevention, mediation, and peacebuilding. The USD 2 million programme was supported by the Government of Finland, with additional support from the Governments of Norway, Germany and Sweden.

This final report summarizes the project's key achievements and results, and provides an overview of the lessons learned. As climate change intensifies across the globe, the learnings from this initiative provide valuable insights for future programming and policymaking at the intersection of gender, environment, climate and peace.


INVITA A
Encuentro Nacional de
Mujeres
Conocimientos tradicionales, gobernanza ambiental y construcción de paz

THE PROJECT

OBJECTIVE

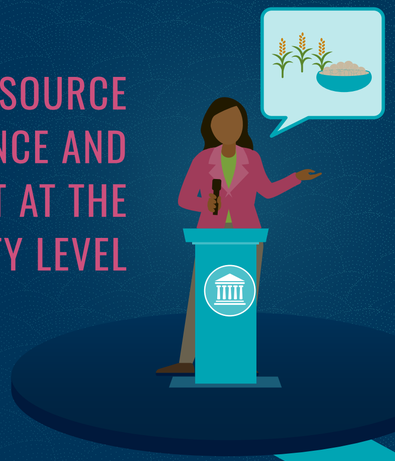
The Joint Programme on Women, Natural Resources, Climate and Peace (Joint Programme) was established to promote natural resource-based interventions as a tool for strengthening women's participation in peacebuilding, with a particular focus on 3 areas:

- PARTICIPATION IN DIALOGUE, MEDIATION AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION EFFORTS
- PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNANCE AND DECISION-MAKING AT ALL LEVELS
- CONTRIBUTIONS TO ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

The Joint Programme sought to build the capacity of UN and other international, national, local and community peacebuilding and development actors to design, implement, replicate and up-scale gender-responsive natural resource interventions, and to ensure that these are integrated in national and local planning and programming for peace and development in conflict-affected countries.

Figure 1:
Theory of Change

NATURAL RESOURCE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL



IF women are capacitated to engage more effectively in natural resource governance and management at the community level, **THEN** they will be able to engage more effectively in conflict prevention and resolution efforts over natural resource-related conflicts, **BECAUSE** not only will they have the necessary skills to do so, but also the community will respect and understand the unique value of their contributions.



CONFLICT PREVENTION AND RESOLUTION EFFORTS

IF women's voices, capacities and agency are more effectively used in conflict prevention and resolution efforts over natural resource-related conflicts, **THEN** peacebuilding will be strengthened **BECAUSE** the range of the community's interests will be reflected in a more inclusive manner and the grievances of different stakeholders will be more effectively addressed.



PEACEBUILDING

APPROACH

The Joint Programme's approach includes three main sets of sequential outputs:

1 PILOT PROJECTS

The Joint Programme implemented pilot projects in Sudan and Colombia to test and document opportunities to strengthen women's contributions to peacebuilding through natural resource-related interventions at the local level. These pilot initiatives established a new methodology for designing integrated programming that simultaneously addresses gender equality, environmental, and peace and security goals, an approach which is being replicated and scaled in three additional projects funded by the UN Peacebuilding Fund.

2 TOOLS AND GUIDANCE FOR PROGRAMMING AND ANALYSIS

Drawing on lessons learned from the pilot project, a the Joint Programme produced a practical set of tools and guidance to support practitioners, policymakers and researchers to design gender-responsive and climate-smart programmes in conflict-affected settings and conduct integrated gender, environmental and conflict analysis. These include a modular training package delivered to a range of practitioners, policymakers and stakeholders from the donor community on how to design analysis and programmes that integrate gender, environmental, and security considerations, as well as a Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) on climate change and security, developed in collaboration with other key stakeholders engaged in climate change and security programming. The Joint Programme also established a Knowledge Platform on Women, Natural Resources, Climate and Peace serving as a vital resource centre for a growing community of practice on this nexus.

3 OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY

The Joint Programme actively engaged in outreach and advocacy at the global and national levels to promote uptake of the Joint Programme's lessons and tools. This included the dissemination of a monthly newsletter on Gender, Natural Resources, Climate and Peace to the Joint Programme's growing community of practice, the production of a new UN policy report on gender, climate change and security, as well as the organization of outreach events and communication initiatives.

Figure 2: Programme Results Framework

Figure 1 illustrates the Joint Programme's logical framework and highlights key achievements under each component.

***green** = target achieved,*
***yellow** = significant progress towards target achieved,*
***red** = target not achieved*

OUTCOME 1

Gender-responsive approaches to natural resource management are integrated into national and local planning and programming for peacebuilding and development in conflict-affected countries

- 5 peacebuilding and development programmes and planning frameworks in conflict-affected countries integrate gender-responsive natural resource management practices
- Increased institutional capacity (knowledge, skills, attitudes) of UN, national and local peacebuilding and development actors to design, implement and monitor gender-responsive interventions in various natural resource sectors in conflict-affected countries
- Increased financial investment (USD 8,993,000) in initiatives using gender-responsive natural resource management approaches for peacebuilding and development in conflict-affected countries

OUTCOME 2

Specific challenges and/or opportunities presented by women's access, use and control of natural resources are addressed in conflict-affected countries on a pilot basis

- Challenges and opportunities related to women's access and benefits from natural resources addressed in Sudan and Colombia

Output 1.1:
Gender-responsive approaches to natural resource management tested and documented through pilot projects in at least three conflict-affected countries

- 2 pilot projects completed (target=3*)
  **note that only 43% of the full programme budget was raised*
- 2 reports documenting lessons and best practices for integrating gender-responsive approaches to natural resource management in peacebuilding contexts collected for upscaling and replication
- Increase in the institutional capacity (knowledge, skills, attitudes) of UN, national and local peacebuilding and development practitioners involved in pilot projects to design, implement and monitor gender-responsive interventions in various natural resource sectors in conflict-affected countries

Output 1.2:
Best practice and programming tools and guidance on gender-responsive approaches to natural resource management in conflict-affected countries developed

- 1 MOOC developed, validated and available to country-level practitioners
- 1 model results framework developed, validated and available to country-level practitioners
- Online and in-person training materials developed and integrated into 8 existing training courses
- 1 web-based platform and community of practice established with 380 members (target = 500)
- New data on key knowledge gaps available through 3 new research reports

Output 1.3:
Outreach and advocacy conducted at global, national levels to promote uptake of the tools in peacebuilding program

- 15 events, meetings and consultations organized with member states, private sector and NGOs
- 25 newsletters developed and shared to date, as well as web stories, blogs, video reporting and documentaries, and a key messaging document
- Increased understanding and perception among key stakeholders of the importance of addressing the gender dimensions of natural resource access, use, management in conflict-affected settings through briefings conducted for key stakeholders, including the Climate-Security Mechanism and the Groups for Friends on Climate-Security and WPS

PARTNERSHIPS

The Joint Programme's results were predicated on the strong partnership between UNEP (convening agency), UN Women, UNDP and DPPA, which not only ensured that the necessary expertise on the different dimensions of the nexus was available – peacebuilding, gender equality and women's empowerment, environmental sustainability and natural resource management, livelihoods and economic recovery – but also allowed for truly integrated approaches to be designed and implemented. At the field level, the Joint Programme also partnered with local organizations including Vet Care Organization (Sudan), as well as Tierra Digna and Fundación Natura (Colombia) to deliver programming that was both informed by and supported local capacity.

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RESULTS

After four years of implementation, the Joint Programme has had a visible impact in shaping programme design and policy priorities to more systematically consider the challenges and opportunities associated with the gender dimensions of climate and environmental security risks. Three key results stand out as particularly noteworthy:

First, pilot projects in ***Sudan*** and ***Colombia*** have demonstrated the value natural resources and the environment offer as an entry point to empowering women in peacebuilding, conflict resolution and decision-making, an approach to programming that is already being replicated and scaled in new contexts.

Second, the Joint Programme's practical tools and guidance have helped to build the capacity of practitioners and policymakers to design integrated programmes and policies that support gender equality, environmental, and peacebuilding goals.

Finally, the Joint Programme's investment in research and knowledge management has provided policymakers with the resources to better integrate climate and environmental considerations into the WPS agenda on the one hand, and gender considerations into emerging priorities on climate change and security on the other.

This section describes these the results and shares examples of key activities and actions that shaped the Joint Programme's success.

A NEW APPROACH TO INTEGRATED PROGRAMMING

The successful pilot projects in *Sudan* and *Colombia* demonstrated that women's knowledge and roles related to natural resource management can offer unique entry points to empower women economically and to strengthen women's leadership in governance, dispute resolution, and peacebuilding. These pilots have achieved significant results both at country level – with direct and immediate impacts in communities where activities were implemented – as well as globally, catalyzing new investments to replicate and scale the tested approach in new contexts.





Impact at country level

At the country level, the Joint Programme's interventions have resulted in greater inclusion and participation of women in local peacebuilding and governance structures.

Since the adoption of UNSCR 1325, the implementation of key policies for gender equality and women's empowerment has tended to focus interventions at the national level or on high-level (track 1) mediation processes. The Joint Programme's pilot projects showed that there are important dynamics at local level, such as those linked to the social shifts occurring as a result of climate change and environmental degradation, that present opportunities for strengthening women's participation in conflict prevention and resolution. Women's experience brokering disputes over natural resources at the community level could – and should – be used and capitalized upon in higher-level dialogue processes.

In ***Colombia,***
natural resources offered an entry point to strengthen women's participation in peacebuilding initiatives at local and national levels, making important contributions to sustaining peace despite an ever changing and complex political environment. In the department of Chocó, for example, project interventions built the capacity of women and men to implement the Constitutional Court rule T-622, granting rights to the Atrato river, whose continued protection is central to the social, cultural, and economic well-being of its surrounding populations.



In ***North Kordofan, Sudan,***
where the convergence of climate change and conflict exacerbate natural resource scarcity and push individuals – particularly men – to migrate away from rural villages to seek alternative solutions to faltering livelihoods, the project supported women who remain behind to play a more significant role in natural resource governance as well as in conflict mediation and resolution processes over natural resource-related conflicts in their communities.

Box 1: Pilot Project 1

PROMOTING GENDER-RESPONSIVE APPROACHES TO NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FOR PEACE IN NORTH KORDOFAN, SUDAN

This pilot project was implemented in the locality of Al Rahad in North Kordofan State, Sudan, a community beset by environmental degradation and increasing local conflict between farmers and nomadic pastoralists. These tensions have been exacerbated by climate change impacts – including more severe droughts, higher temperatures, and unpredictable rainfall – which have undermined agricultural productivity and, among other factors, have impacted pastoralist movements, concentrating cattle in and around Al Rahad.

In addition to violent conflict, the impacts of climate change and environmental degradation are contributing to important shifts in the social composition of Al Rahad. As a result of the economic hardships caused by faltering traditional livelihoods, men in the community, especially younger men, have increasingly been migrating to away from Al Rahad to seek alternative income-generating opportunities in other parts of the country. Originally lasting only for the fallow months, the period of migration can now extend far longer, especially for young and unmarried men. This has resulted in a significant increase in female-headed households, a phenomenon largely recognized by traditional leaders and elders as the "new normal".

PROJECT FACTS

START DATE: MARCH 2017

END DATE: OCTOBER 2018

UN PARTNERS: UNEP, UN WOMEN, UNDP

LOCAL PARTNERS: VET CARE ORGANIZATION

BUDGET: USD 300,000 FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF FINLAND*

The grant was supplemented with in-kind contributions from three partners, as well as Vet-Care Organization.





The marked “feminization” of the resident population is further compounded by the increasing sedentarization of some of the pastoralist groups, which are not only staying in the area for longer periods of time, but often also splitting, leaving women and children behind in Al Rahad while men continue along their migration route. Sedentarized pastoralist groups – largely women – typically turn to the land to generate income, renting fields from the local community to graze their sheep and goats or to produce small crops.

Despite their significant roles in natural resource management, women have been marginalized economically and politically, and have not been engaged in the existing conflict resolution mechanisms that address grievances over natural resources. Community-level structures that are typically involved in the management of natural resources have either not included women at all or included them to some degree, but not on matters related to conflict resolution. The roles of nomadic women in formal decision-making processes are particularly limited due to cultural taboos and high rates of illiteracy.

Within this context, the pilot project sought to strengthen women’s roles in local peacebuilding processes over natural resource-based conflicts. This was achieved through a series of sequenced interventions that focused first on strengthening women’s economic empowerment through natural resource-based livelihoods and then on building women’s capacity to participate in local planning, decision-making and conflict resolution bodies that manage access to and use of natural resources. This pilot initiative built on the foundation established by the UNDP Community Security and Stabilization Programme (C2SP), demonstrating that even relatively minor investments in targeted action for gender equality and women’s empowerment can have transformative results by influencing existing peacebuilding programming and projects.

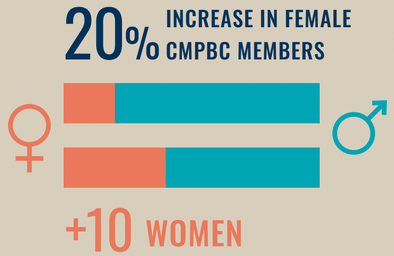


Key results

Though its natural resource-related activities on livelihoods, governance and conflict resolution, the project succeeded in strengthening women's roles in local conflict resolution and dialogue mechanisms and in enhancing their participation in decision-making bodies, improved the economic well-being of women, and contributed to positive changes in community attitudes about women's leadership capacities.

The project's approach and achievements are fully documented, along with lessons learned, in the final report of the joint pilot project in Sudan.

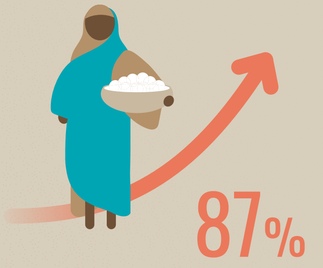
- As a result of the project, the **number of women affiliated to the local Conflict Mitigation and Peacebuilding Center, the main conflict resolution mechanism in the area, doubled during the project lifespan (from 10 to 20 out of 50 members)**. At the end of the project, women led the Dialogue Forums bringing pastoralist, farming and IDP communities together in each of the target villages to discuss various factors of tension, including access to land and water. The Center reported that women were also actively involved as mediators in **4 out of 22 conflict mediation processes** conducted since the start of the project, noting that this represented an increase as compared to prior years, as women were until recently virtually absent from meetings and discussions – or only present as observers.



- The project sought to measure the extent to which the various natural resource-related activities on livelihoods, governance and conflict resolution had resulted in shifting perceptions of women's capacities and leadership. The results were highly positive among both women beneficiaries themselves, and within the broader community as **100% of individuals surveyed**[1] in both groups agreed that women had important roles and contributions with respect to conflict over natural resources, a marked increase from the first round of perception surveys in which only **54.5%** of individuals perceived women's roles in this way.



- Finally, as a result of the project's sustainable livelihood activities, **87% of women who received livelihoods support from the project reported increased income,** either from home-based gardens or from newly established cooperative farms. Women indicated that the income from their home gardens was adequate to cover daily basic needs, whereas the crops that they cultivated at the farms, such as sesame and sorghum, were considered cash crops that greatly boosted their income. This not only had an immediate positive impact on women's ability to meet their immediate needs (and that of their families), but also had important effects on women's sense of empowerment and self-esteem. Livelihoods interventions also promoted social cohesion. For example, most of the women, pastoralists included, mentioned that their relationships with their neighbors had strengthened as they began to exchange goods and tips related to their new cooperatives.



Box 2: Pilot Project 2

SUPPORTING THE PEACE PROCESS IN COLOMBIA BY STRENGTHENING WOMEN'S ENGAGEMENT IN NATURAL RESOURCE GOVERNANCE IN CHOCÓ, COLOMBIA

The 2016 peace agreement between the Government of Colombia and the FARC rebel group, known as the Havana Accords, included some 100 commitments to promote and enforce the rights of women. Additionally, the Colombian peace process fully recognized that sound management of natural resources and environmental protection were essential for the achievement of peace and sustainable development. Issues related to access and ownership of land and natural resources were of great importance during the negotiations, since unequal land distribution and discrimination against the rural population were key factors in the conflict between the government and the FARC.

Against this background, the project targeted the department of Chocó, where the weak presence of the State and the control over much of the territory of armed actors had generated natural resource use and exploitation dynamics that had particularly negative impacts on communities and ecosystems. Within this context, the project focused on strengthening the capacities and opportunities for engagement of women's groups in a unique governance process seen as a symbol of peace in Chocó: the implementation of the 2016 T-622 ruling of the Colombian Constitutional Court on the Atrato River.

PROJECT FACTS

START DATE: DECEMBER 2017

END DATE: NOVEMBER 2019

UN PARTNERS: UN WOMEN, UNEP

LOCAL PARTNERS: TIERRA DIGNA, FUNDACIÓN NATURA

BUDGET: USD 537,000*

The budget was comprised of USD 247,000 contributed by the Government of Finland, USD 121,800 from the Government of Norway, and 167,900 from the Government of Germany.



The 750 km Atrato River, which connects the remote corners of Chocó, served as a central axis for illegal activities such as the trafficking of drugs and weapons, and the illegal exploitation of gold and wood, and other natural resources. In addition, the pollution resulting from gold mining operations threatened not only the life of the river and its eco-system, but also the welfare and social fabric of local communities.

Decision T-622 recognized the river as a subject with fundamental rights, including rights to protection, conservation maintenance and restoration. The decision called on the Colombian state and local communities to protect these rights, including through the establishment of river guardians, or “Guardianes del Atrato”, a group of representatives from the river’s shoreline to serve as its voice.

The project thus sought to promote the **inclusive and gender-responsive implementation of the Constitutional Court Decision T-622.** This was achieved by supporting and capacitating the river guardians and other key stakeholders with as set of knowledge and tools to conduct social-environmental conflict analysis, mediate local disputes, and develop project proposals that promote the preservation of traditional knowledge and historical memory, and address local environmental conflicts. The learning from these activities – together with other knowledge-based initiatives – formed a critical evidence base for integrated approaches at national level, and informed the development of a number of policies natural resource-related policies related to the implementation of the peace agreement. It also catalyzed the establishment of a network of women “environmental defenders” active across the country.

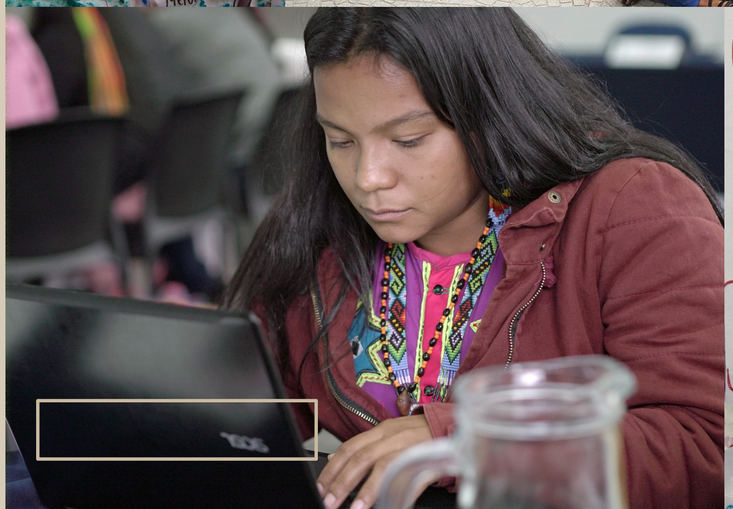














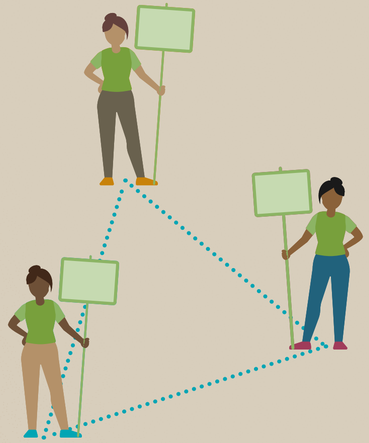
Key results

The project achieved several meaningful results, most notably enhancing women's leadership and capacity for the prevention of natural resource-related conflict in Chocó and strengthening relationships between women environmental and human rights defenders in the region.

- The project succeeded in **increasing women's capacity to meaningfully engage in environmental governance, natural resource management and the prevention of socio-environmental conflicts** in the department of Chocó. Specifically, the project supported women and men in the leadership body of "guardians" of the Atrato river designated to oversee the implementation of the Constitutional Court ruling T-622 with training on natural resource conflict prevention, mediation and dialogue, as well as on key notions of environmental governance and protection, paving the way for a process of restoration seen by a plurality of stakeholders as a major peace dividend. After the project, the "guardians" replicated training they received through the project in nine communities, expanding the network of guardians by nearly 70 additional people.



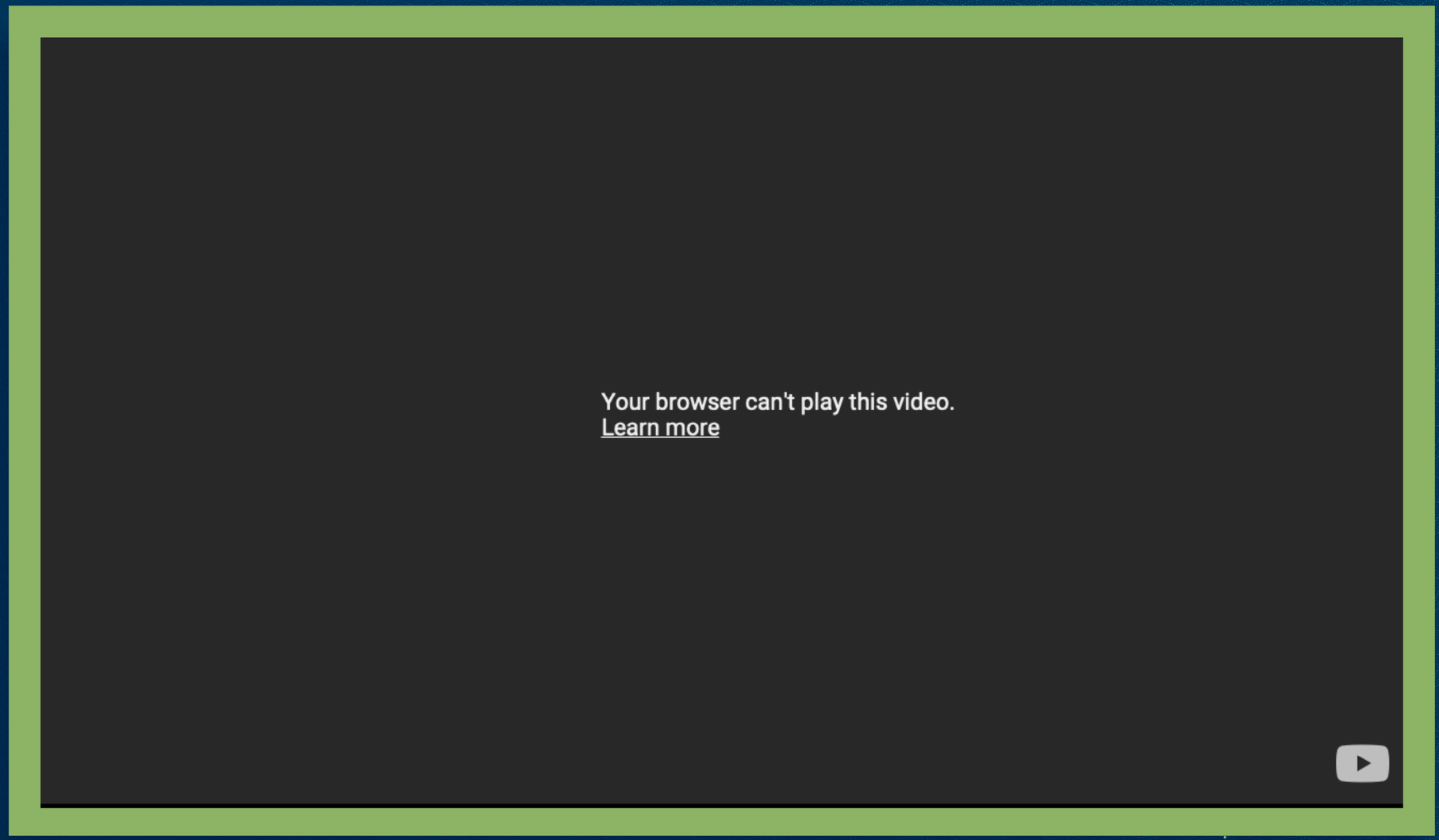
- The pilot was successful in **connecting and networking women with multiple voices, experiences and backgrounds engaged in environmental and human rights and the defence of territory, thereby fostering the coordination of formerly isolated efforts and catalyzing the self-recognition and visibilization of many as "environmental defenders".** In addition to the local process in Chocó, which brought together women from diverse communities, the project facilitated three dialogues among women working on environmental issues across the country, connecting local processes of different regions with each other, as well as with national processes. Recognizing the risks faced by environmental and human rights defenders in the country, protection was a significant focus of the project and training, supported by OHCHR.



- **Finally, the project contributed to consolidating knowledge of the linkages between gender equality, environmental governance and peacebuilding in Colombia and to documenting good practices and approaches for replication and adaptation, establishing a critical evidence base.** A library of knowledge products are available on UN Women Colombia's dedicated web pages and on the Joint Programme's Knowledge Platform, including, among others, the translation into Spanish of 2013 policy report *Women and Natural Resources: Unlocking the Peacebuilding Potential*, a book of portraits of environmental defenders, as well as the documentation of the experience of the Atrato River in Colombia through: a toolbox that allows for replication of the Certificate Training Programme, the book *Laughs, Dreams and Regrets: Experiences of the Atrato and Baudó River from the Perspective of their Guardians and the document Defending the Atrato River: reflections of the case and notes on the role of women in the defence of the territory.*



DOCUMENTATION, CRITICAL EVIDENCE BASE, GOOD PRACTICES AND APPROACHES FOR REPLICATION AND ADAPTATION



The project's book "Risas, Sueños, y Lamentos del Río" was presented on local TV in Chocó (May 2019).

To add subtitles with translation, click the settings button, select "auto-translate" and choose your language.

Replication and Scaling

While there is no “one size fits all” method for peacebuilding, the integrated approach developed through the pilot projects is grounded in three core principles:

1

SEQUENCED INTERVENTIONS seeking to meet immediate needs first – such as income generation ***(Sudan)*** or protection ***(Colombia)*** – before engaging women in governance and peacebuilding activities, are essential for building trust and buy-in, and ensuring a “do no harm” approach.

2

LEVERAGING WOMEN’S ROLES in natural resource management can create new opportunities and shift community attitudes about the capacity of women to engage in leadership, decision-making and conflict prevention.

3

BUILDING WOMEN’S CAPACITY for natural resource-related dialogue and conflict mediation can increase women’s participation in local conflict resolution mechanisms and strengthen women’s contributions to broader peacebuilding processes.

This approach has generated considerable interest from peace and development actors. Notably, the Joint Programme has supported partners to leverage funding from the UN Peacebuilding Fund to upscale and replicate the methodology in contexts affected by different climate-related and environmental security risks, including through a USD 4 million cross-border between Mali and Niger, and a USD 4 million project in Blue Nile State, Sudan. Gender has also been mainstreamed into several other Peacebuilding Fund projects addressing risks linked to natural resources and the environment, including a new project in Côte d'Ivoire.

Figure 2: UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) projects supporting the replication and upscaling of the Joint Programme's methodology

In the border areas between ***Mali and Niger*** – a context where climate change is exacerbating conflicts over increasingly scarce natural resources – a USD 4 million transboundary project is empowering women to contribute to local cross-border conflict prevention and resolution, with a focus on enhancing women's leadership in natural resource management.



In ***Côte d'Ivoire,*** a USD 2.5 million project focuses on reducing conflict risk through inclusive natural resource management in the north-eastern border zone. This project has integrated a gender-responsive approach to enhance women's leadership in conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

In ***Blue Nile State, Sudan*** a USD 4 million project will promote sustainable peace through gender-responsive natural resource governance, inclusive conflict resolution mechanisms, and climate resilient livelihoods. The project is designed to enhance women's meaningful participating in the implementation of the Juba Peace Agreement.

Drawing on the Joint Programme's approach and within the framework of their partnership programme on climate change and security, UNEP and the EU have mainstreamed gender considerations across their interventions in Nepal and Sudan, seeking to ensure gender transformative impacts through integrated climate adaptation and peacebuilding initiatives (Box 3).

In Nepal, for instance, the EU-UNEP programme has adopted new methods for measuring gains in women's empowerment employed by the Joint Programme, such as examining the impact of women's economic empowerment through the project's support for climate-resilient livelihoods on their decision-making power in household or community-level structures. In addition, drawing on the Joint Programme's approach, new projects under development through UNEP or through the Climate Security Mechanism are integrating gender equality and women's empowerment as a core objective from the onset.

*Box 3. EU-UNEP Climate Change and Security project enhancing community resilience to floods by empowering local women in **Nangapur village, Nepal***

In Nangapur village, extreme flooding in 2017 and again in 2019 destroyed the crops Geeta Tharu and her family relied on to support their basic needs. To compensate for lost income, Geeta's husband migrated to the capital Kathmandu for most of the year to work in the informal construction business, leaving Geeta behind to support their family.

The Climate Change and Security project enrolled Geeta in a small business training course and provided seed funding for Geeta to start her own small restaurant in her village. Geeta now earns a daily income of USD 10 to 15 and in her first year of business, has opened a bank account and saved more than USD 500. The business enabled Geeta to send her daughter to a private school and has brought her husband home to reside permanently in Nangapur and support the family enterprise.



Geeta Tharu displays a new billboard advertising her eatery in Nangapur, Bardiya district, Nepal

STRENGTHENED CAPACITY FOR INTEGRATED ANALYSIS AND PROGRAMME DESIGN

To promote uptake and replication of lessons and good practices, the Joint Programme sought to build system-wide capacity for integrated analysis and programme design through investments in training and the consolidation of knowledge on the nexus of gender, natural resources, climate and peace. Three important achievements stand out in equipping relevant actors and institutions with the necessary analytical and programmatic tools and resources at this nexus:

Training and capacity building

Responding to growing demand for knowledge on how to design projects that link environmental, peacebuilding and gender equality goals, the Joint Programme designed a modular training package that could be easily adapted to meet the needs of specific audiences and delivered in different formats (ranging from 15 minute interventions to multi-day courses). Training materials include an introductory lesson to unpack the linkages between the environment, gender and peace, as well as lessons on conducting integrated analysis and programme design.

The Joint Programme successfully delivered this training package eight times, specifically targeting key influencers and changemakers whose enhanced capacity has catalytic potential for influencing policy, research, and programming priorities. For instance, the Joint Programme trainees include UN Peace and Development Advisors (training delivered during annual global training in 2019), foreign policy officers (training delivered to UK foreign office in 2020), and staff of special political missions (training delivered to UN Assistance Mission in Somalia in 2021). The training has also been integrated into relevant courses conducted by the UN System Staff College, expanding its reach to staff across the UN system.

Training forum	Audience
International Environmental Peacebuilding Conference, USA	Peace and development practitioners and researchers
UN Peace & Development Advisors Fellowship Programme, Sweden	UN Peace and Development Advisors
Swisspeace, Switzerland	Peace and development practitioners and researchers
UK Government Learning Journey on Climate, Environment and Stability, UK	Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and other UK Government departments
United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia, Somalia	UNSOM Political Affairs and Mediation Group
United Nations System Staff College, Climate-Sensitive Programming for Sustaining Peace	World Food Programme staff; peace and development practitioners
United Nations System Staff College, Integrated Analysis for Sustaining Peace	Peace and development practitioners and researchers

TESTIMONIES

OVERALL, THE SUBSTANCE WAS GREAT, FOCUSING ON AN IMPORTANT CONVERSATION THAT CHALLENGES US TO BRING TOGETHER WHAT A LOT OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORLD PREFERS TO KEEP IN SEPARATE SILOS. I LEARNED A LOT AND THOUGHT THE FORMATS ALLOWED FOR ENGAGEMENT."

TRAINING PARTICIPANT, SWISSPEACE

I'M SO GLAD THIS TRAINING HAS COME TOGETHER! IT DEFINITELY DESERVES MORE THAN ONE DAY, BUT I THINK ITS FORMAT WOULD BE APPEALING TO 'PRACTITIONERS' IN RELEVANT FIELDS. […] I WOULD LOVE TO KNOW IF THERE IS THE POSSIBILITY OF DESIGNING SIMILAR TRAININGS FOR OTHER AUDIENCES SUCH AS JOURNALISTS WHO REPORT ON COMPLEX AND SENSITIVE ISSUES SOMETIMES WITHOUT A FULL UNDERSTANDING OF CONTEXT OR OF THE POSSIBLE REPERCUSSIONS OF THE WAY THEY FRAME NARRATIVES ETC."

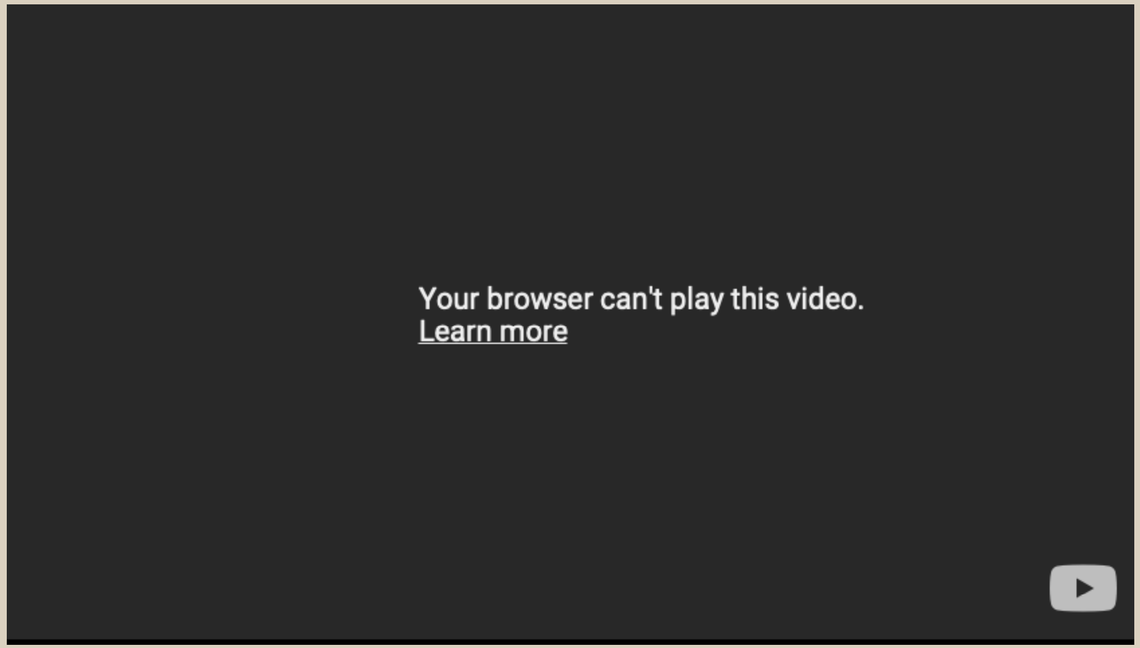
TRAINING PARTICIPANT, ENVIRONMENTAL PEACEBUILDING CONFERENCE

YES [I WOULD RECOMMEND THIS COURSE TO COLLEAGUES]. THERE NEEDS TO BE MORE SYSTEMATIC CONSIDERATION OF THE ROLE OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN CONFLICT DYNAMICS."

TRAINING PARTICIPANT, UNSOM

Massive Online Open Course (MOOC)

To meet the growing demand for expertise, a key achievement of the Joint Programme was the new Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) on designing and implementing gender-responsive approaches to addressing climate-related security risks, adapting elements of the Joint Programme's live training in to a self-paced, online course. The MOOC, hosted on the One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership (UN CC: Learn) online platform, was designed reach to broader group of stakeholders including political analysts and peacebuilding practitioners, climate adaptation specialists and gender and inclusion advisors seeking to better integrate climate, conflict, and gender considerations into their analytical processes and programming.



Knowledge platform

Finally, the Joint Programme established the first online knowledge platform dedicated to gender, natural resources, climate, and peace. The knowledge platform, which has received more than 100,000 visits since its launch in 2019, consolidates relevant resources – including publications, news articles, job advertisements, and events – relevant to the topic and sends a monthly newsletter with the latest resources from the month to its growing community of practice of more than 380 people from 45 countries.

The Knowledge Platform on Women, Natural Resources, Climate and Peace has received

more than 100,000 visits

since its launch

GREATER INTEGRATION OF RELEVANT POLICY AGENDAS

Finally, the Joint Programme made significant contributions to strengthening the evidence base at the nexus of gender, environment, and peace and security, generating new research findings, and documenting the experiences and lessons learned under the pilot interventions. This growing evidence base served as a platform for transforming relevant policy agendas – namely the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda and emerging priorities on climate change and security – to more fully integrate the gender dimensions of climate and environmental risks in conflict-affected settings.

Strengthening the evidence base

At the country level, a series of publications from Colombia and Sudan, available on the Joint Programme's knowledge platform, document the experiences of women living on the frontlines of linked environmental and security crises. In 2019, the Joint Programme launched the report "Promoting Gender-Responsive Approaches to Natural Resource Management for Peace in North Kordofan, Sudan" presenting the results and lessons learned from the Sudan pilot project. As the first publication of its kind – documenting an integrated approach to promoting women's empowerment, climate adaptation, and peacebuilding – this report generated significant interest from practitioners and policymakers alike seeking to better align these three goals.

At the global level, a major achievement of the Joint Programme was the development of a new policy report on the linkages of gender, climate and security launched in June 2020, featuring 11 case studies contributed by a diverse group of authors illustrating the gender dimensions of climate-related security risks in different context across the globe (Box 4).

Figure 3: Library on Gender, Natural Resources, Climate and Peace



RISAS, SUEÑOS, Y LAMENTOS DEL RÍO

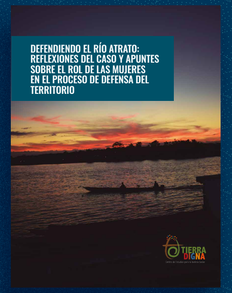
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Reflexiones del caso y apuntes sobre el rol de las mujeres en el proceso de defensa del territorio

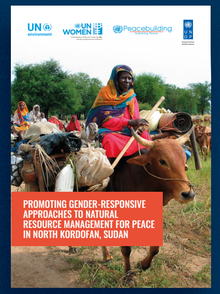
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Perspectives from North Kordofan, Sudan

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GENDER, CLIMATE AND SECURITY

Sustaining inclusive peace on the frontlines of climate change

VISIT

Box 4. Gender, Climate and Security: Sustaining Inclusive Peace on the Frontlines of Climate Change



VISIT

REPORT SUMMARY

In many regions of the world, the impacts of climate change are exacerbating conditions that threaten peace and security. Rising temperatures, extended droughts, or heavier, harsher storms are resulting in loss of livelihoods, increasing competition over scarce resources and fueling migration and displacement. Gender norms and power structures play a critical role in determining how women and men of different backgrounds are impacted by – and respond to – such crises.

Eleven case studies contributed by researchers and practitioners from across the globe illustrate the different ways in which gender, climate change and security are linked. For example:

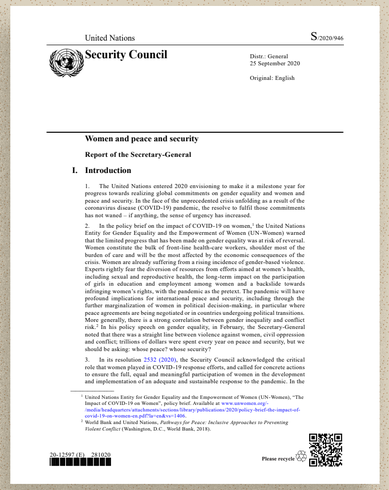
1. In **northern Nigeria,** norms of masculinity are intensifying intercommunal farmer-herder conflicts and motivating young men to join armed groups like Boko Haram, as climate change impacts destroy natural resource-based livelihoods.
2. In **North Kordofan, Sudan,** the out-migration of men from villages due to the impacts of climate change on traditional pastoral and agriculture-based livelihoods has left women with new economic responsibilities in increasingly challenging environmental conditions.
3. In **urban Pakistan,** women have experienced domestic violence for failing to manage households with depleting water supplies due to climate change.

Understanding these linkages can help policymakers, development practitioners and peace-builders mitigate risks of violence and leverage opportunities to build resilient, inclusive, and peaceful societies, but addressing the gender dimensions of climate-related security risks requires concerted action in the areas of policymaking, programme design, financing and research to:

1. **Integrate complementary policy agendas** on sustaining peace, climate change, and women, peace and security. Policies to address climate-related security risks should be underpinned by robust analyses that systematically include gender dimensions.
2. **Scale up integrated programming** that empower women and marginalized groups to address climate-related security risks through cross-sectoral partnerships to simultaneously achieve results for gender equality, climate action and peacebuilding goals.
3. **Increase targeted financing** through dedicated investments in women's empowerment, which are particularly low in sectors related to natural resources, including agriculture and rural development, energy access, and water and sanitation.
4. **Expand the evidence base** to deepen analysis of the gender dimensions of climate-related security risks.

Results on policy integration

The Joint Programme's investment in research and documentation served not only to consolidate knowledge at the intersection of gender, environment, and peace, but also had significant impact across relevant policy agendas. Specifically, it served to substantially improve integration of climate and environmental considerations into the WPS agenda on the one hand, while strengthening gender mainstreaming into the emerging agenda on climate change and security on the other. Markedly, for the first time, the 2020 Secretary-General's annual report on Women, Peace and Security included a dedicated section on climate change and its peace and security implications, drawing directly from the gender, climate and security report.



United Nations S/2020/946

Security Council

Distr.: General
25 September 2020

Original: English

Women and peace and security

Report of the Secretary-General

I. Introduction

1. The United Nations entered 2020 envisioning to make it a milestone year for progress towards realizing global commitments on gender equality and women and peace and security. In the face of the unprecedented crisis unfolding as a result of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the resolve to fulfil those commitments has not waned – if anything, the sense of urgency has increased.

2. In the policy brief on the impact of COVID-19 on women,[1] the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) warned that the limited progress that has been made on gender equality was at risk of reversal. Women constitute the bulk of front-line health-care workers, shoulder most of the burden of care and will be the most affected by the economic consequences of the crisis. Women are already suffering from a rising incidence of gender-based violence. Experts rightly fear the diversion of resources from efforts aimed at women's health, including sexual and reproductive health, the long-term impact on the participation of girls in education and employment among women and a backslide towards infringing women's rights, with the pandemic as the pretext. The pandemic will have profound implications for international peace and security, including through the further marginalization of women in political decision-making, in particular where peace agreements are being negotiated or in countries undergoing political transitions. More generally, there is a strong correlation between gender inequality and conflict risk.[2] In his policy speech on gender equality, in February, the Secretary-General noted that there was a straight line between violence against women, civil oppression and conflict; trillions of dollars were spent every year on peace and security, but we should be asking: whose peace? whose security?

3. In its resolution 2532 (2020), the Security Council acknowledged the critical role that women played in COVID-19 response efforts, and called for concerte actions to ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in the development and implementation of an adequate and sustainable response to the pandemic. In the

[1] United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), "The Impact of COVID-19 on Women", policy brief. Available at www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2020/policy-brief-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-women-en.pdf?la=en&vs=1406.

[2] World Bank and United Nations, *Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict* (Washington, D.C., World Bank, 2018).

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Please recycle

> *A RECENT REPORT BY THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP), UN-WOMEN, THE PEACEBUILDING SUPPORT OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AND PEACEBUILDING AFFAIRS AND UNDP PROVIDES COMPELLING EVIDENCE OF THE VARIOUS WAYS IN WHICH GENDER NORMS AND POWER STRUCTURES DETERMINE HOW WOMEN AND MEN OF DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS EXPERIENCE AND MANAGE CLIMATE-RELATED SECURITY RISKS."*

> *WHILE EMPHASIZING THE CENTRALITY OF CONFLICT PREVENTION, IT IS CRITICAL TO RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF DIRECTING RESOURCES, THROUGH POOLED FUNDS AND OTHER MEANS, TO LOCAL WOMEN'S GROUPS AT THE FRONT LINES OF CLIMATE CHANGE, AND TO SUPPORT THE LEADERSHIP OF WOMEN IN ADDRESSING THOSE INTERLINKED CRISES."*

> *THE CURRENT MONITORING AND ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK, AS LAID OUT BY THE INDICATORS TO MEASURE PROGRESS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION 1325 (2000) (S/2010/498, ANNEX), HAS FACILITATED EVIDENCE-BASED PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING ACROSS THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM, ADVANCING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WOMEN AND PEACE AND SECURITY AGENDA. TEN YEARS ON, IT MUST BE UPDATED. IN THE CURRENT PEACE AND SECURITY CONTEXT, THE RELEVANCE OF ISSUES SUCH AS THE CLIMATE CRISIS, PANDEMICS, MISOGYNIST EXTREMISM, THE GROWING POWER OF PRIVATE CORPORATIONS AND THE ROLE OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES IS EVIDENT."*

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY (25 SEPTEMBER 2020) UN DOC S/2020/946

The Secretary-General's report also called for an updated women, peace and security monitoring and accountability framework to more accurately incorporate issues shaping the current peace and security landscape, such as climate change. In response to this call for action, an expert working group has been established to development relevant climate and environmental indicators to include into the updated framework. The expert working group draws on the Joint Programme's expertise.

Mainstreaming of gender into emerging climate-security priorities can also be observed through the increasing recognition of gender considerations in Security Council debates on the security implications of climate change. In the debate of 24 July 2020, six Member State representatives made significant contributions recognizing the gender dimensions of climate-related security risks, with several delegations presenting a more nuanced understanding of "gender" as compared to the previous debate, in which mentions of gender overwhelmingly referred to women only as vulnerable victims disproportionately impacted by climate change and insecurity.

Gender has also been more systematically considered by key bodies such as the UN Climate Security Mechanism, which has more fully integrated a gender perspective into its growing community of practice on climate and security through regular briefings on gender mainstreaming in climate-security analysis and programming (including by the Joint Programme). The community of practice has also expanded to include UN Women and other partners with a specific gender mandate.

Progress towards policy integration was made evident during a high-level meeting organized by the Joint Programme in November 2020, in which the Group of Friends on WPS (chaired by Canada) and the Group of Friends on Climate Security (co-chaired by Germany and Nauru) both emphasized the importance of the gender, climate and security nexus and committed to further action in this area (Box 5).



"LET US NOT FORGET THE ROLE OF WOMEN AND YOUTH AS KEY CHANGE DRIVERS IN DEALING WITH CLIMATE CHANGE. FOR THOSE OF US WHO LIVE IN AFRICA WHO UNDERSTAND THE POWER OF WOMEN AND WHO ALSO UNDERSTAND THE GREAT IMPACT CLIMATE CHANGE HAVE ON WOMEN IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THE ISSUES OF WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE ARE BROUGHT TO THE CENTER OF THE THINKING OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL."

AMBASSADOR RAYCHELLE AWUOR OMAMO, KENYA'S DELEGATE TO THE MINISTERIAL-LEVEL OPEN DEBATE ON CLIMATE AND SECURITY ON 24 JULY 2020

Box 5. Outreach and advocacy for policy influence

Outreach and advocacy were critical to the Joint Programme's influence on shaping relevant policy agendas. The Joint Programme regularly organized and participated in events to share findings from the gender, climate and security report as well as lessons from the pilot projects, and to engage key stakeholders and decision-makers on issues related to this critical nexus.

For example, the launch of the Gender, Climate and Security report was marked by two virtual events, co-hosted by the Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security. The first event was a lively presentation of the report by several of its authors attended by 400 participants (from 86 countries). The second event featured a high-level dialogue with former President of Ireland Mary Robinson, Finnish Foreign Minister Pekka Haavisto, former climate negotiator and current Dean of the Fletcher School at Tufts University Rachel Kyte and Freetown Mayor Yvonne Aki Sawyerr, facilitated by Ambassador Melanne Verveer and attended by 600 participants from 100 countries.

To advance recommendations on policy integration of relevant global agendas, the Joint Programme organized a side-event to the Open Debate on WPS (2020), bringing together the Groups of Friends on WPS (chaired by Canada) and on Climate Change and Security (co-chaired by Germany and Nauru) for a discussion on the importance of the gender, climate and security nexus.

Finally, the Joint Programme participated in multiple conversations and briefing sessions with relevant communities of practice on climate action, peace and security and gender equality. Selected speaking engagements include:

- BERLIN CLIMATE SECURITY CONFERENCE II;
  17 SEPTEMBER 2020
- BRIEFING TO UN DPPA GENDER ADVISORS;
  3 SEPTEMBER 2020
- BRIEFING TO THE WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM;
  24 SEPTEMBER 2020
- UN STUDIES ON PEACE AND JUSTICE, THE HAGUE UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES;
  4 DECEMBER 2020
- SIDA PARTNERSHIP FORUM GLOBAL LEARNING EVENT;
  16-18 MARCH 2021



LESSONS LEARNED

Programmatic

- NATURAL RESOURCE-BASED INTERVENTIONS ARE A STRONG ENTRY POINT FOR WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IN PEACEBUILDING, ESPECIALLY IN THE CONTEXT OF A CHANGING CLIMATE. Natural resource governance provides women with opportunities to develop and demonstrate leadership skills in conflict prevention and resolution, which are not only critical in a context in which there are an increasing number of conflicts linked to natural resource use, access and control, but can also be applied to other issues. Sustainable natural resource management also represents an important opportunity for women's economic empowerment in contexts where sustainable alternative livelihoods are needed due to the impacts of a changing climate. Finally, natural resource interventions can provide important platforms for cooperation for women from opposing groups that contribute to strengthening social cohesion. Bringing women from different communities together in agricultural cooperatives ***(Sudan)*** or training on environmental governance ***(Colombia)***, for example, resulted in building trust and collaboration that extended into other areas.

- SEQUENCED INTERVENTIONS, ADDRESSING LIVELIHOODS NEEDS FIRST, MAY INCREASE CHANCES OF MEETING GOVERNANCE AND CONFLICT PREVENTION OBJECTIVES IN SOME CONTEXTS. The pilot project in Sudan was designed to deliver livelihood gains prior to engaging the communities in natural resource governance or conflict prevention efforts. Based on feedback from beneficiaries, seeking to address immediate economic needs first was a key success factor of the project, as it built trust and buy-in and laid the groundwork for "softer" interventions. Increasing women's income, and thereby their economic independence, also contributed to legitimizing their roles as representatives and spokespersons within their communities.

As a programme focused on learning, the Joint Programme continually sought to capture lessons learned by documenting "what works" as well as challenges, gaps, and possible opportunities for future development. Several important lessons have emerged in the areas of programme design, policymaking, finance and research.

- **UNDERSTANDING GENDER EQUALITY GAINS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IN CONFLICT PREVENTION AND PEACEBUILDING REQUIRES A MIX OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF DATA AND LONGER TIMELINES.** An important contribution of the Joint Programme's pilot projects was to develop and test indicators that would capture various aspects of achievements in gender equality and women's empowerment as well as environmental sustainability in the context of conflict prevention and peacebuilding. The indicators developed for the pilots relied on a mix of sex disaggregated quantitative data, questionnaires and surveys that proved very effective in measuring not only participation but also shifts in attitudes, perceptions, and confidence. As such, these indicators can be adapted to other projects and contexts. However, it is also important to note that capturing the sustainability of the project's impact requires a long monitoring timeline, ideally revisiting the target locations months or even a year after the project's closure.

- **MORE TESTING IS NEEDED TO ASSESS HOW THE JOINT PROGRAMME'S APPROACHES CAN BE APPLIED IN CONTEXTS FACING DIFFERENT CLIMATE EMERGENCIES AND WITH DIFFERENT PEACEBUILDING NEEDS.** As climate-related security risks garner ever more recognition in conflict prevention and peacebuilding policy and practice, there is significant opportunity to leverage the project's results to catalyze further attention and support to ensuring that gender considerations are fully part of emerging responses. Further testing and adoption of these approaches is required, however, to assess how the Joint Programme's approach can contribute to peacebuilding in contexts faced with different climate-related security risks. This should include, for example, in urban areas or in small island states where risks include threats to women's safety, environmental and food insecurity, local crime, and/or economic instability. Additionally, while the pilot projects demonstrated how the environment can create entry points for peacebuilding at local levels, it would be valuable to assess whether and how the environment and natural resources can be used to enable and support women's meaningful participation in track 1 and 1.5 mediation processes, among other areas.

- **INTEGRATED APPROACHES TO COMPLEX MULTIDIMENSIONAL ISSUES ARE SUCCESSFUL WHEN DIFFERENT AGENCIES WORK AS ONE UN.** The successful outcomes of this Joint Programme demonstrate that integrated approaches predicated on the distinct, yet complementary, expertise and mandates of different UN partners can be highly effective at tackling complex multidimensional issues such as the nexus of peace and security, gender equality and women's empowerment, and environment and climate change. The pilots in Sudan and Colombia represent positive examples of the type of UN programming – and the partnerships underlying them – that can help achieve the 2030 Agenda and other international commitments around conflict prevention and sustaining peace.

Policy

- AN EVIDENCE BASE ON THE GENDER DIMENSIONS OF CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY RISKS IS ESSENTIAL TO SHAPE POLICY PRIORITIES. The Joint Programme's knowledge products, including the flagship report "Gender, Climate and Security: Sustaining Inclusive Peace on the Frontlines of Climate Change," provided an essential foundation for driving greater integration of gender considerations into emerging climate-security priorities on the one hand, and climate change and environmental considerations into the WPS agenda on the other. Notably, for the first time, the 2020 report of the Secretary-General on Women, Peace and Security including a dedicated chapter to the security implications of climate-related risks, directly referencing the evidence presented in the joint UN report. At the same time debates and discussions on climate-related security risks have increasingly recognized the importance of gender for understanding both risk and opportunities for building more inclusive, resilient societies, also flagging specific examples and recommendations highlighted in the report. These impacts demonstrate the importance of building an evidence base and consolidating knowledge at the nexus of gender, climate and security for the integration of relevant policy agendas and emerging priorities.

- TARGETING "INFLUENCERS" WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR CATALYTIC IMPACT IS INSTRUMENTAL TO DRIVING SYSTEM-WIDE CHANGE. Central to the Joint Programme's success influencing system change has been its strategic engagement with key actors and influencing bodies who contribute to shaping priorities within relevant policy agendas. For examples, the Joint Programme's cooperation with the interagency Climate Security Mechanism helped mainstream gender within the emerging agenda on climate change and security. Similarly, the Joint Programme's partnerships with leading Women, Peace and Security policy think tanks as well as their social media outreach contributed to putting climate and environment more squarely on the WPS agenda. Focusing on engaging with influential "levers" enabled the Joint Programme to significantly elevate its influence, beyond the immediate impact of the Joint Programme's outputs.

- AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL, MORE ATTENTION TO THE INTEGRATION OF GENDER, CLIMATE AND SECURITY IN PLANS AND POLICIES RELATED TO CLIMATE ADAPTATION, GENDER EQUALITY AND PEACE AND SECURITY IS REQUIRED. While the Joint Programme made considerable progress in shaping global level policy priorities, several gaps related to policy and planning at national levels persist. Supporting national governments and civil society networks to integrate climate and environmental risks into National Action Plans (NAPs) and other national-level policy and planning processes for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and related resolutions, and supporting peacebuilding networks – including networks of women mediators at regional and national levels – is key to addressing climate-related security risks. This also requires promoting and supporting the meaningful participation of women and marginalized groups in national-level climate change policy and planning processes in conflict-affected countries, including Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), national climate change action plans, land tenure policies and REDD+ and other climate change mitigation strategies.

Financing

- THE INTEGRATED APPROACH DEVELOPED BY THE JOINT PROGRAMME IS AN EFFECTIVE WAY OF SIMULTANEOUSLY ADDRESSING GENDER EQUALITY, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND PEACEBUILDING OBJECTIVES. Some multilateral funds dedicated to peace and security, such as the UN Peacebuilding Fund, have started to recognize the benefits of investing in programmes that are grounded in integrated approaches to environmental, social and security challenges. For example, new PBF investments in Sudan, Mali, and Côte d'Ivoire support projects that integrate gender, climate and peacebuilding objectives into their theories of change, indicator frameworks, and programme activities. Less explored, however, this integrated approach also offers a unique opportunity for funds dedicated to climate change mitigation and adaptation to address the root causes of conflict and have a gender transformative impact, such as through the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

- INVESTMENTS IN DATA PRODUCTION ARE NEEDED TO SUPPORT EVIDENCE-BASED POLICYMAKING AND PROGRAMME DESIGN. The Join Programme's focus on building the evidence demonstrated the value of investing in rigorous research to both inform project design as well as to advance policy goals. However, more investment in empirical research is needed to deepen understanding of the gender dimensions of climate-related security risks across a greater selection of geographical and cultural contexts where climate change and its impacts on peace and security are manifested in different ways (gaps identified below).

Research

BUILDING THE EVIDENCE BASE ON THE GENDER DIMENSIONS OF CLIMATE-RELATED SECURITY RISKS IS A CONTINUOUS PROCESS. The body of research compiled by the Joint Programme on gender, environment, climate, and security constitutes an initial attempt at a compilation of knowledge and understanding on the gender dimensions of climate-related security risks. However, the Joint Programme's report on Gender, Climate and Security also highlighted the need for deeper and continuous analysis of the gender dimensions of climate-related security risks. Specific knowledge gaps that merit further research include (but are not limited to):

- Gender dynamics associated with climate and conflict-related migration and displacement – what motivates women and men to migrate (or not)? How do motivations, risks and opportunities differ between and among gender groups?
- Women's contributions to peacebuilding following extreme weather events or disasters – what role do women play in different peacebuilding contexts that experience climate-related disasters? What enabling factors exist to promote women's leadership?
- Women's roles in informal governance structures in conflict and climate change affected contexts – how are women contributing to governance when formal structures are not functioning?
- Linkages between women's access to land tenure, conflict mitigation and climate adaptation/mitigation – does promoting women's access to land tenure contribute to mitigating local land conflict? How is this linked to building local climate resilience?
- How can big data, frontier technologies and mobiles phones be used to reduce women's vulnerability to climate-related security risks as well as empower them in peacebuilding?

- WHILE MORE RESEARCH IS NEEDED ACROSS THE GLOBAL LANDSCAPE, SEVERAL GEOGRAPHICAL GAPS HAVE EMERGED AS CONTEXTS WITH PARTICULARLY LIMITED DATA:

  The Middle East
  Interactions between climate change, conflict and gender;

  Central America
  Interactions between climate change, crime, gender-based violence, and migration;

  South Asia and the Caribbean
  Linkages between extreme weather events, community-based violence, and gender;

  Central Asia
  Gender-specific risks and opportunities associated with water scarcity; and

  North America and Europe
  Climate-related risks for vulnerable groups of women and men, including migrants, undocumented populations, refugees, and those living in informal settlements.

- RESEARCH AT THE NEXUS OF GENDER, CLIMATE AND SECURITY DEMANDS A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY NETWORK THAT BRIDGES RESEARCH AND POLICY COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE ACROSS THE GLOBE.
  The Joint Programme's approach to research demonstrated the value of amplifying local voices in global policymaking arenas, illustrating that research should not only be carried out in full partnership with researchers from the Global South, but also that research consortia should partner with policymakers as well as peace and development practitioners to ensure uptake of research findings, such as through supporting the development of impactful policy frameworks and informing peace and development programmatic priorities.

UN environment programme

UN WOMEN
United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

DPPA
Preventing Conflict. Sustaining Peace

UNDP
Empowered lives. Resilient nations.

This project was made possible by the generous support of the Governments of Finland, Norway, Sweden and Germany.

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