

Security Council Resolution 1325: Civil Society Monitoring Report

Rwanda



A Project of the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders

Republic of Rwanda

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Acknowledgements:

The Rwanda Women's Network would like to thank all those who participated in this research, with special mention to all the stakeholders who offered their additional contribution during the UNSCR Monitoring Workshop that was part of this project. These include the Minister of Gender and Family Promotion, Gender Monitoring Observatory Team, representatives of the Ministry of Defence and the Police, Haguruka, Profemme and other civil society organizations, International organizations and donors.

Special thanks to Oxfam Novib



I. Women, Peace and Security Profile

A. Nature of the conflict

Having emerged from the 1994 genocide and its devastating effects, Rwanda has since moved on as a progressive post-conflict country with notable development initiatives that have played a leading role in peacebuilding and reconciliation. The country however remains stalked by threat of conflict by the rebel Democratic Liberation Forces of Rwanda (FDLR) composed of militia and elements of the former regime's Forces Armees Rwandaises (ex-FAR) operating from eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Since the end of the genocide to date the FDLR continue to be a source of insecurity not only in Rwanda, but in the Great Lakes region of Africa.

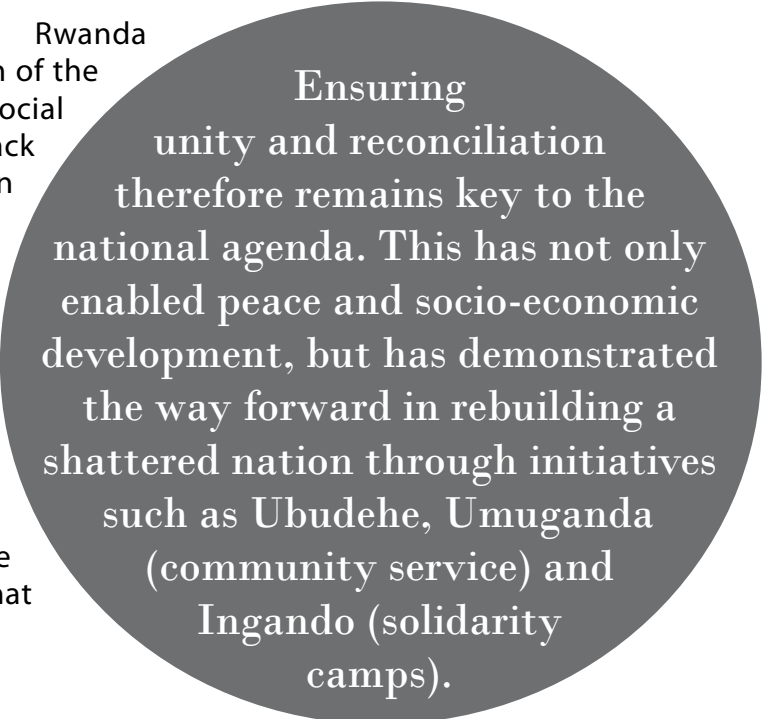
The threat posed by the FDLR called for preemptive attacks by Government forces on the FDLR bases in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo between 1996 and 1998. This would however escalate bringing about what would come to be described by some as the "African World War", that enjoined Uganda, Zimbabwe, Angola, Chad, DR Congo (then called Zaire) and Namibia. The conflict, pitting Uganda and Rwanda on one side, and the other countries on the other, led to the Lusaka Peace Agreement of July 1999.¹ Some of the provisions in the agreement included the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Congo. In the case of the Rwanda, withdrawal was subject to the disarmament, demobilization, rehabilitation and reintegration (DDRR) of the ex-FAR and the militia.

In the mean time, a significant number of FDLR were captured, or voluntarily returned to Rwanda along with their leaders, and continue to be productively re-integrated into society as they return through DDR programmes. Between 1997 and March 2010, over 66,700 ex-combatants have been demobilized and resettled, and more keep coming. Of these, 407 have been women.² However, many of the Rwandan rebels remain in DR Congo where they are currently being pursued by an alliance of Rwandan and Congolese forces, despite peace negotiations in Rome in 2005 which bore no fruit.

Within Rwanda, however, one of the major, and perhaps most defining issues of conflict experienced currently, is the continued perception of difference between Rwandans. This derives from the traditional socio-economic ascriptions of Hutu, Tutsi and Twa. The ascriptions were never “ethnically” concrete, but superficial creations entrenched for political expediency by the Belgian colonialists and the subsequent post-independence regimes leading to the genocide. They however remain a source of potential conflict in Rwanda given their history and negative psychosocial entrenchment.³

Ensuring unity and reconciliation therefore remains key to the national agenda. This has not only enabled peace and socio-economic development, but has demonstrated the way forward in rebuilding a shattered nation through initiatives such as Ubudehe, Umuganda (community service) and Ingando (solidarity camps). Ingando, for instance, employs the concept of problem solving workshops (PSW), as a participatory conflict management strategy. Problem-solving workshops are designed as the best method through which a protracted conflict such as Rwanda’s may find sustainable resolution. PSW encourage the parties to analyse their conflict, its causes, the parties’ attitudes towards each other, and their post-conflict relationship.⁴

Immediate security dividends from the Rwanda peacebuilding since 1997 was the transformation of the counter-insurgency strategy into a political and social effort that would in a short time break the back of the ex-FAR and militia insurgents operative in and out of the country. The ex-combatants got integrated providing a valuable example to their communities, and became stakeholders as responsible citizens and breadwinners for their families. While ex-combatants continue to stream in from DR Congo, the overall peacebuilding pay-off includes continued stability and a measure of reconciliation between conflicting parties, their communities and other national sectors. The peacebuilding efforts have proved valuable in the socio-economic strides that have been made in Rwanda.



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B. Impact of conflict on women

The Rwandan genocide saw many women raped, in addition to a large number of them being left widowed. The women had to contend with negative traditional customs in the aftermath of the genocide, in addition to having little or no means to earn an income. The Government however has since instituted the Fund to Assist Genocide Survivors (FARG). This is in addition to civil society organisations that assist genocide survivors, widows and spouses of prisoners in jail for crimes related to the 1994 genocide. While the post-genocide challenges have been

2 Rwanda Demobilisation and Reintegration Commission (RDRC)

3 Rusagara Frank, *Resilience of a Nation: A History of the military in Rwanda*, Fountain Publishers, Kampala, 2009

4 Ibid

addressed through income earning activities and gender-sensitive legislation such as the 1999 Inheritance Law, sexual and gender-based violence persists as a problem. This is despite the 2008 Law on gender-based violence. According to Police statistics there were over 1,500 cases of gender-based violence between January and June 2010. That figure does not include unreported cases.⁵

The FDLR remain in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo threatening security in Rwanda. One of their hallmark atrocities as they continue to rampage across the region is the rape of women, raising grave international concerns, despite a heavy UN peacekeeping presence in DR Congo with the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO). Within Rwanda, however, the situation has been decidedly different. Women have been involved in not only in ending the conflict with insurgents beginning 1997, but also in peacebuilding initiatives.

Women were instrumental in ending the insurgence in the North between 1996-1998 by telling on, or persuading their sons and husbands in the FDLR and other militia to abandon their armed conflict with the government.⁶ Women are currently involved in sensitisation in peace building and reconciliation programs run by the National Unity and Reconciliation Commission. The programs bring together genocide survivors and women whose husbands are in jail for their participation in the 1994 genocide.⁷ These include numerous programmes facilitated by the civil society working with grassroots communities.⁸

On the whole, there have been three major peace negotiations in Rwanda, namely, the 1993 Arusha Peace Accords between the Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) and the then Government of Rwanda, the 1999 Lusaka Peace Agreement and the 2005 Rome peace negotiations. Virtually no women were involved in these negotiations. This may change, however, now that Rwanda has a woman Foreign Minister.⁹

C. Relevant policies

Other than the existing political will enabling a favorable policy climate and the Constitution which observes the principle of gender inclusion, Rwanda now has a 1325 National Action Plan that was launched in May 2010 by the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion. The NAP also takes into consideration UNSCR 1820. Historically, however, even as the UN Security Council was adopting UNSCR 1325, Rwanda was already on the path of recognizing the rights of women emerging from conflict with the coming into effect of the 1999 Inheritance Law. Enactment of this law was significant, as discriminatory cultural traditions and social norms saw many women and children disinherited of their property in the aftermath of the genocide. The death of husbands and parents left many women homeless. Low levels of education, poverty and lack of awareness of their rights ensured that the vulnerable, mainly widows and orphans, had little or no legal recourse to address their concerns regarding housing, land and property ownership. Civil society filled this gap through community programmes that raised awareness on the legal and women's rights, including assisting women with court cases on their rights to land and property and suing for sexual and gender-based violence.¹⁰

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5 Rwanda National Police Statistics
6 Rusagara, Op.cit.
7 National Unity and Reconciliation Commission (NURC)
8 Profemme-Twese Hamwe; Rwanda Women's Network
9 Interview with Immaculee Ingabire, Gender Activist
10 HAGURUKA; Rwanda Women's Network

II. Data Presentation and Analysis

A. Participation

Indicator 1 - Index of women's participation in governance (% women in senior positions in cabinet/council of ministers, parliament, local governance)

Rwanda stands out globally as the country with the highest female representation in parliament at 56 per cent. Representation is similarly as high at the senate, ministerial posts with well over 30 per cent (see box below). This not only demonstrates the existing political will, but underscores a favorable gender policy towards women. This, however, is only apparent at the higher echelons, as at provincial governance and below, representation dips well below the 30 per cent threshold, with a disproportionate representation of 90 per cent for deputy mayors in charge of social affairs. On the other hand men are disproportionately represented as deputy mayors in charge of economic affairs at 83 per cent. These figures suggest a lack of adequate and uniform appreciation of the prevalent Government policy favoring women as may be seen in the upper levels of governance. This is in addition to a suggestion of a traditional view of women as better suited for "social affairs" in the lower levels of governance, whereas men feature in "economic affairs" where the money is. This discrepancy is however being addressed to ensure the 30 per cent threshold at all levels of governance.

Level of Governance	Women Representation
Ministers	38%
Ministers of State	40%
Permanent Secretaries	50%
Parliament (Senate)	35%
Parliament (Lower Chamber)	56%
Governor of Province (including Kigali)	20%
District (Mayors)	07%
District (Deputy Mayors, economic affairs)	13%
District (Deputy Mayors, Social Affairs)	90%
District (Executive Secretaries)	17%
Secteur (Executive Secretary)	13%

Source: Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPROF), July 2010

Indicator 2 - Percentage of women in peace negotiating teams

As noted in Section 1, there have been three major peace negotiations in Rwanda, namely, the 1993 Arusha Peace Accords between the Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) and the then Government of Rwanda, the 1999 Lusaka Peace Agreement and the 2005 Rome peace negotiations where there little or no involvement of women. That there were few, if any women, in negotiating teams may not have been surprising as the nature of the African rebel movement and the violence that necessitates negotiations is usually led by men. As in the case of the previous pre-genocide regimes in Rwanda, this is also reflected in the current military and police command structures where there is no woman at the top. The same goes for the FDLR.

Indicator 3 - Index of Women's Participation in the Justice & Security Sector (% women in military, police, judiciary, at all levels)

Rwanda is ranked among the leading countries in Africa in security sector reforms. In a bid to professionalize the armed forces since the 1994 genocide, more than 60,000 personnel have been

demobilized to date, bringing it to a total of 33,000 in the Rwanda Defence Forces (RDF).¹¹ The National Police was carved from the military, and came to its own in 2000. In both institutions no women currently feature in the top command structure. However, a June 2010 promotion of over 2,000 officers to the ranks of Major, Lieutenant Colonels and Colonels saw a substantial number of women being promoted.¹²

High representation of women in the justice sector reflects the official policy of gender representation that should be above 30 per cent.¹³ In the military and police representation is 0.8 and 10 per cent, respectively.¹⁴ Note that these are only estimates, as official sanction and statistics had not been secured at the time of writing this report. While women's participation in military and police is well below 30%, there is recognition to raise the numbers by raising awareness on gender issues in the armed forces with training and the creation of "gender desks".¹⁵

Sector	Women Representation
Supreme Court Judges	42%
High Court Judges	70%
Gacaca (grassroots) Judges (Inyangamugayo)	35%
Military	0.8%
Police	10%

Source: MIGEPROF, July 2010

Indicator 4 - Percentage of women in peacekeeping missions, disaggregated at all levels

The total number of military peacekeepers in the Rwandan contingent troops in UN peace missions in Chad and Central African Republic, Haiti and Darfur as of April 2010 is 3,229. Of these, 43 are women, amounting to 1.3%. The total number of Police peacekeepers is 126, of whom 12 are women amounting to 9.5%. Experts on Mission who mainly constitute civilians are 12 in total, including one woman (8.3%).¹⁶ Approximately the same figures were obtained in June 2010. The few women in peacekeeping reflect the trend in military and police institutions where traditionally there has been low participation of women. With the raised gender awareness in the armed forces it is expected there will be more women representation. This is made more hopeful with the training¹⁷ that has been going on, including the establishment of gender desks at all levels of the military and police structure.

UN Mission	Description	Male	Female	Total
MINURCAT (Central Africa Republic & Chad)	Individual Police	1	0	1
	Experts on Mission	1	0	1
MINUSTAH (Haiti)	Individual Police	10	3	13
UNAMID (Darfur)	Individual Police	104	9	113
	Experts on Mission	10	1	11
	Contingent Troop (Military)	3,186	43	3229
Source: UN, April 2010				3,368

11 Edmonds, Martin, Mills, Greg and McNamee, Terence (2009)'Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration and Local Ownership in the Great Lakes: The Experience of Rwanda, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of Congo,' *African Security*, 2:1, 29 — 58

12 The New Times, 2rd June 2010

13 MIGEPROF

14 Third population general census (employment), August 2002

15 Rwanda Defense Force, Ingabo Magazine: Special Gender Based Violence, November 2007

16 UN Mission's Summary detailed by Country, 30th April, 2010 - http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/contributors/2010/apr10_3.pdf

17 UNIFEM has been at the forefront in training on gender awareness and rights to the military and police

UN Mission Female Deployment by percentage:

Military	1.3%
Police	9.5%
Experts on Mission	8.3%

Source: UN, April 2010

Indicator 5 - Number and percentage of women participating in each type of constitutional or legislative review

Women as a matter of policy have always been involved in legislative reviews, including the 2003 Rwanda Constitution. The committee steering the constitutional process included three women out of 12 members.¹⁸ The process was consultative nationwide, of which specific groups such as women, youth, the disabled, etc, were consulted at every level. Women civil societies were consulted under the umbrella organization Profemme, and the National Women Council.¹⁹ The outcome was the current gender responsive Constitution that laid the foundation for the Government's policy on women's inclusion as may be seen in governance and judicial sectors.

Indicator 6 - Percentage of CSOs in Task Forces on SCR 1325 and 1820 (out of total TF members)

The Task Force in Rwanda is comprised of 10 ministries, various national commissions including the National Women Council and the Forum for Women Parliamentarians. Civil society organizations are represented under the umbrella organizations Profemme-Twese Hamwe and the Collectif et Ligue des Associations des Droits de l'Homme (Umbrella of Human Rights Associations) – CLADHO.²⁰ With a total membership of 60 between the two umbrella organizations (Profemme has 55 organizations and CLADHO five) they represent 74% of the Task Force. With a conducive gender policy already in place in the process under the stewardship of the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion, the CSO's and other women's organizations were instrumental in pointing out the gaps and possible remedies leading to the National Action Plan.

B. Prevention and protection

Indicator 7 - Number of SGBV cases reported, % investigated, referred, prosecuted & penalized

Hundreds of thousands of Rwandese women are survivors of genocidal rape, and a total of one in three women have experienced violence in their communities; one out of two women are estimated to have experienced domestic violence.²¹ According to current Police statistics there were over 1,500 cases of gender-based violence between January and June 2010. The figure does not include unreported cases.²² Though a law against gender-based violence exists, traditional social and gender norms are an entrenched root cause of SGBV. According

18 Law No 23/99 of December 1999 establishing the Rwandan Constitutional and Law Review Commission (J.O. No. 1 du 01/01/2000); Arrete Presidentiel No.40/01 du 29/12/2000 Portant Nomination des Membres de la Commission Chargee l'Elaboration et de la Revision d'Autres Lois

19 Interview Immaculee Ingabire, Gender Activist; Commission Juridique et Constitutionnelle, Des dispositions Constitutionnelles en rapport avec l'egalite des Hommes et des Femmes

20 MIGEPROF

21 Ministère du Genre et de la Promotion de la Famille (MIGEPROF), La Violence contre les Femmes, Juin 2004; Scaling Up for Zero Tolerance: Effective Responses to Violence Against Women and Girls, Global Aids Alliance, August 2008

22 Rwanda National Police Statistics; No further data was forthcoming from the police or courts by the time of writing after having requested the Ministry of Internal Affairs for official sanction.

to HAGURUKA, the largest civil society organization offering legal aid across Rwanda, there were over 126,000 cases of SGBV, including children reported to the organization between 2001 and 2009. Of these only 676 cases have been concluded (i.e., not pending or held up in the court system, or under appeal).²³

HAGURUKA notes that most of the cases are usually reported to the organization after having gone through the police, courts or local authorities. The cases at HAGURUKA are therefore those that either have not been acted upon by the justice system, or the victims feel that justice has not been served and report to HAGURUKA as a final resort. Some of the challenges encountered by the organization include a legal provision establishing the Rwanda Bar Association disallowing lawyers working with NGOs, as opposed to those working in legal firms, from representing clients in court. However, the bill to reverse this is pending in Parliament, “though it has been there for a while, despite lobbying by the National Legal Aid Forum.”²⁴ HAGURUKA also cites lack of adequate enforcement of the existing law and court rulings as one of the challenges. The organization also lacks adequate resources and capacity.

Indicator 8 - Number and quality of gender-responsive laws and policies

Rwanda has a gender ministry whose mandate is all encompassing and is responsive to a range of international human rights instruments to which Rwanda is party, as well as relevant national legislation. The Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPROF), which sits in the Prime Minister’s Office, is charged with coordinating the implementation of government policy and the mobilization of resources, building women’s capacity, promoting family welfare and creating an enabling environment. All national institutions and departments have gender focal points at the central and decentralized levels. These focal points are tasked with ensuring mainstreaming and the promotion of gender equality, and also with overseeing implementation of gender-related programming in each sector of the country.

The following are the enacted gender-sensitive laws:

- Law N° 22/99 of 12/11/1999 supplementing Book One of the Civil Code and instituting Part Five regarding matrimonial regimes, liberalities and successions
- Law N° 27/2001 of 28/04/2001 Relating to Rights and Protection of the Child against Violence
- Law N° 47/2001 of 18/12/2001 instituting punishment for offences of discrimination and sectarianism
- Organic Law n° 16/2003 of 27/06/2003 governing political organizations and politicians (i.e., 30% representation)
- Organic Law n° 17/2003 of 07/07/2003 related to presidential and legislative elections, ensuring the 30% threshold in party representation
- Land Law n° 08/2005 of 14/07/2005, giving women equal rights in land ownership against a cultural background that looked down upon women who were supposed to defer to their men on issues of land
- Law n° 59/2008 of 10th September 2008 providing legal sanctions against Gender-based violence

Indicator 9 - Number and nature of provisions/recommendations in the TRC and other transitional justice reports on women’s rights

Rwanda never had a TRC. Instead the government established the grassroots-based Gacaca justice process that pitted the suspects of the crime of genocide against their victims before

²³ Interview with Zaina Nyiramatama, National Executive Secretary and Founder, HAGURUKA

²⁴ Ibid; The National Legal Aid Forum brings together 34 organizations, of which only HAGURUKA has a national reach.

their peers in the community and accorded equal rights irrespective of gender.²⁵ Gacaca was necessary in order to tackle the huge number of cases in view of an inadequate and overwhelmed court system, while the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) prosecuted the masterminds of the genocide. Rape and sexual violence was specifically codified for the first time as a recognizable and independent crime within the statutes of the International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda (ICTR) and for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY). This was historic as international instruments are now the foundation upon which crimes of rape and sexual violence are punished. As a result, there is now solid case law holding that rape and sexual violence are a form of genocide. This reinforced the legal basis for arguing that rape and sexual violence are individual crimes against humanity, and also constitute violations of the laws and customs of war.²⁶

Indicator 10 - Extent to which gender and peace education are integrated in the curriculum of formal and informal education

Gender and peace education have not been integrated in the school curriculum, though issues of peace building and reconciliation continue to be taught informally in solidarity camps (Ingando and Itorero) run by the National Unity and Reconciliation Commission to students, teachers, ex-prisoners, etc.²⁷

Indicator 11. Percentage of women (versus men) who receive economic packages in conflict resolution and reconstruction processes

The government has instituted the Fund to Assist Genocide Survivors (FARG), including civil society organizations that assist genocide survivors, widows and spouses of prisoners in jail for crimes related to the 1994 genocide. The majority of the beneficiaries are women, and orphaned and vulnerable children.

On the other hand, ex-combatants continue streaming back into Rwanda from Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. Between 1997 and March 2010, 66,762 ex-combatants had been demobilized and resettled. Of these, 407 were women. The ex-combatants and other returnees are received at Rwanda Demobilization and Reintegration Commission (RDRC) centers where they are rehabilitated and given orientation into their new lives before resettlement. Economic and resettlement packages amount to Rwandan Francs (FRW) 180,000 (US\$320) for men. Women get special preference and receive higher resettlement packages amounting to FRW 350,000 (US\$600).²⁸ Women get special treatment due to the stigma they suffer (i.e., cannot find husbands) and the reintegration difficulties they may undergo in their communities.

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25 Organic Law n° 16/2004 of 19/06/2004 establishing the organization, competence and functioning of Gacaca Courts (also see Law N° 28/2006 of 27/06/2006); www.inkiko-gacaca.gov.rw

26 International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR); www.un.org/ictor

27 The National Unity and Reconciliation Commission, *The Role of Women in Reconciliation and Peace Building in Rwanda: Ten Years after genocide 1994-2004, Contributions, Challenges and way Forward*

28 Rwanda Demobilisation and Reintegration Commission (RDRC); Interview with Frank, Manager, Mutobo RDRC Centre, Musanze, Northern Province

C. Promotion of a gender perspective

Indicator 12 - Detailed breakdown of gender issues addressed in peace agreements

No specific gender related issues were addressed given that the priorities on the table were political in the heat of armed struggle, and were geared towards ceasefire and power sharing in the 1993 Arusha Peace Accords²⁹ and the failed 2005 Rome negotiations. The 1999 Lusaka Peace Accords were conducted between the nations involved in the war and addressed ceasefire and withdrawal from the conflict under international pressure in view of the losses incurred.³⁰

Indicator 13 - Number & percentage of pre-deployment and post-deployment programmes for military and police incorporating SCR 1325, SCR 1820, international human rights instruments and international humanitarian law

The Rwanda National Plan of Action on SCR 1325 came into existence in May 2010 and not much has been accomplished. Some of the National Action Plan provisions include training of the military and police on 1325 and 1820, including a call for coordination of activities among the various Ministries concerned, peace keeping forces and public security, the civil society and the conflict management mechanisms already in place through the national commissions.³¹ The military is about to embark on training in various cadres on UNSCR 1325 with the assistance of UNIFEM.³²

Indicator 14 - Allocated and disbursed funding to CSOs (including women's groups) marked for women, peace and security projects and programs

Comprehensive information was not readily available from the relevant sources.³³ However, a sample was available from three organizations. Over the past three years, including 2010, HAGURUKA has received US\$2.2 million. The Rwanda Women's Network during the period between 2008 – 2009 received over US\$1.8 million, Profemme, which runs peace programs on behalf of member organizations, received US\$ 790,000 during the period 2008 – 2010, according to available figures at the time of research.

Funds received by year in US Dollars

ORGANISATION	2008	2009	2010	TOTAL
HAGURUKA	338,983	847,458	1 million	2,186,441
Rwanda Women's Network	624,518	831,333	14,000	1,469,851
PROFEMME	220,000	270,000	300,000	790,000

Indicator 15 - Allocated and disbursed funding to governments marked for women, peace and security projects and programs

No information was readily available on allocated and disbursed funding to the government.³⁴ However, in regards to the implementation of the UNSCR 1325 National Action Plan, the

29 Rusagara, op.cit.

30 Prunier, op.cit.

31 Rwanda National Action Plan (2009-2012) on UNSCR 1325, May 2010

32 Maj. Margaret Batamuriza, Gender Desk, Ministry of Defence

33 According to a 2009 case study of Rwanda by Development Initiative looking at the flow of aid and disbursements, there was "missing data from donors with no in-country mission and/or those who disburse through multiple agencies, lack of consistency about basic terms such as 'project', [making] traceability through the system very difficult." There was also time-lag in publishing verified data which reduced its value to users, while "Rwandan CSOs typically have poor access to aid information, and are largely reliant on broadcast media as they get little information from official sources."; <http://aidinfo.org/files/rwanda-case-study.pdf>

34 Ibid

suggested budget for the period 2009-2012 is just over US\$9 million.³⁵ According to the NAP, The “budget will be implemented by a committee in charge of implementation of the 1325 UN Resolution. Various activities are currently [being] implemented by public and private institutions. ...The largest share of the budget is allocated to activities which will be implemented through the Secretariat or in collaboration with other stakeholders.”³⁶

Indicator 16 - Percentage of women’s representation as peace-builders and decision-makers in media content

The data collected for indicator 16 do not provide the exact information that the indicator calls for which is “Percentage of women’s representation in political power & decision-making in media content.” GNWP hopes to integrate this indicator again in the next phase of the project and focus on the portrayal of women and men in the media particularly in the coverage of armed conflict.

35 See Rwanda National Action Plan 2009-2012 on UNSCR 1325, May 2010
36 Ibid

III. Conclusions and Recommendations

Though Rwanda has just launched the 1325 National Action Plan, the Government and civil society have carried out many activities in line with gender promotion as stipulated in SCR 1325. MIGEPROF has been at the forefront in articulating policy, while national institutions and departments have gender focal points at the central and decentralized levels. Credit also goes to the CSOs for what has been gained in national representation of women and legislation, though much remains to be accomplished.

While Rwandan women have played a positive role in lobbying for the revision of discriminatory laws, they should use the same strategies in order to fully participate in conflict prevention and resolution mechanisms. This analysis found it glaring that few women featured in peace negotiations, though women have been instrumental in driving forward peace and reconciliation processes within their communities.

Civil Society should establish robust advocacy campaigns to ensure that the government and the international community are meeting their obligations to provide the necessary support and training for services at the local levels. They should also seek technical assistance from multilateral and bilateral donors and international NGOs to enhance capacity. The latter requires a sustainable partnership that is result oriented.

Civil society should also monitor the national government on implementation and enforcement of relevant legislation, and quality of programming, and hold government accountable through whatever safe, effective means available (e.g., publications, media, demonstrations, meaningful engagement of international advocates).

On its part, the government should consolidate related efforts being made by different government ministries and agencies and coordinate policies, programs, and monitoring and evaluation. It should seek to effectively implement and fully fund national policies and legislation to ensure women's participation at all levels, through promoting community focused prevention of violence and conflicts which are community driven. This includes committing to programming that addresses harmful social and gender norms.



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