Highlights

In 2015, GNWP remained as one of the civil society leaders in policy advocacy and implementation on women and peace and security (WPS) issues nationally, regionally and globally. Despite challenges in financial resources and smaller staff, it influenced the discussions in the Security Council, in UN entities, in the CEDAW Committee, among Member States as well as among civil society groups.

This is reflected in the Global Study on Women and Peace and Security/UNSCR 1325 which highlights the outcomes of the civil society survey and national and international focus group discussions that GNWP coordinated in partnership with Cordaid, the International Civil society Action Network (ICAN), the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security and UN Women.

The civil society survey generated responses from 317 CSOs in 71 countries. It also includes results from focus group discussions in 16 countries and territories, namely Afghanistan, Burundi, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Guatemala, Israel, Nepal, the Netherlands, Norway, the Philippines, Rwanda, Serbia, South Sudan, Sweden, Uganda and the United Kingdom. The survey reaffirms the critical role that civil society plays in conflict prevention and resolution; responding to and preventing sexual violence; disarmament; governance; transitional justice and post-conflict recovery; and peacebuilding. It also identifies emerging issues such as the specific impact of violent extremism and terrorism on women and girls; the intersection between climate change and natural disasters and violent conflict; the correlation between peace and security and health pandemics; and the effect of mass media and information and communications technologies. Furthermore, the survey shows the importance of conflict “prevention” and redefining security, based on the experiences of women on the ground.

The civil society survey underscored this strong message:

The solutions exist clearly and within reach. Yet the most profound barrier is political will. ...as civil society organizations, we are doing what we can under difficult circumstances and tremendous risks. Will the leadership of the UN and member states have the courage to stand by their own commitments and responsibilities? We hope so, and stand ready to work with you for a world rooted in peace, social justice, dignity for all and human security.

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Localization of UNSCR 1325 and 1820
The Global Study also highlights GNWP’s program on the Localization of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 program and further underscore that it is one of the best practices in the implementation of the WPS agenda.

The citation of the Localization program in the annual report of the UN Secretary General on Women, Peace and Security to the Security Council for the fourth year (2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015) attests to the growing recognition of the achievements of the GNWP’s Localization program in the countries where it is being implemented.

GNWP expanded its flagship Localization of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 program in 2015 by initiating the Localization strategy in Yei, Central Equatoria and Torit, Eastern Equatoria states in South Sudan. Preparations for the replication of the Localization program in Kenya also took place this year. This brings the total number of countries reached by the Localization program to 11 namely, Burundi, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Kenya, Liberia, Nepal, the Philippines, Serbia, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, and Uganda.

Another highlight of the Localization program in 2015 is the official launch of the Localization Guidelines in DRC. The Localization Guidelines is a practical guide that assists local authorities in integrating the NAP into community development plans. The production of the Localization Guidelines is a participatory and inclusive process that involves all localization partners as well as the Ministry of Gender and the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development.

Financing the WPS Agenda through the Global Acceleration Instrument
The year 2015 also proved to be momentous for GNWP’s leadership on the establishment of the Global Acceleration Instrument (GAI) for Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action in partnership with Cordaid and UN Women. The GAI received its funding from the governments of Australia, Ireland, Spain and the United Kingdom.

The GAI is a pooled financing mechanism that brings three unique benefits to enhance women’s engagement in peace and security and humanitarian action. The GAI:

1) Breaks the silos between humanitarian, peace, security and development finance by investing in enhancing women's engagement, leadership and empowerment across all phases of the crisis, peace, security and development contiguum;

2) Addresses structural funding gaps for women’s participation in key phases of the crisis, peace and security, and development contiguity by improving the timeliness, predictability and flexibility of international assistance; and

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3 The combined contributions from the four countries is more or less USD 6 million depending on foreign exchange rates.
3) Improves policy coherence and coordination by complementing existing financing instruments and promoting synergies across all actors: multi-lateral and bilateral entities, national governments’ women’s machineries; and local civil society organizations.

The establishment of the GAI is recommended by the Global Study on the Implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) and welcomed by the UN Secretary-General in his 2015 Report to the Security Council on Women and Peace and Security. The GAI is also recognized in UN Security Council Resolution 2242 (2015) as one avenue to attract resources, coordinate responses and accelerate implementation, in addition to existing complementary mechanisms.4

**Community Social Dialogues & Girl Ambassadors for Peace**

GNWP further demonstrated its strength to facilitate community-based conflict prevention and conflict-resolution strategies by co-organizing the year two series of the community social dialogues in Ruthshuru territory in North Kivu, DRC in August 2015. The community social dialogues program is an inclusive and participatory initiative that engages former and active members of armed groups in community-led discussions on conflict resolution and peacebuilding. In addition, GNWP replicated the Girl Ambassador for Peace program in North Kivu, DRC and in Eastern Equatoria, South Sudan. First implemented in South Kivu, DRC, the Girl Ambassadors for Peace Program aims to empower young women and girls in conflict situations to be positive role models in peacebuilding and countering violent extremism in their communities.

**Civil society monitoring of UNSCR 1325**

Following its successful initiative on civil society monitoring of UNSCR 1325 from 2010-2014, GNWP developed the UNSCR 1325 Scorecard to provide the monitoring teams with a user-friendly and visually appealing tool to capture the principal findings of the monitoring exercise.

The use of the UNSCR 1325 Scorecard by CSO monitoring teams in 2015 further strengthened their ability to track progress over time with respect to the main pillars of UNSCR 1325.

**CEDAW GR 30**

GNWP continued its advocacy efforts on the use of the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) General Recommendation (GR) 30 as a complementary monitoring and accountability mechanism to UNSCR 1325 and the supporting resolutions. In 2015, GNWP drafted four country-specific case studies on civil society’s use of GR 30; co-hosted an event on GR 30 during the High Level Review of UNSCR 1325 in October; and obtained the commitment of the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN to convene an Arria formula on GR 30 in 2016.

**Organizational Evaluation and institutional strengthening**

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4 GAI Terms of Reference. 2015.
In 2015, the independent organizational evaluation of GNWP was completed. The exercise evaluated GNWP’s capacity and effectiveness to accomplish its mission of “Bridging the gap between global policy and local action on Women, Peace and Security;” and examined all aspects of GNWP’s organizational structure and performance, including its governance and decision-making structure, management and staff, work environment, institutional capacity and financial viability. Please see Annex 12 for the full copy of GNWP’s organizational evaluation report.

Another highlight in 2015 is GNWP’s incorporation as an independent organization registered in the State of New York. GNWP’s certificate of incorporation was issued in June 2015. Following the incorporation, GNWP proceeded to apply for its own tax-exempt status. This process is ongoing.

The most important lesson learned in 2015 is the need for sustained and coordinated engagement in lobbying and advocacy at the local, national, regional and global levels. Each level strengthens the other. Without one, the other will not be as effective. GNWP also learned that it is important to explain such multi-level strategy to its donors and partners so that they will embrace and support it.

As in previous years, GNWP continued to face limited financial resources particularly long-term support for its core operations. This has impacted in the organization’s capacities to maintain core staff beyond one year. GNWP will continue to work towards the stabilization of its financial base in the coming years.

**Outreach**

In 2015 GNWP reached over 70 thousand people in more than 30 countries through its various projects and programs.

**Summary**

This report covers the projects and programs that the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders undertook in 2015

The overarching goal for 2015 was to mobilize local, national, regional and global actors to contribute towards better implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 1325, 1820 and the supporting Women, Peace and Security (WPS) resolutions, so as to: ensure women’s leadership and participation in decision-making, peacebuilding, conflict prevention and recovery; prevent conflicts; protect women and girls’ rights; and prevent sexual and gender-based violence.
The specific objectives of GNWP's core operations in 2015 were to:

1. Enhance the capacity of women’s organizations/CSOs to use legal mechanisms to protect their rights and ensure their leadership and participation in decision-making, peacebuilding, conflict prevention, conflict resolution and reconstruction.
2. Facilitate effective implementation of UNSCR 1325, 1820 and the supporting WPS resolutions particularly at the national and local levels through systematic monitoring and regular coordination between national and local government authorities.
3. Raise awareness and knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 and related legal mechanisms among local government officials, religious leaders, community elders, traditional leaders, local women leaders and their respective constituencies to promote local ownership of the resolutions and identify concrete actions towards implementation.
4. Facilitate greater cross-sectoral cooperation and collaboration on the implementation of the WPS resolutions among CSOs, government agencies, UN entities, private sector and other relevant actors and contribute towards better global implementation.
5. Raise awareness and knowledge on the use of the CEDAW No. 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations as an accountability mechanism that will obligate Member States to report on the status of the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and the supporting WPS resolutions; and enhance the capacity of civil society to utilize this instrument and demand governments to fully and effectively implement UNSCR 1325, 1820 and the supporting resolutions.
6. Enhance organizational development and institutional capacity of the GNWP International Coordinating Team, governance and administrative structure to more effectively respond to the needs of GNWP members with regards to WPS advocacy and programming.

The expected outcomes were:

1. Enhanced capacity of women’s organizations/CSOs to use legal mechanisms to protect their rights and ensure their leadership and participation in decision-making on peace and security issues; improved coordination among national and local actors in the implementation of the WPS resolutions;
2. Improved and predictable financing for National Action Plans; better global implementation of the WPS resolutions; increased government accountability on the WPS resolutions; and
3. Enhanced capacity of GNWP to attain its vision, mission and goals and effectively respond to the needs of GNWP members with regards to WPS advocacy and programming.
Context

Building on recent achievements in policy development

GNWP’s 2015 project implementation expanded upon the accomplishments made in 2014. 2014 marked the beginning of the work towards the Global Study on UNSCR 1325\(^5\) and GNWP’s contribution through the coordination of the civil society survey\(^6\) whose recommendations and outputs fed into the Global Study. The momentum created by the 15\(^{th}\) anniversary of UNSCR 1325 led to more developments on the normative framework around the WPS agenda. In addition to the Global Study on UNSCR 1325, the outcomes of the UN High Level Peace Operations Review and the UN Peacebuilding Architecture Review were released in 2015. Both reviews strengthened the call for increased funding for the work of civil society in conflict-affected communities—among other recommendations.

UNSCR 2242\(^7\) was adopted during the Security Council Open Debate in October 2015. It urges Member States to assess strategies and resourcing in the implementation of the WPS agenda, reiterates its call for Member States to ensure increased representation of women at all decision-making levels and mechanisms for the prevention, and resolution of conflict and calls upon donor countries to provide financial and technical assistance to women involved in peace processes; and further encourages the meaningful participation of civil society organizations at international and regional peace and security meetings. Additionally UNSCR 2242 calls for the greater integration by Member States and the United Nations of their agendas on women, peace and security, counter-terrorism and countering-violent extremism which can be conducive to terrorism, requests the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) to integrate gender as a cross-cutting issue.

UNSCR 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security, which calls on Member States to increase inclusive representation of youth in decision-making at all levels in local, national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention and resolution of conflict, including institutions and mechanisms to counter violent extremism was adopted in December 2015.

Remaining implementation and accountability gaps

Despite the achievements in policy development around the WPS agenda and the recognition that there is a lack of implementation in carrying out new and already existing policies, there still remains a gap between the words that are committed and the actions that are taken.


\(^7\) For the full text of the resolution, please see: [http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_res_2242.pdf](http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_res_2242.pdf)
**Social, political and cultural country contexts**

In 2015, the power relations and social, political and cultural contexts shifted in some of the countries where GNWP implements its programs and projects. The political parties in power continue to control the governance and decision-making structures in DRC, though many ministers have changed ministries, which meant building new relationships in the Ministry of Gender, Family and Child. South Sudan presented a particular challenge because of the lack of commitment to implement the peace agreement signed in August 2015, by South Sudan President Salva Kiir and the former vice president Riek Machar. The Transitional Government of National Unity (TGoNU) was supposed to be established within 60 days of the signing of the peace agreement. However, fear over vice president Riek Machar’s security traveling to Juba became an obstacle to the formation of the TGoNU.

In Uganda GNWP and its implementing partners had a strong relationship with the Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development. The participation of the Ministry’s Principal Women-in-Development Officer during the localization workshops allowed for the participants from the local government and the local community to see cooperation of the national government with the organizations on the ground giving them legitimacy and credibility as well as the sense of support and value to the local development planning process in the district. A pervasive disconnect between the national level policy-making and local level implementation is quite common in in the region, and Uganda is no exception. For a national policy-maker to work hand-in-hand with the local government and local leaders of the community shows a connection that is often missing and allows for information sharing that often does not occur.

In Liberia and Sierra Leone the impact of the Ebola crisis cannot be underestimated. The socio-economic areas affected include public services such as health and education, employment and it also created food insecurity. As a result, the outbreak slowed development and growth in both countries. GNWP had to postpone its Localization activities in Liberia and Sierra Leone because of the Ebola crisis.

In Colombia, local elections in indigenous and non-indigenous communities caused a delay in implementation of the localization workshops so that rather than being implemented in October 2015, they were rescheduled to take place in February 2016.

**Security risks in Liberia, Sierra Leone and South Sudan**

GNWP and its members encountered security risks in South Sudan that required modification of logistics and the implementation of timelines. In both countries, women and girls still make up the majority of the victims of sexual violence. However, women’s organizations remain steadfast in fighting impunity even as they continue to be directly threatened or intimidated by both state and non-state armed groups. In South Sudan, even though the peace agreement and ceasefire are in effect, numerous violations have occurred and the violence never halted, which
has created a culture of revenge. The creation of 28 states along ethnic lines will exacerbate ethnic conflicts and ongoing violence. In the case of Liberia and Sierra Leone, GNWP was scheduled to continue implementation of its Localization programming in 2015, but had to reschedule all workshops for 2016 as a result of the Ebola crisis. GNWP’s response to the security risks was informed by its close monitoring of the situation on the ground and regular consultations with its members from Liberia, Sierra Leone, and South Sudan.

**New and continued partnership**

In 2015, GNWP carried out a number of activities in partnership with its members and partners in Afghanistan, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Burundi, Canada, Colombia, DRC, Fiji, Georgia, India, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Libya, Liechtenstein, Nagorno–Karabakh, Nepal, Netherlands, New York, Pakistan, Philippines, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, and Uganda, as well as with its global partners including Cordaid, UN Women, UNDP, UNFPA, various Member States and international CSOs.
Activities

In 2015, GNWP carried out a number of activities in partnership with its members and partners in Afghanistan, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Burundi, Canada, Colombia, DRC, Fiji, Georgia, India, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Libya, Liechtenstein, Nagorno–Karabakh, Nepal, Netherlands, New York, Pakistan, Philippines, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, and Uganda, as well as with its global partners.

Below are the activities undertaken across GNWP’s four main programmatic areas—Capacity Building, Advocacy, Research and Institutional Strengthening.

CAPACITY BUILDING

1. Localization of UNSCR 1325 and 1820

Now in its fifth year of implementation, the Localization program engages key local actors in the implementation of UNSCR 1325, 1820 and the supporting WPS resolutions in local communities. The GNWP Localization program constitutes a bottom-up approach to the implementation of the WPS resolutions, with local authorities and communities taking initiative and ownership of the implementation of the resolutions. The resolutions call for participation of women in all decision-making and peacebuilding processes, prevention of conflict, prevention of sexual and gender-based violence, protection of women and girls’ rights, and promotion of a gender-perspective on peace and security issues.

The program was cited in the UN Secretary General’s 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 reports on WPS to the Security Council as an important strategy that promotes implementation at sub-national and regional levels, as well as an effort to integrate women and peace and security commitments to legislation, policy-making and planning processes. Furthermore, the Global Study of UNSCR 1325, launched in October 2015, highlights the Localization program as an effective implementation strategy. This program is being implemented in Burundi, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Kenya, Liberia, Nepal, Philippines, Serbia, Sierra Leone, South Sudan and Uganda.

As the Localization program is continuously evolving, monitoring and evaluation workshops have now been added to the overall operational framework as a regular component of the program. In this revised operational framework, the Localization partners reconvene annually to ensure the commitments and promises they made at the outset (such as a municipal ordinance that implements the NAP in local areas or a municipal resolution that integrates the NAP into school curricula) and to evaluate their own performance before other local authorities and civil society. The participants rate their own performance and provide explanations for such ratings. This process not only pressures implementation of the Localization program but also encourages healthy competition among the different partners. The national monitoring
workshops are complemented by the integration of monitoring sessions in the Localization workshops in the communities.

In DRC, the Localization of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 significantly contributed in ensuring that the NAP did not become dormant. Despite the political uncertainties particularly at the national level and the security tensions in Eastern DRC, this initiative mobilized local authorities, traditional leaders, civil society and other key actors to discuss the applicability of the NAP in local contexts and take actions to implement it. This created pressure for national ministries particularly the Ministries of Gender to officially sign the NAP\(^8\) and form the national and provincial steering committees composed of representatives of the Ministry of Gender and women in civil society.

In 2015, GNWP continued its implementation of the Localization program in Colombia, DRC, South Sudan, and Uganda. It also initiated the implementation of the Localization program in Kenya and conducted preparatory work next phases of implementation in Liberia and Sierra Leone.

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\(^8\) A unique situation in DRC was that while the NAP was officially adopted in 2010, it was not signed by a representative of the Ministry of Gender, the lead implementing agency. The active involvement of local authorities, civil society and national level officials in the Ministries of Gender, Interiors and Decentralization created pressure for the Minister to sign the NAP in March 2013. This in turn led to the formation of the national and provincial steering committees on the NAP composed officials of the Ministry of Gender and women’s organizations.
Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

The draft DRC Localization Guidelines completed in May 2014, were further reviewed by GNWP and the team of consultants working on the Guidelines: CSO experts on UNSCR 1325 and 1820; local authorities; and experts from the Ministry of Gender, Family and Child, and the Ministry of Interior, Security, Decentralization and Customary Affairs and validated during the Training of Trainers (ToT) that GNWP and its member le Cadre permanent de Concertation de la Femme Congolaise (CAFCO) held in Kinshasa in August 2014.

To ensure sustainability of the Localization program and to further enhance the local implementation of the WPS resolutions, the Localization Guidelines are designed to assist local authorities to integrate the WPS resolutions and the DRC NAP into local development plans and local policies. In the DRC context, Localization Guidelines are also intended to guide local authorities and CSOs in jointly formulating Local Action Plans, in communities where local development plans are not functional or non-existent.

On 18 August 2015, GNWP in partnership with CAFCO and the Ministry of Gender, Women and Children launched the Guidelines for the integration of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 in local development plans in DRC. Other CSOs across DRC, including CAFCO, Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom- DRC (WILPF-DRC), and Synergie des Femmes pour les Victimes des Violences Sexuelles (SFVS), attended the event. Representatives from the DRC government who participated in the ceremony included, the Secretary General of the Ministry of Gender, Women and Children; the Provincial Minister of Education City from the Province of Kinshasa; and the Vice Minister of Energy who spoke on behalf of the Minister of State for Decentralization and Customary Affairs.

The representatives of the ministries in attendance discussed the importance of the Guidelines and highlighted that the government has an important role to play in the dissemination of information and implementation of the resolutions. Moreover, representatives explained the importance of the government to promote the rights of women thus establishing ownership of the Guidelines.

Immediately following the ceremony, members of civil society, government representatives and members of GNWP held a dissemination strategy workshop to discuss the next steps for thorough dissemination, implementation and monitoring of the Guidelines in the various DRC territories at the local level. Buy-in at the national level is critical for use of the Guidelines in the provinces.

They discussed dissemination of the information at the local level, to territory administrators, mayors, provincial assemblies and other local actors. The group discussed the importance of advocacy by CSOs in Kinshasa and in the provinces, but emphasized the necessity of instruction.
from national ministers because the act of sending the Guidelines to a mayor or governor will not translate to its actual use. Even with the Guidelines, there is a need for capacity building at the local government level. There are also differences in local government infrastructure. For instance, some provinces do not have a written development plan so it will be impossible to integrate the DRC NAP into a document that does not exist. In such instances, the drafting of a stand alone Local Action Plan is more suitable but would require further technical support. In other cases, there is a written local development plan. Therefore the dissemination and implementation processes will vary. Please see Annex 3: Localization for the program for the launch of the Localization guidelines in Kinshasa, DRC.

South Sudan

In Yei, Central Equatoria and Torit, Eastern Equatoria states, members of civil society organizations (CSOs) and local government officials participated in two-day Localization workshops that included sessions on conflict analysis, gender equality, local government structure, the draft NAP and the peace agreement.

During a session on local action planning it was determined that the best way to integrate UNSCR 1325 and 1820 at the state level is through the use of bylaws. In order to create the bylaws the participants must work in cooperation with mayors, councilors, and other key actors to acquire the necessary buy-in. They then need to work with the mayor and commissioner in the municipality and county, who then submit the bill to the legislative council for deliberation, and subsequent passing into a law.

In both workshops all participants made professional and personal commitments to further the Localization process. CSOs and government officials formulated a strategy to work together in order to create a bylaw to enforce the NAP. With regards to personal commitments, many of the male participants committed to inform their wives and children about their rights in accordance with the pillars of UNSCR 1325. Moreover, those with children agreed to divide household chores evenly instead of by traditional gender roles, teaching boys that it is normal for them to cook, clean and do the laundry.

After the Localization workshops, the participants in South Sudan are now conducting their own awareness and knowledge-raising activities and have created state and county steering committees for the NAP integration in local development plans and formulation of by-laws in support of the NAP. Though political uncertainties remain at the national level, in Yei and Torit, South Sudan, local government officials, civil society, religious leaders and other local leaders convened at the state level and spoke with national level officials, particularly the Ministry of Gender to lobby for the adoption of the NAP.9

During the reporting period, the peace agreement between South Sudan President Salva Kiir

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9 The South Sudan NAP was subsequently adopted on May 10, 2016.
and the former vice president Riek Machar was adopted. GNWP considers this as an opportunity to shift the advocacy for the appointment of a Gender Advisor to the peace process to monitoring implementation of the peace agreement, reforming institutions, as well as monitoring the upcoming elections. The Gender Advisor should still play an important role in ensuring the integration of a strong gender perspective in the implementation of the peace agreement.

Although the peace agreement was signed, the immediate violation of the ceasefire agreement poses significant challenges for starting the transitional government phase of the peace process. The continued violence has also disrupted the availability of fuel and drinking water as well as the transportation of food. The security of everyone including specific security arrangements for members of the opposition party must be guaranteed. In order for this to happen, wide dissemination of the peace agreement to the population is necessary to end the spread of propaganda, which has led to violations of the ceasefire. President Salva Kiir has already violated the peace agreement by issuing Presidential Order No 36/2015 for the creation of 28 states instead of the existing 10 states as provided for in the 2011 Transitional Constitution (amended in 2015). This will result in an increased financial burden on the fragile economic situation and human resource capacity deficit that already exists. The creation of states along ethnic lines will exacerbate ethnic conflicts. Furthermore, it will complicate the mandated power sharing ratios set forth in the peace agreement. Attempts by either of the parties to unilaterally create a new power sharing formula to appoint governors and operationalize the newly created state governments will require a new agreement, which signifies violation of the peace agreement.

Though the 28 states are still being disputed, government officials in Torit, one of the districts where ICAN-GNWP implements the Localization and Girl Ambassadors for Peace programs have already been moved to an unofficial new state. This has slowed the momentum of creation of bylaws and implementation of Local Action Plans. Furthermore, it will result in an increased financial burden on the fragile economic situation and human resource capacity deficit that already exists in South Sudan. To mitigate these risks, women’s organizations and civil society must play a stronger role in the monitoring of the peace agreement. They must also demand an efficient transitional justice system including accessible courts. Planning for the upcoming elections will require active civil society involvement as well as international assistance to address concerns of violence at the polls and election fraud.

*Please see Annex 3: Localization for the workshop module and other materials.*

**Uganda**

GNWP returned to Uganda in September/October 2015 to scale up its localization program by introducing it in Kitgum and Amuria districts in the northern and eastern regions of the country. In partnership with the Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development, GNWP and its implementing partners Coalition for Action on 1325 (CoACT), Kitgum Women Peace Initiative (KIWEPI) and Teso Women Peace Activists (TEWPA) conducted two two-day localization
workshops from 29 September to 2 October in the districts of Kitgum and Amuria.

Prior to the workshops, GNWP held a member’s meeting on 28 September with representatives from its Ugandan members namely, CoACT, KIWEPI, TEWPA, Luwero Women Development Association (LUWODA), Lira Rural Women & Children Development Initiative Shelter (LIRWOCDI), Lira Women Peace Initiative (LIWEPI). The goal of the members meeting was to convene representatives from organizations working in different regions to discuss the localization strategy. GNWP members gave an in-depth presentation on what the localization strategy is, examples of its effects in other countries, and why it has been cited as an effective means of implementation of UNSCR 1325. The participants worked in groups to develop presentations on what the localization strategy means to them and how it could be implemented in their local communities and why such a program would be beneficial.

Participants from the members meeting took part in the Kitgum workshops to get first-hand experience with the localization strategy so that they could bring what they learned back to their communities and be in a better informed position to implement localization and apply it to their setting. The localization workshops took place in Kitgum on 29 and 30 September 2015 and in Amuria on 1 and 2 October 2015. Participants from local government, civil society, teachers, cultural leaders, religious leaders, police officers, community elders, paramount chiefs, city planners, and media came together to analyze the conflict in their community using a gendered lens to determine what needs to be done in order to realize a peaceful and secure community for all – women and men, girls and boys equally. These inputs would be used toward the construction of a Local Action Plan (LAP) in the district.

In the culmination of the workshops in both districts, the participants elected members to sit on the Local Action Plan Taskforce committee. A prominent local government actor who could leverage buy-in from other officials headed the Taskforce in each district so that when the LAPs were drafted, they would have support in their efforts to be approved at the district level. The other members of the Taskforces were representative of the other implementing and support generating bodies in the community, such as teachers, planners, police, civil society, in order for all facets to be represented and heard.

Following the Localization workshops, CoACT returned to each district to conduct LAP Taskforce training and facilitate the drafting of the LAP. They also held town hall meetings to introduce the draft LAPs to the greater communities and spread the word to gain support in hopes of their passage. The Kitgum LAP was adopted at the end of 2015 and the Amuria LAP is awaiting approval by the local district at its next meeting. The Taskforce aims for its passage in 2016

Please see Annex 3: Localization for the workshop modules and other materials.

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10 A representative from Ugandan GNWP member CEWIGO was unable to attend the members meeting, but the organization was kept in the loop of what occurred in the meeting and in the workshops that followed. In addition, GNWP met with a representative from Isis-WICCE while in Uganda to discuss areas of common interest and partnership. Isis-WICCE has since become a member of GNWP and will thus be included in further programming in Uganda.
2. Civil Society Monitoring of UNSCR 1325

Since 2010, GNWP has been coordinating the monitoring of the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolutions (UNSCR) 1325 and 1820 on Women, Peace and Security at the national level. The monitoring project provides women peace activists with an evidence-based instrument to hold governments accountable to fully and effectively implement the resolutions. With the support of Cordaid and the International Ministries with Women, Children and Youth of the United Methodist Women and other donors, women’s groups from Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Burundi, Canada, Colombia, DRC, Fiji, India, Iraq, Kenya, Libya, Nagorno-Karabakh, Nepal, Netherlands, Philippines, Rwanda, Serbia, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, and Uganda were able to monitor the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 in their respective countries from 2010 to 2015. Women’s organizations from these countries directly benefited from this project as their capacities to collect, compile and analyze data on women, peace and security; as well as their advocacy skills have been enhanced. They have been able to use the yearly monitoring reports to hold governments, the UN and other actors accountable.

To mark the 15th anniversary of the adoption of UNSCR 1325 in 2015, GNWP has developed a Scorecard to measure the progress of implementation of UNSCR 1325 in the last five years. The UNSCR 1325 Scorecard provides the monitoring teams with a user-friendly and visually appealing tool to capture the principal findings of the monitoring exercise since 2010. The use of the UNSCR 1325 Scorecard by the Afghanistan and Sierra Leone monitoring teams in 2015 further strengthened their ability to track progress over time with respect to the main pillars of UNSCR 1325. Please see Annex 4 for populated UNSCR 1325 Scorecards.

The Scorecard tracks the implementation of UNSCR 1325 from 2010-2014 through a rating for each indicator, relative to the previous year.

In 2015, women’s groups from Afghanistan, Armenia, Fiji, Liberia, Libya, Nagorno-Karabakh, Nepal, Sierra Leone, Sweden and Uganda populated the UNSCR 1325 Scorecard. The populated scorecards were then displayed during a Peace Forum that GNWP co-hosted on October 28-30, 2015, to highlight country-specific achievements and gaps in the implementation of the WPS resolutions. The Peace Forum commemorating the 15th Anniversary of the adoption of UNSCR 1325, gathered civil society and distinguished guests to strategize on strengthening and mobilizing women and men for the effective implementation of the WPS agenda. Civil society organizations from around the world organized panel discussions, workshops and exhibitions in New York during the three days of the forum. Please see the Global-local-global advocacy on WPS in the Advocacy Section for more information on the Peace Forum.

For more on the GNWP Localization program, please see Section 5. Activities.
3. Capacity building and advocacy on the use of CEDAW GR 30 to regularly report on UNSCR 1325 and 1820 implementation at national, regional and global levels

In 2015, GNWP continued its work on the CEDAW GR 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations. CEDAW-related activities included:

- the development of case studies on the use of CEDAW GR 30 by civil society, to complement the UN Women Guidebook on GR 30 and the Civil Society Guidelines currently being drafted by IWRAW Asia Pacific;
- a panel discussion on The Complementarity Between CEDAW GR 30 and UNSCR 1325, as a side event for the High-Level Review on UNSCR 1325; and
- discussions with UN Security Council members for the organization of an Arria formula meeting in 2016.

3a. Case studies on the use of CEDAW GR 30 by civil society

Since the adoption of CEDAW GR 30 in October 2013, GNWP has highlighted the importance of developing practical tools to guide civil society on how to use GR 30 and UNSCR 1325 complementarily to push forward the WPS agenda. GNWP has been in conversation with the International Women’s Rights Action Watch –Asia-Pacific (IWRAW AP) regarding the development of a GR 30 Civil Society Sourcebook. The development of practical tools for CSOs, such as a sourcebook and case studies on the use of GR 30, was also among the recommendations discussed during a training on GR 30 held in Indonesia in December 2014, organized by GNWP in partnership with the CEDAW Task Force on GR 30, the Asian Muslim Network, and the Asia-Pacific Women’s Alliance on Peace and Security.

In 2015, the GNWP International Coordinating Team provided comprehensive comments and suggestions to further strengthen the draft sourcebook produced by IWRAW AP. GNWP also shared two detailed reports on the use of GR 30 as an accountability mechanism to the WPS resolution in Iraq and Sierra Leone (57th session) and Syria and India (58th session) with IWRAW AP and UN Women consultants working on producing a CEDAW/WPS Guidebook. The UN Women guidebook was launched in October 2015, during an event co-sponsored by GNWP.

To complement the draft IWRAW AP sourcebook, as well as the UN Women Guidebook, GNWP has drafted case studies on the use of GR 30 by civil society since its adoption in four countries: Azerbaijan, Colombia, India and Iraq. These case studies provide:

- country-specific information on the last periodic report to the CEDAW Committee;
- concrete examples of the use of GR 30 by civil society and its impact on pushing forward the WPS agenda at local, national, regional and global levels;
- challenges encountered by civil society in their use of GR 30; and
- recommendations to national governments, the CEDAW Committee, civil society, and the international community regarding the use of GR 30 as a complementary mechanism to UNSCR 1325.
In Iraq, since the government last reported to the CEDAW Committee in February 2014, the human rights situation has considerably deteriorated. The Iraqi people face staggering violence at the hands of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). Women and girls are killed, displaced, sexually abused, and enslaved, and yet they remain excluded from conflict-resolution and peacebuilding efforts. The implementation of UNSCR 1325—and the use of CEDAW General Recommendation (GR) 30 to reinforce their implementation—has never been so urgent. Iraqi women’s groups have taken on the challenge of advocating for the implementation of the Iraqi NAP on UNSCR 1325 and continue to raise awareness on the potential of GR 30 as a complementary accountability mechanism for the participation and protection of women and girls in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict settings.

In Azerbaijan, civil society has been actively pursuing the involvement of women in political process with GR 30 in hand. In Colombia, GR 30 has been an important accountability mechanism complementary to UNSCR 1325, particularly with regards to women’s participation in the ongoing peace process between the Colombian government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, People’s Army (Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia, Ejercito del Pueblo FARC-EP). GR 30 is a key instrument in contexts such as India, where the national government does not recognize the armed conflicts taking place within its territory. As a general recommendation of CEDAW—a convention ratified by India that is legally binding and requires periodic reporting—GR 30 allows civil society and the CEDAW Committee to challenge the Indian government on a number of points, particularly relating to the prevalence of violence against women in border zones, the participation of women in conflict resolution, and the development of a NAP on UNSCR 1325.

However, in all four countries, the lack of awareness of CEDAW GR 30 by national and local authorities as well as by civil society severely limits its use. Although much is being done by civil society to advance the status of women, the resistance to the development of a NAP on UNSCR 1325 in Azerbaijan, Colombia and India remains another hurdle. In Azerbaijan, this has meant weak implementation of the recommendations and a disconnect between formal and lived equality for women. The case studies will be published online in order for them to be accessible to civil society and all other stakeholders.

*For the full case studies on the use of CEDAW GR 30, please see Annex 5.*

### 3b. Panel discussion on the Complementarity Between CEDAW GR 30 and UNSCR 1325, as a side event for the High-Level Review on UNSCR 1325

On October 19, 2015, GNWP organized a side event to the High-Level Review on UNSCR 1325 on the complementarity between CEDAW GR 30 and UNSCR 1325, which highlighted the many ways in which CEDAW can be implemented and how it is being used on the ground to reinforce the objectives of UNSCR 1325.

Co-hosted by the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN and UN Women, this panel was an important reminder to the international community of the challenges that remain for
women on the ground who are fighting for peace, justice and equality. In creating mechanisms and guidelines, it is crucial to ensure that their implementation is feasible and support is given in order to follow through with the promises made to women around the world.

UN Women’s Guidebook on CEDAW GR 30 was also launched at this event and Ms. Nahla Valji from UN Women spoke to the value of the guidebook as a tool for practitioners. Ms. Manal Putros Benham, an Iraqi human rights activist made an intervention about the work being done by CSOs in Iraq to address the increasing violence against women caused by ISIS in Iraq, including the Declaration of Erbil proclaiming the solidarity of women under violence of extremism and religious extremist violence. Representatives from civil society, Security Council members, other Member States, and UN entities were in attendance.

3c. Discussions with UN Security Council members for the organization of an Arria formula meeting

In 2015, GNWP continued its work with the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN and the Permanent Mission of France to the UN, in organizing an Arria Formula meeting with the CEDAW experts to brief the Security Council Members on the use of GR 30. This meeting will provide an important opportunity to raise awareness and knowledge on the use of GR 30 among Security Council members, in particular on how the GR can be used as a complementary accountability mechanism to the WPS resolutions.

The specific objectives of this Arria formula are:

- To raise awareness of CEDAW in general and CEDAW GR 30 in particular among SC members. This is necessary because there are always new SC members, new representatives of Member States;
- To promote understanding within the SC of how CEDAW and UNSCR 1325 and the supporting WPS resolutions can be implemented congruently to strengthen and reinforce each instrument’s efficacy;
- To enhance the Member States’ capacities to use the CEDAW GR 30 as a complementary monitoring and accountability mechanism to UNSCR 1325 and the supporting WPS resolutions;
- To explore the possibility of integrating CEDAW into the work of the Security Council Informal Working group on WPS; and

11 Named after Ambassador Diego Arria of Venezuela who initiated the practice in 1992, an Arria Formula meeting is a meeting with relatively flexible procedural framework during which Security Council members are able to exchange views and engage in direct dialogue with government representatives and “international organizations — often at the latter’s request — as well as non-State parties, on matters with which they are concerned and which fall within the purview of responsibility of the Security Council.” See United Nations Security Council, “Working Methods Handbook, Background Note on the ‘Arria-Formula’ Meetings of the Security Council Members,” accessed on February 17, 2014, http://www.un.org/en/sc/about/methods/bgarriaformula.shtml
• To generate support for a more integrative approach to the implementation of international laws and policies across the UN system.

As the Global Study on UNSCR 1325 recommends in the section “Strengthening Quality Information Flows to the Security Council,” avenues to strengthen interaction and information flows across the entire system should be pursued, and efforts made to limit the fragmentation and silos that can hamper effective response. ... There has been a trend towards regular Arria formula meetings with commissions of inquiry as a result of a request in resolution 2122. Such interactions have led to significant new flows of information on the impact of conflicts on women and girls that would otherwise have not been brought to the Council’s attention. The Arria Formula meeting on CEDAW can bring the same impact with a focus on the implementation of UNSCR 1325. The Global Study on UNSCR 1325 further recommends that efforts should be made to standardize such interactions with the Security Council.

The Arria Formula, will convene CEDAW experts from the CEDAW Working Group on GR 30, Security Council Members as well as representatives from CSOs and governments who have used GR 30 as a monitoring and accountability mechanism in local, national, regional, and global contexts. In addition, representatives from UN Women, the Group of Friends of Women and Peace and Security, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and other relevant structures in the UN will be in attendance.

4. Building Peace One Village at a Time

a. Community Social Dialogues in North Kivu, DRC

The Community Social Dialogues program initiative is anchored on UNSCR 2106 wherein operative paragraph 11 “[e]mphasizes the important role that can be played by women, civil society, including women’s organizations, and formal and informal community leaders in exerting influence over parties to armed conflict with respect to addressing sexual violence.” Yet, lack of engagement with non-state armed groups remains, reinforcing the distrust of former members of armed groups to meet and engage with government and UN bodies outside of formal peace negotiations, fearing arrest or execution.

GNWP and its member SFVS held the Community Social Dialogues program in Rutshuru, in North Kivu in August 2015. The objectives of the program are:

• to prevent sexual violence and other forms of gender-based violence at the community level;
• to discuss justice and reconciliation at the community level;

• to foment reconciliation between the different members of a given community; and
• to prevent conflict or the resurgence of conflict in that community.

b. Girl Ambassadors for Peace in North Kivu, Goma DRC and Torit, South Sudan

The Girl Ambassadors for Peace Program was piloted in South Kivu in June 2014. The overarching goal of the Girl Ambassadors for Peace program is to enhance the capacities of women and girls to promote and protect their rights, and to use UNSCR 1325 and 1820 to hold duty bearers accountable and find peaceful solutions to the conflict. The specific objectives of the Girl Ambassador for Peace program are:

• to raise literacy rates in conflict-affected communities in South Sudan and the DRC;
• to develop leadership skills among young women and girls;
• to raise awareness of young women and girls on their rights and enhance their abilities to assert such rights;
• to raise awareness and promote the necessity for women’s participation in peacebuilding among local communities in the DRC and South Sudan; and
• to contribute to peacebuilding in local communities using UNSCR 1325, 1820 and supporting WPS resolutions as policy frameworks.

**Girl Ambassadors for Peace Theory of Change**
On August 12 and 13 of 2015, GNWP and Synergie des Femmes pour les Victimes des Violences Sexuelles (SFVS) trained a group of young women and girls from Goma, DRC on literacy instruction, leadership, gender, peacebuilding, UNSCR 1325 & 1820 and the use of popular theatre to raise awareness of Women and Peace and Security (WPS) issues. Twenty-five girls from Goma, DRC took part in this training. The training included sessions on: conflict analysis; introduction to gender; resolutions 1325 and 1820; the DRC National Action Plan; skit writing on WPS issues; and preparation for literacy training.

In the session, the young women and girls examined sources of conflict in North Kivu; for instance, natural minerals, unemployment and desperation. They also explained the positive outcomes in the region including, assistance from the World Food Program, development initiatives, awareness raising and anti-tribalism, sensitization and capacity building for girls. A peacebuilding session emphasized UNSCR 1325 and 1820, along with the concept of gender. Most of the young women had previous knowledge of the resolutions but the concept gender was new for some of them. In another session the young women discussed the qualities that make a successful leader—a self-starter with the capacity to analyze and understand situations, vision, organizational skills, and the capacity to listen to and fight for the interest of all of the people in his or her community.

When the young women travel to the communities to talk about the components of peacebuilding, they use theatre as a means to convey their messages about local issues such as tribalism, sexual violence against women, and land rights, among others. Literacy training is the other main component of the Girl Ambassadors for Peace program. These young women teach literacy to other girls and young women in their communities. This two-day intensive program equips the girls for the work that they will do in local North Kivu communities in the upcoming months. By the end of the two days there was a noticeable difference in the demeanors of the young women. The young women now exude self-confidence and are prepared and excited to visit local communities.

*For the module of the Girl Ambassadors for Peace training in DRC, please see Annex 6.*

In May 2015, GNWP replicated its Girl Ambassadors for Peace program in Torit, South Sudan. A group of 30 girls and young women participated in the two-day workshop with the hope of continuing their education, through literacy training, and also by increasing their knowledge regarding their individual rights.

In the interim since the initial workshop in May, the girls have begun their training and are practicing their theatre skits under the guidance of a Torit-based CSO, Generation in Action. The group of women share what they have learned with other young women and perform skits depicting issues that are relevant to their local community, the village in Nyong Payam, High Mission Boma. During such performance, 200 – 300 audience members attend. With regard to literacy training, 180 women and girls are receiving literacy training. For most of them it was their first time to hold a pen and put pen to paper. The Girl Ambassadors had to show them
how to hold a pen. Some young women brought their small babies so that they would not miss out on the opportunity to learn.

*For more information regarding the Girl Ambassadors for Peace in South Sudan, please see Annex 6.*

### 5. Localizing the post-2015 Agenda

Funding sources for women, peace and security shrunk in 2015 as many donors shifted funding to meet the urgent need to address the refugee crisis in Europe. GNWP planned to implement the following programs in 2015 but was unable to raise the funds needed and therefore was unable to move forward in the areas described below.

3. Localizing the SDGs and UNSCR 1325 and 1820 in Kenya, Nepal and Vietnam;
4. Training of Trainers (ToT) on the Localization of the Post-2105 Agenda and the SDGs and UNSCR 1325 and 1820 in Kenya, Nepal and Vietnam; and

### ADVOCACY

#### 1. Advocacy for the Financing of the Implementation of the WPS Resolutions

**Global Acceleration Instrument (GAI) Meetings**

In 2015, GNWP and Cordaid ramped up their efforts for the establishment of a dedicated funding mechanism for UNSCR 1325 implementation given that after 15 years implementation remains slow and uneven, especially in terms of government support. The Global Acceleration Instrument (GAI) for Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action was presented as a unique financing mechanism that supports quality interventions to enhance the capacity to prevent conflict, respond to crises and emergencies, seize critical peacebuilding opportunities, and encourage the sustainability and national ownership of investments. A minimum of fifty percent, of all GAI funds, is allocated to civil society organizations (CSOs) making the GAI an innovative and much-needed funding instrument for those who are too often left out of the recipient pool. The GAI is a collaborative initiative that brings together all the key stakeholders in an unprecedented manner to address the funding gaps for women’s participation by improving the timeliness, predictability and flexibility of international assistance. The GAI will ensure that women’s groups are not only recipients of funding but also true to the spirit of UNSCR 1325; they will have a say in decision-making for how funds are raised and managed. CSOs will have a presence at every level of implementation; from the international funding board to the national steering committee and down to the organizations carrying out projects in the field thus ensuring transparency and accountability. Bridging the gap between the local...
and the global, the GAi is changing the way we think about multi-stakeholder funding mechanisms. Source: FDG Subcommittee Meeting, 9 March 2015

Please find the press release for the launch of the GAi, the agenda for the launch event, media from the event, and the final GAi ToR as Annex 7.

2. Global-local-global advocacy on WPS

a. 15th Anniversary of UNSCR 1325

On the occasion of the 15th anniversary of UNSCR 1325, GNWP organized the panel discussions and events below.

Young Women, Peace & Security panel discussion (October 15, 2015)

On October 15, GNWP along with Cordaid, United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY), Peacebuilding Support Office, UNDP, UN Women and UNFPA organized a side event to the High-Level Review on United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325. It focused on giving young women and men peacebuilders a platform to share their experiences, to highlight the Amman Declaration on Youth, Peace and Security, and to put forth concrete measures to recognize and support the work of young women and men peacebuilders. The time for youth peacebuilders, especially young women is overdue, and international governments must make space for youth in their agendas because of the pivotal roles that these youth play. Mavic Cabrera-Balleza discussed GNWP’s Girl Ambassadors for Peace program that creates a space for young women to be peacebuilders in their own communities, and how it integrates the three components of: literacy training, leadership and empowerment and peacebuilding.

UNSCR 1325 scorecard on Afghanistan (October 16, 2015)

On October 16, 2015, GNWP held a meeting with its partners from Afghanistan. Although this meeting was originally planned as an event, there were challenges to organizing the event and solidifying logistics. However, this event turned into an extremely productive one-on-one meeting with GNWP’s Afghan partners. GNWP received important updates about the situation on the ground in Afghanistan and the tools needed for localization there. Additionally, a new protocol system for co-sponsoring events resulted from this meeting where GNWP will assist members with event logistics going forward.

The Complementarity Between UNSCR 1325 and CEDAW (October 19, 2015)

On October 19, 2016, GNWP organized a side event for the High-Level Review on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, which included a panel discussion titled The Complementarity Between CEDAW GR 30 and UNSCR 1325. The panel highlighted the many ways in which CEDAW can be implemented and how it is being used on the ground to reinforce the objectives of UNSCR 1325. The importance of the role of the National Action Plans of each
member state in implementation of the UNSCR 1325, as well as the need to use these existing mechanisms in the fight against gender-based and sexual violence was discussed. In creating mechanisms and guidelines, the need of the international community to remain steadfast in implementation and to follow through with the promises made to women around the world was stressed.

**Prelude to Peace Forum (October 21, 2015)**

*Voices from the Field: A Global Call for Implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda - Prelude to the Peace Forum (October 21, 2015)*

On October 21, 2015, GNWP, the Baha’i International Community, International Peace Bureau, National Council of Negro Women, United Methodist Women, and Peace Women/WILPF co-organized the Prelude to the Peace Forum to recommit to the principles and transformative potential of the Women, Peace and Security agenda. The prelude brought many civil society representatives together for a panel discussion on the work being done on the ground concerning issues of women, peace, and security. This was followed by thematic group discussions, in which all attendees participated in developing recommendation on the various challenges that still exist. These topics included women’s participation, national and regional implementation, financing, conflict prevention and accountability.

**Peace Forum (October 28-30, 2015)**

From October 20 to 30, 2015, GNWP along with WILPF, United Methodist Women, World Council of Churches, The National Council of Negro Women, Bahá’í International Community, International Peace Bureau (IPB) organized the following panels and discussion as part of the commemorative activities on the 15th anniversary of UNSCR 1325:

“Men On The Stand” (October 28, 2015)

On October 28, 2015, GNWP and partners presented the panel discussion “Men on the Stand: Men’s roles in implementing UNSCR 1325.” It focused on men’s roles in the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and its supporting resolutions. It examined how to ensure their full participation in peacebuilding and decision making at all levels, how men and women can work together in Preventing violent conflicts; and identified ways in which men can help promote and Protect women and girls’ rights.

“The South Sudanese Peace Agreement: Implications on Women’s Participation in and Political Processes” (October 29, 2015)
On October 29, 2015, GNWP and partners organized an event concerning women’s participation in peacebuilding and political processes in South Sudan. The panel gave an overview of the peace agreement in South Sudan and drew lessons learned on women’s participation in peace negotiations, conflict prevention, peacebuilding and political processes. It also discussed how the localization model can contribute to promoting women’s participation in peacebuilding and political processes and their protection from sexual and gender based violence; and it presented challenges to the implementation of the peace agreement and formulated concrete recommendations and strategies on how the peace agreement, despite its flaws, can best be implemented.

**The Peace Forum: A Historical overview of the origins of UNSCR 1325 (October 29, 2015)**

On October 29, 2015, GNWP organized a discussion concerning the origins of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325. This discussion helped to create a greater understanding of the resolutions, its origins, and its application, since its beginning 15 years ago.

**“The Achievements and Challenges of Localization in Colombia and the Experience of Indigenous and Afro Colombian Women in the Monitoring of UNSCR 1325 at the Peace Forum” (October 29, 2015)**

This panel featured Genith Quitiaquez from Consejo Nacional de Mujeres Indigenas de Colombia (CONAMIC – formerly la Red Piemisikupanayaf), Dora Vivanco from Conferencia Nacional de Organizaciones Afrocolombianas (CNOA) and Vanessa Llevano from Red Nacional de Mujeres. The focus was on the challenges and different needs for the implementation and monitoring of UNSCR 1325 from the perspectives of indigenous communities and Afro-Colombian communities. They emphasized the desire of these communities to be included and actively involved in the peacebuilding process. The event also discussed the current advocacy efforts to establish a NAP on UNSCR 1325 and 1820 in Colombia.

**“Girl Ambassador for Peace and the Localization of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 and The Women’s Caucus for Peace Co-Session” (October 29, 2015)**

This panel discussion shared the ways in which young girls and boys have been engaged with the topics of gender and peace. Justine Masika Bihamba outlined the way in which the Girl Ambassadors for Peace program raises awareness amongst youth and develops their capacity to promote peace. GNWP’s Lori Perkovich discussed the history, main objectives, and replication of the program. Solange Lwashiga, a peace activist from DRC spoke on the dialogues implemented in universities that engage men and women in discussions of gender roles and how to break the limiting framework of gender.
“15 Years After 1325 in DRC” CJR 1325 (October 30, 2015)

On October 30, 2015, GNWP and partners discussed the progress made in the first 15 years of the implementation of 1325 in the DRC, Irène Esambo and Solange Lwashiga spoke to the many challenges that still remain. In particular the lack of attention given to the needs of people with disabilities, ensuring that victims of sexual violence have access to justice and reparation, and having substantial representation of women in government and peace negotiations. The success of the campaign Rien Sans Femmes was highlighted and its ability to mobilize people and effectively communicate their demands to the government.

Targeted Advocacy Meetings

During the 15th Anniversary of UNSCR 1325 in New York, representatives of GNWP and members Rita Martin, EVE Organization for Women Development in South Sudan; Selline Korir, Rural Women Peace Link (RWPL) Advisor and Board Member in Kenya and Alupo Engole Cecilia, from Teso Women Peace Activists (TEWPA) in Uganda attended bilateral meetings in New York to advocate for specific WPS issues in their countries. The group attended a meeting on October 29, 2015 at the Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations and on October 30, 2015 with the Troika (United States, United Kingdom, and Norway) at the US Mission to the United Nations to discuss the South Sudanese peace process. The members shared experiences and lessons learned from peace processes in their respective countries. Concrete recommendations for a way forward, with specificity regarding requests for assistance were made. Areas of concern included: dissemination of the South Sudanese peace agreement, the establishment of a hybrid court and the Commission for Truth, Reconciliation, and Healing (CTRH), elections, monitoring and implementation of the allocated seats for women commissioners as mandated in the peace process.

b. 59th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

During the 59th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women in March 2015, GNWP organized the panel discussions and events below. It also held targeted meetings to discuss country specific initiatives and efforts.

Civil Society Consultation on the 2015 Women, Peace and Security High Level Review

This event addressed the participation of civil society in light of the upcoming 2015 High Level Review on Women, Peace and Security. It took place on Wednesday, March 11 from 10:30 to 12:00 at the Armenian Convention Center. Organized by GNWP, WILPF, WAND and the Boston Consortium, this event presented updates on the processes around the 2015 Security Council High Level Review of UNSCR 1325 and the various means by which civil society can participate.
The panelists included:

- Mavic Cabrera Balleza - International Coordinator of the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP)
- Madeleine Rees - Secretary General, Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)
- Louise Allen - Executive Coordinator of the NGO Working Group on Women Peace and Security
- Nahla Valji - Policy Adviser and Officer in Charge, Peace and Security Section, UN Women (UN Women)
- Hanny Cueva Beteta - Policy Adviser of the Peace and Security section, Policy Division, UN Women

The speakers addressed the need to rethink and re-strategize civil society’s approach to the UN system in order to create spaces to take over parts of the processes. While the recommendations continue to come from the review process there is a need to identify the obstacles that stand in the way. Mavic Cabrera Balleza spoke specifically about the independent CSO survey, which would help give context to the High Level Review. She also emphasized the need to focus on messaging that calls for the prevention of conflict, not only ending sexual violence. Collaboration with civil society organizations was identified as a key factor of success and the implementation of laws on gender equality and women’s rights.

**Strengthening Accountability on Women, Peace and Security in the Asia Pacific Region: Lessons Learnt and Ways Forward**

This panel focusing on the women, peace and security agenda in the Asia Pacific took place Wednesday, March 11th from 2:30 – 4:00 pm at the UN Church Center. The event was organized by GNWP, Cordaid, and the Asia-Pacific Women’s Alliance on Peace and Security (APWAPS). The panelists described their experiences in using the accountability mechanisms of the CEDAW General Recommendation 30 on Women in Conflict Prevention, Conflict and Post-conflict Situations and the ongoing deliberations on the Beijing +20 Review. The event also included audience engagement to discuss how these might be used at the sub-regional, national and international levels.

The panelists included:

- Jasmin Nario Galace (We Act 1325)
- Bandana Rana (1325 Action Group Nepal)
- Roshmi Goswami (WACT- SA)
- Sharon Bagwan Rolls (FemLINK Pacific)
- Simone Filippini (Cordaid)
- Moderated by Mavic Cabrera Balleza (GNWP)
Girls Act for Change, Girls Act for Peace: Empowering Girl Ambassadors for Peace

This event on the Girl Ambassadors for Peace took place Thursday, March 12th at 10am to 12 pm at the Permanent Mission of Canada to the UN (1 Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, 14th Floor). It was sponsored by GNWP, Canadian Voice of Women for Peace (VOW), and the Permanent Mission of Canada to the UN. Opening remarks were conducted by Ambassador Guillermo Rishchynski of the Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations as well as Susan Truppe, Canada Parliamentary Secretary for the Status of Women.

Speakers:
- Mavic Cabrera Balleza - International Coordinator of the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP)
- Neema Namadamu - Synergie des Associations Feminines du Congo (SAFECO)
- Jazmin Papadopoulos - Canadian Voice of Women for Peace
- Yusur Al-Bahrani - Canadian Voice of Women for Peace

Women and Girls’ Empowerment and Access to Information Technology in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo: Challenges and Prospects

This panel discussion on Friday, March 13th from 10am to 12pm, addressed the current situation in Eastern DRC, with respect to challenges in women and girls’ access to information technology. The panelists focused on the links between access to information technology and women’s empowerment, women’s participation in decisions-making and peacebuilding processes, and protection and prevention of sexual and gender-based violence. It took place at the Armenian Convention Center Y Hall (630 2nd Avenue) and was sponsored by GNWP, Ligue pour la Solidarité Congolaise (LSC), and Oxfam Quebec.

For event concept notes, please see Annex 8: Advocacy during the CSW and the 15th Anniversary of UNSCR 1325.

c. The "How to" in UNSCR 1325 Implementation on May 27 2015 at the Permanent Mission of Uganda to the UN in New York

This panel on Localization took place in May 2015, immediately following the CSW. The event was sponsored by GNWP, and the Permanent Missions of Uganda, Austria, Liechtenstein, Slovenia and Switzerland to the UN. The panel shared experiences and lessons learned from bottom-up approaches to UNSCR 1325/NAP implementation in local communities in Uganda, Kenya and South Sudan; and presented these as contributions to the Global Study on Women, Peace and Security.
3. Media Outreach on UNSCR 1325 and 1820

*Media and Communication Tools in the DRC, Uganda, South Sudan*

GNWP members provide annual feedback on the best means of media communication in their respective countries and the most prevalent form of media used is radio, therefore GNWP continues to produce, distribute and air public service announcements (PSAs), and expand its radio programming on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 in local contexts.

In The Democratic Republic of the Congo, media productions have complemented the work on the Localization of UNSCR 1325 and 1820. The media was utilized to broaden knowledge and awareness-raising. GNWP staff and the participants were interviewed by radio stations and newspapers including the major daily Le Forum des As. Noting the print media circulation and radio listenership in DRC as well as the social media that GNWP used actively during both ToT in DRC, the estimated number of people that received information on UNSCR 1325 and 1820 was 5,000.

In South Sudan, GNWP continued its partnership with the Community Empowerment Organization for Progress (CEPO), and EVE Organization for Women Development to distribute the radio spots (public service announcements) on UNSCR 1325 and 1820 in English and Juba Arabic, that were produced in 2014. Given that the messages and format of the radio spots are still very timely and relevant, GNWP in consultation with its partners and the participants in its various programs and projects decided to distribute the same productions rather than to produce a new series. The radio spots once again proved to be one of the most effective ways of raising awareness and knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 and their application at country and community levels particularly in preventing SGBV and promoting women’s participation in decision-making and peace processes at all levels.

In Uganda, media, particularly radio has proven to be a critical instrument for wide reaching awareness-raising and the generation of support for implementation of the WPS agenda in local communities. The media practitioners who were present during the localization workshops conducted interviews with participants after the workshops and also actively participated in the workshop group discussions and activities. The importance of the media’s presence was seen not only in their attendance and active participation, but also in their role as decision-makers, whereas one of the media practitioners present during the localization workshops in Kitgum was also chosen to be a part of the LAP Taskforce. This active presence shows the commitment from the media to live up to its mission of informing and empowering the people of northern Uganda, as well as the foresight of the participants of the workshops to elect a practitioner from the media to be a part of the LAP Taskforce so that their work can be documented and disseminated to the people. In addition to the workshop participants who were present to represent the media, there were also local government officials and cultural leaders present who were not representing the media, but have regular broadcasts in which they committed to disseminate information about the localization workshops and UNSCR 1325.
**Girl Ambassadors For Peace in South Sudan and Goma, DRC**

In South Sudan and Goma, DRC, The Girl Ambassadors for Peace Program has a strong potential to spawn human-interest stories. GNWP is in the process of documenting such stories in an empowering and inspiring manner. The stories of the women and girls are shared here with full permission from them. For examples of the Girl Ambassadors for Peace stories, please see Section 8. Human Interest Stories. Additional profiles are included in Annex 6. GNWP will also continue to promote the program through social media and other media outreach. For examples of recent social media outreach, please see Annex 6.

**Women Speak Out for Peace: Global Media Campaign (September 21, 2015)**

To commemorate the International Day of Peace, GNWP conducted its 2nd Annual Global Media Campaign “Women Speak Out for Peace” on September 15-21, 2015. The week-long campaign aimed to change the dominant image of women in media’s coverage of war and conflict from that of victims, into agents of change, peacebuilders and decision-makers.

The campaign brought together women and men, girls and boys from around the world, who raised their voice to speak out for peace. Peace and human rights activists from more than 30 countries sent out messages about women’s role in peacebuilding, reconstruction and nation building on radio and television, newspapers, as well as the social media and mobile technology. They shared their stories of everyday peacebuilding and raise awareness about the UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 on Women, Peace and Security.

GNWP complemented the Global Media Campaign by sharing various media messages during the International Day of Peace Symposium that was held on September 19, 2014 at the UN Church Center in New York. The media messages were integrated in the discussions during the Symposium so as to influence the ongoing global policy processes, such as the Post-2015 development agenda, the Beijing +20 Review, the Security Council High Level Review, and the preceding Global Study of 1325 implementation.

As part of this campaign, the Twitter hashtags #WomPeaceMedia, #Makes4Peace, #JustPeaceJustDevelopment, and #PeaceDay were widely used. For links to pictures, video messages, and sample Tweets and Facebook messages of the Women Speak Out for Peace Campaign, please see Annex 9: Media Outreach on UNSCR 1325 and 1820.

"Tweet-for-Peace" Tweet-a-Thon (October 12-13, 2015)

GNWP called on all women peace activists and human rights defenders, policy makers, practitioners, media and other stakeholders to answer the question: "What does 1325 mean to you?" on twitter and other social media platforms. The consistent use of the hashtags: #1325Means and #1325at15 generated responses that captured a variety of perspectives on what UNSCR 1325 means to individuals and organizations locally, nationally, regionally and globally. The tweet-a-thon began at 8:00 AM (US Eastern Standard Time) on October 12th and continued (officially) until 11:59 PM EST on October 13th. The use of the hashtags proved successful and individuals continued to use them in addition to the hashtag #1325Octoberandbeyond that was created and used during the Peace Forum (October 28-30th), co-sponsored by GNWP. Twitter had the most mentions of the aforementioned hashtag #1325means at 269 (92.4%) in October, Facebook with 14 (4.8%) and Instagram with 7 (2.4%) mentions during the reporting. However, the #1325means hashtag was used in a tweet as recently as February 2016. During the tweet-a-thon the individuals who participate had a combined following of 952,443 people and social media outreach of people that viewed or commented was 162,445. For links to sample tweets, please see Annex 9: Media Outreach on UNSCR 1325 and 1820.

**GNWP Talks 1325 Podcast**
In October 2015, GNWP launched its podcast series titled “GNWP Talks 1325.” The Podcast showcases GNWP's work, from advocacy to implementation, on a broad range of issues regarding UNSCR 1325 and related resolutions. The international coordinating team at GNWP creates and hosts each episode of the Podcast and the conversations are substantive but presented in a relatable manner. Recognizing the importance of effective media outreach as a strategic imperative for advocacy and execution, GNWP intends to continue the initiative to regularly update its listeners. The target audience includes millennial, GNWP partners such as members and donor states, national and international CSOs, UN entities, and anyone who is interested in knowing more about human rights. The first episode discussed GNWP’s first ever Tweet-a-thon called "Tweet for Peace." In the second episode of GNWP Talks 1325, the GNWP international coordinating team looked back on the year 2015 in terms of core projects, milestones achieved and lessons learned. Both podcasts were posted on Soundcloud and iTunes for the public to listen and engage with. GNWP released several additional episodes of the Podcast in 2016. The outcome of this initiative is a more inclusive approach to advocacy and action for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and related resolutions. For links to the podcast, please see Annex 9: Media Outreach on UNSCR 1325 & 1820.

**4. Engagement with the Security Sector in the implementation of the UNSCR 1325, 1820 and the supporting Women and Peace and Security resolutions**

a. International Expert Meeting on Integrating UNSCR 1325 and 1820 and the supporting WPS resolutions in the operations of the security sector

On April 22 and 23, 2015, GNWP organized a two-day workshop in New York on integrating UNSCR 1325, 1820 and the supporting WPS resolutions in security sector operations. This
international meeting convened senior-level officials from Defense Ministries, armed forces, police forces, other security sector institutions and advocates to discuss strategies on how the security sector can effectively contribute to the implementation of these resolutions. The workshop was organized in partnership with the Permanent Mission of Chile to the UN and the Permanent Mission of the Netherlands to the UN and was financed by Cordaid.

This workshop was a response to the continued dismissal of WPS issues by security sector actors. This is largely due to a lack of awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the WPS resolutions as they are perceived as dealing solely with women or gender issues that have little or no bearing on peace and security. Consequently, when invited to training and discussions on the WPS resolutions, Defense Ministries, armed forces and police institutions send their most junior personnel or administrative staff, composed mostly of women. Civil society organizations have also observed that security sector actors normally do not consider the WPS resolutions to be a part of their mandate and tasks. When security sector actors participate in WPS-related training and engage with WPS topics within security sector institutions, WPS discussions are not considered core business and are not given high priority. WPS discussions and initiatives are regarded as auxiliary tasks, to be completed only in order to comply with government or UN requirements. This is compounded by the lack of training and education on the WPS resolutions of security sector actors, at all levels.

The objectives of the workshop was to strengthen partnership between civil society and the security sector in order to encourage a paradigm shift from “winning the war” to “winning the peace;” address root causes of conflicts, and support a more comprehensive framework of security that includes human security. It also generated ideas on where and how to institutionalize the security sector’s response to the WPS resolutions in ways that will contribute to the operational effectiveness of security sector institutions.

35 representatives from police, military, defense ministries, gender ministries and civil society from Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ghana, Ireland, Nepal, Netherlands, the Philippines, Spain, Sweden and the United States participated in the workshop. Representatives of UN Women, the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Peacebuilding Architecture Review Secretariat and the UN Peace Operations Review Secretariat also spoke at the workshop.

Participants of contributing countries shared gender focused experiences and practices already in place and examined how to best integrate UNSCR 1325 and supporting resolutions on WPS in security sector institutions. Participants discussed the importance of standards of conduct and behavior of security sector personnel as they perform their duties in conflict-affected situations, such as human rights and violence against women. Sexual and gender-based violence and discrimination within the security institutions in line with global and national policy framework including the UN’s zero tolerance on sexual exploitation and abuse was also addressed. Moreover, the participants discussed the positive impact of the security sector’s work on national and community peace and security.
As a follow up to the international expert meeting, GNWP had planned related activities “b” and “c” described below, but they were not implemented as GNWP was not able to raise funds.

b. Publication of a guide book/tool kit in operationalizing UNSCR 1325, 1820 and the supporting WPS resolutions in the security sector

c. Capacity building and Training of Trainers (ToT) on UNSCR 1325 and 1820 and the supporting WPS resolutions within Defense Ministries, armed forces and police forces in at least three countries

Additional GNWP Activities

Civil Society Organization Survey for the Global Study on Women, Peace and Security

In 2015, with the 15-year anniversary of UNSCR 1325 approaching, GNWP, in partnership with Cordaid, the International Civil Society Action Network, and the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security conducted a survey on the implementation of UNSCR 1325. The survey solicited the views of civil society organizations to gauge their experiences with the progress made on UNSCR 1325 in the past fifteen years. The findings from the survey were used in the Global Study commissioned by the UN and published in October, 2015. GNWP and Cordaid also published a joint report on the findings of the survey entitled Civil Society Organization (CSO) Survey For The Global Study On Women, Peace and Security: CSO Perspectives on UNSCR 1325 Implementation 15 Years After Adoption. The CSO survey featured 317 responses from organizations in 71 conflict and post-conflict countries. In addition, 7 Focus Group Discussions were held and 1 international 1325 expert conference with 16 countries and over 200 participants. This feedback was crucial to the global study, to show what civil society has found to be the successes and failures in the implementation of UNSCR 1325. The survey ensured that CSO voices and perspectives were accurately reflected in the Global Study.

What was commonly found in the survey results was that women’s involvement in decision-making and official peace negotiations is still not sufficient. The top priority cited by 42% of participants is the need to have “women’s full and equal participation in all conflict-prevention, peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction processes.” This was followed by a lack of impunity for perpetrators of sexual violence and reparations for victims. Overall, responses reveal that respondents rate UNSCR 1325 as “moderately effective” because many feel that the

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15 GLOBAL REPORT Civil Society Organization (CSO) Survey for the Global Study on Women, Peace and Security, 2015, p. 104
transformative potential of UNSCR 1325 has not been fulfilled. Indicative of this sentiment, a CSO in Nepal is quoted as saying “The resolution is yet to witness groundbreaking achievement for strengthening the status of women in Nepal.”

Among positive reflections on the effectiveness of UNSCR 1325, respondents note that it has mobilized women around the world and lent credibility and structure to their work on WPS. A CSO in the Democratic Republic of the Congo described its effect; “UNSCR 1325 has given us a platform to globalize all issues related to women.” Some groups felt another positive change that has occurred has been the change in paradigm from women as only victims in times of conflict, to one of women as agents of change and active peacebuilders.

The following are additional findings from the CSO survey:
- There is widespread concern that shifting paradigms on WPS at the global level have not sufficiently impacted girls and women at the local level;
- Respondents affirmed the need to tailor the implementation of the WPS resolutions based on the local realities of women and girls and ensuring that such programming reaches women and girls in remote areas;
- Participants expect a reprioritization of conflict prevention, disarmament and demilitarization to be at the core of the 1325 agenda;
- It was felt that there needs to be a move beyond a narrow focus of preventing sexual and gender-based violence to utilizing UNSCR 1325 to address gender norms that drive conflict and insecurity;
- Respondents report an increase in women’s engagement in post-conflict recovery.
- Participants affirm the need for UNSCR 1325 to become more integrated into the broader peacebuilding agenda;
- It has been found that CSOs working together can be extremely effective;
- Respondents across regions stressed that resource allocations must support and complement local women’s efforts and foster collaboration among local CSOs;
- The need for financial support, especially to local women’s groups, was affirmed;
- The intersection among climate change and natural disasters and violent conflict needs to be addressed.

**Editing and Updating of UNFPA and ECLAC Publication on UNSCR 1325 in Latin America**

In September 2015 GNWP was approached by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to update and translate into Spanish the publication Plan regional de formación sobre género y seguridad y la implementación de la Resolución 1325/2000 del Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas. The document features six modules: basic gender concepts; gender mainstreaming and gender equality policies; gender, defense, peace, and security; the

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16 Ibid, p. 23.
international women, peace and security agenda; UNSCR 1325 and the supporting resolutions; and conflict and post-conflict contexts. Using their broad knowledge base, GNWP updated modules two – five with more in-depth information and new advancements in the field. Moreover, GNWP staff added four additional case studies on Iraq, Serbia, Nepal and Sierra Leone to module six giving readers a broader scope of the women, peace and security context in countries outside of the Latin American region. With this added outreach to the Spanish-speaking world, GNWP aims to increase its advocacy in the region and reinforce its commitment to breaking down the silos of information-sharing on WPS that often remains in the English-speaking world.18

**Girl Ambassadors for Peace Curriculum**

In December 2015, GNWP began writing a curricula guidebook for the Girl Ambassadors for Peace program, which has been successfully implemented in South Sudan and the DRC. The curriculum is an outline that will make it easy for GNWP and its international members to replicate the program and expand in other regions. It contains an overview of the program, the components of the program with an optional technology component, roles for ‘graduates’ of GA4P, testimonials from Girl Ambassadors for Peace participants, and suggested measures of success for the program.

GNWP is writing this guidebook in order to provide structure and best practices for replication and expansion of the Girl Ambassadors for Peace program. Since Girl Ambassadors for Peace is done in partnership with in-country GNWP members, it is important for GNWP to provide an outline for the program, while still allowing for flexibility based on culture competence and individual community needs. GNWP has institutional knowledge from successfully implementing the program in different cultures and communities. With a curricula guidebook, GNWP’s partners in new communities can learn from these experiences.

**Cora Weiss Fellowship**

In the summer of 2015, GNWP with support from Samuel Rubin Foundation launched the Cora Weiss Fellowship. Cora Weiss, an ardent peace activist, advocate, and supporter of GNWP, has inspired the fellowship. The fellow, who will be begin in 2016, will have the opportunity to work with GNWP for one year on its global advocacy in the UN to promote the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 and related laws and policies. In addition, the fellow will have the opportunity to participate in GNWP’s national and local initiatives such as Localization of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 and Girl Ambassadors for Peace.

The announcement introducing the fellowship was widely circulated in Arabic, English, French and Spanish. The deadline for application was extended to December 31, 2015 because of

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18 At the time of this report, the final publication entitled, *Plan regional de formación sobre género y seguridad y la implementación de la Resolución 1325/2000 del Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas* has not yet been disseminated by UNFPA.
requests from GNWP network members and partners. GNWP received 63 applications from 33 countries including Afghanistan, Colombia, DRC, Guatemala, Iraq, Israel, Kosovo, Libya, Mali, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda, and the United States.

After a rigorous selection process, the first Cora Weiss Fellow—a young woman peace activist from Nigeria was selected. She will start her fellowship in June 2016.

**RESEARCH**

1. The Women, Peace and Security agenda and Elections

GNWP had an initial discussion with a representative from Columbia University’s Capstone program for possible inclusion of the WPS agenda and elections research in the said program. Given the limited resources, GNWP deemed that this partnership would be most beneficial as the university has the research expertise. However, the university requested more time since they already have previous research commitments.

**INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING**

1. Organizational Development and Review of GNWP’s Governance Structure

GNWP held Steering Committee meetings in May 2014 and December 2014; April 2015; and October 2015. The Steering Committee, composed of representatives from GNWP members and partners from Colombia, Liberia, Nepal and the Philippines, provides guidance in the development of GNWP’s annual work plan and strategic plan. The Steering Committee members also serve as focal points for their regions and provide advice regarding replication and expansion of GNWP’s work. They also promote GNWP’s work and relevance in the media and represents GNWP in national, regional and international meetings. One of the key decisions that the Steering Committee made in 2014 was the registration of GNWP as an independent organization. GNWP was incorporated as an independent organization under the State of New York in June 2015.

From November 2014 – August 2015, GNWP underwent an organizational evaluation. The objectives of the evaluation were:

1. To evaluate GNWP’s capacity and effectiveness to accomplish its mission of “Bridging the gap between global policy and local action on Women, Peace & Security;”
2. To examine all aspects of GNWP’s organizational structure and performance, including—its governance and decision-making structure, management and staff, work environment, institutional capacity, and financial viability;
3. To make recommendations on how GNWP’s organizational structure and performance can be strengthened or modified to ensure growth and sustainability; and
4. To help develop GNWP’s strategies for the future.

The recommendations from the evaluation are now being implemented through the organization’s incorporation, establishment of a full Board of Directors; and development of a Manual of Operations among others.

With regards to staffing, GNWP hired another Program Officer for the period November 2014 to May 2015. GNWP also recruited very qualified consultants and interns, who have all made tremendous contributions to GNWP’s work. *Please see annex 12 for the organizational evaluation.*

### 2. Communication Skills, Message Development and Presentation Workshop

During the 59th CSW session in March 2015 and the 15th Anniversary of UNSCR 1325 in October, GNWP adapted the concept of Communication Skills, Message Development and Presentation Workshop by holding preparatory meetings with event panelists before each event it co-organized. These meetings were “rehearsal workshops,” and allowed the panelists to refine both their message and delivery to ensure that GNWP members and partners were prepared to deliver powerful and effective presentations to global audiences. GNWP also met with its members prior to bi-lateral meetings to ensure that the members had an opportunity to fine tune and develop clear asks and recommendations to policy makers and member states present.

**Outputs & Outcomes**

The section that follows combines the Outputs and Outcomes sections for increased coherence in presentation. It highlights some of the direct outputs and outcomes from the activities described in the preceding section. In addition, it provides the women/men ratio among the project partners and participants. Women make up the majority of the participants in its capacity building and advocacy programs, due to the fact that women’s organizations are GNWP’s main partners in all of its activities. Yet, GNWP strongly emphasizes the need to involve men and boys, so that they will support women’s leadership and participation in all peacebuilding and political processes at all levels; and that they too take responsibility in addressing issues of sexual and gender-based violence, gender inequality and discrimination. All outputs and outcomes below are presented by activities.

### CAPACITY BUILDING

#### 1. Localization of UNSCR 1325 and 1820

**Outputs**

In 2015, GNWP led 4 localization workshops on UNSCR 1325 and 1820 in South Sudan (2) and Uganda (2), as well as a Roll-out of the Localization Guidelines workshop in the DRC. The two in
South Sudan were two-day workshops with civil society and local government officials led to the development of a localization strategies in Yei, Central Equatoria and Torit, Eastern Equatoria states.

In the DRC, the workshops were focused around the official launch of the Localization Guidelines, which was held in August 2015. The Guidelines provide clear procedures for creating Local Action Plans (LAP) and pursuing local implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP). The launch of the Guidelines was followed by a Dissemination Strategy Workshop which resulted in the establishment of guides and strategies for spreading the Localization Guidelines at the local level.

In Uganda two workshops were held in the Kitgum and Amuria districts in the northern and eastern regions of the country, expanding GNWP’s Localization program in the country and creating a Local Action Plan Taskforce committee. Following the workshop the Taskforce was trained and two LAPs were drafted. The Kitgum LAP was adopted at the end of 2015 and the Amuria LAP is awaiting approval by the local district at its next meeting. The Taskforce aims for its passage in 2016.

GNWP’s Localization program’s overall operational framework has been revised to include monitoring and evaluation workshops. This new expanded framework allows for Localization partners to reconvene annually and evaluate their performance. The Localization program was also highlighted as an effective implementation strategy by the Global Study of UNSCR 1325, which was launched in October 2015.

Outcomes

GNWP’s Localization program ensures that the NAPs are not left dormant and ignored by governments, while pushing local authorities to pursue implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820. In the DRC, South Sudan, and Uganda the program has meant engaging civil society with local and national officials to discuss adoption or implementation of the country’s NAP and then apply them locally. The program’s workshops have further expanded the reach of the program within these countries while GNWP has also begun the work necessary to initiate a Localization program in Kenya.

In the DRC this is particularly the case, where the Localization program mobilized local authorities, traditional leaders and civil society to discuss the NAP in local contexts and take actions to implement it. The Localization Guidelines launched by GNWP in the DRC in 2015 further ensure the scalability and sustainability of the localization strategy in the DRC since they integrate national government priorities and are enforced by local authorities across the country. Furthermore the dissemination strategy arrived at during the program’s workshop clearly illustrates the next steps necessary for the thorough dissemination, implementation and monitoring of the Guidelines in the various DRC territories. This facilitated the implementation of the Guidelines by local participants when returning to their provinces and allowed them to easily share the strategies and recommendations arrived at during the workshop.
In South Sudan and Uganda, GNWP’s Localization program has led to an increasing number of districts working to implement the NAP for UNSCR 1325 and 1820. In South Sudan the workshops brought national level officials and state actors together with local authorities and civil society to secure the lobby supporting adoption of the NAP. In Uganda the workshops with the Kitgum and Amuria districts gave participants first-hand experience with the localization strategy, allowing them to return to their communities better informed and able to implement localization. The Taskforce created has also ensured that adoption of LAPs are consistently pursued and implemented.

The monitoring and evaluation workshops added to the Localization program will also ensure follow-up for local partners in the program. These workshops will allow a means for local groups to evaluate their work and the progress being made. This approach gives perspective to implementers on the challenges that remain for localization while creating a mechanism for follow-up by GNWP so that local partners are not left to address those challenges alone and the program can be adapted and improved as seen necessary.

*Please see Annex 3 for Localization materials.*

### 2. Civil Society Monitoring of UNSCR 1325

**Outputs**

The principal outputs from this activity in 2015 are a UNSCR 1325 Scorecard and populated UNSCR 1325 Scorecards for the 9 countries and 1 territory, namely: Afghanistan, Armenia, Fiji, Liberia, Libya, Nagorno-Karabakh, Nepal, Sierra Leone, Sweden and Uganda.

The populated UNSCR 1325 Scorecards on display at the Peace Forum were examples of a powerful monitoring tool, which can be appropriated and used by all types of civil society organizations from around the world. They are also revealing and visually powerful illustrations of progress—or lack thereof—on WPS issues in any given country, which are easy to share with policymakers, UN institutions and fellow peace and women’s right activists.

*Please see Annex 4 for the populated scorecards.*

**Outcomes**

Women CSOs around the world now have the necessary tools to produce monitoring reports on the implementation of UNSCR 13215 and to fill out the 1325 Scorecard, with minimal guidance and technical assistance from the GNWP International Coordinating team or any other parties. *Participants in the civil society monitoring exercise shared that taking part in the monitoring of UNSCR 1325 enhanced their research capacities and analytical skills, allowing them not only to critically assess implementation but also to formulate recommendations and solicit greater government and UN accountability to the women, peace and security resolutions.* This was further demonstrated in the presentations of the civil society monitoring reports and the UNSCR 1325 Scorecard during the commemoration of the 15th anniversary of UNSCR 1325 in
their respective countries and in New York where representatives of Member States, UN agencies, international CSO actors attended.

As a result of the GNWP Civil Society Monitoring program, policymakers, UN institutions and civil society organizations from around the world now have access to country-specific as well as global information on UNSCR 1325 implementation. The monitoring reports and UNSCR 1325 Scorecards provide regular monitoring and evaluation of local, national and global implementation efforts—or lack thereof. By mapping out trends and providing concrete recommendations, they allow policymakers and other actors on WPS to identify priority areas and gaps in implementation. There are no other regular civil society-led monitoring reports of WPS implementation currently available to WPS actors.

By informing, shaping policy and sparking action on WPS, the monitoring reports benefit women and girls from around the world.

3. Capacity building and advocacy on the use of CEDAW GR 30 to regularly report on UNSCR 1325 and 1820 implementation at national, regional and global levels

Outputs
GNWP’s continued engagement with the CEDAW process and sustained advocacy work on the use of CEDAW GR 30 have yielded the following outputs:

- Case studies on the use of GR 30 by civil society since its adoption in Azerbaijan, Colombia, India and Iraq;
- An detailed event report for the panel discussion (see Activities, section 3b); and
- A draft agenda for an Arria formula, to be convened in April-March 2016.

Please see Annex 5 for the case studies on the use of GR 30 and the draft agenda of the Arria formula.

In addition, GNWP also contributed to awareness- and knowledge-raising tools on GR 30 by providing detailed comments to the IWRAW AP draft sourcebook and by making its detailed reports on the use of GR 30 in Iraq and Sierra Leone (57th session) and Syria and India (58th session) available to IWRAW AP and UN Women consultants working on the UN Women CEDAW/WPS Guidebook.

Outcomes
GNWP’s input to the draft IWRAW AP sourcebook and UN Women Guidebook, as well its production of country-specific case studies, have significantly increased and strengthened the available tools for civil society and governments to use GR 30 to monitor and report on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and the supporting resolutions. The case studies as well as the event held in New York in October 2015 have contributed to the use of GR 30 by GNWP members to lobby governments who do not have a NAP on UNSCR 1325 and 1820 to draft and adopt such a plan (for example, in Colombia and India, and to greater awareness of GR 30 among the Security Council, other UN Members States, civil society and UN entities.
As a result of GNWP’s advocacy for the convening of an Arria formula on GR 30, the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN has committed to holding an Arria formula in 2016. There has already been increased awareness of GR 30 and its complementarity to UNSCR 1325 among the Swiss representatives at the Switzerland Permanent Mission. We are confident that following the Arria formula, Security Council members and other Member States will acknowledge the importance of CEDAW GR 30 as a monitoring and accountability mechanism for the WPS resolutions, and consequently will make concrete commitments to report on the implementation of GR 30 and the WPS resolutions.

4. Building Peace One Village at a Time

Community Social Dialogues in North Kivu, DRC

Outs

SFVS and GNWP created a video to raise awareness and funding for the program, with the intent to also secure private capital for job creation opportunities such as agriculture for the ex-militia.

Outcomes

The group had productive conversations about local illiteracy, poverty and tribalism. They discussed sexual violence against women and the impacts it has had on the community including the spread of HIV/AIDS among perpetrators and victims. The participants learned about Gender concepts and discussed the qualities of a good leader. To reinforce these concepts the group watched part of the film Pray the Devil back to Hell about the Liberian women activists who fought for peace.

Girl Ambassadors for Peace in DRC and South Sudan

Outs

In Goma, the Girl Ambassadors have been trained and are returning to back their communities to train other women and girls regarding 1325, 1820 and the importance of women’s involvement. Emphasis on women's leadership and women's participation is included in the workshops. In September 2015, one of the workshops by a Girl Ambassador was done in Mugunga, where the girls learned the three pillars of 1325: prevention, protection and participation.

Outcomes

Literacy training was crucial in Torit as some of the girls had not even been taught how to hold pencils; 180 women and girls are receiving literacy training. Theatre along with literacy training is used to demonstrate daily occurrences and develop peacebuilding and conflict resolution skills for the women and girls. By doing so, they have demonstrated the capacity of peace negotiations, mediations and interventions an other women, peace and security issues.
ADVOCA CY 

1. Advocacy for the Financing of the Implementation of the WPS Resolutions

The Global Acceleration Instrument (GAI) for Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action

Outputs
GNWP and Cordaid worked consistently during the year to iron out logistical details for the establishment of the GAI. As part of collaborative efforts by both organizations, a series of outputs were successfully realized. These include:

- Periodic meetings of the FDG committee (a group of UN member states (Japan, Sierra Leone, UK, Australia and the Netherlands), civil society (Cordaid and GNWP) and UN agencies (UN Women and UN PBSO)---detailed account of meetings is given later in the section.
- A Comprehensive concept note for the GAI
- ToR for the GAI

Outcomes
With regard to the outcomes, GWNP and Cordaid succeeded in presenting the GAI as a flexible, timely, and sustainable multi-stakeholder funding mechanism for the women, peace and security agenda and humanitarian action. Furthermore, they were effective, alongside UN Women, in securing financial contributions from various member states including Australia, Spain, UK and Ireland. This led to a formal launch of the fund on 24, February 2016.

2. 15th Anniversary of UNSCR 1325

Outputs for all the events and meetings co-organized by GNWP during the 15th anniversary of UNSCR 1325 include detailed event reports, Tweets, Facebook posts, pictures, blogs and list of recommendations for action on the particular topic of each event. Event-specific outputs are highlighted below:

Young Women, Peace & Security panel discussion (October 15, 2015)

Outputs
The outputs of this event included presentations from civil society representatives from Sierra Leone, Colombia, and Libya and representatives from the U.N. highlighting the Amman Youth Declaration and summarizing the necessity of youth in peacebuilding.

Outcomes
A better understanding of the opportunity for youths in peacebuilding and the measures that it will take to recognize and support youth peacebuilding are the outcomes of this event.
UNSCR 1325 scorecard on Afghanistan (October 16, 2015)

**Outputs**
During this event, a new protocol system for co-sponsoring events resulted was created as an output in which GNWP will assist members with event logistics going forward.

**Outcomes**
The main outcomes of this event were a greater understanding of the challenges of organizing events and solidifying logistics. Additionally, a detailed and in-depth description of realities on the ground in Afghanistan was achieved.

The Complementarity Between UNSCR 1325 and CEDAW (October 19, 2015)

**Outputs**
During this event, the outputs included the launching of the UN Women’s Guidebook on CEDAW GR 30 as a tool for practitioners and a detailed description of CEDAW including its purpose, functions, mechanisms, and distinctions from UNSCR 1325. Presentations from representatives from international organizations and civil society organizations representing Iraq, India, and Switzerland also are included in the outputs of this event.

**Outcomes**
A greater comprehension of the distinctions between CEDAW and UNSCR 1325, including a specific increase in understanding of the intricacies of CEDAW was achieved as outcomes of the event.

Prelude to Peace Forum (October 21, 2015)

**Outputs**
Some of the main outputs resulting from this forum included Presentation from six leaders involved in civil society organizations in the Philippines, the DRC and the UN, each sharing their personal experiences and stories of constructive practices and suggesting ways to move forward from the 15th Annual Review and the Global Study Survey. Other outputs included discussions from civil society members concerning a holistic Women, Peace, and Security Agenda, strengthening action to prevent violence and address militarism, ensuring women’s participation at decision making levels, preventing violent extremism, financing gender equality, and engaging men and boys

**Outcomes**
Outcomes achieved by the event included a better grasp of gaps in WPS through the engagement with all members of civil society in attendance and a better understanding of work being done in countries in the context of WPS.
Peace Forum (October 28-30, 2015)

“Men On The Stand” (October 28, 2015)

**Outputs**
The output for this event included presentations from civil society leaders and representatives concerning the role of men in the implementation of UNSCR 1325.

**Outcomes**
The main outcome for this event was a better grasp on the roles that men can play in promoting and protecting women and girl’s rights.

“The South Sudanese Peace Agreement: Implications on Women’s Participation in and Political Processes” (October 29, 2015)

**Outputs**
Strong presentations from civil society representatives from South Sudan regarding the peace agreement in South Sudan and drew lessons learned on women’s participation in peace negotiations, conflict prevention, peacebuilding and political processes were the main outputs of the event.

**Outcomes**
A greater understanding of the challenges facing South Sudan concerning women’s participation at decision-making levels was an achieved outcome.

The Peace Forum: A Historical overview of the origins of UNSCR 1325 (October 29, 2015)

The outputs and outcomes of the High Level Review have already been discussed in the preceding section.

“Girl Ambassador for Peace and the Localization of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 and The Women’s Caucus for Peace Co-Session” (October 29, 2015)

**Outputs**
During the event, strong Powerpoint presentations from representatives from the DRC concerning GNWP’s Girl Ambassador for Peace and Localization programs was the output.

**Outcomes**
The main outcome included a greater understanding of the progress made since the implementation of Girl Ambassador for Peace and Localization of UNSCR 1325 in the DRC.

“15 Years After 1325 in DRC” CJR 1325 (October 30, 2015)

**Outputs**
The main outputs included presentation from representatives from the DRC concerning successes and challenges since the implementation of UNSCR 1325, including the presentation of a documentary about the achievement of women since implementation.

**Outcomes**
A greater understanding of the implementation of 1325 in the DRC and the resulting actions and programs resulting from this implementation was an achieved outcome.

**15th Anniversary of UNSCR 1325**

**Outputs**
Outputs for all the events and meetings co-organized by GNWP during the 15th Anniversary of UNSCR 1325 include detailed event reports, Tweets, Facebook posts, pictures, blogs and list of recommendations for action on the particular topic of each event can be seen above per event and in Annex 8.

**Outcomes**
Through participation in the 15th Anniversary events, including the Peace Forum and organizing these parallel events, and facilitation of bi-lateral meetings, GNWP had an impact on the Agreed Conclusions and agenda setting through the priority themes decided on for the year.

These Agreed Conclusions assess the progress made as well as the gaps and challenges that remain for civil society organizations working on women’s issues around the world. They also contain recommendations for action by Governments, intergovernmental bodies and other institutions, NGOs at the international, national, regional and local level. By creating these recommendations and conclusions, the agenda for civil society in the coming year is streamlined and focused in order to create a larger body of impact and action.

The events organized by GNWP had successful turnouts with active participants and outcomes that contributed to the overall success of the 15th Anniversary of 1325 and the Peace Forum. The events each provided a venue for an exchange between civil society organizations and New York policymakers and/or UN offices. These side-events create a collaborative and productive experience for participating civil society organizations, bringing their voices together and to the larger global scene.

**Meeting between South Sudanese women and the Troika (October 2015)**

**Outputs**
Important outputs under this activity were recommendations that were integrated into the full event report of the event *Women of South Sudan Front and Center: Mobilizing for Peace after the Addis Ababa Cessation of Hostilities Agreement*. 9 women took part in this discussion: 3 women from South Sudan, 2 women from the USA, 2 from the UK; 2 from the GNWP International Coordinating Team; 1 from Cordaid; and 1 man each from the US and Norway.
Please see the recommendations above for the activity Women of South Sudan Front and Center: Mobilizing for Peace after the Addis Ababa Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (March 20, 2014) as well as Annex 8: Advocacy during the CSW and the 15th Anniversary of UNSCR 1325.

Outcome
The troika members expressed their support for civil society in its efforts to raise awareness of the peace agreement and deep concern over the continuing violence and repression in South Sudan. They pressed for concrete recommendations on what they could do to support the efforts of civil society.

2. 59th Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

Similar to the 15th Anniversary activities, outputs for all the events and meetings co-organized by GNWP during 59th session of the CSW include detailed event reports, Tweets, Facebook posts, pictures, blogs and list of recommendations for action on the particular topic of each event. Event-specific outputs and outcomes are highlighted below:

Civil Society Consultation on the 2015 Women, Peace and Security High Level Review

Outputs
This event resulted in a cohesive approach by civil society towards the 2015 High Level Review on WPS. It resulted in prioritized objectives for civil society and momentum from this event called for a separate report that gathered information from CSOs specifically in order to highlight the voices that get left out of the global report.

Outcomes
This event allowed for civil society organizations to strategize for their role in the upcoming 2015 High Level Review on Women, Peace and Security. This allowed them to act in a cohesive manner to have a higher impact and work towards having larger role in the UN processes and system. There was a focus on realigning the message around the WPS agenda to call for conflict prevention and not just address the resulting violence. Furthermore there was a call to addressing the increasing presence of violent extremism and its effect on women, peace and security as well as the need to push for more sustainable funding that recognizes that peace is a process and not a project.

Strengthening Accountability on Women, Peace and Security in the Asia Pacific Region: Lessons Learnt and Ways Forward

Outcomes
Best practices for using the new accountability mechanisms available to the women, peace and security agenda were investigated and shared in this event. Bringing together organizations and
individuals working in the Asia Pacific region allowed for a collaboration that took into account the particularities of the social and political context in the region.

**New Framework for Gender Equality in Afghanistan**

**Outcomes**
This event allowed AWN to present its policy recommendations for women’s rights in Afghanistan to the larger New York and UN audience of policymakers. This dialogue then allowed for the participants to find ways to strengthen commitments and create new initiatives that governments, civil society and the UN could do to promote women’s empowerment, women’s rights and gender equality in Afghanistan. The collaboration between AWN and the policymakers in the UN and New York was a valuable result of this event.

**Girls Act for Change, Girls Act for Peace: Empowering Girl Ambassadors for Peace**

**Outcomes**
This extensive look at the Girl Ambassadors for Peace program in the DRC revealed the many potential ways governments can invest in peace without militarization and arms deals. The event called on governments, including the Canadian government, to invest in peace by helping women and girls educate themselves and their communities. It also build upon the peacebuilding network by bringing advocates for peace from the DRC and those in Canada together despite different struggles over a shared issue of eliminating violence and advocating for global peace.

**Women and Girls’ Empowerment and Access to Information Technology in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo: Challenges and Prospects**

**Outcomes**
Participants at the event used the discussion to identify concrete steps and opportunities that will enhance women and girls’ access to information technology in Eastern DRC.


**Outputs**
Outputs for all the events and meetings co-organized by GNWP during the 56th session of the CSW include detailed event reports, Tweets, Facebook posts, pictures, blogs and list of recommendations for action on the particular topic of each event.

**Outcomes**
Through participation in the CSW and organizing these parallel events, GNWP had an impact on the Agreed Conclusions and agenda setting through the priority themes decided on for the year.
These Agreed Conclusions assess the progress made as well as the gaps and challenges that remain for civil society organizations working on women’s issues around the world. They also contain recommendations for action by Governments, intergovernmental bodies and other institutions, NGOs at the international, national, regional and local level. By creating these recommendations and conclusions, the agenda for civil society in the coming year is streamlined and focused in order to create a larger body of impact and action.

All of the events organized by GNWP had successful turnouts with active participants and outcomes that contributed to the overall success of the CSW. These side-events make the CSW a collaborative and productive experience for participating civil society organizations, bringing their voices together and to the larger global scene. The events each provided a venue for an exchange between civil society organizations and New York policymakers and/or UN offices. This collaboration marks the success of the CSW.

**Localization: The "How to" in UNSCR 1325 Implementation on May 27 2015 at the Permanent Mission of Uganda to the UN in New York**

**Outputs**
- A concept note for the panel was developed and blog was written post-event and made available on GNWP.org along with Opening Remarks by H.E. Ambassador Martin Sajdik, Permanent Mission of Austria to the UN.  
- Panelists were interviewed by Africa TV and clips of the presentations are available on Youtube.  
- 40 representatives from civil society, Member States and UN agencies attended the meeting; 35 women and 5 men.

**Outcomes**
Enhanced understanding of the Localization program and the status of the NAPs in Kenya, South Sudan and Uganda.

27 women and 9 men took part in this event.

3. Media Outreach on UNSCR 1325 and 1820

**Broad Media Outreach on UNSCR 1325 and 1820**

**Outcome**
ICAN-GNWP actively uses electronic mailing lists, social media and the established media to disseminate outputs, results and impact of its projects. In addition, the ICAN-GNWP team writes blogs and articles that are posted on the GNWP website, Facebook, and reposted

on other social media websites such as LinkedIn and South Sudan info Daily as well as OP-Eds for traditional media sources. ICAN-GNWP has 2,242 twitter followers and the Facebook page averages 2,450 weekly clicks. An Instagram account was created in the beginning of October (30 followers) and the “GNWP Talks 1325” Podcast was created. The podcast is available on SoundCloud and iTunes.

**Outputs**

One example of GNWP’s media advocacy on behalf of its members is a recent profile in the Nobel Women’s Initiative 16 Days of Activism section (December 8, 2015) on their website featuring Rita Martin from EVE Organization for Women Development in South Sudan. The website has a subscription base, their Facebook page has 136,678 likes and their twitter page has 76k followers.20

Raised basic awareness of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 in Colombia, Liberia, Sierra Leone and South Sudan among the general public.

**Women Speak Out for Peace: Global Media Campaign (September 21 – 27, 2015)**

**Outputs**

Media produced as part of GNWP’s 3rd Annual Global Media Campaign “Women Speak Out for Peace” included short video messages, op-ed pieces, articles, blogs, Tweets, Facebook post, and pictures.

Throughout the campaign, WEAct 1325 from the Philippines posted photos and signs on Twitter calling for “no peace without women” and “stay the course/stay together.” Likewise GNWP partner Senator Mobina Jaffer from Canada sent an Op-Ed for publication on the GNWP website questioning what peace means for those living and experiencing the conflict and humanitarian crisis that is occurring in Syria.21 Ambassador Anwarul K Chowdhury also published an article during the campaign highlighting women’s major role in the culture of peace that was shared on the GNWP website.22

As part of this campaign, the Twitter hashtags #WomPeaceMedia, #Makes4Peace, #JustPeaceJustDevelopment, and #PeaceDay were widely used. For links to pictures, video messages, and sample Tweets and Facebook messages of the Women Speak Out for Peace Campaign, please see Annex 9: Media Outreach on UNSCR 1325 and 1820.

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20 The profile on Rita Martin from EVE Organization for Women Development in South Sudan is accessible at the following link: http://nobelwomensinitiative.org/2015/12/meet-rita-martin-south-sudan/.
21 For the full Op-Ed, please see the link here: http://www.gnwp.org/news/international-day-peace-what-does-it-mean-syria
22 For the full article, please see the link here: http://www.ipsnews.net/2015/09/opinion-womens-major-role-in-culture-of-peace-part-two/

For the full announcement on the International Day of Peace on the GNWP website, please see the link here: http://www.gnwp.org/news/international-day-peace
Outcome
Raised awareness and knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 in Colombia, Liberia, Sierra Leone and South Sudan among the general public especially young people.

4. Security Sector Workshop

Outputs

The highlights of the International Expert Meeting on Integrating UNSCR 1325 and 1820 and the Supporting WPS Resolutions in the Operations of the Security Sector were presented at a panel discussion held on April 23, 2015 at the UN headquarters in New York. Ambassador Anwarul Choudhury, a member of the High Level Civil Society Advisory Group to the Global Study on UNSCR 1325, Professor Miriam Coronel Ferrer, Chair of the Philippine Government Peace Panel with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, and Mavic Cabrera- Balleza, International Coordinator of GNWP spoke at the panel discussion.

The workshop also resulted in a list of recommendations concerning coordination of UNSCR 1325/WPS Resolutions’ implementations, civil society consultation, localization, training and capacity building, performance evaluation and accountability, financing, gender mainstreaming, protection, recruitment and hiring, and monitoring and evaluation (See Annex). Recommendations from the workshop were then presented during the 2015 Security Council High Level Review of the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and the preceding Global Study on UNSCR 1325; as well as the UN Peace Operations Review and the UN Peacebuilding Architecture Review.

Outcomes

GNWP has made advancements in its partnership with the security sector in Colombia, Nepal and the Philippines. High-level military and police officials as well as representatives of Defense Ministries from have expressed interest in integrating the NAPs and the actual resolutions in their regular training and in their overall operations. A series of capacity building training on the WPS resolutions has already been conducted in Colombia, Nepal and the Philippines. This workshop created a platform to take these efforts to engage with the security sector further by bringing together an international body of experts on the issues and together creating a path to move forward. It enhanced the capacities of participating Defense Ministries, armed forces, police forces and other security institutions to integrate UNSCR 1325 and 1820 and the supporting WPS resolutions and the National Action Plan where they exist, into all phases and all levels of analysis, planning, conduct and evaluation of any operations.

Working with the security sector is imperative for implementing UNSCR 1325, 1820 and the subsequent WPS resolutions since the military and police forces, as Security Sector Reform processes are a central entry point in peacebuilding, disarmament, demobilization and reconstruction efforts. Therefore the discussion and knowledge at the workshop around the
security sector and its role leads to a more comprehensive and effective implementation of WPS resolutions in the countries of participants.

Lastly, the workshop increased understanding and knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 and the supporting WPS resolutions within Defense Ministries, armed forces, police forces and other security institutions such as private security agencies. Since this lack of knowledge and understanding was one of the primary obstacles to the way in which the security sector approaches WPS agendas, the change in perspective through informing participants about the resolutions can improve integration of WPS resolutions by the security sector moving forward.

The workshop was extremely successful in convening a diverse set of stakeholders in regards to the security sector’s implementation of WPS resolutions. The resulting list of recommendations is a useful tool showing what steps should be taken and how to better engages with the security sector on these issues.

**RESEARCH**

1. The Women, Peace and Security agenda and Elections

*Output*

The most significant output of this research project is the potential collaboration with Columbia University on a Capstone program on the WPS agenda and elections research. In 2015, members of the GNWP International Coordinating team communicated with Columbia University personnel in this regard.

*Outcomes*

No outcome has been identified for this project as of yet because the research has not been prioritized due to lack of funding.

**INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING**

1. Organizational Development and Review of GNWP’s Governance Structure

*Output*

GNWP was incorporated as an independent organization under the state of New York in 2015. This followed the decision of the Steering Committee in 2014 regarding the need to register GNWP as an independent organization.

GNWP also underwent an organizational evaluation in 2015, which resulted in a set of recommendations for the organization’s structure. These recommendations included the incorporation of the organization, the establishment of a full Board of Directors, and the development of a Manual of Operations.

*Please see Annex 12 for the Organizational Review*
One new Program Officer was hired from November 2014 to May 2015 and various consultants and interns were also hired during the past year to contribute to GNWP’s work.

Outcomes
The new status of GNWP as an independent organization has meant many changes for the organization structurally as it now much work to create its own independent foundation, including funding streams and support for administrative tasks. This independence also means an opportunity for the International Coordinating Team and GNWP members and partners to reassess and reflect on the objectives and goals of the organization and its work moving forward. It will require an increase in organizational capacity, but also be an opportunity for increasing the reach of the programming work and its potential.

The organizational evaluation that took place will help guide GNWP as it moves forward as an independent organization. It identifies the next steps necessary in this transition while allowing GNWP to identify necessary changes and potential areas to develop its organizational structure and strategize for the future. This evaluation revisits GNWP’s mission to see where the organization can improve its capacity and effectiveness and will result in future changes to the organization as its recommendations are implemented.

2. Communication Skills, Message Development and Presentation Workshop

Output
The output from these preparatory meetings included finalized speeches and PowerPoints. In total, 14 civil society representatives participated: 9 women and 1 man.

Outcome
The outcome was strong and concise presentations from the different GNWP members and partners who participated on panels and in bi-lateral meetings. The bi-lateral meetings provided policy makers and member states with real-time updates from civil society representatives on the ground in conflict countries. It also provided civil society members with direct channels of communication with the international policy makers that have the ability to provide support on the ground.

Additional GNWP Activities

1. Civil Society Organization Survey

Outputs
An article **As the UN Celebrates Empowerment of Women, a New Survey Shows Major Frustrations** by Danielle Goldberg and Mavic Cabrera-Balleza, October 14, 2015


A presentation at the **Prelude to the Peace Forum event, Voices From the Field: A Global Call for Implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda** by GNWP lead author Danielle Goldberg. This was given to a full audience of civil society, human rights defenders, and activists who came together to mobilize and create key recommendations to be presented to UN high level leadership.²³

Link to Prelude flyer: [http://www.peacewomen.org/sites/default/files/Prelude%20to%20the%20Peace%20Forum%20Invitation%20Updated.pdf](http://www.peacewomen.org/sites/default/files/Prelude%20to%20the%20Peace%20Forum%20Invitation%20Updated.pdf)


Numerous tweets and related posts on Facebook were issued regarding the CSO Survey.

**Outcomes**

The CSO Survey was instrumental in giving a voice to civil society organizations that accurately reflect the realities of the implementation of UNSCR 1325. The survey helped to ensure that CSO perspectives were present in the secretary general’s Global Study. In addition, the international community now has the chance to follow the recommendations given and can be confident in the knowledge of where to place their efforts to achieve more success in the future. Highlighting the areas where gaps remain, as well as the areas where there has been progress, is crucial to moving the women, peace, and security agenda forward.

### 2. Updating UNFPA and ECLAC Publication on UNSCR 1325 in Latin America

**Outputs**

The UNFPA and ECLAC publication, *Plan regional de formación sobre género y seguridad y la implementación de la Resolución 1325/2000 del Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas* that is set to be published later this year

**Outcomes**

GNWP’s participation and contribution to the publication, *Plan regional de formación sobre género y seguridad y la implementación de la Resolución 1325/2000 del Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas* in a broad sense introduced itself to an audience with which it has a

²³ Link to Prelude flyer: [http://www.peacewomen.org/sites/default/files/Prelude%20to%20the%20Peace%20Forum%20Invitation%20Updated.pdf](http://www.peacewomen.org/sites/default/files/Prelude%20to%20the%20Peace%20Forum%20Invitation%20Updated.pdf)

limited connection. With this greater outreach to organizations and individuals that are not the usual suspects in the WPS agenda, GNWP aims to increase its membership and collaboration with organizations in Latin America.

In addition to the increased exposure for GNWP’s work as well as its knowledge in the global and Latin American spheres, the contributions made to the publication allowed for GNWP to introduce readers to its case studies on Iraq, Serbia, Nepal and Sierra Leone that were adapted from its 2014 Monitoring Report on UNSCR 1325 therefore disseminating some of the information from the report in Spanish, whereas it is typically only published in English. This translation grants access to Spanish-speakers who might otherwise not come across the information.

3. Girl Ambassadors for Peace Curriculum

**Outputs**
The GA4P curricula guidebook is a practical and useful tool for GNWP and its partner members that provides a full outline of the program. A partner member can easily understand all the components of the program, have access to sample activities, and see the impact that the program can have on individuals and communities. Also included are suggested measurement tools in order to evaluate the success of the program and provide documentation for funders if needed.

**Outcomes**
The GA4P has been a tremendous success for the young women participants and their communities. Because of this, GNWP is planning for long-term support and expansion of the program. With the full structure of the program outlined, it gives GNWP and its members the knowledge and confidence to implement the program successfully. In-country members are more likely to help run the program, and having an outline in place, they have access to the full potential of the program.

The curricula guidebook also provides continuity for the program by documenting the structure and by outlining possible roles for young women and girls who complete the program and would like to stay involved. This way, they increase their own skills as well as add support to the program long-term. In addition to the impact that the GA4P has on all participants, some young women can choose to stay involved with the program and act as effective advocates in expanding it to surrounding communities.

The goal for the curricula guidebook is for GNWP to provide everything that is needed for the international coordinating team and in-country members to implement the GA4P program fully and successfully.
4. Cora Weiss Fellowship

**Outputs**
Development of a Fellowship program that supports the human resource need of GNWP

**Outcomes**
The Cora Weiss Fellowship aims to support the development of young women peacebuilders and ensure that more young people share Cora’s vision for sustainable peace and gender equality as strong and integral parts of our global culture.

**Organization**

GNWP faced difficult financial constraints in 2015. As a result, the staff is stretched to its capacity and is often operating under stress. To address this situation, temporary staff persons were hired, more interns have been recruited, and the recruiting process for the Cora Weiss Fellow is set to culminate in a candidate joining the team in 2016. GNWP is working to raise more financial resources to be able to hire at least two more high-caliber staff persons on a full time and more permanent basis.

**Human Interest Stories**

The Girl Ambassadors for Peace and Community Social Dialogues programs have a strong potential to spawn human interest stories. GNWP is in the process of documenting such stories. The sample individual profiles below provide a glimpse of the motivations that compelled these strong young women from Goma, DRC and Torit, South Sudan to become Girl Ambassadors for Peace.

I am Jolie Kahambu and I am 15 years old. I come from Goma, DRC. I am a Girl Ambassador for Peace because I want to be a leader and help other girls learn. My dream is to become a journalist in 5 years time.
I am Esther Ngayihembako from Eastern, DRC. I am 19 years old and I am proud to be a Girl Ambassador for Peace. I love public speaking and my goal is to be a jurist and continue to help others once I finish my education.

I am Sarah Ibrahim, and 19 years old from the Goma area in DRC. I am happy to be a Girl Ambassador and teach literacy about peacebuilding. In 5 years time, I will have completed my education and will be a teacher.

I am Susan Tima, 23 years of age and I live in Torit, South Sudan. My dream is to become a nurse (midwife). I am a Girl Ambassador for Peace so that I can help women who are in rural communities. I believe that I will achieve my goals.
My name is Mariam Justin and I am 24 years old, living in Torit, South Sudan. My dream is to become a journalist. I am a Girl Ambassador for Peace so that I can promote women issues to media. I know I will achieve my goals.

I am Stella Keji, 21 years old and I live in Torit, South Sudan. My dream is to become an advocate or lawyer, so that I can join women lawyers in South Sudan to promote women, peace and security issues. I am an Ambassador for Peace, and I will work hard to achieve my goals.

For more profiles of the Girl Ambassadors for Peace, please see Annex 6.

Forecast

GNWP will continue to build on all its activities and programs in 2016, including preparation of its annual programming of events for the 60th CSW, as well as events for the 16th Anniversary of UNSCR 1325 on furthering the WPS agenda.

GNWP’s Localization program will continue to expand to new countries, including Kenya. New Localization workshops, Follow-up Localization workshops, Localization “write-shops” to strengthen draft Local Action Plans, and National Monitoring workshop will take place in Liberia and Sierra Leone, and tentatively in Afghanistan. GNWP is also pursuing opportunities to replicate the program in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Syria, and Ukraine.

In 2016, GNWP will pursue expansion of the Girl Ambassadors for Peace Program in South Sudan and establishment of the program in Colombia and Pakistan. It will also begin producing radio PSAs for the program in Arabic and English in South Sudan and French in DRC.

The Global Acceleration Instrument Funding Board aims to begin the disbursement of funds in 2016, recognizing the importance of funds reaching those most affected by violent conflicts.
GNWP will continue to work with the CEDAW committee, particularly to provide input into training materials on GR 30 that are being drafted by CEDAW experts, with the support of UN Women.

GNWP will continue to explore funding possibilities for follow-up activities or future workshops with security sector actors in the countries that participated in the international meeting of the High-level security sector in New York in 2015.

GNWP members will continue to use the civil society monitoring template and UNSCR 1325 Scorecard to regularly monitor the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and the supporting resolutions. They recognize the importance of regular monitoring and evaluation, and of mapping progress over time for each of the pillars of UNSCR 1325. The monitoring reports and scorecards are indispensable advocacy tools for civil society organizations, and important resources for other organizations, policymakers and institutions working on WPS issues.

GNWP members in a number of countries, such as Afghanistan, Colombia and Sierra Leone, have already integrated the monitoring exercise as one of their core activities. GNWP members and the GNWP International Coordinating team will continue to seek funding to support in-country research teams in their data collection report-writing and presentation.

GNWP will continue to engage with CSOs, the CEDAW Task Force on GR 30, Security Council Members and other Members States, and UN entities to raise awareness on GR 30 and to ensure that it is used as a complementary monitoring and accountability mechanism to the WPS resolutions. In 2016, GNWP plans to produce additional case studies on civil society’s use of GR 30, which can serve as examples for other CSOs to strengthen their CEDAW shadow reports as well as their overall WPS advocacy and programmatic work.

**List of Annexes**

- Annex 1: 2015 Outreach Map
- Annex 2: 2015 Key Achievements
- Annex 3: Localization modules and reports
- Annex 4: Civil Society 1325 Score Card
- Annex 5: Advocacy on CEDAW GR 30
- Annex 6: Building Peace: One Village at a Time- the Community Social Dialogues and the Girl Ambassadors for Peace
- Annex 7: Financing for the WPS Agenda (Global Acceleration Instrument)
- Annex 8: Advocacy during the CSW and the 15th Anniversary of UNSCR 1325
- Annex 9: Media Outreach on UNSCR 1325 and 1820
- Annex 10: Engagement with the Security Sector
- Annex 11: Module Matrix & Report from Georgia’s Costing & Budgeting Workshop
- Annex 12: Organizational Review

*Note: The 2015 Annual Report along with all the annexes is also available at [http://gnwp.org/annual-reports/](http://gnwp.org/annual-reports/)*