“All peace and security advocates – both individually and as part of organizational work - should read the 2012 civil society monitoring report on Resolution 1325! It guides us to where we should focus our energies and resources to ensure women’s equal participation in all peace processes and at all decision-making levels, thereby achieving sustainable peace.”

-Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury, Former Under-Secretary-General and High Representative of the United Nations

“The GNWP initiative on civil society monitoring of UNSCR 1325 provides important data and analysis on the implementation of the resolution at both the national and local levels. It highlights examples of what has been achieved, and provides a great opportunity to reflect on how these achievements can be further applied nationwide. In this regard my Ministry is excited to be working with GNWP and its members in Sierra Leone on the Localization of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 initiatives!”

-Honorable Steve Gaojia, Minister of Social Welfare, Gender & Children’s Affairs, Government of Sierra Leone

“The 2012 Women Count: Security Council Resolution 1325 Civil Society Monitoring Report uses locally acceptable and applicable indicators to assess progress in the implementation of Resolution 1325 at the country and community levels. The findings and recommendations compel us to reflect on what has been achieved thus far and strategize on making the implementation a reality in places that matter. Congratulations to GNWP-ICAN on this outstanding initiative!”

-Leymah Gbowee, 2011 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

“The civil society monitoring report on UNSCR 1325 presents concrete data and analysis on the implementation of the resolution at national level. It helps us identify priorities for implementation and allocate resources to ensure women’s participation in all peace processes and achieve long lasting peace. A must read for all peace and security actors and advocates. Congratulations to GNWP on this outstanding initiative!”

-Sadhu Ram Sapkota, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction, Government of Nepal

“A beautifully presented, thoroughly documented accounting of what is happening to a resolution that came from the grass roots, was vetted by the grass roots and was lobbied for by women for unanimous adoption by the Security Council. Cheers to the women of the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders for their careful, detailed work. GNWP is also making a unique contribution working at localization. It’s about time that some western based organization relied on local women to plan their own peacemaking program. Local women are planning their own strategies in peacebuilding and adapting UNSCR1325 to meet their needs.”

-Cora Weiss (former President, International Peace Bureau, now its UN representative, President, Hague Appeal for Peace)
Authors:
Visaka Dharmadasa, Anwar Moledina and Sophia Hernández Reyna
Association of War Affected Women (AWAW)

Researchers:
Visaka Dharmadasa, Anwar Moledina and Sophia Hernández Reyna

Acknowledgements:
This research project has been realized with the support of many people with whom we are thankfully indebted. Without their contribution, the realization of this document would have been impossible. We would like to thank the following institutions, research centers and organizations, for their valuable collaboration and timely efforts: Centre for Women’s Research (CENWOR), Women Development Centre (WDC), Women in Need (WIN) and the International Centre for Ethnic Studies. We are also especially thankful to Mr. Suwarna Sumanaselcara, Prof. Kamala Liyanaga and Mrs. Lalitha Dissanayalce, for their helpful advice, feedback and suggestions. Their comments helped us to critically revise our research. Finally, we would like to extend our deep gratitude to the women interviewees who shared their life stories with us, to B.G. Seetha Kumari for her great contribution as a note-taker and to Ms. Jinadari Parameshwaran for her excellent work as an interpreter.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BPA</td>
<td>Beijing Platform for Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBO</td>
<td>Community Based Organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEDAW</td>
<td>Convention on the Elimination of Violence Against Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CENWOR</td>
<td>Center for Women's Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSO</td>
<td>Civil Society Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DDR</td>
<td>Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEVAW</td>
<td>Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EROS</td>
<td>Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPRLF</td>
<td>Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESCP</td>
<td>Education for Peace Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRCSL</td>
<td>Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDP</td>
<td>Internally Displaced Persons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JVP</td>
<td>Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (People's Liberation Front)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GO</td>
<td>Governmental Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GoSL</td>
<td>Government of Sri Lanka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLRC</td>
<td>Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LTTE</td>
<td>Liberation Tigers of Tamil Elam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCDWA</td>
<td>Ministry of Child Development and Women's Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MINUSTA</td>
<td>United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCHR</td>
<td>Nation Commission on Human Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCW</td>
<td>National Committee on Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>Nongovernmental Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSCC</td>
<td>One Stop Crisis Centers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLOTE</td>
<td>People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PVDA</td>
<td>Prevention of Domestic Violence Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGI</td>
<td>Sub-committee on Gender Issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCPE</td>
<td>National Policy of Social Cohesion and Peace Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGBV</td>
<td>Sexual and Gender Based Violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLAWC</td>
<td>The Sri Lankan Army Women's Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>TELO</td>
<td>Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization</td>
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<td>UNF</td>
<td>United National Front</td>
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<td>VAW</td>
<td>Violence Against Women</td>
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<td>WIN</td>
<td>Women in Need</td>
</tr>
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<td>WDC</td>
<td>Women Development Centre</td>
</tr>
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<td>WPS</td>
<td>Women Peace and Security</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
I. Women, peace, and security profile

A. Nature of the conflict

Sri Lanka is an island located in the Indian Ocean with a population of 20 million people. It is a multi-ethnic and multi-religious country. The majority of the Sri Lankan population, 74 percent, is Sinhalese, while 12 percent is Tamil and 8 percent is Muslim. Prior to Sri Lanka’s independence from the British Empire in 1948, there had been calls for the creation of a federal government. However, unlike other neighboring countries like India, Sri Lanka remained a unitary state even after achieving independence.

The aftermath of this independence struggle resulted in the creation of a centralized government that implemented public policies that were discriminatory against the Tamil-speaking population, primarily regarding land allocation and language. The minority Tamil-speaking Sri Lankans criticized the 1972 Constitution, as this new legislation clearly favored the Sinhalese majority. For many years, peaceful protests took place against the government of Sri Lanka (GoSL), organized by Tamil politicians. The demands consisted mainly in the recognition of Tamil as an official language and the respect and provision of their rights. Some of the most remarkable demonstrations were the so-called sathyagraphas, which were practiced by Tamils against the Sri Lankan Freedom Party (SFP), which was in power at that time. A satyagraha is a non-violent form of resistance, often associated with Mahatma Gandhi’s peaceful mechanisms for the Indian Independence Movement, and Nelson Mandela’s for the fight against the Apartheid regime in South Africa. Unfortunately, these peaceful efforts fell on deaf ears and the government responded violently towards Tamil protesters in its effort to impose a Sinhala and Buddhist based nationalism.

It was during the 1970s that the Tamil youth decided to air their grievances and seek justice by means of violence. These feelings of anger and impotence, added to a context of poverty and unemployment for the Tamil people, resulting in a proliferation of diverse Tamil groups, all of which demanded a separate state. In 1975 the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) was created as a secessionist militant organization whose main objective was the creation of a separate Tamil state in the eastern and northern regions of Sri Lanka. In the early days of the Tamil struggle, the LTTE collaborated with other Tamil groups, some of which were political. Some of these groups were the People’s Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE), the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization (TELO), the Eelam People’s Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRFL), and the Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students (EROS).

Given the power that some of the Tamil groups obtained, especially the LTTE, which took control over the northern region, the Sri Lankan government decided to sign the Indo Sri Lankan Agreement of 1986, in which they accorded to return power to the northern and eastern provinces, in exchange for a ceasefire on behalf of the Tamil rebel groups. However, some of the principal Tamil actors, among them the LTTE, were not included in the peace-talks. Despite this fact, the LTTE ceremoniously handed over arms to the government, but disagreements immediately emerged and they restated their intention to continue the armed conflict. The failure of the peace-talks, and the attack on the Indian Peace Keeping forced by the LTTE, led to a second phase of armed conflict known as the Eelam War II. This battle officially took place from 1990 to 1995, but the confrontations continued until the 2002 ceasefire brokered by the Royal Norwegian Government. Unlike previous attempts, such as the Indo Sri Lankan Agreement, the Norway brokered peace talks showed progress and became a milestone of the conflict’s history.

Norway’s initiative to act as a mediator between the GoSL and the LTTE had begun in 1999, but it was not until the parliamentarian victory of the United National Front (UNF), which had a pro-market approach, that the peace process could be formalized. Once the LTTE proclaimed a unilateral ceasefire, the GoSL acted reciprocally and both agreed for a mutual ceasefire for the release of prisoners and the withdrawal of government blockades. The Norwegian diplomats that acted as the principal mediators were the Norwegian diplomats that acted as the principal mediators. The delegation representing the government of Sri Lanka was formed by G.L. Peiris, Hon. Milinda Moragoda, Hon. Rauf Hakeem and Ambassador Bernard Goonetilleke; and the delegation representing the LTTE was constituted by Mr. Anton Balasingham, Mr. S.P. Tamilselvan, Mr. Muralitharan (Karuna) and Mrs. Adele Balasingham. It’s relevant to highlight the presence of Mrs. Balasingham, who represented the women’s wing of the LTTE, as well as the participation of Hon. Ferial Ashkraff who achieved to voice the interests of Muslims in the peace talks. Both of their participation was important in terms of women participation and their influence on the inclusion of women needs and interests in the round table discussions. Among the most remarkable achievements of the peace agreement was the creation of the Subcommittee on Gender Issues (SGI), agreed in Oslo on the third session of negotiation. The ceasefire was held for four years and diverse factors influenced its temporary success: the Norwegian government managed to facilitate a dialogue between the GoSL and the LTTE, there was a high level of international pressure due to the terrorist attacks of 9/11, and the Sri Lankan civil society took an important role. For instance, the...
of violence can report abuse to the Sri Lankan authorities, they
2006 under the regime of President Rajapaksha. The conflict finally ended
in May 2009, with the military defeat of the LTTE.

Even though three years have passed since the end of the
armed conflict, the process of normalization has been very slow. Although most of the internally displaced persons (IDPs)
are now back in their lands of origin or in some sort of shelter
of their own, significant issues of safety, economy, as well as
recovery, remain to be addressed. The vulnerability that still
characterizes the post-conflict context in Sri Lanka has had
serious implications for women.

B. Impact of the conflict on women

At present, the military victory of the government of Sri Lanka
in May 2009 and its post-war humanitarian crisis generated a
mass exodus of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in which
women and children have been the majority of the affected
community. The post-war stage presents its own menu of risks
and vulnerabilities for women. Crisis situations affect men and
women differently and disproportionately. Crisis always further
jeopardizes the well being of women more than men by
placing them in situations that exacerbate existing inequalities
in relation to women's personal security, bodily integrity, health
and well-being, and violation of socioeconomic as well as civil
and political rights.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that violence against women
and structural discrimination has increased in former conflict
areas due to lack of participation of women. Discriminatory
policies and practices, heavy military presence, lack of authority
to control their environment, limited access to basic needs
combined with weak institutional protection mechanisms
and breakdown of traditional support networks, norms and
prejudices against women in the society and attitudes and
behaviours of power players lead to a culture of violence and
impunity, which exposes women to various forms of sexual and
gender-based violence that compromise their dignity, security,
well-being, and rights. Sri Lanka's Domestic Violence Act gives
women legal protection from violence and furthermore, all the
Sri Lankan police stations have women's desks where women
can come and report acts of violence. Although female victims
of violence can report abuse to the Sri Lankan authorities, they
often prefer to seek the help and protection provided by civil
organizations in which they can deposit their trust.

In post-conflict reconstruction efforts, women are often excluded
from peace building processes. The marginalization and exclusion
of women from decisions that affect their lives in the reintegration
process constitute serious obstacles to the full enjoyment of
human and socio-economic rights. Increasing the capacity of
women's leadership and voice in peace building is integral for
sustaining peace, largely because women are the majority in Sri
Lanka and women have proved to be better peacekeepers at
home and in the community at large. Women outnumber men in
post conflict areas and numbers of female-headed households are
higher than the other areas due to long-term conflict.

There are considerable numbers of war widows who have
lost basic needs in their lives, making them very vulnerable to
poverty and social exclusion. Women have also lost their jobs,
land, businesses, and sources of livelihood. However, women
have been largely excluded from decision-making mechanisms
in the reconstruction processes. In addition, the lack of women-
friendly institutional norms, and the abundance of men-driven
procedures and services together with the marginalization of
women's right to land ownership and livelihood opportunities
have increased women's vulnerability. Limited access to
resources, lack of skills, markets and income, are some of the
contributing factors delaying early recovery in post-conflict
situations. Women in post-conflict areas are more vulnerable to
violence within every sphere of their lives, due to post-conflict
stress, trauma and historical marginalization of human rights
and gender equality. While there have been some attempts to
address gender and women's concerns in the aftermath of the
conflict in the reconstruction process, this has been slow and
fragmented. Women's situation remains largely the same to date.

The conflict, which lasted three decades, prevented any
attention being paid to eradicating gender inequalities
prevailing in the socioeconomic and political fields. A new
development era has dawned with the war coming to an end,
creating a unique opportunity to address women's issues
through the formulation of laws, policies and programs by the
state as well as the private sector. The participation of women
in public spaces has been modified due to the war and the
2004 tsunami. During the war, women were forced to take
over new responsibilities due to the absence of men as well
as taking over untraditional roles, which have remained even
today, in tsunami affected areas. Women have also developed
a recognizable role as peacemakers and rights activists. The
work made by the Association of War Affected Women, is
one example of how women have been able to canalize their
demands and actions. These activist efforts often take the form
of women's groups calling for justice, equal wages, and the
protection of rights; for instance the rights of migrant workers
and plantation workers.

6 Ibid
7 Interview with Visaka Dharmadasa, director of the Association of War Affected Women
9 Ibid
10 Interview with Visaka Dharmadasa, director of the Association of War Affected Women
C. Relevant policies

The Constitution of Sri Lanka clearly states the Right to Equality (Chapter 3, Article 12), under which “No citizen shall be discriminated against on the grounds of race, religion, language, caste, sex, political opinion, place of birth or any such ground.” Sri Lanka’s legislation has no impediment on the participation of women in the public or private spheres and they have equal rights in civil, national and criminal law. However, their participation is rather limited by social mores and the customary laws of each religious and ethnic group, which raise issues of discrimination against women in cases such as divorce, child custody and inheritance. One clear example is the age of marriage, which legally stated is 18 years old, but Muslims continue to obey the customary practice allowing girls to marry younger. Additional evidence of the legal gaps regarding the protection of women is that the Constitution states an equal provision of opportunities in the public sector, but provides no legal protection in the private sector in which they are often paid less and have less opportunity to get high-ranking positions. This is also because most jobs for women take place in the informal sector. Furthermore, regarding the enforcement of the law, women’s civil organizations highlight the importance of sensitization of policemen and judicial officers.

The situation of having a woman in charge of the family is new to the people of the Northern and Eastern regions of Sri Lanka. Traditionally women were sheltered and kept at home and their primary duty was taking care of the home and children while the men worked and earned for the family. Most of these women, out of desperation for a livelihood have also been forced to take up odd and difficult jobs to feed their children and maintain their disabled family members. In terms of employment, it is noteworthy that these women have little or no employment opportunities, livelihood or income generation support due to several reasons, such as lack of skills and education. As women who have stepped out of their traditional roles to fend for their families, they are not used to the competitive nature of the working environment. Their humble nature, where they do not challenge or question their authorities when being treated unfairly only exacerbates their difficulties. According to Birgitte Sorensen, “women’s post war position will be partly determined by their former position in the landscapes of conflict, as internally displaced person, widows, single breadwinners, victims of rape or torture, ex-combatants, refugees, etc.”

Despite the impact of customary law and ethnic traditions, and even though Sri Lanka does not have a national action plan on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, the country does have gender-based legislation in the form of the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act of 2005, the Women’s Rights Act of 2003, the Citizenship Act of 2003 and various penal code amendments. These policies will be further explained in detail in the section on data presentation and analysis, but it is important to mention here that they serve as a framework to enhance the security of women throughout the country. For instance, the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act of 2005 gives women the opportunity to file a protection order against a respondent in cases of physical or emotional abuse. Additionally, the country has ratified five international gender-focused policies including the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and its Optional Protocol created in 2002.

II. Data presentation and analysis

Under the framework of the core indicators selected by GNWP for UNSCR 1325 Monitoring, the Association of War Affected Women has collected the information presented in the following section regarding the country’s report on the situation of women. The information was obtained from primary as well as secondary sources. Among them are the interviews undertaken by Anwar Moledina, the consultation and analysis of official websites and reports, and the survey conducted by the Association of War Affected Women in the war affected districts of Vavuniya, Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Mannar, Jaffna, Mullaitivu, Killinochchi, Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa and Ampare in which 477 women were interviewed. This survey was conducted from February to July 2012, and was employed to draft the “Sri Lankan Women’s Agenda on Peace, Security and Development” presented on the 17th and 18th of August, 2012 at the Earl’s Regency Hotel in Kandy, Sri Lanka. The agenda addressed the following themes: women in poverty alleviation, women in decision-making, gender mainstreaming and women in post-conflict rehabilitation; which are closely related to the 11 indicators for GNWP UNSCR 1325 Monitoring. The information of the survey was mostly collected through Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) of which women leaders of community-based organization were participants.

A. Participation

Although women are seen in senior cabinet positions, there is still a lacking presence of women at all levels of governance. While women are nationally achieving governance positions, such as Sri Lanka’s first female president Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga, women are commonly relegated to lower management positions. The organizational structure of the Women’s Ministry evidences this reality. Additional
Secretaries and assistant secretaries are positions held by women while senior assistant secretaries and directorships are positions held by men. Women's representation within local governance is particularly low. Unlike other South Asian states, Sri Lanka is one of the only countries that has not adopted a quota system to reserve a specific amount of seats within governing positions for women. According to Engendering Democratic Governance project, which was created by the United Nations Democracy Fund and the International South Asia Partnership, “affirmative treatments towards [South Asian] women have contributed to an increase in the representation of women in their governance structure.” As will be discussed at greater length in this report, underrepresentation in key decision-making positions not only jeopardizes the situation of women, but also endangers the national transition from a state of post-conflict reconstruction to sustainable peace.

Indicator 1 - Index of women's participation in governance

Sri Lankan women hold only 2 percent of elected positions in local government, 3 percent in provincial governance, and make up only 5.8 percent of representatives in central government. The obstacles for women's participation in governance positions are directly related to the difficulties confronting Sri Lanka's democracy in general. Women in this context face related and reinforcing challenges. Women are rarely selected to run for office by the existing, male dominated patronage culture. This is either because they are not part of the party patronage system (having come to seek office for other reasons) or they are not selected in favor of other candidates. Those that do run for local office face a very aggressive election system that uses violence to intimidate candidates and shape voting patterns. According to a number of studies on women in politics, women also tend to face more abuse in public life in Sri Lanka than men. The patronage system reinforces this violence because too many people have too much at stake in every election in a society where basic needs are satisfied only through connections to people in power. Families, husbands and fathers, witnessing the violence associated with Sri Lankan politics, often (and understandably) stand in the way of women seeking to run for office.

Figure 1.1: Index of women's participation in governance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index of Women's Participation in Governance</th>
<th>No. of women</th>
<th>No. of men</th>
<th>% of women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women in senior positions in cabinet/ministries and departments</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women in parliament</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women in provincial councils</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women in senior positions in local governance structures</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>4465</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Indicator 2 - Percentage of women in peace negotiation teams and detailed breakdown of gender issues addressed in peace agreements

The general trend in labeling “women as the victim and men as the rescuer” has created a situation that has formed a huge gap in the active participation between men and women in post crisis responses and management. In these given circumstances, it is important to bring the multi-dimensional nature of women's roles during the conflict and post conflict, including victimization as well as their efforts in conflict prevention, to the fore in peace building and peacemaking. It is important to document women's experiences and impact in conflict situations during times of transition to peace, and in post-conflict settings during reconstruction.

Although there were some initial negotiations, the conflict between the government of Sri Lanka and the LTTE concluded in a military victory as opposed to negotiation. As previously mentioned, the 2002 Peace Agreement failed to maintain a long-lasting peace, although valuable achievements were made. However, there were no comprehensive peace agreements or negotiated settlements created afterwards. In the absence of a mutually negotiated peace process, women’s peace groups have acted at great personal risk to help prevent conflict as well as to build peace within their communities. One example that exemplifies the initiatives championed by women during the conflict was a program that brought youth from Vanni, a town situated in the north, to the central city of Kandy during the conflict for first aid classes. Throughout the conflict women played a variety of roles as decision makers, peace builders, caregivers, victims and combatants. But even though women have campaigned for peace since the early stages of the conflict, they were excluded from the official peace processes until 2002. From then on the participation of Mrs. Adele Balasingham and the valuable contributions provided by Mrs. Ferial Ashkaff should be outlined. Mrs. Balasingham was present in the peace talks as part of the LTTE delegation in every round, being the only woman out of the eight delegate representatives. Although some might argue that their voices were heard in a male-dominated arena, due to their marriages to the influential Sri Lankan leaders Mr. Anton Stanislau Balasingham (former chief and political strategist of the LTTE)

and Mr. Mohammed Hussain Mohammed Ashfraff (founder of the Sri Lanka Muslim Congress political party), there is no doubt that their contributions as peace negotiators became highly determinant to establish an agenda for women's rights. 18


A very unique achievement of the 2002 cease fire agreement, in which both Mrs. Ashraff and Mrs. Balasingham took part, was the creation of the Sub-committee on Gender Issues (SGI) mentioned above, which was agreed upon by both the LTTE and the GoSL.20 Ten members constituted this committee, representing both parts. On behalf of the LTTE Ms. Sivahimi Subramaniam, Ms. Renuga Sammugaraja, Ms. Mathimalar Balasingam, Ms. Sridevy Sinnathampi and Ms. Vasanthapireminy Samasundaram were the representatives; and on behalf of the GoSL were: Dr. Kumari Jayawardena, Dr. Deepika Udagama, Ms. Kumuduni Samuel, Ms. Faizoon Zakariya and Dr. Fazeela Riyas.21 The SGI’s principal objectives were to strengthen “the equal representation of women in politics, educational structures and gender bias, violence against women and allegations of sexual harassment, sustaining the peace process, resettlement, personal security and safety, infrastructure and service, livelihood and employment, political representation and decision-making and reconciliation.”22

Indicator 3 - Index of women’s participation in the justice, security sector and peacekeeping mission

Figure 3.1: Index of women’s participation in the justice, security and peacekeeping sectors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of women</th>
<th>No. of men</th>
<th>% of women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women in the police*</td>
<td>1,825</td>
<td>32,784</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women in the judiciary</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women in peacekeeping</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Troops</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual police</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


*There is no available public data that cites the number of female policewomen at officer positions and lower positions, the United Nations 7th Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems from 2000, asserts that roughly 5% of all police are female.23

Although there is no statistical breakdown of women in the military available to the public there are specific noncombatant units within the military that are composed solely of women. The Sri Lanka Army Women’s Corps (SLAWC) is an all-female non-combatant unit that provides support to the combatant units of Sri Lanka’s military by fielding “telephone operators, computer operators, nursing personnel and clerical assistants.”24 The Sri Lanka Army Women’s Corps is composed of 7 units, 5 of which are reserve volunteer units.25 As evidenced in figure 3.1, Sri Lanka’s peacekeeping forces participate in a variety of missions abroad. Although the United Nations awarded medals to Sri Lankan peacekeepers serving with the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), allegations of peacekeepers engaging in sexual and gender-based crimes oriented towards women and girl children have led to over 100 soldiers being sent back to Sri Lanka.26 Out of Sri Lanka’s 1104 peacekeeping contingent only two women are present.27

Indicator 4 - Number and percentage of women participating in each type of constitutional or legislative review (including security sector review)

Within the national legislative committees there is a demonstrably low level of representation. Out of the total number of individuals who sit on the legislative bodies only a marginal percentage are women. The low levels within these committees exemplify the extent to which women’s voices can be heard within crucial decision-making bodies. As the construction of legislative initiatives takes place within committees, such as the Committee on Disaster Management lead by the Hon. Chairman Mahinda Amaraweera and the Committee on Defense and Urban Development lead by the Hon. D.M. Jayaratne, it is necessary for women to be included within the legislative dialogue if the laws that are crafted are to comprehensively and equitably create a sustainable peace in Sri Lanka. Out of the 60 legislative committees, only 12 of the committees have more than 2 women included and a woman chair only 1 of the 60 committees.28 Currently, their lack of presence in decision-making positions proves counterproductive to that goal. As shown in Figure 3.1 and considering women’s percentage of the Sri Lankan population, which is 53 percent, the percentage of women participating in the constitutional, legislative and security sectors, is definitely not representative or correspondent.

Figure 4.1: Number and Percentage of Women Participating in Each Type of Constitutional or Legislative Review Including Security Sector Review

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of women</th>
<th>No. of men</th>
<th>% of women</th>
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</thead>
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<td>Constitutional review</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legislative review</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security sector review</td>
<td>Data not available</td>
<td>Data not available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

21 Ibid
25 http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/7057866.stm
Furthermore, the legislative progression of the Disaster Management Act exemplifies the inability of gendered decision-making bodies, such as the Ministry of Child Development and Women’s Affairs, to be included in legislative dialogues. According to CENWOR the “Disaster Management Act . . . sets up mechanism[s] to respond to national disasters including internal conflict and natural disaster[s] [but] has no provision for including the Minister of Women’s Empowerment and Child Development in the high level national body chaired by the President.”28 The failure to integrate the nation’s gendered mechanisms is not exclusive to the creation of just the Disaster Management Act. The Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Development was “not involved and its voice was not adequately heard in preparing the National 10 Year Policy Plan for the country.”29 The Ministry’s lack of inclusion resulted in several policies specifically created for women without the consultation of the Ministry for Women’s Empowerment and Child Development. One such policy dealt with maternity leave and failed to “incorporate necessary safeguards to ensure that women workers are not perceived by management add a burden on employers because of over generous maternity leave provisions.”30

**Indicator 5 - Percentage of CSOs in task forces on SCR 1325 and 1820 (out of total task force members)**

To date there is no specific national task force or national action plan for UNSCR 1325 commissioned by the government. Instead various civil society organizations (CSOs) have come together to educate and train individuals on UNSCR 1325 and UNSCR 1820. Team 1325, a collaborative entity that brings together individuals from the fields of advocacy, education, and development, works to strategically implement the policy content of UNSCR 1325 in Sri Lanka in grassroots fashion through educational workshops, trainings, and advocacy.31 At the same time there are also gender based national mechanisms such as the National Committee for Women, and the Women’s Bureau that work to address issues of gender inequality throughout the country. Included within the National Action Plan for the Ministry of Women and Child Development are leadership and decision-making programs, which address some of the same principles as 1325.32 Another issue within the plight of gender equality is the inconsistency of the structure of the national machinery for women. Since its inception, the Ministry specifically created to deal with women’s affairs has changed a number of times. Beginning in 1978 as the Women’s Bureau, the ministry was changed into the Ministry of Women’s Affairs and Teaching Hospital, and then changed again to the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Social Welfare. Most Recently the Ministry has evolved into the Ministry of Child Development and Women’s Empowerment in 2006 and then has been changed into its most contemporary state as the Ministry of Child Development

29 ibid
30 ibid

**B. Prevention and protection**

Three years have passed since the conclusion of the war but still there are serious security concerns for women in the country. Rape and female child abuse has increased in a manner that sends shock waves across the Sri Lankan society. According to the country’s crime records, there are at least 5 reported rape incidents every day and it is a given fact that most crimes of this nature never get in to record books.34 The shocking truth is that in most of these cases the perpetrators are those with authority and power. The perpetrators behind the “Grease Devil” phenomenon, which created fear psychosis among women from all parts of the country because men were housing women for periods of one month, are yet to be traced. The “Grease Devil” is the name given to caricature an evil man who covers himself with grease to avoid being caught, and makes nocturnal visits to rural areas to assault women.35

Apart from these grave crimes women also face numerous security and safety issues in their day-to-day lives especially in the north and east of the country. Delayed normalization and return to civilian life in the areas as well as existence of paramilitary groups are cited as the major reason for this situation. One must also note that Sri Lanka has never had a formal and systematic demobilization or disarmament process in place after the People’s Liberation Front (JVP) insurrection or the LTTE war. This situation has created space for the prevalence of illegal light weapons and small arms. It has not only increased domestic violence in an alarming manner but is a serious security threat for women and society as a whole.

**Indicator 6a - Percentage of SGBV in conflict and post-conflict situations**

Although there is a lack of statistical information regarding the

percentage of SGBV cases taking place during the conflict, there has been very interesting research conducted by the Sri Lanka Medical Association of Colombo in 2011,36 which gives us an idea of the magnitude of the problem. The information was collected from police reports, hospital record and welfare centers, and the investigation was focused on IDPs, who were victims of the SGBV during and after the conflict, in the north and east areas affected by the conflict. The study took place in twelve localities, divided into three groups: areas dominated by the LTTE (Batticaloa, Vavuniya, Mullativu and Killinochchi), areas affected by the government and LTTE (Trincomalee, Jaffna, Ampara and Mannar), and the surrounding areas (Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Moneragala and Puttalam).

The principal findings of this research were:
- Victims were among 20-44 years old
- Most perpetrators were men and related to victims
- Violations mostly took place in domestic environments
- Authorities were not capacitated to collect and maintain SGBV data, and were unable to recognize SGBV as a specific type of offence

**Indicator 6b - Percentage of SGBV cases when no conflict is present**

The post-war stage presents its own menu of risks and vulnerabilities for women. Crisis situations affect men and women differently and disproportionately. Crisis always further jeopardizes the wellbeing of women more than men by placing them in situations that exacerbate existing inequalities in relation to women’s personal security, bodily integrity, health and well being, and violation of socio-economic as well civil and political rights.

Through the LLRC recommendation 9.86, the needs of women are to be made a priority in reconciliation. The concerns of women cannot be appropriately voiced without a greater presence in key decision-making positions. Since issues of survivor support and sexual violence were not negotiated, civil society organizations have assumed the role of engaging in the service provision in this sector. Sexual violence and survivor support are managed almost exclusively through the contributions of a variety of NGOs.37 Within the context of victims of sexual violence, Women in Need, The Women’s Development Center and a variety of other civil society organizations aim to tackle issues of sexual and domestic violence in a manner that engages all women, not just those who were affected by the war. They have a variety of offices placed throughout the country. Although they do conduct the majority of the programming within this arena, they do not function alone. The government has created specific One Stop Crisis Centers (OSCC) in government hospitals to complement the areas of sexual violence support. Organizations like Sevalanka, Women’s Saradovya Collective, and the Da-Bindu Collective aim to provide survivor support through livelihood interventions and infrastructural renovation. Unfortunately, these organizations receive little financial support from the government but are the primary organizations that deal with victims of sexual violence and survivor support. In most cases individuals are referred to these OSCCs by police and government officials and then are applicable to receive care. In the following Figure 6.1, we can see the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence independent of conflict.

**Figure 6.1: SGBV Investigated Independent of Conflict (2010 and 1st quarter of 2011)**

![Figure 6.1: SGBV Investigated Independent of Conflict (2010 and 1st quarter of 2011)](image-url)

### Table: SGBV Investigated Independent of Conflict in 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of SGBV</th>
<th>Reported</th>
<th>Investigated</th>
<th>Cases considered valid</th>
<th>Prosecuted</th>
<th>Penalized</th>
<th>Number Pending</th>
<th>% Penalized</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>4349</td>
<td>4349</td>
<td>4346</td>
<td>1742</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>3634</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape/Incest</td>
<td>1854</td>
<td>1854</td>
<td>1847</td>
<td>1422</td>
<td>289</td>
<td>1794</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abduction/Kidnapping</td>
<td>897</td>
<td>897</td>
<td>877</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>743</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempted murder</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murder</td>
<td>745</td>
<td>745</td>
<td>742</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>681</td>
<td>0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procuration/Trafficking</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unnatural offense/Grave sexual abuse</td>
<td>519</td>
<td>519</td>
<td>519</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>507</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>8719</td>
<td>8719</td>
<td>8686</td>
<td>3784</td>
<td>456</td>
<td>7662</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


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Although the statistics released by the Child and Women's Bureau do include gender-disaggregated data until 2009, information is not available for 2010-2012. With that in mind the data above lists the total instances of the specific categories of crime with a majority of individuals within the categories of Trafficking, Rape, Sexual Abuse, and Grave Sexual Abuse being female. A lack of gender-disaggregated data has proven problematic in establishing the true extent of SGBV statistics present in the country. An additional hurdle in assessing the true extent of SGBV against women is the underreporting of specific crimes. According to interviews conducted with the organizations that handle victims of SGBV, namely Women In Need and the Women, chronic underreporting exists for crimes of domestic violence, and in some cases rape. Within the context of domestic violence some families believe that reporting the issue will bring about shame and will cause their family more harm then reporting the incident to the police. As a product of those beliefs, some instances of domestic violence go unreported or are reported but the victims refrain from following up with counselors or further pursuing legal action.

Criminal offenses in Sri Lanka are classified into two overarching categories: minor criminal offenses and grave or severe criminal offenses. Penal code reformations in 1995 brought about the reclassification of some forms of domestic violence and the act of incest into a grave criminal offense. Such an inclusion into the penal system represents the moderation and internationalization of some standards within the context of Gender-Based violence, more specifically violence against women and the girl-child. Typical of most post conflict regions, instances of reported rape have risen. According to the National Child Protection Authority, within the first half of 2012 over 20,000 cases of child abuse have already occurred and instances of rape are occurring at a rate of four reports of rape per day. The Sri Lankan Parliament released a statement saying, "Of the 1,450 female rape cases reported in 2011, child rape accounted for 1,169." Trafficking has also become a more progressive threat to the safety and security of Sri Lankan women countrywide. According to the US Department of State, "Within the country, women and children are subjected to sex trafficking in brothels, especially in the Anuradhapura area, which was a major transit point for members of the Sri Lankan Armed Forces heading north. According to Women In Need, Anuradhapura is also a region that experiences some of the highest rates of domestic violence. Within the regions of the north and east, women displaced by the conflict, commonly referred to as internally displaced people or IDPs are one of the most vulnerable groups to fall victim to traffickers as a product of absence of identification cards. This lack of identification cards is characteristic of IDPs, "most Sri Lankans have birth certificates and (after the age of 16) national identity cards, many of the 250,000 to 350,000 internally displaced people do not have these documents," which make these people harder to track and find.

Indicator 7 - Number and quality of gender-responsive laws and policies

In this section we will mention the international as well as domestic legal provisions available to protect SGBV cases in Sri Lanka. First of all, it is important to mention the international policies that have been ratified by Sri Lanka, which frame gender-responsive laws and policies. These are: the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Vienna Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, the Beijing Platform for Action, CEDAW Optional Protocol and the Declaration on the Protection of Women and Children in Emergency and Armed Conflict.

Constitutional provisions

- Prevention of Domestic Violence Act of 2005 (PDVA) - The PDVA, which was adopted in 2005, provides the first nationally crafted basis for domestic violence responses
and support. Some of the responses include placing desks in some police stations that are specifically created to deal with instances of domestic violence and the issuance of interim protection orders to ensure the safety of domestic violence victims as well as other legal mechanisms that can help victims of domestic violence seek justice. Although the law has provided a foundation for justice within the realm of domestic violence, there are several steps that must be made in order to make the PDVA a more effective law. First, “the PDVA utilizes a definition of domestic violence that is limited in nature because it fails to recognize domestic violence as an offense in itself and instead utilizes the national penal code to determine whether an offense can be classified and dealt with as an instance of domestic violence or not.”\(^\text{42}\) Secondly, “the PDVA fails to ensure the safety of victims of domestic violence since there are no facilities in place to deal with said victims during court proceedings.”\(^\text{43}\) Third, according to concerns raised in a report to CEDAW made in consultation with over 60 CSOs, if the bill is to improve it must include the “mandatory reporting of domestic violence [as] a responsibility for medical professionals” if this bill is to protect the safety and security of all Sri Lankan women.\(^\text{44}\) Unfortunately the maintenance of those mechanisms, such as counseling services and shelters, has largely become the responsibility of willing civil society organizations. It is the recommendation of some of those willing civil society organizations that financial support is given to organizations that take charge of domestic violence victims.\(^\text{45}\)

- **Human Trafficking**

  **Penal Code Act No. 16 of 2006** - This law shifted the issue of human trafficking from a private or regional issue to a national concern. Such a shift has prompted greater public awareness of the issues that surround trafficking such as false foreign employment schemes. The Penal Amendment now “includes a new definition of the offence of trafficking in persons in line with the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols and provision to impose certain reporting obligations on incidents of child abuse.”\(^\text{46}\) Additionally the legislation has provided a venue for justice for the victims of human trafficking. The problem of human trafficking now lies within the implementation of this new penal amendment. It should be noted though, that the amendment does not refer specifically to the gender dimension of trafficking.

- **Citizenship Act of 2003** - The Citizenship Act of 2003 eliminates the discriminatory barriers that women face when pursuing citizenship for their children. Prior to the establishment of this law, citizenship passed from a father to his children, which posed great problems for single mothers of Sri Lankan citizenship. The need for legislation like the Citizenship Act was included in the CEDAW review


43 ibid

44 ibid

45 Interview with the Director of the Women’s Development Center


48 ibid


and for the GoSL and the government in response created the Citizenship Act.

- **Women’s Rights Act of 2003** - The Women’s Rights Act of 2003 attempted to expand on preexisting anti-discrimination statues but “the structure and provisions of the proposed act, did not however meet the standards of the Constitution or CEDAW, and was critiqued by women’s groups.”\(^\text{47}\) In an attempt to elevate the legislation to constitutional and international standards of gender equality, a new draft of the act was created and was given approval by “the National Committee for Women and the Ministry of Women’s Affairs (designated the Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Development- MCD&WE in 2005), the Cabinet, and sent to the Attorney General’s Department responsible for finalizing legislation to be presented in Parliament.”\(^\text{48}\)

- **Sri Lankan Penal Code Section 364(2)** - This penal code recognizes custodial rape and gang rape as graver forms of sexual violence and further levies punishments for those acts, up to twenty years of imprisonment. In doing so the law aims to provide greater sensitization to instances of rape so that the collective public perspective shares the same opinion of such grave crimes. Unfortunately in spite of this law, within the past year instances of rape have reached unforeseen increases. What makes this law particularly interesting in terms of gender-responsiveness is the fact that the amendment speaks specifically about the “Defilement of girls between twelve and fourteen.” According to this amendment, "(1) Whoever has carnal intercourse or attempts to have carnal intercourse with any girl of or above the age of twelve years and under the age of fourteen years shall be guilty of an offence, and shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding two years, and may in addition be punished with whipping."\(^\text{49}\) However, sexual intercourse between a man and a girl who are married under the consent of the parents will not be prosecuted.

**Domestic policies**

- **Sri Lanka Women’s Charter (1993 to Present)** – This charter provides a series of recommendations that specifically lay out the various rights that the women of Sri Lanka are entitled to i.e. political and civil rights, the specific rights within the family, educational rights, rights to engage equally in economic activities, rights to healthcare, and the right to be protected from any forms of gender based discrimination.

**Indicator 8 - Number and nature of provisions/recommendations in the truth and reconciliation commission and other transitional justice reports on women’s rights**

The Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC) was
appointed on the 15th of May, 2010 as the principal institution in terms of transitional justice. Among the main goals, they aim to promote national unity and to foster reconciliation between the different ethnic groups. This objective could not be achieve without considering the particular aspirations and needs of the Sri Lankan women. Therefore, specific recommendations have been made in order to tackle the violations of human rights committed against women. These recommendations are 9.86, 9.87, 9.88, 9.89, 9.90, 9.91, and 9.92, which are explained in Figure 8.1. Although some of these have not been adopted yet, they represent an important starting point to bring justice, truth and accountability for the crimes committed against women during the war.

Figure 8.1: Number and nature of provisions/recommendations in the LTTE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendation/Year</th>
<th>Recommending Body</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation 9.86</td>
<td>Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC)</td>
<td>To address the outcry of need demonstrated by war affected women and ultimately enhance reconciliation</td>
<td>Not adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation 9.87</td>
<td>Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC)</td>
<td>To aid the families that are experiencing severe economic hardship and are barred by trauma of a lost loved one through economic assistance and the facilitation of closure by providing the whereabouts of the deceased.</td>
<td>Not adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation 9.88</td>
<td>Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC)</td>
<td>To empower collective efforts to address the issues that women face in the wake of civil conflict</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation 9.89</td>
<td>Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC)</td>
<td>To facilitate women in finding employment and engaging in other livelihood activities</td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation 9.90</td>
<td>Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC)</td>
<td>The establishment of such an environment is viewed as an essential pre-requisite to reconciliation</td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation 9.91</td>
<td>Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC)</td>
<td>The whereabouts of the missing have direct bearing on women since most of those who were disappeared were their husbands, sons, fathers, and brothers. Providing closure to those women would significantly enhance the likelihood that reconciliation can take hold.</td>
<td>Not adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation 9.92</td>
<td>Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC)</td>
<td>Through the provision of a specific entity focused on the issues of women, children and the elderly these vulnerable populations will no longer be overlooked in the national post conflict recovery planning.</td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Indicator 9 - Percentage of women (versus men) who receive economic packages in conflict resolution and reconstruction processes

The specific breakdown of the percentage of women versus men who receive economic packages in conflict resolution and reconstruction processes is not available to the public as it includes the specifics of Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) programming and is an ongoing process.
C. Promotion of a gender perspective

Indicator 10 - Number and percentage of pre-deployment training and post-deployment programs for military and police incorporating SCR 1325, SCR 1820, international human rights instruments and international humanitarian law

According to the U.S. Department of State “The Ministry of Defense provided training to all Sri Lankan peacekeepers prior to their deployments for international peacekeeping missions relating to human rights, including trafficking.”50 but unfortunately there is no specification as to whether UNSCR 1325 or 1820 were also covered in those pre-deployment trainings. The lack of training on such crucial resolutions exemplifies the general lack of societal sensitization to international standards that function in relation to women. The primary national mechanism for human rights is the National Commission on Human Rights. The NCHR has 10 regional offices throughout Sri Lanka and since 2006, has released two strategic plans to address the human rights situation in Sri Lanka and has three primary projects: the National Protection and Durable Solution for Internally Displaced Persons Program, the Joint Program on Human Rights conducted in collaboration with UNDP and the Project on Increasing the Confidence of Communities in Reporting Violations of Children’s Rights created with the assistance of UNICEF.51 Although work with women is present throughout all three of the projects, unfortunately there is no specified national action plan within the HRCSL that focuses on manifesting the specific principles stated within UNSCR 1325 or 1820.

Indicator 11a - Allocated and disbursed funding to CSOs marked for women, peace and security projects and programs (WPS) and Indicator 11b- Allocated and disbursed funding to government marked for WPS

Figure 11.1: Allocated and disbursed funding marked for WPS programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Government body in charge of projects and/or programs</th>
<th>Funds from National Budget</th>
<th>Donor Country/Entity and Amount</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Committee on Women (NCW)</td>
<td>As a government ministry the organization is funded through the Ministry of Child Development and Women’s Affairs. Unfortunately the analysis provide by the Centre for Women’s Research has demonstrated that the department is not adequately included in resource allocation</td>
<td>Nationally funded</td>
<td>Ensuring and promoting rights of Sri Lankan women, stabilizing equality, assisting and guiding for formulated legal framework for their utmost development, stimulating for their fullest implementation and monitoring and supervising their implementation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Bureau (WB)</td>
<td>As another department within the Ministry of Child Development and Women’s Affairs the Women’s Bureau faces the same financial situation</td>
<td>Nationally funded/ budget unknown</td>
<td>To be the National machinery for women’s development in keeping with the state policies through socio-economic empowerment by educating through formal organization structure to create a suitable environment towards the emergence of female generation enable to accept any challenge appropriately, willfully and intelligently.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka (HRCSL)</td>
<td>Nationally funded/ budget unknown</td>
<td>Nationally funded/ budget unknown</td>
<td>To develop a better human rights culture in Sri Lanka through protecting and promoting human rights for all in Law, Policy and in practice adhering to universally recognized human rights norms and principles with a special emphasis on fundamental rights guaranteed under the Sri Lanka Constitution for the citizens, with the coordination and cooperation of all stakeholders that work towards protecting and promoting human rights for all.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretariat for the Coordinating of the Peace Process (SCOPP)</td>
<td>Nationally funded institution</td>
<td>Nationally funded</td>
<td>To develop confidence in the peace process and its potential benefits for all Sri Lankan citizens, whilst building up an institution that is equitable and acts in the national interest of the people, and is accepted as such.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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As evidenced by the figure above, there is an alarming lack of data regarding the amount of money directed towards WPS projects, particularly those implemented by Civil Society Organizations. Although there is some available information regarding the budget for governmental funded women programs, it is not updated and it is not mentioned as particularly for WPS programs.

According to the report published by the Gender Action for Peace and Security (GAPS) from the United Kingdom, “In 2004 the National Budget Statement required that all ministries allocate 10 percent of their expenditures for activities that improve the status of women. No specific budget allocation to UNSCR 1325 in any ministry has been identified since the ceasefire ended.” That same year, the expenditure of the Ministry of Women’s Affairs was equivalent to 0.009 percent of the government’s expenditure, which represents approximately 26.8 million Sri Lankan Rupees (LKP). In 2006, 364 million LKP were allocated to women and children’s welfare, and in 2007 1 million LKR were allocated.

Case study A - Extent to which gender and peace education are integrated in the curriculum of formal and informal education (including early warning)

Sri Lanka’s Comprehensive Peace education programming is the first of its kind. In partnership with UNESCO, Commonly referred to as Education For Peace, the peace education plan aims to instill a culture of peace within Sri Lankan educational programming. The strategically crafted curriculum shies away from negative peace models and instead instills Sri Lankan youth with the educational system that provides a notion of peace that integrates social justice into the fabric of junior secondary (grades 6-9) and senior secondary (grades 10-11) educational programming. In order to reach such a goal, the Ministry of Education has utilized a 7-tier approach. These 7 tiers are: Curriculum, Teacher Education, Second National Language, Whole School Culture, Integration, Co-curriculum, and Research. The first area of focus aims to integrate peace into the fabric of the educational curriculum from junior secondary schools, which begin in grade 6 and end in grade 9, and concludes in senior secondary schools, which begin in grade 10 and end in Grade 1. The comprehensive inclusion of peace into the developmental timeline of Sri Lanka’s young students provides a rare opportunity to promote peace on a generational level. The second tier of the Education for Peace program aims to sensitize educators en masse about the ESCP. Although such a comprehensive program is relatively new and its results remain to be seen, it has received much acclaim from domestic and international critics.

III. Conclusions and recommendations

It is important to emphasize the fact that women, who comprise 53 percent of the population, are an integral part of the Sri Lankan society and, as such, their security and well being has to be deemed of utmost importance. All forms of discrimination against any individual or section of society, committed for whatever reason, will adversely affect the growth and stability of the Sri Lankan nation. Women have played crucial roles in building sustainable peace in many parts of the world. Sri Lanka needs to maximize this untapped resource in making this country a peaceful and a prosperous one. It is important for the Sri Lankan society to learn from the past and understand the conflict in all its complexities, and more so to understand that dignity and equality have to be the overarching principles in the journey to find lasting solutions. It is dedication to these principles that will enable all the peoples of this country to feel and enjoy full citizen’s rights so that their contributions in all forms will set the stage for Sri Lanka to move forward.

The following recommendations regarding the women’s situation in Sri Lanka have been drafted by the Association of War Affected Women in order to strengthen the following areas: women’s security and safety, women and development, women in decision-making processes and women in rebuilding and reconciliation. The recommendations are directed to the concerned sectors which are: the United Nations and the international community, the government of Sri Lanka and the Civil Society Organizations.

As we have mentioned throughout the report, the role of civil society organizations has been determinant to voice women’s needs in the post-conflict context of Sri Lanka, but it is imminent to strengthen the government’s institutions to deal with these necessities. Therefore we would like to urge the necessity to strengthen those institutions that address women’s issues, whether these are governmental organizations or CSOs. This is reflected in the focus we give to the following recommendations. We suggest that a coordinated effort among these actors is imperative to improve the conditions for women in Sri Lanka.

United Nations and the International Community

- Ensure that law enforcement officers at all levels are aware of UNSCR 1325, 1820 and all other domestic laws and regulations related to violence against women.
- Facilitate a process to bring women’s concerns and historical discriminations to the attention of the authorities and recommend actions to rectify those as priority issues.
- Organize gender sensitive awareness raising programs for law enforcement officers, attorneys and the Mediation Boards to bring about attitudinal changes.
Facilitate women’s involvement in post-war reconstruction efforts to ensure that their societies are founded on justice and inclusion.

Facilitate a social dialogue between women’s groups from north, east and other districts to bring women’s concerns into the reintegration and reconciliation process.

Monitor the effective reintegration of female ex-combatants and organize community level programs to address their needs and concerns.

Promote the inclusion of women at the decision making levels of reconstruction, resettlement and reintegration processes.

Ensure that women’s concerns are taken into consideration when designing and implementing projects and programs on reconstruction and recovery.

Encourage the private sector to set up industries in the affected areas for employment creation, especially for young women.

Promote a quota for women at all levels of governance (national, provincial and local).

**Government of Sri Lanka**

Demobilize and disarm all paramilitary groups irrespective of their allegiances.

Take necessary steps for a speedy transformation from militarization to normalcy.

Take measures to replace uniformed men with women where ever possible.

Expand and further strengthen the services of the women's desks in police stations to handle gender based violence more effectively.

Make sure that women police officers are manning the desks and that they are proficient in local languages.

Fully implement the national reintegration framework.

Increase and facilitate women’s access to credit, skills and extension services.

Ensure that 50 percent of the members of Civil Security Councils are women.

Introduce laws to ensure a gender sensitive wage policy for women working in the informal sector, including domestic workers.

Design policies for provision of inputs to promote home based industries with special emphasis on entrepreneurship, training and marketing.

Formulate a policy which ensures the appointment of no less than 33 percent women to all governing bodies.

Ensure that all political parties have no less than 33 percent women candidates in their nomination lists.

Introduce a quota for women at all levels of governance (national, provincial and local) as recommended by women groups to the Parliamentary Select Committee on Electoral Reforms.

Amend gender discriminatory laws that prevent women’s equal access to land, and inheritance. Ensure facilities such as housing and water is accessible for all those who are resettled.

Provide infrastructure facilities, such as electricity, education and health, as well as transportation for all the resettled people.

Set up local level grievance committees by the local authorities to assess the needs and problems of those who were affected by war for a speedy recovery.

Include peace education and non-violent dispute resolution mechanisms to the school curriculum.

Encourage the private sector to set up industries in the affected areas for employment creation, especially for young women.

**Civil Society Organizations**

Establish where necessary and improve existing support networks to cater to the needs of women affected by violence, counseling, legal aid, shelter and mental health services.

Organize gender sensitive awareness raising programs for law enforcement officers, attorneys and the Mediation Boards to bring about attitudinal changes.

Create a platform for women affected by war to discuss issues pertaining to their lives.

Provide legal counseling for women subjected to family separation and those who are subjected to trauma.

Promote women’s roles in agriculture and animal husbandry through provision of training, inputs and establishing community farms.

Raise women's awareness of their rights.

Quantify women's contribution to the economy especially those working in the plantations, factories and in foreign employment.

Build capacity skills of women to take up leadership positions in community based organizations and subsequently in political bodies.

Empower women to face challenges in accessing positions of governance.

Advocate for increased representation of women in political and institutional structures from the village level up.

Develop mechanisms to monitor the implementation of the Language Policy.

Implement social integration programs through cross-cultural events such as sports, interfaith dialogues and exchange visits.

Ensure that special community level programs are in place to address the concerns and needs of female ex-combatants.
IV. Bibliography


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Interview with the Director of the Women’s Development Center

Interview with Visaka Dharmadasa, director of the Association of War Affected Women


Interview with Visaka Dharmadasa, director of the Association of War Affected Women


Gaojia, Minister of Social Welfare, Gender & Children’s Affairs, Government of Sierra Leone: “Adapting UNSCR 1325 to meet their needs. Local women are planning their own strategies in peacebuilding and localization. It’s about time that some western-based organization relied on local women to plan this outstanding initiative!”

Peace Prize Laureate Leymah Gbowee, 2011 Nobel Peace Prize (International Peace Bureau, now United Nations Secretary-General and High Representative)


Cora Weiss (former President, International Peace Bureau, now Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury, Former Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations)

The civil society monitoring report on Resolution 1325! It guides us to where we should focus our energies and resources to ensure women’s equal participation in all peace processes and at all decision-making levels, thereby achieving sustainable peace. All peace and security advocates – both individually and as part of organizational work - should read it. Congratulations to the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP) on this outstanding initiative! Women in Need Interview

Women In Need Interview


Philippe Valentin Giffard, Sri Lanka Army Women’s Corps (Tort, 2012)


Women In Need Interview
"All peace and security advocates – both individually and as part of organizational work - should read the 2012 civil society monitoring report on Resolution 1325! It guides us to where we should focus our energies and resources to ensure women’s equal participation in all peace processes and at all decision-making levels, thereby achieving sustainable peace." - Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury, Former Under-Secretary-General and High Representative of the United Nations

“The GNWP initiative on civil society monitoring of UNSCR 1325 provides important data and analysis on the implementation of the resolution at both the national and local levels. It highlights examples of what has been achieved, and provides a great opportunity to reflect on how these achievements can be further applied nationwide. In this regard my Ministry is excited to be working with GNWP and its members in Sierra Leone on the Localization of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 initiatives!” - Honorable Steve Gaojia, Minister of Social Welfare, Gender & Children's Affairs, Government of Sierra Leone

“The 2012 Women Count: Security Council Resolution 1325 Civil Society Monitoring Report uses locally acceptable and applicable indicators to assess progress in the implementation of Resolution 1325 at the country and community levels. The findings and recommendations compel us to reflect on what has been achieved thus far and strategize on making the implementation a reality in places that matters. Congratulations to GNWP-ICAN on this outstanding initiative!” - Leymah Gbowee, 2011 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

“The civil society monitoring report on UNSCR 1325 presents concrete data and analysis on the implementation of the resolution at national level. It helps us identify priorities for implementation and allocate resources to ensure women’s participation in all peace processes and achieve long lasting peace. A must read for all peace and security actors and advocates. Congratulations to GNWP on this outstanding initiative!” - Sadhu Ram Sapkota, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction, Government of Nepal

“A beautifully presented, thoroughly documented accounting of what is happening to a resolution that came from the grass roots, was vetted by the grass roots and was lobbied for by women for unanimous adoption by the Security Council. Cheers to the women of the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders for their careful, detailed work. GNWP is also making a unique contribution working at localization. It’s about time that some western based organization relied on local women to plan their own peacemaking program. Local women are planning their own strategies in peacebuilding and adapting UNSCR1325 to meet their needs.” - Cora Weiss (former President, International Peace Bureau, now its UN representative, President, Hague Appeal for Peace)