



ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Implementing Norway's national action plan 2015-2018

WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

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1. Introduction

Two years ago, the third Norwegian action plan for women, peace and security was launched. This gave us, for the first time, guidelines for implementation and a set of indicators to measure results and keep us accountable. This report is the first annual report on the implementation of the national action plan for 2015-2018 based on this set of indicators. We have included some examples of our efforts. They do not give a comprehensive overview, but show some of the stories behind the figures.

Results can only be achieved in a joint effort, and we therefore cooperate broadly, across ministries and departments. We join forces with other countries, and with academia and civil society in Norway and internationally. We work with the other Nordic countries, the European institutions, the AU, NATO and the UN. Our embassies and delegations to multilateral organisations all do their share. Working more strategically with fewer priority countries has helped us to ensure more targeted interventions in a select group of countries.

Women, peace and security is not only high on the Norwegian agenda. The international community now recognises that peace and security efforts must focus more on the prevention of conflict, and on political solutions and inclusive peace processes when a conflict cannot be prevented.

This is a momentum we must seize. Because the challenges before us are daunting: the horrors of the conflict in Syria, the many protracted crises, the human suffering, the violence and abuse, the millions of women and men, boys and girls who are displaced from their homes and livelihoods.

We know that the root causes of conflicts and their impact on people's lives are often gendered. And we have seen that more sustainable solutions can be found when both men and women engage and work together.

We are striving to do our share – to ensure that the women, peace and security resolutions are followed up in practice by Norwegian peacekeepers, civil servants and diplomats, to ensure that our humanitarian and development partners work with us and with each other to deliver results, and to ensure that research is carried out and partnerships formed that enable us to reach further.

This report is based on the reports from the implementing ministries, the embassies and Norad. We are pleased to have made headway in the women, peace and security agenda in 2016. Our hope is that next year's report will show that we have progressed even further. We encourage you all, colleagues, partners and other readers, to do your utmost to advance this agenda wherever you are.



Solveig Horne, Minister of Children and Equality



Ine Eriksen Søreide, Minister of Defence



Per-Willy-Amundsen. Minister of Justice and Public Security



Børge Brende, Minister of Foreign Affairs

2. Reporting on indicators

The action plan states that Norway will contribute to results in the field of women, peace and security at country level. We acknowledge that Norway's engagement at country level needs to be more closely integrated into our general efforts, that it needs to be more strategic and results-oriented, and that we must be able to show results for the target groups and the lessons learned from our interventions.

It was agreed, however, that realistic indicators for the extensive, multi-sectoral follow-up of the action plan should be set at a low level of the results hierarchy. While our women, peace and security programmes are subject to the same results reporting requirements as other programmes funded by Norway, we do not attempt to describe the individual programmes' results here. The aim of this report is to indicate, for example, in numbers and percentages how much of Norwegian funding is reported to have contributed to the agreed goals.

The following summarises the 2016 reporting on the indicators of the action plan for women, peace and security, which are set out in Annex 1.

Peace processes and negotiations - *Our goal: Women are involved in peace processes and peace negotiations where Norway is engaged. The rights, needs and priorities of both women and men are included in peace agreements.*

Women, peace and security is a defined priority in peace processes and negotiations where Norway is involved. However, there are limitations to our role, even where Norway is an official facilitator. The parties' ownership remains essential. That being said, our teams strive to encourage and facilitate input from women's organisations, survivors and gender experts, and to work to increase women's and civil society's influence in peace processes. We are pleased to report that all peace processes, negotiations and peace agreements where Norway is engaged include women's rights, needs and priorities (in line with the target: 100 %). This is not to say that all the needs, rights and priorities of women are addressed, however, and our teams will have to remain diligent in the further follow-up of our commitments.

The proportion of women in Norwegian delegations is high, approximately 65 % in 2016 (target: at least 40 %). Both the current special envoys to peace processes where Norway has a formal role are women. Given the relatively small number of people actively involved in peace processes, the proportion will shift slightly from one year to another.

It is our ambition that experience gained from peace processes where Norway is involved is used in global-level normative work as well as in other country contexts. Yet we still have a way to go, even in ensuring that lessons learned from one process are shared with those involved in another. Norway supports independent research that helps us draw lessons from our experience. We have also facilitated meetings for sharing experience. Key players in the process leading up to the Colombia agreement actively shared their experience through both written and spoken discourses. The Norwegian branch of the Nordic Women Mediators network is another important forum for sharing experience across processes and contexts. This is clearly demonstrated by the high rate of attendance and interest in frequent meetings.

International operations – *Our goal: Women's and men's security, rights and needs are taken into account in all aspects of international operations where Norway is engaged.*

Data on how women's and men's security, rights and needs are taken into account in international operations show that some progress has been made.

Goals for women, peace and security are included in all operational orders and a gender perspective is included in all pre-deployment operational analyses. This finding is as expected for the police but greatly exceeded the target for the Norwegian Armed Forces (50 %). This positive result is largely due to the fact that the Long-term Defence Plan now highlights the importance of taking a gender perspective in addition to other related topics, such as the protection of civilians. An extensive task list ensuring a gender perspective in the Armed Forces' operations was developed in 2016. These tasks will be implemented from 2017 and onwards.

Including a gender perspective in operations has proved to be more of a challenge. While operational planning includes a gender perspective at the strategic level, implementation at operational and tactical levels is not systematic. Also, while there is gender expertise to draw from, this expertise is not used systematically.

Female recruitment into operational and deployed military units is a focus area in the action plan. Figures for women in the Armed Forces show a slow but steady increase over a number of years. Norway is now roughly at the NATO average level, with women making up 10.9 % of the Norwegian Armed Forces. The percentage of women in Norwegian military contingents in 2016 was 8.5 %, but is likely to vary from year to year, depending on the type of units deployed. For instance, the percentage of women in the Special Forces tends to be very low, while the percentage in medical or military police units is often higher. The female Hunter Troop in the Special Forces is a pilot project for the period 2014-2019. It is made up of selected conscript female soldiers who are trained for duty in Special Forces units in international operations. Those who qualify for such service will thus increase the proportion of female operational participation, and improve the results for this goal

The percentage of Norwegian police advisers in international operations and Norwegian police in operative management positions who are women is increasing, exceeding the targets of 35 % (2016: 41%) and 50 % (2016: 55%) respectively.

Another focus area in the action plan is the promotion of women as leaders of international operations. The first female UN force commander was Norwegian Major-General Kristin Lund, who served in UNFICYP from 2014 to 2016. In 2016, there was an increase of women at flag officer/brigadier level in the Armed Forces, which increases the potential for female international military leaders in the future. The Armed Forces encourage female military personnel to apply for the UN Senior Strategic Adviser's Master Class, and in 2016 two out of four Norwegian participants were women.

Peacebuilding – *Our goal: Women's political and economic empowerment and influence is increased.*

Norway's ambitions for the inclusion of women's rights and gender equality in peacebuilding are high and therefore challenging. This part of the action plan has a strong element of long-term development cooperation, and this is the most difficult part of the plan to report on. It is difficult both in terms of tracking funds and in terms of demonstrating results; effects on people's lives and the institutions that govern them. This may be partly due to reporting procedures and formal requirements that need strengthening. In spite of this, we note significant improvements compared to the 2015 baseline values. This could indicate a growing awareness about using the gender equality policy marker correctly¹, and/or that support to this work is increasing.

¹ All development assistance should be marked according to DAC guidelines. DAC's policy marker on gender shows if gender is the main or a significant objective.