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Uganda
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Republic of Uganda

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Researchers: Edwins Twijukireho, Joanita Kako Davina, Rachael Okuja, Gorette Arego, Prudence Atukwatse, Michael Mukasa
Authors: Robinah Rubimbwa and Gorette Komurembe

ACRONYMS

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| ACFODE | Action for Development |
| ADF | Allied Democratic Front |
| AMISOM | African Union Mission in Somalia |
| AU | African Union |
| BGOs | Bilateral Governments |
| BUWODA | Bushenyi Women Development Association |
| CAOs | Chief Administrative Officer(s) |
| CAR | Central African Republic |
| CEDAW | Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women |
| CEO | Chief Executive Officer |
| CEWIGO | Centre for Women in Governance |
| CID | Criminal Investigations Department |
| CSO | Civil Society Organization |
| DDR | Disarmament, Demobilization, Reintegration |
| DPC | District Police Commander |
| DRC | Democratic Republic of Congo |
| EAC | East African Community |
| EASSI | East Africa Sub-regional Support Initiative for the Advancement of Women |
| FGD | Focus Group Discussions |
| FGM | Female Genital Mutilation |
| GNWP | Global Network of Women Peace Builders |
| HIV/AIDS | Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome |
| IDPs | Internally Displaced Persons |
| IGAD | Inter-Governmental Authority on Development |
| KDDP | Karamoja Disarmament and Development Plan |
| L UWODA | Luwero Women's Development Association |
| LIWEPI | Lira Women Peace Initiatives |
| LIRWOCDI | Lira Rural Women and Children's Development Initiatives' Shelter |
| LRA | Lord's Resistance Army |
| MBAWODA | Mbarara Women's Development Association |
| MDGs | Millennium Development Goals |
| MEMPROW | Mentoring and Empowerment Program for Young Women |
| MFPED | Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development |
| MGLSD | Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development |
| MP | Member of Parliament |

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| NAP | National Action Plan |
| NCDC | National Curriculum Development Center |
| NDP | National Development Plan |
| NGOs | Non-Governmental Organization(s) |
| NRA | National Resistance Army |
| NUSAF | Northern Uganda Social Action Fund |
| PRDP | Peace, Recovery and Development Plan (for northern Uganda) |
| RIVODEF | Rwenzori Islamic Voluntary Development Foundation |
| SGBV | Sexual and Gender-Based Violence |
| SSP | Senior Superintendent of Police |
| TEWPA | Teso Women Peace Activists |
| TRC | Truth and Reconciliation Commission |
| UDHS | Uganda Demographic Household Survey |
| UGP | Uganda Gender Policy |
| UHRC | Uganda Human Rights Commission |
| UNSCR | United Nations Security Council Resolution |
| UNAMID | United Nations Advance Mission in Darfur |
| UNAMIS | United Nations Advance Mission in Sudan |
| UNHCR | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees |
| UNFPA | United Nations Population Fund |
| UNLA | Uganda National Liberation Army |
| UNRF | Uganda National Rescue Front |
| UPDF | Uganda People's Defense Forces |
| UPF | Uganda Police Force |
| URA | Uganda Revenue Authority |
| UWONET | Uganda Women's Network |
| VAW | Violence against Women. |

I. Women, Peace, and Security Profile

A. Nature of the Conflict

The geographical position of Uganda places it at crossroads of armed conflicts in Sudan, Somalia and other countries of the Great Lakes Region¹. As a result, in addition to its own internal conflicts, Uganda has found itself involved in other intra-state conflicts either in peace keeping missions as in Somalia and Darfur or as an antagonist such as in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Southern Sudan, Rwanda and since July 11, 2010, Somalia; but also as a victim² as was the case during the post-election conflict in Kenya.

Since political independence in 1962, Uganda has faced serious challenges in the area of peace and security. Specifically the regions of Northern Uganda, Teso and Rwenzori have been afflicted by armed insurgency. For over two decades Joseph Kony of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) led an insurgency that killed or captured many people, many of them women and young girls in Northern Uganda and Teso. An estimated 25,000 children were kidnapped over the course of war while more than 1.8 million people were forced to flee their homes and live in squalid displacement camps where an estimated 1,000 people died each week.³ The North Eastern region of Karamoja still suffers the impacts of conflict and insecurity as a result of cattle raids from across the border with Kenya⁴.

1 The countries of the Great Lakes region include Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, RDR Congo, Burundi, Rwanda and the Central African Republic and Sothern Sudan

2 Uganda depends on Kenya's transport infrastructure especially the port at Mombasa for imports and exports. During the election violence Ugandan truck drivers were targeted, their goods destroyed, and their trucks set ablaze. Uganda suffered an acute shortage of fuel which led to escalating commodity prices.

3 <http://www.worldvision.org/content.nsf/learn/global-issues-Uganda>.

4 UNDP, "Building Sustainable peace in Karamoja: Strengthening Capacities for Community Security rule of law and economic recovery. January 2010- December 2012"

Western Uganda also experienced armed conflict from 2002 to 2007 as a result of rebel activities by various rebel forces some from Uganda and others from Democratic Republic of Congo, including the Allied Democratic Front (ADF) which operated in the mountainous Rwenzori sub-region.⁵ The South Western part of Uganda suffered from the war of 1978-79 that toppled Iddi Amin, the former president who targeted the elite from the entire country, for his murderous regime. Central Uganda, on the other hand was the base of the 1981-85 armed conflict that brought President Museveni to power. The whole of Uganda therefore is rightly described as a post conflict state.

However with the secession of hostilities between the LRA and other rebel groups and the launching of the government's Peace Recovery and Development Plan (PRDP) for Northern Uganda, opportunities for the people to benefit from the peace dividend were established, albeit with challenges, especially for women.⁶ Investment in human security in terms of protection for women, men, boys and girls from violent conflicts has been reactionary, rather than proactive. Subsequently conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and peace building have not been integrated in planning processes.⁷ Even the PRDP and Karamoja Integrated Disarmament Development Program (KIDDP) are medium term programs, and there is no telling what will happen when they end.

Root causes of conflicts in Uganda have been attributed to (i) regional and ethnic discrimination (ii) a lack of national identity (iii) a culture of violence and (iv) insecurity.⁸ However there are now other security threats including election related violence, trafficking in human persons, as well as escalating sexual violence.

In the 2011 presidential and parliamentary elections six journalists were attacked by a mob wielding sticks with nails in the Eastern town of Mbale, while tens of other people were injured in Kampala city and across the country as supporters of opposing candidates attacked each other shortly after voting. The outcome of the February 2011 elections has remained contentious between the government and the opposition. Not only did the opposition reject the outcome but, coupled with the global economic crisis and the rise in the cost of fuel and the rapid increases in food prices, the opposition organized what is now commonly known as Walk to Work protests that turned violent leading to loss of life including that of an 18 month-old baby girl who was hit by a stray bullet as she played outside her parents' home in the central region of Masaka. One pregnant woman was shot in the stomach but survived. The vicious response of the security forces that shot live bullets into crowds and the images of brutality, looting and burning across many cities in the country will remain in the minds of Ugandans for a long time. This has implications for future elections as Ugandans are increasingly becoming apathetic and wary of elections.

B. Impact of Conflict on Women

In northern Uganda where conflict went on for over 20 years, the absence of security impacted mostly on women and girls. The same thing happened in West Nile, in the fourteen districts of the Luwero Triangle,⁹ the Rwenzori region,¹⁰ and in Karamoja and Teso sub-regions. Women and girls were abducted by the rebels and turned into sex slaves; they were repeatedly raped by both rebel and Government soldiers; those not abducted had their noses, lips and ears cut off by the rebels, and young girls were forced into sex to survive. Women and girls suffered violent death through torture, some were burnt down in their huts, many were maimed and

5 Karamajong are an ethnic group of agro-pastoral herders living in the North east of Uganda bordering Kenya.

6 The plan is not responding to software needs (Psycho-social) which are vital for the communities coming out of conflict.

7 UN Women Uganda, "Strengthening Capabilities for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in Uganda" Strategic Note 2012-2013

8 CARE Uganda Conflict Mapping Report (February 2010).

9 Luwero Triangle is a region comprised of districts in the central region of Buganda and parts of the Rwenzori region.

10 Ruwenzori region here refers to the district of Kasese, Bundibugyo, Kabalore, Kyenjojo, Kibaale and some parts of

suffer permanent deformation including vaginal fistula, many contracted HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases through repeated rape, and many of the women continue to suffer trauma and stigma from rape and torture as they are shunned by their spouses and communities. And yet many women also lost their husbands, sons, brothers and fathers. A great number of the abducted young girls and women returned with children fathered by their abductors, and on return they and their children have been shunned and live as outcasts in their communities. While most of the formerly abducted girls have been re-integrated into society, and supported by various civil society and NGO agencies to learn life skills and support themselves, a few still live in fear that their former husbands who have received amnesty may one day come back to reclaim them.¹¹

In spite of the trauma, stress, hunger and suffering during the years of armed conflict, it was the women individually and collectively who kept the communities together, fed the family, trekked long distances to get firewood and food.

In spite of the trauma, stress, hunger and suffering during the years of armed conflict, it was the women individually and collectively who kept the communities together, fed the family, trekked long distances to get firewood and food. "Because the conflict threw the traditional division of economic roles and market segments in disarray, family survival came to depend heavily on women, as large numbers of men were caught up in the conflict through recruitment in Local Defense Units (militia in Acholi and Amuka in Lango), by joining the UPDF, or being abducted by the LRA. Many others were killed. A trend towards alcoholism among men further contributed to their "demobilization" as family providers, while women risked their lives going out to cultivate in nearby areas or engaged in petty trade in the IDP camps."¹²

It was the women who kept the hope for peace alive. Women organized themselves into groups and CBOs and advocated for negotiations for peace. Together with national level women's organizations, they formed the Women's Peace Coalition that worked tirelessly as they lobbied for the peace agreement to be gender sensitive. Yet such efforts by women are often not often acknowledged. In post conflict Gulu, for example, women are excluded from participating in the Acholi Elders Council (Ker Kwaro Acholi), an important cultural institution for peace making and reconciliation. After the 1980-1985 civil war, women parliamentarians in all districts facilitated the formation of Women's Development Associations. Some of these associations have since collapsed but a few like Luwero Women Development Association (LUWODA), Mbarara Women Development Association (MBAWODA) and Bushenyi Women Development Association (BUWODA) have survived.

In 2006, though not really represented on the official government delegation, the Women's Coalition for Peace was able to influence the peace negotiation process and the outcomes of the agreements as will be shown later in this report. Because women were aware of what was agreed during negotiations, they have continued to monitor the implementation of the Peace, Recovery and Development Plan (PRDP) the design of which excluded women. The National Women's Task Force for a Gender Responsive PRDP, which is composed of 17 women's national and community based organizations that work on conflict transformation in the post conflict northern region, was formed in 2009 and is coordinated by Isis-WICCE¹³ to ensure women fully participate in the implementation of the PRDP. This Task Force continues to be represented in the PRDP National Steering Committee and in June 2011, was able to present a position paper during the mid-term review of the PRDP. In addition, the women's community

11 International Alert: Changing Fortunes; Women's Economic Opportunities in Post war Northern Uganda

12 Changing Fortunes: Women's Economic Opportunities in Post War Northern Uganda : *Investing in Peace* Issue No 3 (2010)

13 Isis- Women International Cross Cultural Exchange in an international women's organization based in Uganda whose work focuses on women in conflict and post conflict situations.

based organizations (CBOs) that formed District PRDP Task Forces in all PRDP districts and Local Governments have continued to advocate for more 'software' interventions that address women's post-conflict needs especially regarding their health and restoration of their bodily integrity.

While the majority of the population in the conflict affected communities have returned home, the CEDAW report of 2010 notes with seriousness that disadvantaged groups of women, including older women have been victims of violence including human trafficking and slavery.

The role of the women of Uganda in conflict transformation therefore cannot be overstated. Women's CBOs in the PRDP region and in the Rwenzori region continue to implement peace building and skills development interventions at every level.¹⁴ For instance women in the Lango sub-region have formed the Lango Female Clan Leaders Association (LFCLA) to enable them to participate in decision making in traditional systems and to influence the participation of women in other aspects of development. According to the Chairman of Lira District, LFCLA has made tremendous inroads in making the male clan leaders be mindful of women's needs in their decisions. In the interview with the research team, the Chairperson said LFCLA has helped to educate the cultural institution about gender issues. A number of women's CBOs across the PRDP districts have also formed the District Women's Task Force for a Gender Responsive PRDP to ensure that women participate in planning, implementation and monitoring of PRDP programmes. Through such organizing, women have worked to counteract barriers to their participation in leadership, in peace building and in conflict transformation. The Lira Rural Women and Children's Development Initiative Shelter (LIRWOCDI) have established a protective shelter for survivors of Sexual and Gender-Based violence (SGBV). In Teso, TEWPA, with a presence in all the districts in Teso region, has achieved great success working with many communities in conflict transformation initiatives across the region. In Pader the Women and Rural Development Network (WORUDET) has established a learning resource center for local level women. In the interviews with various leaders of the Lango sub region, the men leaders were full of praises for the women's CBOs and their effort in making the PRDP work for women. 'We cannot ignore the views of these women now as we implement government programmes. The women have become very sharp and demand participation and we have to respect that,' said Chief Administration Officer Lira District Mr George Adoko.

Prior to elections, a Coalition of women from opposition parties Women for Peace planned a demonstration at the Electoral Commission (EC) calling for the resignation of the Electoral Commission chairman. However on reaching the EC premises, they found the anti-riot police ready for them. They beat them up, and hurled them on police pickups in a manner that the women's movement felt was unwarranted. The women organized a press conference in which they called upon on the Police Chief to restrain his officers when dealing with unarmed citizens' protests and especially women. This action by the women started a series of meetings with the Inspector General of Police (IGP), focusing on women's security in time of riots and demonstrations and during elections.

During the violent protests that spread across the country after the 2011 general elections, the women's movement organized a march for peace to protest rising cost of living, and to call on government to put a stop to the violence with which the security agencies were responding to protesters. One woman, Brenda Nalwendo¹⁵, who was shot in the stomach and an 18 month old baby girl, Julian Abigail Nalwanga¹⁶, who was shot by a stray bullet as she played outside

14 Lira Women Peace Initiatives, Kitgum Women's Peace Initiatives, Teso Women Peace Activists, People's Voice for Peace, and many others as shown in the index

15 Brenda Nalwango was seven months pregnant when she was shot. She survived the bullet and later gave birth to a healthy baby.

16 Julian Abigail Nalwanga was instantly killed by the stray bullet. In August 2011, the organizers of the Walk to Work Protests held a memorial service in Masaka for all people that lost their lives in the Walk to Work Protests and wanted end the day with a rally at her parents' home but were intercepted by Police.

her parents' home in Masaka, made news headlines for months. These were just two of the victims of violence captured by the media. The women, dressed in white and carrying banners and empty saucepans marched through the streets of Kampala and gathered on the grounds next to a police station where they made presentations and shared testimonies. The women had previously also camped outside the High Court in solidarity with members of the Uganda Law Society as, dressed in their black robes, presented a petition to the Chief Justice, calling on him to use his office to stop the violence and brutality of the security forces targeting unarmed civilians that had escalated across the country. The IGP has now become accessible to women's organizations.

Women's CSOs remain vital for the women's solidarity, providing a platform for women's voices, and important vehicles for economic security.

C. Relevant Policies

Uganda is progressing in terms of efforts made to realize the government's obligations of CEDAW. In 2010 alone, not only did Uganda ratify the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa commonly known as the Maputo Protocol, but the country also enacted four laws protecting women's rights, namely: the Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Act (2010); the Domestic Violence Act (2010) criminalizing violence in a domestic setting; the Control of Trafficking in Human Persons Act (2010); and the International Criminal Court Act (2010), criminalizing sexual exploitation of women during conflict situations. However these laws are yet to be disseminated, and as long as women are not aware of such laws, they cannot use them to demand justice. While the 2010 Report on the CEDAW applauded Uganda for the enactment of the new gender responsive laws, the CEDAW Committee noted with disquiet, the lack of progress with regard to justice and protection of women in practical terms. In their comments, the CEDAW Committee urged the Government of Uganda to give priority attention to combating violence against women and girls, and to adopt comprehensive measures to address such violence, to adopt regulations for implementation of the domestic violence act, to investigate occurrences, to prosecute and punish perpetrators and to provide protection, relief and remedies including appropriate compensation to victims and their families.¹⁷ While Uganda has a National Gender Policy that seeks to mainstream gender concerns in development processes, service delivery continues to be largely gender blind as challenges still remain at implementation level, across all sectors.

Gender Based Violence (GBV) remains widespread and occurs at alarming rates throughout the country. Available and credible nation-wide data shows that about 60% of women experience physical violence from the age of 15.¹⁸ Although GBV affects both women and men, women and girls are the most affected.¹⁹ Likewise, the denial of inheritance rights, early marriages, polygamy, bride price and sexual assaults are frequently triggered by negative attitudes and mindset, stereotype, perceptions and religious norms that negate women's rights. Likewise, traditional harmful practices including denial of inheritance rights, forced /early marriages, bride price, polygamy, courtship sexual assault, Female Genital Mutilation and all other behavior, attitudes and practices negate the fundamental rights of women and girls such as their right to life, health, dignity, education and physical integrity.

Uganda was among the first few countries to develop a National Action Plan (NAP) for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820, and the Goma Declaration. Civil society has actively participated in the development of the NAP indicators. Uganda is also a member of various regional groupings such as the East African Community (EAC), the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and the African Union (AU) that have formulated important gender

17 CEDAW/C/UGA/CO/7 October 2010 page 13.

18 Uganda Demographic and Household survey (2006).

19 UN Women Strategic Note 2010-2012.

However, women's peace and security must not be optional in government programs and plans, including the NAP on 1325 and 1820. There must be a deliberate effort to disseminate the existing laws and policies, as well as deliberate efforts to address women, peace and security issues across all the sectors.

policies that affirm the importance of protecting the rights of women and girls. Training of peace keeping missions now integrates gender and humanitarian law, something that should go a long way in rectifying some of the abuses against women during conflict.

The National Action Plan (NAP) for implementing UNSCR 1325 and 1820 and the regional Goma Declaration establishes the overall implementation framework of these instruments and assigns responsibility to government, civil society and donors in the promotion of peace, prosperity and development for women. However, women's peace and security must not be optional in government programs and plans, including the NAP on 1325 and 1820.

There must be a deliberate effort to disseminate the existing laws and policies, as well as deliberate efforts to address women, peace and security issues across all the sectors.

Access to justice still eludes the victims and survivors of SGBV, as a number of legal processes and procedures continue to work against women. The requirement for proof of penetration in a rape case, in front of a full courtroom, embarrasses most women in this country. As a result many alarming cases of rape and defilement, during and after conflict, have gone unresolved, or taken so long to be resolved that the victims, have eventually given up hope of securing justice. In addition, the requirement for a qualified medical practitioner to confirm rape, in a country where the ratio of doctors to patients is 1 to 15,000²⁰ becomes unrealistic. The effect of this is that many women choose not to report SGBV cases at all.

II. Data Presentation and Analysis

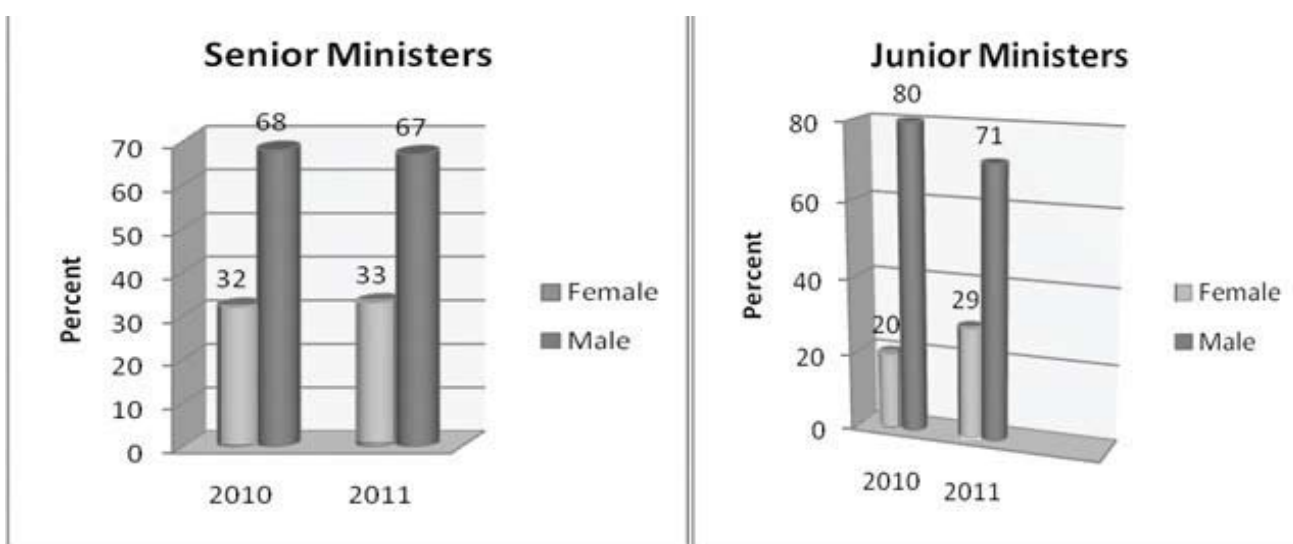
A. Participation

Uganda has achieved a lot of progress regarding increasing the numbers of women in governance and politics. However, the same level of progress has not been achieved and obstacles do still remain in other areas of public and professional life, and in decision making positions including in the realms of Government, local government, diplomacy, the judiciary and public administration, mainly at senior levels.²¹ And while the numbers may be significant in parliament and in councils, these numbers are yet to be translated into benefits for the majority of women who still languish in poverty and without adequate social services.

Indicator 1- Index of women's participation in governance

This indicator looks at the percentage of women in senior positions in Cabinet, Parliament, Government ministries and departments, and senior positions in local governments. Effective May 2011, the Speaker of the Parliament of Uganda is a woman. This is not only the first time Uganda has a woman Speaker of Parliament but is also a departure from the practice of feminizing the deputy positions in this country. The Speaker of Parliament is now the most-senior ranking woman in the country followed by the deputy chief justice. However none of the six top executives is a woman. The President, the Vice President, the Prime Minister and all the three deputy prime ministers are men. This has been the case since 2005 when Uganda dropped the first African woman Vice President on the continent. There is, however, an increase in the number of women in the cabinet, from 16 (25%) in the last cabinet to 23 (28%), although it is still below the parity standard set by the African Union. Of the 30 senior ministers, only 10 (33%) are women. It must be noted that women have been appointed to head key Ministries, namely, Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Education, Health, Energy, Trade and Industry, Water and Mineral Development. Of the 32 junior ministers, 13 (29%) are women. Figure 1 below shows the current numbers of women ministers compared to men for both the previous cabinet of 2010 and the new cabinet as of August 2011.

Figure 1: Uganda Cabinet 2010 and 2011: Senior Ministers and Junior Ministers



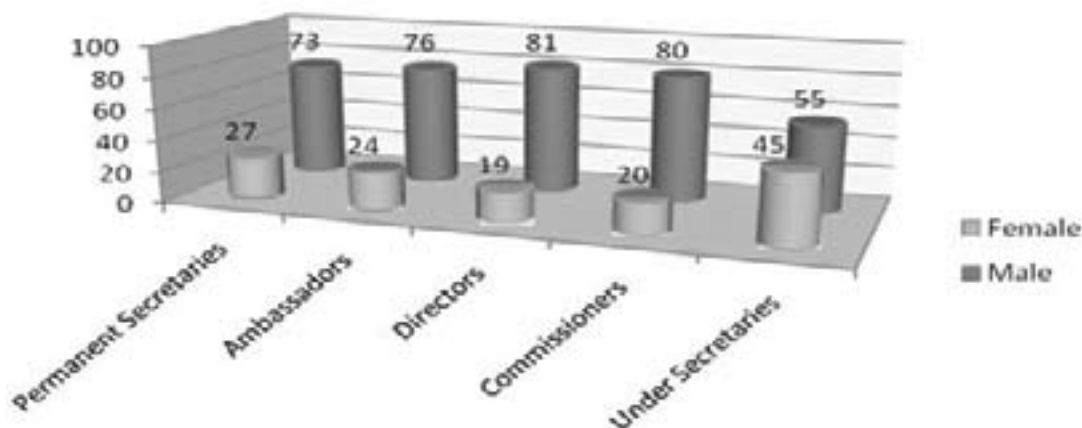
Source: Parliament of Uganda website: www.parliamentofuganda.go.ug

While women in Parliament have used their numbers to lobby and get gender sensitive legislation passed, as will be seen later in this report, the women have not used their numbers to influence resource allocation to critical areas such as maternal health, and sectors like agriculture where the majority and poorest of the population who are largely women eke a living.

Women in the Civil Service

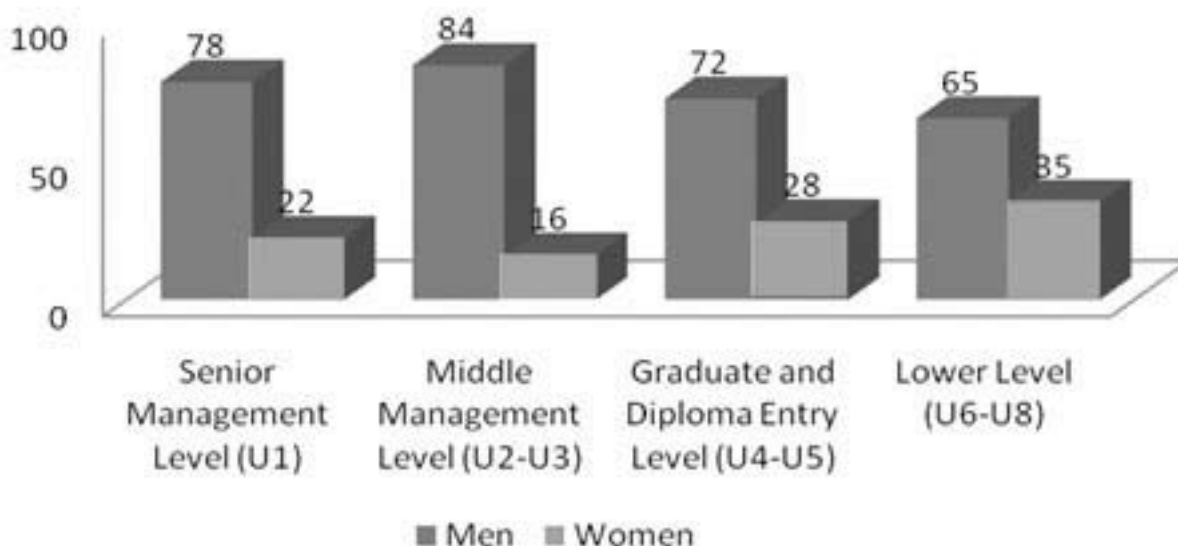
With regard to the civil service, the numbers of women still remain low despite the fact that Uganda has a reasonable repertoire of educated and capable women. There is no regulatory affirmative action in the public sector and therefore the number of women in senior management positions, is still far below parity. Figure 2 below provides a comparison of women and men in the civil service in Uganda.²²

Figure 2: Percentage of women and men in senior positions for specific job positions in the public service in Uganda



Source: Ministry of Public Service Records

Figure 3. Percentage of women and men at the various management levels in the Public as of April 2011



Source: Ministry of Public Service

Figure 3 above shows that in general, the numbers of women employed in the public service in Uganda are much lower than men at every level. Officials of the Directorate of Human Resource Management and the Public Service Commission informed the research team that the main reason for such inequity is the low level of education among women, but also blame the imbalance on the fact that while affirmative action has taken root in the politics in Uganda, the same is not true for the public service. Officials of the Ministry of Gender, Labour

and Social Development observed that gender mainstreaming has not tackled participation, and this is also a reason why the majority of the 51% of Uganda’s population is employed in the informal sector.²³ A lot therefore still needs to be done to increase the participation of women in the public service at all levels.

Women in Parliament

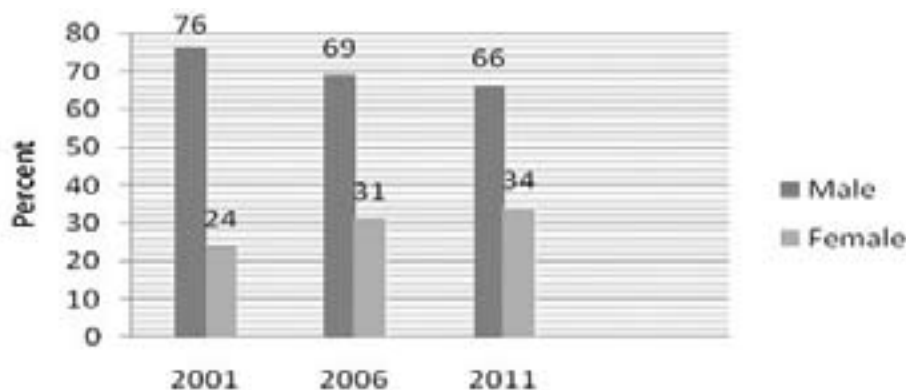
With the new constituencies created in 2010, Uganda’s 9th Parliament comprises of 375 members with 129 (34.4%) women MPs, 3.4% increase from the 31% in the 8th Parliament, but is still lower than the parity target set by the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance. However the number of women MPs who competed with men fell from 16 in 2006 to 11 in 2011, and of the 129 women MPs 112 represent districts as a result of affirmative action. This shows that women have not yet broken through the barriers of competing with men for a political position. Some women MPs such as the Speaker of Parliament have been in Parliament on affirmative action seats since 2009. While many women had hoped that this seat would be a training ground for more women to enter Parliament, those that gain the seat find it safer to keep it than to compete with a man even after two or three terms.

While the speaker of the 8th parliament was a man, the speaker of the 9th parliament is a woman and her deputy is a man, an unprecedented change. Ms Rebecca Kadaga²⁴ is also the current Member of Parliament for the Kamuli District Women’s Constituency, a position she has served since 1989. Ms Kadaga is clearly one of the most distinguished women in Uganda, and she won a landslide victory to become Speaker of the 9th Parliament.

A few other women have joined Parliament as representatives of special interest groups such as persons with disabilities 25% (1 out of 4), the army 20% (2 out 10) and the youth 25% (1 out 4). Figure 5 below shows the percentage of women in Uganda’s parliament since 2001 to 2011 (the 7th Parliament, 8th Parliament and current 9th parliament).

There is need to study further what women in politics are actually doing to advance gender issues. While the country has gender sensitive laws and policies, Uganda needs more focused budgeting to ensure that programs that such as health, education and agriculture that have more impact on women’s lives are better funded, so that 16 women, for example stop dying every day from child related health complications. The challenge of maternal mortality and infant mortality is a security issues, for what peace can a woman have when they lose their child needlessly?

Figure 4: Percentage of women in Uganda’s Parliament 2001-2006, 2006-2011 & 2011-2016

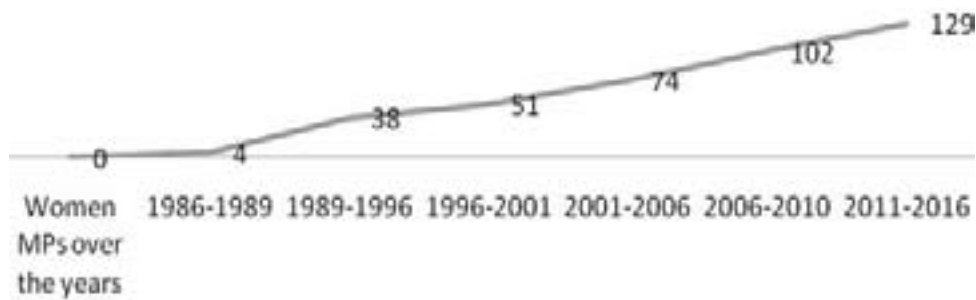


Source: Parliament of Uganda website: <http://www.parliament.go.ug>

23 Private Sector Foundation, 2010: Gender and Employment in Uganda.

24 Ms Rebecca Alitwara Kadaga is the first female to be elected speaker in the history of parliament in Uganda

Figure 5: Numbers of women MPs over the years

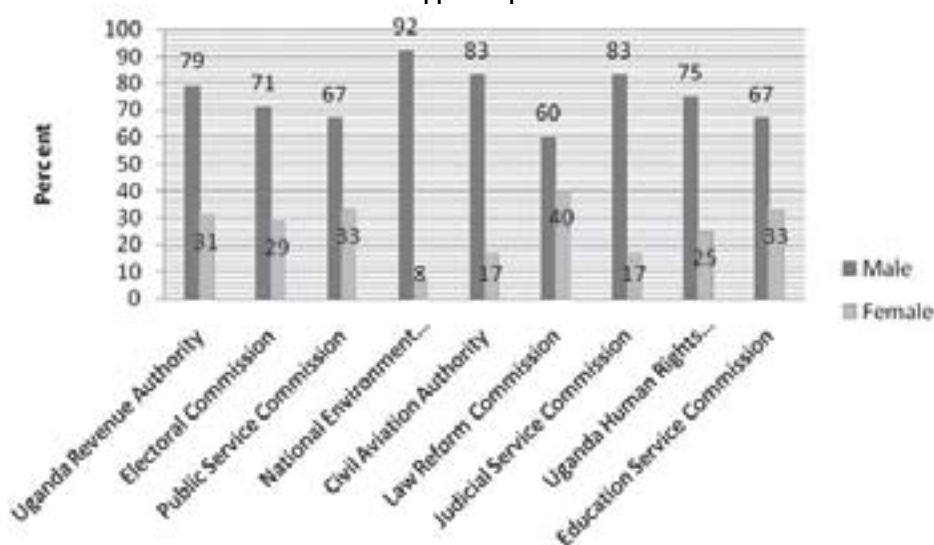


Women in Statutory Bodies

Data available shows that when it comes to senior positions in statutory bodies, there has been a marked increase in the number of women in leadership positions over the last 10 years. For instance out of eight sampled statutory bodies, the Uganda Law Reform Commission leads with two women out of five (40%) commissioners. The Public Service Commission has 33% (3 women out of 9 commissioners), the Education Service Commission 33% while Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) a body responsible for tax collection has 31% women including, board, commissioners and assistant commissioners combined. The Commissioner General of this tax body is a woman whose public rating of job performance²⁵ has been consistently high, as she has turned round the institution to make it now not only meet revenue targets but quite often exceed such targets. Other statutory bodies lie between 15% and 28% in women's representation.

Other women whose performance has been outstanding include the outgoing CEO of Uganda Investment Authority, Margaret Kogozio, a doctor by profession, the CEO of Uganda Export Promotion Board, and the outgoing CEO of Uganda Electricity Regulatory Authority, an Engineer who won a Parliamentary seat in February 2011 and has now been appointed Senior Minister for Energy. The figure below indicates the percentages of women in selected statutory bodies and has not changed since 2010.

Figure 6: Percentage of women and men in the leadership of selected statutory bodies in



Women in the Local Councils

The affirmative action in the Local Government Act (1997) provides for one-third women's representation at all local council levels. For Kampala City however, a new law, the Kampala City Authority Act (2010), has changed the governance structure, and now there is a Minister for Kampala and she is a woman, and an Executive Director for Kampala who is also a woman.

While each district council is comprised of at least 30% women,²⁶ regarding top leadership in districts, (Chairpersons, Speakers and Chief Administrative Officers²⁷), the numbers of women dwindle. For instance, from the general election of 2011, out of the 112 Chairpersons of districts, there are only 2 (1.7%) women, out of 112 Chief Administrative Officers,²⁸ only 11 (9%) are women. One encouraging find from this research is that Dokolo district, a typical post conflict rural district and one of the CEWIGO's²⁹ women's leadership development program core program areas in Northern Uganda, not only achieved 50% representation of women in the district council, but also has a woman Deputy Chairperson, a Woman District Speaker, and three women district secretaries out of five (60%). This shows that it is possible to have many more women in top political positions and that society's attitude towards women in politics is changing.

The focus group discussions held in districts by the research team revealed that in most post conflict districts, women have taken on the leadership role with much more zeal than men in the lower local councils. Many women have gained more influence in the household, in the church and community. Coupled with training that women's organizations have given women leaders over the last few years, such women have become very confident political participants. However the trend is different in districts that did not experience armed conflict recently where women largely struggle and compete amongst themselves for affirmative action seats in local councils. They still lack the courage to compete with men.

The issue of the inclusion and active participation of women in the different political parties, however, remains problematic because there are very few women holding positions in party executive decision making organs and structures at all levels. Political party leadership in Uganda is male dominated. Although the major political parties commit to specific indices of women at each level in the structure, (NRM 30%, FDC 40%) the reality is different. The NRM for example has only 5 (25%) women out of a total of 20 members at the national executive committee (NEC), the highest organ of the party. Looking at one district of Mitooma, the district NRM structure has only 2 women out of 10 executive members. Talking to one key member of the party, she said the main reason is that only one position is actually reserved for women and the rest have to be competed for with men. And that many women do not have the confidence to compete with men for such positions. They still lack the courage to compete with men. The situation can therefore only change if there are quotas that are more equitable such as the constitution provides for Parliament and Local Councils, because political parties are the first glass ceiling that women have to break to get into political positions.

Indicator 2 - Women in peace negotiating teams

There is no new data for this indicator for Uganda as stated in the last year's 1325 Civil Society monitoring report. The latest peace negotiation in Uganda was the one in 2007 between the government of Uganda and Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). Also as stated in the last year's report, there was only one woman on the government team while the LRA on the other hand, had two women on their team. However during the Walk to Work Campaign protests that

26 While academic qualifications for a Member of Parliament are a minimum of Advanced Level Certificate of Education, for Local Councils, there the minimum is the ability to read and write.

27 Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) is the senior most public servant of a district is also the accounting officer of the district. CAOs report directly to the Ministry of Public Service for day- to- day issues and to the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, for financial matters.

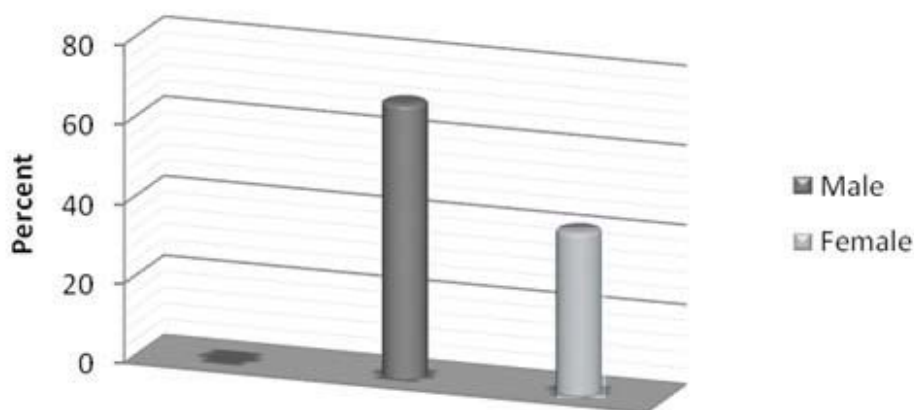
28 New vision Tuesday, 31st May, 2011

29 CEWIGO is the Centre for Women in Governance, a national level non-governmental, non-partisan Women's organization in Uganda that co-ordinates the CSO 1325 Task Force.

paralyzed work and business across the country mentioned in the introductory chapter, a number of groups made efforts to see the President to negotiate peace with the leaders of the opposition, who were the leaders of the campaign. The groups included the Inter Religious Council of Uganda that sent a delegation of 8 eminent leaders among whom there were only 2 (25%) women. The delegation of the business community also included three women, one of whom was later appointed Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.

Indicator 3 - Women's participation in the justice and security sector

Figure 7: Percentage of women in the Judiciary from Grade 1 Magistrate to the Chief Justice as of August 2011.



Source: Records of the Office of the Registrar of the High Court

Current records show that in the Judiciary, women are represented at 50% in the top leadership. While the Chief Justice is a man, his Deputy is a woman; the Principal Judge is a man and the Chief Registrar is a woman. However when it comes to non executive level, things are different. Uganda has 6 Judges of the Supreme Court of whom 2 (33%) are women. Of the six (6) Judges of the Court of Appeal, 2 (33%) are women; while 9(24%) out of 29 Judges of the High Court are women; out of the seven Registrars only one (14%) is a woman. 13% (1 out of 8) Assistant Registrars are women; 33% (11 out of 22) Chief Magistrates are women, and 54 out of 116 (47%) out of 116 of the Magistrate Grade I are women³⁰.

Women in the Military

The Uganda People's Defense Forces (UPDF) has a total of 1,566 female soldiers. Data on the corresponding number of male soldiers was withheld with the explanation that it compromises national security to release information on the strength of the UPDF, but women in the UPDF could never even come close to 10%.³¹ Interviews with senior police officers in a number of districts³² revealed that because of the country's history where the military were viewed as brutal and anti-people, often turning their guns against the population not many women, least of all the educated ones, were keen to join the armed forces in this country.

It must be noted however that of the 10 seats allocated to UPDF representation in the national Parliament, two seats are reserved for women, as stated in indicator 1 above. Data for a few selected ranks, numbers of male and female soldiers were provided for comparison, as presented in figure 8 below.

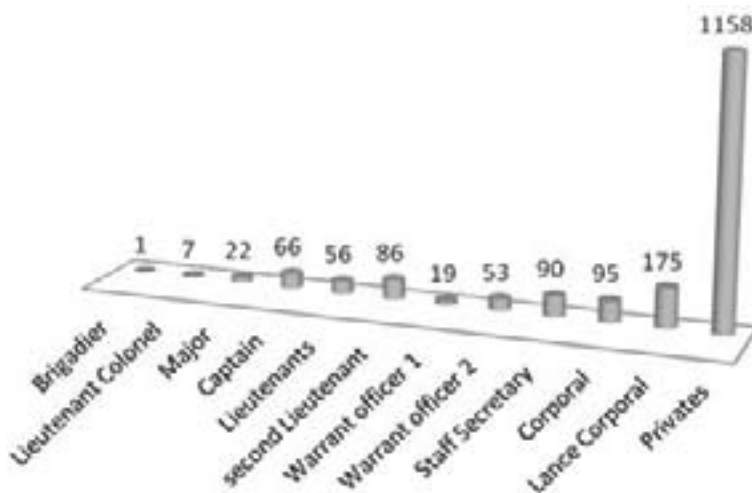
With the establishment of the Directorate of Women Affairs in the UPDF, it is hoped that more educated women will be attracted to join the military.

30 Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs records

31 New vision online <http://newvisiononline.co.ug>

32 In each of the 16 districts where data was collected, the research team held discussions with officers of the District Child and Family Protection Unit of the Police.

Figure 8: Percentage of women in high ranking positions in the military (UPDF)



Source: Uganda People's Defense Forces

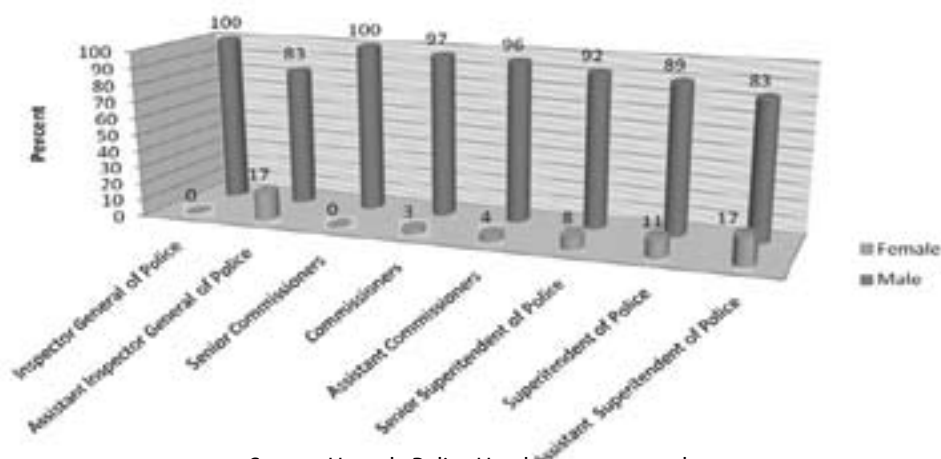
More updated data on this indicator was not released as the Officer in charge was reported out of country.

By October 2009, there was only one woman at the rank of colonel³³ in the UPDF. Above the rank of Colonel there are over 80 Generals, Lt Generals, Major Generals and Brigadiers, all of whom are men. This is a disparity in a country trying to pursue affirmative action. This does not provide enough incentives for women to join the UPDF. There was none at the rank of Lt Colonel. In 2008 two women were promoted to the rank of Lt Colonel. In 2009, the UPDF also established the Directorate of Women Affairs to address women's issues in the institution.

Women in Senior Positions in the Police Force

The Uganda Police Department is comprised of 37,548 officers of whom 5,082 are women (14%). The highest career rank in the Uganda Police Department is that of the Assistant Inspector General of Police. Above that rank is the position of Inspector General of Police which is a political appointment. There are twelve officers at the level of Assistant Inspector General of Police, two (17%) of whom are women. Figure 9 below shows the percentage of women in senior positions in the police department as of end of July 2011.³⁴ The research team was informed that graduate women are beginning to consider a career in the Police Department while this was not the case before. Unfortunately it was not possible to establish the number of women graduates employed in the police force.

Figure 9: Percentage of women in Senior Positions in the Uganda Police³⁵



Source: Uganda Police Head quarters records

33 In the UPDF, a colonel is a Brigade Commander and commands between 3,000 to 4,000 soldiers.

34 The top leadership in the Police Department which is a political appointment is still the same as in the last year's 1325 monitoring report because the officers serve for a period of years before others are appointed.

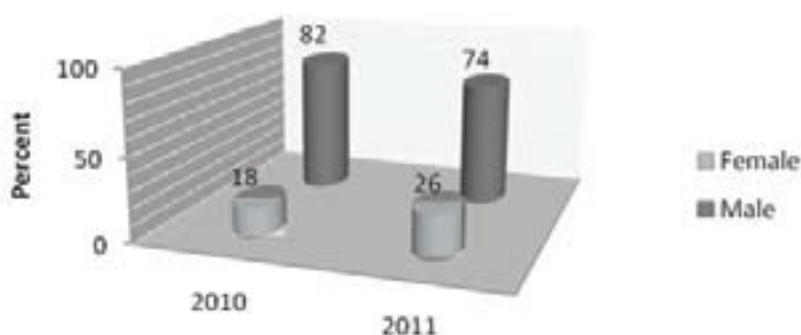
35 In 2010, it was not possible to get detailed data of the numbers of policemen and women at different levels.

Women in the Uganda Prisons Service

The Uganda Prisons Service has a total of 6,160 officers of whom 1,579 (26%) are women an increase from 18% to 26% since 2010. It was however not possible to get any explanation for this. The highest rank for a woman in the Uganda Prison's service remains that of Assistant Commissioner of Prisons, the second highest rank in the department. The first, second and third highest ranks are those of the Commissioner General, Deputy Commissioner General, and Director of Prisons, which are political appointments and are all held by men.

In an interview with the prisons official (female), the research team was informed that the numbers of women are increasing over time, though still few at all levels. Some of the reasons she gave for this include little understanding and appreciation by many women about the work of the prison officials, as well as general fear of working with criminals.

Figure 10: Percentage of women in senior positions in the Uganda Prisons Service.



Source: Prisons service records, Kampala.

Indicator 4 - Percentage of women in peace keeping missions disaggregated at all levels.

Table 1: Uganda Police Force deployment to UN/AU Missions as of July 2011

| Name of mission | Male | Female | % of women |
|-----------------|------|--------|------------|
| EAST TIMOR | 14 | 0 | 0 |
| LIBERIA | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| SOUTH SUDAN | 2 | 1 | 33 |
| AMISOM | 6 | 4 | 40 |
| Total | 25 | 5 | 17 |

Source: Directorate of Interpol and Peace Support Operations

This time round, CEWIGO was able to have discussions with the Directorate of Interpol and Peace Support Operations, and according to their records Uganda has contributed contingent troops to peace keeping missions since 2004. In 2011 alone, Uganda has so far contributed troops to East Timor, Liberia, South Sudan and Somalia with 17% women a decrease from 20% in 2010. In the interview, the Director for Interpol and Peace Support Operations confirmed that both men and women are nominated for deployment and it is the UN coordinating agency (Selection Assistance Team) that does the final selection. The human resource officer in the police department also confirmed that the officers who are usually nominated for peace keeping mission must have served for at least 10 years and must have a clean record. He said the selection process is transparent and whoever passes the interview is deployed. He also stated that officers with high level shooting skills have been preferred by the UN for peace keeping missions. According to him, most of the policewomen do not have good shooting skills and this tends to undermine their qualification to serve in UN peace keeping missions. For the African Union missions such as AMISOM where they have to select who to go

without considering their shooting skills, quite a considerable number of women have been included.

On why many women do not participate in peace keeping missions, it was mentioned that some women with young children fail to find someone to take care of their child while they are way on mission. The research team noted that the women in the military declined to make any comment on sexual harassment, when asked. However, it was confirmed that officers on mission who indulged in sexual relations with women in the host country have been repatriated.

This information was different from what we found last year when they said the men who select who to go on missions tended to select mainly men because of the high allowances paid. Table 2 below shows Uganda's contribution of troops to UN missions.

Table 2: Military and Police: the number of Uganda's contribution of troops to UN missions by gender as of Aug, 2011.

| UN MISSION | DESCRIPTION | MALE | FEMALE | TOTAL | Uganda's Total Contribution |
|------------|--------------------|------|--------|-------|-----------------------------|
| UNAMID | Individual Police | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Experts on Mission | 1 | 0 | 1 | |
| UNMIL | Individual Police | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| UN MIS | Individual Police | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Experts on Mission | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| UN MIT | Individual Police | 14 | 0 | 14 | 14 |
| UNOCI | Experts on Mission | 3 | 0 | 3 | 5 |
| | Contingent Troops | 2 | 0 | 2 | |

Source: UN Report of Peacekeeping Missions, Aug, 2011.

Records from the Ministry of Defense show that Uganda has contributed a total of 4,083 troops to the AMISOM mission in Somalia, of whom 83 (2%) are women. As Table 2 above shows, Uganda has also contributed contingent troops, experts and Police Officers to peace keeping missions. The research team was informed that the number of women peacekeepers on a mission is limited by the quota set by the coordinating institution.³⁶ In addition, the level of education of women in the military limits their opportunities to qualify as part of peacekeeping missions.

Indicator 5- Number and percentage of women participating in each type of constitutional or legislative review (including security sector review)

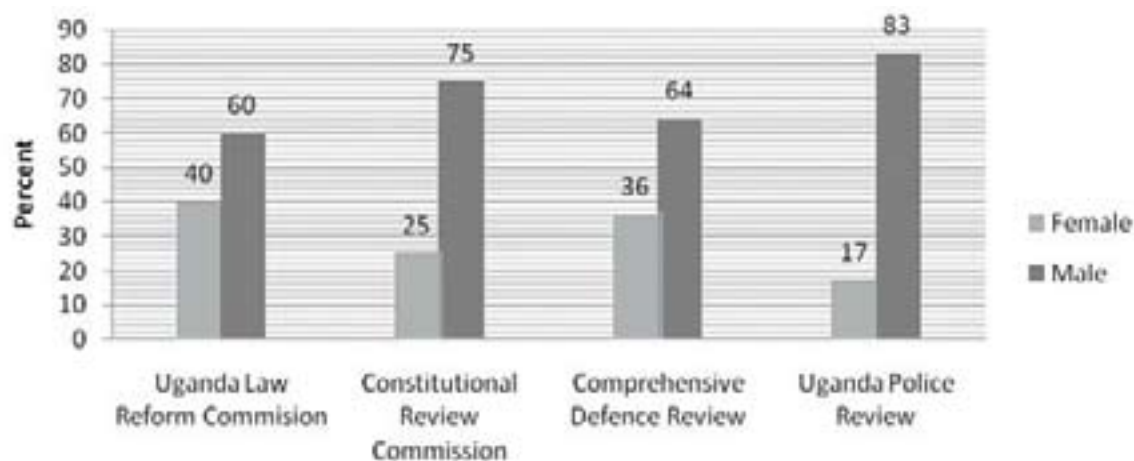
At the end of August 2011 the infamous Anti Homosexuality Bill commonly known as the Bahati Bill was withdrawn by Cabinet. This is exciting news for the women's movement and other Human Rights activists. Whether this change of heart by Government is due to the increased number of senior women ministers in cabinet is yet to be established. The public

36 The research team understood this to mean the agency that requested for the troops

has also noted with joy, the determination of the 9th Parliament to reject Budget estimates of Ministries that are insensitive to public outcry. They have rejected the budget for the Ministry of Education because it did not include salary increments for teachers across the board; they have ejected the budget of the Ministry of Health for not allocating funds meant for maternal health appropriately and for not including salary increments for medical workers across the board.³⁷. Interestingly, those are Ministries headed by women. This kind of analysis, scrutiny and being sensitive to the needs of citizens is a new trend.

Otherwise the numbers of women in relevant commissions on this indicator remain the same as they were in 2010 as shown in figure 12 below.

Figure 11: Percentage of women participating in each type of constitutional or legislative review commissions³⁸



Source: Justice Law and Order Sector records

From figure 11 above, women have done particularly well in the in the legal sector. A Ugandan woman, Justice Julia Ssebutinde, heads the ICC for the trial of former Liberian president Charles Taylor, for example. One reason for this is that since the late 1970s, the numbers of young women joining law school, though fewer than men, has been increasing and since the introduction of affirmative action for university entry in 1995, the numbers have increased further. Uganda therefore has a big resource of very well qualified female lawyers, and the knowledge of law has the potency of making one assertive because, with a high level of awareness of rights and the knowledge of how to claim them. For example, on the Constitutional Review Commission of 1990 -1993, there were only two women out of 7 members but these women were able to influence the process to get a gender responsive constitution.

Indicator 6 - Percentage of civil society organizations in task forces on UNSCR 1325 and 1820

Government established the SGBV Reference Group under the leadership of the Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development (MGLSD) that is currently headed by a woman.³⁹ Both government, the UN and international and local NGOs are represented on this reference group. Membership to the reference group is open. Initially the group had 34 members of whom 14 (44%) were CSOs. But the numbers have since surged and the group has split up along thematic groups. Currently there are more than 17 civil society organizations participating in the various sub-committees.

Other CSO task forces remain as in last year's report and include the National Women's Task Force on for a Gender Responsive PRDP that now has a district branch in every PRDP district.

³⁷ Daily Monitor, Tuesday 16th August, 2011, story by one Mercy, a reporter on Parliamentary issues.

³⁸ There has been no change in these figures since 2010.

³⁹ In the last cabinet, the MGLSD was headed by a man but in the new cabinet 2011-2016, the Minister is a woman.

Other UNSCR 1325 relevant task forces include the UN Joint Programming on Gender which is made up mainly of UN agencies, and coordinated by UN Women and on which one national CSO out of the 13 members sits. This is specifically a UN committee and includes one national women's CSO.

B. Prevention and Protection

Gender-based violence, particularly violence against women (VAW), is widespread in Uganda and includes domestic violence, sexual harassment, trafficking, rape and defilement. The Uganda Demographic and Health Survey (UDHS) of 2006 indicated that 60% of women aged between 15 and 49 have suffered physical violence, 39% of women have suffered sexual violence, while 16% have experienced violence during pregnancy.⁴⁰ Gender-based violence is intensified in conflict-ridden areas, underscoring the need to include women in conflict resolution processes and peace building initiatives.

While women welcome the enactment of the Domestic Violence Act (2010), the prevalence of violence against women and girls across the country remains a concern. Women are particularly concerned at the inordinately high prevalence of sexual offences against women and girls, especially young girls. In the 2010 CEDAW report, the committee expressed concern at "the absence of a holistic approach to the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls and that such violence would appear to be socially legitimized and accompanied by a culture of silence and impunity."⁴¹ The cases of violence continue to be under-reported and this is not helped by reports of corruption in police stations, with some police officers illegally charging fees for free service⁴² for instance survivors paying for police form III, being asked for fuel to visit the scene of crime, among others. Much of this happens because the police stations are not adequately funded. There is also absence of information on the impact of the measures and programs that government has put in place to reduce incidences of violence against women and girls. Government is also yet to take seriously the issue of establishing social support services including establishment of shelters for survivors, and facilitating the existing ones established by CSOs.

Another challenge is that the Domestic Violence Act 2010 is yet to be disseminated. There is a need to raise public awareness on the fact that violence against women and girls is a violation of their rights and an offence under the law. The Sexual Offences Bill remains shelved⁴³ since 2004 and yet this would be one comprehensive law criminalizing all forms of sexual violence, which have become rampant, especially the rape of young girls below the age of 18, which according to Uganda law is referred to as defilement.

In interviews with various police officers from the Child and Family Protection Unit (CFPU) of the police department, it was found that cases of incest are on the rise in all regions of the country. Many fathers are defiling their own babies between 3 to 9 months.

Uganda has also become notorious for human trafficking and the government has not done much to curb this source of insecurity for young girls especially. Young girls are relocated from the poorest and post-conflict parts of the country especially Karamoja, and brought to the Kampala city often for slavery. Some of the girls become sexual slaves, being forced into commercial sex. Some are ferried into the city to beg on the streets each day and in the evening they return to their oppressors. In 2010 the MGLSD's Child Labor Unit received \$6,087, in addition to its usual budget, to finalize a National Action Plan on the Worst Forms

40 UN Women- 2011-2012 Strategic Note for Uganda

41 CEDAW Report on Uganda 2010

42 Ibid

43 Sexual offences bill remains shelved because it was watered down as some of the provisions were catered for in the Penal Code amendment Act of 2007. Since then the bill has never got solid standing for its enactment.

of Child Labor, which has been in draft form since 2007. The ministry's budget is a very small figure for a ministry that is responsible for implementing interventions that address the needs of all the marginalized groups including women, children, the elderly, the disabled, as well as the labor sector.

Indicator 7 - Number of sexual and gender-based violence cases reported and percentage of cases investigated, referred, prosecuted, and penalized (out of total reported)

The Police noted that child neglect contributed to driving children to the streets where they become vulnerable to abuse. In an interview with the Director of Family and Child Protection Unit, she revealed that the failure to convict perpetrators has made defilement the most rampant form of crime in the last 10 years, with an average of 10,000 children, over 98% of whom are girls, defiled per year.⁴⁴ A woman councilor remarked "We can continue to splash millions of shillings in sensitizing communities about the dangers of defilement, but as long as the victims do not get justice, many offenders will remain at large and this will kill the morale of communities to report such offences. Successful prosecution and penalizing of the offenders is therefore important to deter the would-be defilers."

Senior judicial officers across the country have expressed concern about the rising number of defilement cases. In Gulu district of Northern Uganda, the Resident Judge confirmed that the judiciary is troubled by the numbers of cases of defilement being reported. "Most of the cases are related to incest and the girls are aged between 6 and 10' the Judge told our researcher. He confirmed that at least 60% of criminal cases he hears are of defilement of young girls aged between 6 and 10."⁴⁵

A study done by Forum for Women in Democracy (FOWODE) and Uganda Women's Network (UWONET)⁴⁶ revealed that SGBV was the most common and highest in armed conflict-affected areas like Karamoja sub-region, or areas that have recently recovered from conflict. SGBV is characterized by rape, defilement, unwanted and early pregnancies, sexual slavery and transactional sex among adolescent girls and women. In the Eastern region, the incidents of defilement are high because communities are ignorant about the dangers of the crime. In some instances, parents do not report cases of defilement to police as they opt to settle matters out-of-court. In such cases, many do not even take the child to hospital until it is very late. Such children have ended up with vaginal fistula and a few, according to Helen Alyek⁴⁷ of Lira Rural Women and Children's Development Initiatives' shelter for survivors of SGBV, have had their uterus removed.

Table 3: SGBV cases investigated and taken to court 2010

| | Reported ⁴⁸ | investigated | Taken to court |
|------------------------|------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Defilement | | 7,564 | 3,401 |
| Rape | | 709 | 252 |
| Indecent Assault | | 372 | - |
| Child related offences | | 4,781 | 452 |

Source: Police Department- Uganda Annual Crime Report 2010⁴⁸

The police crime report indicates only four categories of SGBV cases that were investigated and taken to court in 2010. However, the report does not indicate the cases that were reported.

44 Source: <http://www.newvision.co.ug/D/8/459/711786>

45 Daily Monitor, Wednesday August 31st, 2010.

46 FOWODE and UWONET 2010, where is the money for GBV initiatives in Uganda's national budget?

47 Helen Alyek is the Founder and Executive Director of the Rural Women and Children's Survivors Shelter, based in Lira, Northern Uganda.

48 This is a report compiled by the Police Department each year

According to the report, defilement⁴⁹ was the leading sex related crime that was reported across the country. In addition, records from the police department do not indicate any incidences of domestic violence. The crime report only indicates incidences of death through domestic violence which were 159 compared to 165 cases in 2009; a decrease of 3.6%. This is because domestic violence was regarded as violence of a general nature until very recently when the Domestic Violence Act was passed. Unfortunately, the research team was unable to get information on prosecution and penalization of the cases.

Table 4: SGBV Cases reported to Child and Family Protection Unit in Rwenzori region between March and June 2011

| Offence | District | | | | | | Total |
|------------------------------------|------------|--------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------|
| | Bundibujjo | Kasese | Kabalore | Kamwenge | Kyenjojo | Kyegegwa | |
| Defilement & Aggravated defilement | 17 | 31 | 50 | 20 | 34 | 1 | 143 |
| Rape | - | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | - | 10 |
| Domestic Violence | 186 | 69 | 73 | 28 | 6 | 8 | 380 |

Our research team interviewed police officers from the Child and Family Protection Units (CFPU) of 12 districts. The CFPU in police stations visited were unanimous over the challenges they face in investigation, of SGBV cases. They said the CID quite often denies the CFPU the right to examine children that have been defiled. And just like during the research in 2010, the police officers interviewed in this study were unanimous on lack of transport for police officers to apprehend perpetrators, the fact that for most districts the high court seats are far away and they do not have means of transport, lack of adequate trained doctors to examine survivors of SGBV. Where there is a doctor they demand high fees to discourage survivors coming for examinations because the doctors are wary of going to court to give evidence. The police officers also mentioned the lack of a proper law to protect women in marriage because the current law is lenient on perpetrators of VAW. They also complained of delays by the judiciary to handle cases, and heavy workload for the few police officers trained in the management of SGBV cases. In the Lango sub region, the research team was informed that often it is the militias investigating SGBV cases, while often they are perpetrators. They said in many police posts, the CFPU is not manned. The police officers also mentioned that the Police CID releases offenders without the knowledge of the police CFPU.

From the field interviews and Focus Group Discussions, some of the challenges cited in reporting, investigating and prosecuting SGBV cases include: harassment of the victim during the process of reporting, bribery and corruption, suspects being released before investigations are complete, and stigmatization of the victim. Girls fear that if they report cases of defilement, no man will marry them, while children that are defiled are threatened by the perpetrators with death if they report. "They tell them, 'If you tell anyone about this I will know and I will come and kill you'" so the little girls keep quiet until they become septic, or their parents notice that they are walking with difficulty."⁵⁰ Married women do not report incidents of rape for fear of being shunned and divorced by their husbands. The community tends to isolate and stigmatize the victim, rather than the perpetrator.

Because of increased advocacy on SGBV and public outcry of the inadequate police investigations, the rampant corruption and releasing of VAW perpetrators, police officers are continually warned against mismanaging defilement cases and such warnings appear in the media as well. The article below appeared in the Sunday Vision of, 19th June, 2011.

⁴⁹ In Uganda law, defilement is refers to the offence of an adult having sexual relations with a minor.

⁵⁰ Ms Helen Alyek, in an interview

By Egesa Hajusu

POLICE officers should stop releasing defilement suspects without taking them to court, the assistant inspector general of Police, Asan Kasingye, has warned. Speaking during the celebrations to mark the Day of the African Child at Busia Integrated Primary School on Thursday, Kasingye said defilement came second to domestic violence in crimes committed in Busia district. "The crime has greatly hampered the education of the girl-child," he said.

Kasingye, who represented the Inspector General of Police, Kale Kayihura, commissioned a building constructed by the World Vision at Busia Police Station. The structure houses the family and child office, a computer room, a counseling room and two cells for children. World Vision regional program manager Sam Tukei appealed to the Police to recruit more surgeons and to allow clinical officers at health centre IIIs to handle defilement cases to speed up investigations.

<http://www.newvision.co.ug/D/8/17/758055>

One interesting development on advocacy efforts of women's CSOs supported by UNFPA is that on Tuesday 13th September, 2011 the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Inspector General Police approved and signed off changes to Police Form 3. There are a number of new progressive provisions in the new police forms, but chief among them is the provision that midwives and clinical officers are now also authorized to examine a survivor, document evidence and testify in court. This is a big achievement as all reports kept highlighting the challenges that were presented by the old requirement of medical officers only.

The major challenges addressing SGBV more holistically that are documented include: deficits in prevention, investigation and protection; inadequate skills and staffing to expedite delivery of justice to the survivors of GBV. For example, The Kotido Magistrates Court lined up 72 SGBV related cases between January and June 2011 awaiting the only one magistrate who was also handling 10 other districts and is scheduled to appear only twice a month in Kotido. Other gaps include inadequate facilities and resources for agencies responsible for GBV prevention and response. For example, the CFPU in Kampala faced gross inadequacy of stationery to open police files.

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

Uganda is among a number of African countries that now have a growing problem of human trafficking and human sacrifice. The rise in human sacrifices in Uganda appears to come from the greed for wealth and materialism and the repugnant belief⁵¹ that medicines made from human organs can bring about riches. Most women interviewed during this process blame this barbaric behavior on the recently popular violent Nigerian films and a new wave of commercial witch-doctors using mass media to market their services. The perpetrators of such heinous crimes are greedy people who want to get rich quickly. "In rural areas, people can sacrifice their own child, in urban areas, educated and rich people will look for somebody else's," remarked the Commissioner for the anti-human sacrifice and trafficking task force in the police department. The Ugandan government has established the Anti-human sacrifice Task Force in the police department to deal with this escalating problem.

At the same time Uganda has also developed the National Action Plan Against Child Sacrifice. In addition, as a result of the kind of crimes committed by the rebels of Lord's Resistance Army and in order to expedite the trial of the LRA rebels, Uganda enacted the Uganda International Court in 2010. Uganda had also established the War Crimes Division of the Ugandan High Court fulfilling one of the agreed clauses of the 2007 Juba Peace Agreement between the Ugandan government and the Lord's Resistance Army.

157 51 This is new phenomenon that is blamed on the increasing popularity of Nollywood Movies.

Table 5: Uganda's gender sensitive laws and policies

This table has a longer list of laws and policies than the table presented in the report of 2010.

| | Laws | Provisions |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda 1995 | <p>Chapter 4:20(1) guarantees fundamental and other human rights freedoms</p> <p>Chapter 4:21 (1) guarantees that all persons are equal before the law in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life and in every other respect and shall enjoy equal protection under the law.</p> <p>Chapter 4:21(2) prohibits discrimination against any person on grounds of sex, race, religion, ethnic origin, tribe, birth, creed or religion, social or economic standing, political opinion or disability.</p> <p>Chapter 4 section 33 on the rights of women specifies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) full and equal dignity with men (2) enhancing the welfare of women (3) protection of women and their rights taking into account their unique status and maternal functions (4) equal treatment with men including equal opportunities in political, economic and social activities (5) The right to affirmative action to redress the imbalances created by history, tradition or custom. |
| 2 | The Land Act CAP 227 | Provides for a joint ownership of the matrimonial home and property, and prohibits either the husband or the wife from selling off of the matrimonial property without the consent of the other and the children. |
| 3 | The Equal Opportunities Commission Act 2007 | Articulates the composition and mandate of Equal Opportunities Commission to give effect to the State's constitutional mandate to eliminate all forms of discrimination in access to social services, employment opportunities and governance structures, and redressing any imbalances which exist. |
| 4 | The Domestic Violence Act 2010 | Provides for the protection and relief of victims of domestic violence; remedies for the punishment of perpetrators of domestic violence; provide s for procedures and guidelines to be followed by courts in relation to protection and compensation of victims of domestic violence; provides for the jurisdiction of courts including the issue of protection orders and enforcement of orders made by the court; provides for empowering the family and children's court to handle cases of domestic violence and for related matters, and provides for the protection and relief of victims of domestic violence and establishes the nature of punishment for perpetrators. |

| | | |
|----|---|---|
| 5 | The Anti-Trafficking in Human Persons Act 2010 | Prohibits the relocation of human persons for purposes of slavery or other forceful activity. |
| 6 | The Penal Code Amendment Act 2007 | Has various provisions to address issues of criminal and civil nature including sexual offences and assault . |
| 7 | The Education Act 2008 | Provides for the education of all children, girls and boys without discrimination and for separate sanitary facilities in all co-education schools and colleges for the comfort of female pupils and students. |
| 8 | The Marriage and Divorce Bill | Seeks to provide a comprehensive law that addresses injustice and discrimination against women in all family relations including marriage and in the dissolution of marriage . |
| 9 | Female Genital Mutilation Act 2010 | Prohibits the practice of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and provides for punishment of the perpetrators of FGM. |
| 10 | The National Women's Council Amendment Act 2002 | Provides for the composition of the National Women's Council, the District women's Council, the National and District Women's Council Executive Committees. |
| 11 | The Elderly and People with Disabilities Act 2006 | Provides for elimination of discrimination against the elderly persons and persons with disabilities, and provides for mechanisms to address the existing inequalities. |
| 12 | The Children's Act cap 59 | Provides for the protection and promotion of the rights of all children- boys and girls. |
| 13 | HIV Bill | Tabled in Parliament in May 2010 the Bill contains measures to curb the spread of HIV/AIDS, and penalties for persons living with HIV/AIDS who knowingly infect others with the disease. It also seeks to provide for mandatory testing for pregnant women, their partners, as well as perpetrators of sexual violence, and drug users for HIV/AIDS. The bill also seeks to prohibit discrimination against any person living with HIV/AIDS in employment or education. |
| 14 | The Uganda International Criminal Court Act 2010 | The ICC Act 2010 allows Ugandan courts to try crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide defined under the Rome Statute for the first time. However, it only provides two main provisions for victims in Ugandan courts- protection before the courts as a witness and the enforcement of orders for victim reparation made by the ICC. These provisions in themselves however do not offer victims much access to redress before Ugandan courts either through participation or reparations. |
| | | |

| Policies | | Provisions |
|----------|--|--|
| 1 | Affirmative Action in Politics | Guarantees one woman member of Parliament for each district and 30% representation of women at all levels of local government councils. |
| 2 | Affirmative Action in Education | Guarantees an extra 1.5 points for girls leaving high school to increase their chance of joining public university as a measure of eliminating the historical and cultural imbalances in higher education. |
| 3 | The Uganda Gender Policy 2007 | Provides the framework and guidelines for mainstreaming gender in the public sector. |
| 4 | Universal Primary Education | Makes it mandatory for all school going age children, both boys and girls. This has not only helped increase school enrollment but has guaranteed access to education for girls from poor families. |
| 5 | Universal Secondary Education | Provides for secondary education of all children that qualify for secondary education. Under this policy government gives grants to support all children in one secondary school per sub county. Many girls, who would never have attended secondary school due to lack of school fees now attain secondary education and increase their chances of healthy living and gainful employment in adult life. |
| 6 | The National Action Plan for implementation of UNSCR 1325, 1820 and the Goma Declaration | The NAP provides a framework for the implementation of the UNSCR 1325 and 1820 and the Goma Declaration and divides responsibility between government, civil society, and the developing partners. |
| 7 | The National Development Plan 2010/11-2014 | This is the overall 5-year development plan for Uganda. The plan among other things, lists 'Gender issues, cultural practices, attitudes and perceptions' as one of five top national constraints to development. This is the strongest indication to date, that the country is ready to address impediments to women's development and the plan includes measures to address gender inequality and sexual violence. |
| 8 | The National Equal Opportunities Policy 2006 | Addresses the challenges of exclusion, inequities, and affirmative action that underlie the rights and freedoms of marginalized and vulnerable groups and individuals. |
| 9 | The National Action Plan for the National Equal Opportunities Policy 2009-2013 | Provides a framework and guidelines for operationalizing the Equal Opportunities Policy. |
| 10 | Action Plan Against Child Sacrifice | This Action Plan provides for strategies interventions as well as a channel for specific funding to combat Child sacrifice in Uganda. |
| 11 | Anti- Human Sacrifice and Trafficking Task Force | Responsible of sensitizing the public about the dangers of human sacrifice especially by involving former witch doctors in the campaign to persuade currently practicing ones to give up their practices. |

In addition to these, by the end of 2010, the Ministry of Health was implementing several initiatives to address SGBV including: inclusion of SGBV in the Minimum Healthcare Package provided by the Ministry, establishment of a training team in SGBV composed of both government and civil society, generation of data through the Uganda Bureau of Statistics to support policy interventions as well as undertaking by Ministry of Health and MGLSD to establish an SGBV recovery center in Gulu district. One law enacted since the last report is the Uganda International Criminal Court Act (see no 14 in Table 6).

From the data provided above, it is clear that the issue for Uganda has never been lack of gender sensitive laws or policies. The challenge continues to be the lack of implementation and use of the laws. The country also lacks a deliberate mechanism to measure the impact of the different laws and policies that promote women’s human security, so that interventions are implemented to address the gaps. The government, however, remains committed to Gender Responsive Budgeting which has been integrated within the annual budget process.⁵²

Indicator 9 - Number and nature of provisions/recommendations in the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions (TRC) and other transitional justice reports

There is no new data for this indicator as there has been no new transitional justice mechanisms put in place since 2010. Table 6 below indicates some of the transitional justice mechanisms that have been put in place over the years, therefore remains the same as last year.

Table 6: Nature and number of provisions on women’s rights

| Nature of reconciliation/ transitional Justice initiative | Year | Nature of provisions/recommendations On women’s rights |
|--|------|--|
| 1. Commission of Inquiry into violations of human rights 1962-1986 | 1994 | The report recommends reparations for victims of sexual violence. The report, however has never been implemented. |
| 2. West Nile peace process - AROPIC2 | 2002 | Women were taken as part of ‘vulnerable group’ whose security and protection were provided for during the peace and reconciliation process. |
| 3. Agreement on Comprehensive Solutions between the Government of the Republic of Uganda and the Lord’s Resistance Army/Movement | 2007 | Article 5 provides for gender equality in access to opportunities Article 12 provides for special assistance to vulnerable groups through special assistance programs. In particular, to protect, resettle and promote the advancement of child-headed households, widows, traumatized children, persons with disabilities and persons with HIV/AIDS |

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

Since the 2010 monitoring project that found that despite Uganda’s long history of conflict, gender and peace education are not fully integrated in Uganda’s education curricula, there have been concerted advocacy by civil society to get the Ministry of Education to review the education curriculum at all levels including Teacher Education Curricular to integrate gender and peace education.

At the informal level, CSOs are at the forefront of peace education in the country. The entire post conflict northern region has numerous CSOs and CBOs involved in peace education as part of their conflict transformation efforts. International NGOs such as World Vision, Plan and Isis WICCE, as well as national level CSOs similar to CEWIGO also have integrated peace education in their training programs, whether for local councilors, women's groups, or cultural leaders.

In the Functional Adult Literacy Program (FAL) gender issues are addressed, and the program targets both men and women. The language is gender sensitive, and the program covers gender issues and reasons for gender concerns, gender inequalities, and their attendant causes and consequences.

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

Interviews with officials of the Amnesty Commission showed that there was no new information regarding this indicator, because 2011 was an election year which constrained government spending. In the past, government has provided economic packages in post-conflict reconstruction processes including food and non-food items. A wide range of food items including maize meal, cooking oil and pulses have been given out. Non-food items include blankets, mattresses, cooking pots, water containers and sometimes sanitary materials for women. The Uganda Red Cross Society provides 'Mama Bags' containing the most important items for child delivery and for the mother and baby. Other agencies that provide similar items include UNHCR for refugees and IDPs, Save the Children Uganda, Action Aid and World Vision. The government's policy is to give out non-food and food items to a household, and takes a woman as the representative of the household. The criteria that is used when allocating or distributing the packages is as follows: an assessment on families/households that were affected by the conflict is carried out, rapid assessment is done for 12 hours, detailed assessment for 24 hours and continuous assessment for 48 to 72 hours, the families are registered, a report is produced, and lastly cards are distributed to family representatives who qualify to get economic packages.

Since 2000, when the Amnesty Commission was established, a total of 25,971 men and women ex combatants have benefited from economic packages. The women who have benefited are mainly widows, single parents, the elderly and disabled. Distribution of items is gender biased with women receiving packages first, especially those with children. The high figure for men was explained by the fact that men form the majority of the ex-combatants. Of the numbers who have received the resettlement package, 50% are from Gulu and Kitgum, while the rest are divided between Kasese, Soroti, and Lango.⁵³

The provision of the amnesty economic package is still ongoing and depends on when ex combatants report to selected points to receive the amnesty through an 'act of forgiveness,' by renouncing their disagreeable activities. The research team was informed that the reporting points could be any of the following (i) UPDF unit, (ii) Police post, (iii) Sub-county chief (iv) Local council executive and (vi) Religious leader.

Since the last UNSCR 1325 monitoring report of 2010, Uganda has experienced lots of natural disasters including landslides and floods and we have also had lightning strike a number of communities and schools across the country. Whenever this has happened, government has provided relief to survivors, men and women alike as well as compensation to families that have lost loved ones.

53 These were the areas that were severely affected by conflict that paralyzed the country for twenty years.

C. Promotion of a Gender Perspective

Indicator 12 - Gender issues addressed in peace agreements

Since the last UNSCR 1325 Monitoring report of 2010, there have been no new peace agreements signed in Uganda and hence, there is no data different from what was provided last year.

The major peace agreements considered for the purposes of this monitoring exercise are (i) Peace agreement between Government of Uganda and Uganda National Rescue Front II (UNRF II) and The Juba set of peace agreements between Government of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). The final comprehensive agreement however, has not been signed by the LRA although elements of various protocols are already being implemented by the Government of Uganda. Table 9 below indicates the status of the gender issues in these agreements:

Table 7: Key gender issues addressed in the Juba Peace agreements.

| Kind of Agreement/ support | Year | Key gender issues addressed |
|---|------|--|
| 1. Peace agreement between Government of Uganda and Uganda National Rescue Front II (UNRF II) | 2002 | Not specific on gender issues |
| 2. Agreement on Accountability and Reconciliation between the Government of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army | 2007 | <p>Uganda Women's Peace Coalition lobbied for priorities of women to be integrated in the Juba agreement. These included material support to returnees, and victims of war. As well, special centers for treatment and psychosocial rehabilitation of victims of sexual violence were negotiated and included in the agreement on Accountability and Reconciliation Article 10 and 11 quoted below:</p> <p>Article 10. Gender: In the implementation of this agreement, a gender-sensitive approach shall be promoted and in particular, implementers of this Agreement shall strive to prevent and eliminate any gender inequalities that may arise.</p> <p>Article 11. Women and girls: In the implementation of this agreement it is agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Recognize and address the special needs of women and girls. (ii) Ensure that the experiences, views and concerns of women and girls are recognized and taken into account. (iii) Protect the dignity, privacy and security of women and girls. (iv) Encourage and facilitate the participation of women and girls in the processes for implementing this agreement." |

| | | |
|---|------|---|
| 3. Agreement on Disarmament, Demobilization and Integration between GoU and LRA | 2007 | Article 2.14 "The Parties shall ensure that the DDR process fully incorporates the special rights and needs of women. In particular, Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (2000) and clauses 10 and 11 of the agreement on Accountability and Reconciliation shall be observed." |
|---|------|---|

Although there were no specific provisions for gender issues in the agreement between the Government of Uganda and UNRF II, documentation on the process indicates that there was strong lobby by the wives of rebels who were left behind in the community. The research team was also informed of the existence of tight community cohesion in the West Nile situation that led to a critical mass of powerful players towards the sustenance of the peace process, including elders and religious leaders. The communities were tired of 'an absence of peace' and lobbied and mobilized with a coherent voice, with women standing out very strongly, and asking their husbands and relatives to hand in their guns. In all the post-conflict communities and in areas just emerging from conflict in Uganda, there has been a proliferation of women's community based organizations (CBOs) involved in peace building processes and raising voices against SGBV.

During the Juba peace process, Ugandan women mobilized and lobbied aggressively. With support from UN women formerly UNIFEM, a women's peace coalition was formed and worked throughout the period of the peace talks to raise women's concerns and interests in the process. Though there were limited numbers of women in the official delegations, women's organizations were represented in Juba and made women's voices heard. The outcome of their effort was a more gender responsive comprehensive peace agreement. Most aspects of the agreement are already being implemented within the Peace, Recovery and Development Plan for Northern Uganda mentioned earlier in the report.

In addition, Government continues to implement the disarmament exercise in the Karamoja region. The agreement reached with the elders for government to provide adequate security for the region against cattle rustling from across the border with Kenya. According to the officials of the Ministry for Karamoja Affairs, Government is also committed to increasing the provision of social services and to scale up initiatives for increasing household incomes, and especially those targeting women, providing adequate sources of water for production, and working with families to increase school enrollment especially of girls. In order to ensure greater focus on the development of the Karamoja sub region, Government has in 2011 established an entire Ministry for Karamoja Affairs, appointing a Senior Minister and a Junior Minister in charge of the Ministry, who are now spearheading the implementation of the Karamoja Integrated Disaster and Development Program (KIDDP). A number of international agencies and NGOs as well as national level women's organizations have moved into the region and made some of Karamoja's districts core program areas.

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

According to the Directorate of Interpol and Peace Keeping Missions in the Police Department, the training for UN peace keeping missions is undertaken by the UN. Uganda has the largest number of soldiers with the AMISOM in Somalia. The initial training done for AMISOM for 4,083 troops for deployment to Somalia in February/March 2010 covered such topics as cordon and search, convoy escort, checkpoint monitoring, short range shooting, self-defense, vehicle maintenance, media management and building relationships with civilians. This training was conducted by French and Belgian instructors. A similar training was conducted in September 2010 for another contingent to beef up the troops on the ground in Mogadishu.

The Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development is committed to full implementation of the provisions in the NAP for training of peacekeeping missions on gender issues and the provisions of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 before deployment. Civil society will continue to monitor this.

It should be noted that on July 11, 2010, the Al Shabab militias in Somalia planted bombs in Kampala that killed over 76 people, and the group has continued to be a security threat for Uganda as well as particularly targeting the AMISOM troupes in Somalia.

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

The research team was unable to establish the levels of funding for CSOs for women, peace and security issues. Organizations interviewed (largely members of the 1325 Task Force) were unwilling to reveal the size of their budgets. It must be noted that it is not only national civil society organizations that receive funding for women, peace and security interventions but also international NGOs such as CARE International, World Vision, Plan International, Oxfam, Action Aid and ACORD implement interventions on women, peace and security especially in Northern Uganda.

For the case of the Centre for Women in Governance, while the total budget for the year 2011 was US\$787,674, what CEWIGO has been able to receive is US\$256,700 only. All CEWIGO funds go to women, peace and security related programs. CEWIGO spends a maximum of 15% of its budget on administration.

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

The government budgeted US\$606,519,297 for PRDP over a period of three years with about 30% for the first two years and about 39% for the third year. Each year the government releases 30% of the total PRDP budget. The other 70% is supposed to be contributed by development partners, some of whom have fulfilled their pledges, while others have yet to. The 30% contribution by government is meant for the reconstruction of the physical infrastructure including roads, schools and other government institutions plus the strengthening of state authority. The 70% contribution from donors is what was agreed would go into 'software' including the restoration of the bodily integrity of the women survivors of SGBV, as well as provision of psychosocial support. For the current financial year (2011/2012) the budget for Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MLSD) is 0.4% of the total budget of the country, a decrease from 0.5% for the last financial year.

III Conclusions and Recommendations

A. Conclusions

Armed conflict in Uganda has had a devastating impact on women and girls, has impoverished the economy, destroyed the social and moral fabric of society and run down the infrastructure. It is important for governments both national and local to constantly be conscious of the fact that conflict affects women differently from the way it affects men and therefore the need for specific interventions to address women's needs in post- conflict situations should never be underrated. Many women that were subjected to rape and other forms of SGBV may live with the trauma for the rest of their lives if they do not get help.

Uganda has made tremendous progress towards gender equality over the last 20 years. The country has one of the most gender sensitive constitutions in the world, has many laws and policies in place to address gender imbalances and women's empowerment. The challenge remains at the implementation level. Because many government bureaucrats do not really appreciate gender issues, planners do not adequately provide for interventions that specifically address women's needs in sector policies, in sector plans and budgets. The result is that the well-meaning laws and policies largely remain on paper. Government priorities for post-conflict areas continue to focus on physical infrastructure even as the dignity and bodily integrity of the woman continues to be violated. So government continues to focus on physical infrastructure such as building of schools while the school drop-out rate for girls continues to rise in post-conflict areas.

Uganda has also made great strides in ensuring women's participation in leadership and decision making. The provision of a woman MP for each district, and for 30% women's representation in Local councils has brought many women into positions of leadership, the hitherto invisible have become very visible, and as a result society is gradually accepting the inevitable; that women make as good leaders as men. Women who have been appointed in top positions in statutory bodies have done a commendable job and should be applauded. This should make government alert to women's ability to successfully lead statutory bodies. Even while women in the public service top positions must work extra hard to prove their legibility, there is nothing wrong with hard work. It is evident that the majority of women in the public service are in the bottom rung. However in the Judiciary, women's representation in top leadership positions falls below 30%.

The women in Uganda's public service top positions have proved beyond reasonable doubt that they can deliver results. The example of Uganda Revenue Authority that has been transformed by a woman Commissioner General, and helped Uganda reduce dependency on donors, and the Uganda Investment Authority that continues to progress in attracting investors and creating jobs and is headed by a woman but a few. The public service structure therefore needs a shake up so that it moves with the times and ensures at least 33% women's representation in all levels of top leadership, in each ministry, department, and agency.

While affirmative action both at the level of parliament and local government has increased numbers to a critical mass of women, the expected social transformation has remained elusive. In a number of cases appointment of women to leadership positions is perceived as doing them a favor for which they should be grateful. On the other hand, women's activism for 'political space' has been more reactive than proactive. There is more emphasis on capacity development to get more women for empowerment to participate rather than supporting them to be more assertive and to reclaim what belongs to them by right.

In terms of prevention and protection of women against sexual and gender based violence, a lot still remains to be done. The police department and particularly the Child and Family Protection Unit is trying to do a good and difficult job with meager resources. The number of

High Court Judges is small making prosecution of SGBV cases take a long time and leading to witnesses losing interest in the case. At the same time, the law enforcement officers including the police and the local councils are not familiar with the provisions of UNSCR 1325 and 1820, and the Uganda NAP is not yet popularized. Knowledge and internalization of laws and policies and as well as international instruments that protect women against SGBV would go a long way to enhance prevention and protection.

The women of Uganda have played a commendable role in conflict transformation. They have come together in associations, coalitions, networks and task forces to get their voices heard through various initiatives and fora. This they have done despite the poverty, the trauma, and the meager resources at their disposal. They have held communities together. They have lighted a candle for peace even in difficult circumstances. This is the transformative element of conflict. It is one good example of women's participation in conflict management, peace building, and decision making which are essential elements of UNSCR 1325. The Women's coalition for peace influenced the Juba peace process. They transported and kept themselves in Juba, until the peace document was completed. The women's caravan carried the peace torch to Juba. Such efforts must not be scorned for they show that women are important stakeholders in conflict resolution and conflict transformation.

Uganda is also making an effort to deploy women in uniform for peace keeping missions from the UPDF, the police and the prisons. As one respondent said during the interviews, the women on peace missions are doing a great job. We should therefore expect to see more women deployed in peace keeping missions in the future. The Uganda women's movement is being challenged to integrate their sisters in uniform. Whether they are in the UPDF, in the Police or Prisons department, they are women and have special needs that are not understood let alone appreciated, in those male dominated spheres. And there are wives of soldiers as well, with the hunger to be recognized by the women's civil society movement. They have organized themselves into an association to make their voices heard. They are not simply sitting down and complaining.

B. Recommendations

A: Women's Participation in Governance

| | Action | Responsibility |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | Civil society must hold women on affirmative action accountable to women. As the women's movement concretizes the women's agenda for the period 2011-2016, they must share it widely with women who will have been elected in parliament and in district councils in the 2011 elections. | Women's CSOs |
| 2 | Avail the women's agenda to all newly elected women MPs and district councilors soon after the general elections in 2011. | Women CSOs |
| 3 | Government should review the affirmative action policy with a view to increasing women's representation to 50% at all levels of governance since women comprise over 51% of Uganda's population. | MGLSD |
| 4 | Government must review the Public Service policies as far as women's representation is concerned so they too achieve a minimum number of at least 30% like other agencies of government. | Public Service Commission |
| 5 | Women on affirmative action seats in parliament and in district councils must be mindful of the fact that their constituency is the women of Uganda, and must therefore work more with women in civil society to keep the women's agenda on the table. | Women MPs, Women District Councillors |

| | | |
|----|---|--------------------------------|
| 6 | Development partners should support women's organisations to document success stories and experiences of women in politics. Donors should also avail adequate funding for women's organisations that help to build the capacity of women's community based organisations. Donors should also fund processes that engage men on issues of women, peace and security. | Development partners |
| 7 | Government needs to recognise the important role women play in peace negotiations, in peace building and in conflict transformation. Therefore government must, as a policy always include at least a third women representation on peace negotiation teams. | Executive, Parliament |
| 8 | The percentage of women in uniform in top positions is very small. Government needs to implement a policy that motivates and promotes women in uniform for they bring unique qualities to the forces. Development partners should support such efforts. | Executive, Ministry of Defence |
| 9 | Government should appoint more women as heads of constitutional and statutory bodies and also on boards of such bodies. The number of women in such positions is still small compared to the men. | Government |
| 10 | Women's organisations that have not been part of task forces and coalitions for issues on women peace and security need to get on board. It is in numbers that voice will increase. | Women's CSOs |
| 11 | Train women on assertiveness and, campaign skills, public speaking, negotiation, lobbying, advocacy, fundraising and gender mainstreaming to increase and strengthen women's political participation. | CSOs |
| 12 | Increase funding for women's CSOs engaged in women's capacity building for political life and monitoring of recovery programmes. | Donors |
| 13 | There is need to target men for awareness raising on issues of gender and women, peace and security. | Women's CSOs, MGLSD |

B: Prevention and Protection

| | Action | Responsibility |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | Develop a mechanism for collecting sex disaggregated data in the monitoring of the implementation of the NAP, and in monitoring government programmes. | UN Women, MGLSD CSOs |
| 2 | Conduct research in the scope, causes, and extent of all forms of violence against women, providing disaggregated data by age, rural or urban. | CSOs, Donors |
| 3 | Support a study on the utilization of gender sensitive laws and policies in Uganda. | CSOs, Donors |
| 4 | Sensitize local district authorities on UNSCR 1325 and 1820 and the NAP and support processes for them to develop District Action Plans, and also sensitize law enforcement agents because VAW takes place at the local level. | CSOs |
| 5 | Commit funds for in country monitoring of the implementation of UNSCR 1325. | UN Women, Development Partners |
| 6 | Strengthen the institutional capacity of the Family and Child Protection Unit in the Uganda Police Department to apprehend SGBV perpetrators and investigate cases fully so that victims receive justice. | MFPED, Ministry of Internal Affairs |

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|----|--|---------------------------------------|
| 7 | Design and implement medical interventions including psychosocial support for women in post conflict areas in time for the next budget cycle. | Ministry of Health, NGOs |
| 8 | Increase engagement with women in uniform. | Women's CSOs |
| 9 | Support financing for implementation of the NAP for 1325 and 1820. | Government, Development partners |
| 10 | Focus on developing the institutional capacity of organisations that work on SGBV issues. | UN Women, UNFPA |
| 11 | Lobby the medical workers through their associations to prioritise SGBV investigation. | Women's CSOs |
| 12 | Government should establish a fund that focuses on the needs of the vulnerable groups particularly women for equitable needs based targeting and assistance. | Government |
| 13 | Provide funding for civil society led women's shelters. | Government of Uganda, UNFPA, UN Women |
| 16 | There is need to invest in human security in a more sustainable manner, rather than relying on short and medium term interventions. | Government |

C: Promoting a gender perspective

| | Action | Responsibility |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | Integrating gender and peace issues into the education curricula at all levels and conducting gender audits of all education curricula for before they are published. Experience of NGOs in the informal sector could be useful in curriculum development and review. | NCDC, MGLSD |
| 2 | A strategy needs to be agreed for promoting sharing of information regarding funding for women, peace and security among CSOs and international NGOs operating in Uganda. | MGLSD |
| 3 | Subject each new development programme including Sector Strategic Plans and Annual Work plans and budgets to gender audits. | All Ministries, departments and agencies |
| 4 | Integrate gender issues and restoration of women's bodily integrity in all future peace agreements. | Government |
| 5 | Monitor and ensure that all post and pre deployment training for troops going for peace keeping missions incorporate 1325, 1820 and other international human rights instruments. | Government, UNDP, CSOs to monitor |
| 6 | Re-conceptualise the role of women in post conflict reconstruction and acknowledge, analyse and reflect in programme design the critical role played by women in economic recovery programmes. | Government |
| 7 | Train local authorities and officials at district and sub county levels as well as national levels officials in gender sensitive planning and budgeting as committed to the Security Council on Sept 25, 2010. | Government |
| 8 | Develop planning and monitoring tools for both conflict and gender impacts of development interventions. | Ministry of Finance |

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