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2016



FOURTH ANNUAL CIVIL SOCIETY REPORT CARD

AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY







2016 FOURTH ANNUAL CIVIL SOCIETY REPORT CARD

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACMC	Australian Civil-Military Centre
ADF	Australian Defence Force
AFP	Australian Federal Police
AGD	Attorney General's Department
ATT	Arms Trade Treaty
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CVE	Countering Violent Extremism
DIBP	Department of Immigration and Border Protection
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
DoD	Department of Defence
GBV	Gender-based Violence
Global Study	A Global Study on the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325
GR 30	CEDAW General Recommendation No. 30
IDWG	Inter-Departmental Working Group on Women, Peace and Security
Interim Review	Interim Review of the Australian National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (2012–2018)
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
Monash GPS	Gender, Peace and Security Research Centre, Monash University
NAP	National Action Plan
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
OfW	Office for Women
PM&C	Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
PSEA	Preventing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
VAW NAP	National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and Their Children
WPS	Women, Peace and Security

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The process of developing the *Annual Civil Society Report Card on the Implementation of Australia's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security* (WPS) begins each year with the Annual Civil Society Dialogue. This year's Dialogue was held at the National Museum of Australia in Canberra on the 13th October 2016, and was organised by a working group consisting of members of the Australian Civil Society Coalition on Women, Peace and Security, and Monash Gender Peace and Security Research Centre (Monash GPS). The working group members sought to create a dynamic, inclusive, and informative forum for the government and civil society to continue discussions on the advancement of Australia's National Action Plan (NAP). The 2016 working group members were: Susan Hutchinson as an independent consultant; Hannah Jay, Luke Johnson, and Katrina Lee-Koo from Monash GPS; Gemma Muir from the International Women's Development Agency; Joanna Pradela from the Australian Council for International Development; and Anjana Regmi from the University of Technology Sydney.

A Monash GPS research team led by Associate Professor Katrina Lee-Koo and including Hannah Jay, Luke Johnson, and Barbara K. Trojanowska designed, researched and wrote this year's Report Card. This research team directed the platform for civil society's online submissions, undertook interviews with civil society members, and conducted research on the implementation of the WPS agenda in Australia and globally.

We are extremely grateful for the time and contributions of leaders from the Australian Government who support the Dialogue and shadow reporting process. The government's ongoing commitment to these processes, and to productive conversations with civil society is demonstrative of its overall commitment to implementation of the NAP. We would particularly like to thank those government representatives who presented at the Dialogue, facilitated its organisation, and participated on the day.

We also thank the members of civil society who have contributed to this process, including the Dialogue's presenters, facilitators, and volunteers. We would particularly like to thank our two international speakers: Bandana Rana from Saathi, Nepal, and Isobel Korendong from the Bougainville Women's Federation for providing insightful accounts of their own country's engagement with the WPS agenda.

Funding from the Australian Civil-Military Centre (ACMC) has again made this year's Dialogue and Report Card possible. We would particularly like to thank Executive Director Dr Alan Ryan for opening this year's Dialogue, and Jenny Lee, who leads ACMC's Women, Peace and Security program, for her expertise and support.

The analysis of civil society views presented in this Report Card is the responsibility of the research team and does not represent the views of the Australian Government, and cannot be considered an expression of Australian Government policy.



From left to right -Hannah Jay, Gemma Muir, Anjana Regmi, (seated) Susan Hutchinson, Katrina Lee-Koo, Joanna Pradela and Luke Johnson

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This year's Report Card focuses upon the development of Australia's second NAP, due for release in 2019. The Report Card emphasises the importance of establishing an inclusive process that will capture and direct Australia's contribution to advancing the WPS agenda, internationally as well as domestically.

The Fourth Annual Civil Society Report Card recommends early and purposeful planning for the development of the second NAP, creating maximum opportunity to:

Design and deliver an inclusive consultation process with civil society

Civil society recommends a multi-layered and well-timed consultation process. It must ensure inclusivity and opportunity for experienced and diverse voices to be considered in the design of the second NAP.

Formalise the relationship with civil society

Civil society can enhance every stage of the NAP process, including its design, implementation, governance, and evaluation. This has been demonstrated globally, and during Australia's first NAP. Civil society recommends the relationship between itself and the government be formalised, supported, and resourced in the second NAP.

Develop a strong Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) framework

The shortcomings of the current NAP's M&E framework are detailed in the *Third Annual Civil Society Report Card* and the *2015 Interim Review*. Civil society encourages the government to draw on best practice research and consult relevant experts to design the second NAP's M&E framework.

Ensure clearly defined and adequate resourcing

The second NAP must be properly resourced. This includes dedicated funding, human resourcing, and the development of strategies to leverage the knowledge and skills of government and civil society.

Understand the links between global and domestic issues

Civil society notes the impact of global WPS issues on Australia's domestic experiences, and vice versa. Forced migration, violent extremism, and violence against women are just some of the issues that move fluidly between global and domestic spaces. The second NAP requires sophisticated understanding of how global and domestic issues are interrelated.

Australia's first NAP is, to quote a member of civil society, "a conversation starter." The Australian Government and civil society have shown a commitment to keep that conversation open, robust, and ongoing. The second NAP is an opportunity to capitalise upon these conversations and design an implementation framework that is inclusive and has impact.

CONSOLIDATED RECOMMENDATIONS

ENVISIONING THE SECOND NAP

1 The government design a Theory of Change for the second NAP with expert support and civil society input.

CONSULTATION

- 2 The government engage in consultation with conflict-affected women and girls in the development of Australia's second NAP.
- 3 The government in consultation with civil society develop a public timeline for a multi-layered, inclusive, and funded consultation process for the design of the second NAP.

EMERGING ISSUES

- 4 The government engage with civil society and fund research on the links between WPS and emerging issues.
- 5 The government address the barriers to Department of Immigration and Border Protection's effective engagement with the WPS agenda.

ALIGNING THE NAP

- **6** The government provide a public response to the NAP's reviews and reports.
- 7 The second NAP align with relevant national-level policies and frameworks.
- **8** The second NAP recognise the interconnections between WPS and other global peace and security initiatives.
- 9 Australia demonstrate global leadership in aligning its second NAP with CEDAW GR30 and the SDGs.

GOVERNANCE, REPORTING, LEADERSHIP AND COORDINATION

- **10** The government strengthen the governance framework for the second NAP and formalise the NAP's subcommittee.
- **11** The government streamline reporting for the second NAP with a focus upon quality of reporting and engagement with report findings.
- 12 The leadership and coordination role must be effectively resourced by the government.
- **13** The government consider establishing a standalone Secretariat within Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) that can lead and coordinate the next NAP.

ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY

- **14** The second NAP formalise and clearly articulate civil society's role with regards to participation in governance, shadow reporting, and communication.
- 15 The government fund civil society's WPS engagement and participation in NAP activities.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- 16 The Government respond to the findings of the Interim Review, the Third Annual Civil Society Report Card, and the Global Study to develop a robust M&E framework.
- **17** The government draw upon global research and independent expertise in the development of the second NAP's M&E framework.

FUNDING

- 18 The government develop a transparent, dedicated, and sustainable funding model that ensures each department has the effective tools (financing, personnel, and expertise) to implement the second NAP.
- 19 The government review advice from the United Nations Secretary-General and consult global best practice in designing its funding model for the second NAP.

METHODOLOGY

The 2016 Annual Civil Society Dialogue (hereafter Dialogue) and this subsequent Report Card constitute the major shadow reporting mechanism of the Australian NAP. Together they provide a platform for government and non-governmental constituencies to strengthen Australia's commitment to the WPS agenda. The Report Card uses a mixed method approach to capture and analyse views from Australian civil society.

First, qualitative data was gathered at the Dialogue through worksheets and panel-based discussions. Throughout the day, 91 participants from the government and civil society convened for discussions on Australia's approach to WPS implementation. Facilitators with expert knowledge in WPS were appointed to lead targeted and small-group discussions. A deliberative approach was encouraged to elicit and record (on worksheets) the groups' responses to three issues: (1) government consultation with civil society regarding the next NAP (the results of which inform the infographic on page 16); (2) the sector's views on the government's implementation of the current NAP over the past twelve months (which appears in the Summary Report Card on pages 9-11); and (3) the sector's attitudes towards emerging WPS issues (which appears on page 20). The full program of the Dialogue appears in Annex 1.

Second, a combination of **quantitative and qualitative data was collected through an anonymous online submission process.** The 140 members of the Australian WPS Coalition were invited to complete the submission, with a 26 per cent response rate (this is slightly higher than the anticipated 25 per cent response rate for an external yet closed group). The questions sought to gather expert views regarding the content and design of the second NAP as well as to outline civil society's role in its development. The online submission's template appears in Annex 2.

Third, six semi-structured interviews were conducted with civil society actors who work directly on WPS issues. Participants were chosen on the basis of their expertise, and questions were designed to elicit technical detail and knowledge regarding the operation of Australia's current and future NAPs. Interviews were held subsequent to the Dialogue in October and November 2016. The interview questions appear in Annex 3.

In addition, this Report Card is the product of **academic research performed by Monash GPS' research team**, all with extensive research experience in the field. It draws upon publicly available information provided by Australian and foreign government agencies and UN research.

SUMMARY REPORT CARD

The summary Report Card is a mapping exercise undertaken each year at the Dialogue. In small groups, government and civil society members work together to provide joint assessment of the government's implementation of the NAP. This mapping is not intended to be a precise exercise. Its purpose is to encourage familiarity with the NAP's actions, facilitate open discussion based upon individual experiences and knowledge, encourage clearer reporting from the government, and provide a broad account of the views of the WPS sector.

As has been noted in the past, the summary report card does not necessarily capture an accurate view of the progress of departments. It is still, however, considered an important tool in providing a high-level view of the steps taken, as well as a platform for discussion during the Dialogue.

CRITERIA FOR GRADING

Insufficient information – insufficient information has been communicated with civil society to ascertain if this action is being implemented

No action – insufficient action is being undertaken to implement this action by 2018

Some action – some, not necessarily all agencies, demonstrated and communicated activities that support the implementation of this action by 2018

Extensive action – all responsible agencies demonstrated and communicated activities that support the implementation of this by 2018

	RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES	INSUFFICIENT	NO ACTION	SOME ACTION	EXTENSIVE ACTION
STRATEGY 1: Integrate a gender perspective into Australia	's policies	on peace	and seci	urity	
1.1 Policy frameworks of relevant Government departments are consistent with the objectives and intent of UNSCR 1325.	AFP, AGD Defence, DFAT, PM&C	2013		2014	
				2016	
1.2 Develop guidelines fo r the protection of civilians, including women and girls.	ACMC, AFP, Defence			2014 2013	
				2015 2016	
STRATEGY 2: Embed the Women, Peace and Security ages to human resource management of Defence, Australian Fe					roach
2.1 Assess and further build on training programs for Australian defence, police and civilian personnel to enhance	ACMC, AFP, Defence,			2013	2014
staff competence and understanding of Women, Peace and Security.	DFAT			2016	2015
2.2 Ensure women have opportunities to participate in the AFP, Defence and ADF and in deployments overseas,	AFP, Defence,			2013	2014
including in decision-making positions.	DFAT,			2015	

	RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES	INSUFFICIENT	NO ACTION	SOME ACTION	EXTENSIVE ACTION
2.3 Ensure formalised complaints mechanisms for the safe reporting of allegations of gender-based violence and harassment in Australian peace and security institutions are established and supported.	AFP, Defence, DFAT,	2013		2014 2015 2016	
2.4 Investigate all reports and allegations of gender-based violence involving Australian defence, police, civilian or contracted personnel.	AFP, Defence, DFAT	2013 2016		2014 2015	
STRATEGY 3: Support civil society organisations to promot in conflict prevention, peace-building, conflict resolution ar				en's parti	cipation
3.1 Support domestic non-government organisations, such as the National Women's Alliances, and international civil society organisations to engage in peace and security initiatives, including by raising awareness of UNSCR 1325.	DFAT, PM&C			2014 2013 2015 2016	
3.2 Support Australian and international civil society organisations to promote the roles and address the needs of women in the prevention, management and resolution of conflict.	DFAT, PM&C			2014 2013 2015	2016
3.3 Invite Australian non-government organisations to nominate a selection of representatives to meet with the Women, Peace and Security Inter-departmental Working Group once a year.	ACMC, AFP, AGD, Defence, DFAT,			2016	2014 2013 2015
3.4 Encourage an understanding of Women, Peace and Security amongst the Australian public.	PM&C		2016	2014 2013 2015	
STRATEGY 4: Promote Women, Peace and Security implem	entation i	nternatio	nally		
4.1 Support capacity building for women in fragile, conflict and/or post-conflict settings through promoting opportunities for women's leadership and participation in decision-making at a country level.	AFP, Defence, DFAT			2014 2013 2015	2016
4.2 Ensure that Australia's humanitarian assistance and recovery programs in conflict and post-conflict situations respect applicable international human rights and refugee law in regards to women and girls, and can be accessed by and benefit diverse groups of vulnerable women and girls.	DFAT	2013		2014 2015 2016	
4.3 Support humanitarian action that responds to gender-based violence in crisis situations, with particular regard to health.	DFAT			2013 2016	2014 2015
4.4 Consider the use of specific strategies to promote the participation and protection of women and girls in fragile, conflict and/ or post-conflict settings, for example ADF Female Engagement Teams and the use of gender advisers.	AFP, Defence	2013		2014 2015 2016	
4.5 Ensure peace processes in which Australia plays a prominent role promote the meaningful participation of women, and consider local women's needs, rights and capacity.	DFAT	2013	2015 2016	2014	

	RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES	INSUFFICIENT	NO ACTION	SOME ACTION	EXTENSIVE ACTION		
4.6 Promote women's involvement in the development of institutions, including national judiciary, security and governance structures in fragile, conflict and/or post-conflict settings so that women can access and benefit from these structures.	AFP, Defence, DFAT			2014 2013 2015 2016			
4.7 Encourage the promotion of women's involvement and leadership in the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts through engagement with the UN and other multilateral fora, including in the development of best practice guidance.	Defence, DFAT, PM&C			2014 2013 2015 2016			
4.8 Support women experts, special envoys, commanders and high-ranking officials to promote a high level consideration of gender issues in fragile, conflict and /or post-conflict settings.	AFP, Defence, DFAT			2014 2013 2015 2016			
4.9 Promote the global advancement of gender equality through international engagement, including through the UN and other multi-lateral fora.	DFAT, PM&C			2014	2015 2016		
4.10 Incorporate the protection of the rights of women and girls in bilateral and multilateral discussions on the protection of civilians in conflict and post-conflict situations, particularly with regard to gender-based violence.	ACMC, Defence, DFAT			2014 2013 2015 2016			
4.11 Promote formalised complaints mechanisms for the safe reporting of allegations of gender-based violence and harassment in fragile, conflict and post-conflict settings.	AFP, Defence, DFAT,	2013 2016		2014 2015			
4.12 Support efforts by local or international authorities to prosecute perpetrators of gender based violence during conflict and/or in post-conflict settings.	AFP, Defence, DFAT	2013		2014 2015 2016			
STRATEGY 5: Take a co-ordinated and holistic approach domestically and internationally to Women, Peace and Security							
5.1 Foster ongoing civil-military cooperation and information sharing in operations, to protect women and girls.	ACMC, AFP, Defence, DFAT	2013		2014 2015 2016			
5.2 Continue to promote information sharing on UNSCR 1325 and women's participation within and between Australian Government agencies.	ACMC, AFP, AGD, DFAT, Defence, PM&C			2014 2013 2015			
				2016			

SUMMARY REPORT CARD ANALYSIS

The sector's assessment of the implementation of the NAP's actions remains largely unchanged from 2015, with the exception that this is the first year that a number of actions received a lower grading. For instance, three of the four actions in Strategy 2 (on human resource management) regressed from previous years. Participants at the Dialogue specifically noted that there are still too few women in senior leadership positions in government agencies, and that there remain problematic gendered cultures within a number of organisations.

Actions 2.4 and 4.11, which detail **reporting and investigation for sexual and gender-based violence** received 'insufficient information' assessments for the first time since 2013. This is a concerning development given the strong progress that had been shown in previous years. Participants recommend that the **transparency, accountability, and effectiveness of these mechanisms be clearly outlined** in the second NAP.

Strategy 3 (on **supporting civil society**) saw mixed results. There is clearly ongoing frustration among Dialogue participants at the **operation of the Inter-Departmental Working Group (IDWG)**. Participants noted that it meets too infrequently, and fails to maintain consistent membership. Furthermore, participants observed that there has been no progress on the government's attempts to **engage the broader Australian public** in the WPS agenda, which was a recommendation of last year's Report Card.

There is, however, acknowledgement of improvements in **Australia's engagement with civil society globally**. Participants note particularly the work of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) in supporting programs for women's participation. The move to 'extensive' action is also noted in Action 4.1 on **supporting capacity building for women in fragile states**. Here participants highlight the work of the Australian Federal Police (AFP), the Department of Defence (DoD), and DFAT. Similarly, assessment of **Australia's WPS advocacy in global fora** moved to 'extensive action' in acknowledgement of Australia's WPS leadership within the UN, and the work undertaken by the Global Ambassador for Women and Girls.

LOOKING BACK

2016: GLOBAL UPDATE ON THE WPS AGENDA

In comparison to 2015, 2016 has been a quiet year for the international WPS policy agenda. The annual Security Council Open Debate (held 25 October) followed up on last year's Global Study while the Secretary-General's Annual WPS report (released 28 September) highlighted the Global Study's main themes, including the importance of financing and ensuring accountability for WPS results through stronger monitoring frameworks and implementation budgets. Importantly, the WPS National Focal Points Network was launched on 20th September to enhance WPS implementation through national and regional frameworks. The meeting was convened by Spain on the margins of the 71st session of the General Assembly's General Debate. In May, the World Humanitarian Summit was held in Istanbul. While its Outcome Document does not make explicit links to the WPS agenda, it does adopt genderaware language, seeking to place women's empowerment at the centre of an international response to humanitarian crises, and highlighting issues of direct relevance to WPS (such as displacement, and responses to conflict-affected populations).

2016: REVIEW OF GOVERNMENT IMPLEMENTATION

At home, most Australian Government agencies continue to demonstrate strong commitment to the WPS agenda and implementation of the NAP. In April the NAP's coordinating agency – **the Office for Women (OfW)** – released the independent <u>Interim Review of the Australian National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2012–2018</u>. The <u>Interim Review</u> listed 16 recommendations set against the five review themes. The findings can be broadly summarised:

- 1 The actions of the Australian NAP and flexibility of the approach remain relevant to the WPS agenda;
- 2 The NAP's M&E framework is weak and does not enable the government to track progress or impact;
- 3 Implementation by government agencies remains uneven, under-resourced, and a stronger whole-ofgovernment approach is possible;
- 4 There remains goodwill on the part of both the government and civil society for collaboration on the WPS agenda; however, this has been limited by structural concerns, including resourcing;
- 5 A "rigorous and participatory" final review of the current NAP in 2018 should be used as a resource in drafting Australia's second NAP.

While civil society welcomes the release of the *Interim Review,* it notes with concern that **the government** has yet to respond formally to its findings and recommendations. Members of civil society highlight the value that open discussions have on the progress and maturity of the agenda, and encourage discussion of this, and of the forthcoming findings of the second Progress Report, which was due in 2016.

DoD has continued its leadership on the WPS agenda. In February, the <u>Defence White Paper</u> was released, noting **the Department's commitment to support the implementation of the NAP**. There were missed opportunities to mainstream WPS in relevant areas, including references to increasing women's representation in the Department (Strategy 2 of the NAP). However, it is the first time that Australia's premier strategic policy document has acknowledged the WPS agenda, which is an important step forward. Throughout 2016, the Department continued to include WPS in all planning directives for current operations. Furthermore, the Department has continued its strong engagement with civil society through its participation in WPS workshops and public events.

In December 2015, **ACMC** released *Women, Peace and Security: Reflections from Australian Male Leaders*, a short collection of essays written by selected male military commanders and civilian and police leaders. The ACMC continues to undertake whole-of-government WPS training, and has also **demonstrated its ongoing commitment to civil society** through its financial and logistical support of the Dialogue and shadow reporting process.

In February, **DFAT** released its <u>Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Strategy</u>. This document concentrates on enhancing women's leadership, promoting women's economic empowerment, and ending violence against women in the Indo-Pacific region. **The WPS agenda is mentioned specifically in relation to Australia's foreign, aid, and development policies**:

Australia will support the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions relating to women, peace and security and ensure that women participate effectively at all stages of peace processes and reconstruction. We will support a stronger focus on gender equality in humanitarian crisis responses and promote women's participation in decision-making in response and recovery efforts." (DFAT Gender Strategy, p.7)

Members of civil society note DFAT's successful integration of WPS into a number of its development programs (particularly in fragile and conflict-affected states), its continued advocacy for WPS globally, and its support of academic research on women's participation in conflict-affected societies.

In August 2016, the **AFP** released <u>Cultural Change: Gender Diversity and Inclusion in the Australian Federal Police</u> following an independent review by former Sex Discrimination Commissioner Elizabeth Broderick. The report has **identified high rates of sexual harassment and bullying** (reported by 29 per cent of the respondents) in the AFP. An independent unit, AFP Safe Place, has been established in response to the report. **The WPS agenda is not referenced in the report**; however, there are clear overlaps with Strategy 2 of the NAP on human resourcing management. This report demonstrates commitment by the AFP to acknowledging the challenges posed by discriminatory organisational cultures.

Finally, as has been noted in previous Report Cards, civil society remains disappointed with the **apparent low level of engagement by the Attorney General's Department with the WPS agenda**. Civil society would welcome the opportunity to work closely with the Department on raising its awareness of the WPS agenda, and encourages representatives to attend the 2017 Dialogue.

LOOKING FORWARDS: THE SECOND AUSTRALIAN NAP

The first NAP describes itself as "very much a foundational document" that offers "a symbolic and practical step forward" (p. 15). Echoing this, one civil society interviewee observes that "the strongest feature of the current Australian NAP is that there is one." Building on this foundation, the second Australian NAP should leverage lessons learned from our own experiences, global best practice, and contemporary research on WPS and NAPs. Drawing from these sources, what follows is analysis of views from Australian civil society on issues that should be central to the second NAP.

ENVISIONING THE SECOND NAP

Members of civil society observe that a fundamental shortcoming of the first Australian NAP is its **lack** of a central, collective, and clearly stated vision. They report that government agencies interpret and implement the WPS agenda according to their own organisational structures and priorities, leading to uneven implementation.

As a corrective, members of civil society identify the need for the second NAP to develop a Theory of Change. This reiterates a recommendation of the Interim Review (Key Finding 5) and follows an example set by both the third UK and third Dutch NAPs. A participatory approach to developing a Theory of Change has a number of benefits, as it:

- Presents a holistic picture of the policy framework;
- Provides the implementing agencies in consultation with civil society opportunity for a collaborative approach to designing the NAP's shared vision;
- Demonstrates the causal relationship between actions, outputs, outcomes, and the vision;
- · Provides a framework that supports meaningful reporting; and
- Facilitates a transparent process for measuring impact.

Below is an example Theory of Change that collates comments from members of civil society with regards to the overarching vision, outcomes, and barriers to the second NAP. It is not intended to be comprehensive, but rather to provide inspiration on how such a process might develop in the Australian context. It highlights the interdependence of each level and showcases the actions and outputs contributing to outcomes under each pillar of the WPS agenda. Consideration of the enabling environment reveals the need to understand the internal and external conditions that will shape the NAP's progress. Each level of the Theory of Change should comprise **indicators that are explicit in the M&E framework**. These indicators will support reporting and facilitate the measurement of impact.

According to civil society, **enhancing women's capacity to undertake transformative change in peace and security** should be the overarching vision of the second NAP. This requires prioritising gender equality, women's empowerment, and understanding the physical, structural, and cultural constraints to their full participation in society.

RECOMMENDATION:

1 The government design a Theory of Change for the second NAP with expert support and civil society input.

EXAMPLE THEORY OF CHANGE FOR THE SECOND AUSTRALIAN NAP

VISION

WOMEN AND GIRLS HAVE THE CAPACITY TO MAKE TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE IN PEACE AND SECURITY

OUTCOMES

Women participate meaningfully in decision-making processes related to the prevention and resolution of conflict and the consolidation of peace

Women's roles in conflict **prevention** are understood, recognised and supported The safety, dignity and wellbeing of women and girls affected by conflict is **protected**

Relief and Recovery efforts meet the specific needs and recognise the capacity of women and girls

OUTPUTS

Australian Government supports women to participate in transformative ways in peace and security Australian
Government policy
and programs support
women in their roles
to prevent conflict in
fragile states

Australian Governmen promotes and prioritises women's human rights in all peace and security activities Australian Government responses to crises recognise, understand and address the specific impacts on women and girls and seek to address gender inequalities

EXAMPLE ACTIONS

Provide funding and opportunities for Australian civil society to participate meaningfully in WPS policy development and implementation

Ensure Australian Government policy has a gender-aware approach to recognising the triggers of conflict

Provide support for initiatives focused on the prevention and response to GBV in crises

Increase women's representation and leadership in Australia's humanitarian aid program

Support women's rights organisations in fragile and conflict-affected states, and advocate for the meaningful participation of women in peace processes

support gendersensitive communitybased mechanisms for early warning Develop prevention strategies for conflictrelated GBV by building a strong evidence base Develop and implement practical tools for gender mainstreaming across relief and recovery efforts

Advocate for the increased representation of women in high-level positions within international peace and security institutions

Engage in global advocacy to promote th role of women in conflic prevention

Implement mandatory training on GBV and PSEA for all internationally deployed staff Ensure that Australian humanitarian assistance and recovery programs are accessible and benefit diverse groups of women and girls

for women to participate, including in leadership roles across the ADF, AFF DFAT, and other relevant bodies

Support women leaders and women's organisations and networks in conflict prevention activities in fracile contexts.

Support local and international authorities to prosecute perpetrators of GBV during conflict and/ or in post conflict settings

Provide opportunities for women and girls to engage with consultation processes around the design of Australian relief and recovery initiatives

CONSULTATION

The consultation process for the second NAP is critical to its success. **This process must be accessible, appropriately funded, multi-layered, inclusive, and timely**. It should be based on lessons learned from the development of the first NAP, and it needs to accommodate global experiences.

The 2015 *Global Study* highlights Nepal's consultation process as an 'exemplary participatory approach' (pp. 243–44). It included line ministries, civil society organisations, women's groups, and external development partners (see box below). It also consulted widely with women and girls affected by conflict. Of the NAPs that are predominantly outward-facing, a number also engage in consultations in conflict-affected states. Sweden's third NAP conducted consultations with five conflict and post-conflict states 'to ensure the relevance, firm establishment and feasibility' of the plan (p. 7). The process for the UK's third NAP also saw consultations with conflict-affected women in some focus countries. It is similarly recommended that **the government engage in consultations with conflict-affected women** in the development of Australia's second NAP.

The Nepal NAP, adopted in February 2011, was the outcome of a collaborative and coordinated effort led by the government. As key actors, civil society was engaged in:

- Planning, designing, coordinating and organising consultative meetings/ workshops at national and local levels;
- The technical and drafting team as well as the high-level steering committee;
- Coordination with line ministries and other government entities;
- Final endorsement and validation writeshops and workshops."

BANDANA RANA, Coordinator 1325 Action Group Nepal, Plenary Address, Fourth Annual Civil Society Dialogue, Canberra, 13 October 2016.



In the Australian context, civil society highlights the following elements as **central to the consultation process**:

- terms of reference that are developed in conjunction with civil society;
- appropriate funding for the process;
- clearly communicated phases that provide for a timely approach, and opportunity for community and expert input;
- a commitment to ensure accessibility, including through various data collection strategies such as online, face-to-face, and written contributions;
- a strategy to **target specific groups**, most notably conflict-affected women, NGOs and advocacy groups;
- a strategy to ensure that the **data gathered from consultations is reflected in the second NAP** (which many argue was missing from the first NAP process);
- a commitment to **consult relevant research and independent experts** in areas such as global best practice and the design of the M&E framework.

The infographic below illustrates the six phases that have been identified by the sector as necessary for the consultation process to design the next NAP.

THE SECOND AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL ACTION PLAN: RECOMMENDED CONSULTATION PROCESS

1 SCOPE



Establish a joint government and civil society scoping committee to define terms of reference and timelines for consultation

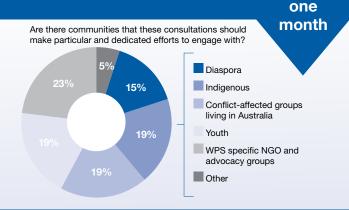
one month

2 ENGAGE



Engage relevant stakeholder groups:

- Conflict-affected women
- WPS specific NGO and advocacy groups
- Indigenous
- Youth
- Diaspora



3 COLLECT



Collect data from stakeholders through:

- Face-to-face meetings
- Online submissions
- Focus groups in large cities
- Civil society only spaces
- Targeted meetings with key stakeholders

six months

4 DRAFT



Independent consultant to support Government drafting of the NAP which includes consultation findings

three months

5 REVIEW



Engage in the review process:

- Release draft through the WPS Coalition to share with its members
- Government to receive written feedback
- · Validation workshop with key stakeholders

6 RELEASE



three months



Release in 2019

Members of civil society identified the existing NAP subcommittee as the appropriate group to undertake the scoping process and define the Terms of Reference for civil society consultation on the design of the second NAP. This is depicted in Phase 1 in the infographic above. While remaining inclusive of further issues, the Terms of Reference must seek civil society views on the vision, content, governance, and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of the second NAP. Although civil society members were not unanimous in their responses, a majority recommended that the subcommittee appoint an independent consultant (with WPS expertise) to design and undertake the initial community-based consultation with civil society. This process should be funded by government and be multi-layered in its engagement and data collection methods, as outlined in Phases 2 and 3 above. Furthermore, this process should occur alongside, but separate from government consultations.

The report produced by the consultant should then inform **Phase 4**, **the drafting of the NAP**. A number of members of civil society emphasised the importance of ensuring the NAP drafting committee – which is typically the existing NAP subcommittee – draw upon relevant outside expertise. This is particularly important in the areas of M&E, and the development of a Theory of Change. While some members of civil society argued that the NAP should be drafted by a government-only committee, a majority saw value in the inclusion of civil society representatives.

A number of civil society respondents were of the opinion that **Phase 5** is particularly significant to the NAP design process. **Critical feedback from civil society** will ensure the quality, clarity, and feasibility of the second NAP. In addition to receiving written feedback on the draft, a number of members of civil society pointed to the importance of workshopping the draft with key stakeholders and experts. The importance of establishing a clear and transparent timeline was considered essential to allowing an inclusive and considered consultation process.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

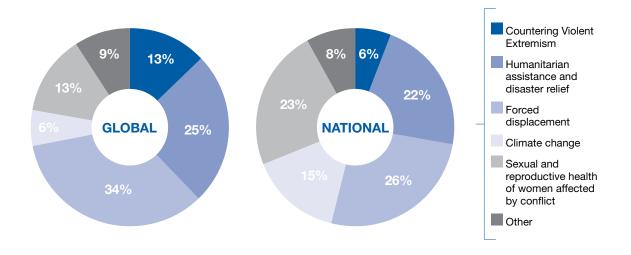
- 2 The government engage in consultation with conflict-affected women and girls in the development of Australia's second NAP.
- 3 The government in consultation with civil society develop a public timeline for a multi-layered, inclusive, and funded consultation process for the design of the second NAP.

EMERGING ISSUES

The *Interim Review* highlights the **adaptability of the current NAP to emerging issues**. In considering this, Australian civil society notes subtle but important differences in the relevance of emerging issues between the *global* and *national* (Australian) WPS agendas. These differences acknowledge the role of geopolitical concerns, national experiences, and political-social values that shape civil society attitudes towards Australia's role in advancing the WPS agenda. The most substantial difference is the emphasis that Australian civil society places upon 'sexual and reproductive health' and 'climate change' as issues where Australia might make a valuable impact. Significantly, only six per cent of respondents in the online submission described 'countering violent extremism' (CVE) as the priority issue for Australia's implementation of the WPS agenda. This view diverges from a growing global trend, which has governments around the world prioritising and funding responses to this issue (see box on page 20). The relevance of CVE to the NAP is acknowledged by civil society; however, they highlight the need for an approach that is gender-aware, evidenced-based, preventative in design, and that includes women as decision-makers in all policy responses.

The data for this section is captured below.

Q What are the priority issues for WPS (i) globally; (ii) to Australia in the next Australian NAP? (Note: Respondents were asked to choose only one from the issue topics of 1. Countering violent extremism, 2. Humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, 3. Forced displacement, 4. Climate change, 5. Sexual and reproductive health, or 6. Other)



The priority areas for Australia's WPS implementation are overwhelmingly considered to be **'Forced displacement'** and **'humanitarian assistance and disaster relief'**. Civil society acknowledges Australia's regional leadership role in humanitarian relief and disaster response, and emphasises the significance of this issue to WPS implementation. Civil society acknowledges the inclusion of this in DFAT's *Gender Strategy* and identifies the need for the second NAP to ensure Australia's response to natural disasters and humanitarian crises include a gender perspective.

Civil society describes the **disconnection between displacement and WPS implementation as a blind spot of the first NAP**. While acknowledging that this is a politically vexed issue for Australia, civil society identifies the need for Australia's asylum seeker policy to mainstream WPS values and commitments. This recognises that a foundational pillar of Australia's current NAP – and the global WPS agenda – is the protection of conflict-affected women and girls. The current Australian NAP commits to:

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protecting the human rights of women and girls by working with international partners to ensure safety, physical and mental wellbeing, economic security and equality, with special consideration for protecting women and girls from gender-based violence." (Australian NAP, p.17)

Civil society is unanimous in identifying conflict-affected women seeking asylum in Australia as falling within the remit of Australia's WPS obligations. Currently, Australia's asylum seeker policy and practices do not 'integrate a gender perspective' as required in the NAP's first strategy.

The majority of civil society therefore sees a role for **Department of Immigration and Border Protection** (DIBP) in the second NAP. However, there is concern that its politicised status and lack of exposure to the WPS agenda could create roadblocks to implementation. This would need to be addressed by training, and by strong leadership from the NAP's coordinating agency.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 4 The government engage with civil society and fund research on the links between WPS and emerging issues.
- 5 The government address the barriers to Department of Immigration and Border Protection's effective engagement with the WPS agenda.

Confronting the barriers to young women's leadership and participation in conflict prevention and resolution will be central to maintaining peace in Bougainville. By providing training and education – to young women and men – we will ensure the sustainability of the peace process across generations."

ISOBEL KORENDONG, Bougainville Women's Federation Fourth Annual Civil Society Dialogue, Canberra, 13 October 2016.



EMERGING REGIONAL ISSUES

The three issues that are analysed in the box below were specific discussion points at the 2016 Dialogue.

COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Acts of terrorism and violent extremism present a dangerous threat to international peace and security. Extremist groups such as Boko Haram and ISIL have targeted women's human rights through gender-based violence and the restriction of women's access to health and education. UNSCR 2242 recognises the uneven impact that violent extremism has on women and calls on Member States to better integrate CVE and WPS measures (S/RES/2242, OP 11–13). In January 2016, the UN Secretary-General released a Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, which pays considerable attention to gender equality and its linkages to the WPS agenda (A/70/674).

Australia must be prepared to respond to the gender-specific impact of terrorism and violent extremism on women and girls. While it should be recognised that women engage in extremist organisations, they also play a pivotal role in preventing extremism and should be included in all CVE programming. The second NAP needs to demonstrate a nuanced understanding of extremism, informed by research and gender analysis, ensuring that all CVE programming integrates gender as a cross-cutting issue. This must include supporting both international and national women's organisations working towards stabilisation, preventing terrorism and preventing violent extremism.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Armed conflicts, natural disasters, climate change and pandemics are some of the largest problems impacting global stability. Women are greatly affected by complex emergencies where they can be subjected to differential forms of gender-based violence, including sexual slavery, human trafficking and forced marriage. UNSCR 2242 recognises the need for gender-sensitive humanitarian responses and support for women's leadership in humanitarian settings (S/RES/2242, OP 16). The World Humanitarian Summit similarly concluded that gender equality, fulfilment of women's rights, and empowerment should be a central component of humanitarian assistance. Member States were requested to adopt a gender-inclusive approach to address the specific needs of women and girls (A/71/353).

The Asia Pacific is particularly vulnerable to natural disasters. Australia must be able to respond to humanitarian crises, including through the NAP. The second NAP should incorporate these considerations and develop a mitigation strategy that draws on the linkages between the WPS agenda and the conclusions of the World Humanitarian Summit.

DISPLACEMENT

The latest UN Secretary-General Report on WPS identifies that as many as 8.6 million new cases of conflict-related displacement were recorded in 2015 (S/2016/822). The majority of people affected by displacement are women and children, who are at greater risk of being subjected to abuse at this time. UNSCR 2242 notes this increase and states that forced displacement will be taken into account when adopting or renewing sanctions against actors involved in armed conflicts (S/RES/2242, OP 6 and Preamble).

Through participation in peacebuilding operations, Australian Government agencies, such as the ADF, the AFP, and DFAT, are already involved in efforts to protect civilians from human rights abuses. This work should be informed by gender analysis and contribute to Australia's overall implementation of WPS resolutions. The second NAP should explicitly establish the interconnections between displacement and the WPS agenda. It should also integrate a domestic focus to address the situation of refugees and asylum seekers in Australia.

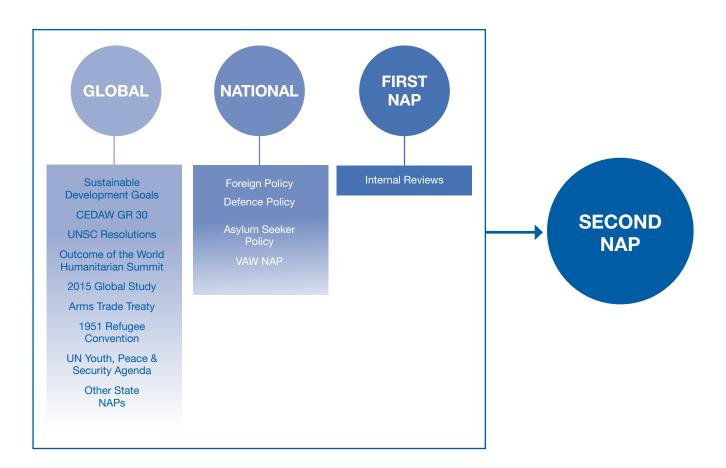
ALIGNING THE NAP

Alignment of the second NAP with relevant national and global frameworks will promote a **consistent** and **streamlined approach** to cross-cutting concerns. Civil society recommends that the second NAP's design team familiarise themselves with the frameworks outlined in the infographic, and work with civil society to determine the level of relevance. Civil society notes that some frameworks will simply need to be brought to the attention of implementing agencies to ensure consistency of approach and to avoid duplication of effort. Other frameworks will play a central role in the NAP's success.

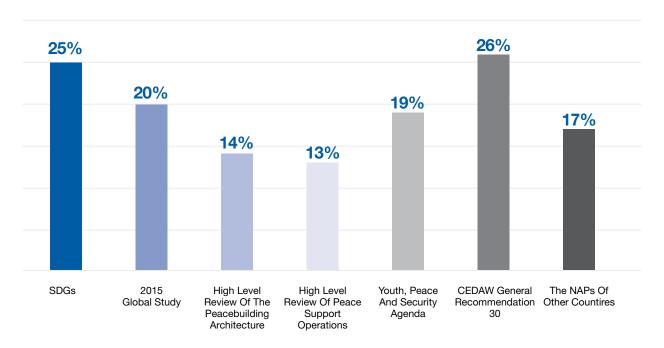
Civil society identifies three levels of alignment. First, in terms of leveraging Australia's existing WPS work, civil society argues that the second NAP must draw upon the reviews, reports, and lessons learned from the first NAP. This includes ensuring that the government's Progress Reports and the Final Review are used as an opportunity to collect baseline data for the second NAP. As observed earlier, civil society urges the government to respond publicly to the findings of these reports and reviews. It also advises the government to ensure that it understands the linkages, points of collaboration, and overlaps in the NAPs and WPS issues of our neighbours and partners. This is particularly important in areas where Australia provides military, development, or humanitarian support or collaboration.

Outside of the WPS space, civil society has identified the need for **the second NAP to align with national-level domestic policies** that address – in particular – women's experiences of violence. <u>The National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children, 2010–2022</u> was identified as relevant to the second NAP, as was Australia's asylum and refugee policies. Civil society also recommends appropriate references to the NAP be made in the gender strategies of implementing agencies, which has been the case in DFAT's 2016 *Gender Strategy*.

The following info-graphic identifies the global and national areas of alignment, as well as the reviews and reports, all of which should be considered when developing the second NAP.



Q Should the second NAP actively and explicitly seek to align itself with any of the following frameworks? (Note: respondents could select multiple answers.)



At the global level, two frameworks were identified as directly relevant to the development of the second NAP (see above graph). In October 2013 the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) adopted **General Recommendation No. 30 (GR30) on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations.** GR30 provides guidelines to states on legal and political measures to protect women's human rights and ensure gender equality in situations of emergency and political crisis. GR30 specifically requires WPS implementation to be premised on a model of substantive equality, and calls on all state parties to submit periodic reviews of implementation. Importantly, it also recommends that state parties allocate adequate budgets for WPS implementation, and collaborate with civil society. The current Australian NAP establishes links to CEDAW (p. 14); however, civil society recommends that the second NAP strengthen these links through explicit alignment. In this way Australia could also **align WPS reporting with existing human rights reporting requirements**.

Second, in September 2015 the UN General Assembly adopted a historic resolution establishing the 2030 Agenda to realise 17 **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. The SDGs include a stand-alone goal on "Gender equality" (Goal 5) and one on "Peace, justice and strong institutions" (Goal 16). Disappointingly, the 2030 Agenda fails to draw a link between sustainable development and the WPS resolutions. As a global WPS champion and development partner with fragile states, **Australia is ideally positioned to lead other nations and make this link explicit through its own WPS implementation**. The second NAP should reference the SDGs (with an emphasis on Goal 5 and Goal 16), thereby explicitly recognising interconnection between these two frameworks.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- **6** The government provide a public response to the NAP's reviews and reports.
- 7 The second NAP align with relevant national-level policies and frameworks.
- 8 The second NAP recognise the interconnections between WPS and other global peace and security initiatives.
- 9 Australia demonstrate global leadership in aligning its second NAP with CEDAW GR30 and the SDGs.

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GOVERNANCE, REPORTING, LEADERSHIP AND COORDINATION

The past four years have provided the government and civil society with an opportunity to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the current **governance**, **reporting**, **and coordination mechanism** of the NAP. In a number of areas, these structures have evolved to reflect the strengthening of relationships between agencies, and between government and civil society. The second NAP provides an opportunity to formalise processes where success is evident, and revise arrangements that have performed poorly.

The current NAP is governed by an **Inter-Departmental Working Group (IDWG)**. As outlined in previous Report Cards, there has been ongoing concern on the part of civil society regarding the operation of this group, particularly with regards to the infrequency of its meetings (biannually), inconsistent and insufficiently high-level membership, and lack of clearly defined engagement with civil society. More recently, **the IDWG has been supported by an informal subcommittee**, which has assumed the NAP's day-to-day coordination. However, as this has been an *ad hoc* arrangement, many members of civil society recommend that **the subcommittee be formalised in the second NAP**, with its governance arrangements clearly outlined.

The first plan mandates an **intensive reporting structure**: three progress reports and two major reviews over its six-year lifespan. It has been noted that for government agencies to contribute to this frequency of reporting requires significant effort. Moreover, civil society broadly describes the quality of the reporting, and the government's engagement with the reports' findings and recommendations, to be generally poor. Members of civil society therefore recommend that **the reporting process be streamlined, the quality of the reporting improved** (supported by a Theory of Change and strengthened M&E framework), **and a government response to reviews be mandated in the second NAP**.

Leadership and coordination is identified in the *Global Study* as a significant component of a successful NAP (p. 241). In the case of Australia, all of those interviewed for this year's Report Card observe that the current coordinating agency, OfW within Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C), has not been appropriately funded and resourced to coordinate and lead the NAP. This has had a negative impact upon implementation and the whole-of-government approach.

Civil society has two recommendations to address this situation, both of which correlate with recommendations in the *Global Study*. First, **the leadership and coordination role must be properly resourced with regards to funding, personnel, and expertise**. Second, a number of interviewees recommend that the government consider **transferring the leadership and coordination responsibilities to a central location within PM&C**. In this way, the government should consider resourcing a **standalone Secretariat** within PM&C. The International Division or the Social Policy Division (outside of OfW), with leadership at the Senior Executive Level 2 (First Assistant Secretary level) may be such a site. This has the potential to respond to the cross-government requirements of the NAP, increase its visibility, and indicate clear government commitment to WPS within PM&C and government counterparts. The structures currently being designed for the implementation of the SDGs may also serve as a useful model for the implementation of the second NAP.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 10 The government strengthen the governance framework for the second NAP and formalise the NAP's subcommittee.
- **11** The government streamline reporting for the second NAP with a focus upon quality of reporting and engagement with report findings.
- 12 The leadership and coordination role must be effectively resourced by government.
- 13 The government consider establishing a standalone Secretariat within PM&C that can lead and coordinate the next NAP.

ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY

A high-impact NAP is reliant upon **cooperation and coordination between governments and civil society**. The *Third Annual Civil Society Report Card* tracked the growing strength and confidence of this relationship in the Australian context and found that civil society engagement has increased in both formal and informal ways. This year, 56 per cent of respondents to the online submission process feel that they have effective capacity to influence the development of the second NAP, primarily through peak bodies and public workshops such as the Dialogue. However, a number of suggestions emerge from members of civil society who feel that their capacity could be strengthened, as outlined below:

Q What would build your capacity (to participate in the design of the second NAP)? Sample responses:

- Funding to coordinate community and diaspora input;
- More engagement of community through awareness raising and information sharing;
- Meaningful access to the government architecture that holds the responsibility for developing the NAP:
- Opportunities to partake in discussions, consultations, relevant working groups;
- Having taken part in consultations, I think direct communication and consultation with stakeholders followed by individual/ entity workshops or working groups can allow for synergy and organic growth.

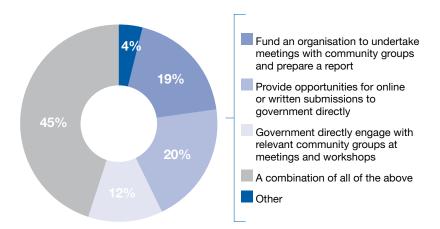
In terms of supporting the governance of the second NAP, members of **civil society recommend formalisation of their engagement with government**. Overwhelmingly civil society identifies the importance of remaining on the IDWG as well as the NAP's subcommittee. In both cases civil society recommends that these roles be clearly articulated in the second NAP. There are concerns that the IDWG only affords 'observer status' for civil society and that meetings are not organised with sufficient notice to members. With regards to the operation of the subcommittee, civil society wishes to establish terms of reference that outline their capacity to report back to the community on activities, receive agendas in a timely manner to elicit representative views, and rotate their membership.

Overwhelmingly, respondents agree that **civil society should not be a signatory to, or implementing agency of, the second NAP** (as is the case, for example, in the second and third Dutch plans, and the Philippines first plan). In Australia's case, civil society consistently notes that its independence from government should be observed. Members of civil society see themselves as more appropriately placed to engage in dialogue and support through committee representation and in workshops, and to provide constructive feedback from outside of the NAP's formal process. To this end, 72 per cent of respondents to the online submission further add that **the shadow reporting process be formalised** in the second NAP.

Over 90 per cent of respondents note that **government funding should be made available to support civil society's WPS engagement**. Australian civil society has already demonstrated capacity to support the development of the WPS agenda in crucial areas; however, this cannot be enhanced without adequate resourcing. This funding might be directed towards facilitating dialogue and information sharing, as well as supporting the engagement of diaspora communities and women's groups.

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Q How should government funding of WPS advocacy be directed?



RECOMMENDATIONS:

- **14** The second NAP formalise and clearly articulate civil society's role with regards to participation in governance, shadow reporting, and communication.
- 15 The government fund civil society's WPS engagement and participation in NAP activities.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework is identified consistently across civil society as the single biggest failing of the first NAP. Importantly, civil society notes that **the current framework does not support assessment of the NAP's impact**, particularly on the lives of women and girls affected by conflict.

The shortcomings of the M&E framework have been recognised in the *Interim Review* and the *Third Annual Civil Society Report Card*. Indeed, the *Global Study* recognises that this problem is not limited to Australia, but is a recurring weakness in NAPs globally. The *Interim Review* makes several recommendations including: the need for more precise measures that can track the progress of actions, the development of a Theory of Change, the building of baseline data, and the introduction of qualitative analysis to enable mature reporting of impact. The *Third Annual Civil Society Report Card* highlights civil society's views that NAP actions need to be designed with appropriate indicators, targets, and timelines. A review of NAPs globally supports these recommendations. NAPs from the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Nepal, the Philippines, Norway, and Japan include clear statements of intention that are supported through to implementation by specific and measurable actions and indicators.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- **16** The government respond to the findings of the Interim Review, the Third Annual Civil Society Report Card, and the Global Study to develop a robust M&E framework.
- 17 The government draw upon global research and independent expertise in the development of the second NAP's M&E framework.

FUNDING

The failure to allocate sufficient resources and funds has been perhaps the most serious and persistent obstacle to the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda over the past 15 years." (2015 Global Study, p. 372).

Civil society uniformly criticises the current NAP's lack of dedicated funding, arguing that it has restricted the NAP's implementation. The *Interim Review* has similarly identified this, emphasising that there is no explicitly allocated funding either internally (for department-level budgets) or externally (in the areas where Australia practices its peace and security work). The lack of sufficient and dedicated funding means that agencies have had to assume implementation responsibilities within their existing budgets, a model that is not sustainable.

The absence of funding for NAPs is a global issue, with <u>over 90 per cent of NAPs lacking dedicated budgets</u>. Recently, UNSCR 2242 (2015), CEDAW GR 30, and the *Global Study* have all recommended earmarking specific funding for WPS development and implementation. These reports recommend developing realistic costings of NAPs, adequate and sustainable funding models, resourcing civil society organisations, and reprioritising military spending towards conflict prevention (in 2016 the <u>UN Secretary-General compared</u> the quantum of global military spending to the OECD's expenditure on development assistance as 32 times higher).

Members of civil society indicate that **funding must be secured, not only for the lead agency, but also for each implementing department**. To understand budget requirements, an institutional gender audit of costs should be completed for appropriate baselining. Such baselining should include funding for civil society engagement and support for associated women's groups.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- **18** The government develop a transparent, dedicated, and sustainable funding model that ensures each department has the effective tools (financing, personnel, and expertise) to implement the second NAP.
- **19** The government review advice from the United Nations Secretary-General and consult global best practice in designing its funding model for the second NAP.

CONCLUSION

The second iteration of Australia's NAP is an opportunity to capitalise upon the experience, knowledge and networks that have been developed within Australia's WPS community. To take full advantage of this opportunity, the government and civil society must work together to ensure that the planning, design, and reviewing phases of the second NAP are inclusive of all relevant stakeholders, attentive to areas in need of improvement, and draw upon global best practice.

However, while it is time to look forwards, we must remain committed to our obligations to the current NAP and to the WPS agenda. In the face of emerging global challenges and opportunities, civil society and the government must continue to work together to implement the shared goal of understanding and effectively responding to the gendered impacts of armed conflict and the achievement of sustainable peace.

ABOUT THE AUSTRALIAN WPS COALITION

The Australian Civil Society Coalition on Women, Peace and Security ('the Coalition') is a non-partisan and independent coalition of civil society organisations, networks and individuals working to advance the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda in Australia, the Asia Pacific region, and globally. The Coalition works to progress the implementation and scope of the Australian National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2012–2018, and – by working constructively and collaboratively with the Australian Government – to realise of the goals set forth in the UN Security Council Resolutions on WPS. Coalition members maintain expertise ranging from the gendered impacts of armed conflict to women's participation in peacebuilding. Application for membership of the Coalition can be made through the Coalition website: www.wpscoalition.org

ABOUT MONASH GPS

Monash Gender, Peace & Security ('Monash GPS') is an innovative research centre at Monash University addressing the gendered politics of armed conflict and peacebuilding. As the world faces multiple challenges in seeking to prevent and bring an end to conflict, Monash GPS provides the research data, analysis and frameworks for ensuring that these efforts include a gender perspective. Monash GPS is comprised of policy and community-engaged scholars and practitioners whose research has an ambition to inform scholarly debate, policy development and implementation, and public understanding about the gendered complexities of armed conflict and the search for peace. Our work deals with these themes on a global level, however we are particularly focused upon the Asia-Pacific region. For more information visit: www.monashgps.org

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1 – DIALOGUE PROGRAM

FOURTH ANNUAL CIVIL SOCIETY DIALOGUE ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

13th October 2016 The National Museum of Australia, Canberra

8:30	Registration				
9:00	Opening address and acknowledgement of country by Professor Jacqui True, <i>Director of Monash GPS</i>				
9:05	Opening address by Dr Alan Ryan, Executive Director of the Australian Civil-Military Centre				
9:20	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO INTERIM REVIEW				
	 Chair - Dr Ludmilla Kwitko, WILPF Colonel Brad Orchard, Department of Defence Ms Rachel Livingston, Senior Advisor, Office for Women Ms Sally Moyle, Principal Sector Specialist, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Assistant Commissioner Mr Scott Lee, Australian Federal Police 	Panel discussion followed by audience Q & A			
11:00	MORNING TEA BREAK (20 MINUTES)				
11:20	CASE STUDY (PARALLEL SESSION: IRAQ/ SYRIA OR BOUGAINVILLE)				
	 WPS IN IRAQ AND SYRIA (GARDEN ROOM) Chair - Ms Susan Hutchinson, Civil Society Coalition on WPS Ms Laura Grant, Senior Policy Advisor, Humanitarian, World Vision Australia Ms Natalya Wells, Policy & Political Affairs Officer, International Committee of the Red Cross Dr Katherine Mimilidis, Assistant Director - Humanitarian Policy and Partnerships, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade 	Panel discussion			
OR		audience Q & A			
	 WPS IN BOUGAINVILLE (PENINSULA ROOM) Chair – Mr Greg Fry, ANU Ms Isabel Koredong, Programme Coordinator, Bougainville Women's Federation Dr Michele Rumsey, Director WHO Collaborating Centre, UTS Mr Charlie Jebb, Bougainville Unit Manager, DFAT 				
12:40	Lunch (40 minutes)				

1:20	EMERGING ISSUES AND THEIR INTERSECTION WITH WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY				
	 Chair - Ms Gemma Muir, Research Policy and Advocacy Coordinator, IWDA CVE - Dr Laura Shepherd, UNSW Displacement - Ms Chanelle Taoi, Legal Officer, UNHCR Humanitarian Response - Ms Jenny Lee, Assistant Director-Women, Peace and Security, ACMC 	Presentations followed by facilitator-led discussions			
2:50	ADDRESS BY MS BANDANA RANA, UN CEDAW COMMITTEE EXPERT & STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF SAATHI				
	Introduced by Mr Marc Purcell, Executive Director, ACFID	Presentation followed by audience Q & A			
3:30	AFTERNOON TEA (15 MINUTES)				
3:45	EVALUATING THE NAP: EVALUATE GOVERNMENT PROGRESS AGAINST THE NAP AND OUTLINE A PROCESS FOR CIVIL SOCIETY INVOLVEMENT IN THE SECOND NAP				
	Chair – Dr Katrina Lee-Koo, Deputy Director, Monash GPS	Group work			
4:45 – 5:00	CONCLUDING REMARKS – DR ANU MUNDKUR, CIVIL SOCIETY COA	LITION ON WPS			

ANNEX 2 – ONLINE SUBMISSION QUESTIONS____

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE GOVERNMENT CONSULT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SECOND NAP? (PLEASE CHOOSE AS MANY AS ARE RELEVANT).

- a. Fund an organisation to undertake meetings with community groups and prepare a report
- b. Provide opportunities for online or written submissions to government directly
- c. Government directly engage with relevant community groups at meetings and workshops
- d. A combination of all of the above
- e. Other

ARE THERE COMMUNITIES THAT THESE CONSULTATIONS SHOULD MAKE PARTICULAR AND DEDICATED EFFORTS TO ENGAGE WITH? (PLEASE CHOOSE AS MANY AS ARE RELEVANT).

- a. Diaspora
- b. Youth
- c. Indigenous
- d. WPS specific NGO and advocacy groups
- e. Conflict-affected groups living in Australia
- f. Other

WHERE ARE CIVIL SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES BEST PLACED TO IMPACT THE DESIGN AND DRAFTING OF THE SECOND NAP? (PLEASE CHOOSE AS MANY AS ARE RELEVANT).

- a. Working with government to write the entire plan (as co-drafters)
- b. Working with government to design a shared vision for the NAP
- c. Working with government to design the M&E framework
- d. Working with government to design the actions and activities
- e. As reviewers who may comment on the draft plan
- f. Civil society should not be involved in the NAP's design
- g. Other

Q4 DO YOU THINK THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD PROVIDE FUNDING TO CIVIL SOCIETY TO ENGAGE IN WPS ADVOCACY?

O Yes

O No

O5 HOW SHOULD THIS FUNDING BE DIRECTED?

- a. To facilitate Dialogue within civil society and with government
- b. Create opportunities for research and knowledge dissemination
- c. Support civil society shadow reporting implementation
- d. Sponsor public events to raise WPS awareness levels amongst the public
- e. Support the administration, management and activities of the WPS Coalition
- f. Other

6 IF SO, WHY DO YOU OPPOSE GOVERNMENT FUNDING?

DO YOU FEEL THAT YOU HAVE EFFECTIVE CAPACITY TO INFLUENCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SECOND NAP?

O Yes

O No

OR WHAT WOULD BUILD YOUR CAPACITY?

HOW MIGHT YOU INFLUENCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SECOND NAP? (PLEASE CHOOSE AS MANY AS ARE RELEVANT).

- a. Through peak bodies such as ACFID and WPS Coalition
- b. Through my own organisation's relationship with government
- c. Through my own connection with government representatives
- d. Through public workshops and events such as the annual civil society Dialogue
- e. Other

Q10 HOW SHOULD CIVIL SOCIETY BE INVOLVED IN AUSTRALIA'S SECOND NAP? (PLEASE CHOOSE AS MANY AS ARE RELEVANT).

- a. Continue to be represented on the government's NAP subcommittee
- b. Continue to be represented on the NAP's senior level Interdepartmental Working Group
- c. As co-signatories of the second NAP
- d. As having a formalised independent shadow reporting role in the second NAP
- e. Other

CONTENT OF THE SECOND NAP

Q12 PLEASE RANK THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE FOLLOWING ISSUES IN RELATION TO WPS GLOBALLY AND NATIONALLY:

- Countering violent extremism
- O Humanitarian assistance and disaster relief
- O Forced displacement
- Climate change
- Sexual and reproductive health of women affected by conflict
- Other

Q13 SHOULD THE SECOND NAP SEEK TO ACTIVELY AND EXPLICITLY ALIGN ITSELF WITH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING GLOBAL FRAMEWORKS?

- a. SDGs
- b. 2015 Global Study
- c. High Level Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture
- d. High Level Review of Peace Support Operations
- e. Youth, Peace and Security agenda (UNSCR2250)
- CEDAW General Recommendation 30
- g. The NAPs of other countries in our region, and globally
- h. 1951 UN Refugee Convention
- i. Arms Trade Treaty
- j. Other

Q14 PLEASE ADD ANY COMMENTS YOU MAY HAVE ON WHY AND HOW THIS ALIGNMENT SHOULD OCCUR:

SHOULD THE SECOND NAP ACTIVELY AND EXPLICITLY ALIGN ITSELF WITH ANY DOMESTIC POLICIES AND FRAMEWORKS? IF SO, PLEASE LIST WHICH ONES YOU SEE AS RELEVANT.

16 SHOULD THE SECOND NAP SEEK TO:

- O Balance the protection, prevention, participation, and relief & recovery pillars
- Emphasise the prevention pillar
- Emphasise the protection pillar
- O Emphasise the participation pillar
- Emphasise the relief & recovery pillar

ANNEX 3 – INDICATIVE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

LOOKING BACK

- 1. What do you think the best features of Australia's first NAP are?
- 2. What were the most disappointing features?
- 3. Do you think the government's rhetoric is matched by the actions in the NAP?
- 4. Do you think Australia's NAP has strong leadership and coordination? Do you think the OfW should continue to the be lead?
- 5. Do you think the NAP sufficiently adapted to emerging challenges that Australia has faced over the last four years?

LOOKING FORWARD

- 1. Where is Australia best placed to make a strategic impact on the WPS agenda?
- 2. What should the clear and stated intention of the second NAP be? What are the main priority areas?
- 3. Do you think there is sufficient political will to build a strong second NAP?
- 4. Should the second NAP include a domestic WPS agenda?
- 5. There are currently a number of departments and agencies that are not involved in the NAP. Do you think there needs to be an expansion of the agencies involved in the NAP? If so, what agencies?
- 6. What would be an ideal governance and reporting structure for the second NAP?
- 7. Should Civil Society have a formalised role in the second NAP? E.g., in the M&E, governance and reporting and implementation.
- 8. Where can government and civil society improve engagement over NAP implementation?
- 9. Do you think government is engaged enough with conflict-affected communities in its implementation and development of the NAP?
- 10.To what extent should Civil Society be involved in the consultation process for the design of the second NAP?
- 11.Do you think the NAP is consistent with Australia's other laws, policies and commitments to international agreements? E.g., asylum seekers, violence against women, CEDAW, etc.





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