

## OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-APA\_D\_2.1

### **Gender-responsive policy and legislative frameworks are developed and implemented to promote safe migration, decent work and sustainable development for all women workers, including migrant workers**

Progress towards increasing legislation and support and services to ensure safety and security of women migrant workers throughout the labour migration journey were made as seen in the gender-specific recommendations in the ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour (AFML) and the Colombo Process’s Thematic Area Working Group (TAWG) meetings. In the 15th AFML, a recommendation to include protection women migrant workers from forced labour, discrimination, violence and harassment in the development or review of bilateral labour migration agreements (BLA)/Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) was made and adopted by Member States and other stakeholders. For the Colombo Process, the Government of Bangladesh made a recommendation on building capacity on gender-responsive and rights-based in employment contracts leading to improved accountability of recruitment for labour migration in the meeting of the Thematic Area Working Group (TAWG) on foster ethical recruitment practices. These followed the efforts of UN Women and its CSO partners to integrate gender perspectives in labour migration governance.

## OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-APA\_D\_2.2

### **More women lead, participate and have access to business opportunities to advance sustainable and inclusive growth (Outcome 7)**

Significant Progress was made in supporting more women to lead, participate and have access to business opportunities to advance sustainable and inclusive growth. Women-owned businesses (WOBs) and women entrepreneurs have become more gender inclusive, better equipped to scale and improve business performance, have established relevant connections with financing mechanisms and facilitated other partnership opportunities. WEA strengthened capacities of women entrepreneurs and women-owned businesses, especially through innovative ecosystem approaches in areas such as unpaid care and gender-lens investing. Overall, entrepreneurs reported that the WEA entrepreneurship trainings had the biggest impact in: helping their businesses become more gender inclusive (29.9%) gaining knowledge and tools to up-scale their businesses (23.2%) improving business performance, establish relevant connections and identify financing mechanisms (18%) (please refer to Final report in supporting document as evidence.) WEA mobilized and trained 3,096 women across all WEA countries (since programme inception in 2019) that aimed to increase access to entrepreneurship and leadership training programmes (e.g., business training, financial education and/or technical skills). To measure the effectiveness and impact of capacity-building activities, particularly those focused on entrepreneurship, WEA developed a set of impact-based surveys to collect data from entrepreneur beneficiaries who participated in various trainings across the WEA countries. A total of 353 responses were received from women entrepreneurs and WOBs across the WEA countries between September 2021 – August 2022. UN Women’s holistic approach to work with governments and private sector towards an ecosystem for advancing women’s economic empowerment has contributed to the above results. It encouraged the central role of the private sector in advancing women’s economic empowerment (WEE) and promoting a gender-inclusive economic recovery. Working with the private sector, commitment and actions from the private sector to drive more

responsible business conduct, have been leveraged during the reporting period. Building on the successful implementation of the WEPs Awards 2021, WEA organized the third WEPs regional awards to recognize exemplary business practice for gender equality aligned to the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs). This year, the Awards generated significant interest, resulting in 1208 applications this year compared to 700 received in 2021 (cumulative values). The success of the WEPs Awards establishes it as a powerful vehicle at both national and regional level to raise awareness of the WEPs among key stakeholders, create openings for collaboration, and mobilize the private sector to commit to and act to become more gender inclusive. UN Women's knowledge products have also reached a wide audience and significantly contributed to UN Women's holistic COVID-19 response and specially to address unpaid care work and awareness-raising and public advocacy for a gender-responsive recovery has also been essential. Its efforts will also seed interest in a larger regional agenda on the care economy that will capitalize on Asia-Pacific global moments in 2023. For instance, the WEPs "Trends and Opportunities to Advance Gender Equality in Business in Asia and the Pacific" developed and launched by UN Women in 2022 provides valuable insights on the progress made by companies on the level and depth of promoting WEPs and gender equality across supply chains and highlights gaps where actions are still needed. UN Women built further momentum and awareness on the Care Economy through the development and launch of the Care Entrepreneurship Think Piece entitled "Can Inclusive Care Entrepreneurship be a pathway to address gaps in the childcare sector in Asia and the Pacific?" and disseminating key findings from the Think Piece in various fora including during the WEA Closing Forum in August 2022 and the 2022 Asian Venture Philanthropy Network (AVPN) Global Conference in Indonesia. On the theory of change, there also remains a need to assess how the Programme has affected and can support the most marginalized women. While UN Women Country Office efforts target the most marginalized groups in most cases, the WEA project targeted middle-income countries as well as the "missing middle" of women-owned SMEs as strategic entry points to demonstrate gender-responsive business models. Linking these different target groups in integrated programme approaches could be explored, for example, through the work on gender-responsive procurement (GRP). Efforts to expand and increase the income of women-led SMEs could promote their inclusion in supply chains of large companies, including multinational enterprises. In turn, these SMEs could be mobilized to employ and source products and services from relatively more disadvantaged women in the community. Similarly, efforts to reduce the disproportionate share of women in unpaid care work could target marginalized women to gain access to decent work and income (including in the care economy itself), through improved access to and availability of affordable child and elder care. Social norms change is WEE with a view to working across the individual, systemic, formal, and informal levels to stimulate transformative change. It will require UN Women to leverage its expertise in research and data, generation and dissemination of knowledge products, advocacy, and holistic approaches to capacity building of actors to influence policy changes and support implementation of gender-responsive practices at all levels. It will also necessitate clarifying how synergies across thematic areas will be leveraged and identifying opportunities where UN Women could be positioning itself for the future. An important learning is that programmatic efforts have reiterated that private sector engagement is fundamental in the journey to advancing women's economic empowerment and gender equality. Resource mobilization to maintain the visibility on WEE achieved through WEA and the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) approach has a critical role to play in supporting the private sector to implement the WEPs. While WEA constructively engaged with policymakers to identify and propose solutions for challenges faced by women in the private sector, securing buy-in and advancing policy level changes proved to be very lengthy and required significant efforts. Targeted and prolonged capacity building of public stakeholders will be necessary for transformational legislation and gender mainstreaming practices. Moreover, with increased requirements for accountability set by and among governments and investors, Transparency & Accountability will continue to be a key priority area for future normative and policy work. Three years was a limited amount of time to fully implement and document the impacts of all the various assets created. As such, a key challenge moving forward is the sustainability of the assets created in terms of continued implementation. Resource mobilization to expand WEPs support at field level - beyond the current WEA countries - is critical to ensure a consistent approach.

## **Needs of women are better addressed by climate change and disaster risk reduction actions for ensuring alternative climate-resilient livelihoods**

Governments and intergovernmental organisations including the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) articulated greater commitments to collaborate and advance gender equality in climate change to deliver more inclusive outcomes. Key to this was the adoption by the ASEAN Centre of Energy of the Roadmap on Accelerating ASEAN Renewable Energy Deployment through Gender-Responsive Energy Policy, with technical support from UNEP. The chair of the Renewable Energy Sub-Sector Network of the ASEAN Energy Cooperation has adopted it and a strong commitment was made to implement the actions and monitor the results. The roadmap will inform the ASEAN long-term renewable energy roadmap that is currently under development, with clear gender targets and indicators. Similarly, climate change was identified as a key priority for technical cooperation between the ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW) and UN Women, reaffirming the commitments in the ASEAN-UN Women Joint Work Programme. The development of the sub-regional flagship reports on the State of Gender Equality and Climate Change in South Asia and the Hindu Kush Himalaya and Southeast Asia to identify gaps and scalable actions serve as key policy too. Findings and recommendations of the ASEAN report has informed the ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW)/ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) workplan and the actions of different sectoral bodies working in climate change, agriculture, DRR and renewable energy. In the reporting year, governments and institutions from over 18 countries have strengthened capacities to integrate gender equality priorities in climate, renewable energy, and disaster risk reduction policies and plans. Governments adopted gender-responsive climate change and disaster risk reduction policies at the country level including the Bangladesh Climate Change Gender Action Plan and the Viet Nam Climate Change Strategy to 2050 through policy guidance, capacity building, and dialogues. These policies and frameworks brought opportunities for increased investments in addressing gender and social inequalities and building long-term resilience for women and vulnerable communities. Women entrepreneurs and women-enterprises have strengthened capacities for resilient livelihoods as a result of trainings and increased access to renewable energy financing mechanisms. A total of 473 women have established or improved livelihood activities and over 1,689 women receiving indirect economic benefits such as improved standard of living due to access to basic services including water, reduced health and protection risks due to accessible and cleaner energy sources, and time saved due to availability of products and services in their communities. Over 56 women's rights and civil society organizations participation and leadership were strengthened in climate and disaster risk reduction dialogues and decision-making processes. CSOs have broadened networks, increasingly engaged in dialogues with governments, and has led community-based climate and DRR actions. Overall, UN Women in partnership with UNEP, through the joint project EmPower Women for Climate Resilient Societies together with its partners, provided integrated support aimed, leveraged platforms, fostered partnerships, and placed gender equality and human rights in the spotlight, creating a foundation for amplifying and scaling up results.

## **An enabling legislative and policy environment in line with international standards on EVAW and other forms of discrimination is in place and translated into action**

Institutionalization of survivor-centered and migratory-inclusive service provision for responding to cases of violence against women abroad The APA Outcome 3.1 made significant progress during the reporting period. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) of Viet Nam institutionalized the quality service provisions for Vietnamese women abroad. In December 2022, MOFA adopted the "Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Supporting Overseas Vietnamese Women Victims of Violence, Abuse, Sexual Harassment and

Trafficking in Persons” with technical support from UN Women ROAP and the Viet Nam Office. Technical support from UN Women was provided through consultations throughout the development process and review processes of the draft documents. The SOPs were designed based on the “Practical Guide: Developing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for a Coordinated Response to Violence against Women, including women migrant workers” developed by the UN Women regional office. With the SOPs, foreign service officials and diplomats of Viet Nam embassies and consulates overseas are able to provide strengthened protection and support for Vietnamese citizens abroad, especially those who have experienced violence against women or trafficking in persons. The SOPs will be implemented through Vietnamese embassies and consulates globally as a guiding document for survivor-centered referral procedures between Viet Nam and countries of destination. This SOP was reported as one of the leading workstreams by Viet Nam through the implementation and review of the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on the Elimination of Violence against Women, through the mid-term review of the RPA, conducted in 2021 with support from the regional office (reported in 2021). Strengthening the capacities of foreign service officials in survivor-centered service provision for women migrant workers emerged following one basic workshop in Viet Nam in 2019, and evolved into an ongoing series of learning sessions that incorporated the experiences of foreign service officials globally for newly appointed foreign service officials. The SOPs formalize the training materials into practice as guiding documents for foreign service officials. Capacity development of institutions to implement laws and policies to deliver services for eliminating violence against women

Gender-Responsive Police Services In Bangladesh, the Bangladesh Police Women Network capacity was strengthened, with support from the regional office, HQ and the Bangladesh Office. The Handbook on Gender Responsive Police Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence was rolled out in Bangladesh, thus operationalizing the Essential Services Package for Women and Girls subject to Violence as it supports and assists the police by providing the “how to” as well as an exchange of experiences in relation to responding to VAWG in a transformational way ensuring a victim centered approach and building trust and confidence in local communities. The Bangladesh Police Women Network took ownership of the Gender-Responsive Police Handbook roll out process by identifying the areas where the Handbook can be incorporated, including by developing violence against women training curricula for police officers following a gap-identifying analysis process. The Gender Responsive Policing Handbook was translated and adapted to the contexts in Bangladesh. Shelters In Viet Nam, the Viet Nam Women’s Union developed the Capacity Development Roadmap of the Peace House Shelter to strengthen the shelter management and the capacity of services with technical support from UN Women. In Bangladesh, the Tarango Shelter for survivors of violence utilized the gender-based violence-women’s economic empowerment integrated model to pilot the economic empowerment interventions alongside the provision of multisectoral services. UN Women supported the light review process of the shelter project, analyzing whether services have adequately responded to survivors’ needs.

#### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-APA\_D\_3.2

##### **Favorable social norms, attitudes and behaviors are promoted at national, community and individual levels to prevent VAW**

The APA Outcome 3.2 made progress during the reporting period. Following years of advocacy and strengthening evidence, understanding and practice on prevention of VAWG and social norms change, Australia DFAT has partnered with UN Women and UNFPA ROAP offices to develop a regional center on prevention of VAW in Southeast Asia. This center is expected to strengthen prevention expertise and capacity, build evidence on effective programmatic interventions, and support regional advocacy collectives, and will focus on transformational, evidence-based advocacy, dialogue, policies and programming. UN Women is heavily involved in the design process. During the reporting period, youth equipped themselves on favourable social norms, attitudes and behaviours to end violence against women and girls. For this, they designed and led initiatives on ending violence against women and girls, drawing upon regional evidence and calling for action to support survivors of violence. The regional youth leadership

network “30 for 2030” created the “Youth Guide to End Online Gender-Based Violence (OGBV)” to call for action from youth to address OGBV, in response to the high prevalence of online violence in the Asia-Pacific region, especially among young women and girls. The Guide is a significant outcome of the youth network as the entire process was led by the members of “30 for 2030”, from selecting OGBV as the topic to drawing actionable recommendations. The youth network utilized the UN Women’s study “Online Opposition to Gender Equality” to develop the Guide, where they extracted content related to narratives and tactics of online opposition to develop recommendations about how to counter the opposition narratives and engage men and boys in promoting gender equality. The 30 for 2030 is a youth leadership network that brings together young leaders with various backgrounds—eminent civic and business innovators, feminists, entrepreneurs, technology pioneers, educators, activists, artists, journalists, and more—launched by ROAP in March 2023. The 30 for 2030 thought leaders and experts are determined change-makers to accelerate progress toward the 2030 Agenda from a feminist perspective, break down gender barriers and make gender equality a working reality in their spheres of influence. ROAP provided capacity building opportunities and mentorships to strengthen their understanding of gender equality, ending violence against women and their advocacy skills. Voices against Violence Curriculum In Thailand, students have more opportunities to learn positive gender norms and relationships to prevent violence against women and girls. 1 school in Thailand developed its own resource package on Gender and Ending Violence to integrate the “Voices against Violence (VaV)” curriculum into the regular school curriculum. This was initiated from the implementation of the VaV curriculum in 14 schools in Thailand, through the partnership with the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) and their Thailand member organization “Girl Guides Association of Thailand & GGAT”. The VaV is a non-formal education programme for children and youth to help stop violence against girls and young women, developed by UN Women and WAGGGS. ROAP provided technical and financial support for the rollout of the curriculum. In 2022, WAGGGS continued the rollout of the curriculum and used a cascading model of capacity building whereby they trained the GGAT leadership and project team on Safeguarding and Child Protection, Power Dynamics and Rape Culture in School, as well as the Voices against Violence curriculum in general, the project team, in turn, strengthened the capacities of girl guides, girl guide leaders and volunteers on these topics who then engaged the schools. The project included a diverse age range of participants who reported becoming more conscious of their actions and more mindful of how they treat others. Next to their trainings and engagement with schools and the GGAT, the girl guides also advocated for stopping violence against girls during the International Women’s Day activities. After participating in the project, they felt confident that they have the knowledge and skills to educate their families, communities, and society at large on the issue of violence against girls, and they were very motivated to carry this work forward. Addressing gender-based violence on campus In Viet Nam, university campuses have become safer for their students with codes of conduct to prevent and respond to campus-related gender-based violence. During the reporting period, 3 universities in Viet Nam developed codes of conduct, based on the Guidance Note on Campus Violence Prevention and Response, with support from the regional office. Advocating for the adoption of a dedicated policy on preventing and responding to sexual harassment and sexual violence on campus has been one of the focus areas throughout the current SN period. Following this, a network of safe campuses was created with these universities as core members. Furthermore, a student-led online safe campus communication campaign was organized which reached 71,721 people, and the counselling rooms of these universities were improved to provide better quality support for students and staff in cases of violence.

#### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-APA\_D\_6.1

**Governments and civil society are able to assess and inform progress in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the SDGs as well as other global and regional normative frameworks**

In 2022, UN Women supported Governments and civil society in the Asia-Pacific region to assess and stay

informed on progress in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the SDGs as well as other global and regional normative frameworks through several processes, namely: (i) the CSW66 Regional Consultation which brought together state and non-state actors including national gender machineries, ministries in charge of environment, national disaster management organizations, civil society organizations representing diverse constituencies, UN entities, international financial institutions, intergovernmental bodies, philanthropic institutions and academia. Convened by UN Women and ESCAP, in collaboration with UNDP, UNEP, UNDRR, UNICEF and UNFPA, these consultations allowed these diverse actors to convene and agree on ways to accelerate progress on key frameworks including the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (in particular, the 2019 Asia-Pacific Declaration on Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: Beijing+25 Review), the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These discussions were useful in that they were relevant to informing stakeholder perspectives during the COP 27. Further, UN Women also contributed to the sharing of good practices in line with the regional consultation recommendations, through two side events during the global CSW66 session. Link to resources: <https://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/stories/in-focus/2022/02/csw66> (ii) Secondly, UN Women ensured that all SDG goal profiles developed for the Ninth Asia-Pacific Sustainable Development Forum (March 2022) i.e. for SDGs 4, 14, 15 and 17. UN Women also collaborated with ESCAP and UNFPA in leading on the development of the SDG 5 profile -as well as co-facilitating a roundtable on SDG 5 which allowed ESCAP member states, civil society, private sector and UN partners to discuss key impediments to progress on SDG 5 and strategies for accelerating progress in this area. The recommendations of the same were presented to ESCAP member states of 31 March and submitted at the 2022 HLPF. (iii) In the humanitarian sphere, UN Women were able to support the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management and its Secretariat to strengthen tools and good practice case studies for gender-responsive operationalization of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response Work Programme 2021-2025. (iv) Under the regional programme funded by the Government of Japan "Gender-Responsive COVID-19 Prevention and Response in Mekong Countries", UN Women's regional humanitarian and disaster risk reduction team provided support at regional and national levels, planning activities on inclusive and gender-responsive measures to prevent and respond to COVID-19, including support to COVID-19 vaccine access in Lao PDR, regional research and dialogues on women's inclusion in socio-economic recovery, and development of communications campaign. Further, under the same programme, implemented in India and funded by ROK, a study on women's leadership and meaningful participation in COVID-19 recovery and response in India were able to frame the planning of a similar regional study and dialogues to be replicated. Under the programme "Gender-Responsive COVID-19 Recovery in India" funded by MOGEF in the Government of the Republic of Korea, UN Women provided support to the India Country Office on implementing gender-responsive measures to prevent and respond to COVID-19 and support pandemic recovery efforts. In addition, the UN Women – through partnership with Humanitarian Advisory Group – rolled out two studies in India and Nepal on women's inclusion and leadership in COVID-19 socioeconomic recovery efforts in Asia-Pacific, which aimed to: (1) Understand the current state of women's leadership and participation in COVID-19 response and recovery in South Asia; (2) Identify recommendations to better support women's leadership and participation in COVID-19 response and recovery. UN Women also partnered with the Korean Women's Development Institute (KWDI) to jointly hold a regional dialogue with South Asian women civil society leaders on facilitating gender-response recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuring women's leadership in crisis decision-making and response planning in Seoul, South Korea. The regional dialogue identified best practices and lessons learned from CSOs' experience during the pandemic and provided recommendations for enhancing women's leadership and participation in planning and decision-making for COVID-19 recovery. (v) UN Women worked with UNAIDS and other Cosponsors to ensure that needs of Women living with HIV and LGBTQI communities are reflected in UBRAF's priorities in the Joint Plans at Regional and country level. Inputs were also provided in the development of Integrated Regional Action Plan for viral hepatitis, HIV and sexually transmitted infections in South-East Asia, 2022–2026 by WHO to ensure that needs of women affected by HIV are reflected and addressed. UN Women also provided inputs in the development of 'Born Too Soon' – Global



report, coordinated by WHO, focusing on gender inequity and structural barriers that contribute to poorer maternal health and stillbirth. (vi) In 2022, UN Women have also been engaging with women's civil society, digital rights organizations and cyber defenders to support regional network building among leading stakeholders advocating for gender-responsive cybersecurity across Southeast Asia and to ensure that a WPS lens is applied to cybersecurity issues. A collective of 26 civil society organizations and women's rights advocates drafted an advocacy brief with the support of UN Women. UN Women shared the key advocacy points in several international and regional fora and including in a technical Briefing Meeting for the development of the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on Women, Peace and Security. As a result of this advocacy work, the now adopted ASEAN WPS Regional Plan of Action includes reference to cybersecurity as an emerging WPS issue, as well as four specific action points on cybersecurity and WPS. The Government of Thailand has also expressed keen interest in UN Women's work on cybersecurity and on 29 November 2022, UN Women organized a government consultation with key Government bodies to support discussions on gender-responsive cybersecurity, building a foundation for continued government dialogue.

#### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-APA\_D\_6.5

### **Women have better access to formal and informal legal systems**

UN Women supported the promotion of gender-responsive legal technology resulting in the digitalisation of Timor-Leste mediation case management system. The programme utilised the CEDAW reporting and implementation process to support the adoption of the Anti\_Sexual Violence Act in Indonesia. A legal needs survey for women with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities in Fiji, the Philippines, Nepal and Indonesia. Community-based justice mechanisms were supported in Nepal resulting in higher trust and satisfaction rather amount women community members. UN Women worked with the Philippines government conducting paralegal and mental health training for incarcerated women.

#### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-APA\_D\_6.6

### **Women are empowered to build resilient, cohesive and peaceful communities to prevent radicalisation and violent extremism**

UN Women has made significant progress on the outcome 6.6 in 2022. In total, over 2.5 million individuals strengthened their understanding of the role women play in preventing terrorism, violent extremism and hate speech through the regional Prevention of Violent Extremism (PVE) programme called "Empowered Women, Peaceful Communities" - Phase V (April 2021-March 2022). UN Women continued to support the implementation and localization of National Action Plan on Women Peace and Security (NAP WPS) in Bangladesh and also has successfully advocated retaining a national policy framework for the government's commitment to advancing the Women Peace and Security (WPS) agenda in Thailand. In Bangladesh, UN Women has consolidated the experience and networks of prior phases to create a strong basis to scale up impact on preventing violent extremism and advancing the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda. UN Women has enhanced partnerships with the government, civil society, academic institutions, and development partners that can be leveraged for further engagement. The Women Peace Caf&eacute; (WPC), co-created by UN Women and the Centre for Peace and Justice (CPJ), is a key product of the overall regional PVE programme, which is the foundation of this project. Within the context of COVID-19 in this project, the WPC model expanded and proved to be a replicable and sustainable model for engaging youth to promote peace and social cohesion. Two new WPCs have been established in the two leading universities of Bangladesh; Brac University and Dhaka University. In this model, a total of 244 women enhanced their skills of entrepreneurship, including 154 female students trained in online Women Entrepreneurship Training for Promoting Peace and Social Cohesion; another 90 female students engaged

as volunteers in the six Women Peace Ambassador initiative groups, to benefit directly from the innovative social entrepreneurship activities of the initiative. With a reach across four universities in total, the WPC platform is expanding the constituency for peace and resilience by reaching young future women leaders and better equipping them to prevent terrorism, violent extremism and hate speech. In addition, with the technical support of UN Women, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs formalized the Inter-Ministerial Coordination Group for implementation of the National Action Plan for Women, Peace and Security in 2021 through its first formal meeting, which included representatives from all relevant ministries/divisions/departments. Throughout 2022, UN Women contributed to the NAP implementation by undertaking a mapping exercise to determine the status of activities undertaken by Coordination Group members under the NAP WPS, as well as refining tools and templates for monitoring and reporting against the NAP. In Thailand, UN Women contributed to strengthening the cooperation and multi-stakeholder partnership between the government and civil society organizations (CSOs) at the local level to respond to online threats and localize the WPS agenda. Both relevant local government agencies, CSOs and women's groups have enhanced their knowledge to sufficiently understand digital space and the WPS agenda. Approximately 141,000 people were reached by online digital literacy trainings to prevent hate speech and promote resilience. Women leaders, women, and youth in communities in the southern border provinces (SBPs) who were trained as digital literacy trainers conducted and facilitated the training to raise awareness and advance cybersecurity in communities and attend to the issue of hate speech. Furthermore, a total of 110 women have increased their skills in the online marketing courses for women entrepreneurs and cooperatives in SBPs. The entrepreneurship activities have been critical connecting measures in SBPs to gather the beneficiary women's groups and to engage local authorities in building trust with the Buddhist and Muslim communities. At the national level, UN Women has successfully advocated retaining a national policy framework for the government's commitment to advancing the WPS agenda. The Ministry of Social Development and Human Security (MSDHS) has agreed that UN Women will work closely with the Department of Women's Affairs and Family Development at the national level and with Coordination Centre for Children and Women in the Southern Border Provinces (CCCW-SBP) at the local level to support the review and extension of the Measures and Guidelines on Women, Peace and Security. According to the review of the Phase V conducted in 2022, overall, the project was highly relevant in addressing key gendered challenges relating to violent extremism, particularly relating to vulnerabilities of women in the COVID context. It also appropriately supported women's empowerment in ways that enable them to contribute to PVE more broadly. The project made less progress on policy implementation, in part due to government resources being diverted to tackling the pandemic. The project adapted its policy approach, working with civil society actors to localise policy implementation and awareness whilst adapting plans to work with government longer term. Therefore, the original strategy and theory of change for this outcome is applicable. During the five phases of "Empowered Women, Peaceful Communities" (April 2017 – March 2022), approximately 5 million individuals have strengthened their understanding of the role of women can play to prevent violent extremism and gender dynamics of this threat, particularly in Bangladesh, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and regionally and globally including through innovative communication tools as well as capacity development, awareness raising and knowledge sharing efforts. More than 6,000 women from over 200 communities in the four countries have strengthened their capacity to generate income as a result of the project's economic empowerment initiatives. They have become to be agents of change in their communities and promote peace and social cohesion, thereby preventing radicalization and violent extremism. Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, digital platforms and online spaces are being increasingly used to spread sexist, inaccurate, and dangerous rhetoric about women, inciting hatred and potentially provoking violence – online and offline. Through digital literacy training, 420 young leaders (408 women and 12 men, including indigenous peoples, transgender individuals, the urban poor and rural communities) in Bangladesh, the Philippines, and Thailand have strengthened capacity to identify, protect against and report online hate speech, misinformation and disinformation, especially in the context of COVID-19. They also learned how to create and disseminate edutainment videos to promote gender equality and social cohesion through social media. The key lessons learned and good practices emerging from the programme include the following: collective space for women's engagement in peacebuilding; national consultations and coalition building; digital literacy and social media skills were highly valued;



engagement with new stakeholders (including youth and religious leaders) by incorporating a more comprehensive approach to community-level preventing violent extremism trainings; partnership formation; use of creative communication materials; development of a body of research and evidence that supports the implementation of a gender-sensitive approach to PVE; awareness of the subject matter's sensitivity and the need to ensure the safety of all participants and implementers. (Please refer to the attached programme brief for more details)

#### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-APA\_D\_6.8

**Timely gender-sensitive data on the impact and responses to crisis, including COVID-19, are produced and their use is promoted to inform policies, programmes, advocacy and research**

Sex-disaggregated data on the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic was generated, some of which was used to inform responses and government discussions (for instance, in Indonesia, estimates were used to inform G20 discussions). In addition, a nationally representative survey on gender and the environment was conducted in Tonga. Data collection finalized in December and data analysis is currently on-going. Estimates are expected to inform the country's disaster strategy. Finally, a pilot Time Use Module was implemented in Indonesia in two select provinces, to prepare the country for implementation at a national scale in 2023-2024.

#### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-APA\_D\_6.9

**Gender statistics, sex-disaggregated data, and knowledge are produced, analysed and used to inform policymaking, advocacy and accountability for delivering gender equality and women's empowerment results**

In light of the new available estimates on the gendered effects of COVID-19 generated by UN Women in 7 countries in 2022, Indonesia and Kiribati have both made use of the findings for national purposes. In the case of Indonesia, the estimates have been used widely to inform speeches and government discussions, including within the context of the G20 discussions held in Indonesia, where the Ministry for Women and Children used the survey estimates to highlight the importance of investing in women's economic empowerment. In the case of Kiribati, a national dialogue on the gendered consequences of COVID-19 resulted in heightened government interest in using the estimates, including to inform discussions on drafting the gender strategy. Furthermore, the figures were used for implementing a training on using gender data, so media professionals, civil society representatives, government officials and statisticians got to learn where to use the data, how to interpret it, and conducted their own analysis with it.