

Progress in Sudan country in 2023

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-SDN_D_1.1

More women of all ages fully engage with political and economic institutions and in leadership

Despite the ongoing conflict in Sudan, progress towards the outcome has been achieved. UN Women followed the principle of intersectionality in all its supported interventions. Representation from different geographical locations in Sudan, as well as age and class were considered in the criteria for the selection of beneficiaries of UN Women supported interventions. This later provided opportunities for women from different backgrounds to engage with decision makers in key political intergovernmental organizations. The Sudanese Women Conference in Kampala - in collaboration with the AU, and IGAD - is an example. More than 460 women from form Sudan and abroad from diverse ethnic, political and age backgrounds shaped a feminist peace agenda, resulting in the Kampala Feminist Declaration outlining short, mid, and long-term peace priorities providing a unified voice for women in shaping the peace landscape. To ensure that the document captures voices of women most excluded, consultations with more than 400 IDP women and women from host communities in Sudan were conducted and intersectionality as key in the selection of targeted women. In addition, through the technical support provided to different women-led platforms, the statements and declarations emphasized ending the war coupled with underscoring a process that is gender responsive. The statements also emphasized setting a new political, economic and social environment that is built on equality. These are all key aspects that contribute to reinforcing a mindset where decision makers - as well as communities - that want to move towards sustainable political restitution of democracy and development cannot achieve this without the full engagement of women of all demographic groups in the processes and in the institutions mandated to do so. The Kampala declaration built on previous statements released by the platforms created with support from UN Women that reinforce participation and leadership of women for sustainable political systems and development. The declaration was then used by different women delegations in their engagements with decision makers in key political fora and meetings, such as the meeting with UN Special Envoy for the East and Horn of Africa, the briefing to John Godfrey (the US Special Envoy to Sudan) and the German Ambassador to Sudan. Following this, Sudanese women participated in a New York based roundtable entitled &ldguo;African Women at the Peace Table," focusing on regional challenges in Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. In November, they joined the African Union Peace and Security Council's Open Session, advocating for an end to the war, increased humanitarian aid, and women's meaningful participation in peace processes. While the above-mentioned support and strategy illustrated UN Women's role in the amplification of voices and demands of women for the restoration of peace and democracy, these efforts also contributed to strengthening the capacity of women-led organizations in influencing and leading civic-led political initiatives which can influence the course of democratic governance and peace in Sudan.

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-SDN_D_2.1

Women secure access to productive resources and engage in sustainable resources creation activities in rural, peri-urban, conflict, post-conflict and humanitarian settings.

Through UN Women's support, 180 women and young women's farmers (representing four women's agricultural associations from the communities of Kassala and Red Sea) have secured

access to agricultural land. UN Women has supported the rent of agricultural lands for 5 years to support women's engagement in planting of crops, vegetables, and fruits. UN Women is also supporting the process of constructing 4 women's agricultural associations, purchasing equipment to support the value chain transformation of the goods women produce, and construction of water collection centers to mitigate the risk of rain scarcity and avail a sustainable source for irrigating women's-collective farms. The above progress UN Women has made, combined with the enhanced capacities of women's farmers in the value chain and entrepreneurship, will do much to maintain women's farmers' engagement in sustainable resource creation. A woman farmer from Gedarif state in Eastern Sudan mentioned that before the distribution of seeds, she was worried about how to secure the money to avail the seeds due to the conflict, the humanitarian crisis the country p is going through, the general inflation of prices, and the imminent rainy season. "When I received the seeds, I felt that my family was secure. Most women farmers engage in subsistence farming to secure basic family needs from the farm and exchange any surplus to meet other basic needs". After the harvest, the women farmers mentioned that the farm yields had increased, and productivity had shown a noticeable increase compared to the previous years.

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-SDN_D_4.1

Commitments on women, peace and humanitarian action are implemented in coordination between the UN System and national stakeholders, with more women and gender equality advocates influencing the processes

After the eruption of the war and to ensure that commitments on women, peace and humanitarian action are implemented, UNW redesigned its programs and geared its programmatic support towards strengthening the women-led organizations and the women-led peace movements to influence the course and direction of the peace in Sudan and return the country to the democratic path. Through its humanitarian programing, UNW applied the triple nexus to ensure that the protection and prevention pillars of NAP 1325 are implemented while also contributing to the participation pillar through encouraging the leadership and active participation in humanitarian response. The humanitarian agenda, the situation rooms established within the local humanitarian initiatives and the advocacy messages developed by these local initiatives to ensure the protection from and prevention of VAW in the current humanitarian context, were strategic tools that contributed to ensuring that commitments on women, peace and humanitarian action are implemented. In the domain of WPS, UN Women worked to strengthen the womenled peace movements in Sudan, an area which intersects with WPPL thematic area. The high level of organization of WLOs transforming into the peace and humanitarian platforms and antiwar groups inside and outside Sudan, their engagement with each other, along with the dire need to consolidate common agenda, an agreed set of demands and priorities and the need to develop key advocacy messages signified a shift from capacity building to active advocacy. This meant that UNW had to make a conscious and strategic shift from capacity building to active participation in order to try to influence the manner in which women-led organizations would work together for peace. The enhanced coordination amongst the women led peace and humanitarian platforms and collective advocacy constituted a key step toward holding the duty bearers accountable to ending the war and opening a path for humanitarian aid and services, provide for the protection of women from CRSV and return to the democratic pathway, which are all are key elements of the national WPS agenda. In addition, the establishment of local peace committees and different initiatives led by gender equality advocates to engender the informal peace processes contributed to the implementation of women, peace and security commitments and will continue to do so. The strategic focus on supporting the triple nexus and empowering gender equality advocates particularly women - to take on leadership roles in influencing the direction of the country towards peace, is a key strategy that contributes to ensuring that the program pillar of women, peace and security are priorities and needs to be attended to by the duty bearers. The realization of this strategic focus is evident as these advocates, now equipped with enhanced capacities, actively contribute not only to the

implementation of UNSCR 1325 national action plans on WPS but also for a new plan that is grounded in the triple nexus.