

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-WCA_D_1.1

Gender statistics, sex-disaggregated data and knowledge are produced, analyzed and used to inform policymaking, advocacy and accountability for delivering gender equality and women's empowerment results in West and Central Africa Region (SP Outcome 6)

Awareness about the importance of gender statistics is undoubtedly steadily increasing in countries and among partners, given the growing demand for information, guidance and technical support. However, it should be noted that this request for support sometimes arrives very late (at the time of analysis or reporting) and that it is difficult for the regional office to ensure a good technical review.

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-WCA_D_1.2

Global normative frameworks, laws, policies and institutions in West and Central Africa Region are more gender responsive (SP Outcome 1)

Thirty-two [1] African Women's Leadership Network (AWLN) chapters were launched in ESA and WCA regions to galvanize women's leadership of Africa towards lasting peace and sustainable development in all sectors and at all levels, building on, and working with, existing women networks with the support of the AU and UN. The Network builds on African women's leadership to increase women's participation in decision-making through peer learning and mentoring, enhanced solidarity, advocacy, and capacity-building among other strategies [1] DRC, Cote d'Ivoire, Central African Republic, Sierra Leone, Congo Brazzaville, Seychelles, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Morocco, Liberia, Cameroon, Benin, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Mali, Mozambique, Malawi, Niger, Kenya, Namibia, Tunisia, Gabon, Lesotho, Sao Tome, South Africa, Zambia, Angola, Senegal, Guinea, Ghana, Rwanda, and Gambia.

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-WCA_D_1.3

UN System in West and Central African Region effectively, coherently and systematically contributes to progress on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls (SP Outcome 7)

Major achievements marked 2023 in Coordination. The elaboration of the WCAR Coordination Strategy is a key milestone to clarify the menu of services of UNW on Coordination in the region and to enhance partnerships and opportunities for joint interventions and mobilization of resources with regional economic commissions, IFIs, regional and continental bodies and platforms and CSOs. Support to 7 UNSDCF rolled out in 2023 was made and GEWE was mainstream in all of them. WCAR as Peer Support Group Member supported 7 prioritization exercises with DCO, trained more than 300 RCO GTG staff and government official on programmatic principles, and supported the elaboration of Theories of change and results frameworks in all 7 countries that elaborated UNSDCFs/CCA this year. 2 new comprehensive UNCT SWAP reports are available (Togo and CAR) and 14 Countries presented annual reports on the UNCT SWAP gender Score Card in 2023. WCARO elaborated the compendium of Best practices on Coordination integrating examples of RCOs and GTGs in advancing GEWE mandate. RO elaborated the report of the Africa Wide

training of GTGs including participation of more than 60 staff from RCOs in the region with DCO, ESAR and UN Coordination Division. Support has been provided to advance normative agenda through the AU African Preconsultation of the CSW 68 with the outcome document in English, French and Portuguese as main result. Coordination of other intergovernmental processes is provided such as Beijing Plus 30 with ECCAS and OIBCs, and HLPF. WCARO has supported more than 6 GTG retreats in the region including Mali, DRC, Equatorial Guinea, Liberia, Sao Tomé; and Principe, and contributed to the operationalization of GTGs in Mali, Sao Tomé; and Principe and Equatorial Guinea.

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-WCA_D_2.1

A comprehensive and dynamic set of global norms and standards on gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls is strengthened and translated into gender-responsive laws, policies, and institutions in West and Central Africa Region.

In the reporting period, UN Women WCA has supported Country office to improve the integration of gender equality in laws including in areas of affirmative procurement, migration policy, unpaid care and climate policy.

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-WCA_D_2.2

More women and girls in West and Central Africa have equitable access to high quality public goods, services, jobs, and resources that are responsive to their needs.

The RO supported the Senegal National Health Insurance Agency (CMU) to adapt services and delivery mechanisms to the needs of female farmers. As a result, 1000 rural women have enrolled in the national health insurance, and have access to health insurance for the first time, with coverage extending to their family members (circa 7000 people).

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-WCA_D_3.1

More women and girls are protected from violence in West and Central Africa through normative, legal and policy frameworks and strengthened regional and national institutions that promote positive social norms.

In West and Central Africa, UNWOMEN has made significant progress on normative framework both at regional and country levels. At regional level, partnership with ECCAS resulted to the drafting of the first binding regional EAW Convention if adopted in 2024 it will have a real impact on the lives and rights of estimated hundred million women and girls in the region of Central Africa that are currently subject to SGBV. At country level CAR develop the law on sexual harassment in school to protect girls rights and access to education on post-conflict environment.

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-WCA_D_4.1

A comprehensive and dynamic set of global norms, policies and standards on gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in Peace, Security, Humanitarian and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) settings is strengthened and translated into gender-responsive laws, policies, and institutions in West and Central Africa.

In West Africa, UN Women has invested in the creation of an enabling environment for women's participation in peace processes. UN Women has worked with other partners to support all countries to develop National Action Plan for the implementation of UNSCR 1325. In this vein, 22 countries out of the 24 covered by WCARO in the West and Central Africa region. UN Women is supporting NAP implementation by strengthening coordination and supporting the establishment of NAPs secretariats by ministries of gender and allocation of national budget for the implementation of the NAPs. WCARO has started to set up strong group of women with expertise on gender and DRR. They are influencing some regional DRR processes and have started to be invited to participate in the AU group of experts on DRR. UNWOMEN strategy for more impact was to focus on capacity building of actors, development of tools and guidance on gender and DRR and advocacy.

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-WCA_D_4.2

More women and girls in West and Central Africa have equitable access to high quality public goods, services, and resources that are responsive to their needs in Peace, Security, Humanitarian and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) settings.

WCARO adopted the following specific strategies aiming to improve women's access to humanitarian response: establishment of group of expert on gender and humanitarian action (GIHA Group) in the region, advocacy, capacity building of key humanitarian actors, and specific support to women's organizations. UN Women has focused on building skills and providing tools to humanitarian actors (government Ministries, NGOs, regional women's networks and platforms, women led organizations, Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs), UN agencies) to enable them to integrate gender in the design of interventions several countries in West and Central Africa. In Niger under the leadership of the Humanitarian Gender Theme Group, a Gender Alert highlighted the effects of sanctions by sub-regional bodies (ECOWAS and the West African Monetary and Economic Union (UEMOA) on women and girls after the military coup as a contribution to the UN's dialogue on limiting the negative impact of the sanctions on humanitarian assistance in the country. UN Women in partnership with NorCap is currently supporting women's organizations that are working on humanitarian and disaster risk reduction issues in the Sahel region. UNWOMEN created space for them to interact with key decision makers and present their priorities and some solutions to different crisis particularly in the context of transition. UN Women coordinates the Regional and national Gender and Humanitarian Groups which include 30 experts from main international agencies and NGOs working in the humanitarian field A group of 20 women have developed their expertise on gender and DRR and influence through advocacy different DRR processes at the national and regional level including the AU Group on DRR

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-WCA_D_4.3

More women and girls in West and Central Africa exercise their voice, agency and leadership, including through an enabling environment that supports women's and youth organizations working in Peace, Security, Humanitarian and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) settings.

The main focus of WPS was related to women's participation in transitions and how they could influence peace in such context. An online meeting was organized with 100 participants from all the 6 african countries in transition namely: Mali, Burkina Faso, Chad, Republic of Guinea, Gabon and Sudan. Another meeting was organized by AWLN with women from countries in transition in West Africa. The same debat was conducted during the annual meeting of the Group of Women and Youth for Peace and security in West Africa and the Sahel. Women from those countries continued to make advocacy in many fora at the national and regional level. UNWOMEN also supported women's organizations advocacy for more access to financing. This advocacy was conducted through an online meeting with key donors and representatives

from different countries of the region. UNWOMEN has also identified implementing partners who will coordinate the project financed by Netherlands aiming to build capacity of 118 WOs. The project will allow to strengthen the advocacy of women's organizations for peace in the Sahel region.

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-WCA_D_4.4

Gender statistics sex-disaggregated data and knowledge in West and Central Africa are produced, analyzed and used to inform policy-making, advocacy and accountability for delivering gender equality and women's empowerment results in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) settings.

Under the technical guidance of the regional gender and statistic unit and of the Women Count regional project, many initiatives are in progress in the region to increase the number of SGG indicators, as the VAW Survey in Senegal, the TUS in Nigeria and Liberia the RGA on cost of living in Senegal. UN Women Senegal project, Women Count, has been granted a funds from the Government of Italy to support activities in Senegal to improve national-level SDG monitoring through Citizen Generated data. To support countries in the region on Statistics, the R O Gender Statistic unit has organized a regional webinar on the use of CDG for measuring SDGs. This was done in collaboration with ESARO to share with ANSD and other government agencies interested in statistics/SDGs and CSOs (over 40 persons and 16 CSOs) what other African countries have already undertaken in this area. Publication of UNW Count programme is available and englobes 11 countries of Central Africa.