



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women

HLM MoG on Women, Peace and Security Commitments in the Great Lakes

WOMEN ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

***PROTEA HOTEL - KAMPALA
NOV 2018***

Key Issues



- ❑ *What is Women Economic Empowerment?*
- ❑ *The importance of WEE*
- ❑ *Challenges*
- ❑ *Select Interventions to address the WEE challenges, including in fragile states*



WHAT IS WEE ABOUT?

- ❑ Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE) is about women's rights
- ❑ It includes equal access to, ownership of and control over property, productive assets and resources incl. finance & capacity building, decent work and full and productive employment.

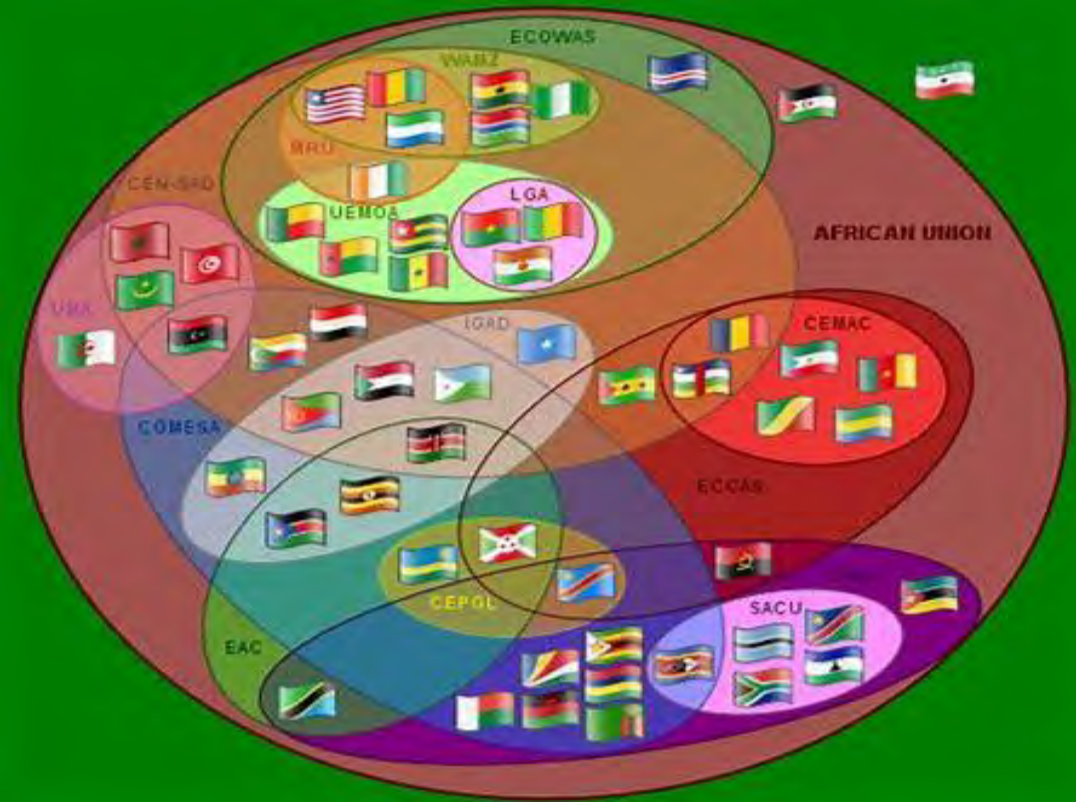


IMPACT OF GEWE IN ECONOMICS

- ❑ 20-30 per cent increase in agricultural production on women's farms could lead to 100-150 million less hungry people
- ❑ 27 per cent in the Middle East and North Africa and by 19 per cent in South Asia
- ❑ 28 trillion dollars in global growth by 2025- imagine that it would be the GDP of US and China put together!

IMPACT OF GEWE IN ECONOMICS

- ❑ Women's economic empowerment is a force multiplier for SDGs, including:
 - ✓ good governance,
 - ✓ economic growth, poverty eradication,
 - ✓ ending hunger and achieving food security and nutrition,
 - ✓ achieving sustainable consumption and production patterns and environmental sustainability





CURRENT SITUATION

- ❑ Globally, **only 1 in 2 women** participates in employment for pay or profit (**3 in 4 men**)
- ❑ About 1.27 billion women are in paid employment in 2016 against 2 billion men
- ❑ The World Bank estimates that women do 2.5 times more unpaid work than men



CURRENT SITUATION

- ❑ Structural barriers and discriminatory laws and social and cultural norms and stereotypes-
 - ✓ In Uganda only 16% of Ugandan women own land in their own right; and 7% on registered land.
 - ✓ 27% of the people nationwide, believe that women should not own land and in the mid-north the figure rises to 54%

- Women in low value chains (lowest end of the informal sector)**
- In Uganda, procurement and investment policies rarely consider gender equality as selection criteria**
- Inadequate/lack of affordable financial resources-women**
- Lack access to social capital:**
- Inadequate Business and Managerial skills:**
- Adverse effects of climate change that have dire consequences on farmers particularly women**
- Lack of Gender Disaggregated Data to inform policy**
- Inadequate and affordable financing mechanisms**

- ❑ Inadequate social protection programmes that target all segments of the population particularly the women.
- ❑ Cost of the Gender based violence:
 - ✓ In Uganda, 56% of women aged 15-49 have experienced physical violence at least once since age 15.
 - ✓ 60% of ever married women aged 15-49 have experienced some form of violence inflicted by a spouse or intimate partner (UDHS 2011)

- ❑ Increased engagement for favorable public procurement policies for Women Business Enterprises (WBEs)
- ❑ Engage financial institutions to develop gender responsive products to ease access and affordability
- ❑ Support women farmers to adopt Climate Smart Agricultural technologies
- ❑ Generating Gender Disaggregated data to inform planning and programming
- ❑ Establishment of the affirmative action funding for women



Corporate companies are urged to adopt & implement the 7 UN Women Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPS)



LINKAGE WITH WPS?

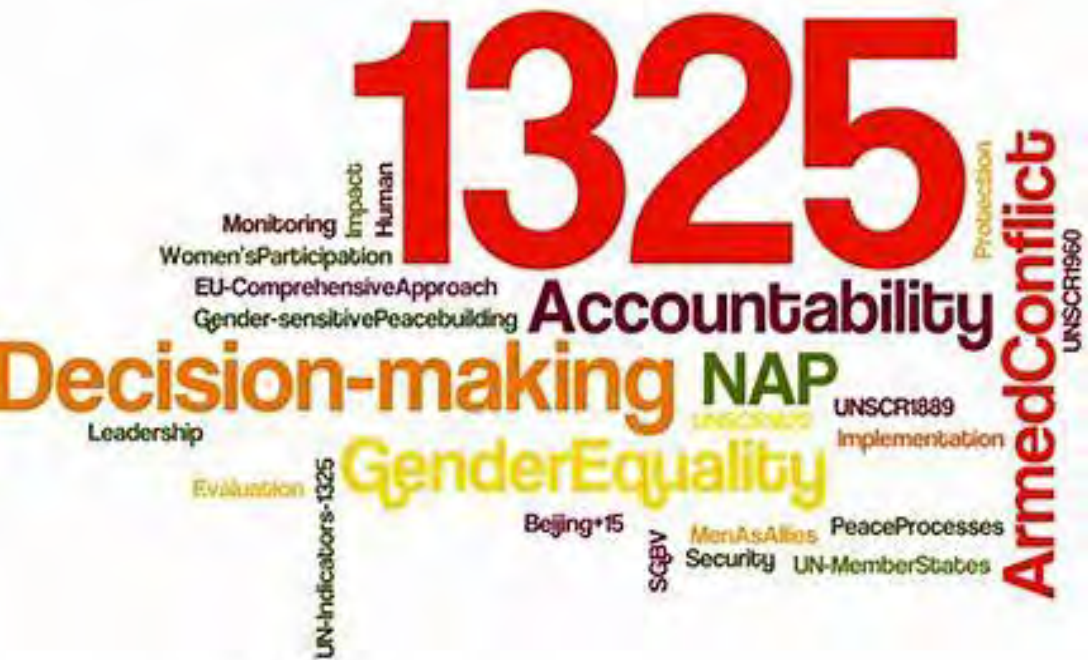
Areas of focus:

- Policy making
- Leadership & representation
- Innovation & Technology
- Capital & Infrastructure
- Market linkages



Initiatives that worked?

- Linking marginalized women to market
- Access of young women to innovative financing schemes
- Assessment of supply chain models to determine if they empower women
- Social protection; preparedness; resilience





**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR KIND ATTENTION**