

Republic of Rwanda



The implementation of UNSCRI 325 in RWANDA

February, 2019



Presentation outline

- ❑ Background;
- ❑ Some achievements in UNSCR1325 Pillars
- ❑ Challenges/Way forward;
- ❑ Conclusion.

1. Background

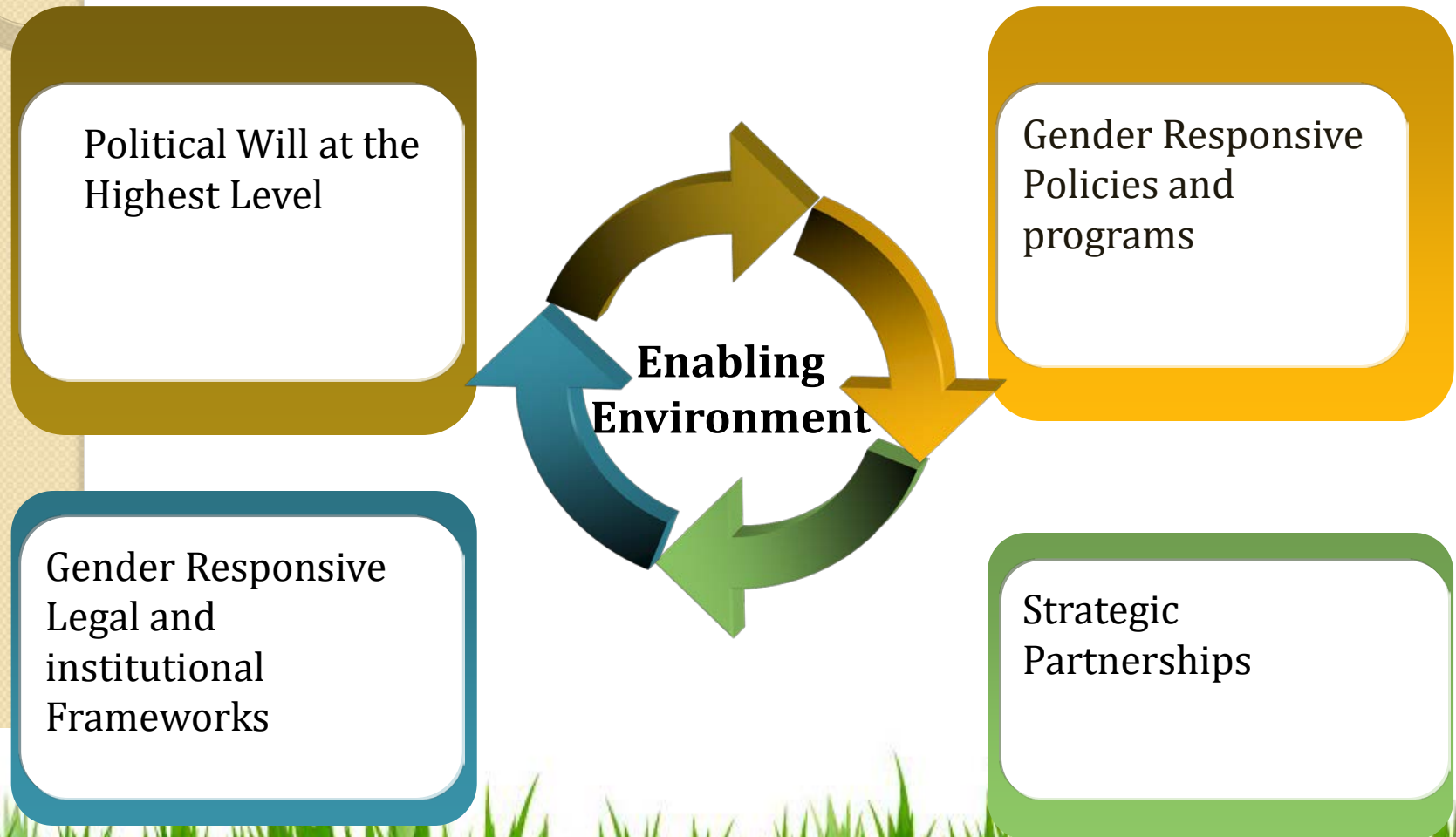
- ❑ Following the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi, Rwanda embarked on a recovery process that required the participation of all citizens in all spheres of social and economic development;
- ❑ Especially women have been empowered from being desperate victims to leading actors in the reconstruction of the country;
- ❑ The Rwandan women have had a commendable role in maintaining peace and security both at national, regional and international levels, even before the adoption of the UNSCR1325 in 2000;
- ❑ In 2009, Rwanda developed a 3 year country specific National Action Plan(NAP) for the implementation of the UNSCR 1325;
- ❑ The second generation NAP (2018-2022) has been developed and also included all four pillars for women's participation in peace and security processes and the fight against sexual and gender-based violence.

1. Background cont' ,...

The NAP framework was in line with various conventions, treaties and protocols of the African Union and the International Community that Rwanda has ratified. These include but not limited to the:

- ❑ United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000),
- ❑ Maputo Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (2003),
- ❑ Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (2004),
- ❑ Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979),
- ❑ Beijing Platform for Action (1995),
- ❑ International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) Protocol on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence Against Women and Children (2006),
- ❑ Sustainable Development Goals (2015) among others.

Enabling Factors



NGM Institutional Framework

MIGEPROF

Coordinates & formulate gender, women empowerment & family policies.

NWC

Mobilize women to participate in all development programs

Empower women in all areas of development.

GMO

Monitors gender mainstreaming in all sectors by all stakeholders

FFRP

Lobby, advocate for enactment of gender-responsive laws & gender-based oversight

PARTNERS

All Partners in gender and Family

Social cluster
Ministries and all public institutions

National Gender & Family Cluster including:

CSOs
FBOs
Accademia
Media
Dev.Partners

2. Achievements

2.1 Participation and leadership of women in decision-making

- Legal framework in place where **the Constitution of Republic of Rwanda of 2003 revised in 2015** enshrines the principle of Gender equality and equity and provides for a minimum of 30% for women in all decision making positions;
- **The Organic law N° 10/20/2013/OL of 11/07/2013 governing political parties and politicians** requires each political organization to have at least thirty percent (30%) of posts in decision making organs awarded to women.
- **The Organic law No 001/2018 of 25/03/2018 governing elections** highlights that twenty-four (24) women elected according to the administrative entities of the country in election of women Deputies but again, 30% quota for women is applied in all decision making positions;

Some statistical achievements in participation

Institution	2018	
	Women	Men
Parliament (Low Chamber)	61.3%	38.7%
Senate	38%	62%
Cabinet ministries	50%	50%
Judges and clerks	50%	50%
Ambassadors	32%	68%
Members of district councils	45.2%	54.8%
Bureau of the Districts Councils	41%	59%
District mayors and vice mayors	40%	60%
Sector Councils	42.7%	57.3%
Cells Councils	34.5%	65.5%

2.2.Prevention of violence against women and involvement in conflict prevention and peace processes

- Rwandan women have not only contributed to conflict mediation at home but have exported peace to other parts of the world in UN and AU peacekeeping missions including Sudan(Darfur, Khartoum), South Sudan, Haiti, Ivory Cost and Liberia, Mali and Central African Republic. The participation rate of women increased from 0.4 to 3% over the last 6 years in peace support operations;
- In Rwanda National Police, women represent 21%; in Rwanda Correctional Service (RCS) female represent 24% and Women in Immigration and Border services represent 18%.
- Commissioners at the National Unit and Reconciliation Commission stands at 54%;
- Ombudsman Office: 30% of the Ombudsman team;
- *Female* Community Mediators represent 50%
- Female staff in Access to Justice Bureaus represent 48% and contribute considerably to resolve cases and to reduce the number of cases reaching courts from village level

2.2.Prevention of violence against women and involvement in conflict prevention and peace processes Con't

- Further initiatives bringing together men and women to discuss issues of interest, including SGBV, and the protection of children are in place at the community level. The 'Parent's evening', or *Umugoroba w'Ababyeyi* in national language, and the Inshuti z'Umuryango (IzU) or friends of family, are becoming a prominent mechanism to prevent family conflicts, including those related to SGBV, protect children and report abuses and discuss ways to handle them.

2.3 Protection of women from violence

- Rwanda is signatory to many International/regional / instruments/ protocols;
- At National level, legal framework has been put in place. This includes: **The Constitution of Rwanda (2003) revised 2015** enshrines the country's adherence to the principle of equal rights between men and women;
- **Law N°27/2016 of 08/07/2016 governing matrimonial regimes donations and successions** equally provide for gender equality in property and inheritance rights between men and women, boys and girls;
- **Law N° 43/2013 of 16/06/2013 governing land in Rwanda** sets equal land right between men and women; boys and girls;
- ❖ **Law N°68/2018 of 30/08/2018 determining offences and penalties in general** provide punishment of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) addresses GBV in all its forms including sexual violence,

2.4 Equal access to means of relief, economic recovery and rehabilitation

In a bid to accelerate the implementation of gender related commitments regarding to economic recovery and rehabilitation, a number of initiatives have been put in place;

- A gender sensitive guidelines to mainstream gender in disaster management to recognize the differential needs of women and children during disasters have been developed and are being implemented by actors;
- An outstanding Rwandan Model of Response to GBV and Child abuse known as Isange **One Stop Centers** (IOSC) was initiated by the Government in 2009 to provide holistic response to the Victims of GBV that includes: Medical, psychosocial counseling, safe space/shelter and legal aid to the victims that are provided under one roof so as to avoid re-victimization and evidence preservation. A total of 44 IOSCs have been established in all district hospitals including those near the refugee camps.

2.4 Equal access to means of relief, economic recovery and rehabilitation Con't

- Women are represented in refugee committees whereby they make 3 out of 8 members in each camp (i.e. more than 30 %);
- The Rules and regulations governing refugee camps prohibit GBV in camps and Legal Aid Forum provide legal aid free of charge to GBV victims;
- Regular sensitization and awareness campaigns are also carried out in refugee camps and focus on how refugees can protect themselves from violence;
- In Disarmament Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR), women represent 36% in leadership positions;
- On top of mandatory reintegration benefits, 100% of female ex-combatants receive vulnerability support for education, vocational training or income generating projects.

2.5 Women's promotion and gender mainstreaming in Rwanda's foreign service, regional and international cooperation

- Female occupying leadership positions in Foreign Service related to peace and security includes diplomats who represent 17.8% and
- Female ambassadors represent 32%.

Challenges

- Low representation of women in national security organs and in diplomatic positions;
- Less representation of women in local government and private sector;
- Negative cultural and patriarchal attitudes still exist and hamper women's full involvement in development processes.

Way forward

By Implementing the second generation of NAP (2018-2022) of UNSCR1325 that has been developed by Rwanda, The focus will be on:

- Meaningful and increased participation of women at decision-making levels in all institutions and mechanisms of governance, in particular at local levels;
- Effective and operational Isange One Stop Centres across the country that provide free and comprehensive services to SGBV victims;
- Increased accountability for gender in humanitarian assistance including disarmament and demobilization programs and economic reconstruction efforts in post-conflict countries;
- Policy frameworks to support effective participation of women in regional and international peace processes are in place.

CONCLUSION

“When women advance, everyone benefits. The key principle, in addition to understanding gender equality as a human right, is to use the talents of all our people to the full potential, in politics, business and elsewhere. This is common sense if we want to advance and improve our societies,” **HE Paul Kagame, the President of Republic of Rwanda at the launch of the HeforShe Impact 10x10x10 campaign in Davos**

THANK YOU!

