

WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY: A Case for Increasing Awareness of the Gender Perspective



Presented by: Ms. Elizabeth Lape, JSJ7
MAJ Melanie Presuto, AFRICOM J7

Boko Haram and 250+ missing school girls



Facts

- More than half the world's population is female.
- Conflict affects women and children disproportionately.
- Violence against women can be primary indicator of a nation's stability.
- Amid all the ethnic, sectarian, political differences in Afghanistan/Iraq, largest disenfranchised group is women.
- Gender perspective can be a tool to increase operational effectiveness.

What is gender perspective?

Gender perspective is a way of assessing gender-based differences of women and men reflected in their social roles and interactions, in the distribution of power and the access to resources. The aim is to consider a particular situation in terms of the needs for men and women, as well as how various activities may affect them differently.



United Nations Security Council



Resolution 1325

- UNSCR 1325 signed 31 Oct 2000 - Protection, Prevention, Participation, Gender Mainstreaming
- WHY did it come about?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CltJoKKKApk&list=PLD7FFCA8F21D63FAB>

Operational Effectiveness

Gender perspective, including the equal participation of women in all efforts to create and maintain national and international security, *improves the operational effectiveness of DOD.*



Gendercide

➤ Gender Assaults:

- Kosovo Civilian Population
- Serbs against Albanians
- Ethnically Cleansing territories

Kosovo, 1998-1999

➤ “Gendercidal Strategies: Targeting of non-combatant male population of “battle-age” for mass execution, detention, and torture.”

- Mass Murder of men 10 – 102 years of age.
- Within a few days over 400 Albanian men killed.
- Presumed 90% or higher male dead.



➤ Expulsion of Kosovo women, children and the elderly.

- Sexual assaults of hundreds of Kosovo Albanian women.
- Women, the elderly, and children were also exposed to a wide range of abuses and war crimes, ranging from killings to rape and forced expulsion.

Impact on Children

- **Child Soldiers**
- **“Dancing Boys”- Afghanistan**
 - The practice of wealthy or prominent Afghans exploiting underage boys as sexual partners who are often dressed up as women to dance at gatherings is on the rise in post-Taliban Afghanistan according to Afghan human rights researchers.



Democratic Republic of Congo

- Government soldiers frequently kill and rape civilians and press them into forced labor or loot their belongings.
- On January 1, 2011, soldiers raped at least 67 women and girls and arbitrarily detained and tortured dozens of other civilians in Fizi, South Kivu.*
- Also in January 2011, soldiers raped at least 47 women and girls in Bushani, North Kivu, and looted and burned some 100 homes.



* World Report 2012: Democratic Republic of Congo

Female Engagement Teams

➤ Once called the “Lionesses” in Iraq with the USMC, employed at checkpoints for searching female Iraqi’s

➤ Started in Afghanistan

- Assigned to infantry unit before combat exclusion law was lifted.
- Met with Afghan women in homes/villages.
- Assessed need for aid.
- Gathered intelligence.



➤ Step in implementing DOD Goal to: “enhance staff capacity by applying a gender-sensitive approach to defense in conflict affected environments.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fHh3bVqOkTI>

Contribution to Mission Success

- When they engage women, police and military forces can gain a fuller picture of the entire community's needs.
- They can learn about the nature and extent of gang violence and recruitment, human trafficking, intimidation and extortion by organized crime, drug use in schools, and much more.



Key influencers in the family

- Because of their intimate relationships with family members, women may be able to influence the outcomes of whether their sons, daughters, or husbands will support U.S. objectives or endorse violent ideologies in opposition to U.S. forces.
- “Win the women, and you own the family unit. Own the family, and you take a big step forward in mobilizing the population.”

FM 3-24.2, Tactics in Counterinsurgency



Human security within a community

- Sexual and gender-based violence is a *highly effective weapon of war* that can destroy the morale and familial ties of an entire society.
- Addressing the specific security needs can help to *break a cycle of violence* and help durable peace to take root.



Those on the ground....

...the 'ears' and 'eyes' of the international community!



POTUS

“Experience shows that true democracy cannot be built without the full and equal participation of half our population. Women’s economic empowerment is essential for economic recovery and growth worldwide. Successful transitions in the Middle East and North Africa will depend on women’s ability to shape their countries’ futures.”

(President Obama, 08 May 2012)



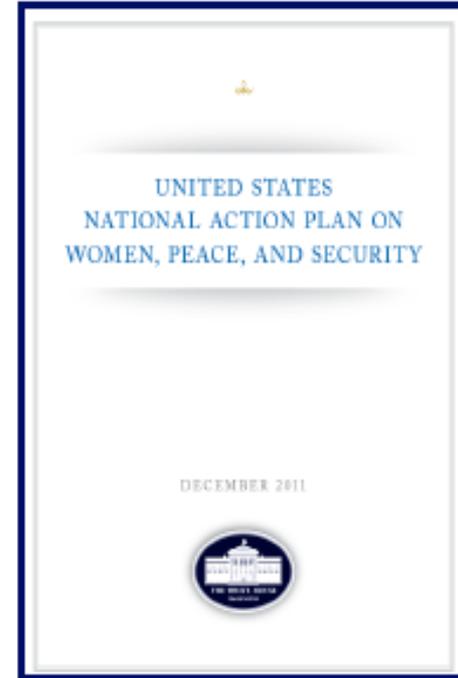
U.S. National Action Plan

(December 2011)

- U.S. is one of 43 countries with a NAP.
- The goal of the U.S. NAP is to *empower women as equal partners* in preventing conflict and building peace in order to improve our effectiveness in diplomacy, defense, and development.

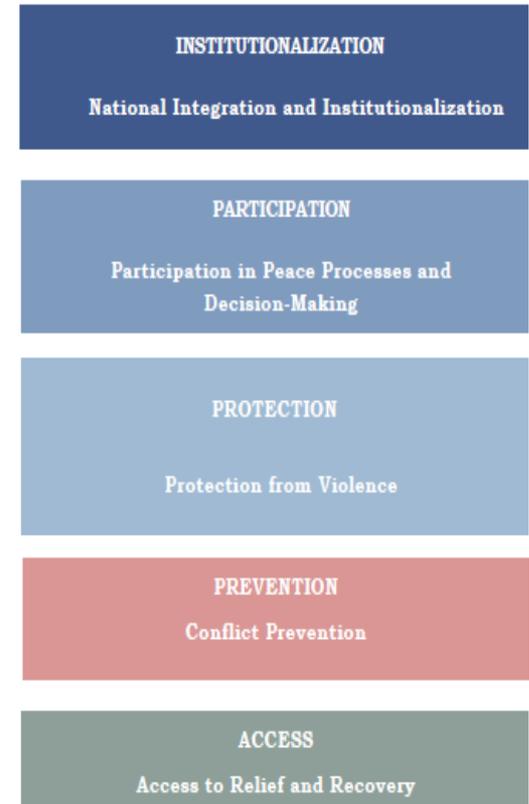
The U.S. NAP reflects:

- Commitment to the pursuit of gender equality and the empowerment of women as agents of change.
- Commitment to ensuring that women's
 - voices are heard, not marginalized;
 - views included, not sidelined;
 - needs and interests are served, not ignored.



U.S. NAP/DOD Objectives

- National Integration and Institutionalization
- Participation in Peace Processes and Decision-Making
- Protection from Violence
- Conflict Prevention
- Access to Relief and Recovery



Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

“When we undercut the contributions of one gender we do so at our own peril ... denying ourselves half the talent, half the resources, half the potential of the population. And as we approach future challenges we must think rather than fight our way through, we need to be able to leverage all of the best thinking out there.”

“The goal of this National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security is as simple as it is profound: to empower half the world’s population as equal partners in preventing conflict and building peace in countries threatened and affected by war, violence and insecurity. Achieving this goal is critical to our national and global security.”

General Martin E. Dempsey



DOD Implementation Guide signed Oct 2013:

DOD Implementation of the U.S. National Action Plan **requires actions to be taken by the U.S. military.**

Outcome 1.2: Agencies enhance staff capacity for applying a gender-sensitive approach to diplomacy, development, and defense in conflict-affected environments.

Action 1.2: Ensure all relevant U.S. personnel and contractors receive appropriate training on Women, Peace, and Security issues, including instruction on the value of inclusive participation in conflict prevention, peace processes, and Security initiatives, international human rights law and international humanitarian law, protection of civilians, prevention of SGBV, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), and combating TIP. Training mechanisms may include:

Pre-deployment and **in-theater training for members of the U.S. military and civilians**, as well as Professional Military Education (PME), including commander's courses and intermediate and senior service schools.

Combatant Commands

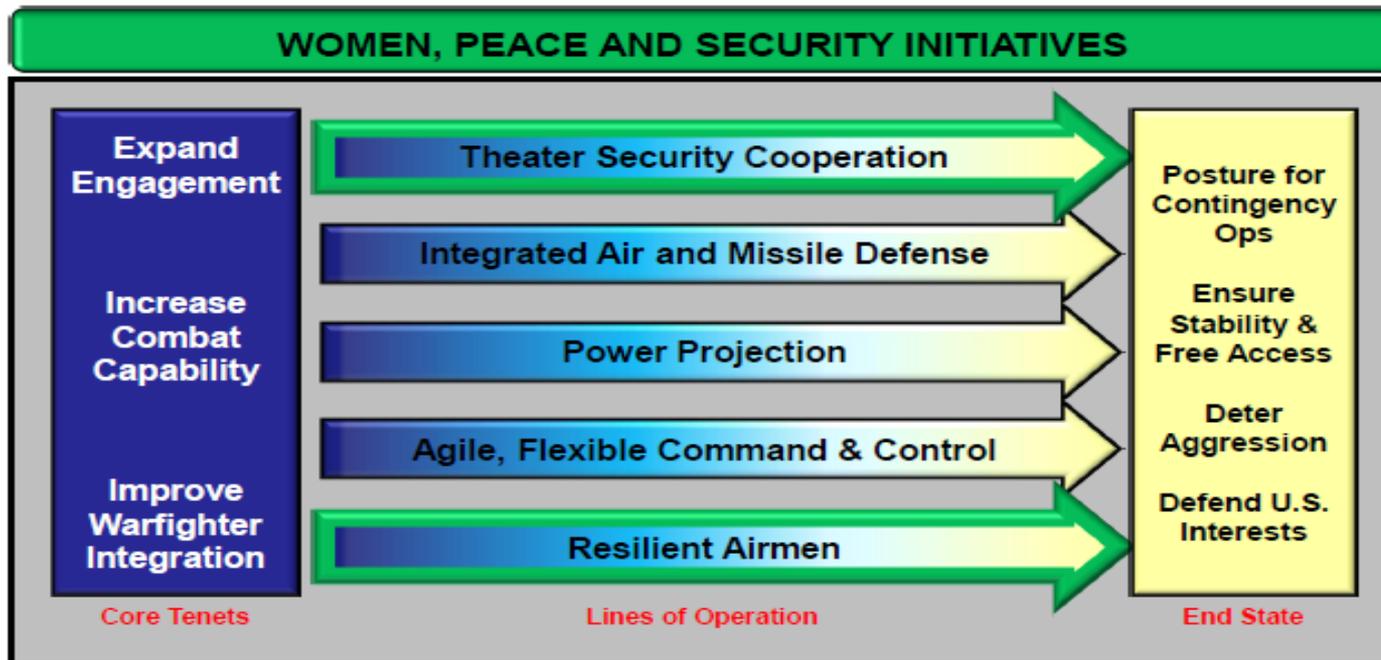
“...Combatant Commands...and other organizational entities within DoD will incorporate the concepts from the National Action Plan into programs and policies...”

– Secretary of Defense Panetta, Apr 12

UNCLASSIFIED



WPS & PACAF Strategy





USAFRICOM WPS Objectives & LOEs

UNCLASSIFIED

- **WPS Issues addressed in:**
 - Plans
 - Exercises
 - Operations
 - Engagements

- **WPS-WG Lines of Effort:**
 - Training/Education
 - Gender Mainstreaming
 - Peacekeeping Operations



Current Activities

- **Gender Mainstreaming**
 - Requests for assistance from partner Nations
 - Integration of WPS precepts into Theater Campaign Plan Lines of Effort
 - Exercise CENTRAL ACCORD

- **Peacekeeping Operations**
 - Gender-based violence in PKO training
 - PKO Conferences
 - Gender Perspective in Operations Courses



Sample Training Scenario

“It has probably become more dangerous to be a woman than a soldier in armed conflicts.”

-- MG Patrick Cammaert (Netherlands, UN Force Commander)

- **A group of approximately 50 fighters enter a village in the evening. While most of the men manage to flee, 47 women and girls are held and brutally raped.**
- **Following the mass rape, the fighters lock the women/girls inside their huts and burn them alive. They then leave and disappear into the bush.**
- **When the men return to the burned down village, they alert the local police and the closest MONUSCO company location. They claim to not know where the fighters' camp is located.**

Possible injects:

Planning objective: Demonstrate gender analysis of the area of operations.

Potential discussion topic: Conducting gender analysis in planning an operation.

Ethics objective: Discuss how questions of human rights and inequality (e.g. gender, racial) influence ethical decision-making.

Potential discussion topics:

- Recognizing and overcoming gender inequality
- Gender security: standards of behavior/codes of conduct.

Leadership objective: Identify problems with organization culture within the military as regards gender, diversity and equality issues.

Potential discussion topics:

- How might women and men within the military experience the organizational culture differently?
- How do women and men at different ranks participate in shaping the organizational culture?
- How does leadership shape organizational culture as regards gender equality and diversity?
- How can gender balance be improved?

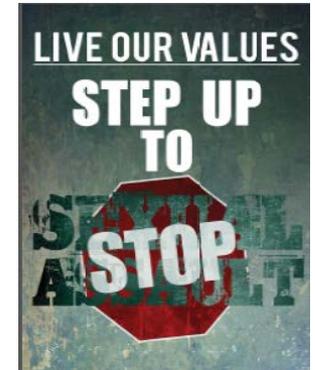
Discussion

- Gender Mainstreaming
 - Integration of women in military?
 - Equal career progression opportunities?
- Peacekeeping Operations
 - Value of Gender-based violence in PKO?
- Operational Reporting
 - How does the security situation affect women, men, girls and boys?
 - What role do women plan in the different parts of and social groups in the society?



Sexual Gender Based Violence

- In 2013 SECDEF directed implementation of the DOD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Strategic Plan which employs a multidisciplinary approach to: **Prevention, Investigation, Accountability, Advocacy/Victim Assistance, and Assessment**
- June 2014 Global Summit to End Sexual Violence -- Call to end “sexual warfare.”



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yL1sc_B4wYU



Gender positions

- **Gender advisor** - [He/She] serves in peacetime HQ and at strategic/operational levels... [They hold] full-time positions that require adequate training, education and experience. [She/he] should always be a member of a planning group, for example, the Strategic Operational Planning Group (SOPG), or the Joint Operational Planning Group (JOPG). [He/She] should have direct access to the Commander/Command Group in order to be able to communicate timely and directly with decision makers.
- **Gender Field Advisor** - [He/She] works in co-ordination with Human Resources (HRIJ1) to report to the Commander regarding gender balance and breaches of regulations containing gender dimensions; for example, sexual abuse or harassment.
- **Gender Focal Point** - [He/She] is deployed at operational/tactical levels. [They] are full-time positions that require adequate training, education and experience. [She/he] holds a dual-hatted position that supports the Commander in implementing directives and procedures with gender perspective. [He/she] maintains functional dialogue with the GENAD, but reports within the chain of command. [He/she] at the tactical level ensures that gender perspective is fully integrated into the daily tasks of the operation.



Key Resources

- “Generic Officer Professional Military Education Reference Curriculum”
http://www.nato.int/nato_static/assets/pdf/pdf_topics/20111202_Generic-Officer-PME-RC.pdf
- NATO ADL course
https://jadr.act.nato.int/NATO/ilias.php?baseClass=ilSAHSPresentationGUI&ref_id=3892 (available on JKO by summer 2014)
- NATO (2009) BI.SC directive 40-1
http://www.nato.int/nato_static/assets/pdf/pdf_2009_09/20090924_Bi-SC_DIRECTIVE_40-1.pdf
- Peace women website <http://Peacewomen.org>
- Democratic Control of the Armed Forces – Gender Tools and Resources
<http://www.dcaf.ch/Series-Collections/Gender-Tools-and-Resources>
- “Gender Makes Sense – a way to improve your mission” by the CIMIC Centre of Excellence
<http://www.cimic-coe.org>
- Designing Sample Gender Lessons - Second PFPC Workshop on Teaching Gender to the Military
http://www.dcaf.ch/content/download/114430/1766852/version/1/file/AAR_Designing_sample_gender_lessons_military.pdf

Way Ahead

- Key leader engagement/awareness
- Integrate into training/education programs
- Develop measures of effectiveness (methods/models)
- Future of FETs (standardize selection, training, integration, employment; develop indicators to measure impact/effectiveness)



Questions?

Contact information:

Ms. Elizabeth Lape, JSJ7, elizabeth.o.lape.civ@mail.mil , 757-203-5507

Maj Melanie Presuto, ACJ7, melanie.m.presuto.mil@mail.mil, 4907117294881