

Women, Peace and Security Statistics: Where We Stand and How to Move Forward

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Abstract

Since Security Council resolution 1325 was adopted in 2000, women, peace and security issues became a priority topic for the UN system and its Member States involved in conflict and recovery settings. The adoption of the resolution was followed by the design of a set of global indicators to measure progress towards the implementation of the 1325 commitments. These indicators were designed to assess progress achieved by UN organizations, other international agencies and Member States in implementing commitments, help capture good practice and identify gaps and challenges. UN Women, in consultation with the Standing Committee on Women, Peace and Security, was tasked with the coordination of the compilation of these statistics and with providing support to partners in the development of methodological guidance and improvement of women, peace and security statistics overall.

Other organizations such as the European Union and the African Union, along with multiple national governments, have put monitoring frameworks in place to monitor the implementation of 1325 and/or to compile women, peace and security statistics more broadly. Additionally, efforts such as those implemented by the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA) and the City Group on Governance, Peace and Security Statistics are contributing significantly to the advancement of the availability and comparability of women, peace and security statistics.

This paper will look into existing experiences with the compilation of women, peace and security statistics, highlighting lessons learned and remaining challenges. In particular, the paper will examine:

- Availability of women, peace and security statistics: monitoring frameworks used by different actors, available repositories, data availability and quality, ad-hoc and periodic surveys.
- Comparability of women, peace and security statistics: available methodological guidelines, coordination mechanisms, and capacity-building initiatives.
- Challenges in data collection: fragile environments, sensitive issues, changing priorities/relevance over time, lack of firm international commitment, funding, cultural barriers, etc.
- Lessons learned from monitoring progress in the implementation of resolution 1325: what has worked well and what has not.
- New initiatives: SHaSA's GPS surveys, City Group, Post-2015 related efforts, Global coordination for the monitoring of 1325, New Deal indicator framework.
- Recommendations: What to measure in the future and how (including coordination and methodological recommendations)