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PHOTO
A Gui Koubia woman relaying priorities.
USAID photo
GENDER AND CONFLICT IN AFRICA: ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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GENDER AND CONFLICT IN AFRICA: ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

This annotated bibliography provides summaries of articles, toolkits and other materials on gender and conflict in Africa. It is meant to complement a ‘Gender and Conflict in Africa Resource Guide’ that identifies and provides Web links to organizations and other resources that work on humanitarian, transition and development issues and programming in conflict-affected societies in Africa.

The issues that women face in conflict-affected settings span across many sectors. These entries reflect the wide-ranging and complex issues that must be addressed in societies that are in the midst of or recovering from conflict as well as the diverse roles that women play in war and in peace building. The bibliography includes, but is not limited to, providing information in the following areas: gender-based violence; protection; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration; health; HIV/AIDS; psychosocial issues; education, livelihoods; democracy and governance; and women’s roles in promoting peace at local, national and regional levels. These entries are organized thematically, when possible. Some of the resources are overlapping. As such, they are listed as general peace building and conflict resolution sources. Country-specific resources are listed at the end of the document.

A ‘Gender and Conflict in Africa: Best Practices’ document was also produced. It looks across these sectors in order to identify the various ways women are impacted by conflict and provides examples of best practices that can serve as resources for managers and practitioners who design and implement projects in conflict-affected societies.

WOMEN’S PARTICIPATION IN PEACE BUILDING AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

http://www.peacewomen.org/resources/Peace_Negotiations/WomenattheTable2000.pdf

Comprised primarily of narratives that provide insight into the experiences of women leaders and activists who have engaged in the peace process in various countries and regions, it overviews the challenges and achievements they have come up against and attempts to shed new light on strategies and mechanisms to ensure the greater presence of women at the peace table. It also draws on the international support women have for engaging in the peace process and cites the necessity of harnessing this international political will to impact the local level. Overall women’s participation, whether informal or formal, contributes to ensuring social justice and gender equality are key components to peace agreements.

http://www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/reports/CEP-Conflict-SRC.pdf

This collection of resources on gender and armed conflict sheds light on how gender inequality intersects with armed conflict and its aftermath, resulting in gender-specific disadvantage that is often overlooked. It forms part of the Cutting Edge Pack on gender and armed conflict, and provides summaries of key resources, tools and guides covering a range of themes including: conflict prevention and management; understanding and addressing gender-based violence; men and masculinity; health and HIV/AIDS; small arms and light weapons; protecting displaced people and humanitarian assistance; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR); peace building and reconstruction; and women’s lobbying and organizing within the peace process. Detailed case studies of successful practice are presented as well as lessons learned from diverse contexts including Tanzania, Rwanda, Sri Lanka and Kosovo. Finally, information is provided about courses, useful Web sites, networking and contact details for organizations mentioned in the whole pack.


http://www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/Docs/InBrief13_Conflict_PDF.pdf

This paper aims to challenge the conventional ideas of how conflict impacts both men and women. It asserts that the diverse roles and needs that arise out of conflict for both women and men, and the consequences this has for gender relations often go unrecognized.

Bouta, Tsjeard; Georg Frerks; and Ian Bannon. 2005. *Gender, Conflict and Development.* The World Bank: Washington, DC.


This book highlights the gender dimensions of conflict, organized around major relevant themes such as female combatants, sexual violence, formal and informal peace processes, the legal framework, work, the rehabilitation of social services and community-driven development. It analyses how conflict changes gender roles and the policy options that might be considered to build on positive aspects of these roles while minimizing adverse changes. The suggested policy options and approaches aim to take advantage of the opportunity afforded by violent conflict to encourage change and build more inclusive and gender balanced social, economic and political relations in post-conflict societies. The book concludes by identifying some of the remaining challenges and themes that require additional analysis and research. These include the need for a more comprehensive gender focus beyond simplistic perspectives on women’s roles, as well as the need to engender conflict analysis and early-warning indicators.

In this report, which forms part of the Cutting Edge Pack on gender and armed conflict, the impact of armed conflict on gender relations, and the distinct ways that both women and men are affected, is explored. It highlights the gender-specific disadvantages experienced by women and men that are denied by conventional interpretations of armed conflict and post-conflict reconstruction processes. Women experience significant disadvantage in the course of armed conflict, but it does not necessarily follow that men are always the perpetrators and therefore the winners, and women the losers. Armed conflict exacerbates the inequalities in gender relations that exist in the pre-conflict period. Interventions in conflict must take account of local contexts and of the diverse realities of women and men, who may simultaneously play the roles of activists and parents, soldiers and victims. Further recommendations are made including: improving the implementation of existing international laws; increasing funding to specialized services to help both male and female victims of violence; and involving women in decision-making processes. The report also provides an overview of how the various international organizations deal with gender differences and argues that gender issues need to be mainstreamed into interventions such as humanitarian assistance and DDR programs for ex-combatants.


This report aims to synthesize the findings to date of International Alert’s Women Building Peace: Sharing Know-how Project. It makes use of a varied set of project activities, including conferences, key-informant interviews, documentation from partner organizations, and the deliberations of the Sharing Know-how Workshop held in Oxford in November 2002, as well as a range of sources drawn from literature on the emerging theme of women and peace building. The paper overviews documented evidence of women’s experience of war, followed by an analysis by women of conflict and peace. It also describes what women peace activists actually do. The concluding section overviews priority areas for funding and support, specifically enhancing women’s participation in peace building, building women’s capacity, promoting women’s economic development, in addition to supporting democracy and good governance.


This document aims to provide a working tool to guarantee the provision of appropriate programs, responses to women’s needs, services to, and with, women affected by armed conflict. It is oriented toward policy makers and field staff. In addition to being a challenging guide, the document presents the overview of relevant legal framework, which indicates the protection to women in armed conflict situations.


This report is based on the workshop, which has served as a significant step in the overall assessment of women’s contributions to conflict resolution in Africa. Many conferences, seminars and meetings dealing with armed conflicts have been organized at the local, regional and continental levels. This workshop differs from the above breaking the traditional image of women as victims and focused on women as social actors and their active involvement in armed conflicts as combatants. The workshop’s innovative approach involved uniting women activists from conflict zones who have borne the burden of those conflicts that have torn their communities and countries apart and who are actively involved in conflict resolution, and women researchers who have conducted research on gender relations in Africa and who have a more theoretical approach to conflicts. The two groups engaged in in-depth discussions to openly and critically assess their own conflict resolution strategies. The participants also formulated a number of recommendations to encourage close links between activists and researchers.


This toolkit is a resource for women peace activists, advocates and practitioners in conflict-affected and post-conflict countries and for policy makers and staff of major multilateral institutions, donor countries and international NGOs. It is intended to enable women to engage strategically in peace-building and security processes and can be used as a reference guide; as a tool for advocacy and action; for training and awareness-raising; or to enhance understanding and the use of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, which requires parties in a conflict to respect women’s rights and to support their participation in peace negotiations and post-conflict reconstruction. The toolkit is divided into sections and including conflict prevention, resolution and reconstruction; security issues; justice, governance and civil society; and protecting vulnerable groups.


The report assesses the commitments made by Governments and United Nations Agencies to promote the participation of women in peace processes. It further looks at the national, sub-regional and regional mechanisms of monitoring the Platform for Action. The report contains the views and recommendations of participants attending the sixth African Regional Conference, who participated in the workshop on women and peace held during the conference. Overall the report argues that there can be no strides towards ensuring the development of Africa without first ending conflict, of which the participation of women is vital in securing.
http://www.peacewomen.org/resources/Organizing/TfPGenderAfrica.pdf

This multi-piece study includes four papers focusing on the theme ‘gender and peace building’ from different angles, in this way demonstrating the complexity of the topic. The specific chapters deal with fieldwork observations of the peace-building process, peace agreements and their implementation, the process of the recognition of women’s agency, and the role of peacekeepers in sexual and criminal activities involving local women. It includes lessons from involving women in peace processes in four countries, namely, Burundi, DRC, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

http://www.peacewomen.org/resources/Organizing/Peaceworks.pdf

This report analyzes the role and potential of grassroots efforts that are directed and contoured by women to draw attention to this important aspect of the conflict resolution process. It argues women are the ones in charge of ensuring subsistence and survival of families and are essential actors in the grassroots movements. By empowering women, societies become more resilient to conflict.


This independent assessment examines the impact of armed conflict on women and women’s role in peace building and provides key recommendations that focus on finding ways to protect and empower women for UN agencies and the wider international community. It covers many areas of concern, from the gender dimensions of violence and displacement during conflict to the role of peacekeepers and the need for women to play a central part during peace negotiations and reconstruction.

The report is a response to the specific way in which women are targeted during conflict as well as Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security calling for further study of the issues involved. The report is based on field-based interviews and information collection, as well as research and analysis from human rights groups and civil society, independent reports and UN documents.
This collection of reports, testimonies and analyses portrays the diverse experiences of women all over Africa who have lived through civil wars, apartheid, genocide and gendered political violence such as rape. Contributions include discussions of violence against women in Rwanda, Chad and Liberia; the involvement of and impact on women of the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission; and the increase in violence against women caused by the proliferation of SALW. A link is drawn between the colonial past of most African nations and the ongoing civil wars. These weak states are unable to enforce international human rights conventions that would otherwise protect women. The collection catalogues the abuses sustained by women and also outlines some of the ways in which women have mobilized, including their lobbying activities for greater involvement in the process of peace building.

When women and men confront natural or environmental disasters such as forest fires, droughts, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, their responses tend to mirror their role and position in society. Accounts of disaster situations worldwide show that responsibilities follow traditional gender roles: women’s work carries over from traditional tasks in the household while men take on leadership positions. In addition, women and girls are often viewed in these situations as victims in special need of emergency relief. This shows a lack of understanding of their capacities and resources as environmental and social change agents. The current issue of this newsletter addresses gender dynamics in disaster reduction and sustainable development. It gives a gender analysis of the increasing risks and the rising toll of disasters and discusses the notions of risk and physical and social vulnerability. Early warnings and risk reducing approaches that enhance women’s disaster resilience are also analyzed. The issue also draws important links between women’s empowerment and sustainable development and disaster reduction. It lists numerous recommendations some of them include making policies for disaster reduction more consultative and inclusive; ensuring that gender perspectives are made explicit in work on natural disasters; conducting research to develop a better understanding of the linkages between gender, and making experiences and good practices easily available to policy makers and administrators.

This study examines the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, the role of women in peace building and the gender dimensions of peace processes and conflict resolution, highlighting that the specific experiences of women and young girls are linked to their status in society. Inequalities between women and men and abuses of women’s human rights are often exacerbated during conflict. Efforts to ensure a gender perspective in peace processes as well as in peace and humanitarian operations, reconstruction and rehabilitation, including DDR programs, face many challenges. This study includes recommendations for concrete action to ensure greater attention to gender perspectives in all areas of work and secure financial and human resources for gender mainstreaming. Based on the findings of the study, a report of the Secretary-General was submitted to the Security Council.


This manual aims to strengthen the capacity of people working on recovery and rehabilitation activities in crisis and post-conflict situations to more adeptly integrate gender concerns into programs. It argues that crises can break down social barriers and provide windows of opportunity for change concerning gender roles and stereotypes, providing opportunities to increase women’s skills, income generating opportunities and overall empowerment. It seeks to provide guidelines that will serve as a tool to assist workers in ensuring the incorporation of an effective gender perspective in the planning and implementation process of recovery programs.


The author begins with an overview of the romanticized, popular concepts of womanhood and asserts that women’s peace-building capacities need to be critically investigated. The author recommends a gendered approach as a corrective to stereotyped perspectives about women and peace, as well as to gender-blind experiments. Such an approach may be found realistic and useful, not only in everyday circumstances, but especially also in war and post-war situations. Particular attention is given to gender in post-war politics, economy and social reconstruction.

This report summarizes the outcomes of a consultation organized by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) through the African Center for Gender and Development, contributing to the decade evaluation of the Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA). It begins by outlining the 12 critical action areas emerging out of the BPfA, noting that West Africa had achieved some progress in areas including girls’ education and the passage of laws to protect women’s health and counter violence. Recommendations include the need to focus on seven key areas: poverty and economic empowerment; decision making; health including HIV/AIDS and reproductive health; violence including trafficking of women and children; education of women; peace and security; and the needs of the girl child. This requires committing more resources, including budgetary resources, to the implementation of gender-equal policies, for both government and NGOs.

DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILIZATION, AND REINTEGRATION (DDR)


Based upon empirical study, document analysis, interviews and observations, this article analyzes the widespread phenomena of child soldiers in Sub-Saharan Africa. The authors cover four main sections: why child soldiers – reasons for children in armed conflict; samples of voices of children in and out of combat, interviews and comments; efforts to combat the use of children in armed conflicts; and the impact on the psychological, socio-economical, cultural and educational impact of child soldiering on children and society. The article provides a list of key organizations working to seek to end the use of children as soldiers and ends with recommendations that call for action.


This report analyzes women’s role in active conflict by using numerous case studies of recent conflicts throughout the world. The analysis is used to specifically recommend how Dutch policy should deal with and incorporate women into CCR processes. Specific recommendations include targeting women in both regular and irregular armies, gender-sensitize the disarmament and demobilization trajectory, and respond to male and female combatants’ different economic, social and psychological reintegration needs.

The author argues that while the role of female ex-combatants varies widely, the women seem to share one characteristic: limited access to benefits when peace and demobilization come. In addition to female ex-combatants, there are other affected groups neglected during demobilization, including abducted girls, ex-combatants, families, and women in the receiving or war-torn community itself. Demobilization and reintegration programs can have several objectives including reducing military expenditures, or addressing economic and social issues. However, the question how a gender dimension fits with these objectives remains unanswered and constitutes the objective of this report. This report explores how to ensure that gender specific needs are identified and addressed in future programs and how strategies can be and have been identified that minimize gender discrimination. The report also offers some financial guidance on the cost of instituting a gender-sensitive program.


The paper asserts that gender-aware demobilization, disarmament, and reintegration is necessary to recognize women’s participation in armed conflict and provides a catalyst to increasing the participation of women in politics of post-conflict situations. Awareness of the different experiences of war between both men and women is key to providing appropriate training and rehabilitation programs. The findings specifically support Resolution 1325 of the United Nations.


The report illustrates how girls are being systematically overlooked in current efforts to release children from armed groups and return them home. It challenges the system and argues that the international community must fund programs that strengthen communities to ultimately design programs that meet girls’ needs.

http://www.womenwagingpeace.net/content/articles/SierraLeoneFullCaseStudy.pdf

This paper examines the disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) program that took place when conflict ceased in Sierra Leone. While these programs effectively reached out to male combatants, they largely ignored women’s roles and experiences of conflict. This paper explores women and girls’ unique experiences of conflict, and assesses how a gender perspective can improve formal disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) programs and documents women’s contributions to of social and civil society-based initiatives.

http://www.siyanda.org/search/summary.cfm?nn=1366&ST=SS&Keywords=conflict&SUBJECT=0&Donor=0&StartRow=1&Ref=Sim

This study contributes to what is currently known about the experiences of girls in fighting forces as distinct from those of boys. It is meant to assist policymakers in developing policies and programs to help protect and empower girls in situations of armed conflict and postwar reconstruction. Within the context of Northern Uganda, Sierra Leone and Mozambique girls in the fighting forces have suffered major human rights violations, especially gender-based violence. Among the key findings is that social reintegration, especially of girl-mothers and young women who were girls when they were taken and who return with babies, is particularly difficult and these girls and their children are at high risk. Girls and young women in most of the study areas were also clear that access to education and training in skills would be the most meaningful contribution that national and international agencies could make in assisting their reintegration.


http://www.unifem.org/attachments/products/Getting_it_Right__Doing_it_Right.pdf

This guide aims to facilitate the implementation of the sections on DDR within Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. It contains lessons learned and recommendations from consultation, field visits, desk research and case studies on each of the following areas: frameworks and definitions; participation and decision-making; resources; weapons collection; cantonment (temporary troop housing); and demobilization and reintegration. Two detailed case studies are provided on Liberia and Papua New Guinea. The guide concludes by providing a model standard operating procedure for those planning and executing DDR. Specific areas of work include: how to promote women’s political participation; assessing plans; establishing institutional arrangements; planning benefits and incentives; bringing women into the process; and disarmament, resettlement and reintegration into communities. Built on the premise that women and girls’ should be supported in their efforts towards rebuilding their societies, Getting It Right, Doing It Right contains practical advice on how programmers and planners can incorporate gender perspective into their work. The publication contains a set of lessons learned and recommendations, guidance and insights that will make disarmament, demobilization and reintegration more inclusive and, ultimately, successful.


This checklist is intended to assist planners in designing and implementing both gender-sensitive short-term goals, and to assist in envisioning future-oriented long-term peace support measures. The checklist focuses on practical ways in which women—including women combatants, the wives of male soldiers, war widows, and other civilian women—can be included in the processes of disarmament and demobilization, and be recognized and supported in the roles they play in reintegration.
EDUCATION

Equip 1. No Date. Crisis Education Project Profile—Somaliland.
http://www.equip123.net/docs/004.pdf

This document provides information on “Support to Primary School Education.” It is being implemented by CARE International in Somaliland and is concentrated on Hargeisa, Somaliland (19 schools). The goal of the program is to enhance the quality of formal primary school education, targeting direct beneficiaries, including primary students with a special focus on girls, teachers, school administrators and communities.

Equip 1. No Date. Crisis/Transitional Education Project Profile.
http://www.equip123.net/docs/CrisisEd-SierraLeone_Reintegration.pdf

This document provides information on the research project “Reintegration Support.” It is being implemented by International Rescue Committee (IRC) and is focused on war-affected regions of Kono and Kailahun in Sierra Leone. The aim of the program is to improve access to education in high refugee return areas with links to other reintegration activities, targeting 10 communities in need of school reconstruction or rehabilitation. The project is at transition/reconstruction stage.


This paper sketches the situation confronting children, their families and governments in conflict countries and describes the challenges of reaching universal primary education. It discusses the need for preparedness planning and warns against top-down, material-based educational solutions. The paper makes that case that due to war, it is necessary to provide additional appropriate educational responses for children and youth and that lack of investment in and creative, participatory work on education for children and youth at risk makes a return to peace extremely difficult, if not impossible.
GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE


This handbook is intended as a tool for people working in areas affected by war and armed conflict and in the peace and rebuilding process. It draws on numerous examples of women’s efforts in peace building and reconstruction to illustrate the problems, which can arise from failure to mainstream gender issues into programs, and the benefits, which can be gained by recognizing and involving women. This awareness-raising guide provides definitions of gender based violence and outlines the contributory factors in times of conflict. It looks at issues such as rape as a weapon of war, domestic violence and displacement and HIV/AIDS. It provides a set of recommendations that include: the need to listen to women when they report violence and feelings of insecurity; the installation of lighting in high risk areas; provision of physical and psychological programs to support victims of rape as a weapon of war; provision of literacy and training programs which can help women in situations of domestic violence to become self sufficient; and ensuring that women have an equal role in community decision-making.


This manual aims at improving international and local capacity to address gender-based violence in refugee, internally displaced, and post-conflict settings. The tools have been formulated according to a multi-sectoral model of gender-based violence programming that promotes action within and coordination between the constituent community, health and social services, and the legal and security sectors.

http://www.womenscommission.org/pdf/EmOC.pdf

This report documents the availability of emergency obstetric care services in selected sites in nine countries including Kenya, Sierra Leone, Southern Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Bosnia, Liberia, Pakistan, and Thailand. The report seeks to provide organizations, donors and governments with summary information on the status of emergency obstetric care in the regions covered by the assessments. This information may also be used to guide assessment used to design and implement future programs. It can also be used as a tool to advocate for better quality life-saving emergency obstetric care for conflict-affected women and girls.

Effective prevention and response to gender-based violence (GBV) requires a well planned and coordinated effort among an array of organizations, disciplines and sectors. In populations affected by armed conflict, there are additional and specific threats and risks that require action in order to establish effective protection from GBV. This workshop enhanced planning and coordination by bringing together key staff in the Africa region to assess progress so far and begin mapping next steps to increase their collaboration in addressing gender-based violence in populations affected by armed conflict. The four-day participatory workshop combined training, information sharing and planning. The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and UNICEF initiated this workshop in order to build staff capacity to design and implement strategies for protection from gender based violence. In addition to training and capacity building for UNIFEM–UNICEF staff in the field, Part II of the workshop brought more organizations to the table to discuss broader implementation, coordination, and collaboration issues.


This report provides reflections and lessons learned through gender-based violence programs in 12 countries: Angola, Bosnia (Serb Republic), Eritrea, Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand and Zambia. It questions the strategies that are available to address gender-based violence among displaced populations. Each chapter of this report maps out in detail ways by which inter-agency collaboration and cooperation can be strengthened to ensure that gender-based violence is understood and dealt with as a serious and urgent issue. In addition, the report gives information on case studies from selected countries, including Eritrea, Thailand and Sierra Leone.

**GENDER ROLES**


The study outlines seven main roles of women before, during and after armed conflict including women as victims, combatants, peace activists and as participants in formal peace politics. Practically, these roles overlap, and depending on the context, the same role may differ as well as challenge policymakers in different ways. It raises a number of questions, including: What are the roles of women in conflict prevention, conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction? How do development institutions working on armed conflict integrate gender issues in their policy and real life situations? The report analyses 16 institutions, which vary in their mandates, structures, policies, operational procedures/policy implementation and availability of gender expertise.
**HIV/AIDS**

http://www.rhrc.org/resources/sti/benjamin.html

This project conducted in Rwanda and Sierra Leone shows how gender inequalities among refugees and internally displaced populations significantly increase vulnerability to HIV infection. The project used a community-based approach that incorporates an outreach program by AIDS educators taken from the refugee population. It found that women in the camps were acutely vulnerable to HIV infection as a result of increased domestic violence and rape. It also found that women had themselves changed their behavior, largely due to inequitable distribution of resources. The report recommended that the UN agencies need to: show serious commitment to protecting women and children from violence; look at the male-dominated nature of their personnel; and address the involvement of UN personnel in gender violence and HIV transmission.


Cultures all over the world have evolved illness representations that can accommodate not only new diseases, but also new epistemologies for explaining disease. This paper examines illness representations in Sub-Saharan Africa, and how these have responded to the emergence of AIDS. Indigenous views of illness (particularly STDs) exhibit coherent structure, in which causation, prevention and treatment relate to one another in functional ways. As an STD, an epidemic, and a disease, which leads to premature death, AIDS lends itself readily to accommodation into established indigenous representations of illness. Even biomedical views of causation can be readily incorporated into traditional views of how illnesses are caused. However, biomedical and traditional views concerning prevention appear to be in direct conflict with one another, with potentially hazardous consequences. Research exploring the extent to which indigenous beliefs may be influencing people’s decisions about safe sex could offer useful insights for AIDS prevention programs.

**HEALTH**


This guide has been developed as a practical tool for program officers in humanitarian aid to screen programs and policies in order to promote a more integrated approach of Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH). It is the result of an interdisciplinary policy research project for the Belgian Development Co-operation, which highlights SRH from a human rights approach. It includes medical aspects of SRH and also emphasizes the need to develop an enabling political, legal, social and cultural environment.
Corish, Monica; Carol Djeddah; and Margaret Usher-Patel. 2000. Reproductive Health During Conflict and Displacement. World Health Organization. 
http://www.who.int/reproductive-health/publications/RHR_00_13_RH_conflict_and_displacement/PDF_RHR_00_13/conflict_displacement.pdf

The guide is designed to complement the inter-agency field manual by providing a tool that defines how to develop practical and appropriately focused reproductive health programs during each phase of conflict and displacement—pre-conflict, conflict, stabilization and post-conflict. The manual has been field-tested in a variety of refugee settings and is intended for use by national and international program managers.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Literature Review and Analysis Related to Human Trafficking in Post-Conflict Situations. June 2004

This literature review provides annotated summaries of recent works on human trafficking of women and girls for sexual exploitation. The literature demonstrates an increasing awareness of the complexities involved when addressing the phenomenon and effects of human trafficking and the need to design policies. The work focuses on trafficking of combatants, laborers, and “wives” by armed groups involved in conflict, human trafficking during peacekeeping missions, and post-conflict human trafficking.

INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE


This toolkit is comprised of two volumes and is designed to give decision-makers in government and donor agencies an overview of the concept of community-to-community knowledge exchanges, as well as practical approaches to their use in developmental processes and programs. Volume one uses case studies to illustrate the successes achieved with the approach, and the pitfalls that have been encountered in practice. This material is intended to enable decision-makers to assess proposals for exchanges, and to support processes that include community exchanges in an appropriate manner. A partner volume, “Guidelines for Implementation,” is designed as a practical guide for the practitioner wishing to initiate and manage a community exchange process. It includes steps in the design process, practical exercises and information on the monitoring and evaluation process.
PROTECTION

http://www.icrc.org/Web/eng/siteeng0.nsf/htmlall/p0798/$file/ICRC_002_0798_EXEC_SUMM.PDF!Open

The ICRC has expressed its concerns about women not participating in the hostilities and combatants who are hors de combat because they are sick, wounded, shipwrecked or taken prisoner. In 1998, ICRC initiated a study with three principal goals: to identify the needs of women engendered by armed conflict, ignoring whether those needs were the focus of ICRC activities; to analyze international law, particularly humanitarian law and some extent human rights law, in order to measure the scope of protection for women; and to draft an overall image of the ICRC’s operational response to the needs of women affected by armed conflict. This study deliberately talks of “needs” and not “rights” and leaves certain rights out of discussion (i.e. right to nationality or statehood and the right to participate in political groupings. The study concentrated on issues such as physical safety, access to health care, food and shelter, sexual violence, displacement, and the problem of missing relatives, and its impact on the survivors of armed conflict.

The study highlights the remarkable courage and resilience of women during times of conflict and indicates that the terms “vulnerable” and “victim” are not synonymous with “women.” It also places its focus on armed conflict that takes place within a country.

YOUTH


The case studies presented are examples of programming that encourages adolescent participation in community development and peace building during crisis situations. In each of the country situations, obstacles have been transformed into opportunities. Collectively, the case studies offer a wealth of information and new ideas. They tell the story of sustainable success, show how participation can contribute to the fulfillment of a rights-based agenda and suggest ways to provide a framework for young people to create better, more peaceful societies. Case studies from Africa include: involvement of children in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in Sierra Leone, youth education and development participation in Somalia, adolescents surviving the war in Northern Uganda, and youth participation in DDR in Sierra Leone.
COUNTRY-SPECIFIC RESOURCES

ANGOLA


This article aims to analyze women’s recent history in public discourse on the war in Angola. By analyzing the historical and institutional context of women’s involvement in the war, the author describes the leadership of many women during the conflict. Despite the leadership shown by many women in adapting to new roles during the war, full gender equality in Angola remains a long way off. The author suggests that there needs to be greater efforts to analyze and understand the gendered impacts of the war and their legacy for Angola. This would provide the basis for developing gender-sensitive policy and practice, which could enable greater participation by women in all spheres of society. This would, in turn, re-adjust gender relations to the needs of both women and men, as a fundamental component of the long-term process of peaceful and sustainable development.

BURUNDI


This addition to the African Women for Peace Series documents the recognition, for the first time in history, of the contribution of Burundian women to the peace effort for their war-torn land. This recognition was based on the outcome of the historic All-Party Burundi Women’s Peace Conference in Tanzania in 2000. The women of Burundi have helped to set a symbolic precedent by breaching a wall of gender-based exclusion and have set an example for other women in the Great Lakes region of Africa. Includes background information, the final declaration document and two appendices.

MOZAMBIQUE


This document provides a gender perspective on employment, income generation and skills training in post-conflict Mozambique, as well as an assessment of existing policies and programs. The report analyses the history of the conflict in the country; the war impact and the subsequent situation; changes in population and health; nature of the economy and conditions of the labor market; changes in gender division of labor; education and skills training before, during and after conflict; transformations in community structures and gender relations; the extent to which the country’s Constitution and peace accord cover gender issues; the inadequate coverage of women’s concerns and gender issues in relief, rehabilitation and reintegration programs and also in current development and other programs of the country. It is intended to feed into the process of developing an overall policy framework and guidelines for future interventions in countries affected by conflict.
RWANDA

http://www.dec.org/pdf%5Fdocs/PNACJ324.pdf

This report is a part of USAID’s Center for Development Information and Evaluation (CDIE) multi-country evaluation of gender issues in post-conflict societies. The study mainly concentrates on the role that women’s organizations have been playing in dealing with gender issues that occur in conflict and post-conflict transition in post genocide Rwanda. The study has been prepared after extensive field research, interviews with local government officials, project beneficiaries, international, nongovernmental and local organizations, donor agencies, and ministry officials. It, therefore, provides information that was collected during the study and which was not available in any form in Washington at that moment.


This study, solely devoted to women who had become victims of the genocide, was carried out by ACORD within the context of its Rwanda programs on the status of women in the post-war period. Analyses and findings contained in the document derive from four studies carried out within Rwanda in order to understand the effects of genocide and the massacres on gender relations. The main goal of this study was to identify new models of gender relations in a society in which women are becoming dominant due to the crisis. It aimed to verify whether women who were now obliged to take on new roles, had not adopted new frames of reference or experienced lasting changes. The study was also aimed at understanding the factors that would lead women to remarry or to maintain their new status (widow). For this purpose it was carried out in four municipalities covered by ACORD’s activities.
SOMALIA


The case study was conducted in the districts of Brava, Sablaale and Kurtunwarey in the Lower Shabelle Region, Somalia. The conflict had a devastating impact on both individuals and groups in the Lower Shabelle. Tension is still high between local groups in the Lower Shabelle, since issues of access to and control over resources between local clans have not been solved. This research highlights the need for the international community to place efforts for peace at local and national levels.

The study analyses gender roles that have changed considerably. Women have been assuming more economic responsibilities and have often become the providers for the household. At the same time, men have lost access to their resources and many have become dependent on their wives. Nevertheless, there still seems to have been little change in women’s exclusion from community decision-making. The study, therefore, questions the future hold for men and women if the state succeeds in re-establishing its structures and encourages ACORD and other agencies working in the area to involve men and women in common efforts to overcome gender and ethnic discrimination in the region.

SOUTH AFRICA

http://www.womenwagingpeace.net

This report essentially analyzes the role women have played in repairing the legitimacy and credibility of the security sector of South Africa. Notable in this process, which was based on active public participation, was the successful articulation of wide varieties of views and values from many women. Women mobilized to attain 50 percent representation in negotiations and are currently 28 percent of parliament. The South Africa experience shows public participation in policy shaping is fundamental to ensuring human security. Women were found to provide a critical perspective to programs. It is argued a key indicator of institutional change is the level of gender-based and racial discrimination.
SUDAN


The article examines the changing roles of women in relation to inter-communal conflicts in the Darfur region of western Sudan. The region is currently perforated with violent inter-group conflicts. Women are commonly accused of being one of the causes of such conflicts and troublemakers in general. Such perception about women confuses their actual role today with regard to peace and war, and denies women their legitimate demand for participation in public life, including peace building and conflict resolution. The article attempts to separate fact from fantasy and is based on information obtained mainly from the women themselves. Results are important for both researchers and decision-makers. The situation calls for enormous developmental projects that lead to conflict transformation.


On October 8–15, 2004, Women Waging Peace hosted 16 Sudanese women peace builders for meetings, presentations, and events in New York and Washington, DC. The purpose of this conference was to raise the voices of women peace builders and urge the US government, the UN, other international governmental and non-governmental organizations and think tanks to promote the inclusion of women in all efforts to bring peace to this troubled country. The paper is a summary of the recommendations generated.

UGANDA

http://www.isis.or.ug/part-one-main.pdf

The main objective of the study was to assess the effects of armed conflict on the women of Gulu. Specifically, the study set out to document women’s experiences during the armed conflict and examine the effects of war on women’s health and economic status. In addition, the study set out to find out women’s roles and participation in the armed conflict, their coping mechanisms during war and post war situations, as well as the impact of war on gender relations. The study recounts the trauma experienced by Ugandans in terms of gender, familial relations, market activity, public health, and population trends.

http://www.c-r.org/accord/uganda/accord11/index.shtml

This edition of Accord draws on authors with first-hand knowledge, which largely reflects an Acholi-centered perspective, explores the history of the conflict, provides insight into the main parties involved, documents key peace initiatives, analyses some of the cross-cutting issues and puts into the public arena various key agreements and texts. An article on Acholi civil society initiatives highlights women’s contributions to peace building in Northern Uganda. The
articles serves as a resource for reflection and learning to those currently seeking to promote peace in Acholiland and elsewhere in Uganda, as well as for those working on conflicts with comparable dynamics elsewhere in the world.