Module 2: Mandated Tasks of United Nations Peacekeeping Operations

Lesson 2.4

Women, Peace and Security
Relevance

Peacekeeping personnel:

- Protect and promote women’s human rights
- Protect women and girls from sexual violence
- Role model for gender equality
Learning Outcomes

Learners will:

- Explain different impact of conflict on women and girls, men and boys
- Explain how women are victims of conflict and key partners for peace
- Explain “gender equality”, “gender mainstreaming” and importance
- List actions to take to protect women and support gender equality
Lesson Overview

1. Definitions
2. Importance of Attention to Women, Peace & Security (WPS)
3. Legal Framework
4. UN Partners Leading in WPS
5. DPKO-DFS Policy on Gender Equality
6. Gender Equality in UN Peacekeeping
7. Roles & Responsibilities
8. What Individual Peacekeeping Personnel Can Do
Learning Activity 2.4.1

Differences between Women and Men – Sex or Gender?

Instructions:
- Define “sex” and “gender”
- Give examples of gender stereotypes
- Discuss how gender results in inequalities
- Should treatment be the same or different?

Time: 5 minutes
- Group work: 3 minutes
- Discussion: 2 minutes
1. Definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The <strong>sex</strong> of a person is:</th>
<th>The <strong>gender</strong> of a person:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>▪ Biologically defined</td>
<td>▪ Is socially constructed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Usually determined by</td>
<td>▪ Differs and varies across</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>birth</td>
<td>cultures and time</td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ Universal</td>
<td>▪ Results in different roles,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>responsibilities,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>opportunities, needs and</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>constraints for women,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>men, girls and boys</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
1. Definitions

**Gender equality:**

For women, girls, men, boys

- Equal rights, responsibilities, opportunities
- Consideration of interests, needs, priorities
1. Definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender perspective:</th>
<th>Looks at the impact of gender on people’s opportunities, social roles, interactions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender mainstreaming:</td>
<td>Process of assessing implications of planned action for women and men</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ultimate goal is gender equality</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gender balance:</td>
<td>Equal representation of women and men at all levels of employment</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ultimate goal is gender equality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empowerment of women:</td>
<td>Women gaining power and control in their lives</td>
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</table>
Learning Activity 2.4.2

Impact of Conflict on Women and Girls

Instructions:

- Consider the testimonies of civilians
- List examples of how women and girls, men and boys experience conflict differently
- Discuss the role of gender stereotypes

Time: 5 minutes
- Group work: 3 minutes
- Discussion: 2 minutes
2. Importance of Attention to Women, Peace and Security

Impact of Conflict on Women & Girls

- Experienced differently
- More vulnerable, heightened risk of violence due to social inequalities
- Sexual violence and exploitation – rape, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, trafficking
Key Partners in Peace

- Women and girls not just victims in conflict
- Actors in conflict and peace
- Critical role in peace and security – sources of authority, information, change
Achieving Gender Equality

- Important goal in itself – an issue of human rights and social justice
Learning Activity

2.4.3

Film: Women in Peacekeeping

Instructions:
- How are women key partners of peace?
- Using the film, explain “inclusiveness”, “non-discrimination” and “gender balance”

Time: 15 minutes
- Film: 8:03 minutes
- Discussion: 5-7 minutes

https://youtu.be/vAuFQj9xBYc
3. Legal Framework

- International Law
- Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW, 1979)
- Agreed Conclusions of ECOSOC Coordination Segment on Gender Mainstreaming (1997)
- Windhoek Declaration and Namibia Plan of Action (2000)
3. Legal Framework

4. UN Partners Leading in Women, Peace and Security
5. DPKO-DFS Policy on Gender Equality

- Principles for gender equality:
  - Inclusiveness
  - Non-discrimination
  - Gender balance
  - Efficiency

- Mainstream a gender perspective in all plans, policies, activities, analysis, reports
6. Gender Equality in UN Peacekeeping

- Increase number of women
- Address inequality in policy and practice
- Advise on women-specific impacts of mission actions
- Work with national partners to address women’s and girls’ needs, rights
- Work directly with women and girls – voices heard, capacities tapped into
7. Roles & Responsibilities

Gender Adviser

- Advise mission leadership and components
- Mainstream gender perspectives
- Capacity building of national and local partners
- Coordination with UN partners
- Develop and oversee the delivery of training on gender mainstreaming and SGBV
- Coordination with Women Protection Advisers

Goal

Protection Empowerment
Related Roles

- Gender Focal Points
- Women Protection Advisers
- Women Focal Points
## Gender Advisers vs. Women Protection Advisers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WPS Agenda</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PILLAR 1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>“Gender Equality”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gender Advisers</td>
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## Other Units

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women Protection Adviser</th>
<th>Political Affairs</th>
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<td>Civil Affairs</td>
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<td>Human Rights</td>
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8. What Individual Peacekeeping Personnel Can Do

- Promote equality
- Observe carefully
- Investigate properly
- Report accurately
Learning Activity

Gender Mainstreaming

Instructions:

- Consider the scenarios
- You must eliminate the discrimination and inequality experienced by women and girls
- How would you integrate their concerns and experiences in the work carried out?

Time: 10 minutes
- Brainstorming: 3 minutes
- Discussion: 5-7 minutes
Summary of Key Messages

- Conflict has a different impact on women and girls, men and boys
- Women and girls – not just victims, active in conflict and peace, key partners for peacekeeping and peacebuilding
- “Gender equality” – equal rights, responsibilities, opportunities
- Take action – be gender sensitive, promote equality, coordinate, intervene
Questions
Learning Activity

Learning Evaluation