

## *Chapter 5*

### **Recommendations for integrating a gender perspective into statebuilding**

*Based on the analysis developed in preceding chapters, Chapter 5 sets out a series of recommendations for donors to address key challenges and seize opportunities for integrating a gender perspective into their work on statebuilding in fragile and conflict-affected states.*

The practical examples outlined in Chapter 3 and the key ingredients of success in Chapter 4 are together intended to provide insights and guidance to donors seeking to integrate a gender perspective in their statebuilding programmes. The recommendations offered in this chapter can help donors address some of the obstacles highlighted in Chapter 2 and to position donor agencies to seize opportunities to integrate gender into statebuilding.

The majority of these recommendations address the operational challenges facing donor agencies, as these are easier to control. Nevertheless, by strengthening the usage of analytical tools and generating a more solid evidence base, donors will also be better equipped to address the contextual challenges of supporting statebuilding in FCAS.

It is important to keep in mind that the gender equality agenda is demanding. Even the most informed outsider will find it a challenge to engage effectively with the complex, informal and highly political institutions surrounding gender issues in fragile and conflict-affected contexts. No donor should operate with gender blind policies. All donors should have basic competences and staff with skills to apply gender analysis across all core development programme areas. However, donors should make strategic decisions about the extent to which they have the resources and expertise to engage in more demanding tasks or whether they need to develop them before doing so. For example, working with grassroots organisations requires local language skills, a careful selection of partners, negotiation of effective working relationships, and engagement over the longer term.

Table 5.1. **Recommendations: Strategic entry points and examples of actions donors could take**

Strategic entry points	Examples of actions donors could take
<b>Strengthen analytical tools</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revise existing conflict analysis and statebuilding frameworks to reflect gender analysis.</li> <li>• Ensure that all staff have adequate training and knowledge to be able to effectively apply gender analysis in programme design, development and monitoring.</li> <li>• Ensure the inclusion of gender issues in any future assessment frameworks such as Fragility Assessments.</li> </ul>
<b>Improve the funding and accountability mechanisms available to support gender-sensitive statebuilding</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen co-ordination of in-country funding allocations to support gender-related statebuilding activities and, where relevant, reinforce the priorities set out in National Action Plans.</li> <li>• Consider earmarking within statebuilding funding streams to ensure that resources are available each year for programmes that directly support gender equality and women's rights.</li> <li>• Support efforts to advance international and national-level accountability mechanisms, including transparent reporting and data collection on progress in implementing UNSCR 1325 and other commitments.</li> <li>• Partner with the private sector to leverage and target resources more effectively.</li> </ul>
<b>Contribute to building an evidence base on gender-sensitive statebuilding</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allocate funding to multi-year research programmes to understand the impact of increasing the gender-sensitivity of statebuilding programmes.</li> <li>• Support the establishment of partnerships between northern and southern-based research organisations working on issues relating to gender and statebuilding.</li> <li>• Ensure that all programmes incorporate detailed monitoring and evaluation components that specifically relate to gender issues.</li> </ul>
<b>Use international forums and networks to support change at the national and local levels</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding as a platform for exchanging good practice and lessons learned on integrating a gender perspective into statebuilding.</li> <li>• Support international networks that work with grassroots women's organisations and provide channels for them to feed their priorities and recommendations into UN, EU, NATO and other inter-governmental forums.</li> <li>• In the convening role that many UN organisations or donors play, ensure that speaking invitations are extended to women's civil society, for example in donor planning or national recovery conferences.</li> </ul>

Table 5.1. **Recommendations: Strategic entry points and examples of actions donors could take** (*continued*)

Strategic entry points	Examples of actions donors could take
<b>Identify skills and capacity gaps within donor agencies and take measures to address them</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and carry out gender training with staff working on peacebuilding and statebuilding programmes.</li> <li>• Ensure that gender advisors have the seniority and access to high-level policy discussions relating to statebuilding.</li> </ul>
<b>Build on entry points to integrate a gender and statebuilding lens into the piloting of the New Deal and the development of the post-2015 framework</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocate for the inclusion of gender-sensitive and gender-specific indicators within the indicators being developed for the PSGs.</li> <li>• Ensure that women and girls are consulted and supported to identify their priorities in relation to governance, security, justice and economic dimensions of the post-2015 framework.</li> <li>• Use the New Deal piloting as an opportunity to strengthen implementation of UNSCR 1325 and supporting resolutions in the pilot countries.</li> </ul>
<b>Foster linkages with local women's organisations and grassroots networks and ensure they are able to access funding and programming opportunities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish quick-disbursing, smaller-scale funding streams that are accessible to community-based and grassroots organisations and streamline procurement processes.</li> <li>• Build capacity among programme staff to be able to identify and engage with local women's groups and grassroots networks.</li> <li>• Facilitate South-South and North-South linkages among women's organisations and networks to enable cross-learning.</li> <li>• Establish regular and institutionalised mechanisms for consulting with local women's organisations on priorities and recommendations in relation to the statebuilding process.</li> </ul>



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