

Lessons Learned, Best Practices and Recommendations from the Workshops on the link between the WPSA Climate Justice, Cyber Violence, Transitional Justice and Women's Economic Security

The Second Regional Forum Advancing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda (WPSA)

3-4 February 2026, Beirut

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INTRODUCTION

The Second Regional Forum “Advancing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda (WPSA)” took place on 3-4 February 2026. It was organised by the National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW) and EuroMed Feminist Initiative (EFI), in the framework of the three-year regional project "Strengthening feminist CSOs for the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan and Palestine," funded by the Support Fund for Feminist Organisations (FSOF) of the French Agency for Development (AFD) and the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs.

Held in Beirut, it brought together over 160 participants, including representatives from partnering civil society organisations (CSOs) and community-based organisations (CBOs) across the four project countries, relevant stakeholders involved in the implementation of the WPSA, women's rights and legal experts and academics, members of national and regional observatories on VAWG and women's rights, international stakeholders, donors, United Nations (UN) agencies and media representatives.

The Second Regional Forum sought to further enhance collaboration between feminist CSOs and women-led CBOs, with key stakeholders and decision-makers to advance the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the WPSA in the four countries and at the regional level. Beside plenary sessions, during the second day, four workshops were organised to explore connections between the implementation of the WPSA and key concerns including climate justice, cyber violence, transitional justice and accountability, and women's economic security.

Workshop One focused on Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence (TFGBV) and Cyber Violence Against Women and Girls (CVAWG); **Workshop Two** on Climate Justice and Environmental Insecurity; **Workshop Three** on Gender-Sensitive Transitional Processes and Social Reconstruction; and **Workshop Four** on Economic Security and Women's Rights.

The key priorities and recommendations presented in this document reflect diverse views, identified challenges on the ground, good practices and lessons learned that were shared during the workshops' presentations and open discussions. They aim to support more inclusive, gender-responsive and sustainable implementation of the WPSA at local, national, regional and international levels.

THEMATIC WORKSHOPS: CROSS -CUTTING PRIORITIES FOR WPSA IMPLEMENTATION

1. Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence and Cyber Violence against Women and Girls



The digital space is witnessing an increase in technology-facilitated forms of violence, particularly targeting women and girls through multiple channels, including online harassment, blackmail and hate speech.

The digital space accelerates the spread of violence due to the rapid circulation of information and easy access to platforms, amplifying both the scale and impact of abuse. The use of fake accounts further hinders accountability by making it difficult to identify and prosecute perpetrators. Limited digital awareness, particularly regarding privacy and protection, increases the vulnerability of women and girls to targeting, while slow legal responses and the absence of clear laws—or weak enforcement—reinforce perpetrators' sense of impunity.

Moreover, social stigma and victim-blaming cultures discourage reporting of violence, especially in conservative environments. Online violence intersects with hate speech and political or sectarian incitement, often targeting women because of their opinions or identities.

In this context, there is a pressing need to adopt comprehensive policies and measures that enhance digital protection, support victims and ensure accountability for violations in the digital environment. In parallel, continuous awareness-raising is crucial to enhance digital literacy and cybersecurity for women and girls at local, national and international levels.

Key Priorities based on identified challenges, exchange of good practices and lessons learned

❖ Updating legislation and building institutional capacity to combat digital/technology-facilitated violence

Reviewing and **updating laws to criminalise forms of online violence** such as digital harassment, cyber extortion and hate speech is essential to ensure legal accountability and protect users in the digital space.

It is also important to **train police officers and judges** to handle cybercrimes and to develop digital investigation tools that support evidence collection and perpetrator identification.

❖ Enhancing digital security awareness among women and girls and developing effective reporting mechanisms

Awareness programmes and training on digital protection skills and online privacy management help women and girls reduce the risks of online violence.

Providing **clear and rapid reporting systems**—through social media platforms or relevant authorities—is crucial to ensure timely responses and victim protection.

❖ Empowering civil society and women's organisations and strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships

Feminist CSOs play a key role in awareness campaigns, providing legal and psychosocial support to victims, and building women's technical capacity to address digital risks.

Effective practices highlight the **importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships** among governments, civil society and technology companies to develop comprehensive responses to technology-facilitated violence.

❖ Developing digital safety policies and monitoring technologies

Improving privacy and security settings on digital platforms and using technology and artificial intelligence to detect and remove harmful content are effective approaches to be included in policy making.

Key Recommendations for addressing Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence and Cyber Violence as integral part of the WPSA

At Community Level

1. Strengthen digital literacy and protection skills among women and girls

Implement community-based awareness programmes and trainings on online safety, privacy management, cybersecurity and responding to online abuse.

2. Provide integrated support services for survivors of CVAWG

Establish community-led support mechanisms offering legal assistance, psychosocial support and specialised services for women and girls affected by digital violence.

3. Challenge harmful social norms and victim-blaming

Conduct community campaigns promoting respectful digital spaces, addressing hate speech and changing attitudes that normalise or justify online violence against women and girls.

4. Strengthen community-based survivor support and referral pathways

Support women's organisations, local legal aid actors and psychosocial support networks specialised in CVAWG to improve survivor protection, referrals and access to justice at community level.

At National Level

1. Strengthen legal and institutional frameworks to address CVAWG

Update cybercrime legislation to criminalise digital harassment, online blackmail, hate speech and technology-facilitated violence, while strengthening institutional accountability and enforcement mechanisms.

2. Build the capacities of judicial and security institutions

Train police officers, judges and prosecutors on handling cyber violence cases, including digital investigations, evidence collection and survivor-centred approaches.

3. Develop comprehensive national protection and reporting mechanisms

Establish accessible reporting platforms, hotlines and referral systems in coordination with social media platforms, relevant authorities and CSOs to ensure rapid response and victim protection.

4. Support evidence-based policies and sustainable prevention efforts

Allocate funding for research, data collection, awareness programmes and CSO-led initiatives addressing digital violence, while requiring technology companies to strengthen user protection and content moderation policies.

At Regional and International Level

1. Strengthen regional cooperation and harmonise legal frameworks to combat CVAWG

Develop coordinated regional mechanisms among Arab countries to address technology-facilitated violence, including cross-border investigations, harmonised legislation on cyber violence and hate speech, and joint accountability measures.

2. Establish regional coordination and knowledge-sharing platforms

Create regional mechanisms bringing together governments, CSOs, women's organisations, technology companies and human rights actors to exchange expertise, strengthen regional capacities on digital safety and develop coordinated responses to technology-facilitated violence.

3. Support innovation and rights-based technological responses to cyber violence

Encourage the development of ethical and rights-based technological tools, including AI-supported mechanisms, to detect harmful content and strengthen prevention, protection and response efforts related to digital violence against women and girls.

2. Climate Justice and Environmental Insecurity



Climate change and environmental degradation increasingly impact human and social security, as environmental insecurity and the scarcity of natural resources exacerbate economic and social vulnerabilities, particularly in conflict-affected communities. Climate change exacerbates inequality, with women bearing greater economic and social burdens, particularly in rural and conflict-affected areas. Scarcity of resources such as water and land leads to community conflicts and domestic violence and may increase early marriage and social pressures. Moreover, environmental degradation in the region, such as desertification and declining agriculture, drives displacement, increasing women's vulnerability and limiting their access to services. Women also take on additional responsibilities in securing water and food, increasing physical burdens and daily risks.

Insufficient funding and weak coordination among stakeholders contribute to the widening of the gap between climate policies and implementation. In addition, weak coordination between governments and civil society leads to duplication of efforts, fragmented resources and reduced impact. The absence of an intersectional approach (considering geography, poverty, disability and marginalisation) results in inequitable and ineffective policies.

Limited climate financing hinders also local initiatives, particularly in countries affected by conflict or economic crises. The impacts of climate change intersect with armed conflict, pollution and occupation, complicating crises and intensifying their effects.

In this context, climate justice emerges as a key approach to ensure a fair and inclusive response that addresses the needs of women and the most affected groups, while promoting their participation in resource management and environmental policymaking.

Key Priorities based on identified challenges, exchange of good practices and lessons learned

❖ Integrating climate justice into Women, Peace and Security policies

Incorporating **climate change issues** into NAPs for UNSCR 1325 ensures that climate impacts are reflected in security and development policies and enhances women's participation in shaping environmental and climate responses.

❖ Empowering women in natural resource management

Women's participation in managing natural resources such as water, land and energy is a **successful practice that contributes** to more equitable and sustainable resource management and strengthens women's role in environmental and local development decision-making.

❖ Adopting comprehensive, gender-sensitive climate analysis

Conducting comprehensive climate analyses helps identify how policies affect women and men differently, determine the most vulnerable groups and **design more responsive policies**.

❖ Supporting local women-led environmental initiatives

Local initiatives led by women in areas such as sustainable agriculture, water management and renewable energy **enhance community resilience** to climate change and promote sustainable local development.

❖ Linking climate justice with social cohesion and peacebuilding

Environmental degradation and resource scarcity can exacerbate tensions and conflict, particularly in fragile and conflict-affected contexts.

Integrating **climate justice into peacebuilding and social cohesion** efforts can support more sustainable, inclusive and **community-driven responses**.

❖ Enhancing coordination and using technology in managing environmental crises

Collaboration among environmental institutions, peacebuilding organisations and women's groups contributes to integrated responses linking environment, security and development. **Technology-based environmental analysis** and early warning systems can support preparedness, disaster response and the protection of vulnerable communities.

Key Recommendations for addressing Climate Justice and Environmental Insecurity as integral part of the WPSA

At Community Level

1. Support women-led climate adaptation and environmental initiatives

Promote community-based initiatives led by women in areas such as sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, water management and environmental resilience.

2. Strengthen women's participation in environmental decision-making

Ensure women's active participation in local committees and community structures responsible for managing natural resources, including water, land and energy.

3. Build local capacities in climate resilience and green skills

Develop training programmes for women and girls on climate-smart agriculture, renewable energy, water resource management and other green and sustainable livelihood skills.

4. Enhance community preparedness and environmental awareness

Strengthen community-based early warning systems and conduct awareness campaigns on environmental risks, pollution and the impacts of climate change and conflict on women and vulnerable communities.

At National Level

1. Integrate climate justice into national Women, Peace and Security frameworks

Incorporate climate change and environmental insecurity into NAPs for UNSCR 1325, including gender-sensitive indicators and policies linking climate, security and development.

2. Strengthen gender-responsive climate governance and accountability

Enhance coordination between governments and civil society, strengthen oversight mechanisms and promote political commitment to implementing inclusive and equitable climate policies.

3. Ensure equitable access to climate financing and adaptation programmes

Allocate climate funding to women-led initiatives and ensure women, particularly in rural and marginalised communities, have access to climate adaptation resources, financing and support mechanisms.

4. Promote sustainable and resilient reconstruction and development

Integrate climate justice into post-conflict reconstruction and infrastructure planning through sustainable, disaster-resilient and gender-responsive approaches.

At regional and International Levels

1. Increase climate financing for women-led and community-based initiatives

Expand international climate funding and ensure accessible, flexible financing for women-led organisations and local initiatives working on climate adaptation, resilience and environmental justice.

2. Strengthen regional coordination linking climate justice, peacebuilding and security

Enhance cooperation among environmental actors, peacebuilding organisations, women's groups and international institutions to address the interconnected impacts of climate change, conflict and displacement.

3. Promote technology and innovation for climate preparedness and risk reduction

Support the use of technology, including AI-based early warning systems and environmental risk analysis tools, to improve preparedness, disaster response and the protection of vulnerable communities.

4. Address environmental harms exacerbating insecurity and inequality

Strengthen regional and international efforts to reduce environmental degradation, pollution and the use of environmentally harmful weapons that disproportionately affect women and conflict-affected communities.

3. Gender-Sensitive Transitional Processes and Social Reconstruction



Achieving sustainable recovery requires addressing the legal and institutional challenges that hinder women's access to justice, alongside strengthening their meaningful participation in accountability, reform and decision-making processes. Linking peace with reconstruction and economic empowerment as a fundamental condition for participation.

Social stigma and legal gaps hinder access to justice, highlighting the need to align laws with international standards, especially in conflict contexts. This also require ensuring privacy and safety for women (including identity protection, safe transportation and appropriate services) to enable access to justice.

Support from donors directed toward women's organisations is essential to address these issues and advocate for women's participation in decision-making at no less than 30% to enhance justice and helps address poverty, violence and marginalisation.

Key Priorities based on identified challenges, exchange of good practices and lessons learned

❖ Applying comprehensive justice and expanding accountability for all forms of sexual and civil crimes

True justice goes beyond punishing perpetrators to addressing the structural and social causes of VAWG. It includes **integrating security as a core component of transitional justice** and ensuring **women's full and sustainable access** to justice mechanisms, making accountability part of rebuilding society.

❖ Developing a safe and confidential judicial environment and reparations programmes

Establishing high standards of privacy and confidentiality in police and judicial procedures, alongside the use of **AI tools to preserve evidence and witness testimonies**, reduces repeated testimonies and strengthens **women's trust in the justice system**.

A **comprehensive judicial environment** enables women to participate without fear of retaliation or discrimination. Reparations should go **beyond financial compensation to include psychological and social rehabilitation**, helping survivors regain their ability to participate in society and decision-making.

❖ **Strengthening the role of civil society and women's organisations in justice and decision-making**

Engaging civil society, especially women's organisations, in **documenting violations, monitoring government actions** and advocating for increased representation of women in legislative and administrative decision-making enhances transparency and ensures fair and effective policies responsive to the needs of affected women and girls.

Key Recommendations for addressing Gender-Sensitive Transitional Processes and Social Reconstruction as integral part of the WPSA

At Community Level

1. Enhance legal awareness and access to justice for women and girls

Implement community-based awareness programmes informing women and girls, particularly those affected by conflict, about their rights and available national and international justice mechanisms.

2. Provide integrated legal, psychosocial and rehabilitation support for survivors

Establish sustainable support services for survivors of violence, including legal aid, psychological support, social rehabilitation and long-term reintegration programmes.

3. Strengthen local legal support and advocacy networks

Support networks of lawyers, women's organisations and community actors working to provide legal assistance, document violations and advocate for survivors' rights and accountability.

4. Strengthen the role of women's organisations in transitional justice processes

Support women-led CSOs in documenting violations, raising awareness, contributing to accountability efforts and ensuring women's voices shape transitional justice and reconstruction pathways.

At National Level

1. Reform legal and institutional frameworks to ensure gender-responsive justice

Align national legislation with international standards by reforming personal status, penal and conflict-related laws to guarantee equality, non-discrimination and accountability for violations against women.

2. Establish comprehensive transitional justice and accountability mechanisms

Develop national transitional justice frameworks that include investigations, fair trials, reparations programmes and institutional reforms addressing all forms of conflict related violence, including CRSV

3. Ensure safe, confidential and survivor-centred access to justice

Strengthen judicial and investigative procedures that protect survivors' privacy, confidentiality and safety, while using modern technologies and evidence-gathering mechanisms that respect women's rights and dignity.

4. Strengthen women's participation and protection of their civil and economic rights

Ensure women's meaningful participation in decision-making and legislative processes, including through minimum representation targets, while protecting women's rights related to property, inheritance, documentation and economic security in post-conflict contexts.

At regional and International Levels

1. Ensure sustainable international support for gender-sensitive transitional justice

Direct international funding and support toward women's rights organisations and transitional justice initiatives that strengthen accountability, survivors' access to justice and women's meaningful participation in recovery and reconstruction processes.

2. Strengthen the role of women's organisations and civil society in accountability processes

Support CSOs, particularly women-led organisations, in documenting violations, monitoring transitional justice mechanisms and advocating for gender-responsive reforms and survivor-centred approaches.

3. Enhance international cooperation and exchange of expertise on transitional justice

Promote the exchange of regional and international experiences, tools and best practices related to documenting violations, evidence preservation, reparations and the implementation of inclusive, gender sensitive transitional justice processes.

4. Improve international investigative and accountability mechanisms

Strengthen the effectiveness of international investigative missions by reducing bureaucratic obstacles, improving operational coordination and ensuring the protection of evidence and survivors throughout justice processes.

4. Economic Security and Women's Rights



Economic security is a fundamental element in implementing the WPSA. Women's economic empowerment goes beyond simply providing employment opportunities; it includes reforming economic policies, strengthening social protection, expanding access to financing and supporting community-led initiatives by women, ensuring their active participation in peacebuilding and development processes.

Economic security is a fundamental pillar of the WPSA as women's meaningful participation in peacebuilding and recovery processes cannot be achieved without economic justice and access to resources. Women's economic participation goes beyond employment opportunities to include reforming discriminatory economic and

legal frameworks, strengthening social protection systems, expanding access to financing and supporting women-led economic initiatives, particularly in conflict- and crisis-affected contexts.

Ensuring women's economic rights also requires recognising unpaid care work as a significant part of the economy, developing women-friendly work environments through childcare services, safe transportation and protection from workplace discrimination, and integrating gender perspectives into economic, environmental and reconstruction policies.

Strengthening women's participation in economic and legislative decision-making, including oversight and anti-corruption mechanisms, is essential to building inclusive, equitable and resilient societies.

Key Priorities based on identified challenges, exchange of good practices and lessons learned

❖ Promoting women's economic participation through supportive policies

This includes recognising unpaid care work as a key part of the economy and transforming it into a formal, regulated sector, developing women-friendly work environments through **supportive services**, ensuring safe and **non-discriminatory workplaces** and supporting women's cooperatives.

❖ Strengthening governance, social protection and capacity-building

This involves integrating **gender perspectives into policies**, enhancing women's participation in oversight and anti-corruption efforts, developing **inclusive social protection systems** and building women's capacities, particularly during crises.

❖ Supporting women-led economic initiatives and cooperatives

Women-led cooperatives, local enterprises and community-based economic initiatives strengthen **women's economic independence, resilience and participation** in local recovery and development processes, **particularly in conflict- and crisis-affected areas**.

❖ Strengthening women's participation in economic decision-making

Ensuring women's meaningful participation in economic governance, legislative processes, reconstruction planning and oversight mechanisms is essential for building **inclusive and equitable economic systems** responsive to women's needs and priorities.

❖ Enhancing women's economic resilience in conflict and post-conflict contexts

Economic empowerment strategies should address the specific needs of women affected by conflict, displacement and marginalisation by ensuring **access to employment, social protection, financial services**, vocational training and sustainable livelihood opportunities.

Key Recommendations for addressing Women Economic Security and Participation as integral part of the WPSA

At Local Level

1. Provide community-based vocational and economic skills training for women

Develop local training programmes focused on professional skills, entrepreneurship, project management and economic resilience, particularly in crisis-affected communities.

2. Enhance women's participation in community recovery and reconstruction initiatives

Support women's active involvement in local reconstruction, economic recovery and community development processes.

3. Strengthen access to economic resources and financial services at community level

Support local mechanisms that help women access financing, economic opportunities and livelihood support within their communities.

4. Promote community engagement in advancing women's economic rights and equality

Conduct local awareness initiatives encouraging positive social attitudes toward women's economic participation and the role of communities, including men, in supporting economic equality.

At National Level

1. Enact gender-responsive lending and financing policies

Develop legal and financial mechanisms that improve women's access to affordable loans, grants and financial services, including preferential measures for women-led initiatives.

2. Develop comprehensive social protection systems for women and vulnerable groups

Strengthen social security systems, protection mechanisms and emergency economic support for women affected by conflict, displacement and economic crises.

3. Ensure women's involvement in economic policymaking during transitional and reconstruction processes

Promote women's participation in drafting economic policies, reconstruction planning and post-conflict recovery frameworks to ensure inclusive and equitable development.

At Regional and International Level

1. Support gender-responsive economic justice programmes linked to the implementation of the WPSA

Strengthen regional and international programmes linking women's economic empowerment, peacebuilding and sustainable development in conflict- and crisis-affected contexts.

2. Promote regional exchange of expertise and good practices on women's economic empowerment

Encourage knowledge-sharing on successful models related to women's cooperatives, financial inclusion and women-led economic initiatives across the region.

3. Support capacity-building for institutions and civil society on gender-responsive economic policies

Provide technical support and training for national institutions, civil society organisations and local actors to strengthen gender-sensitive economic governance and policy implementation.

4. Enhance partnerships between governments, international organisations and women-led organisations

Strengthen coordinated partnerships to support the implementation of inclusive economic policies that advance women's economic rights and participation.

CONCLUSIONS

The recommendations presented in this document reflect the key priorities, challenges and pathways forward identified during the thematic workshops of the Second Regional Forum “Advancing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda (WPSA).” They highlight the importance of addressing emerging and interconnected issues, including cyber violence, climate justice, transitional justice and women’s economic security, as integral components of the implementation of the WPSA in the region.

Advancing the WPSA requires inclusive, gender-responsive and locally led approaches grounded in meaningful participation, sustainable partnerships and long-term commitment at local, national, regional and international levels.

Strengthening coordination between governments, civil society, women-led organisations and international actors remains essential to ensuring more effective, equitable and sustainable peacebuilding, recovery and protection processes for women and girls across the region.



