

Factsheet

Women's Empowerment



We work globally



Working towards the full implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda



Projects designed to promote women's empowerment and gender equality



Thematic Areas

- Advancing the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda.
- Prevention of sexual and gender-based violence.
- Equal participation in decision making processes.
- Gender equality and integration in peace support operations.
- Women's Leadership for Peace.
- Women-led mediation and negotiation.
- Women's entrepreneurship and grassroots initiatives.
- Effective monitoring and reporting on the WPS Agenda.



Our Services

- Training and facilitation.
- Coaching and mentoring.
- Training of Trainers (ToT).
- eLearning.
- Master degrees and postgraduates.
- Learning support materials.
- Advocacy.



Our Mission

We contribute to a more peaceful, inclusive and just world by closing the capacity gap standing in the way of the full realization of the Women Peace and Security (WPS) agenda.



The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) – a specialized training agency of the United Nations – supports the (re-) establishment of peaceful, just and inclusive societies (SDG 16) by enabling individuals and organizations to contribute meaningfully to sustainable peace. With over 60 years of experience in capacity building, we provide customized, creative and results-based learning solutions, carefully crafted for countries and communities emerging from conflict and facing specific development needs. At the core of our success is our specific methodology that allows for the creation of powerful and inspiring spaces, products and services (online and face-to-face) for high-quality learning and collaboration. Our training programmes have mentoring and coaching as their key ingredients and promote participation, dialogue, local ownership and multiplication of knowledge for sustainable impact and behavioural change.

In support of the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security (UNSCR 1325) and connected agendas, UNITAR aims to empower individuals and groups of women to meaningfully contribute to sustaining peace at all levels and in all capacities. We do so by supporting capacity development of Member States, international and regional organizations and other stakeholders working in the WPS field as they contribute to lasting peace and security in the world.



Our Objectives

- Address the severe underrepresentation of women in peace and security spaces.
- Ensure women leaders for peace have the skills, knowledge, confidence, and support to excel.
- Support Member States in the full realization of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda.
- Assist international, national, and local organizations and governments to integrate gender inclusivity into their peacebuilding and ensure there are no barriers for women to make meaningful contributions to sustainable peace.
- Work towards greater inclusivity and equality.



Flagship Projects

Dedicated support to African Union Member States on the Realization of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda

To advocate for sustained commitment to the full implementation of the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda, UNITAR provides dedicated support to Member States with the development of National Action Plans and the creation of strategies to report on their implementation. Women are at the forefront of advancing the WPS Agenda and thus UNITAR has committed itself to providing a range of programming aimed at supporting their efforts. Exemplifying this work, UNITAR supports the Office of the Special Envoy of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission on Women, Peace and Security. Through the secondment of a Gender Monitoring Specialist, UNITAR provides dedicated support to Member States on the monitoring of WPS Agenda implementation and the development of WPS National Action Plans.

Transformative Leadership Programming

Recognising the importance of women in leadership roles at all levels for the promotion of stable and lasting peace, UNITAR offers targeted transformative leadership programmes that respond directly to the unique challenges faced by women in the peace and security space. Specifically, the Women's Leadership for Peace programme provides women with a set of experiences, knowledge, and skills to take up leadership roles and/or increase their leadership potential by stepping into their power and defining what authentic leadership looks like within their respective context. Designed to be tailored to the specific needs of audiences, UNITAR implements the programme for different cohorts of women at different levels and different capacities. In 2023, participants included members of the Senior Women Talent Pipeline, Ukrainian diplomats, and students from the Kroc Institute and Albright Institute.

Promotion of Inclusivity and Equality

In order to ensure that more girl's and women's voices are heard throughout the sustaining peace ecosystem, UNITAR specializes in programming aimed at increasing inclusivity and promoting equality within peacebuilding spaces. UNITAR is breaking new grounds on gender equality with many of its partnerships, such as the Premier League Changemakers, a joint initiative with the Premier League Charitable Fund and Sport Relief to use sport as a vehicle for promoting gender equality and social cohesion as well as strengthening female leadership in sport and for social change. Programmes like the Premier League Changemakers leverage UNITAR's experience with diverse learning methodologies and create spaces in which participants are valued, challenged, and encouraged.

"Breathtaking! The training delivered by the Senior Women Talent Pipeline in partnership with UNITAR, Rwanda Peace Academy and Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) is of exceptional quality. It offers participants from all over the world the opportunity to get up to speed on the challenges of working in peacekeeping operations, but also to train, in a caring environment, in the latest leadership techniques and trends. I recommend this course to all women who aspire to leadership careers in the United Nations. We come out of it grown in every way!"

- Participant of the Senior Women Talent Pipeline Women's Leadership for Peace Programme