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THE MAKING OF THE ASEAN REGIONAL PLAN OF ACTION ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY:

INSIGHTS AND LESSONS LEARNED

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About This Report

This report was commissioned by UN Women under the regional project, Empowering Women for Sustainable Peace: Preventing Violence and Promoting Social Cohesion in ASEAN, with the generous support of the Governments of Canada and Republic of Korea. The document was drafted by Dr. Margaret Jenkins, an independent expert on women, peace and security (WPS). The report aims to document the support that UN Women has provided to ASEAN to develop the Regional Plan of Action on WPS (RPA WPS). For learning and knowledge management purposes, the report also documents good practices and lessons learned. It is expected that this knowledge product can help UN Women, government actors and development partners in other regions to learn from this experience.

The views expressed in this publication are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views and official policies of UN Women, those of the United Nations or any of its affiliated organizations, or those of the Government of Canada or the Republic of Korea. The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UN Women concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

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This knowledge product benefited greatly from the commitment and contributions from members of the ASEAN Advisory Group on WPS, the ASEAN Secretariat, the ASEAN-USAID Partnership for Regional Optimization within the Political-Security and Socio-Cultural Communities (ASEAN-USAID PROSPECT) and the Philippine Center for Islam and Democracy (PCID).

In particular, the Chair of the ASEAN Advisory Group on WPS, H.E. Kheng Samvada of the ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW) Cambodia, contributed significant time and attention to this initiative. Special thanks also to Professor Lourdesita Sobrevega-Chan, Philippine Women's Rights Representative to the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) for her interest and engagement. Members of the ASEAN-USAID PROSPECT team, especially Keith Doxtater and Sara Lehman, also offered valuable contributions. Special thanks are also extended to members of PCID, in particular Amina Rasul, Salma Rasul, Dina Zaman and Professor Aurora de Dios, for their insights and observations regarding civil society involvement. The successful completion of this publication would not have been possible without the support of the Poverty Eradication and Gender Division (PEGD) of the ASEAN Secretariat, in particular Kwinraj Chand.

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The organizations and individuals mentioned above were centrally involved in the development of the RPA WPS from its inception and played key roles in the drafting and consultative process. The publication benefits greatly from their sharing of reflections from different stages of the process. The RPA WPS would not have been successfully drafted, adopted or launched without the unwavering commitment of many others across the region. This knowledge product draws upon primary source information such as concept notes, presentations and emails, as well as key informant interviews with officials and representatives from UN Women, ASEAN and civil society.[1] Thank you to all participants for their contributions to the process of developing the RPA WPS and for the insights reflected in this report.

1 Interviews were carried out late in November 2022 (around the time of the adoption of the RPA WPS) and continued until just after the launch of the RPA WPS in early December 2022.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The adoption of the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on Women, Peace and Security (RPA WPS) on 16 November 2022 at the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits marks a significant milestone and achievement for the ASEAN region. Those working on WPS are eager to get results and rightly so—not only are the lives of women and girls at stake, but the safety, security and resilience of whole communities. Yet the act of developing the RPA WPS was itself a significant accomplishment and it is worth taking a moment to understand how it came about and to capture the insights of those on the frontlines of its development.

This report tells the story of how individuals representing a range of different ASEAN regional sectoral bodies and entities, as well as governments and civil society, came together to develop the RPA WPS. The RPA WPS is designed to guide steps forward with respect to the four pillars of the WPS agenda—prevention, protection, participation and relief and recovery, and to be relevant even in light of the different priorities, strengths and challenges with respect to WPS across the region. The RPA WPS aims to contextualize the WPS Agenda in Southeast Asia and inspire the region to go beyond the status quo.

While the launch of the RPA WPS signals strong commitment to WPS objectives, its drafters recognize that the challenges are significant. At the ASEAN 40th and 41st Summit, ASEAN "reaffirmed [its] commitment to promoting tolerance, moderation and respect for diversity as well as to promoting and protecting human rights and respecting fundamental freedoms as they are core principles of ASEAN."[2] These principles are critical to the WPS Agenda. UN Women is committed to finding innovative and practical ways of giving support to protect women's rights and prevent violence, even when the context is difficult and challenges are formidable. Indeed, the WPS Agenda directly supports this endeavour, offering tools to integrate WPS objectives during times of emergency, conflict and political upheaval in order to promote peace and stability for all.

This knowledge product (KP) has two objectives. First, it documents the process of developing the RPA WPS to enable it to be a resource when engaging in related work. Questions addressed in this report include: What were the consultative mechanisms developed for this process? How was civil society engaged? What was done to increase ownership of the RPA WPS across the three community pillars of ASEAN? What were some of the background and contextual factors that encouraged engagement?
Second, this KP considers lessons learned and good practices with respect to the process, drawing upon the insights of those working on the frontlines to draft the RPA WPS. This information can be used to inform the next steps—highlighting aspects that should be continued and expanded during the implementation of the RPA WPS. This analysis can also promote learning on development of National Action Plans (NAPs) and RPAs on WPS in the

2 *Chairman's Statement of the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits,* 11 November 2022.

ASEAN region and beyond.[3]

By undertaking this exercise, the KP contributes to filling a gap in the existing literature on this subject. Although toolkits and documentation exist to help inform the development of NAPs, there is very little written about regional plans of action.[4]

The first section of this report discusses the background factors leading to the RPA WPS. The second section provides an overview of the process of developing the RPA WPS. This section outlines the institutions involved in preparing and reviewing drafts, and details the mechanisms that were put in place to ensure consultation and inputs. Section three identifies some challenges and lessons learned from the process, and best practices are outlined in section four. The report concludes by offering recommendations to inform future work guided by the analysis and findings.

3 The corporate evaluation of UN Women's support to developing action plans on WPS stressed that the collection, systemization and sharing of best practices in NAP and RPA development and implementation within UN Women is an area that UN Women should strengthen. This KP aims to be a learning resource for UN Women in this regard.

4 The drafters of this RPA WPS identified 12 other regional action plans or regional frameworks on WPS. Seven of these pertain to Africa, such as one guiding the African Union, as well as those for the Central Africa and Great Lakes regions. There are also RPAs on WPS for the EU, NATO, OSCE, the League of Arab States and the Pacific Islands. While the actual RPAs on WPS from these regions and institutions were useful to review for this project, there is very little written to explain how they were developed or that shares reflections regarding whether the processes to develop these RPAs were considered effective and what could possibly be improved.

ACRONYMS

AG	ASEAN Advisory Group on Women, Peace and Security
ACDM	ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management
ACW	ASEAN Committee on Women
ACWC	ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children
AEC	ASEAN Economic Community
AGMSF	ASEAN Gender Mainstreaming Strategic Framework
AICHR	ASEAN Inter-Governmental Commission on Human Rights
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASEAN-IPR	ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation
ASEC	ASEAN Secretariat
BNPT	Indonesia National Counter Terrorism Agency
CSO	Civil society organization
KP	Knowledge product
NAP	National Action Plan
PEGD	ASEAN Poverty Eradication and Gender Division
PROSPECT	Partnership for Regional Optimization with the Political-Security and Socio-Cultural Communities
PVE	Preventing violent extremism
RPA	Regional Plan of Action
RPA WPS	Regional Plan of Action on Women, Peace and Security
SOMTC	ASEAN Senior Official Meeting on Transnational Crime
TBB	Technical briefing and brainstorming
TOR	Terms of reference
UN DPPA	UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs
UN DPO	UN Department of Peace Operations
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
UN Women	The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WPS	Women, peace and security

1. BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

The ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on Women, Peace and Security (RPA WPS) builds upon a strong foundation of political commitment to gender equality and women's rights in the region. Thirty-five years ago, in 1988, the Declaration on the Advancement of Women in the ASEAN Region[5] called for women's full and equal participation "in all fields and at various levels of the political, economic, social and cultural life of society," and recognized the importance of including civil society in the design of programmes, including "nongovernmental women organizations."[6] It also highlighted the importance of localization, calling upon all ASEAN Member States to "integrate in national plans the specific concerns of women and their roles as active agents in and as beneficiaries of development."

The Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women in the ASEAN Region (2004), the Hanoi Declaration on the Enhancement of the Welfare and Development of ASEAN Women and Children (2010) and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women and Elimination of Violence Against Children in ASEAN (2013) also articulate strong support for issues that are also directly related to the WPS Agenda. Almost 20 years ago, ASEAN Member States committed to eliminating "all forms of discrimination against women" and to intensifying "efforts to develop and/or improve existing legislative, educational, social measures and support services aimed at the prevention of violence against women."[7]

ASEAN has also adopted other Regional Plans of Action (RPAs) that provide regional normative frameworks relevant to advancing WPS objectives. These include the RPA on the Elimination of Violence Against Women (2016), the ASEAN Plan of Action Against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (2015), the Regional Framework and Action Plan to Implement the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection (2015), the ASEAN Comprehensive Framework on the Care Economy (2021) and the ASEAN Gender Mainstreaming Strategic Framework (AGMSF), 2021.

Specific ASEAN RPAs also include commitments to integrating women's rights in response to emerging security challenges, such as the RPA to Prevent and Counter the Rise of Radicalization and Violent Extremism (2018), the ASEAN Regional Framework on Protection, Gender and Inclusion in Disaster Management (2021), and the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework (especially its call for gender mainstreaming in COVID-19 response and recovery), 2020.

5 This Declaration was adopted at the 21st ASEAN Ministerial Meeting.

6 The Declaration on the Advancement of Women in the ASEAN Region (1988).

7 The Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women in the ASEAN Region (2004). For further discussion of background documents, see *The ASEAN Regional Study on WPS*, section 3.1, on ASEAN Regional and Normative Frameworks on Gender Equality, p. 16.

By providing a comprehensive approach to integrating WPS throughout peace and security processes and activities in the ASEAN region, the RPA WPS leverages further support for these initiatives, fills gaps and provides tools to further the integration of WPS across different sectors, pillars and issue areas.

The ASEAN Region recognizes that to be resilient it needs to be prepared to prevent and respond to new security challenges in a way that is inclusive — excluding women is not only unjust, it poses a security risk and challenges sustainable prosperity for all.

The RPA WPS affirms and helps to fulfil existing ASEAN commitments to international resolutions and initiatives. The WPS agenda was formally initiated by the landmark UN Security Council Resolution 1325, which was adopted on 31 October 2000. The UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the Declaration on Violence Against Women (Vienna Declaration), the Beijing Platform of Action (BPFA), the BPFA+ 20 and its Outcome Document, and the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development all include ambitious goals related to the WPS agenda.

As clear from the discussion above, there has been significant political attention given to priorities of the WPS agenda for decades in the ASEAN region. At the same time, there has been recognition that in spite of strong political frameworks both regionally and globally, far more concrete progress needs to be made on WPS both in Southeast Asia and around the world.[8]

During the 31st ASEAN Summit in November 2017, leaders affirmed ASEAN's commitment to fully implement WPS in peace and security initiatives throughout the region, and called upon all "relevant ASEAN bodies to work together to promote the women, peace and security agenda." The Joint Statement on Women, Peace and Security (2017) adopted during this Summit explicitly referred to the importance of women's participation in the political, security and justice sectors and recognized the need for women's "equal, full and effective participation at all stages of peace processes." It identified gender inequality as a root cause of conflict and a contributing factor in the risk of violent extremism, referenced the need to recognize and support the role of women in peacebuilding as negotiators, mediators and first responders, and highlighted the importance of a gender perspective in all conflict prevention initiatives, including preventing violent extremism (PVE).

8 See for example: *Report of the Secretary-General on women, peace and security* (S/2021/827). There were many reports written to take stock of progress implementing the WPS agenda for the 20th anniversary of UNSCR 1325, such as *UN Women's Women, Peace and Security in Asia Pacific, 20 Years On: Progress Achieved and Lessons Learned* and OECD DAC Network's report: *Twentieth Anniversary* of UN Security Council Resolution 1325. There were also progress reports prior to 2017, such as AusAID's 2009 report, "Women, Peace and Security in AusAID Partner Countries." Most reports recommend more concrete evidence-based policies and programmes to further advance the decades of political momentum and consensus on WPS.

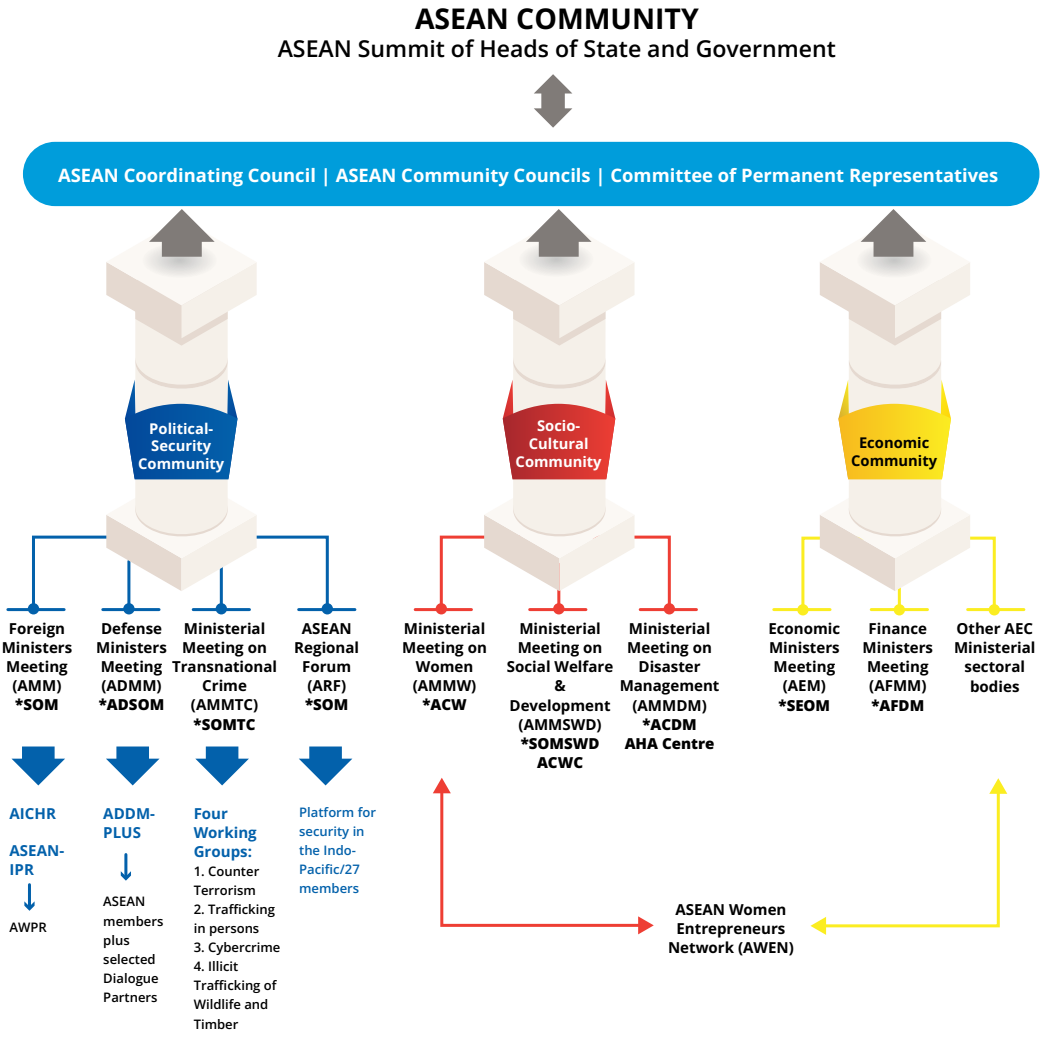
In some respects, further development of an all-encompassing regional approach to WPS became eclipsed by other issues in the region during 2018.[9] One possible explanation for this was the rising concerns of emerging non-traditional security issues, such as the increase in violent extremism and major terrorist attacks during 2017 and 2018,[10] among other issues. However, the UN through the ASEAN-UN Peace and Security Dialogue, also played a key role in stimulating interest among ASEAN policymakers on the WPS agenda at this time, including through the Track 1.5[11] regional dialogue in 2017 on the critical role of women in PVE, in which UN Women also provided a key contribution. During this period, these factors brought "the WPS agenda into the discussion."[12] Those working on counter-terrorism and preventing extremism increasingly became aware of the gender dimensions relevant to their work and of the different roles that women were playing, both in rising extremist movements and even more extensively in prevention efforts. Champion advocates of the WPS agenda within the ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW) and ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC), as well as the leadership of the ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC) Socio-Cultural Community, were also key for advancing momentum around the WPS agenda.

9 "Following the 2017 ASEAN Summit, official support for the WPS seems to have dissipated," one CSO reported. "The creation of the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) is the only official undertaking that could be somehow linked to UNSCR 1325… gender advocates point to the regional body's failure to engage women in peace and security issues across the sociocultural, political-security and economic pillars upon which the ASEAN Community vision rests." PCID, "Inception Report," 28 February 2022, p.7.

10 More specifically, the siege of Marawi in the Philippines (2017) and the Surabaya bombings in Indonesia (2018) were two attacks that called for urgent attention from ASEAN leaders given the magnitude and the tactics used for the attack. This has shifted the focus towards countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism, a development eliciting wide interests/support from ASEAN dialogue partners.

11 Among the joint activities between ASEAN and UN DPPA, "the ASEAN-UN Regional Dialogue (AURED) series provides a regular annual Track 1.5 forum for discussion of regional peace and security challenges. The fourth ASEAN-UN Regional Dialogue was held in Malaysia in December 2017 and focused on WPS -- the Role of Women in the Prevention of Violent Extremism." See https://dppa.un.org/en/association-of-southeast-asian-nations, accessed 12 Dec. 2022.

12 Interview, November 2022.



Source: ASEAN Regional Study on Women Peace and Security, March 2021

In 2018, development of the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on the Prevention of Violent Extremism became a regional priority. It included a strong focus on gender-responsive PVE strategies, providing a crucial link to the WPS agenda. In 2019, a confluence of factors led to increased momentum on WPS more broadly. This included both momentum from certain ASEAN Member States, the ASEC and champions in the region, coupled with increased attention on the WPS agenda from motivated external dialogue partners such as Australia, the EU, Canada and the US through the ASEAN-USAID PROSPECT).

In 2019, preparations began for a Regional Symposium on Implementing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in ASEAN, to be held 22-23 August 2019 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. This Symposium **provided a critical opportunity for ASEAN to have the first cross-pillar dialogue on the WPS agenda,** gathering all three ASEAN Community pillars as well as representatives from all 10 ASEAN Member States to exchange their experiences and discuss and contextualize the WPS agenda in ASEAN.

As a member of the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Advisory Board on Mediation who is deeply engaged in the WPS agenda in Southeast Asia, Noeleen Heyzer was invited

to provide the keynote speech at the symposium. Her speech affirmed WPS as central to ASEAN objectives, further heightened interest in WPS and "set the tone of what the WPS is to be about."[13] Heyzer drew attention to the need for those focused on both traditional and non-traditional security issues, such as counter-terrorism, to recognize women as "not only victims but people with both grievances and agency… some are engaged in violence and extremism. But many more are at the front lines countering extremism and violence." She also emphasized that the WPS agenda is critical not only for women and girls but entire societies: "The point of UNSCR 1325 is not that women are better at building peace than other groups but that if we disregard women's roles as leaders and peacebuilders we will be losing out on the ideas of half the population, and undermining long-term stability." She also connected a rise of violence with poverty, especially in "peripheral areas left behind," and drew a clear connection between gender inequalities with respect to women's "inheritance and land, health and employment," and security and human rights challenges such as trafficking and the sexual exploitation of minors.

The symposium also featured recent work on PVE and counter-terrorism that had been informed by the WPS lens in the session "Preventing Violent Extremism: WPS Matters," led by Indonesia's National Counter Terrorism Agency (BNPT) as Chair of the ASEAN Senior Official Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC). Other sessions focused on disaster risk management and other emerging security issues, as well as the linkages between poverty, crime and WPS, foreshadowing the ASEAN interest in cross-pillar engagement and responding to emerging threats to peace and security as part of the implementation of the WPS agenda in the region.

"ASEAN is working concertedly to advance women, peace and security agenda across the three ASEAN Community Pillars as part of our commitment to promote gender equality and the roles of women in the implementation of the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework."

Secretary-General of ASEAN Dato Lim Jock Hoi at the Launch event of the Regional Project 'Empowering women for sustainable peace: preventing violence and promoting social cohesion in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations' February 2021.

As a result of the Regional Symposium on Implementing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, ASEAN **agreed to develop the comprehensive ASEAN Regional Study on WPS,** led by ACW and ACWC, to enhance understanding of the current state of implementation of the WPS Agenda at regional and country levels, and to inform and provide recommendations on key steps forward.

The WPS momentum continued with the meeting of ACW and ACWC in Brunei in October 2019, facilitated by the ASEC. As part of this initiative, the informal working group on WPS, comprising ACW and ACWC representatives from Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Viet Nam,

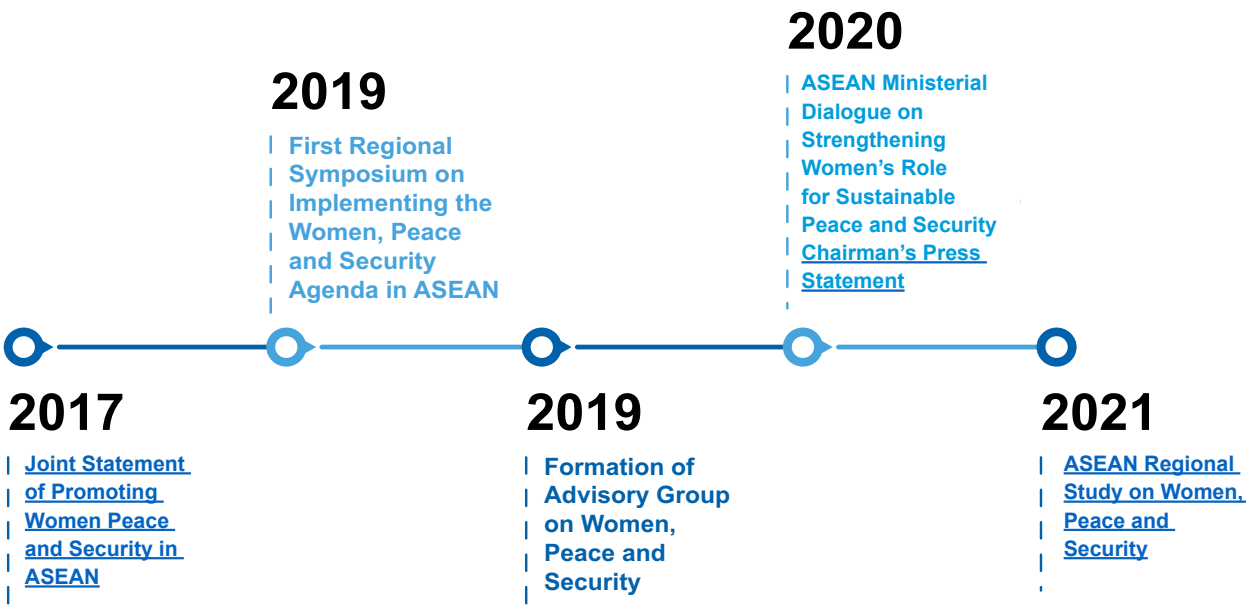
13 Interview, November 2022.

was formed to shepherd the development of the ASEAN Regional Study on WPS in close consultation with the broader group of ACW and ACWC.

The ASEAN Regional Study on WPS is the product of a joint effort led by the ACW and ACWC supported by the ASEC, ASEAN-USAID PROSPECT and UN Women. The study consolidated good practices and lessons learned on WPS at community, national and regional levels, and identified persistent and emerging challenges. This stock-taking exercise fed into the study's recommendations, which pinpointed five key "mechanisms and actions that are necessary to take forward the ASEAN WPS Agenda." The first of these was the recommendation to "formulate an ASEAN WPS Regional Plan of Action with specific goals, objectives, activities, indictors and a regional institutional mechanism to implement and coordinate these actions across ASEAN pillars and sectors."

Figure 1

Key milestones for the advancement of WPS agenda in ASEAN (2017-2021)



2. PROCESS TO DEVELOP THE RPA WPS

The process to develop the RPA WPS aimed to harness existing expertise and networks related to WPS, while also working to move beyond the status quo, filling gaps in policy, implementation and representation.

Figure 2
Key milestones for the advancement of WPS agenda in ASEAN (2022)

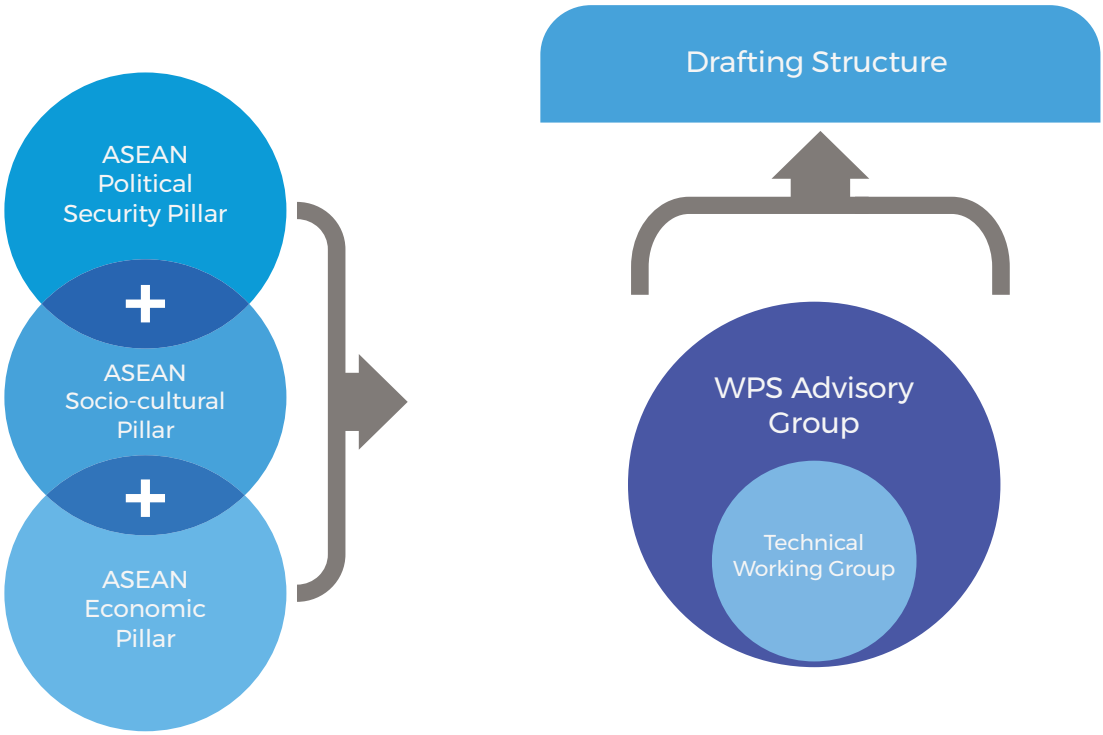
2.1. Development and approval of the project proposal

Towards the end of 2021, UN Women and the ASEAN-USAID PROSPECT facilitated consultations with the ASEAN Committee of Women (ACW) and ASEAN Commission on Promotion and Protection of the Rights of the Women and Children (ACWC) to explore ideas for a process for developing the RPA WPS that would engage sectoral bodies across all three ASEAN Community pillars, as well as other stakeholders in the region. These ideas then informed a concept note and roadmap for developing the RPA WPS, which was presented to ACW and ACWC representatives. Technical assistance for this concept note was provided by the UN Women Country Office in Indonesia as part of the regional project, Empowering Women for Sustainable Peace: Preventing Violence and Promoting Social Cohesion in ASEAN. These preliminary discussions and background concept note were used to develop the project, "Development of the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on Women, Peace and Security (RPA WPS)," which was endorsed by the ACW as the sponsoring ASEAN body on 14 January 2022.

2.2. Drafting structure

One of the key institutions involved in the drafting of the RPA WPS was the ASEAN Advisory Group (AG) on Women, Peace and Security,[14] which was expanded in 2021 in an effort to promote broader involvement in WPS implementation in ASEAN. A sub-group of the AG, called the Technical Working Group (TWG), was later established to intensively meet to discuss and review drafts of the RPA WPS.

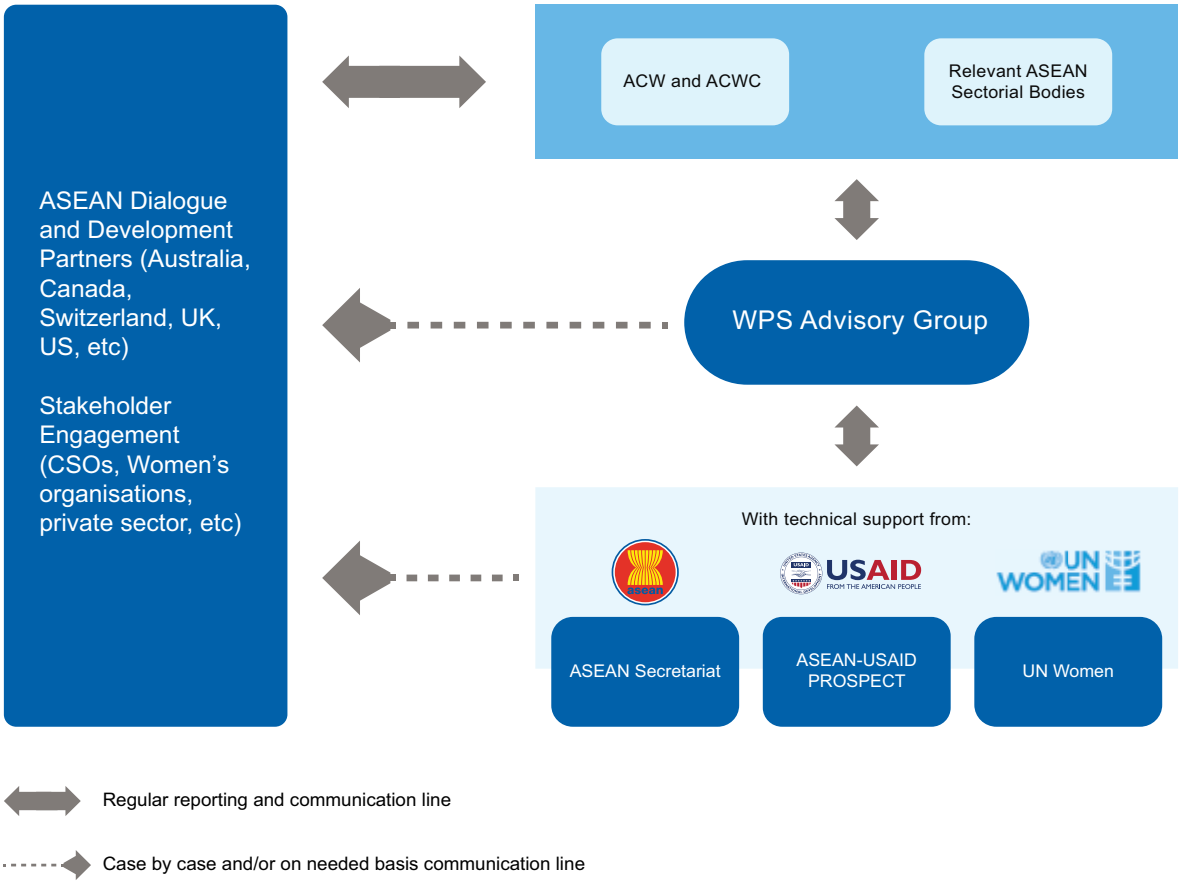
Figure 3
Drafting structure of the RPA WPS



14 Please see Annex 1 for a list of AG members.

2.2.1. Expansion of the WPS Advisory Group

Figure 4
Coordination structure of RPA WPS



UN Women, in partnership with the ASEC and USAID, supported the revision of the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the AG to expand its scope and membership. The revision of the TOR to ensure participation of ASEAN sectoral bodies and institutions across all three ASEAN Community pillars was considered key to ensuring cross-sectoral engagement and inter-pillar dialogue. There was "determination to ensure the integration of WPS into regional policies and frameworks across the three ASEAN Community pillars of Political-Security Community, Economic Community, and Socio-Cultural Community." As emphasized by Dato Lim Jock Hoi in the foreword of the ASEAN Study on WPS, ASEAN was motivated and "encouraged to create a stronger WPS architecture for the region, to continue regular policy dialogues and consultations, to build capacity for gender mainstreaming and expertise for WPS, and importantly to mainstream the WPS Agenda and commitments into the ASEAN Community pillars and work plans of ASEAN bodies while raising awareness and public knowledge."[15]

15 *ASEAN Study on WPS,* p. iv.

The decision to expand the AG was considered a necessary step towards making progress on these goals. It was expanded to include 11 ASEAN sectoral bodies and institutions across the three ASEAN Communities. One of its key responsibilities was to "provide guidance and oversight on the development and drafting of the RPA WPS, including leading the consultation process with key stakeholders, including civil society organizations (CSOs)."[16] The idea was to also set in motion the architecture and mechanisms for further discussions and consultations, across pillars, and with UN Women, development partners and civil society, to build awareness of the WPS Agenda and develop the RPA WPS.

2.2.2. Technical Working Group

The TWG was a subset of the AG comprised of representatives across the three ASEAN Community pillars. The AG agreed to establish the TWG[17] on 7 March 2022. The objective was not to establish a new entity but instead "a practical and agile method to ensure close engagement and frequent participation throughout the drafting process. All members [will] meet as often as required, and [will] participate in online meetings to discuss, provide substantive inputs and deliberate on the drafts."[18]

The objectives of the TWG meetings were to agree upon the process and timeline for developing the RPA WPS, consider updates and changes to the schedule and drafting procedure, review each section of the draft RPA WPS, and provide inputs and feedback to the draft sections through moderated discussion.

All TWG meetings were chaired by H.E. Samvada Kheng, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Women's Affairs of Cambodia, as ACW Cambodia focal point and chair of the AG. The ASEC Poverty Eradication and Gender Division (PEGD) provided technical and coordination support. All members were part of the larger ASEAN WPS AG but volunteered to serve on the smaller TWG to allow for more intense consideration of drafts. After each TWG meeting, the draft RPA WPS was revised based on the discussion and recommendations, and then distributed to the larger AG for review. The agenda items for each TWG meeting are outlined in Table 1 below.

2.3. Drafting and consultative process

The main objectives for the consultative process were to: 1. provide an opportunity to receive guidance, input and feedback on drafts of the RPA WPS across all pillars, sectoral bodies of ASEAN and ASEAN Member States; 2. to build awareness of what the WPS Agenda means for the region; and 3. to strengthen relationships across all stakeholders—ASEAN Community pillars, sectoral bodies and entities, dialogue partners and civil society—to offer an opportunity to provide input to the RPA WPS and to lay the groundwork for effective implementation.

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16 *Terms of Reference (ToR) for the ASEAN Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Advisory Group.*

17 A list of the members of the Technical Working Group is included in Annex 2.

18 H.E. Madam Kheng Samvada, "Proposed Technical Working Group for the Formulation of the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on Women, Peace and Security," PPT presentation, 2nd Meeting of ASEAN WPS Advisory Group, 7 March 2022.

In January 2022, during the first meeting of the AG,[19] steps that had been taken with respect to developing the RPA WPS were shared, and the AG agreed upon a workplan for the drafting process, including a timeline for consultations. In addition to the TWG meetings, two other formalized consultation processes were launched to develop the RPA WPS: technical briefings and brainstorming (TBB) sessions, and civil society consultations. Consultations on the RPA WPS were carried out between March and October 2022, with the majority scheduled between April and June to coincide with the most intense drafting period.

2.3.1. Technical briefing and brainstorming meetings

In addition to TWG meetings, a second main avenue for consultation on the RPA WPS was TBB meetings. While the TWG meetings were focused more on presenting and reviewing drafts of the RPA WPS and providing specific feedback and inputs related to its text, the TBBs provided an opportunity to concentrate on specific substantive priorities or issue areas, to hear presentations on topics related to WPS and to discuss the content that should be reflected in the RPA WPS. Each meeting was comprised of two parts: an open session, which involved presentations by organizations that were identified as having specific insight or experience relevant to the development of the RPA WPS, followed by a closed session to allow for further discussion among members of the AG, UN Women and ASEAN-USAID PROSPECT.

The TWG meetings and TBBs involved collaborative efforts by many partners. Administrative and logistical support was provided by the ASEC. H.E. Samvada Kheng, Permanent Secretary of State, Ministry of Women's Affairs of Cambodia, as Chair of the AG, served as Chair for the sessions. H.E. Samvada, along with other members of the TWG, UN Women and ASEAN-USAID PROSPECT, worked closely together to draft agenda items and prepare briefing notes and presentations, and to identify and notify speakers.

2.3.2. Civil society organization consultations

UN Women engaged the Philippine Center for Islam and Democracy (PCID) from February to December 2022 as a central partner facilitating the involvement of CSOs across the ASEAN Region in the development of the RPA WPS.

To ensure broad-based representation and inputs from civil society, UN Women conducted a mapping exercise of existing CSOs, including women's organizations, working at national and regional levels on WPS. The mapping exercise was then used by PCID to reach out to CSOs and to engage them in consultations and dialogue about the RPA WPS.

PCID facilitated civil society dialogues and consultations across the region that had several aims: First, to "influence ASEAN government representatives to capture CSO priorities in

19 ACW Cambodia, as Chair of the WPS Advisory Group, decided to refer to it just as the Advisory Group or AG instead of expanded Advisory Group. This terminology is reflected in this document.

the development of the RPA WPS;"[20] second, to "raise awareness on the importance of the development and implementation of the RPA WPS by ASEAN and the role of CSOs;"[21] third, to inform written substantive input, policy briefs and reports to support the development of the RPA WPS. The regional consultations were designed as a parallel process to the TWG meetings, and generated a policy brief, including concrete recommendations, for presentation at the 2nd TBB. Fourth, there was hope that the consultations would "build consensus among women and youth organizations working on WPS at regional levels on the key priorities and areas that the RPA WPS should include."[22]

Consultations were planned with different sectors of civil society to ensure diverse organizations and stakeholders had a forum for offering insight and ideas to shape the drafting of the RPA WPS. These included consultations with CSOs across the region, as well as specific meetings with youth organizations, academics and researchers, and those with disabilities.

2.3.3. The role of UN Women and development partners

Within the UN system, the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) and Department of Peace Operations (DPO) are leading coordination on ASEAN-UN political and security cooperation. As part of this ASEAN-UN cooperation, UN Women has played a leading role in providing expertise relevant to WPS, including technical support for the Regional Symposium and meetings in 2019 and 2020. These were useful at building momentum and advocacy for the WPS Agenda. Other dialogue partners, including the US through the ASEAN-USAID PROSPECT, Canada, Australia and the UK, had already been working on gender issues and various aspects of WPS, and were all keenly interested in further engaging on WPS issues in the region, prompted in part by their own National Action Plans (NAPs) and WPS commitments.

As requested by ACW, UN Women took the lead in providing technical assistance to ASEAN in the process of developing the RPA WPS. UN Women supported ASEAN to design the process, the approach and the roadmap, after review of best global practices. UN Women drafted, revised and presented versions of the RPA WPS in close collaboration with the TWG, AG, PEGD and ASEAN-USAID PROSPECT. The drafting drew upon inputs and suggestions from the TWG and AG, as well as extensive literature review of existing ASEAN normative frameworks, declarations and statements related to WPS.

Frameworks on WPS from other regions around the world were carefully reviewed, and research was conducted to explore good practices on policy and programmatic WPS frameworks, and broader WPS academic papers and reports more generally. This included evidence-based reports, such as the ASEAN Study on WPS. Inputs from the civil society consultations were recorded and listened to by those involved in drafting the content of

20 PCID, Inception Report and Workplan, February 2022, p.3.

21 Ibid.

22 Ibid.

the RPA WPS. Policy briefs and backgrounders prepared by PCID and the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders were also shared through the technical briefing session for the AG and during a TWG meeting, and were carefully considered by the drafting team.

In addition to taking the lead to incorporate the various inputs into one coherent RPA WPS document, UN Women also presented draft content, outlined questions to guide reflection on the drafts and facilitated discussion on the drafts for each TWG meeting.

The ASEAN-USAID PROSPECT provided advisory and logistical support to organize consultations in developing the RPA WPS including the TBBs. ASEAN-USAID PROSPECT was funded by USAID for 2018-2023[23] to "promote regional cooperation on pressing issues of joint interest." Its main priorities are to "support ASEAN to address transnational challenges, promote transparent and effective governance, and to elevate the rights and opportunities for women and other vulnerable groups."[24] ASEAN-USAID PROSPECT has made gender equality and the implementation of the WPS Agenda a priority for its engagement with ASEAN, and its involvement in the development of the RPA WPS grew out of a strong working relationship with ASEAN on gender issues. It also continues to be an important partner in the implementation of the ASEAN Gender Mainstreaming Strategic Framework (AGMSF). ASEAN-USAID PROSPECT also supported convening the Regional Symposium on WPS in 2019 in Phnom Penh and provided technical support to the subsequent development of the ASEAN Regional Study on WPS, in collaboration with UN Women, in 2021. Throughout the process of developing the RPA WPS, it was also engaged in the dialogues, consultations and agenda setting for TBB meetings, in close partnership with the AG, PEGD, Cambodia and UN Women.

Other dialogue partners also played significant roles supporting various aspects of the process to develop the RPA WPS, and the foundational building blocks for this process. Australia supported ACW and ACWC efforts to attain formal recognition of the WPS Agenda through the Joint Statement on Promoting Women, Peace and Security in 2017. Australia has continued to prioritize the WPS Agenda as part of its ASEAN-Australia Strategic Partnership. Canada has also been engaged in supporting the integration of WPS as part of the project, Empowering Women for Sustainable Peace: Preventing Violence and Promoting Social Cohesion in ASEAN, funded by Canada and the Republic of Korea. Canada supported the development of the ASEAN Regional Study on WPS and civil society consultations on WPS. The UK, the EU and Switzerland have been strong partners of ASEAN, giving budgetary and technical support to further integrate the WPS Agenda and participating actively in TBBs and other events in the region.

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23 ASEAN-USAID PROSPECT builds upon the earlier project, ASEAN-US PROGRESS, which was launched in 2013 and completed in 2018. This project "focused on strengthening institutions to advance ASEAN's vision," especially on issues such as the fight against terrorism and the promotion of good goverance and human rights. See: https://asean.usmission.gov/prospect-partnership-for-regional-optimization-within-the-political-security-and-socio-cultural-communities/ (accessed Nov 20, 2022).

24 See: https://www.dai.com/our-work/projects/southeast-asia-asean-us-partnership-good-governance-equitable-and-sustainable (accessed 20 Nov. 2022).

"The Women, Peace and Security agenda is a shared priority for Canada and ASEAN, and it is a core element of Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy to achieve sustainable global peace and reducing inequality. Canada is pleased that our support has contributed to the development of this historic Regional Plan of Action, and with it, helped open the doors for women peacebuilders in the region. Building on this momentum, Canada will host a Jakarta-based series of WPS Dialogues with ASEAN in 2023, which will provide a platform for discussions on the implementation of the WPS agenda and other priorities, such as enhancing the role of women in political leadership."

Vicky Singmin, Chargé d'affaires of the Mission of Canada to ASEAN

"Building on the USAID Administrator's leadership co-chairing the inaugural ASEAN-U.S. Ministerial meeting on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, our partnership with ASEAN deepens with the first-ever Regional Plan of Action on Women, Peace and Security. It represents an important milestone to ensure women are key agents of change to catalyze peacebuilding, conflict prevention, and recovery in the region. It also marks a necessary step for implementing national-level action plans to expand and strengthen women's involvement at the policy-making table for peace and security issues."

Yohannes A. Abraham, U.S. Mission to ASEAN Ambassador

2.4. Endorsement, adoption and launch of the RPA WPS

The RPA WPS was adopted on 16 November 2022 at the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summit. A formal launch, supported by UN Women, USAID-PROSPECT, the Government of Canada and the Republic of Korea, took place on 5 December 2022, with many funders participating.

"The development of the ASEAN RPA on WPS is a major step forward to fulfil ASEAN's vision in achieving gender equality... ASEAN is committed to continue to forge ahead with advancing the WPS agenda and the ASEAN RPA on WPS will guide our ways."

H.E. Dr. Ing Kantha Phavi, Minister of Women's Affairs of Cambodia

ASEAN, in close partnership with UN Women and the USAID-PROSPECT, worked closely to develop a communications and advocacy strategy to build awareness and understanding of the RPA WPS across the region, and globally. The roll-out of communication and awareness-raising activities aimed at ensuring ownership of the three ASEAN Community pillars and smooth implementation of the RPA WPS.

Communication and awareness-raising activities included the organization of a launch event of the RPA WPS, social media posts containing key information on the WPS Agenda and the RPA WPS, the production of a video about the RPA WPS, training of media on WPS, publication of interviews of key actors involved in developing the RPA WPS, development of an ASEAN WPS website (Empowering Women for Sustainable Peace - WPS-ASEAN), and a photo exhibition. The online and offline photo exhibition included 21 human-interest stories of peacebuilders, including men and women, youth and indigenous persons from diverse backgrounds across all 10 ASEAN Member States who were dedicated to implementing the WPS Agenda at different levels.

3. CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNED

Stakeholders involved in the drafting process of the RPA WPS learned some important lessons and took note of some challenges of the process.[25] Two over-arching challenges for the process of developing the RPA WPS were first, the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, which limited in-person opportunities for engagement on the RPA WPS, and second, time pressure. Some of those interviewed suggested that during regional policy-making processes before the pandemic, having a full day in-person workshop was useful. "Side conversations or just informal gatherings at the hotel" after formal discussions encouraged more discussion on the draft.

The tight time frame for developing the RPA WPS put pressure on the process, especially the time for reviewing drafts and incorporating comments. There were many meetings, presentations and drafts to prepare in a short time, and this sometimes led to less time for TWG and TBB members to review materials. Surveys from the TBBs for example, highlighted the importance of sending any presentations or other materials for review as far in advance as possible to give participants a chance to prepare.

Others however pointed out that in some ways these challenges presented opportunities. Because the drafting of the RPA WPS was done virtually, some inefficiencies and environmental costs (with respect to travel for example) were reduced. Moreover, some felt it increased participation, especially from individuals and organizations who could not necessarily travel. Virtual civil society consultations, for example, were well attended and made use of the chat features and recordings, whose output was submitted to the drafting team.

The time pressure also was thought to have some advantages, as it forced the process to happen in a more condensed manner (see Table 1) with meetings, review periods and new drafts being produced regularly. This helped keep people "engaged, moving forward and helped keep momentum."[26]

3.1. Cross-pillar engagement

Different level of engagement on WPS across ASEAN: Although cross-pillar engagement was helped "in large part by the decision to expand the advisory group and set up a consultative structure and drafting process that engaged representatives from all ASEAN bodies," some of those interviewed for this report felt that engagement on WPS remains uneven across the pillars. This of course is to be expected—a common challenge in gender mainstreaming is to

25 Many of these reflections were shared by those engaged in the process through interviews and discussions. Others were taken from menti-meter and survey results conducted during the technical briefing sessions. Further research would be needed before drawing any conclusions about how widely these views are shared, and whether empirically they can be further corroborated. They are presented here as issues to consider in related work and during implementation.

26 Interview, Nov 2022.

have all implementing parties equally engaged on gender issues. However, it is noted here as an issue that was identified to further consider during implementation, especially as effective WPS implementation will require strong involvement of all three pillars.

Perception of "where gender largely sits within ASEAN:" Related to the above, one identified challenge is that gender and women's rights issues "are still primarily associated with ACW and ACWC, which are part of the socio-cultural pillar"[27] of ASEAN. Although having mechanisms in place, such as the AG and TWG, which involve all three pillars, is chipping away at this, changing perception takes time, and these ASEAN bodies are still considered to be the ones "dealing with" gender and women's rights issues.

27 Interview, Nov 2022.

4. BEST PRACTICES

There is always room for improvement. However, those interviewed for this KP all felt that the process to develop the RPA WPS was successful, and they described the consultations and the RPA WPS document as meeting or exceeding expectations. The best practices section below highlights specific practices that may be useful to continue or build upon during implementation. They may also be relevant for UN Women and other partners to consider in related work.

4.1. Concrete institutional measures to develop the RPA WPS

The expansion of the ASEAN Advisory Group on WPS to ensure cross-pillar engagement and consultation on the RPA WPS. This decision was described as "very critical" to drafting an "inclusive" RPA WPS. As one member of the TWG mentioned, "we wanted the RPA to be relevant to different stakeholders and I really think this is a best practice to share from our experience."[28]

The decision to have a Technical Working Group: Having a smaller subset of the AG with the objective to more intensively review and discuss drafts was seen as important for maintaining momentum and for having a tighter and more efficient discussion of drafts (that could then be brought to the larger AG).

The Technical Briefing and Brainstorming Sessions (TBBs) were considered effective at providing an opportunity to share best practices within the region, learn from regional colleagues and global partners working on WPS and raise technical capacity to understand and implement the WPS Agenda.[29]

The use of regular polls and surveys during the TBBs was considered helpful. Participants felt that they provided an opportunity to share feedback and ideas for the process, as well as questions.

Use of global best practices to inform first steps: In advance of the first meeting of the AG, a UN Women technical consultant with experience developing RPAs on WPS in Africa was engaged. This expertise was thought to be useful as it helped explore options for consultation and drafting structures, which then could be adjusted to align with the ASEAN context and priorities for the RPA WPS.

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28 Interview, Nov 2022.

29 Surveys from the TBBs highlighted the importance of sending any presentations/PPTs or materials as far in advance as possible to give participants a chance to prepare. Respondents recognized that there were significant time pressures and a tight schedule to draft the RPA WPS but time permitting, advance materials would be useful. The use of regular polls and surveys was considered helpful; participants felt they provided an opportunity to share feedback and ideas for the process, as well as questions.

4.2. Generating and maintaining political will, engagement and support

RPA WPS built on existing ASEAN foundations: Emphasizing the link between the WPS RPA and high-level commitment to ASEAN priorities, and development of the RPA WPS as recognition and a further step in ongoing ASEAN work related to gender equality, peace and security, and development, was effective at building support, according to those interviewed.

The engagement and leadership of regional champions and speeches from respected regional leaders: For example, the participation of Noeleen Heyzer as a keynote speaker at the 2019 symposium was thought to catalyse awareness of the importance of WPS to ASEAN priorities. Another interviewee mentioned the participation of those working in traditional security areas, such as counter-terrorism, should be considered in WPS panels and events. The involvement of Indonesia's National Counter Terrorism Agency (BNPT) on a panel entitled "Preventing Violent Extremism: WPS Matters" was cited as an example of this positive engagement.

High-level support within ASEAN: Several of those interviewed emphasized that high-level endorsement by ASEAN leadership and ASEAN Member States of the RPA WPS helped sustain cross-pillar engagement and momentum.

Existing experience and effective working relationships between ASEAN, UN Women and other external partners such as USAID. Research for this KP suggests that the experience these partners had developed cooperating on WPS-related work was very useful at building a sense of trust, understanding and respect for what each could contribute. These less tangible factors are often overlooked but are highlighted here as variables that should be kept in mind as impactful for success as they facilitate communication, understanding and addressing challenges. As one interviewee described: "it was never about a personal, plotting career — how does this look for our organizations." It was a "beautiful partnership in this way; there was a lot of sincerity in really wanting this to move forward." [30]

Having a "hook" and clear connection to urgent regional security issues can expand engagement on WPS. Some suggested that framing WPS so that it aligned with certain security challenges in the region was a good practice, especially for bringing in stakeholders that are focused on specific security files and less aware of the way in which WPS might help them with their work. For example, on the first day of the Regional Symposium on WPS in ASEAN in August 2019, there was a session on "Preventing Violent Extremism: WPS Matters."

30 Interview, Nov 2022.

4.3. Reviewing the content of the RPA WPS

TWG meetings were used to review the content of draft sections of the RPA WPS. Based on feedback received, the TWG meetings were effective and well-run. Possible good practices to consider about the facilitation of TWG meetings are as follows:

- TWG meetings did not review the draft line by line or do "live edits" on every section of the document. The meetings were already considered "quite heavy"[31] with substantive content, and members did not feel it was necessary to review the entire draft word by word.
- Instead, the meetings focused on key themes/issues being covered by each section, gave examples (for example, specific priority actions) that illustrated these themes and highlighted specific text for further discussion.
- Participants received copies of the section of the draft being considered during each TWG (see Table 1) prior to the meetings so that they would arrive having already read the draft, or at least have that option.
- Discussion questions helped solicit inputs and advice from the TWG on particular text. Questions included: "Is anything unclear? Missing? Any suggestions at this stage?"
- When TWG members had concerns with certain text, proposals for addressing it in the draft were offered in real-time during the meeting to ensure the feedback was being understood and could be addressed in a way that was acceptable to TWG members by the drafting team.

Private and public channels for giving feedback on drafts were used: Some TWG members gave suggestions during the TWG meetings as the text was being discussed, with others submitting suggestions by email (which was more private).

Balancing time for consultations/inputs with the need to keep momentum and not get "bogged down": After revisions were made to the draft post-TWG meeting, the draft text was distributed to the broader AG for inputs. The AG was given a two-week review period. Presenting a timeline and workplan at each TWG meeting was a good practice as members could anticipate when a new draft would arrive, and budget time for review accordingly.

Having a clear division of responsibilities with respect to the draft: The manner in which TWG meetings and the review process were structured and facilitated tried to emphasize that the provision of technical support, recommendations and advice was different from ownership and "final say" over the draft. According to a TWG member, the group appreciated the "humility" with which the UN Women technical team approached the TWG meetings and discussions with the AG. "The tone that was struck by the UN Women technical team was very good. There was humility expressed, listening and a willingness to discuss and engage with the suggestions. People felt they still had ownership."[32]

31 Interview, Nov 2022.

32 Interview with Advisory Group member, Nov 2022.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

The 10 recommendations below are based on lessons learned and identified best practices from the process to develop the RPA WPS, and were also informed by the analysis, research and interviews carried out for this report. Although these recommendations are also relevant to consider during the implementation of the RPA WPS, their primary purpose is to inform other work related to WPS policy and programme frameworks, especially (although not exclusively) at a regional level, particularly because very little has been written about regional frameworks on WPS. Although this KP delves into the experience of the ASEAN Region, the hope is that the insights, challenges and recommendations presented will provide insight that will be useful to other practitioners and policymakers as they work to build their own WPS plans of action suitable to particular contexts.

1. Ensure diverse representation in institutions responsible for developing the RPA WPS so that all relevant implementing partners and issue areas related to WPS are engaged. The establishment of the (expanded) ASEAN Advisory Group on WPS was considered an important step in the successful drafting of the RPA WPS.

2. Hold technical briefings and brainstorming sessions on relevant WPS issue areas for all stakeholders to increase their understanding of WPS issues and build a WPS network. The meetings can be used to specify and discuss priorities, answer questions and share expertise/knowledge.

3. Schedule civil society consultations early in the process so that CSO inputs can inform the text of the draft before it is discussed in broader TWG and AG meetings. Ideally, recordings, policy briefs and recommendations from civil society would be fed into the process at an early stage.

4. Establish efficient ways to collect and share information between civil society and those writing and preparing the draft text for the RPA WPS. For example, recordings and chat transcripts from civil society consultations could be immediately uploaded to a shared drive.

5. Acknowledge the work that already has been done related to WPS, and show that the RPA WPS builds upon both successes and identified gaps/needs. In the case of the RPA WPS, consistent references were made to a foundation of political agreements related to WPS in the region. The drafting team showed that RPA WPS was not a stand-alone initiative but was more "organic," arising from the 2017 Joint Statement, numerous high-level recommendations, needs identified by the Regional Study on WPS and other relevant RPA WPS commitments. Many overarching priorities related to WPS had been previously affirmed and could be further amplified and more comprehensively addressed by the

RPA WPS.[33] This helped focus the process on moving forward and achieving more, rather than backtracking or opening up or re-evaluating already-agreed priorities.

6. Identify and utilize existing networks and effective working relationships that have already been forged on issues related to WPS. Many participants, including in CSOs, pointed to "successful interpersonal relationships"[34] between ASEAN members of the TWG and CSOs as playing a significant part in moving the process forward, and central to WPS implementation in the region more generally.[35] Key partners for the development of the RPA WPS—ASEAN ACW and ACWC, UN Women, and ASEAN-USAID PROSPECT—had already worked very closely together on numerous projects pertaining to gender equality and women's rights.[36] The RPA WPS was able to draw upon the effective working relationships, trust and mechanisms of communication/networks that were already established. Maintaining these relationships and building more across other pillars and with civil society should continue to be a priority.[37]

7. Show clear relevance of WPS to security challenges that are urgent and topical: This can be especially helpful for increasing the interest of those who have not yet been involved with WPS. To expand participation of security sectors that have not yet worked on gender issues, for example, where possible show how WPS is necessary to their work, and how it relates to their responsibilities and issues of concern.

8. Innovative ways are needed to enhance engagement of all relevant parties in WPS, and to bring in those who have not been sufficiently involved or represented. In the case of ASEAN, the RPA WPS did increase cross-pillar participation, but many said more needs to be done to enhance this engagement, in partnership with the political-security and economic community pillars.

9. Highlight and profile effective civil society – government partnerships. Given the

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33 Precedents in existing ASEAN normative frameworks, for example, were found for the decision to engage both traditional and emerging security challenges such as COVID-19, climate change, extremism, trafficking and cybersecurity in the RPA WPS; recognize marginalization and intersectionality, which other RPAs had already introduced; the need for a "survivor-centered" approach; attention given to unpaid care work; emphasis given to the need for male involvement; leadership on WPS-related issues; and commitment to addressing root causes of sexual and gender-based violence, conflict and insecurity (especially women's lack of economic security and opportunity, as well as poverty more generally).

34 Interview, Nov 2022.

35 COVID-19 continues to be a challenge for consultative processes. The process to develop the RPA WPS, unlike others, took place completely online due to the pandemic so there was little opportunity for side conversations and discussions or in-person workshops over days. One person interviewed who had worked on other RPAs in ASEAN said that in-person workshops were more conducive to dialogue as "you are all in the same place for days and there is ample time to informally discuss."

36 As one participant explained: "A good working relationship is really key to success.. the people working on this [RPA WPS], they're just good people and it just happened to be we know each other from way before... all of us just wanted to see the agenda moving forward."

37 For example, finding opportunities for regular dialogue, joint facilitation of joint panels or events or flagship projects across pillars are examples of ways to possibly further develop and deepen these networks and relationships, as are launching events that could focus on a topic pertinent to the political-security and economic community pillars that have a significant WPS component. Specific recommendations such as these are included as "priority actions" in the RPA WPS.

challenges that CSOs are experiencing, awareness-building campaigns should profile the positive results and success stories from CSO-government partnerships. Further avenues to support CSOs, including women's organizations, to participate in policymaking and implementation of WPS in areas where they are facing significant challenges, should be considered.

10. Build support and understanding of WPS through targeted messaging and campaigns to different audiences, especially to generate interest in those who have not been as engaged. Find ways to connect individuals to the WPS Agenda in a way that resonates with them, and to continue with a communications and advocacy campaign that appeals to different interests and motivations. One finding of this KP was that those engaged on WPS often have very different motivations for becoming involved. For example, some expressed that they're motivated by women's rights issues, others because they were from conflict-affected regions, others because they work on security issues and want to better understand the relevance of WPS to their work. Those interviewed suggested that awareness-raising and advocacy campaigns need to continue as there are many people across ASEAN entities and sectoral bodies and in CSOs who still "don't see the point of WPS."[38] Awareness campaigns and messaging need to help the whole of ASEAN understand WPS as central to making progress on ASEAN's commitment to build a safe, secure and prosperous region for all of its citizens.

38 For example, those interviewed said that they have come across colleagues and others who don't feel WPS is relevant to their work because "they are more focused on human rights, or economic issues," while others "don't fully understand why it matters to their country given that they don't have conflict."

Annex 1. Members of the ASEAN Advisory Group on WPS

No.	ASEAN Sectoral Body/Entity	Name and Designation
1.	ACW Focal Point – Cambodia	**H.E. Kheng Samvada** Permanent Secretary of State, Ministry of Women's Affairs Chair of the ASEAN Advisory Group on WPS
2.	ACW Focal Point – Viet Nam	**Dr. Ha Thi Minh Duc** Deputy Director General International Cooperation Department Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA)
3.	ACW Focal Point – Viet Nam	**Dr. Sri Danti Anwar** Senior Advisor Family Development Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection
4.	ACWC Representative on Women's Rights – Malaysia	**Dr. Maziah binti Che Yusoff** Secretary General Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development
5.	ACWC Representative on Women's Rights – Philippines	**Prof. Lourdesita Sobrevega-Chan, PhD** Chairperson, University Research Council, and Member, Board of Trustees, Ateneo de Davao University Chair, Board of Trustees, Davao Medical School Foundation and Hospital
6.	Working Group on Counter Terrorism (WG-CT) of the Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crimes (SOMTC)	**Mr. Andhika Chrisnayudhanto** Deputy for International Cooperation of National Counter Terrorism Agency, Indonesia Chair of the SOMTC WG-CT
7.	ASEAN Defence Senior Officials' Meeting (ADSOM)	**General Nem Sowath** Special Advisor to Samdech Pichey Sena Tea Banh, Director-General, General Department of Policy and Foreign Affairs, Ministry of National Defence, Cambodia ADSOM Chair

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8.	ASEAN Inter-Governmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR)	**H.E. Keo Remy** AICHR Chair
9.	ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (ASEAN-IPR)	**Ambassador I Gusti Agung Wesaka Puja** Executive Director
10.	Working Group on Prevention and Mitigation of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM)	**DG Vongkham Phanthanouvong (Lao PDR)** **Dir. Susana Juangco, (Philippines)** **Dir. Saharat Wongsakulwiwat (Thailand)** Co-Chairs of the ACDM Working Group on Prevention and Mitigation
11.	ASEAN Women Entrepreneurs Network (AWEN)	**Mrs. Dyah Anita Prihapsari** AWEN Chair

Annex 2. Members of the Technical Working Group for the formulation of the ASEAN RPA on WPS

No.	ASEAN Sectoral Body/Entity	TWG Members
1.	ACW Focal Point – Cambodia	**H.E. Kheng Samvada** Permanent Secretary of State, Ministry of Women's Affairs Chair of the ASEAN Advisory Group on WPS
2.	ACW Focal Point – Viet Nam	**Dr. Ha Thi Minh Duc** Deputy Director General International Cooperation Department Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA)
3.	ACWC Representative on Women's Rights – Indonesia	**Dr. Sri Danti Anwar** Senior Advisor Family Development Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection
4.	ACWC Representative on Women's Rights – Malaysia	**Mr. Satish Ranggayah** Under Secretary International Relations Division Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development
5.	ACWC Representative on Women's Rights – Philippines	**Prof. Lourdesita Sobrevega-Chan, PhD** Chairperson, University Research Council and Member, Board of Trustees, Ateneo de Davao University Chair, Board of Trustees, Davao Medical School Foundation and Hospital **Mr. Amerson R. Aguinaldo** Gender and Development (GAD) Specialist II, Sectoral Coordination Division, Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) **Ms. Avery Silk Arevalo** Senior GAD Specialist, International Affairs Section, Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) **Ms. Marianne Kristine V. Delgado** Supervising GAD Specialist, Sectoral Coordination Division, Philippine Commission on Women (PCW)

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6.	Working Group on Counter Terrorism (WG- CT) of the Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crimes (SOMTC)	**Mr. Andhika Chrisnayudhanto** Deputy for International Cooperation of National Counter Terrorism Agency, Indonesia **Mr. M. Zaim A. Nasution** Director for Regional and Multilateral Cooperation of National Counter Terrorism Agency, Indonesia **Mr. Hadi Setiyono** Head of Sub Division of Cooperation of Special Detachment 88 Anti-Terror of Indonesian National Police **Mr. Bangun Riyadi Girdayanto** Officer of International Organisation of International Relations Division of Indonesian National Police **I Putu Eka Dimi A** Data and Information Analyst of Directorate of Regional and Multilateral Cooperation of National Counter
7.	Chair of the ASEAN Defence Senior Officials' Meeting (ADSOM)	**Major General Sam Sophea** Deputy Director, Department of ASEAN Affairs, Ministry of National Defence, Cambodia
8.	Executive Director of the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (ASEAN-IPR)	**Kartika Budhi Wijayanti** Project Management Officer
9.	Chair of the ASEAN Women Entrepreneurs Network (AWEN)	**Ms. Cindy Chaw** AWEN Focal Point Myanmar **Ms. Sinda Sutadisastra** AWEN Secretary **Ms. Ana Bobadilla** AWEN Focal Point Philippines