

Final External Formative Evaluation of the Project
“Women for Equality, Peace and Development in
Georgia” 1/12/2009- 31/12/2012

IMPLEMENTED BY: UN WOMEN
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a final external formative project evaluation. The UN Women Sub-regional office for the Eastern Europe and Central Asia with support from the Norwegian Royal Government launched the project *Women for Equality, Peace, and Development in Georgia (WEPD)* in December 2009-2010 running through to its end date in December 2012. The project was conceived to support efforts and capacities of Internally Displaced People (IDP) and conflict-affected women's groups, as well as other national partners from government and civil society to advance gender equality and women's human rights in Georgia, in the contexts of persistent inequalities and unresolved conflicts.

The WEPD project assumed a holistic approach at three mutually reinforcing levels. The first national policy level ensures that strategies, policies, plans and budgets are in line with CEDAW, SCR 1325 and SCR 1820 principles. The second level ensures that national institutions have a strengthened capacity to deliver better information and services for IDPs and conflict-affected women. In the third grassroots level, the project supports IDPs and conflict affected women's groups and communities to organize and participate actively and effectively in influencing policies and decisions that affect their lives.

The Evaluation Methodology was qualitative in approach, strategy and orientation. It was completed on two stages incorporating an approach of triangulation whereby a combination of different data collection methods and data sources was employed. In the first stage of the evaluation, desk review for secondary data analysis from secondary evidence was completed. All project and project related documents were reviewed, studied and analyzed. In light of the completed desk review, the plan for seeking primary data from direct sources was constructed, jointly developed and finalized by the ET and project management. In this stage mixed method approach was adopted where purposive none-random sampling design was used. Namely, the purposive sampling variant of stakeholder sampling that involves identification of major stakeholders in the project being evaluated, was used. Data collection methods included: interviews, group and individual, as well as in-depth and structured. In addition, sites and events observations included: Collective Centers (CC) for internally displaced persons—shelters, Self-help groups (S HGs) initiatives Gender Resource Center /Gori Hotline, and the visibility event of the forum national meeting was done. And lastly, youth focus group discussion was also completed. Average data collection time per encounter was 2 hours. The total time consumed in data collection was around 63 hours. Data was analyzed deductively and conclusions were drawn from available facts/findings.

Major Findings: Specifically regarding HRBA, **phenomenal achievements were made in legal and social empowerment** of the beneficiaries of IDP and conflict-affected women but less so in their **economic empowerment**.

At the policy and legislative level, evaluation team found ample evidence on **wide agreement and recognition** from state and non-state partners about the **project leadership** in bringing the UNSCR 1325 realization NAP to life. This is by **establishing a national working group, creating effective dialogue** on the UNSCR 1325 NAP, using an inclusive, participatory consultative approach with **IDP women to ensure their active involvement and** supporting, technically, financially, and logistically the production of the 2012-2015 NAP for implementation of UNSCRs on women, peace and security including UNSCRs 1325, 1820 et al. The project has innovatively put in place **one-window shop principle meetings** that proved to be an exceptionally effective and functional **channel for dialogue** between the government on one side and IDPs and conflict affected women on the other. In addition, under the project a **Review of Gender Equality** Principles in the National Legislation on IDPs, was prepared upon the revised IDP Laws which included: **amended the definition** of the IDP, **granted dual citizenship** opportunity to IDPs and **defined the rights of IDPs and obligations of the state**.

In terms of national institutions, **exposing staffs to numerous trainings, exercises, seminars remarkably enhanced partners' capacity** and other forms of capacity development. Arguably, the most prominent achievement here was the creation of **the legal clinics** within the MIDPOTAR central and regional offices of the MIDPOTAR albeit repeatedly pointed out as having a **sustainability risk**. The project managed to establish **an effective, visible, and self-replicable referral mechanism** (including in the local government) through a one-window shop, roundtable meetings and the Gori GRC/hotline. The evaluation Team found **little evidence on the extent of beneficiary satisfaction and impact** on their communities from these modalities, however. But then this could be due to time constraints of the evaluation process and its duration more than the actual impact itself.

At the grassroots level in the communities, the evaluation team learnt that **legal clinics** proved to be an **irreplaceable mechanism to protect and realize rights** of the IDPs and conflict-affected women in regions while simultaneously serving as Ministry-based mediators between MIDPOTAR regional branches and respective IDP communities under UN aegis and credibility. Under the project, **the Gori hotline service was only intermittently available to IDPs, but mostly to conflict-affected individuals** due to agreement between UN Women and UNHCR that was also supporting the functioning of this hotline with greater focus on IDPs. Otherwise, actual breaks in this service were mainly due to contracting modality of the relevant post.

WEPD succeeded in **mobilizing a critical mass of grassroots through SHGs and coalition building** from selected communities along the ABL. But **people-to-people (p2p) diplomacy did not tangibly materialize, in its traditional form**, owing to external political factors. WEPD sought **alternative innovative forms** of p2p diplomacy and confidence building through investing in electronic **media (social- portal) and women's oral histories**.

SHGs could be subject to **serious sustainability risk** after the project ends. **Micro grants where effective and served social empowerment purposes when they were used for commonly used community assets, resources and collectively owned equipments** such as village roads gravelling, kindergarten set up, and purchase of agribusiness equipments (tractor, mill, etc). However, they **were not as effective when they were used for economic empowerment. Two prime unintended results** were, firstly, that the project contributed to **gender mainstreaming in Transitional Justice** in Georgia in a number of ways but mainly through facilitating reparation delivery and, secondly, the **enhancement of youth philanthropy and volunteerism** and unplanned sensitization on UNSCR 1325, 1820 and the rest by engaging them in the SHGs and community mobilization and activism.

Conclusions

- UN Women has a unique position to instill credibility, empower and mobilize governmental and non-governmental entities by its presence, scope of influence and credentials including its name and logo to any activity or initiative.
- Involvement of local representative groups in the referral of human rights cases to the one-window shop principle meetings ensures inclusiveness and community participation.
- Association of women mobilization activities with only a few selected NGOs carries the risk of sidelining other organizations that could weaken and impede the building of effective and long-lasting NGO coalitions and to achieve long-term effects towards the development of an organized women movement, as such.
- Media is a key vehicle that so far enables people-to-people (P2P) contacts across the ABL.
- Gender mainstreaming has already started in Georgia, yet a long way to go still.
- Ongoing field visits by legal clinics and regular work of SHGs are what normally sustains a continuous interest of beneficiaries to endorse "validity".

- Mini-groups of self-empowered and capacitated local activists offer a very effective and efficient mechanism for grassroots mobilization and activism on particular major topics of interests. Yet, they are likely to be temporary by nature unless aggregated, formalized and self-sustained.

Key Recommendations

1. Facilitate the **creation of an institutional mechanism for gender equality** with at least two arms of power; legislative and executive for gender mainstreaming at the highest possible leadership and decision-making levels. Agreeably, continuing with successful implementation of the NAP 1325 highly depends on well-functioning national machinery for gender equality. Such a mechanism exists in the legislative branch - Gender Equality Council in the Parliament - but is yet to be established in the executive branch of the government.
2. Support the **M&E function** of the National Coordination Group on implementation of the NAP on SCR 1325. It also has the important role of reporting, i.e. documentation.
3. **Sensitization of the new government and members of Georgian parliament** on UNSCRs on “Women, Peace and Security” and on gender equality.
4. Project **leverage and scaling up**: Keep old partners and add new ones, namely; Ministry of Social, Labor and Health Affairs, the IDP department in MIDPOTAR, and new NGOs with economic empowerment expertise and agenda.
5. The “**One Window Shop Principle**” meeting is to be **replicated and documented** for future application by the local government for working with IDPs and as a best practice model regionally. Enabling this model implementation entails ensuring its sustainability by investing in capacity development and adequate human resources designation to fulfil due tasks.
6. The roundtable modality needs to continue with a modified format added whereby the local government directly engages in **joint government-community initiatives** with IDP women in the communities through SHGs/CBO where **GRB can/must be monitored**.
7. **Gender Responsive Budgeting Training (GRB)** for senior officers in the local government offices in the project regions and for & parliamentarians is a prerequisite to the recommended **institutionalization** of the hotline and legal clinic, ion the longer run.
8. Three CBOs have been created by SHGs uniting over 30 SHGs in Samegrelo and Shida Qartli regions. Yet they are still led by TF who serves more or less as their guardian. This could deter the CBOs further development as fully-fledged independent organizations. **Therefore, ET recommends strengthening and enabling SHGs and CBOs as new developments in the civil society movement, particularly in this transitional phase as independent community assets in critical mass mobilization** and influential element in democratization and nation building processes.
9. **Integrate periodic assessment** components, both qualitative and quantitative, as a **monitoring and reporting instrument** on standardized **evidence-based practice in project planning and implementation**. This could materialize in the form of short-term external expert/s occasional hire and inclusion of M& E officer within the project or both.
10. Foster SHG entrepreneurship initiatives boosting their micro-grants by **linking the SHGs to the banking system with the appropriate mechanisms of supervision in place for advancing conflict affected and IDPs women’s economic empowerment**.
11. **Invest more in youth as SHGs and promote their agency** within the IDP and conflict affected communities capitalizing on their already existing eagerness and achieved mobilization by **recruiting more resources to promote their philanthropy on the one hand and technical capacity** as the young entrepreneurs and **future women leaders/advocates**.
12. **Further Capacity building and awareness raising trainings** for women and men beneficiaries should continue adding new topics such as marketing skills and entrepreneurial skills and expanding on old ones related to the SCR 1325 NAP implementation.

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ABL	Administrative Border Line
CC	Collective Centre
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
EECA-SRO	Eastern Europe and Central Asia- Sub-Regional Office
ET	Evaluation Team
EUMM	European Union Monitoring Mission
GEC	Gender Equality Council
GERC	Gender Equality Resource Centre
GRB	Gender-responsive budgeting
IDP	Internally displaced person
IPRM	Incidence Prevention and Response Mechanism
IWPR	Institute for War and Peace Reporting
LCs	Legal Clinics
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MIDPOTAR	Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia
MLHSA	Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia
MRA	Ministry of Refugees and Accommodation
NAP	National Action Plan
NGO	Non-governmental organization
WG	National Working Group
OSGF	Open Society Georgia Foundation
PT	Project Team
SHG	Self-help group
TF	Taso Foundation
TJ	Transitional Justice
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
WCAC	Women Connect Across Conflicts
WEPD	Women for Equality, Peace and Development
WIC	Women's Information Centre
WPS	Women , Peace and Security
1-WSP	One Window Shop Principle

I. INTRODUCTION: BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT

The first years of independence and the more recent August war in 2008 turned Georgia into a transitional country with unresolved conflicts and about 300,000 of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) (and conflict-affected citizens. Women and girls comprise about 56 per cent of the IDPs in Georgia. All (“old” and “new” waves) IDPs (from the “old” and “new” waves) are concentrated either in the so called Collective Centers (CCs) (over 100 000), in new IDP cottage settlements constructed by the government especially for IDPs of the August 2008 conflict, or in private accommodation.

To meet the needs of these severely disadvantaged women and men, girls and boys the government has introduced different reparations delivery to diverse groups of women including monetary assistance and the transfer of CCs ownership to IDPs. The IDP Action Plan adopted by the Government of Georgia in 2009 foresaw this. However, the implementation of these reparation measures did not prove to be smooth or done with gender justice in mind.

UN Women (formerly UNIFEM) is the only dedicated global agency that has accumulated significant experience in the region of South Caucasus as well as globally in the area of women, peace, and security. Already in 2001-2006, UN Women established Women for Peace Networks in the three South Caucasian countries under the regional project “Women for Conflict Prevention and Peace-building in Southern Caucasus”. All along the way, UN Women has been collecting information about IDPs and conflict-affected women’s conditions. In September 2008, it commissioned the Needs Assessment of IDPs as a result of August War which found a striking impoverishment trend among the displaced persons. The survey also revealed a level of persistent sexual violence committed against women. In addition, starting from December 2008, local UN Women IDP observers identified a number of gender discrimination cases. Consequently, UN Women in cooperation with women’s NGOs successfully advocated for mainstreaming gender into the IDP Action Plan during its elaboration in spring 2009.

II. BACKGROUND TO THE EVALUATION

UN Women first strategic plan, 2011-2013, sets out the organization’s vision, mission and priorities in supporting Member States and the United Nations system. In line with the results frameworks of other United Nations organizations, the UN-Women unified results framework contains three inter-related components: (1) a development results framework (DRF), (2) a management results framework (MRF), and (3) an integrated resources framework (IRF).

The DRF is comprised of five main goals, each supported by defined outcomes, targets and indicators. Central to the realization of these goals is the coordination and support role of UN-Women within the United Nations system. The goals are: (1) to increase women’s leadership and participation in all areas that affect their lives; (2) to increase women’s access to economic empowerment and opportunities, especially for those who are most excluded; (3) to prevent violence against women and girls (VAWG) and expand access to survivor services; (4) to increase women’s leadership in peace and security and humanitarian response; and (5) to strengthen the responsiveness of plans and budgets to gender equality at all levels.

The MRF presents four system-level goals that are essential to support by UN-Women to development results. Of these, the second goal is to institutionalize a strong culture of results-based management, reporting, knowledge management and evaluation. Indeed, it is within the framework of this goal that this evaluation materializes and the inception report was put forward.

In specific, an inception report was submitted in response to the evaluation announcement and related TOR for WEPD project evaluation with reference to the UN Women guidance note No 9 on

inception report. Subsequent to the inception meeting carried out on Friday November 23rd with the project team and UN Women Gender Advisor on Georgia and the preliminary desk review the inception report provided information on what has been done to initiate the evaluation and the action plan for proceeding with the field work. It includes the ET's understanding of how the project is supposed to work, including strategies, activities, outputs and expected outcomes and their interrelationships. It also describes the conceptual framework for the evaluation, and sets out the evaluation methodology, i.e. how each question will be answered by way of data collection methods, data sources, sampling and indicators.

A. Project Description

In response to the conclusions of the above said findings of the completed needs assessment and activities in various relevant projects on women and gender, in December 2009-2010 the UN Women Sub-regional office for the Eastern Europe and Central Asia (SRO-EECA) with the support of the Norwegian Royal Government launched the project *Women for Equality, Peace, and Development in Georgia (WEPD)*.

The WEPD project, ending in December 2012, was conceived to support efforts and capacities of IDP and conflict-affected women's groups, as well as other national partners from government and civil society to advance gender equality and women's human rights in Georgia, in the contexts of persistent inequalities and frozen (unresolved) conflicts. The project conceptual framework builds on imperatives set forth by:

- The landmark UN SCR 1325 which specifically addresses the situation of women in armed conflict and calls for their participation at all levels of decision-making on conflict resolution and peace-building;
 - Follow-up SCR 1820 that calls for an end to widespread conflict-related sexual violence and for accountability in order to end impunity;
- The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) that requires that countries party to the Convention take all appropriate steps to end violence.

In addition, UNSCR 1889 recognizes the rights and particular needs of women in post-conflict situations and recovery, including land and property rights, livelihoods, and employment. It highlights the need for women's full and effective participation in decision-making; including aid management and planning, as well as post-conflict planning, particularly at the early stages of peace-building.

The WEPD project assumed a holistic approach at three mutually reinforcing levels:

- At the national policy level, to ensure strategies, policies, plans and budgets are in line with CEDAW and SCR 1325 and 1820 principles;
- At the level of national institutions towards strengthening capacity to deliver better information and services for IDPs and conflict-affected women;
- At the grassroots level by supporting IDPs and conflict affected women's groups and communities to organize and participate actively and effectively in influencing policies and decisions that affect their lives.

Accordingly, the project strived to achieve three outcomes:

1. National policy and legislation (Law on Internally Displaced Persons, 2012-2015 National Action Plan for Implementation of the UNSCRs number 1325, 1820, 1889, and 1960 on Women Peace and Security) are revised/adopted in line with CEDAW and UN SC Resolutions 1325 and 1820;

2. National Institutions (Ministry of Refugees and Accommodation, Public Defender's Office etc.) demonstrate commitment, capacity, and accountability in ensuring the rights of IDPs and conflict-affected women are in line with CEDAW and UNSCR 1325 and 1820 principles;
3. IDP and conflict affected women have increased resources, capacities, and voice to ensure their priorities are included in relevant policies, legislation, programs and budgets.

The project was implemented by the UN Women in close collaboration with a range of national partners such as Taso Foundation (TF), Women Information Centre (WIC), the Gender Equality Council (GEC) of the Parliament, the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories of Georgia, Accommodation and Refugees (MIDPOTAR), and local governments in the five WEPD target regions of Georgia. The project was executed by the UN Women Project Team (PT) under the overall strategic oversight and guidance of the UN Women Regional Programme Director of UN Women's Sub-Regional Office for the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region (SRO EECA).

A Project Steering Committee has been set -up with participation of representatives of the Government, civil society representatives and UN Women to ensure coordination, ownership, and maximize high-level political support to the project.

On the policy-level work special emphasis was made on developing and advocating for the adoption of the UNSCR 1325 National Action Plan (NAP).

At the national institutions' level, in the five regions with the of largest IDP concentration (one in Tbilisi and four in the regions of Samegrelo, Imereti, Qvemo Qartli and Shida Qartli) five legal clinics were established together with the MIDPOTAR to provide IDP and conflict-affected citizens, particularly women, with free of charge legal counselling especially in relation to their property and housing rights. The project closely worked closely with the local government. The project partner WIC organized The "One-Window Shop" consultation meetings were organized by project partner WIC between IDPs and conflict-affected women and relevant government agencies to facilitate and solve immediately the legal and social problems immediately in the meetings of the most vulnerable groups.

As the third level, the project embarked on community/social mobilization in the five target regions. With the help of TF, IDP and conflict-affected women were supported to organize into self-help groups for the protection of their rights and have access to social and economic livelihoods opportunities. The project encouraged cooperation between communities and local governments to engage in prioritization exercises for joint government-community initiatives, addressing practical gender needs as defined by the communities themselves.

An internal mid-term project review of the WEPD project took place in November 2011. This research exercise deconstructed progress during the implementation period, and highlighted features to be considered as good practices and lessons learned for further application. The review included field visits by the EECA sub-regional office evaluation programme officer, including meetings with the WEPD project management team, implementing partner organizations, partner ministries, local government, and project beneficiaries (i.e., IDPs and conflict-affected women in one of the target regions of the project). As a result, the report and recommendations for the final year of implementation of the project were developed, the project log frame was revised, and baseline information and targets for achievement that were missing from the original project log frame were included.

B. Purpose of the Evaluation

This evaluation purpose is to assess the achievements and quality of the project in terms of the six evaluation criteria of; relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, inclusiveness, sustainability, and impact. It highlights; strengths, weaknesses, gaps, challenges to progress, good practices, draw out lessons learned and make recommendations for use in the design of the next steps of project interventions in the area of women, peace, and security in Georgia. The specific evaluation objectives are to:

- a) Analyze the relevance of the programmatic strategy and approaches;
- b) Validate project results in terms of achievements and/or weaknesses toward the outcomes and outputs, with a critical examination of how/to what extent the project supported efforts and strengthened the capacities of IDP and conflict-affected women's groups, as well as other national partners from government and civil society to advance gender equality and women's human rights in Georgia,
- c) Assess the potential for sustainability of the results and the feasibility of ongoing, nationally-led efforts in advancing WHR of IDP and conflict affected women's groups in Georgia;
- d) Document lessons, learned, best practices, success stories and challenges to inform future work of various stakeholders in addressing gender equality within the context of the post-conflict recovery planning agenda; and

Document and analyze possible weaknesses in order to improve next steps of project interventions in the area of women, peace, and security in Georgia.

C. Scope of the Evaluation

This final evaluation of the project is conducted externally by UN Women East Europe and Central Asia Sub-Regional Office with substantive support from UN Women HQ division for Europe and Central Asia. It is planned to be completed between the October and December 2012. The evaluation covers almost the 36-month project implementation period of December 2009–December 2012.

The review is conducted in Georgia, where the project has been implemented, in the capital Tbilisi with a travel to Qvemo Qartli, Shida Qartli, Imereti and Samegrelo regions (the Project target regions) to collect data as defined by plan.

The information generated by the evaluation will be used by different stakeholders to:

- Contribute to building the evidence base on effective strategies for addressing the needs of women IDPs and conflict affected women.
- Support to contribute to strategic planning to convert the project outputs into sustainable outcomes.
- Facilitate UN Women's strategic reflection and learning for programming on addressing the needs of IDP and conflict affected women in support of the implementation of outcomes of the UN Women's strategic plan (2011-2013) including the outcome dedicated to ensure that "Gender equality advocates effectively influence peace talks and recovery/peace building planning processes and transitional justice processes".

D. Evaluation criteria and questions

The WEPD project plan provided for the commissioning an external final evaluation to be undertaken 2-3 months before the end of project activities. Accordingly, UN Women released TOR, which set forth following evaluation criteria and key evaluation questions:

Relevance: Were the programmatic strategies appropriate to address the identified needs of beneficiaries?

Effectiveness: To what extent did the Project reach the planned results and how sustainable are results? What was not achieved in full and why?

Efficiency:	Have resources (financial, human, technical support, etc.) been allocated strategically to achieve the project outcomes?
Inclusiveness:	To what extent did the project include projects stakeholders and beneficiaries in project planning and implementation and have their inputs been incorporated and addressed?
Sustainability:	Are national partners committed to the continuation of the project (or some its elements) after funding ends?
Impact:	What measurable changes have occurred as a result of supported efforts and strengthened capacities of IDP and conflict-affected women's groups, as well as other national partners from government and civil society to advance gender equality and women's human rights in Georgia?

III. EVALUATION APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

A. Evaluation Approach

This results based evaluation adopts a participatory inclusive human rights based approach (HRBA) whereby notions of Intersectionality¹ and triangulation are central to the whole evaluation process. Several data sources, research techniques and data collection methods and tools were employed to validate findings, pinpoint issues of interest and construct the most comprehensive and solid depiction of the project in order to enable planners and policy makers both at the UN Women and the government of Georgia correct pitfalls and capitalize on achievements.

The evaluation integrates a HRBA by examining the extent to which the project integrates and enshrines the said approach by incorporating its core principles throughout its processes as well as outcomes, with particular emphasis on the internally displaced and conflict affected women defined as the "right holders" and government officials and civil society organizations as the "duty –bearers" for the purpose of this evaluation. These principles are: 1. Expressively applies the international human rights framework. 2. Empowerment. 3. Participation. 4. Non-discrimination and prioritization of vulnerable groups. 5. Accountability.

In terms of the project intervention's theory of change, this evaluation is informed by selected theories of policy change that appear to be relevant to this project domain of interventions. These juxtaposing theories are:

- Coalition Theory (Sabatier, Jenkins-Smith) where policy change is sought through coordinated activity among a range of individuals/organizations with the same core policy beliefs using multiple avenues for change such as engaging in legal advocacy, with MIDPOTAR in the case of this project , changing public opinion, and changing perceptions about policies through research and information exchange using the 1-WSP principle, the forum, project lead conferences, seminars and workshops in cooperation with the key project partners; WIC, TF, IWPR and others.
- Power Elite Theory (C. Wright Mills, Domhoff) where, using the organization (UN Women) credibility, the project pursues relationship development and communication with influential individuals with formal power particularly the GEC of the Georgian parliament, MIDOPTAR, National Security Council, Public Defender's Office, MFA, and MIA, i.e. entire Government in the case of this project, to make decisions to change policy.
- Grassroots or Community Organizing Theory (Alinsky, Biklen) pursues policy change through collective action by members of the community who work on changing problems affecting

¹ Intersectionality is a theoretical paradigm for studying, understanding and responding to the ways in which gender intersects with other identities (such as sex, class, ethnicity, age, religion) and how these intersections contribute to unique experiences of oppression and/or privilege.

their lives. Here collective power is created by taking mutual action to achieve social change. Most prominent here is the project work with TF in the numerous towns halls meetings for community mobilization concerning the NAP on 1325 and the community urgent needs and problems; the creation of SHGs and subsequently the CBOs; and, the IDP and conflict affected women inclusion in the extensive information meetings WIC carried out across the project areas of intervention in addition to its regular consultation and planning meetings with women NGOs working in the area of WPS. In line with this theory, promising strategies amenable to the project included; training, capacity building, community mobilizing, awareness building, action research in the form of community needs assessment and prioritization, and media advocacy in the form of community newsletters, community boards and flyers.

B. Stakeholder Participation in the Evaluation

In line with the HRBA adopted in WEPD, in the planning phase of this evaluation it was aimed to ensure that as many stakeholders as possible are involved in the evaluation process, especially IDP and conflict affected populations with particular emphasis on women, who may be least able to promote their own interests. This evaluation was guided by the conviction that perceptions of UN Women neutrality, and at times the success of the project, depend on representatives of the different main stakeholder groups being equally consulted. Therefore, ET field mission included individual and group interviews, group discussion, CCs sites visits as well as policy and community events observations where voices of stakeholders representing the; government (MIDPOTAR, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Municipalities,), NGOs (TF& WIC), international organizations (EUMM & IWPR) and community (SHGs) were all heard and integrated in the evaluation process. The data collection section under the methodology chapter provides the details on this.

C. Evaluation Methodology

In this participatory evaluation the following participatory processes were ensured:

- (1) Inception phase** – ET extended its initial interviews in order to understand the expectations of beneficiaries and other outside stakeholders.
- (2) Debriefing** – ET held debriefing session involving beneficiaries and other external stakeholders, with a view to strengthen the quality of collected data, to interpreting data from the viewpoint of field-level stakeholders, and to empowering civil society organizations locally.

D. Detailed Evaluation questions by evaluation Criteria

On Relevance

- Have the project objectives been addressing identified needs of the target groups in national and local contexts in order to realize their rights?
- Were the programmatic strategies appropriate to address the identified needs of beneficiaries?
- Has the project contributed to aligning national strategies, policies, plans and budgets with CEDAW and UNSCR 1325 and 1820 principles?

On Effectiveness

- To what extent did the project reach the planned results and how sustainable are the results? What was not fully achieved and why?
- What influence have contextual factors (political, social economic and other) had on the effectiveness of the project?
- To what extent have beneficiaries been satisfied with the results?

- Does the project have effective monitoring mechanisms in place to measure progress towards results?
- To what extent have the capacities of duty-bearers and right –holders been strengthened? To what extent have the capacities of gender equality advocates been enhanced?
- What were the key approaches and strategies the project used in achieving its outcomes? What worked and what did not work and why?
- How effectively set up were information sharing and dissemination activities to increase the visibility of the project among stakeholders?
- Are there any good practices and lessons learned that could be replicated or taken into consideration for future programming by UN Women in EECA region?
- What documented changes have occurred on individual, community/ local and national levels since the start of the project, and do these changes illustrate a positive, negative or neutral shift in addressing needs of IDPs and conflict affected women?
- Has the project adapted (when necessary) to changing external conditions to ensure benefits for target groups?

On Efficiency

- Is the project cost –effective, i.e. could the outcomes and expected results have been achieved at lower cost through adopting a different approach and /or using alternative delivery mechanisms?
- What measures have been taken during planning and implementation to ensure that resources are efficiently used?
- Have the outputs been delivered in a timely manner?
- Have UN Women’s organization structure, managerial support and coordination mechanisms effectively supported the delivery of the project?
- Have resources (financial, human, technical support, etc.) been allocated strategically to achieve the project outcomes?
- Are project resources managed in a transparent and accountable manner (at all levels) that promotes equitable and sustainable development?
- To what extent has the project management structure facilitated (or hindered) good results and efficient delivery?

On Inclusiveness

- To what extent did the project include projects stakeholders and beneficiaries in the planning and implementation and have their inputs been incorporated and addressed appropriately?
- What mechanisms were put in place by project teams to ensure involvement of key beneficiaries and stakeholders in project implementation and articulation of their needs / views in various project activities, i.e. policy formulation, etc. ?

On Sustainability

- What is the likelihood that the benefits from the project will be maintained for a reasonable period of time after the project is closed?
- Is the project supported by national /local institutions? Do these institutions demonstrate leadership commitment and technical capacity to continue to work with the project or replicate it? Are revised or adopted new policy frameworks in line with the CEDAW and 1325 and are they addressing the needs of IDP women?
- Are national partners committed to the continuation of the project (or some elements) after funding ends?
- To what extent have relevant target beneficiaries actively involved in decision–making concerning project orientation and implementation?

On Impact

- What measurable changes, intended and unintended, have occurred as results of supported efforts and capacities of IDP and conflict-affected women's group, as well as other national partners from government and civil society to advance gender equality and women's human right in Georgia?

E. Data Collection Methods.

Mainly qualitative methods were used in collecting the data in this evaluation. This is as follows:

- A) *Desk review for secondary data analysis from documentary evidence*: More than 30 project and project related documents were reviewed (see annex 2). This method seeks gaining insight into WEPD prior to the onset of the field visits. Some of the key documents that were reviewed include: basic project document, project log-frame, implementation plan, progress and annual reports, any specific reports on beneficiaries (direct and indirect), stakeholders and partners, Project Mid-Term Review report, National Strategy on IDPs 2009-2012, existing national and international reports on review of gender equality in national IDP laws and National Action plan. Any additional documents/reports that were brought to the attention of the evaluation team throughout the evaluation process by UN Women EECA SRO and WEPD project were added to this part of the work.
- B) *Primary data from direct sources: Mixed-method approach* was adopted where purposive none-random sampling design was used. Purposive (also known as judgmental) sampling is a non-probability sampling technique where the researcher selects units to be sampled based on her knowledge and professional judgment. Purposive sampling is the only viable sampling technique in obtaining information from a specific group of people (target population). It is also used if the researcher knows a reliable professional or authority that she thinks is capable of assembling a representative sample. In the case of this evaluation, the kind of purposive choice used was stakeholder sampling. This is particularly useful in the context of evaluation research and policy analysis. It involves identifying the major stakeholders who are involved in designing, giving, receiving, or administering the program or service being evaluated, and who might otherwise be affected by it. Befitting the purpose of this evaluation, this sample selection was made jointly by the researchers and project management by employing the following data collection methods:
 - 1) **Individual Interviews (19)**: To solicit person-to-person responses to predetermined questions designed to obtain in-depth information about the interviewee's impressions or experiences with regards to WEPD. Limitations are that it can be time consuming, difficult to analyze, costly and a potential exists for interviewers to bias participant's responses.
 - 2) **Group Interviews (7)**: A small group (6 to 8 people) were interviewed together to explore in-depth stakeholder opinions, similar or divergent points of view, or judgments about the project, as well as information about their behaviors, understanding and perceptions of its achievements, weaknesses, strengths etc and learn about WEPD's tangible and non-tangible changes resulting from its interventions, from the participants perspective. Primary limitations are that it can be hard to analyze responses, requires trained facilitator and may be difficult to schedule.
 - 3) **On-site Direct Observation (12)**: Entails use of an observation form to record accurate information on-site about how the project's given component operates/ed including ongoing activities, processes, discussions, social interactions and observable results as directly observed during the course of the visit. Limitations are that it can be difficult to categorize or interpret observed behaviors. It can also be expensive and subject to (site) selection bias. Selected sites and events are:
 - Cc -shelters (3)

- SHGs initiatives (7)
- Gender Resource Center /Gori Hotline (1)
- Visibility event-Forum (1).

- 4) **Focus Group Discussion (1 youth FGD- 6 boys and girls in Orsantia village).** Focus groups are a great way to collect information from several people very quickly and cost effectively. They are mainly used to gauge people's reactions and feelings to items. The limitations here include the possibility of group think (contamination effect) i.e. people expressing an opinion that is in line with the rest of the group even if that opinion is at odds with their own personal one. Another possibility is group domination by one or two members that can create an inaccurate view of what other opinions exist among the group.
- 5) **Debriefing Workshop** involving key internal and external stakeholders with the view of strengthening the quality of the collected data and validate it in addition to promoting stakeholder engagement.

F. Data Collection Tools

- Individual interview schedule protocol
- Group interview schedule protocol
- On-site direct observation form
- Focus group discussion guide
- Debriefing workshop power-point presentation and outline

G. Field Mission

This extended between 23 November & 11 December, 2012. Agenda was jointly set by WEPD project manager, evaluation national consultant in close consultation with the team leader. The mission included meetings and interviews with key stakeholders, on-sites observation for the CCs and visibility event/s, and a debriefing workshop on preliminary findings for validation and stakeholders' engagement purposes. Key deliverables during the field mission included fieldwork progress report and PowerPoint presentation and an outline.

H. Data Analysis and Synthesis

Upon completing each evaluation component, the team was meeting in person on a daily basis to assess, discuss and debrief. Analysis of qualitative data from interview transcripts, observation field notes or open-ended questions helped identify similarities and differences across several accounts, as well as directions, trends and tendencies. For interpretive content analysis, data was categorized into recurrent themes and topics that are relevant to answer the evaluation questions. The reasoning logic was therefore a deductive one. It worked from the more general content, which were the transcripts, observation field notes and open ended questions and ended more specifically thru conclusions that were made from available facts and observations. This was all guided /based on existing theories.

IV. WORK PLAN

Activity	Time-work	Responsibility	Key Deliverables
Stage 1-Preparatory Work	16-21 November		
Core project materials shared	16 November	UN Women SRO Evaluation Task Manager and Georgia	

Activity	Time-work	Responsibility	Key Deliverables
		Team	
Review of project documents and materials	16-18 November	International / National Consultants	
Draft Inception Report and Evaluation design instruments	19-20 November	International / National Consultants	
Feedback	21-22 November	UN Women WEPD Final Evaluation reference group (Georgia, SRO, HQ)	
Final Inception report	22 November	International Consultant	Inception Report
Programme and Schedule of meetings and focus groups in Tbilisi and 4 regions	16-19 November	Georgia team and National Consultant	
Stage 2 - Field Mission	22 November – 10 December		
Data collection: Stakeholder meetings, interviews, and focus groups	22 – 30 November	International/ National Consultants	
Work on draft Outline and a Power Point presentation and Progress Report of field mission	1 – 6 December	International/ National Consultants	
Outline and a Power Point presentation on preliminary findings, lessons learned, and recommendations shared UN Women/SRO, Georgia team and key stakeholders	10 December	International / National Consultants	ppt. presentation of key findings
Feedback provided	10 – 12 December	Key programme stakeholders (arranged via Georgia Project team) UN Women WEPD Final Evaluation reference group (Georgia, SRO, HQ)	
Final progress report on field visit report submitted	12 December	International /National Consultants	Progress Report
Stage 3 - Data Analysis and Reporting	12 December – 15 January		
Data Analysis Draft Full Evaluation Report	20 December	International/ National Consultants	Draft Evaluation Report
Comments on Draft Report	20 December – 10 January	Key programme stakeholders, UN Women WEPD Final Evaluation Reference group (Georgia, SRO, HQ)	
Finalization of Evaluation Report and 2 page Executive	15 January	International and National Consultants	Final Evaluation Report and 3 page

Activity	Time-work	Responsibility	Key Deliverables
Summary			Executive Summary

V. MANAGEMENT OF EVALUATION

The UN Women EECA Sub-Regional Office managed the final evaluation under overall supervision of the UN Women EECA Regional Programme Director and guidance from EECA Programme Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist. During the evaluation process, the SRO office consulted with UN Women Evaluation Office, as was necessary. Coordination in the field including logistical support was the responsibility of the Georgia WEPD Project Team.

The evaluation was conducted in accordance with UN Women evaluation guidelines and UNEG norms and standards. Upon completion of the evaluation, UN Women has the responsibility to prepare a management response that addresses the findings and recommendations to ensure future learning and inform implementation of relevant programmes.

The evaluation management structure is comprised of the coordinating entity (Management Group) and the consultative body (Reference Group). The EECA Programme Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist (evaluation manager) managed the day-to-day aspects of the evaluation. That this is a consultative/participatory final project evaluation with a strong learning component, the management of the evaluation ensured that key stakeholders were consulted.

VI. RESULTS AND DELIVERABLES

As a logical result of the completion of the desk review, the Evaluation Team (ET) submitted an **inception report**, which comprised evaluation objectives and scope, description of evaluation methodology/methodological approach, data collection tools, data analysis methods, key informants/agencies, evaluation questions, issues to be studied, work plan and reporting requirements.

As a result of the completion of the field visits and surveys and interviews with the partners, submitted key products were: **Progress Report** of the Fieldwork to the UN Women Sub-Regional office and key internal and external stakeholders, **Power Point presentation and an outline** on preliminary findings, lessons learned, and recommendations, **Draft full report** highlighting key evaluation findings and conclusions, lessons learned and recommendations. The draft report was discussed with the national partners to ensure participation and involvement of the national stakeholders.

Afterwards a **Final evaluation report** and two-page **executive summary** were submitted to the UN Women Sub-Regional office incorporating comments and feedback collected from all partners involved.

“Quality Criteria for UN Women evaluation reports” were followed. These quality criteria are intended to serve as a guide for preparing meaningful, useful and credible evaluation reports. It does not prescribe a definite format that all evaluation reports should follow but rather indicates the contents that need to be included in quality reports.

A. Outline of the Final Report

Format of the final evaluation report include the following chapters: Executive Summary, Project description, Evaluation purpose, Evaluation methodology, Findings (by outcomes and outputs),

Achievements, Lessons Learnt, Recommendations and Annexes (including interview list, data collection instruments, key documents consulted, Terms of Reference).

VII. RISKS AND LIMITATIONS IN THE EVALUATION PROCESS

This evaluation encountered few limitations given the exceptional all-encompassing number of partnerships formed within the framework of the project's three mutually reinforcing area's levels of interventions: policy, institutions and community. This is well observed in the documents and correspondences reviewed under the desk review component of this evaluation. However, possible risks and limitations in this evaluation could include:

- *Challenge of attribution:* Where the internal validity of a given intervention is well established, attribution of outcomes to an intervention is fairly straightforward. However, in the case of many other projects interventions, internal validity is not well established and attribution is problematic. For example, attributing genuinely a positive change in the Georgian women legal status to an intervention or set of interventions within this project might be hard to confirm in the presence of other national and international interveners in this area; meaning that control for confounders is not possible here. The reality of methodological and resource constraints in carrying out this practical evaluation means that often attribution is expressed in terms of likelihood rather than proof, and that ultimately the test of validity is credibility. This is the guiding professional premise here.
- *Disproportionate extent of stakeholders' engagement* is one expected limitation in this evaluation. Different stakeholders could be inconsistently available or accessible for participation at the time of fieldwork completion. Also, involvement of the same stakeholder could go rather periodic as feasible given his/her schedule, priorities and work agenda. Except for the project staff, other stakeholders could be engaged mainly in obtaining stakeholders' input in describing and learning about the project outcomes. This is ascribed to feasibility issues related to unavailability and structural complexity of the official stakeholders and the resultant difficulties in soliciting their input. The fact that the evaluation field mission coincided with the 16 days National Campaign against GBV was a contributing factor in this regard.

VII. ETHICAL CODE OF CONDUCT

This evaluation was conducted in accordance with the principles outlined in the UNEG 'Ethical Guidelines for Evaluation'. These include:

- Informed Consent attainment. The principle is that everyone who participates in the evaluation should do so willingly. This includes that participants are provided with information regarding the purpose and use of the information in their language and according to their literacy level. All participants are guaranteed the specific right to choose whether or not to participate, as well as the right to withdraw from the evaluation at any time, even if they previously gave consent and refuse to complete any part of the data collection instruments.
- Privacy and Confidentiality. It is not always possible to conduct evaluations without identifying information, such as names as the case expectedly is part of this evaluation. However, the first primary goal is that all evaluation information be kept confidential. Secondly, the evaluators ensure not to allow particular respondent's identification through data presentation and discussion in the report.
- Ethical issues related to the evaluators' Role. Throughout this evaluation process ET shall watch over the following principles:
 - Utility: Evaluation addresses important questions, provide clear and understandable results, and include meaningful recommendations

- Feasibility: Evaluation is maintained realistic and practical, so that it is completed in a time- and cost-efficient manner
- Propriety: Evaluation is legal and ethical including in terms of observing for freedom of conflict of interest at any point during the evaluation
- Accuracy: Information is collected, analyzed, reported, and interpreted correctly, truly and impartially.

Given the nature of this evaluation, research ethics approval was not deemed relevant. Alternatively, an institutional review (UN Women) is employed to reflect on data collection instruments completeness, relevance, soundness, aptness, and propriety.

VIII. EVALUATION FINDINGS BY OUTCOMES & OUTPUTS

As multifaceted and multidimensional as this project is, one can firmly argue that practically it is many projects synergistically put in one. Its mutually reinforcing components endowed each single one with an exceptional capacity to serve as leverage for the other.

Outcome 1: On National Policy and Legislation project Component

This project outcome represents the project backbone as it holds most of the groundwork needed to carry on with the two outcomes on national institutions and community. Right from the start, ET found ample evidence on the project emphasis being placed on making a substantial progress in this particular component. This finding is true for the two evaluation components of interpreting the existing (secondary) data in the completed desk review and the primary data ET collected freshly from the field especially for the purpose of this evaluation.

Output 1.1: A relevant body of knowledge on how to effectively develop a National Action Plan (including implementation strategy and indicators) on SCR 1325 and 1820 is developed and accessible

Initially, rapid needs assessment of IDP women as a result of August 2008 War was conducted by UN Women in partnership with local research organization Institute for Policy Studies (IPS) in September-October 2008 – way before WEPD, but indeed it has generated significant evidence for initiation of WEPD and more importantly for the development of NAP 1325. In the process of the NAP 1325 drafting in 2011, WEPD facilitated partnership with EUMM and women's organizations to generate knowledge and inputs about the needs of IDP and conflict affected women that also greatly informed the NAP development process.

The study, therefore, represented evidence-based entry point for discourse initiation and dialogue creation toward advocacy of the IDPs as rights-holders and the obligation of duty-bearers in government bodies to improve the living conditions and opportunities of the IDP and conflict affected women.

Reviewed documents, particularly the project progress and annual reports include precise documentation about the development and elaboration processes of the 2012-2015 NAP for implementation of the UNSCRs on peace and women security including the UNSCR 1325. WEPD, together with the GEC of the Parliament of Georgia and civil society partner WIC, took these processes all the way through to complete endorsement by the parliament and adoption by the government. This concord with the Power Elite Theory of change where WEPD invested in UN Women credibility in building relationships and communicating with influential entities with formal power such as the GEC of the Georgian parliament and others to push for making decisions to change policy.

According to the first WEPD annual report, the government of Georgia has adopted a number of legal and policy documents in relation to IDPs, including the “Action Plan for the Implementation of the State Strategy on IDPs 2009-2012,” which foresees concrete measures for addressing the question of durable housing for IDPs by offering them compensation or self-privatization (transfer of ownership) of the state- provided shelters (i.e., CCs where they have been living during the displacement for a symbolic price of 1 GEL (Georgian Lari) equivalent to USD 0.6. UN Women, along with women’s NGOs and gender equality advocates, provided technical assistance to ensure that gender mainstreaming was in line with CEDAW and UNSCRs 1325, 1889, 1888 and 1820 in the revised IDP Action Plan adopted in April 2010.

Then beginning in March 2011, the WG, comprised of 19 representatives of the government² and civil society represented by the project partner WIC, met six times on a monthly bases. Consequently, the draft NAP was developed. The WG was assisted by the UN Women local lead and support consultants to facilitate the meetings, shape the elaboration of the NAP, make presentations and help the WG in conceptualizing and drafting the background paper and matrix of the NAP. According to WIC; *“Working on optimizing national ownership of UNSCR 1325 NAP was one indisputable target we all worked very hard to achieve. That is why it was crucial to involve as many organizations and IDPs as possible”*

As a part of the NAP development process, an international workshop was organized on 26 and 27 July 2011 to support the WG in the finalization of the draft NAP and to assist in the development of national indicators in line with the UN global and European Union (EU) regional indicators to ensure harmonious and effective tracking of NAP progress and implementation. Forty participants attended the workshop: WG members, civil society representatives, other United Nations funds and programmes such as the United Nations Children’s Fund, the United Nations Population Fund, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and government officials from participating countries in the UN Women cross-regional programme “WCAC”, implemented mainly in Kyrgyzstan and Pakistan. International experts on NAP implementation were invited from EU countries, specifically from the Brussels-based European Peace-building Liaison Office,³ the Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Dutch Gender Platform WO=MEN. With the wide simultaneous involvement of multiple players seeking policy change through coordinated activities as such, Coalition Theory of change certainly came into play alongside the power Elite one.

The workshop resulted in inputs to the WG on the development of the NAP and the development of eight new indicators under their respective categories of: participation, prevention, protection and relief and recovery.

Eventually, the draft NAP was presented by the National Security Council of Georgia at the National Conference “2011-2013 National Action Plan for Implementation of Gender Equality – Objectives and Opportunities”, held on 24 September 2011 in Tbilisi, organized by the GEC of the Parliament of Georgia.

In the last third of WEPD life, at the policy level, the key intervention was the advocacy for the adoption of the 2012-2015 NAP for implementation of the UNSCRs 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889 and 1960 on “Women, Peace and Security.” The Georgian Parliament adopted the said NAP on 27 December 2011, with the special decree signed by the Chairman of the Parliament. A national Working Group

² Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Defence, Labour, Health and Social Affairs, Internally-Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Refugees and Accommodation, Internal Affairs, Education and Science, Economy and Sustainable Development, State Minister’s Office for Reintegration, Security Council of Georgia and several members of the Parliament of Georgia.

³ This constitutes the platform of European NGOs, networks of NGOs and think tanks active in the field of peace-building.

established by the GEC of the Parliament of Georgia produced the NAP after nine months of intensive work including six meetings. Prior to its finalization and adoption on 6 December 2011, the NAP was presented to over 90 participants from local and international NGOs, UN agencies, donors and intergovernmental organizations in order to inform them of NAP priorities and arrive at a consensus. After its adoption, the NAP was presented more widely on 3 February 2012 in the Georgian Parliament by the Deputy Chairperson of the Parliament and Chair of the GEC."

In terms of relevance, deliberately from the onset, NAP for 1325 implementation was contextualized. This was by putting it in compliance with core State Documents including; State strategy on IDPs – Persecuted (2007) and its Action Plan (2009-2012), State Strategy on Occupied Territories, Engagement through Cooperation (2010) and its action plan 2010, the 11-2013 National Action Plan on Gender Equality and Law on Gender Equality (2010).

One of the UNSCR 1325 stipulations is that member states increase the number of women at decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions involved in preventing, managing, and resolving conflicts. Albeit a young developing democracy still, Georgia, out of only 37 states, accepted a commitment to implement provisions of UNSCR 1325. This positively affected empowerment of women in terms of involvement in all areas of political life, peace building and conflict resolution processes. At the high profile political front, project related documents that the ET reviewed show that the project managed to contribute to an increased number of women delegates to the Geneva Peace Talks bringing them up to 4 women out of 12 Georgian delegates. This is a first priority NAP objective. For the first time since 2008, when the Geneva Peace Talks were initiated, the WEPD project facilitated a consultation in March 2012 between the Georgian women delegates to the Geneva Talks and women's NGOs to support women's involvement in peace-building processes in Georgia. The meeting between women's NGOs that work on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) issues and two female members of the Georgian delegation to the Geneva Talks (from MoFA and the Abkhaz Ministry of Culture and Education in exile) shared information about ongoing processes and discussed how to increase women's participation in peace-building. Women's groups submitted their consolidated package of recommendations to the delegates prior to the 19th round of talks, which occurred on 29 March 2012.

As a result, both women's NGOs and women delegates gained more knowledge about each other's work. Women's NGOs identified three main priorities for IDP and conflict-affected women for inclusion in the agenda of the Geneva Peace Talks. Notably all three priorities are transitional justice elements that variably deal with grievances and loss. This contributes to individual healing and collective transformation by creating grounds for reconciliation between warring parties through demonstrating recognition of the rights of victims and survivors, had the warring parties agreed to them. These are:

1. Visiting cemeteries in the conflict zones especially on relevant religious holidays;
2. Supporting access to healthcare services in Georgia proper for the conflict-affected population (especially those residing in the South Ossetia/Tskhinvali region); and
3. Supporting P2P initiatives with the participation of women through the establishment of a special buffer free trade zone across the ABL.

Women delegates agreed to continue the consultations prior to each round of the Geneva Peace Talks in a more inclusive manner, possibly involving other members of the Georgian delegation. Discussions concerning the need for strengthening the capacities of all parties to the Geneva Peace Talks resulted in organizing an information session prior to the talks on the impact of conflict on women and women's role in peace and confidence-building. Following this consultation and several dialogues with Georgian women delegates, the UN Women Peace and Security cluster and the UN Women Brussels office decided to conduct an information session on WPS for delegates to the Geneva Peace Talks in December 2012, prior to the 22nd round of talks.

ET observed high level of agreement, among the interviewed, that WEPD had created unprecedented momentum regarding women political participation in Georgia. Doing so, it presented traditional gender roles in Georgia with substantial challenges as can be read in the words of one prominent women organization leader saying; *“Women organizations get marginalized when it comes to general high profile discussions concerning public affairs. Certainly women are excluded when it comes to politics and political arena. They are not seen as experts in public affairs but rather seen fit as community work experts on women issues only”*.

This articulation represents a clear reflection of spaces traditionally open or closed to women in classical gender roles divisions where positions of power, access and authority are occupied and subtly protected men’s territories, making them avenues for most critically needed changes. According to the same respondent; *“circles of women exclusion inside formal and informal political spaces must be challenged and broken. Certainly, WEPD contributed to that in Georgia”*.

To this end and to generate the needed knowledge, as already mentioned, the project collaborating closely with the GEC in the Parliament and its key civil society partner WIC, engaging a wide range of government, NGOs and international actors, implemented and led numerous meetings, sensitization and awareness activities and events over the course of the 1325 NAP development, articulation and adoption processes where respondents agreed that the project was indisputably the driving force.

The NAP development process was testified by all to have been one of the most participatory, inclusive and empowering national endeavors. One interviewee puts it thus; *“UN Women has certainly run the project by means of coalition formation. Project team managed to build a national alliance for combined action for a common goal: realization of UNSCR 1325 and its implementation in Georgia”*.

As stated formerly, ET learned that in close cooperation with WEPD, the GEC of the Parliament of Georgia established a 19 member Working Group in March 2011. WIC led sensitization, mobilization, lobbying and advocacy work for 1325 implementation and employed a participatory approach in conducting 4 meetings /month over 9 months with around 80 NGOs in Tbilisi alone. At a similar pace and frequency the needed meetings were done in the project’s regions, too. WIC had also conducted more than 10 meetings with IDP and conflict-affected women’s groups it outreached in Tbilisi, Gori, Tirknisi, Karaleti, Skra, Tinkaro, Kutaisi, Zugdidi, Koki, and Anaklia. WEPD project has effectively cooperated with the UN Women Cross Regional Project “Women Connect Across Conflicts: Building Accountability for Implementation of UN SCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889” (WCAC) funded by EU to support the adoption of the NAP 1325. The most significant result of this cooperation was the jointly organized international NAP indicators’ workshop in July 2011 for the members of the national WG and other participating countries in the UN Women’s cross regional programme, created in order to share experience and expertise on the progress and challenges during the implementation of UNSCRs on Women, Peace and Security in other European countries, to get familiar with the NAP elaboration processes in general and to assist Georgia with the finalization of the NAP. As a result of this cooperation and workshop, the working group on the elaboration of the NAP on UNSCR 1325 for Georgia was assisted in the finalization of the NAP and refinement of the national indicators in line with the EU and UN global indicators.

In the same line, the project internal mid-term review report documents the systematized meticulous participatory manner the project followed in the NAP development process. First, legal and policy gaps in relation to IDP and conflict-affected women vis-à-vis the principles and provisions of CEDAW, UNSCRs 1325, 1820 & 1889 were identified with the support of the WG and contributions from a number of avenues including; the legal clinics, “One-Window Shop Principle” meetings, human rights observers in Shida Qartli and Gori Hotline

Review of project documents and interviews both revealed the substantial intensive investment the project had made in employing various capacity building modalities targeted at policy makers and high government officials. This is in order to raise the awareness of these two populations and sensitize them on CEDAW, Gender, UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and GBV so as to enhance the introduction of the needed policy and legislative changes.

Some were facilitated by international and some by national experts depending on subject and purpose. For example, WIC conducted five intensive training courses for 48 representatives of local government from Rustavi, Gori, Samtredia and Zugdidi Municipalities and City Assemblies (Sakrebulo).

Working within the framework of the UN Women x-regional programme, WCAC paved the way for WEPD complementary work carried out on 1325 NAP elaboration and implementation. International NAP indicators' workshop that greatly supported fine-tuning the draft was one product of such joint effort. The Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) seminar and high-level conference with NATO and GEC served the purpose of mainstreaming gender into the Security Sector Reform in Georgia, an area that WCAC has been instrumental in advocating for. Capitalizing on this, great efforts are increasingly being invested in the direction of UN Joint Programming to enhance gender equality in Georgia including in the Security sector.

Interviewed women NGOs representatives including those from whom ET sought an outsider view on the project reported that they worked in close consultation with UN Women for the most part of the project lifetime. This is through different means and modalities. For example, WEPD and the local NGO IDP women's association "Consent" cooperated on land right registration issue jointly advocating for decreasing the land registration fees for conflict-affected population. Also jointly, they worked on gender sensitive durable housing and land property rights actualization. The importance of this intervention lies in the fact that although Georgian law permits spousal property registration, the practice has been always that property is registered only by the man's name. This is by tradition and cultural norms that give men control of family assets including income and decision making space. Alongside, there comes property registration affordability that is prohibitive to the majority of the IDPs and conflict-affected population. As a result, only 40% could register their land and house ownership.

An issue highlighted by the project's field monitoring work mainly regarding high expenses for land rights registration especially in conflict affected regions was brought up at the NAP 1325 coordination meeting on 30 April 2012 by one of the local NGOs- Consent and based on the WEPD project's social mobilization experience. The problem was that the cost of registering a plot of land was calculated per plot rather than according to territory size. As a result, family who owned several small land plots encountered serious problems of registering the right to these lands due to the high costs to be paid for registration, measurement operations, filing and submitting the supporting documents from archive etc. The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) became interested in this issue and requested more detailed information about it. The WEPD project facilitated a field trip and meeting between the representatives of the GEC and mobilized women's SHGs on 8 May 2012 at the local governor's office in Tirdznisi village of the Shida Kartli region adjacent to the ABL with South Ossetia conflict zone. The meeting was purely dedicated to sharing information on land rights registration issues and problems associated with that for local conflict-affected members of the population, including IDPs living in private sector. On 14 May 2012, the outcome document and information on the needs of IDP and conflict-affected women, documented by the IDP Women's Association-Consent, were submitted to the MoJ and the Ministry of Corrections and Legal Assistance for their review and follow up.

Afterwards, on 28 June 2012, the Government of Georgia adopted special decree #231 on *Registration of Right on Agricultural Lands on the Territory of Georgia*. According to this law, the registration is almost free of charge (costs only 3 GEL⁴ per plot) and done by the representatives of the Civil Registry Agency who are temporarily based in the villages and municipalities. As a result of the adoption of this new law, the local population saves up to approximately 200⁵ GEL per plot registration (50 GEL⁶ was the Civil Registry fee for land rights registration, 45 GEL⁷ for collecting archive documents and the rest for measurement, which was done by a private company in the past and was quite expensive for families). It is a significant indirect achievement that the WEPD project's work, collecting data in the field and especially in the villages adjacent to the ABL and advocacy work to bring the problem to the level of decision makers, contributed to this amendment in legislation.

Output 1.2: Effective channels and mechanisms for dialogue between government actors and IDP and conflict-affected women are developed and functioning to ensure elaboration of National Action Plan (including implementation strategy and indicators) on UNSCR 1325 and 1820 and amendments to the IDP Law in a participatory manner.

WEPD project innovatively succeeded in developing a set of mutually reinforcing channels and mechanisms for dialogue between government actors and IDPs and conflict-affected women to ensure effective elaboration of NAP. But the use of these tools was not confined to this purpose only. PT and state and non-state partners managed to utilize these channels most effectively and efficiently by ensuring that they feed into all project intended outcomes, including as effective referral mechanisms. It is argued that these channels and mechanisms as created and skillfully employed in this project are a best practice model for replication in other countries in the region.

As stipulated in the coalition theory, multiple avenues were used to bring about the desired change. These included information meetings with the IDPs and conflict-affected persons in the targeted areas to: introduce the "1-WSP" consultation meetings methodology, agree on the location, and discuss problematic cases in the community. Site visits was another dialogue modality applied to all the problematic cases in order to: identify the problem, take photos and video, and document the issues firsthand for presentation at the round table discussion meetings. The mediation function of the LCs counselors/lawyers had implicit yet valid dialogue elements to it as well. Media outlets were also innovatively used to the same purpose. However, the 1-WSP consultation meetings were the most comprehensive of all.

Dialogue by Information

To elaborate, under the project, dialogue with women's organizations and IDP and conflict-affected women was persistently and systematically maintained. To support the NAP development process in Georgia, WIC facilitated a number of consultation meetings and roundtable dialogues with representatives from civil society, women's groups, women peace activists and IDPs and conflict-affected women. WIC conducted four broader roundtable discussions (in Gori, Kutaisi, Tbilisi, and Zugdidi) aimed at the creation of an NGO Advisory Group on the NAP development process. According to the project's second annual report, representatives of 82 NGOs participated in these meetings. During the roundtable discussions, the NGO representatives were informed about the NAP development process in Georgia and asked for their contributions. As a result, 30 NGOs working on the issues of gender equality, confidence-building, and WPS expressed their interest in joining the NGO Advisory Group. Consequently, several NGO Advisory Group thematic meetings were conducted in May 2011, and their recommendations were shared with the WG.

⁴ Equivalent to USD 1.80

⁵ Equivalent to USD 121

⁶ Equivalent to USD 30

⁷ Equivalent to USD 27

In parallel, WIC and TF conducted seven grassroots consultation meetings that drew the participation of approximately 102 IDP and conflict-affected women from different regions of Georgia (Anaklia, Gori, Karaleti, Koki, Kutaisi, Skra, Tbilisi, Tirznisi, Tsintkaro, and Zugdidi). The recommendations proposed by the women's groups were submitted and presented to the WG and incorporated into the draft NAP. In addition, the recommendations were uploaded to the blog "Women Connecting for Peace"⁸ created under the project.

Dialogue by LCs Mediation Function

As noted before, the project invested heavily in capacity building modalities targeted at policy makers and high government officials so as to raise their awareness and sensitize them on CEDAW, Gender, and UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and enhance the introduction of the needed policy and legislative changes. In the same line, legal and policy gaps in relation to IDP and conflict-affected women concerning the principles and provisions of CEDAW, UNSCRs 1325, and 1820 were identified with the support of the WG and contributions from the legal clinics (LCs), 1-WSP and other dialogue mechanisms.

In specific, long-term or permanent but tacit boost to the legal and other capacities of first of all MIDPOTAR (including LCs themselves) but also National Security Council, Public Defender's Office, MFA, MIA and MD, i.e. entire Government at central, regional and local levels through expert trainings, seminars and workshops with a view to facilitate achievement of a horizontal critical mass effect in the uptake of UNSCR 1325, 1820 requirements. As a result, the enhanced capacity of government officers to appropriately address and respond to the requirements of legal rights realization of the IDP and conflict affected population encouraged the IDPs themselves to seek their legal rights starting from the LCs whose creation opened the door for such interactive processes (dialogues) to take place between the government and IDPs and conflict affected population in ways that were not possible before, although this was beyond the initial mandate of the LCs whose counsellors also partook in the 1-WSP meetings.

In terms of gender, ET views legal clinics as an authentic gender mainstreaming vehicle within MIDPOTAR. Predominated by women presence and visibility both as service providers (legal counselors) and service users (majority of IDPs) it offered women as service users a unique opportunity to exercise voice and articulate needs that are strongly advocated for by women at the service provision end (4 out of 5 legal counselors). As such LCs could be argued to have been a space for women influence, activism and rights actualization. ET also observed that LCs were one highly effective and cost-effective channel and mechanism for dialogue horizontally between the government actors amongst themselves and vertically between them and the IDPs and conflict affected populations. Equally important is their role in pushing national authority duty-bearers for their obligations towards IDPs and conflict affected women as right-holders.

More specifically, LCs played the important role of being a mediator between Government and IDPs/conflict-affected communities, alongside routine internal legal and administrative support to MIDPOTAR branches. This mediation role was most prominent during periodic visits undertaken by LCs and MIDPOTAR jointly to IDP and conflict-affected communities for resettlement related issues. The comparative advantage of LCs here was that it was acting in the UN capacity. Credibility, trust and respectability associated with UN and particularly UN Women greatly streamlined the MIDPOTAR fieldwork, which would frequently involve hot debates and/or discussions to explain or persuade beneficiaries on particular points and procedures. All MIDPOTAR respondents emphasize

⁸ The address of the blog is <http://unscr1325georgia.wordpress.com/>.

Information on the "Conference on Women, Peace and Security" held in May 2011 is available on the blog at: <http://unscr1325georgia.wordpress.com/2011/05/20/conference-on-women-peace-and-security-un-scr-1325-in-anaklia-georgia-2/>.

the significant contribution LCs made to resettlement processes. However, ET has no evidence about opinions of beneficiaries on the matter nor could it fully attribute effectiveness of the resettlement process to this aspect of the LCs work; although their contribution is apparently there, the research evidence is not. A beneficiary satisfaction study could generate qualitative and quantitative data that would establish such evidence. Within the scope of this evaluation, nonetheless, this was not feasible due to time frame and human and material resources limitations.

One-Window Shop Principle (1-WSP) Consultation Meetings

The one-window shop principle (1-WSP) methodology was adopted from interventions that were used for small businesses whereby an entrepreneur, by going to “one window,” could deal with all authorities. For this project, representatives of many authorities whose mandate covers IDP issues were brought together so that women could address them all at the same time. WEPD held a number of “One-Window Shop” principle consultation meetings between IDPs and conflict-affected women and relevant government agencies in all target regions to facilitate and solve legal and social problems immediately on the meetings of the most vulnerable groups. Engagement of relevant government agencies and organization of these meetings were successfully done by WIC.

Across three years of the project lifetime, a total 104 cases were presented in eleven 1-WSP meetings, prior to which the needed informational meetings, site visits and extensive coordination arrangements with all relevant government actors in accordance with the concerned cases is completed mainly by PT and WIC staffs. Therein, problems of 62% of the cases were resolved. The rest, which are health-related in their majority, were carried through for further follow up and address, as amenable.

In 1-WSP meetings using round table format, most common problematic cases that defied solution at institutional level due to legislative deficiencies were summed up and conveyed to the NAP elaboration NWG or included in the recommendations on amendments of IDP Law or in other legislation.

Conclusively then, 1-WSP was effectively used to identify, document and address the gaps in existing legislations based on real life experiences contributing therefore to the said laws subsequent amendments to have been evidence-based.

Beyond that, round table meetings were also used as a channel of dialogue on the priorities, objectives and topics for inclusion in the UNSCR 1325 NAP for Georgia. To this end, up until November 2011, 5 round tables with 95 participants and 7 grassroots consultation meetings with approximately 102 IDPs in Shida Kartli, Kvemo Kartli, Imereti and Samegrelo regions, were conducted.

Logistically, organizationally and administratively, one can only imagine the size of groundwork required to make this 1-WSP meetings happen and with positive outcomes, as available data show. Undoubtedly then, such a prime area of success for PT and WIC deserves to be capitalized on in the next phase of the project and nationally, too.

Creative Use of Multiple Media Outlets: Effective Dialogue Instruments

- Traditional visual media outlets of newspapers, newsletters and wall journals were used by SHGs in the communities to share information and report on achievement, announce upcoming events and inform about activities and available trainings on gender, CEDAW, UNSCRs 1325 & 1820.
- TV live interviews with policy makers on women gender and society. Three episodes were tailored to WEPD’s benefit to especially discuss; Resolution 1325, GBV and women’s

political labor rights and economic participation. Here, WIC put WEPD in synergy with a USAID funded project it concurrently implements to achieve greater benefits to the project.

- One interviewee recalls the presence of Live Radio broadcasting direct between the IDPs in Gori region to the UNSCR 1325 NAP discussion meetings in Tbilisi (for Gori region with one of the villages). This way conflict affected and IDPs were able to articulate /communicate their needs, concerns and comment direct into the discussions. This affirmative action to maximize women participation and inclusion was rather exceptional, she substantiates.
- Electronic media outlets: Based on the results of seven 1-WSP meetings the recommendations were elaborated, submitted to the NWG and uploaded in Georgian and English on the specially created blog page "Women Connecting for Peace": <http://unscr1325georgia.wordpress.com>
- List of recommendations submitted to the CEDAW Committee towards elaboration of general recommendation on the Protection of women's human rights in conflict and post-conflict situations available at: <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/WrittenContributions2011.htm>
- Regional online Portal on gender Information network of South Caucasus www.ginsc.net created on 2005 was intensively invested in to WEPD benefit. In 2009, for example, it was used as a platform for organizing an online conference on UNSCR 1325.
- <http://women-peace.net>. As a result of P2P diplomacy component of the project and with support of IWPR Georgian, Abkhazian and South Ossetian journalists, bloggers and women human rights activists formed an informal network. The journalists are reporting on the specially created web site on the issues of women's rights and their violations as a result of conflict and displacement.

High Profile Forum with Grassroots Inclusion in the Dialogue

On November 2012, IWPR and UN Women jointly held a discussion forum on the implementation and progress made in the first year of the UNSCR 1325 NAP (2012-2015), after it was passed by the Georgian parliament in December 2011. For the first time, a high profile visibility and monitoring event puts together around 70 government officials, parliament members, women organizations representatives, specialized media (audio, visual and electronic) along with IDPs and conflict affected women representatives from the conflict zone communities.

The forum focused on measures that women civil society organizations and government agencies have taken to implement NAP. It presented participants with an avenue to discuss how to ensure greater female involvement in peace-building processes including P2P diplomacy. This is in addition to promoting knowledge sharing between the previous and new Georgian government. What is of utmost importance is that it was a needs expression space for women from conflict-affected communities where they also addressed participating politicians and government officials with their recommendations. So, the forum was hitherto another dialogue platform that was observed by ET to also mirror tension and frustration experienced and articulated by women NGOs who felt excluded from this important national project, believing they had much information of value to offer. It remains to be observed, then, how WEPD promote national ownership and project efficiency even more by involving recently introduced civil society actors as new additional partners in the coming phase of the project.

Such a unique methodological blend in discourse and dialogue goes to show yet another way of WEPD interconnectedness, innovativeness and holistic approach in implementation.

Output 1.3: National Law on IDPs is reviewed and amendments developed in line with CEDAW and UNSCR 1325 and 1820 & 1889 and submitted

Under the coalition theory for policy change, legal advocacy is a clearly indicated avenue for change. WEPD embarked upon a well targeted legal advocacy plan starting with relevant law revision and amendment. In July 2010, the project hired a local consultant, a lawyer experienced in IDP issues and policy work, to review relevant legislation and policies in order to understand how well they met the needs of IDP and conflict-affected women, including gaps relating to the implementation of CEDAW and resolutions 1325, 1820, 1888 and 1889. The consultant reviewed relevant national documents including: Action Plan on Eliminating Domestic Violence against Women, 2000-2002; Georgian Policy on Social Development, Decree #156, 2002; Presidential Decree #68 Action Plan on

National Law on Actions against Trafficking 2006; the State Concept Paper on Gender Equality Principles, 2006; Gender Equality Action Plan for 2007-2009; Gender Equality National Law, 2010; Georgian Labour Code; National Law on Budgeting; National Strategy on IDPs, 2007; and Action Plan 2010-2012.

The legal advisor also reviewed CEDAW, the Beijing Platform for Action, the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, resolutions 1325, 1820, 1888 and 1889, and international principles on displacement. A special report was prepared in Georgia on the basis of the consultant's work.

Following the issuance of the report, a Working Group (WG) on national legislation and gender equality issues for IDPs was established. A public announcement invited all relevant state and non-state actors to take part in analyzing the national legislation together with the UN Women consultant and drafting the final recommendation to be submitted to the Government of Georgia.

The first meeting of the WG, held on 22 October 2010, reviewed the findings of the study on national legislation analysis and the gaps identified with regard to gender equality. The group discussed the thematic areas of housing, citizenship, health and social protection and made suggestions for the recommendations package to be submitted to the Government of Georgia by the end of the year. This led to the following eventual shifts in revised laws: amended the formal definition of the IDPs, allowed dual citizenship status and defined the rights of IDP and obligations of the state.

In the 1325 NAP, four Priority areas were identified: 1) Participation, 2) Prevention, 3) Protection and 4) Relief and recovery. ET believes that these identified priority areas encapsulate fully the pillars of the UNSCR 1325 articles. And so the NAP itself being a national collective product as such provides evidence of the Government of Georgia's strong commitment for the realization of UNSCR 1325. However, not only that meeting the 1325 NAP requirements entail national Law on IDP revision and amendment but also it entails cross-sectoral policy revisions and modifications too. National authorities are accountable to act on fulfilling the State commitment to UNSCR 1325 in practical and tangible terms.

The first priority area in the Georgian 1325 implementation NAP that emerged from this WEPD- led national collective effort was: Participation of Women at Decision-making level in Conflict Elimination, Prevention and Management Processes including in official peace negotiation processes; particularly Geneva talks and PRM at this stage.

To this purpose the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) which is a key partner in the WEPD project, contributed to promoting women's political participation via three main routes. The first is promoting and supporting enactment of the UNSCR 1325 in high profile government decision-making circles and spaces. The second is in its systematic response to UN questionnaires on gender issues as a part of the global effort. The third is by conducting regular meetings with the Under-Secretary-General for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) once a year.

In the same line, the state took part in the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). This is a new and unique mechanism of the Human Rights Council aiming at improving the human rights situation each of the 193 United Nations (UN) Member States. Under this mechanism, the human rights situation of all UN Member States is reviewed every 4 to 5 years. In UPR procedures, out of 266, 25 recommendations are on gender. Here, experience and recommendations from WEPD project were reflected in CEDAW related report that was submitted under UPR procedure by women's NGOs in January 2011 (UN Women Georgia office supported women's NGOs in preparation of the CEDAW related submission). For Georgia, the next cycle of UPR will be in October-November final report is due in 2015. However, in 2013 (summer-autumn) MFA plans to produce a voluntary mid-term review report. Also, there is thinking in the government to carry out sectoral gender mainstreaming assessment at a higher policy level to guide policy level decision-making on gender.

One key modality that interviewed project partners highlighted regarding women's political participation in security and peace-building, which women NGOs pushed for through WEPD, is the fact that before October 2012 elections 4 women - out of 12 – currently sat in the Georgian delegation to the multilateral Geneva talks⁹. However, asked about what difference this made as per talks, they acknowledged that beyond gender these talks are not going anywhere. And this has been the case for a long while. Nevertheless the ET believes that the very fact of the women's representation at that political level is a valuable step for women political empowerment. At least, women are confident of the potential for their contribution and the inclusion of women agenda – should these talks progress in the right direction. Second, women organizations as such receive steady first hand information on progress or not at this political level.

Out of the total 21 rounds that have taken place so far, it is believed that the 3rd round that was held in the year 2009 was the most significant. That session witnessed the endorsement of the incidence prevention and response mechanism (IPRM) and its enactment by all involved warring parties. Gender relevance here is that a majority of daily ABL-crossing commuters are observably women. Regardless however, both men and women crossing the ABL at either direction remain subject to social stigma, spying accusations and skepticism from their own fellow citizens. As a result, their personal safety and security is often times jeopardized. Should a direct political dialogue between Georgians and Abkhazians be made possible and security situation be improved, women could take the lead role in the reconciliation process at the P2P level.

Nevertheless, as per the current political context in terms of the later political changes in Georgia, ET was informed that the new elections results are expected to create grounds for more favorable political climate that encourages P2P diplomacy and confidence building where IDPs and conflict-affected women on both sides of ABL would gain benefits and be empowered to solve community day-to-day problems together. Certainly, WEPD project and similar subsequent ones would ascertain women remain on the map.

In accordance with the power elite theory, PT and its partners were able to lobby, network and mobilize key political and legislative bodies (government and parliament) as well as civil society pressure groups to bring about important changes in laws related particularly to housing, property and citizenship rights. This is subsequent to gender advocacy, analysis of legal and policy gaps identified by the law revision and amendments working group that met on a regular basis and with the help of the national consultant elaborated the package of recommendations on the needed amendments to the IDP law. Four out of ten key recommendations were finally taken on board by the government and submitted to MIDPOTAR under WEPD.

⁹ The composition of the delegation will be changed as the 2012 elections were won by the opposition resulting in complete change of the Cabinet of Ministers. Under women, peace, and security direction of work of UN Women it will be critical to again uphold the issue of women's high participation in the formal peace processes.

These recommendations are:

- Amend the definition of the term Internally Displaced Person in line with the IDP guiding principles and other international treaties;
- Granting the dual citizenship for IDPs who are migrants or having third country citizenship. This has particular implications for displaced women as practice showed often times they are migrant workers in other country to economically support the family in home country;
- Defining the rights and obligations between IDPs and State which was not part of the previous Law;
- Defining the obligation of state to protect the interest of person and prevents her/his temporary or long-term displacement.

All 4 recommendations were accepted and considered in the IDP laws revision and amendment led by MIDPOTAR legal team with WEPD project Tbilisi-based LC lawyer. The fact that the updated IDP law was endorsed by the Parliament shortly after, along with integration of gender equality principles in relation to improving living conditions and providing durable housing with special attention to single-women-headed-households, was an important achievement the project had made. Nevertheless, this is only the start. Follow up and monitoring of implementation and how it impacts the IDPs living conditions need to all be carefully studied to act accordingly and base future planning on concrete evidence.

Outcome 2: On National Institutions project component

Output 2.1: Enhanced capacities of key policy and service delivery institutions to address needs of IDP and conflict affected women in line with CEDAW and UNSCR 1325 and 1820 principles.

The project conceived to strengthen capacities of relevant key governmental structures to serve IDP and conflict-affected women in line with CEDAW and UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 principles in two main ways:

Short-term or temporary but immediate boost to the MIDPOTAR legal capacity by secondment of external expert human resources and establishment of a network of free-of-charge legal consultancies - so called Legal Clinics - inside MIDPOTAR branches in areas of highest concentration of IDPs and conflict affected women (Tbilisi, Zugdidi, Gori, and Rustavi which was replaced by Kutaisi at the Ministry request). Thus, LCs were originally perceived as external legal advisors to IDPs and conflict-affected communities acting in closest spatial and functional proximity to MIDPOTAR to compensate a shortage of relevant human resources at respective MIDPOTAR branches against the background of intensive IDP secondary resettlement process that has been underway in the last years and continue for some time in western Georgia. It was also expected originally that these LCs would be integrated by MIDPOTAR at some point during the project implementation (in fact, Tbilisi based LC was indeed integrated in July 2012)

Legal Clinics for Legal Advocacy

To start with, LCs function not only at the institutional level but also at local and community levels which means that they lend themselves to both the coalition and grassroots or community organizing theory in making the desired change. This is by engaging in legal advocacy under the first and encouraging social action to achieve change in the second. Examining Outcome 2, we consider the former. The latter is highlighted in the section dealing with Outcome 3. It should be noted here though that this hierarchical duality (operation at institutional and local levels simultaneously) serves as a linkup between MIDPOTAR and target communities and arguably raises effectiveness of MIDPOTAR activities in IDP affairs and enhances its engagement both horizontally and vertically.

As noted above, LCs were established inside the Tbilisi and regional MIDPOTAR offices. ET found that Gori and Zugdidi LCs do not have proper separate rooms for operation. In case of Zugdidi clinic, the LC counsellor actually sits in the same small room with the branch deputy at the same T-table for want of free space in this MIDPOTAR branch. While Gori LC counsellor is reported to have “migrating” around the rooms. However, the space restrictions did not seem to affect work of LCs. Unlike the previous two, Kutaisi LC appeared well placed in a spacious recently refurbished office room (true, temporarily it had two counsellors unlike the other LCs – see the notes about the composition also further down). As for the Tbilisi LC, its counsellor has already been integrated by MIDPOTAR and sits in a separate room.

LCs served nearly 13 thousand IDPs and conflict-affected community representatives whose relative majority are women. The main areas included resettlement and housing, acquisition of legal documents, domestic disputes and only minimally domestic violence. LCs had a ready mediated access to the MIDPOTAR beneficiary database and assistance from their respective branches to gather and examine profiles of the visitors against visitor claims. LCs were representing beneficiaries in courts and governmental structures as necessary. So, rather than dealing with only the cases of strictly human rights violations, LCs offered virtually comprehensive legal services to every beneficiary who were predominantly women, as explained by one LC counsellor; *“It is women who are going around the family and their own daily problems as men are more likely to either be at work in the daytime or are not interested to carry the burden and the hassle this entails”*.

As mentioned earlier, LCs have quickly grown into more than something stipulated by their initial mandate. They were gradually playing two more important roles: *a. Mediator between Government and IDPs/conflict-affected communities*, and *b. Routine internal legal and administrative support to MIDPOTAR branches (stemming from hierarchical duality)*. The first role was discussed under section 1.2 for it revolves around functioning effective channels and mechanisms for dialogue between government actors and IDP and conflict-affected women whereas the second deals with enhancement of institutional capacities discussed under this section.

The second role of LCs as routine legal and administrative support delivers a regular - perhaps critically - valuable product to MIDPOTAR itself in its daily organization and maintenance of work (such as helping with profiling, condominium affairs, preparation of formal documents etc.), LCs have to compromise time to balance legal counselling vs. other non-law related tasks. This circumstance places a major focus on the workload endurance of LCs, especially in Kutaisi and Zugdidi. In this regard, it is worth noting that UN Women went for a temporary addition of the second counsellor to the Kutaisi LC (the contract ended on 30 November, 2012), given that LCs are normally represented by one counsellor who, by the way, must also balance between office counselling and joint Ministry-LC community visit hours.

On the one hand, LCs are supposed to be integrated by relevant MIDPOTAR branches and this actually happened to Tbilisi LC, which already for some time operates as a part of the central MIDPOTAR legal department. On the other hand, termination of UN Women aegis incurred by such integration leads to the loss of important court representation function and UN Women associated credibility and trust; although in the case of Tbilisi LC, we received a different account. It is assumed that court representation needs have been more present among visitor beneficiaries in regions than in Tbilisi and that central MIDPOTAR still does help beneficiaries with court case preparations via Court Proceedings Department but as a third party (to avoid the conflict of interest). Internalization of the Tbilisi LC had an unexpected effect of its counsellor having become privy to peculiarities of MIDPOTAR work as a regular MIDPOTAR staff member adding value to advices being given by the integrated LC counsellor’s to regional LCs. In fact, the former Tbilisi Legal Clinic now performs two simultaneous functions: *1. Deputy Head of the MIDPOTAR legal department* and *2. Legal counsellor without court representative power*. The workload is somewhat relieved by the filtration of the

visitor current at a lower level (in both direct and indirect senses) –MIDPOTAR runs an information service for visitors which tackles initial handling of requests for possible further referrals, including to the legal department. Yet, it remains to be seen if the integration does outweigh cumulative positive effect of being independent LC under the aegis of UN Women.

Tbilisi based former legal clinic's lawyer has provided different capacity building trainings for the ministry's staff especially with the special focus on provision of GE principles in the housing and resettlements process of IDPs. He also has participated in drafting the Standard Operations Policy paper for MIDPOTAR for housing solutions and has provided the technical support on how to mainstream gender into the housing provisions.

Whatever integration related potential positive or negative effects, MIDPOTAR currently has no finance to sustain extra human resources and is not likely to have it at least for the next year unless buttressed up with outside funding.

Institutional Strengthening in Trainings

The WEPD project held a substantial number of trainings and workshops (about 10) for staff members of a variety of Governmental bodies, as well as for LC counsellors, i.e. lawyers themselves (over 100 people, of which half from the central governmental structures and another half from the local governmental bodies) on the following subjects:

- In April 2010, the first training workshop by MIDPOTAR for 5 future LC lawyers on IDPs and the work of the Ministry, including its Legal Department;
- In August 2011, three-day training sessions on "Administrative Law and Provision of Gender Equality Principles in line with CEDAW to IDPs" for 13 participants (lawyers from the legal clinic, the Ministry's core legal staff, staff from the IDP department and regional branches);
- On 25 November 2011, the joint workshop on Effective Referral Mechanism and Social Protection of IDPs and Conflict-affected Women with the Public Defender's Office in Georgia for women survivors of sexual and domestic violence and women whose living conditions had deteriorated as a result of the new housing policy. Participants were 20 professionals working on durable solutions to sexual and gender-based violence;
- In autumn, 2011, four two-day training sessions by WIC on "CEDAW, resolution 1325 and Its Implementation on the National Level" for representatives of the central and local governments and regional administration centres, especially in regions near the administrative boundary line for 17 members of the WG on the development of the NAP. The group members were from the National Security Council, MoFA, Ministry of Internal Affairs and the MoD;
- In 2011 also, three training sessions for 48 representatives of local government of the Qvemo Qartli, Shida Qartli, Imereti and Samegrelo regions and community leaders from groups mobilized by the TF on basic knowledge and understanding of gender equality and women's rights, existing national and international legislation with emphases on: CEDAW and its application; conflict and its transformation; women's participation in peace-building processes; and resolution 1325 and the NAP and its implementation at the national level;
- In July 2012, two-day training sessions on "Civic Law and Provision of Gender Equality Principles in line with CEDAW to IDPs" for 13 participants (lawyers from the legal clinic, the Ministry's core legal staff, staff from the IDP department and regional branches).

Project tried to adjust the agenda of trainings to the particular needs of MIDPOTAR and other structures so that they attain all required specific knowledge of national legislations, standards and principles, as well as international treaties and United Nations conventions, and effectively apply gender-equality principles and CEDAW in relation to civic law, particularly as it relates to children and women. It remains unclear whether all the managerial/executive staff of the governmental

entities working with IDP and conflict-affected communities also did receive trainings as capacity building requires equal vertical distribution and retention of the knowledge for at least mid-level executive officers to make informed decisions and realize changes made by the Parliament/Government at legislative and policy levels. WEPD and WCAC (Women Connect Across Conflicts – Building Accountability for Implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 1325, 1820, 1888 and 1889) closely coordinated CEDAW/1325 related trainings with WIC, ensuring that all the regions were covered since WCAC has supported cascade trainings on the complementarity of CEDAW and 1325. Also, WIC training manual used in the frameworks of WEPD was slightly different from the one used by WCAC, as the former included issues relevant from the viewpoint of the local government's role in the implementation of the 1325 NAP.

At the time of the ET fieldwork, effects of the Governmental change due to the Parliamentary elections in October 2012 were unfolding (they continue now, too). Regarding local government, heads of the City Councils are resigning gradually in majority of the regions due to the change of the central government. As for the Cabinet of Ministers, the senior MIDPOTAR staff (minister and deputies mostly) had been replaced but mid- and lower level officers mainly remained, just like the personnel of the regional branches. Public Defender and other related governmental bodies may face vertical reshuffling and may involve graduates of trainings and workshops. So far, the ground level operations are not affected but future strategic planning does face uncertainties.

It is argued that with LCs providing extensive support to local MIDPOTAR branches including handling of questions related to CEDAW and UNSCRs, WEPD capacity building trainings may have benefited more the LCs than representatives of the MIDPOTAR branches themselves. At least this can be said about daily practice. MIDPOTAR's legal capacity is to a large extent dependent on Legal Clinics' lawyers (no more, in case of central MIDPOTAR office – due to LC integration there), whose future status is still not clear due to the lack of financing from the national counterpart. Moreover, only individual capacities of MIDPOTAR's staff, those who had participated in WEPD trainings, can be validated as developed. For the exception of Legal department of central MIDPOTAR office which acquired its expertise through the absorption of WEPD Tbilisi LC, ET has not found enough evidence that WEPD trainings and workshops did increase capacity of IDP or international affairs departments of MIDPOTAR or ministerial office itself. In other words, the knowledge and skills have indeed been transferred but due to perhaps the insufficient internal communications and synergy among ministerial departments horizontally and with the ministerial office vertically the knowledge remains essentially unutilized.

Inclusion of gender issues into the State Action Plan on IDPs that entailed active participation of the trained staff of the Ministry and also openness of the Ministry to consider four concrete gender sensitive recommendations to the revised draft of IDP Law (1995) prepared by the NWG established within the WEPD project may speak more about awareness and sensitization of the Ministry about the gender equality than about their increased overall capacity to implement obligations that the Government assumed through new gender sensitive legislation, NAP and related policy documents.

Yet, with change opportunities come, too. Following the interviews in regions, ET noticed a more or less heightened level of activities and cooperative spirit at a number of local governmental entities and central government branches that might have not been seen as typical before the October Parliamentary elections. On the other hand, effects of the capacity building trainings could have a say in these changes because tacit knowledge transferred through a number of trainings tend to take roots and give shoots in practice only after a while. So, it should not be ruled out that the results of Parliamentary elections and associated major political redrawing fastened up or enabled externalization and more effective utilization of this tacit knowledge. Ultimately, heavily quantitative surveys are needed to ascertain the whole picture and validate this particular hypothesis.

Output 2.2: Effective referral mechanisms set up or strengthened and effectively functioning to address human rights concerns of the IDPs and conflict-affected women

WEPD introduced or supported a number of referral mechanisms to facilitate systemic improvements in the effective handling and solution of IDP and conflict-affected women issues by relevant governmental agencies vis-à-vis requirement to uphold and implement obligations set forth in the UN SCRs and CEDAW and assumed by Georgia. These were:

- One Window Shop principle (1-WSP) meetings;
- Gori Gender Equality Resource Centre that includes Gori Hotline;

Additionally, in certain circumstances LCs too acted as regular referral points.

One Window Shop Principle (1-WSP) meetings

Interviews held by ET showed that even if 1-WSP meetings were to attend individual cases, SHGs tried to use the opportunity to also lobby for the solution of community issues as an attempt to resolve problems affecting their lives, as pointed out under the grassroots or community organizing theory.

Data provided by WEPD indicates that 57.9% (62 out of 107 cases) (women - over 80% of cases) heard by the 1-WSP meetings all through the project were ultimately solved, while the rest was pending or defied solution. Interestingly though, overwhelming majority of the solved cases were resolved in the follow-up of respective 1-WSP meetings. In other words, the fate of each case heavily depended on intensive follow-up and monitoring. The case success rate of almost 60% in mind, WEPD project and its partners appear to have been managing this task pretty well. Yet, due to shortage of quantitative and qualitative data from target and adjacent communities, we suppose there is commensurate satisfaction level of beneficiaries or the overall impact of this line of activities on the target communities.

Cases for 1-WSP meetings were collected by various sources/players – in case of Shida Qartli the information reportedly came from WEPD HR observer mostly, who persistently roamed two dozens of villages along ABL close to conflict zone of South Ossetia/in Tskhinvali Region. WEPD HR observer used to visit one village per month and call in the average of 60 families at random. HR observer would then correlate the cases with Gori MIDPOTAR (for possible immediate solution without further referrals) and then refer to Legal Clinics, which in their part would try to solve them. If not, they would compile such cases for 1-WSP meetings. Later WEPD introduced preliminary meetings with governmental agencies on pre-screening of these cases. The cases were mostly related to housing, health and social care, the improvement of living conditions. After all, Legal Clinics, community workers for Taso Foundation and Gori Hotline (see below) too were contributing the cases.

Based on lessons learned and positive practices, the WIC – the 1-WSP meeting organizer - analysed, elaborated and documented the approach, process, and experience as a knowledge product for publication, and shared it with interested stakeholders as an instrument to influence policy change. The document examines questions of obtaining all relevant information, properly informing local municipalities, sharing the cases in advance and defining roles during meetings. In fact, WIC helped Gori and some other municipalities to introduce the 1-WSP meeting methodology in their regular work.

Originally, collected cases were forwarded directly to 1-WSP meetings. Then, as noted above, per step-by-step efforts to improve the methodology in the process, additional intermediate working meetings with possible governmental agencies started to be held for pre-screening and filtering.

It is evident from the interviews that 1-WSP is the only construct where so many types of stakeholders and mechanisms converge. This makes it a unique avenue where adoption of coalition theory manifests in the coordinated activity taking place among a wide range of organizations aiming at producing specific change/s. This is thus:

- Cases come to 1-WSP meetings from legal Clinics, GERC, Hotline, human observers, NGOs, SHGs, WIC itself;
- 1-WSP meetings gather both local and central, regional representatives of the central government representatives, project organizers and perhaps representatives of other municipalities for best practice sharing;
- Apart from examining individual cases, 1-WSP meetings are cleverly used by a number of SHGs as additional means to continue lobbying for the solution of respective community interests, the sort of extension of local budgeting round-table discussions (which are held only once a year, whereas 1-WSP meetings are held several times per year). So, here we have involvement of various communities and their representative women groups who seek to get involved in or influence local and central decision-making: *"We [i.e. women –g.s.] want democracy with our participation"*.

1-WSP meeting is but one of the mechanisms used by WEPD together with GERC, Hotline, Legal Clinics for referrals, IDP and women human rights enactment and enablement . However, contrary to them, it does not involve a dedicated staff member (engaged entirely in 1-WSP meeting coordination), which speaks of efficiency. So, it is a mechanism in its pure form that can be readily replicated in local government, as it currently is already, owing to WIC efforts. What is more, 1-WSP meetings do not necessitate a dedicated budget and hence pose no serious logistical or financial obstacles on the way of their regular implementation. What is remarkable is universality of WIC efforts to have this mechanism take root in local municipalities beyond immediate WEPD geographic coverage. In a way, the added value here is in the area of good governance.

Likewise, ET did not seek and did not have a chance to attend any of 1-WSP meetings for direct observation because the project came to an end and there was no such event planned in the given period (but indeed interviewed some of their participants such as SHGs, who simultaneously were users, and Rstmunebuli etc.).

In case of 1-WSP meetings too it is hard to fully size up entire room for improvement if any, given the absence of quantitative and qualitative data on level of beneficiary satisfaction and/or stakeholder legal needs assessment and needs behavioural changes.

Pursuant to holistic approach assumed by WEPD, 1-WSP meetings tie women's human rights awareness building with the protection pillar of the NAP.

Gori Gender Equality Resource Center / Gori Hotline

Gori Hotline based in the Gender Equality Resource Centre (GERC), and GERC itself served 5925 beneficiaries in 2010-2012. In late 2012, the Hotline has been transferred to Gori Municipality and functions under its aegis by now in the same room inside the Gori Municipality building together with GERC. In the past the Hotline also has been operating with the support of UNHCR.

In the project duration, hotline GERC has established close relations with local government and government of the region as well as local and international organizations. In fact, it was perhaps the only regional coordination body linked with the local municipality for gender equality.

The hotline GERC arranged several meetings for addressing women's problems in the communities, one of the outcomes being allocation of firewood and food products to ABL villages for winter 2010-

11. Thanks to hotline GERC, a number of people and families received monetary aid from different funds and local municipalities for urgent medical needs, or shelters and foodstuff.

Furthermore, hotline GERC efforts led to job placement of 76 persons through International Organization of Migration (IOM). On another successful occasion, hotline GERC partnered with Caritas of Georgia and involved many beneficiaries in home care program. The hotline GERC assisted several inactive NGOs and initiative groups with consultations in the process of project preparation.

Gori hotline provides updated information to IDPs on their rights, available services, and benefits and provides the referral mechanism as needed. It has been jointly run by UN Women and UNHCR. Out of almost 6000 received its service, 80 per cent are women. The hotline provided information on existing funds, services, state programmes on domestic violence, health and social care, housing, employment and livelihoods, and referred most difficult cases to relevant local agencies and NGOs.

Based on the mid-term review, the PT was advised to facilitate the long-term institutionalization of the hotline. In December 2011, UN Women and UNHCR proposed to the Gori local municipality that it find funds for the hotline after the completion of the projects to ensure the sustainability. Only in August 2012 did Gori Municipality show the interest but the upcoming parliamentary elections in October 2012 interrupted the process. Ultimately, the Municipality integrated the hotline.

In case of both GERC and Hotline, ET did not have enough research evidence (no external independent quantitative study) about a level of satisfaction of beneficiaries either for the entire project duration or any of the years of its operation.

Governmental structures have been expressly delighted at the work of both referral mechanisms and opine that, without them, timely and effective solution of issues experienced by the IDP and host communities would be jeopardized. In the same way, without these sources, 1-WSP too may suffer as a portion of its cases derive from these two sources. Last but not least important is the UN aegis that boosts image and credibility of these services. In other words, the fact that the two are operated by UN organizations (UN Women and UNHCRs respectively) – and one of them remains as such - conveys positive connotations for beneficiaries. So, it remains to be seen what bearing the governmental ownership of hotline GERC would have on long-term effectiveness.

Finally, ET found that both GERC and Hotline still manage to happily continue as one office so that they cover each other (each is run by one person). It transpires that the practice of years-long tight and fruitful cooperation between the two has not been really affected despite structural and funding source changes.

The only predicament, albeit temporary, that both GERC and Hotline at various and non-coincidental times faced gaps in availability of funds. In the end, funds were raised. Also, during such gaps GERC used to cover Hotline and the other way round.

Outcome 3: On Community/Grassroots project component.

Output 3.1: IDP and conflict affected women have increased information and understanding of their human rights, and access to legal counseling.

In this particular direction and generally for the entire project, UN Women used Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA). The work has been carried out with IDP and conflict-affected women's groups (rights-holders) to increase their human rights awareness and strengthen their voice with respective decision-makers (duty-bearers). The project supported efforts and strengthened capacities of other

partners from civil society and government to advance gender equality and women's human rights in Georgia, in the contexts of persistent inequalities and unresolved conflicts.

Legal Clinics

To this end, WEPD established free-of-charge legal consultancies or clinics in the capital Tbilisi and other four regional centers of Georgia (Kutaisi - for Imereti Region, Rustavi - for Qvemo Qartli Region, Gori - for Shida Qartli Region and Zugdidi - for Samegrelo Region) in cooperation with MIDPOTAR (office space) to provide IDP and conflict-affected citizens, particularly women, with free of charge legal counseling especially in relation to their property and housing rights. These five locations have been selected as they represented regions with largest IDP concentration in Georgia.

More to it, the "One-Window Shop" Principle meetings were organized by project partner NGO WIC to facilitate and solve the legal and social problems immediately on the meetings of the most vulnerable groups with relevant governmental bodies.

Legal Clinics and 1-WSP meetings are already discussed in the institutional section of the evaluation report. Here, it is worth noting that these mechanisms clearly demonstrate effectiveness of wisely designed multiple vertical and horizontal interactive, stable channels among grassroots, civil society, advocacy groups, umbrella organizations, local and central institutions and legislators and policy-makers.

Legal Clinics served the total of 12,683 IDPs in the project period (2010-2012), 62% of which were women. The Zugdidi Legal Clinic in the Samegrelo region handled 45% of the service receivers as the highest number of IDPs from the caseload is still in this region close to conflict zone of Abkhazia, Georgia. 518 cases were represented in courts, overwhelming majority of them successfully resolved.

Most importantly, in agreement with the grassroots theory element of awareness building, legal clinic lawyers would embark on town hall meetings in IDP communities at CCs and new IDP settlements (several hundred visits) informing between 10-20,000 of IDPs about the clinics' services and discussing community problems and challenges related to women's human rights, including those arising from the privatization of CCs.

As noted earlier, it is hard to gauge a level of satisfaction of beneficiaries and especially its time-wise behavior (i.e. actual against baseline). It should have taken an externally held survey of the service receivers or even entire target communities (to measure a specific impact) sometime during or at the end of the project in order to have a clear and fully proven picture of the extent of project achievements and impacts. ET had an accidental chance (ET did not request it from UN Women) to meet a beneficiary - Leila Ashordia, IDP from Tskaltubo IDP settlement area - visiting the Kutaisi Legal Clinic who attested to the usefulness and criticality of having such a free-of-charge legal service for IDPs at regional MIDPOTAR branches, the emphasis being mainly on its court representation power.

In light of the State Strategy on IDPs, new IDP housing initiatives (a couple of dozen of buildings or compact settlements in the upcoming period) for the period of 2012-2014 are concentrated mainly in Western Georgia. Thus, the workload of the Ministry in this region has been constantly hectic since especially this year and remains so for at least another half a year. Accordingly, the demand for the services of Legal Clinics (especially in Zugdidi and Kutaisi) would stay high from both IDPs and MIDPOTAR and especially to ensure inclusion of gender-equality principles in housing solutions.

Social Mobilization

According to the Grassroots (community organizing) theory of change, community mobilizing is one key avenue where collective power can be created by taking mutual action to achieve change. UN Women and TF developed a social mobilization model to work with the IDP and conflict-affected rural and vulnerable women and young girls in Georgia including Gali region of Abkhazia, Georgia (the conflict zone). But first WEPD built the social mobilization capacity (specifically, collective capabilities) of Taso Foundation

The model was mediated by locally hired 7 community workers who helped TF to mobilize a total of 46 SHGs with 255 members (85 % of them women) in the target regions of the project in IDP CCs and settlements, as well as in former buffer zones and villages adjacent to conflict zones and in the conflict zone of Abkhazia: 2 in Tbilisi, 2 in Qvemo Qartli, 16 in Shida Qartli, 18 in Samegrelo, 6 in Imereti, 2 in Gali district.

Under TF supervision, community workers conducted regular community needs mapping in two towns and 15 villages (Tbilisi, Kutaisi, villages in Samegrelo, Imereti and Shida Qartli, also in Gali district) among the most vulnerable groups within IDP and conflict-affected communities. In addition, SHGs themselves held regular town hall meetings with participation of IDP men and women.

TF mobilized additional funds (from OSGF) to enable opening of about 11 community centres/field offices for SHGs. In the villages of Anaklia, Kakhati, Khurcha, Koki, Orsantia and Tsintskaro, local municipalities provided free space to the SHGs to use as their offices during their operations. The social mobilization model ensured that IDPs and conflict-affected women's groups were mobilized and empowered to report violations of women's rights, increase their knowledge and understanding of women's human rights, gain access to legal counselling and improve their social and economic conditions. In several instances, the mobilized SHGs contributed to community development and welfare and advocated for the entire community (round-tables and 1-WSP meetings).

WEPD introduced small grants competitive program to support and strengthen SHGs in their gender-based community activism. Most of SHGs did receive at least one grant (within few thousand USD). Those SHG, which were not competitive enough, did nevertheless get funding through external TF fundraising (OSGF).

SHG-local government projects of social character received a particular focus:

- Establishment of education resource centres at the administrative building of the local government in Orsantia, Kakhati and Tsintskaro villages;
- Rehabilitation of the kindergarten in Patara Garejvari village of Shida Qartli for inclusive education for children with disabilities and for socially disadvantaged families;
- Rehabilitation of roads to agriculture plots in Tirdznisi village for more than 300 families in the village;
- Establishment of a library for the kindergarten in Anaklia village for 30 children.

While positive consequences of the small grants program can be really forthcoming and valuable in terms of improving social cohesion of energizing communities. As some of their representatives put it, *"You [UN Women] helped us out of four walls"*), it remains to be seen whether the project gave a substantial sustainable boost to household income or food security of service receivers through small money injections, keeping in mind that small grants were actually micro-grants. Such little amounts are unlikely to make for tangible durable livelihood solutions at least without strong capacity building and coaching elements in our case. By the same token, as one group of such livelihood support actions, the project provided organic farming trainings to up to 20 women of SHGs (provided by Biorganic Ltd). The 3-day trainings focused on the uptake of how to use one

particular biofertilizer. The training did not expanded to cover general and cultivar-specific organic farming practices coupled with demonstrations and coaching, without which knowledge of organic farming would be extremely limited and may generate misleading perception of the entire organic farming concept among beneficiaries. Come to it, ET found that even conventional general agricultural knowledge of at least SHGs might need upgrades (though, this agricultural and livelihood related topic is secondary for WEPD). Otherwise, TF attempts to assist the communities - especially in cost-effective way - from all directions speak volumes about the virtue, experimental spirit and humanitarian fervour of TF.

Otherwise, interviews and review of project documents proved that small grants to SHGs did play a crucial role in SHG cohesion, survival, sustaining their motivation and social mobilization stamina.

To reduce the dependence on external material support SHGs and their representing CBOs (see more about CBOs below) proactively seek external funding. For instance a Koki SHG (I. Kakava) partnered with German ASB to set up a social enterprise under ASB funding, and intensive capacity building support and coaching in 2012-13. Anaklia-Kakhati SHGs and their CBO are involved in several People In Need (Czech humanitarian organization) grants.

ET found that formation of women SHGs did follow certain criteria that however differed from SHG to SHG. In other words, TF allowed full space for local community women leaders to choose the best criterion for cementing their future SHGs. As a result, some SHG were composed of pedagogy while others chose other criteria. This is why only several SHGs (around 10% of the total) created originally did dissolve by time due to mostly the lack of motivation. So, it is argued that all the surviving SHGs reveal strong motivation and commitment. It was found also that inclusion of one or two men in the membership of SHGs added a new dimension to the entire SHG construct. Such men are seen as natural connectors of local women empowerment efforts with community empowerment efforts. As all the women from one of CBOs claimed, *"involvement of men is necessary to broaden the impact, to cover more neighbourhoods... men spread the word to men"*.

Grassroots capacity building and information campaigning

Grassroots theory strategies amenable to the project included capacity building and awareness building through training and information campaigning among others. WEPD sought to raise capacity of women communities, their groups and leaders (including Gali residents and remarkably Abkhazian women from Abkhazia) on gender equality and women's rights, existing national and international legislation, women's participation in peace-building processes, CEDAW and resolution 1325 and the NAP and its implementation at the national level (involving WIC as a training provider). After completing the trainings, the SHGs mobilized by TF began work on integrating gender-equality principles into local planning and budgeting.

From the interviews with local grassroots, ET found that these measures seem to have tangibly contributed to a widespread change in the gender-related knowledge, attitudes and behaviour of targeted communities on daily topics. Interestingly, such trainings drew in male participants. Based on the interviews, it is assumed that male participants were extremely effective in enhancing credibility of disseminating pro-gender equality sentiments to male and female neighbours.

ET documented a strong need in further gender equality and similar trainings (perhaps incorporating a growing gender mainstreaming component) for the same communities. Apparently, such trainings not only deliver the knowledge but even the fact of such events being held in the communities under the aegis of UN and TF already carries a strong message for entire communities to get mobilized and breath a new life in communities which otherwise are feeling somewhat sidelined or abandoned.

In order to support and assist mobilized groups in successful implementation of small grant projects they receive further professional trainings in advanced skills and marketing, accountability and business management.

Apart from the trainings, WEPD published and distributed 3,000 copies of FAQ and 1,000 copies of Social Mobilization Brochures by IDPs in 55 communities and to 4000 subscribers of WIC digest. These social media channels, especially a newly created blog on UN SCR 1325, were widely used. 500 copies of brochure on Implementation of UN SCR 1325 in Georgia were published and distributed.

Given that SHGs are non-registered small entities unable to formally receive grants, mobilize and represent larger portions of the community, synergize with activities of other geographically, juxtaposed SHGs and build a higher probability of sustainable development, WEPD decided to create formal supra-organizations capable of solving these tasks. The natural, seasoned solution in such case was and is the formation of community-based organizations. So WEPD proceeded to facilitate setting set up several women-based CBOs in respective regions.

Prior to that, however, capacities of SHGs were strengthened through 3-day Strategic Planning Workshop in 2012 towards effective operation of independent entities in the form of community-based organizations (CBOs) uniting 30 SHGs from different villages of Shida Qartli and Samegrelo regions. The groups also received training in national legislation on registration of CBOs. They conducted strength, weakness, opportunity and threat analyses in relation to their future organizations, and developed strategic documents on vision and directions, and statutes of future CBOs.

Consequently, 3 CBOs registered as non-commercial, non-governmental legal entities in 2012: Shida Qartli Community Fund for Peace and Development based in Tirdznisi village of Shida Qartli region, Community Fund Egrisi based in Koki village of Samegrelo region, Anaklia-Kakhati Community Fund Nepa based in Anaklia village of Samegrelo region. Then the 3 CBOs were trained in communications to better present their new organizations and to lead communication campaigns in their regions for better visibility and outreach. As a result, one of the CBOs, the Anaklia-Kakhati Community Fund Nepa received its first two grants from People in Need as already noted above.

It should be noted that every CBO has the board where up to a dozen of SHGs are normally represented by one person per SHG. CBO is managed by three persons appointed by the board. Of the three, one is the head of CBO and another is an accountant. The CBO heads are normally not members of any constituent SHGs but an external person, basically TF community mobilization workers. They were originally hired by TF from the same community all the way at the beginning of the mobilization work to mobilize people into SHGs. In their new capacities as the CBO heads, they remain also as TF community workers (paid by TF). In this way TF stabilizes initial development process of CBOs and simultaneously ensures that CBOs are able to represent their respective entire communities even if they are gender-based. Actually, ET finds this peculiar situation as a positive sign in terms of gender mainstreaming.

Please refer to the section on legislative work and policy-making at the beginning of the analytic part of the present document regarding mobilization of women groups for giving their opinions and recommendations for the NAP (while the trainings have nevertheless been mentioned at the beginning of the present section on the previous stage; the trainings included also a total of five seminars for 85 participants).

The decision on how many SHGs could or should be actually created under WEPD seemed to pivot on the following positive criteria:

- There should be no more than 5-7 people (selected community activists) per SHGs to ensure meaningful coordination of activities and flexibility with equal sharing of workload, so that each SHG basically conducts one particular activity at any given time period. It is also implied that each SHG represents a single mobilization unit in a group of similar units (i.e. CBO) under the guidance of a social mobilization worker (i.e. CBO head);
- There should be enough number of SHGs per region to reach a certain reasonable level of representation (validity);
- Every SHG should get at least one grant during the project lifetime to ensure their functionality as a more or less stable group of motivated community activists;

There is a single major negative criterion: availability of funds.

The two key facts - that SHGs are informal, i.e. non-registered, and small consisting of 4-6 locals - disallow or makes further considerable enlargement and longer-term financial sustainability of SHGs more difficult. In addition, they are formed more through a top down then bottom-up approach (like WEPD CBOs) and are not re-elected by respective communities. Without formalizing framework of WEPD CBOs, they may well disintegrate or spontaneously transform into something else, be it NGO, social enterprise, micro-enterprise, workers of the local government etc.

On the other hand, ET observed persistent enthusiasm and motivation of SHGs to have further trainings and seminars for wider community participation on gender equality and mainstreaming topics. Given the work in the selected communities continues to require considerable resources (vertical expansion), WEPD sensibly chose to concentrate on the already created mass of SHGs and CBOs rather than inflate it more and more (horizontal expansion) to create further groups in other communities or even in the same ones.

Finally, ET found the lack of proposal writing and coordination and management skills among at least some SHGs and CBOs including SHG vs. CBO competition over TF grants. Namely, TF would launch competitions without distinguishing between SHGs and CBOs. This circumstance led to competition for grant writers (i.e. SHG people who develop proposals and who are likely to do the same for CBO together with its head) and for grants themselves.

Output 3.2: IDPs and conflict-affected women's groups in Georgia proper as well as smaller number of Abkhaz and Ossetian women across ceasefire-lines are mobilized, and empowered to voice violations of women's human rights

Dialogue with women's organizations, IDP and conflict-affected women

Synchronized with the levers of the grassroots theory of change, one community mobilization activist WIC fostered manifested in the exchange of information on NAP implementation with the NGO advisory group that consisted of 18 members from different organizations. The information on NAP implementation and updates presented at the NWG coordination meetings, chaired by the GEC chairperson, were shared with the advisory group during the meetings or via emails. WIC also collected information on the implementation of the NAP by NGOs at the grassroots level and presented it to the WG.

WIC also supported coordination and communication on NAP implementation at the grassroots level and in rural regions by facilitating a number of consultations and round tables with representatives from women's groups, women peace activists and IDPs and conflict-affected women. WIC supported participation of IDP and conflict-affected women's SHGs and their CBOs in the coordination of NAP implementation together with TF through consultative meetings in the run-up to the NAP Implementation Forum. The Forum took place in November 2012 under "the 16 Days of Activism

against Gender Violence" campaign. The Forum facilitated sharing of information on the NAP implementation process, results achieved and challenges remaining. The WEPD-enabled CBOs a platform to present to decision makers their achievements, progress at local levels towards the NAP implementation, and their recommendations for further joint work with executive and local governments.

ET had a unique chance to attend and participate in the forum for direct observation and also hold a couple of follow-up individual interviews (EUMM, Gali TF Community Worker). ET witnessed a pledge of the new government and new parliament (via new GEC) to commit themselves to this crucial gender equality cause of national importance. At the same time, it was evident that a certain time is required for the new Authorities to get on to the WEPD UN Women wavelength (e.g. one of the high profile Ministry representatives did not know that the State budget for 2012 did foresee certain a contribution to the cause before one of the regional UN Women staff members expert informed him and the audience on that. According to UN Women/WCAC-led analysis of the state budget, Ministries do have funding for instance generally for trainings – and some resources from this budget-line could have been spend on women, peace, and security relevant trainings. Also, MIDPOTAR had some resources for socio-economic rehabilitation of all IDPs that could be also attributed to the socio-economic rehabilitation activities foreseen by the NAP for IDP women. Yet, there is a lot of space left for goodwill of the government and therefore a clear monitoring and accountability mechanism is needed to trace actual expenditures.

In key informant interviews also, ET found sound evidence of the above said WIC-led active dialogue. In fact, this dialogue is an incarnation or higher octave of isolated efforts produced by various women organizations and groups in early and mid 2000s through other initiatives. In other words, WEPD has been instrumental in reviving, sustaining and aggregating the resources and initiatives towards longer-term effects and formation of women's movement through the empowerment of leaders from IDP and conflict affected women groups.

Network of women across ABL

In 2010, 2011 and 2012, WEPD held trainings on Social Media for Confidence Building and People-to-People Diplomacy to further strengthen the role of IDPs and conflict-affected women's conflict resolution and confidence-building skills. It was attended by 16 displaced women from the Shida Qartli and Samegrelo regions and conflict-affected women from the Gali region of Abkhazia, Georgia.

To support a people-to-people diplomacy initiative between Georgian, Abkhaz and South Ossetian women across the ceasefire lines, in the same month of 2012, WEPD competitively selected Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR) to implement the six-month project Women Connecting for Peace – the Voice of Change. The project formed an informal network of women specialists and journalists to generate high-profile, balanced and unbiased reporting on cases pertinent to women's rights, implementation of resolution 1325, and related issues as an aftermath of conflict and displacement. The group consisted of 10 Georgian, Abkhaz and South Ossetian women journalists and reporters and were trained by IWPR on Advocacy and Reporting Strategies in Armenia in June 2012.

It is noteworthy that IWPR Georgia has a unique position in the media Georgian landscape due to its international status. It is capable of reaching wide international audience as a neutral conduit for grassroots voices from both sides and beyond. There can be a large potential lying in the cooperation with IWPR. On the other hands, the history shows that media in general sometimes may be the only tools for sustaining P2P diplomacy under the political tectonics and across conflict lines

The participants developed a joint action plan to deliver the knowledge products shortly after going back to their areas of work. Plans included creation of two short films on successful women in Abkhazia and on two conflict-affected women in Georgia and South Ossetia, preparation of an article on women-related problems in South Ossetia to be published in the print media, etc. As a result, several articles on women's rights violations, post-conflict needs and women's local activism were written and published on the newly-created joint Russian website and on other online media sources (<http://women-peace.net>). The website is a platform for sharing information, expertise, knowledge, and experiences, and provides opportunities for networking on WPS issues in Georgia and regionally.

WEPD P2P component was published in the UN Women Peace and Security monthly update in June 2012. More articles and updates on social mobilization work with rural displaced women and their initiatives for peace appeared in various print and electronic media outlets such as RFE/RL, Netgazeti, Presage in 2011-12.

Thanks to WEPD, three trainings were also conducted on using social media for people-to-people diplomacy and confidence building, Women's network 'Women Connecting for Peace' and its blog were created: <http://unscr1325georgia.wordpress.com>. The blog is regularly updated.

IWPR held a media competition on UNSCR 1325 with a fairly low participation, the fact that points to strong linkage between publicity, motivation of potential contenders, and possibly excessive narrowness of the focus.

It is so unfortunate that at the time of the ET fieldwork, the Russian side allegedly severed the Enguri ABL crossing procedures, making it almost impossible for even Gali district residents to cross ABL.

It is generally understood that overall general political situation is anything but conducive of any P2P. Nevertheless, retention of the P2P component in the next possible phase of WEPD would be a ready tool to both try to further expand Abkhazians and Gali Georgians involvement in community works and to instantly take advantage of any potential political and social thawing across ABL.

IX. Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation

A composite approach was adopted as the project management, monitoring and evaluation modality. The first arrangement was that the project team and partners; Women Information Centre (WIC) and Taso Foundation (TF) participated in a three-day Strategic Planning Workshop conducted by UN Women EECA Regional Programme Director and Programme Specialist together with UN Women Gender Adviser for Georgia where they were provided with a set of resource materials, methodologies, and strategies important for initiating programme implementation in a harmonized manner.

Subsequently, project implementation was coordinated and guided by the project steering committee, composed of representatives of key authorities and entities whose mandate covers IDP issues including the MIDPOTAR, the Public Defender's Office in Georgia, Council of Europe, UNHCR, Norwegian Refugee Council, WIC, and TF. In addition, occasionally, other players were involved as needed in accordance with the intended outcome and the pertinent intervention.

The Committee held biannual meetings the first of which was May 2010. Members provided the project team and its implementing partners with recommendations on available resources and opportunities to scale up the project results and advised the WEPD project management team on the "One-Window Shop" methodology meetings with local municipalities.

To facilitate systematized project management and monitoring practices, a number of reference management instruments were put in place to the benefit of the project team. These included:

knowledge management strategy, capacity development strategy comprising participation in a number of internal regional capacity development initiatives and communication strategy focusing on project visibility and awareness-raising on key practical and strategic issues. Furthermore, annual reports, progress reports, meeting minutes, documented specific issue such as success stories were all serving the project monitoring agenda.

As per evaluation, by design, one midterm review and one final end of project evaluation were planned for. WEPD project midterm review was carried out by UN Women Eastern Europe and Central Asia Sub-Regional Office in November 2011. The review report was made available to the external evaluation team in this final summative evaluation for revision, too. This final evaluation team included one international evaluator who served as the team leader and another national consultant who served as an evaluator. Both were selected on competitive bases through the UN system standardized selection procedures.

X. Project Achievements

Indisputably, the project is full of multi-level achievements that can be claimed to qualify it as a model project to be replicated regionally. Although key achievements were spelled out within the respective text, below is a list of some of the most marked examples of success.

Overall: Injustice became more visible and identifiable by IDP women, even beyond the scope of the project. Women organizations learned, by practice, that there is a place in law for activism; something they didn't know about from before. That they could intervene from within these laws and change them to the benefit of the most vulnerable women empowered these organizations and made them more influential, significant and credible in the eyes of the communities they serve.

"The project exceeded all expectations" was a statement ET frequently received from interviewed government and civil society actors. The project's success is well documented in two high level letters that were sent first from the Chair of GEC of the Parliament of Georgia to the Norwegian MFA and second from MIDPOTAR to UN Women SRO- EECA. Both letters expressively articulate the national consensus on recognition of the project achievements and value and the great contributions it had made to the national development and human rights agenda. In her letter to the Norwegian MFA, GEC Chair says:

"We have been very happy and satisfied with the results and outcomes of this project and as it approaches its end would like to express our sincere gratitude to the government of Norway for funding it".

Furthermore, WEPD seem to have already influenced the direction of National policies with regards to the IDPs. With the initiative of MIDPOTAR the Ministry's commitment to 1325 realization manifested in the following wording it had incorporated into the "Action Plan for Implementation of State Strategy of 2012-2014 on IDPs for Occupies Territories of Georgia":

"The Government of Georgia pays particular attention to the UN SC Resolution N 1325. The Action Plan considers main principles adopted by the Resolution"

Direct Impact: Although impact is a measure of long-term effects, primary and secondary, yet it can be argued that foundational impact of this project has already materialized, impressively quick and direct. Achievements resulting from 1325 implementation NAP in 2011 on top of the production of the document itself were noted to have been multileveled including in international Peace building process, security sector, police, referral mechanisms for victims of GBV and lastly legal counseling

clinics installation within MIDPOTAR central and regional offices where IDPs and conflict affected populations are a majority.

Security Sector: Within the security sector the project policy change related work on 1325 NAP brought about fundamental developments. On 30 June 2012, the Ministry of Defense adopted the Decree Number 577, considering the following:

- Review of physical standards for encouraging women's participation in armed divisions and peace contingent by the United Staff and their amendment as appropriate;
- Incorporation of gender equality principles and principles of UNSCR 1325 in educational programs and Defense Academy curriculum of armed forces and sub-units to be sent to peace contingent
- Ensuring civil education and teaching of security issues in cooperation with the Ministry of Science and Education and local self-governments;
- Participation of Legal Department of the Ministry of Defense in the coordination group established at the GEC at the Parliament.

Police Department: Subsequent to NAP adoption, 142 female police officers from different regions of Georgia underwent intensive capacity building training on improvement of their skills and roles supporting their development as leaders, mentors and valuable resources of law enforcement bodies. As a result, the Association of Female Police Officers uniting 90 police officers evolved, aiming at strengthening women's positions within the criminal law system of Georgia and unifying female police officers.

Women Leadership in Public Spaces: As of September 2012, a total of 85 lead positions ranging from Sub-divisions Heads to the First Deputy Minister within the Ministry of Internal Affairs are currently held by women, comprising 4% of total senior staffs within the government. Similarly, as indicated in the table below, Ministry of Defense data show that women are visible at all levels in the ministry including at departments headship. Although ET believes that this needs to be furthered more equitably still yet the team sees this as one step in the right direction for realizing the two 1325 NAP pillars of women protection (security) and participation.

Gender Segregated Data (%) Ministry of Defense as of September 2012

Service category	Women	Men
Armed Forces	8	92
Civil Personnel	50	50
Strategic Management	20	80
Heads of Departments	20	80
Middle-level Management	35	65

Other More Specific Achievements

- 1) Conflict Affected and IDPs property registration including by women's names (economic and social empowerment).
- 2) Remarkable capacity development of staff with a strengthening effect on the involved organization as a whole.
- 3) One Window Shop principle
- 4) NAP 1325 development and formal adoption
- 5) Intersectionality assurance in project design and implementation (ethnicity, locale, gender and conflict-affected)
- 6) Public transformation from passive subjects to active objects/actors. The project managed to re-position IDP and conflict affected women into public sphere bringing her/them out of

the private isolating sphere whereby they gained recognition and built their activism and mobilization force.

- 7) Gender mainstreaming in IDP law; increasing the women's participation in Geneva Talks and advocating for integrating gender equality principles in local budgets by IDP and conflict affected grassroots women were all prime project achievements in the area of gender integration
- 8) Creation of new venues and spaces for civil society organizations for needs articulation and rights expression advocating, outreaching and engaging women and men at the grassroots in conflict affected communities. These in turn exercised unparalleled agency and activism, employing their project-gained dialogue and negotiation skills to attain their human right bringing duty-bearers to their dues. Along three years of project lifetime these spaces continued to expand with support from enlightened and progressive actors within the government establishment including in Parliament. The multifaceted structure of the project enhanced its ability to align, synergize and harmonize contributions of all partners and the Forum it had built toward the remarkable achievement of its intended outcomes and beyond them.

XI. Project Strengths

- 1) **Context expert civil society project partners** characterized by staff dedication, long established reputation and contacts with highly credible foundation at the grassroots and community.
- 2) **Multiplicity, complementarity and simultaneity** of intervention levels (policy- institutions- community)
- 3) **Advocacy and educational** components with the ministries
- 4) **Concomitant regular open discussions** with both the NGOs and government maximizing harmonization.

XII. Project Weaknesses

1. **At the level of project planning and design**, WEPD did not have a pre-determined social mobilization strategy that was readily available to guide this aspect of the project right from the start. Rather, an elaborated strategy/road map on social mobilization was developed after capacity building 5 day workshop in the beginning of 2010 by an invited international trainer from Kyrgyzstan. This was a time consuming process that involved a lot of discussions, consultations and meetings with TF and relevant others to discuss and agree on the most appropriate mobilization approach. ET was informed that this came on the account of other project components. TF implementation team used the produced document as a guiding framework for its fieldwork where there are different steps and key principles for creation and strengthening of SHGs. The capacity building TF team needed to acquire knowledge and develop some skills after completion of the theoretical training in the field was substantial and time consuming too.
2. Without being part of the project work plan, the project pioneered applying the one-widow shop principle to the humanitarian arena. This came with a price as it involved a lot of teaching- learning elements in addition to substantial coordination, planning and organization that were all time consuming on the account of other key tasks.
3. Structure of partnership within the project was a reiteratively articulated weakness interviewees frequently voiced. Only two partners from the civil society could imply some sustainability risk. More involvement of other NGOs in implementation means wider intuitional resources including networks, which speak better to sustainability. It also

enhances wider national ownership of the project that serves more/other strategic UN women goals. For local NGOs it's important to be connected to UN Women credibility and institutional empowerment issues in terms of access to funds in the eyes of the community. A learning opportunity for the NGOs such as one-window-shop could promote wider institutionalization of the methodology. It could also contribute to more visibility to the project because other NGOs would be working in other regions/ locations.

4. Insufficient focus on Documentation skills among implementing partners' staffs and women from grassroots. Reporting on their activities most often women fail to articulate their ideas or include significant information and crucial aspects of the work being done. Also, being overworked as they are, alongside the fact that English is not their first language, staffs in partner NGO tend to trim down and be brief in their reporting. Thus, information richness is often lost.
5. Given the traditional staffing deficiency in NGOs, communication could be improved if adequate human resources are assigned to do project PR work in the next project cycle. This could secure the project more visibility and wider access.
6. High burn out and exceptionally high stress level among frontline staff in LCs where daily work entails dealing with highly vulnerable people with complex problems and extremely difficult living circumstances. This was frequently reported by LCs counselors and WIC senior staff to has been bearing heavily on staff's emotional and psychological well being and subsequently their work effectiveness. ET did not find any psychological debriefing components integrated into the project design nor was it informed about any improvising in this regard.

XIII. Future Challenges

- 1) New government in power after the later elections with lack of information about its reform plans, extent of openness and progressiveness to prioritize gender mainstreaming or not. General uncertainty about these issues is one challenge the project must handle in the coming cycle. The need to gender sensitize and educate new high government officials about UNSCRs and CEDAW will certainly follow. On a positive side, UN Women Gender Adviser and WEPD project manager have already met the new Minister of MIDPOTAR and secured his commitment to support the work of the legal clinics as well as new commitment for the MIDPOTAR to undergo Participatory Gender Audit under WEPD II Phase.
- 2) Still, unresolved conflict keeps borderlines zones unstable and insecure. This makes work in areas such as P2P diplomacy and peace building in these areas most critical, demanding and risky including for the population themselves
- 3) As long as the conflict persists Georgian brain drain continues and loss of human resources impacts all work area including in development and state and nation building.

XIV. Conclusions

Relevance:

- Adoption of HRBA in project implementation manifested in numerous affirmative actions and measures taken throughout the project lifetime to ensure its compliance with HRBA principles of: expressively applying the international human rights framework, empowerment, participation, non-discrimination and prioritization of vulnerable groups and accountability.
- There is wide recognition from state and non state partners and other actors about the project lead and pioneer role in bringing 1325 realization NAP to life and making it happen, indeed.
- 2012-2015 NAP document is a nationally owned Georgian product that WEPD supported; technically, financially, and logistically in full.

- 1-WSP meetings considerably advanced solution of pressing problems among target IDP and conflict-affected communities.
- 1-WSP is the only WEPD construct where virtually all the stakeholders and mechanisms converge.

Effectiveness:

- WEPD Project skillfully explored, pursued and employed multiple avenues for change (e.g., engaging in legal advocacy and changing public opinion), simultaneously.
- Effective channels for dialogue concerning the 1325 NAP, using an inclusive, participatory consultative approach were created with IDP women active involvement.
- Project managed to establish an effective and visible, self-replicable mechanism of referrals (including in local government) via 1-WSP, roundtable meetings and Gori hotline based in GRC.
- Target women communities received adequate number of practical trainings on peace-building processes, CEDAW and resolution 1325 and the NAP and its implementation. Yet, male participation may have been very low.
- 1-WSP as an effective, efficient and functional channel for dialogue between government and IDPs alongside civil society actors is arguably a regional best practice model in HRBA to development work.
- HR observer missions may have been an effective tool for immediate near-field solution of cases enabling faster positive filtering and referral be it to LCs, 1-WSP or else.
- LCs proved to be an irreplaceable mechanism to protect and realize rights of IDP and conflict-affected women in regions while simultaneously serving as Ministry-based mediators between MRA regional branches and respective IDP communities under UN aegis and credibility. They also incorporated an empowerment and capacity building elements with MIDPOTAR.
- WEPD succeeded in mobilizing critical mass of grassroots through SHGs and coalition building from selected communities along ABL.
- Micro grants were effective and served social empowerment purposes when they were used for commonly used community assets, resources and collectively owned equipments such as village roads gravelling, kindergarten set up, and purchase of agribusiness equipments (tractor, mill etc). However, they were not as effective when they were used for economic empowerment.
- The social mobilization model worked brilliantly. It stabilized initial development process of CBOs and simultaneously ensured that CBOs were able to represent large parts of respective communities even if CBOs were gender-based.
- P2P diplomacy did not tangibly materialize in its traditional form, owing to external political factors.
- WEPD sought alternative innovative forms of p2p diplomacy and confidence building through investing in media (social- portal and classical) and women oral histories.
- Local budgeting round-tables proved to be an effective instrument to engage local government in a meaningful manner and involve entire communities in the process.
- SHGs validate and enhance their community representative powers.

Efficiency:

- UN Women and Taso Foundation managed to mobilize efficiently the critical representative gender-based mass for advocacy by means of forming semi-volunteer groups and solidifying them with coaching, training and micro-grants (the project budget of \$1.1 mln is surprisingly low compared to actual efforts).
- The Project team from UN Women is more than adequate in terms of size and qualification as the implementation in most part is outsourced to the two highly qualified women organizations – WIC and TF - in accordance to regular UN practice.

- On the other hand, use of two local implementers solely may be generating unnecessary narrow, particularist and/or gender-biased perceptions and associations.
- Resources have been duly allocated to all the major activities at all times, except minor gaps in GERC funding which however did not affect the latter's work as it was covered by Gori Hotline and the other way round – GERC would cover Gori Hotline when the former's funding periods had a gap in between.
- SHG and CBOs are composed of extremely resourceful and motivated women but there is still a lack of human resources and time that placed SHGs and CBOs in unnecessary competition during the grant competitions or perhaps in other areas too (in relation with local government).
- Regional legal clinic lawyers are at times extremely overburdened with tasks.

Inclusiveness:

- UN Women based WEPD using preliminary collected information on needs and opinions of the future project beneficiaries: Baseline IDP needs assessment that it commissioned in September 2008 in the wake of August War; a great number of gender discrimination cases collected by local IDP observers led by UN Women.
- UN managed to operate as an umbrella for all efforts of IDP and conflict-affected women's groups, national partners from government and civil society to advance gender equality and women's human rights in Georgia.
- The project was guided by the Project Steering Committee consisting of representatives of the Government, civil society representatives and UN Women to ensure coordination, ownership, and maximize high-level political support to the project.
- Representatives of IDP and conflict-affected communities have repeatedly proven their shrewdness and effectiveness in engaging local government and attracting resources. Yet, they are short of male inclusiveness for broader community level social change effects and impact.

Sustainability:

- SHGs could be subject for serious sustainability risk after the project ends.
- Internalization of Tbilisi LC proved to be a strong capacity building move for MIDPOTAR, as it did not appear to be detrimental for beneficiaries due to the ensuing loss of court representative function by LC.
- Internalizing regional LCs is premature for the period of second array resettlement of thousands of IDPs in Western Georgia in State's efforts to make final durable housing solution for the IDPs (i.e. for another 0.5-1 year). The status quo ensures strong trust, credibility and effectiveness of this process under the umbrella and expertise of UN aegis.
- Gender Responsive Budgeting Training (GRB) for senior officers in the local government offices in the project regions & parliamentarians is a prerequisite to the recommended institutionalization of the legal clinic in the longer run.
- Operation of Gori Gender Equality Resource Centre under UN Women while its close counterpart Gori Hotline has been integrated into Gori Municipality poses the question of sustainability for GERC.

Unintended Project Results

- The project contributed to gender mainstreaming in Transitional Justice in Georgia in a number of ways including by way of WEPD's delivering reparations to women to redress systemic violations of human rights and women oral histories documentation.
- Enhancement of youth philanthropy and volunteerism and unplanned sensitization on UNSCRs 1325, 1820 and the rest by engaging them in the SHGs and community mobilization

and activism. A total of 118 girls and 27 boys actively participated in setting up SHG offices, computer centers, libraries, organizing community activities and participating in delivered trainings.

XV. Recommendations

Relevance:

- Support M&E function of the National Coordination Group on implementation of the NAP on 1325. It also has the important role of reporting, i.e. documentation (for reference purposes).

Effectiveness:

- Facilitate creation of an institutional mechanism for gender equality with at least two arms of power; legislative and executive for gender mainstreaming at highest possible leadership and decision-making levels.
- Involvement of media (social and traditional) should be further encouraged and, where possible, expanded beyond P2P but also broader publicity and mobilization, awareness-raising purposes both in target communities and general public. This is with special emphasis on the direct human interaction P2P initiatives.
- Sustain and enhance where possible the outreach visits to communities by LCs counsellors; human rights observers etc for on-site offer of services.
- Further capacity building and awareness raising trainings for women and also specially for male beneficiaries should continue adding new topics such as marketing skills and entrepreneur skills and expanding on old ones related to 1325 NAP implementation.
- Expand representative mandate of CBOs to try and cover entire communities or broader neighborhoods or even group of settlements by providing support for actions with larger geographic coverage across ABL (e.g. sports contest for all project target villages across ABL).
- “One Window Shop” meeting methodology is to be replicated, documented for future application by the local government for working with IDPs.
- The Round-table modality needs to continue with a modified format added whereby the local government directly engages in joint government-community initiatives with IDP women in the communities through SHGs/CBO where *GRB can be monitored*.

Efficiency:

- Optimally, there should be two staff members per legal clinic: one attending needs of the host MIDPOTAR branch, the other serving IDPs (MRA branches expect more work due the forthcoming further IDP resettlement).
- Integrate periodic assessment components as a monitoring and reporting instrument on standardized evidence based practice.
- Broader involvement of civil society organizations (not only women’s groups- citizenship promotion) on a common cause together with grassroots is the best recipe to deter unnecessary narrow, particularist and/or gender-biased perceptions and associations. Namely, UN Women through small grants could fund and support NGOs that are (a) versed in livelihoods or organic and conventional farming practices to train and coach project beneficiaries, (b) versed in high level advocacy efforts (perhaps something like “Coalition for Gender-based Advocacy” similar to OSGF-nurtured “Coalition for Media Advocacy”), (c) as think tanks to publish studies and other scholarly articles, (d) skilled in mobilizing private sector for specific public-private partnerships in specific pilot locations, (e) staging public advocacy stunts, campaigns and other visibility actions. Such organizations may not be necessarily women organizations only.
- Project leverage and scaling up to ensure a wider groups of NGOs partners with the aim of nurturing an organized women movement in Georgia. This is on the one hand. On the other

one, inclusion of new Governmental partners, namely; Ministry of Social, labor and Health Affairs, IDP department in MIDPOTAR would facilitate addressing the health and social needs where the deficit is the most evident among the IDPs and conflict-affected women.

Inclusiveness:

- Keep the coalition the project had built along its lifetime from engaged NGOs and governmental agencies alive and add new members from the civil society community and Government actors. This is crucial for maintaining the dialogue and consultation regarding NAP implementation.
- Sensitize the new government and parliament members on UNSCRs on “Women, Peace and Security” and on gender equality vis-à-vis the updated Governmental membership of Project Steering Committee.

Sustainability:

- Keep status quo of the 4 regional legal clinics, of the short run –no integration into respective MIDPOTAR regional branches but add funds to sustain the current modality and hence court representative function and UN level credibility of the clinics. For the time being a cost sharing modality must be discussed.
- Support formation of State gender equality mechanism and integration of GERC in it.
- Gender Responsive Budgeting Training (GRB) for senior officers in the local government offices in the project regions & parliamentarians is a prerequisite to the recommended institutionalization of the hotline and legal clinic, on the longer run.
- Carry out SHGs assessments to learn more about success determinants, sustainability potentials and risks and other significant parameters to plan for making more strategic investments in SHGs for further critical mass mobilization.
- Invest more in youth as SHGs and promote their agency within the IDP and conflict affected communities capitalizing on their already existing eagerness and achieved mobilization by recruiting more resources to promote their philanthropy on the one hand and technical capacity as the young entrepreneurs and future women leaders/advocates.
- Strengthen SHGs as valuable community assets in critical mass mobilization as part of democratization by furthering social change and policy reforms, including on conflict-affected and IDPs both women and men, through their transformation into NGOs and/or social enterprises as appropriate per case. These should be coinciding actions.
- Link SHGs to the banking system with the appropriate mechanisms of supervision in place for advancing conflict affected and IDPs women economic empowerment by promoting entrepreneurship initiatives. To this purpose a study visit to the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development in India, who achieved remarkably in this area, is strongly recommended.

XVI. Lessons Learnt

- UN Women has a unique position to instil credibility, empower and mobilize governmental and non-governmental entities by its presence, scope of influence and credentials including its name and logo to any activity or initiative.
- Involvement of local representative groups in the referral of human rights cases to one-window shop principle meetings ensures inclusiveness and community participation.
- Association of women mobilization activities with few NGOs carries the risk of sidelining that could weaken and impede building effective, long-term NGO coalitions and stifle achievement of long-term effects towards development of organized women movement.
- Governmental and non-governmental functional duality at the personal level (one person doing both) may obscure objectives.
- Media is a key area that so far enables P2P contacts across ABL.

- Gender mainstreaming has already started in Georgia, but will require much more time to come to fruition.
- Ongoing field visits by legal clinics and regular work of SHGs is what normally sustains a continuous interest of beneficiaries to endorse “validity”.
- Mini-groups of self-empowered and capacitated local activists offer a very effective and efficient mechanism for grassroots voice mobilization on particular major topics of interests. Yet, they are likely to be temporary unless aggregated, formalized and self-sustained.

Annex 1: List of documents Consulted in Project Evaluation

“UN Women Project Women for Equality, Peace and Development in Georgia”

A) Documents, which have been analyzed/ reviewed as part of the evaluation process

1. WEPD project document (October 2009).
2. WEPD project logical framework
3. WEPD Budget.
4. WEPD Internal Mid-Term Review. Draft Report. UN Women EECA-SRO. (November 2011).
5. WEPD. First Annual Report (December 2009 -October 2010)- UN Women
6. WEPD. Second Annual Report (November 2010 -October 2011)- UN Women
7. WEPD. Third Progress Report (November 2011 – October 2012)- UN Women
8. WEPD Implementation Plans 2010-2012.
9. Gori hotline report for 2010-2012 (final report in English, monthly reports in Georgian)
10. WEPD. Legal Clinics' 2010-2012 statistics
11. WEPD. First Inception Report- March 2010
12. WEPD. Human Rights Observers Report 2010-2012
13. Letters of Appreciation from MIDOPTAR Deputy Minister to UN Women EECA-SRO and GEC of the Georgian Parliament to Norwegian MFA regarding WEPD performance.
14. UN Women Guidance Note on Inception report (September 2010).
15. UN Women Quality criteria for Evaluation report
16. UNEG Evaluation standards
17. UNEG Quality checklist for evaluation reports
18. UNEG Norms for Evaluation. Foundation Document. (April 2005).
19. Integrating HRGE in Evaluation -- Towards UNEG Guidance. (2011).

B) Documents/references which are background material

1. A Handbook for Forming Self Help Groups. (Undated). National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development.
2. Analytical Overview of Joint UN Gender Programme Portfolio Final Report. (2011). UN Women.
3. Batliwali, Srilatha. (July 2007). Putting Power Back into Empowerment. Accessed online at http://www.opendemocracy.net/article/putting_power_back_into_empowerment_0_on_29th_November_2012
4. Birkland, Thomas A. (2005). An Introduction to the Policy Process: Theories, Concepts, and Models of Public Policy Making. Armonk, NY: M. E. Sharpe, Inc.
5. Das, Sanjay K. (Apr 2012). Entrepreneurship through Micro Finance in North East India: A Comprehensive Review of Existing Literature. Information Management and Business Review Vol. 4, No. 4, pp. 168-184
6. Galabuzi, Grace-Edward and Teelucksingh, Cheryl. (February 2010). Social Cohesion, Social Exclusion, Social Capital. Region of Peel Immigration Discussion Paper.
7. Introducing Social Work Practice; 6.1 Empowerment and Advocacy. Adapted from Open University Course *Foundations for Social Work Practice* (K113) Accessed online at <http://www.open.edu/openlearn/body-mind/social-care/social-work/introducing-social-work-practice/content-section-6.1> on 10th December 2012
8. Murali, P. (April - June 2011) Micro Finance, SHGS as a Tool of Poverty Alleviation and Women Empowerment. International Journal of Power Control Signal and Computation (IJPCSC) Vol. 2 No. 2
9. Ramachander, Lakshmi and Peltto, Pertti J. (December 2009). Self-Help Groups in Bellary: Microfinance and Women's Empowerment. The Journal of Family Welfare 55 (2), pp. 1-16
10. Sathiabama. K. (April 2010). Rural Women Empowerment and Entrepreneurship Development. eSS Student Papers.

11. Stachowiak, Sarah. (2009). Pathways for Change: 6 Theories About How Policy Change Happens. Organizational Research Services.
12. Taylor Powell, Ellen and Steele, Sarah. (August 1996). Collecting Evaluation Data: Direct Observation. Program Development and Extension, University of Wisconsin – Extension.
13. United Nations Approach to Transitional Justice. (March 2010). Guidance Note of the Secretary-General. United Nations.
14. Valji, Nahla. (October 2012). A Window of Opportunity: Making Transitional Justice Work for Women. United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women.
15. Wale, VS and Deshmukh AM. (May 2011). Women Empowerment Through Self Help Group. Indian Streams Research Journal Vol. 1, Issue 4.

Annex 2: List of People interviewed - Fieldwork (23 November – 10 December, 2012)

Date	Respondent	Organization	Position	Data collection method & duration	Place of Meeting
23 Nov 12	Meetings within Tbilisi				
23 Nov	Tamar Sabedashvili	UN Women	Gender Advisor	Group meeting (2 hours)	UN Women Office
	Tamar Tavartkiladze		Project Manager		
	Lela Gachechiladze		Admin Asistant		
24 Nov	Marina Tabukashvili	TF	Director	Group interview (3:30 hours)	WIC Office
	Ketevan Zhordania		Project Coordinator		
	Tsisana Goderdzishvili		Deputy Director		
	Elene-Maia Rusetskaya	WIC	Coordinator		
	Nino Modebadze		Portal Editor		
	Tamar Gogoladze		Head of Research and Publishing Direction		
	Ekaterina Skhiladze		Assistant Coordinator		
	Mamuka Gachehiladze		Technical Assistant		
	Mariam Buchukuri ¹²	CBO Shida Kartli Community Fund for Peace & Development	Head	Individual interview (1 hour)	WIC Office
	Titsino Biblaia	CBO Koki-Orsantia Community Fund Egrisi	Head	Individual interview	
	Khatia Babua	CBO Anaklia Kakhati Community Fund Nepa	Head	Individual interview	
25 Nov	Temur Antelava	UN Department, MFA	Head	Individual interview	Victoria Hotel VIP
26 Nov	NAP 1325 Forum	UN Women		Direct Observation	Courtyard Marriott
	Kati Bosse	EUMM	Gender Focal Point	Individual interview	

	Keti Kobalia	TF	Social Mobilizer in Gali region of Abkhazia	Individual interview	
27 Nov	Tamar Tavartkiladze	UN Women	Project Manager	Individual meeting	UN Women Office
	Rusudan Kervalishvili	GEC, Parliament	Former MP and GEC Chair	Individual interview	
	Beka Bajelidze	IWPR Georgia	Caucasus Regional Director	Individual interview	IWPR Office
27 Nov	Travel to and meetings in regions				
27 Nov	Valeri Bagashvili	TF	SHG	Group interview	Computer Center and Beauty Saloon in Tsintskaro village
27 Nov	8 representatives of 2 IDP SHGs in Shida Kartli	Mshvidoba and Kodori SHGs	Holders small TF grant: "Computer Center and Beauty Sallon in Tsintskaro Village"	Group interview and site visit to Beauty Saloon	
28 Nov	Kakha Toliashvili	Gori Municipality	Head of Administration	Individual interview	Administration of Gori Municipality
	Veriko Bitsadze	Gender Resource Center / Gori Hotline	GRC Manager / UN Women	Group interview	Gender Resource Center / Gori Hotline Office
	Nino Megrelishvili		GH Operator / UNHCR		
	Manana Chumburidze	Gori MRA	Head	Group interview	Office of Gori MRA Head
	Tea Tedliashvili	UN Women	Gori Legal Clinic		
	Nazi Beruashvili		HR Obsever in Shida Kartli		
	Marika Buchukuri	CBO Shida Kartli Community Fund for Peace and Development	Head	Group interview	CBO informal Office in Elene Samadashvili's home in Tirdznisi
	11 representatives of 5 Conflict-affected SHGs in Shida Kartli	5 SHGs	Including holders of small TF grant: "Growing Development of Georgian Crops-corn"	Group interview	CBO informal Office in Elene Samadashvili's home in Tirdznisi
29 Nov	Irma Kharchilava	UN Women	Kutaisi Legal Clinic	Group interview	Kutaisi MRA Building
	Inga Janiashvili				
	Davit Aptsiauri	Kutaisi MRA	Head	Individual interview	Office of Kutaisi MRA Head
	Kristine Kobalia and 5 more legal case etc.		1-WS principle and other cases handled by Imereti legal clinic	Site visits	Temporary shelter built by SDC, Old Kindergarten CC etc

30 Nov	Eka Badzagua	UN Women	Zugdidi Legal Clinic	Group interview	Office of Zugdidi MRA Head
	Gocha Elerjia	Zugdidi MRA	Head		
	3 representatives of 2 conflict-affected and IDP SHGs CBO Egrisi Head	SHG Enguri SHG Kolkha	Holders of small TF grants: "Opening of Educational-Information Computer Centre" etc.	Group interview	SHG Enguri / CBO Egrisi Office / Computer Center in Koki village in Gamgeoba building
	6 representatives of the youth group	Youth group		Focus group Discussion	Computer Center in Orsantia village in Gamgeoba building
	Besik Morgoshia	Gamgeoba	Orsantia Rtsmunebuli	Individual meeting	
1 Dec	10 Representatives of 4 Anaklia SHGs and youth group CBO Nepa Head	SHG Progress SHG Tolia SHG Dioskuria SHG Aia Anaklia	Including holders of small TF grant: "Community mobilization in Anaklia Community"	Group interview	SHG Progress Office/ Computer Center / CBO Nepa Office in Gamgeoba
	David Tskhadaia	Gamgeoba	Anaklia Rtsmunebuli	Individual meeting	SHG Progress Office/ Computer Center / CBO Nepa Office in Gamgeoba
	6 Representatives (1 man) of 3 Kakhati SHGs and youth group	SHG Toli Bzhalara SHG Rtsmena SHG Nepa	Including holders of small TF grant: "Educational-Computer Centre in Kakhati"	Group interview	SHG Progress Office/ Computer Center / CBO Nepa Office in Gamgeoba
2 Dec 12 Travel back to Tbilisi and further meetings within the city					
3 Dec 12	Kakha Petriashvili	Legal Department, MIDPOTAR	Head	Individual interview	Legal Department, MIDPOTAR, Tbilisi
	Natia Lanchava	International Affairs Department, MIDPOTAR	1325 NAP national coordination working group member	Individual interview	International Affairs Department, MIDPOTAR, Tbilisi
	Kakha Petriashvili	Legal Department, MIDPOTAR	Head	Individual interview	
	Giorgi Begiashvili	Legal Department,	Cansellor, former Tbilisi legal clinic	Group interview	Legal Department,

		MIDPOTAR	lawyer		MIDPOTAR, Tbilisi
	3 WEPD trainees	Legal Department, MIDPOTAR	Department specialists	Group interview	
4 Dec	Evaluation Team work on preparation of presentation on preliminary findings				
5 Dec	Roza Kukalashvili	Women's Council of Abkhazian Autonomous Republic	Head	Individual interview	Besty's Hotel
	Julia Kharashvili	IDP Women Association Consent	Chair	Individual interview	Via Skype
7 Dec	Tamar Tavartkiladze	UN Women	Project Manager	Individual interview	Via Skype
6-9 Dec	Evaluation Team works on preliminary findings in preparing for the presentation				
10 Dec	Presentation of the preliminary findings to the WEPD Stakeholders				

¹Participated live by Skype.

²Interviewed both individually and in a group.

Annex 3: Terms of Reference for the Final Evaluation of the UN Women Project Women for Equality, Peace and Development in Georgia

supported by Norwegian Royal Government
1 December 2009 – 31 December 2012

1. Background

UN Women works on several levels towards addressing the needs of Internally Displaced and Conflict Affected women and girls. Providing support to ensure that national policies, strategies and budgets are addressing and including the needs of women; supporting women's legal, economic, and social protection; supporting to identify the specific needs and threats that women face and enhancing women's participation in peace-building and post conflict reconstruction processes.

UN Women Sub-regional office for the Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA SRO), located in Kazakhstan, in accordance with UN Women's core priority to support women's leadership and participation and peace and security has been implementing the Project *Women for Equality, Peace and Development in Georgia (WEPD)*. The project was launched at the beginning of 2010 with the support of the Norwegian Royal Government.

The project is expected to be completed by December 2012. The initial project agreement period was for 2009-2011, budget calculated for 36 months, but due to the fact that the project document was signed in December 2009 and also because of the time needed for the recruitment of project staff as a part of first inception report submitted to the donor in February, 2010 the no cost extension was requested and agreed until December, 2012 with the donor.

With particular focus on Internally Displaced and conflict affected women, the project supports efforts and strengthens the capacities of IDP and conflict-affected women's groups, as well as other national partners from government and civil society to advance gender equality and women's human rights in Georgia, in the contexts of persistent inequalities and frozen (unresolved) conflicts. The project works in the above-mentioned areas with a **holistic approach** at three interdependent and mutually reinforcing levels:

- at national policy level, to ensure strategies, policies, plans and budgets are in line with CEDAW and SCR 1325 and 1820 principles;
- at the level of national institutions, towards strengthening capacity to deliver better information and services for IDPs and conflict-affected women, and
- at the grassroots level, by supporting IDPs and conflict affected women's groups and communities to organize and participate actively and effectively in influencing policies and decisions that affect their lives

2. Justification and Purpose of Evaluation

The final, end-of-project evaluation will be conducted by an independent, external team. It is mandatory, undertaken as agreed with the Norwegian Royal Government at the time project proposal was submitted and awarded in 2009. It will assess programmatic progress (and challenges) at the outcome level, with measurement of the output level achievements and gaps and how/to what extent these have affected outcome-level progress. It will consist of a desk review, country visit, in-depth interviews with UN Women staff (at Sub-Regional and country levels), and in-depth interviews with key stakeholders and beneficiaries. It will contribute to results-based management through a participatory approach that documents results achieved, challenges to progress, and contributions to the creation of a more conducive environment for addressing needs of internally displaced and conflict affected women in Georgia.

Evaluation Objectives

The specific evaluation objectives are to:

- a) Analyze the relevance of the programmatic strategy and approaches;
- b) Validate project results in terms of achievements and/or weaknesses toward the outcomes and outputs, with a critical examination of how/to what extent the project supported efforts and strengthened the capacities of IDP and conflict-affected women's groups, as well as other national partners from government and civil society to advance gender equality and women's human rights in Georgia,
- c) Assess the potential for sustainability of the results and the feasibility of ongoing, nationally-led efforts in advancing WHR of IDP and conflict affected women's groups in Georgia;
- d) Document lessons, learned best practices, success stories and challenges to inform future work of various stakeholders in addressing gender equality within the context of the post-conflict recovery planning agenda; and
- e) Document and analyze possible weaknesses in order to improve next steps of project interventions in the area of women, peace, and security in Georgia.

The information generated by the evaluation will be used by different stakeholders to:

- Contribute to building the evidence base on effective strategies for addressing the needs of women IDPs and conflict affected women.
- Support to contribute to strategic planning to convert the project outputs into sustainable outcomes.
- Facilitate UN Women's strategic reflection and learning for programming on addressing the needs of IDP and conflict affected women in support of the implementation of outcomes of the UN Women's strategic plan (2011-2013) including the outcome dedicated to ensure that "Gender equality advocates effectively influence peace talks and recovery/peace building planning processes and transitional justice processes".

3. Project Description

Context analysis of the project

After the breakup of the Soviet Union in 1991 the first years of the country's independence were marked by two internal conflicts (in Abkhazia and South Ossetia) and one civil war. Thus, Georgia turned into a transitional country with unresolved conflicts and hundreds of thousands of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), conflict-affected (non-displaced) citizens and generally high unemployment and poverty rates.

In total, for the time being there are over 293,048 Internally Displaced Persons in Georgia¹⁰ as a result of the internal conflicts of the early 1990s¹¹ as well as the recent August 2008 war and women

¹⁰ Report of the UN Secretary General, *Status of internally displaced persons and refugees from Abkhazia, Georgia*, A/63/950, 24 August 2009, 2.

and girls comprise about 56 per cent of all IDPs, in both the so called “old” (early 1990’s) and “new” (August 2008) waves. **Access to durable and adequate housing** has been one of the most acute problems faced by the IDPs, which sometimes is much more complex for single women, including single elderly women, single mothers and of course IDP women who face domestic violence and would like to seek divorce. The Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories of Georgia, Accommodation, and Refugees estimated that more than 100,000 persons are residing in so called Collective Centers (CCs), which in fact are publicly owned buildings used earlier for schools, factories, hospitals, kindergartens, farms, etc.¹² For the time being all (“old” and “new” waves) IDPs are concentrated either in the CCs, or in the new IDP cottage settlements constructed by the government especially for IDPs of August 2008 conflict or in so called private accommodation i.e. with their relatives, friends and sometimes also in rented or procured flats/houses.

The government of Georgia has adopted a number of legal and policy documents in relation to IDPs¹³ and among them the **Action Plan for the Implementation of the State Strategy on IDPs 2009-2012** (hereafter IDP Action Plan), which foresees concrete measures for addressing the question of durable housing of IDPs by offering them compensations or self-privatization (transfer of ownership) of the state provided shelters.¹⁴

From the onset of this recent conflict, UN Women has been collecting information about IDP and conflict affected women’s conditions. Already in September 2008 it (at that time as UNIFEM) commissioned the Needs Assessment of Internally Displaced Women as a Result of August Events to a local research organization the Institute for Policy Studies; The Assessment has found a striking impoverishment trend among the displaced persons, the portion of households with monthly income of more than GEL 200 (about USD 120) decreased from 59 percent to 13 percent. Some 14.7 percent of the respondents pointed at having no income at all. The survey also revealed that 6.3 percent of respondents had information about sexual violence committed against women, out of this 6.3 percent (70 respondents) - 21.4 percent said they had information about cases of rape, 32.8 percent about group rape, Only 1 percent i.e. 10-11 respondents reported witnessing rape. Taking into consideration the taboo associated with the issue of sexual violence in the Georgian society, we may assume that the findings of the survey shed light only on the top of the iceberg, clearly signalling the need for having respective response mechanisms in place.

Project objectives and implementation

Human Rights Based Approach has been one of the principal strategies for the implementation of the WEPD -the work has been carried out with IDP and conflict affected women’s groups (rights-holders) to increase their human rights awareness and strengthen their voice with respective decision-makers (duty-bearers).The project supports the efforts and strengthen the capacities of IDP and conflict-affected women’s groups, other partners from civil society and government to advance gender equality and women’s human rights in Georgia, in the contexts of persistent inequalities and unresolved internal conflicts. Namely, in the capital Tbilisi and other four regional centres of Georgia (Kutaisi - for Imereti Region, Rustavi - for Qvemo Qartli Region, Gori - for Shida Qartli Region and Zugdidi - for Samegrelo Region) five legal clinics were established together with the Ministry of

¹¹ Please see footnote N 1, above.

¹² Norwegian Refugee Council, *NRC Georgia: Basic Facts*, available on-line at:

< http://www.nrc.ge/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=13&Itemid=52&lang=en>

¹³ Such as the Law of Georgia on IDPs (last amended in 2006), IDP Strategy (adopted in 2007) and IDP Action-Plan for 2009-2012 (adopted in 2009); The Law primarily deals with process of applying for and granting the status of internal displacement as well as the grounds for suspension or loss of the status. The Strategy spells out the main directions of work and the key principles to be followed while dealing with the IDPs including “Gender Equality, Protection of the Rights of the Child and Respect for Other Recognized Human Rights” as one of the key principles. (Source: Government of Georgia, *Strategy for Internally Displaced Persons*, 2007, paragraph 1.9.)

¹⁴ Government of Georgia, *Action Plan for the Implementation of the State Strategy on IDPs*, 2009-2012, pp. 1-2.

Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories of Georgia, Accommodation and Refugees to provide IDP and conflict-affected citizens, particularly women, with free of charge legal counselling, especially, in relation to their property and housing rights. These five locations have been selected as they represent centers of the regions with the largest IDP concentration throughout Georgia. Project closely works with the local government. The “One-Window Shop” Principle consultation meetings were organized by project partner NGO Women’s Information Center between IDPs and conflict- affected women and relevant government agencies to facilitate solutions of the legal and social problems of the most vulnerable groups and individuals immediately on the meetings using one window shop principle, which is ensured by the presence of representatives of all relevant national and local government structures at once..

Another direction and important strategy of work of the project is **the community/social mobilization** in the five target regions. With the help of partner NGO Taso Foundation, IDP and conflict-affected women are supported to organize themselves into self-help groups for the protection of their rights and improved access to social and economic opportunities. The project encourages cooperation between communities and local governments to engage in prioritization exercises for joint government-community initiatives, addressing practical gender equality and women’s empowerment needs as defined by the communities themselves.

On the policy-level work special emphasis has been made on development and advocating for the adoption of the UN SCR 1325 National Action Plan. The national working group on elaborating the NAP for Georgia has been established in the beginning of 2011, which after nine months of active work prepared the final draft of the NAP that was adopted by the Parliament in December 2011. Since the NAP’s adoption WEPD project provides technical support to the government of Georgia in coordination effort of the NAP implementation monitoring. It is noteworthy that WEPD has been instrumental in ensuring broad participation of IDP and conflict affected women on the grassroots level as well as of the members of the civil society in the NAP’s elaboration as well as implementation stages.

The WEPD project is designed to achieve the **three expected outcomes** with specific outputs harmonized with UN Women Global Development Results Framework (DRF) and Management for Results Framework (MRF).

Project Outcome 1: National policy and legislation (IDP Law, 1325 National Action Plan) are revised/adopted in line with CEDAW and UN SC Resolutions 1325 and 1820

Output 1.1: A relevant body of knowledge on how to effectively develop a National Action Plan (including implementation strategy and indicators) on SCR 1325 and 1820 is developed and accessible

Output 1.2: Effective channels and mechanisms for dialogue between government actors and IDP and conflict-affected women are developed and functioning to ensure elaboration of National Action Plan (including implementation strategy and indicators) on SCR 1325 and 1820 and amendments to the IDP Law in a participatory manner

Output 1.3: National Law on IDPs and amendments developed in line with CEDAW and UN SCR 1325 and 1820 & 1889 and submitted

Project Outcome 2: National Institutions (Ministry of Refugees and Accommodation (MRA), Ministry for Social Reintegration, Public Defender’s Office and others) demonstrate commitment, capacity, and accountability in ensuring the rights of IDPs and conflict-affected women are in line with CEDAW and UNSCR 1325 and 1820 principles, especially in the context of privatization of the IDP shelters

Output 2.1: Enhanced capacities of key policy and service delivery institutions to address needs of IDP and conflict affected women in line with CEDAW and UNSCR 1325 and 1820 principles, including in the process of privatization of the IDP collective centers

Output 2.2: Effective referral mechanisms (involving Ombudsperson's Office and other relevant state and non-state service providers) set up or strengthened and effectively functioning to address human rights concerns of internally displaced and conflict-affected women

Project Outcome 3: IDP and conflict affected women have increased resources, capacities, and voice to ensure their priorities are included in relevant policies, legislation, programs and budgets

Output 3.1: IDP and conflict affected women have increased information and understanding of their human rights, and access to legal counselling

Output 3.2: IDPs and conflict-affected women's groups in Georgia proper as well as smaller number of Abkhaz and Ossetian women across ceasefire-lines are mobilized, and empowered to voice violations of women's human rights

Project Management

The project is implementing by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowering of Women (UN Women) in close collaboration with a range of national partners. The project is executed by the UN Women Project Team (PT) under overall strategic oversight and guidance of the UN Women Regional Project Director for the EECA SRO at the sub-regional level. The UN Women Gender Advisor in Georgia provides day-to-day guidance, including through engaging in dialogue with governments, civil society, UN system and multilateral donors and ensures that the project is integrated within the larger UN Women work in the country. The Project Manager is responsible for day-to-day project management, liaising with governmental and project implementing partners, all execution aspects of the project, including coordination and management of partners, the direct execution of several project components, and overall monitoring and reporting.

Short-term consultants are recruited as needed to provide support in specific technical areas.

Key implementing partners of the project

Government: namely Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories of Georgia, Accommodation, and Refugees, Gender Equality Council of the Parliament of Georgia, other line ministries involved in the issues of conflict management and post conflict recovery; local municipalities.

Local NGO **Taso Foundation** gives its well established partnerships and experience with community mobilization work in different parts of the country, the Taso Foundation is responsible for grassroots level work through IDP and conflict-affected women's groups' mobilization and capacity development in 5 regions of Georgia.

Local NGO **Women's Information Center (WIC)** is an important partner in terms of strengthening IDP and conflict-affected women's engagement in advocacy initiatives to bring national legislation and policies in line with CEDAW and UN SC Resolutions 1325 and 1820.

Project Steering Committee has been set-up with participation of representatives of Government, civil society representatives and UN Women to ensure coordination, ownership, and maximize high-level political support to the project. The main role of the Steering Committee is to support the effectiveness of the project as an instrument of policy and institutional change. The Steering Committee will meet on once or twice a year as needed to ensure achieving of the overall project objectives.

Project monitoring and evaluation

The project's total budget for three years is USD 1,072,762 (out of this USD 75,000 is UN Women core fund contribution). The project has planned two types of evaluation: mid-term review and final evaluations. The mid-term review took place in November 2011 internally by UN Women East Europe and Central Asia Sub-Regional Office with substantive support from UN Women HQ division for Europe and Central Asia. It aimed at reviewing project progress and achieved outputs and outcomes for the implementation period and present and highlight features to be considered as good practices and lessons learned for further utilization in project implementation. The mid-term review included field visit to the project by SRO evaluation programme officer meeting with WEPD project management team, implementing partner organizations, partner ministry, local government and beneficiaries IDP and conflict affected women in one of the target regions of the project. As a result of the mid-term review the final report and package of recommendations for last year planning were elaborated, project log-frame has been revised and included baseline information and targets for achievement as these sections were missing from the original project log-frame. Additionally WEPD project manager has been conducting monthly based field trips and missions to all target regions of the project for internal monitoring of field work implemented by implementing partners and other contractual staff of the project.

Project beneficiaries

WEPD project beneficiaries are IDP and conflict affected women, their families and communities in five target regions of Georgia, specifically in 19 locations (two towns and 17 villages). As a result of project implementation over 100 families and 350 community members from different communities in Eastern and West Georgia benefitted and increased their opportunities for livelihoods and access to services through social mobilization work. Legal protection and assistance has been provided to 5,455 displaced individuals, and their 66 percent were women and 35 percent were men and legal consultation through mobile visits has been offered to 16, 122 individuals in IDP collective centers and cottage settlements. About 333 displaced rural women including women from the local governments increased their awareness and knowledge in CEDAW, women's human rights, gender equality and gender responsive local budgeting issues; as a result they participated in local planning and budgeting round tables. Twenty-six staff members of the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation, and Refugees increased their capacity in applying gender equality principles in line with CEDAW in their daily work, while practicing and receiving IDPs at the Ministry and at legal clinics established by the WEPD project. Fifty members of the local governments from all target regions increased their knowledge in UN SCR 1325 and its implementation on national level.

3. Scope of the Evaluation

The final evaluation of the project is to be conducted externally by UN Women East Europe and Central Asia Sub-Regional Office with substantive support from UN Women HQ division for Europe and Central Asia. It is planned to be completed between the October and December 2012.

The evaluation will cover almost the 36-month project implementation period of December 2009–December 2012.

The review will be conducted in Georgia, where the project has been implemented, in the capital Tbilisi with a travel to Qvemo Qartli, Shida Qartli, Imereti and Samegrelo regions (the Project target regions) to collect data as defined by plan.

4. Evaluation questions

The evaluation will address the criteria of **Project Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Inclusiveness, Sustainability and Impact**. More specifically, the evaluation will address the following key issues:

Key evaluation questions (the detailed list of all evaluation questions is provided in Annex 1):

Relevance:	Were the programmatic strategies appropriate to address the identified needs of beneficiaries?
Effectiveness:	To what extent did the Project reach the planned results and how sustainable are results? What was not achieved in full and why?
Efficiency:	Have resources (financial, human, technical support, etc.) been allocated strategically to achieve the project outcomes?
Inclusiveness:	To what extent did the project include projects stakeholders and beneficiaries in project planning and implementation and have their inputs been incorporated and addressed?
Sustainability:	Are national partners committed to the continuation of the project (or some its elements) after funding ends?
Impact:	What measurable changes have occurred as a result of supported efforts and strengthened capacities of IDP and conflict-affected women's groups, as well as other national partners from government and civil society to advance gender equality and women's human rights in Georgia?

5. **Evaluation Methodology**

The evaluation will be based on the methodology described below, which will be further discussed with the Project partners and validated by the UN Women SRO EECA in consultation with the UN Women Evaluation Unit. The proposed methodology employs results-oriented approach and integrates human rights and gender equality into the evaluation.

Integration of **human rights and gender equality** issues into the evaluation requires adherence to three main principles – inclusion, participation, and fair power relations. *Inclusion* refers to paying attention to which groups benefit and which groups contribute to the intervention under review. Groups need to be disaggregated by relevant criteria: disadvantaged and advantaged groups depending on their gender or status (women/men, class, ethnicity, religion, age, location, etc.), duty-bearers of various types, and rights-holders of various types in order to assess whether benefits and contributions were fairly distributed by the intervention being evaluated. Evaluating HR & GE must be *participatory*. Stakeholders of the intervention have a right to be consulted and participate in decisions about what will be evaluated and how the evaluation will be done. In addition, the evaluation will assess whether the stakeholders have been able to participate in the design, implementation and monitoring of the intervention. *Fair Power Relations* - When evaluators assess the degree to which power relations changed as a result of an intervention, they must have a full understanding of the context, and conduct the evaluation in a way that supports the empowerment of disadvantaged groups. In addition, evaluators should be aware of their own position of power, which can influence the responses to queries through their interactions with stakeholders. There is a need to be sensitive to these dynamics (see *UNEG Guidance Document. Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluation*¹⁵).

The evaluation will be **results-oriented** and provide evidence of achievement of expected outputs through the use of quantitative and qualitative methods.

¹⁵ http://unevaluation.org/papersandpubs/documentdetail.jsp?doc_id=980

The methodology for the final evaluation shall include the following:

- a. Preliminary desk reviews of all relevant documents on the project, the project document, LogFrame, implementation plan, monitoring reports, donor reports (inception report, progress reports), project publications, existing national and international reports on gender equality and women's rights situation, etc.
- b. This desk review will be done prior to any field visit, focus group discussion, or individual interviews. Preliminary discussions with the project staff from UN Women EECA SRO and WEPD project unit will also take place during this desk review/inception phase.
- c. Field visits at different stages of the process; focus groups with disadvantaged/difficult to reach women's groups
- d. Individual and group discussions, in-depth interviews with key partners: a series of semi-structured interviews and focus groups with the project management team, national partners, counterparts, beneficiaries are envisaged to be conducted under this stage. This can include survey with both quantitative and qualitative perspectives among participants of various capacity development trainings and events undertaken by the project since its start. It can include participants of major trainings organized by the project in the areas of gender and gender mainstreaming, integrating UN SCR 1325 and CEDAW principles in practice of civil servants, etc.

The consultative element of the evaluation is crucial for building up a consensus about the project's overall rationale and desired outcomes. Data from different research sources will be triangulated to increase its validity. Field visits will be organized to facilitate the process of evaluation.

The proposed approach and methodology has to be considered as flexible guidelines rather than final requirements; and the evaluators will have an opportunity to make their inputs and propose changes in the evaluation design. It is expected that the Evaluation Team will further refine the approach and methodology and submit their detailed description in the proposal and Inception Report.

6. Expected Results and Timeframe

As a logical result of the completion of the desk review it is expected that the Evaluation Team (comprised of international and national evaluators) will submit an **inception report**, which will contain evaluation objectives and scope, description of evaluation methodology/methodological approach, data collection tools, data analysis methods, key informants/agencies, evaluation questions, performance criteria, issues to be studied, work plan and reporting requirements.

As a result of the completion of the field visits and surveys and interviews with the partners, it is envisaged that several key products will be submitted, namely: **Progress Report** of the Field work to the UN Women Sub-Regional office and key internal and external stakeholders, **Power Point presentation and an outline** on preliminary findings, lessons learned, and recommendations, **Draft full report** highlighting key evaluation findings and conclusions, lessons learned and recommendations (shall be done in a specific format). The draft report will be discussed with the national partners to ensure participation and involvement of the national stakeholders.

Afterwards a **Final evaluation report** and five-page **executive summary** are expected to be submitted to the UN Women Sub-Regional office incorporating all comments and feedback collected from all partners involved.

“Quality Criteria for UN Women evaluation reports” should be followed¹⁶. These quality criteria are intended to serve as a guide for preparing meaningful, useful and credible evaluation reports. It does not prescribe a definite format that all evaluation reports should follow but rather indicates the contents that need to be included in quality reports.

Format of the final evaluation report shall include the following chapters: Executive Summary (maximum five pages), Project description, Evaluation purpose, Evaluation methodology, Findings, Lessons learnt, Recommendations and Annexes (including interview list, data collection instruments, key documents consulted, Terms of Reference).

The return travel to Georgia, accommodation, daily subsistence, will be paid for the period of international Evaluator’s work in Georgia. Translation/interpretation, secretarial assistance will be provided to the international evaluation consultant during his/her stay in Georgia.

Language of all deliverables: English.

The timeframe allocated for the completion of the above indicated products: November-December 2012.

Product / Activity	Estimated number of working days
Stage 1 Key product – preliminary desk reviews, discussions with partners and inception report	
Desk review and Inception report of the evaluation team, which includes the evaluation methodology and the timing of activities and deliverables	6
Stage 2 Key Product – Evaluation Report	
Data collection (including field work)	12
Progress Report of the Field work to UN Women EECA Sub-regional office and key internal and external stakeholders	6
Outline and a Power Point presentation on preliminary findings, lessons learned, and recommendations	
Draft full report highlighting key evaluation findings and conclusions, lessons and recommendations. Virtual consultations by the evaluator with the key project partners and stakeholders shall take place to validate the key findings of the report and collect feedback and recommendations to inform the final evaluation report.	12
Final evaluation report and five-page executive summary	10
TOTAL number of working days:	46

7. Composition, Skills and Experience of the Evaluation Team

A team of external international evaluator and national evaluator will undertake the evaluation, having experience linked to evaluation, gender equality and peace and security policy with specific knowledge of gender equality, peace and security in conflict and post-conflict countries.

Required Skills and Experience of the International Evaluator:

¹⁶ <http://erc.undp.org/unwomen/resources/guidance/Guidance%20Note%20-%20Quality%20Criteria%20for%20Evaluation%20Reports.pdf;jsessionid=29976B8B347BD52EB161D8E7CB7DFC94>

- At least a master's degree in economics, sociology, international development, gender/women studies or related areas. A special training in Monitoring and Results Based Management is considered an asset.
- 10 years of working experience in evaluation, and at least 5 in evaluation of development and gender projects.
- A strong record in designing and leading gender-sensitive evaluations and experience in evaluation of programs with budget over USD 1 million.
- 3 years of experience and background in gender and peace and security and humanitarian response projects.
- Ability to produce well written reports demonstrating analytical ability and communication skill. Proven ability to undertake self-directed research.
- Experience in participatory approach is a must as well as facilitation skills and ability to manage diversity of views in different cultural contexts.
- Demonstrates integrity by modeling the UN's values and ethical standards.
- Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability.
- Familiarity with the political, economic and social situation in the Republic of Georgia.
- Fluent in English, knowledge of Georgian or Russian would be an asset.

National Evaluator will support overall work of the International Evaluator, and shall also possess an expertise in conducting gender-sensitive and rights-based evaluations so to be also able to contribute to the substance of the evaluation and not only be in supporting role.

Required Skills and Experience of the National Evaluator:

- At least a master's degree in economics, sociology, international development, gender/women studies or related areas. A special training in Monitoring and Results Based Management is considered an asset.
- 3 years of working experience in evaluation, and at least 1 in evaluation of development and gender programmes.
- A strong record in supporting designing and conducting gender-sensitive evaluations and experience in evaluation of programs with budget over USD 1million.
- 1 year of experience and background in peace and security and humanitarian response projects.
- Ability to produce well written reports demonstrating analytical ability and communication skill. Proven ability to undertake self-directed research.
- Experience in participatory approach in evaluation and ability to manage diversity of views in different cultural contexts.
- Demonstrates integrity by modeling the UN's values and ethical standards.
- Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability.
- Familiarity with the political, economic, social and gender situation in Georgia.
- Fluent in English and Georgian, Russian is an asset.

8. Management of the evaluation

The UN Women EECA Sub-Regional Office will manage the final evaluation under overall supervision of the UN Women EECA Sub-Regional Project Director and guidance from EECA Programme Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist. During the evaluation process, the SRO office will consult with UN Women Evaluation Office, as may be necessary. Coordination in the field including logistical support will be the responsibility of the Georgia WEPD Project Team.

The evaluation will be conducted in accordance with UN Women evaluation guidelines and UNEG norms and standards. Upon completion of the evaluation, UN Women has the responsibility to prepare a management response that addresses the findings and recommendations to ensure future learning and inform implementation of relevant programmes.

The evaluation management structure will be comprised of the coordinating entity (Management Group) and the consultative body (Reference Group). The EECA Programme Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist (evaluation manager) will manage the day-to-day aspects of the evaluation.

This is a consultative/participatory final project evaluation with a strong learning component. The management of the evaluation will ensure that key stakeholders will be consulted.

After the completion of the final evaluation, a final stage of the process will take place, including the dissemination strategy for sharing the lessons learnt, and the management response of the final evaluation results. These activities will be managed by the UN Women EECA Sub-Regional Office.

The **Management Group** will be responsible for management of the evaluation. It will coordinate the selection and recruitment of the evaluation team, manage contractual agreements, budget and personnel involved in the evaluation, support the reference group, provide all necessary data to the evaluation team, facilitate communication between the evaluation team and the reference group, and review draft and final reports and collate feedback to share with the evaluation team. The Management Group will include UN Women staff: EECA Programme Specialist (Peace and Security), EECA Programme Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist; WEPD Project Manager).

The **Reference Group** will provide direct oversight, safeguard independence, and give technical input over the course of the evaluation. It will provide guidance on evaluation team selection and key deliverables (Inception Report and Evaluation Report) submitted by the evaluation team. It will also support dissemination of the findings and recommendations. The Core Reference Group will include UN Women staff: EECA Regional Programme Director, EECA Programme Specialist (Peace and Security), Georgia-based Programme Specialist/Gender Advisor, HQ-based Evaluation Specialist, HQ-based Europe and Central Asia Division Programme Specialist.

9. Ethical code of conduct for the evaluation

The evaluation of the project is to be carried out according to ethical principles and standards established by the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG).

- **Anonymity and confidentiality.** The evaluation must respect the rights of individuals who provide information, ensuring their anonymity and confidentiality.
- **Responsibility.** The report must mention any dispute or difference of opinion that may have arisen among the consultants or between the consultant and the heads of the Project in connection with the findings and/or recommendations. The team must corroborate all assertions, or disagreement with them noted.
- **Integrity.** The evaluator will be responsible for highlighting issues not specifically mentioned in the TOR, if this is needed to obtain a more complete analysis of the intervention.
- **Independence.** The consultant should ensure his or her independence from the intervention under review, and he or she must not be associated with its management or any element thereof.
- **Incidents.** If problems arise during the fieldwork, or at any other stage of the evaluation, they must be reported immediately to the Secretariat of the MDGF. If this is not done, the existence of such problems may in no case be used to justify the failure to obtain the results stipulated by the Secretariat of the MDGF in these terms of reference.

- Validation of information. The consultant will be responsible for ensuring the accuracy of the information collected while preparing the reports and will be ultimately responsible for the information presented in the evaluation report.
- Intellectual property. In handling information sources, the consultant shall respect the intellectual property rights of the institutions and communities that are under review.
- Delivery of reports. If delivery of the reports is delayed, or in the event that the quality of the reports delivered is clearly lower than what was agreed, the penalties stipulated in these terms of reference will be applicable.

ANNEX 1: Detailed Evaluation Questions

ANNEX 2: UNEG Norms and Standards (please see hyperlink)

ANNEX 3: UN Women's Guide to GE / HR Responsive Evaluation (please see hyperlink)

ANNEX 4: UNEG Quality Check List for Evaluation Reports (please see hyperlink)

ANNEX 5: UNEG Handbook on Integrating Gender Equality and Human Rights in Evaluation (please see hyperlink)

ANNEX 6: Quality Criteria for Evaluation Reports (please see hyperlink)

ANNEX 7: Evaluation Matrix

ANNEX 1: Detailed Evaluation questions

<i>Evaluation Criteria</i>	Questions
<i>Relevance</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the project objectives been addressing identified needs of the target groups in national and local contexts in order to realize their rights? • Did the activities address the problems identified? • Were the programmatic strategies appropriate to address the identified needs of beneficiaries? • Has the project contributed to aligning national strategies, policies, plans and budgets with CEDAW and UNSCR 1325 and 1820 principles?
<i>Effectiveness</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To what extent did the Project reach the planned results and how sustainable are results? What was not achieved in full and why? • What influence have contextual factors (political, social, economic, and other) had on the effectiveness of the project? • To what extent have beneficiaries been satisfied with the results? • Does the project have effective monitoring mechanisms in place to measure progress towards results? • To what extent capacities of duty-bearers and rights-holders have been strengthened? To what extent capacities of gender equality advocates have been enhanced? • What were the key approaches and strategies the project used in achieving its outcomes? What worked and what did not and why? • How effective information sharing and dissemination activities were set up to increase the visibility of the project among stakeholders? • Are there any good practices and lessons learned that can be replicated or taken into consideration in future programming by UN Women in EECA region? • What documented changes have occurred on individual, community/local and national levels since the start of the project, and do they illustrate a positive, negative or neutral shift in the addressing needs of IDPs and conflict affected women • Has the project adapted (when necessary) to changing external conditions to ensure benefits for target groups?
<i>Efficiency</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the project cost-effective, i.e. could the outcomes and expected results have been achieved at lower cost through adopting a different approach and/or using alternative delivery mechanisms? • What measures have been taken during planning and implementation to ensure that resources are efficiently used? • Have the outputs been delivered in a timely manner? • Have UN Women's organizational structure, managerial support and coordination mechanisms effectively supported the delivery of the project? • Have resources (financial, human, technical support, etc.) been allocated strategically to achieve the project outcomes? • Are project resources managed in a transparent and accountable manner (at all levels) which promotes equitable and sustainable development?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent has the project management structure facilitated (or hindered) good results and efficient delivery?
<i>Inclusiveness</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent did the project include projects stakeholders and beneficiaries in project planning and implementation and have their inputs incorporated and addressed to? What mechanisms were put in place by project team to ensure involvement of key beneficiaries and stakeholders in project implementation and articulation of their needs/views in various project activities, i.e. policy formulation, etc.
<i>Sustainability</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the likelihood that the benefits from the project will be maintained for a reasonably period of time after the project is closed? Is the project supported by national/local institutions? Do these institutions demonstrate leadership commitment and technical capacity to continue to work with the project or replicate it? How revised or adopted new policy frameworks are in line with the CEDAW and 1325 are addressing the needs of IDP women? Are national partners committed to the continuation of the project (or some its elements) after funding ends? To what extent have relevant target beneficiaries actively involved in decision-making concerning project orientation and implementation?
<i>Impact</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What measurable changes have occurred as result of supported efforts and capacities of IDP and conflict-affected women's groups, as well as other national partners from government and civil society to advance gender equality and women's human rights in Georgia

ANNEX 7: Evaluation Matrix

Relevant evaluation criteria	Key Questions	Specific Sub-Questions	Data Sources	Data collection Methods / Tools	Indicators/ Success Standard	Methods for Data Analysis

Annex 4: Inception Report Final Evaluation of the UN Women Project Women for Equality, Peace and Development in Georgia

FINAL EXTERNAL FORMATIVE EVALUATION OF THE PROJECT

“WOMEN FOR EQUALITY, PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT IN GEORGIA” 1/12/2009- 31/12/2012

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acronyms and Abbreviations

ABL	Administrative Border Line
CC	Collective Centre
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
GRB	Gender-responsive budgeting
NWG	National Working Group
IDP	Internally displaced person
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MIDPOTAR	Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia
NAP	National Action Plan
NGO	Non-governmental organization
PT	Project Team
RBM	Result based management
SHG	Self-help group
TF	Taso Foundation
TJ	Transitional Justice
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
WEPD	Women for Equality, Peace and Development
WIC	Women’s Information Centre

I. INTRODUCTION: BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT

The first years of independence and more recent August war in 2008 turned Georgia into a transitional country with unresolved conflicts and about 300 thousand of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and conflict-affected citizens. Women and girls comprise about 56 per cent of IDPs. All (“old” and “new” waves) IDPs are concentrated either in the so called Collective Centers or CCs (Over 100 000), new IDP cottage settlements constructed by the government especially for IDPs of August 2008 conflict or in private accommodation.

To meet the needs of these severely disadvantaged women and men, girls and boys the government has introduced different reparations delivery to diverse groups of women including monetary assistance and the transfer of CCs ownership to IDPs. This was foreseen by the IDP Action Plan adopted by the Government of Georgia in 2009. However, the implementation of these reparation measures did not prove to be smooth or done with gender justice in mind.

UN Women (formerly UNIFEM) is the only dedicated global agency that has accumulated significant experience in the region of South Caucasus as well as globally in the area of women, peace, and security. Already in 2001-2006, UN Women established Women for Peace Networks in the three South Caucasian countries under the regional project “Women for Conflict Prevention and Peace-building in Southern Caucasus”. All along the way, UN Women has been collecting information about IDPs and conflict affected women’s conditions. In September 2008, it commissioned the Needs Assessment of IDPs as a result of August War which found a striking impoverishment trend among the displaced persons. The survey also revealed a level of persistent sexual violence committed against women. In addition, starting from December 2008, local UN Women IDP observers identified a number of gender discrimination cases. Consequently, UN Women in cooperation with women’s NGOs successfully advocated for mainstreaming gender into the IDP Action Plan during its elaboration in spring 2009.

II. BACKGROUND TO THE EVALUATION

UN Women first strategic plan, 2011-2013, sets out the organization’s vision, mission and priorities in supporting Member States and the United Nations system. In line with the results frameworks of other United Nations organizations, the UN-Women unified results framework contains three inter-related components: (1) a development results framework (DRF), (2) a management results framework (MRF), and (3) an integrated resources framework (IRF).

The DRF is comprised of six main goals, each supported by defined outcomes, targets and indicators. Central to the realization of these goals is the coordination and support role of UN-Women within the United Nations system. The goals are: (1) to increase women’s leadership and participation in all areas that affect their lives; (2) to increase women’s access to economic empowerment and opportunities, especially for those who are most excluded; (3) to prevent violence against women and girls (VAWG) and expand access to survivor services; (4) to increase women’s leadership in peace and security and humanitarian response; and (5) to strengthen the responsiveness of plans and budgets to gender equality at all levels.

The MRF presents four system-level goals that are essential to support by UN-Women to development results. Of these, the second goal is to institutionalize a strong culture of results-based management, reporting, knowledge management and evaluation. Indeed, it is within the framework of this goal that this evaluation materializes and this inception report is put forward.

In specific, this inception report is submitted in response to the evaluation announcement and related TOR for WEPD project evaluation with reference to the UN Women guidance note No 9 on

inception report. Subsequent to the inception meeting carried out on Friday November 23rd with the project team and UN Women Gender Advisor on Georgia and the preliminary desk review this inception report provides information on what has been done to initiate the evaluation and the action plan for the future. It includes the ET's understanding of how the project is supposed to work, including strategies, activities, outputs and expected outcomes and their interrelationships. It also describes the conceptual framework for the evaluation, and sets out the evaluation methodology, i.e. how each question will be answered by way of data collection methods, data sources, sampling and indicators.

A. Project Description

In response to the conclusions of the above said findings and activities on women and gender, in 2009-2010 the UN Women Sub-regional office for the Eastern Europe and Central Asia with the support of the Norwegian Royal Government launched the project *Women for Equality, Peace, and Development in Georgia (WEPD)*.

The WEPD project, ending in December 2012, was conceived to support efforts and capacities of IDP and conflict-affected women's groups, as well as other national partners from government and civil society to advance gender equality and women's human rights in Georgia, in the contexts of persistent inequalities and frozen (unresolved) conflicts. The project conceptual framework builds on imperatives set forth by:

- the landmark UN SCR 1325 which specifically addresses the situation of women in armed conflict and calls for their participation at all levels of decision-making on conflict resolution and peace-building;
- Follow-up SCR 1820 that calls for an end to widespread conflict-related sexual violence and for accountability in order to end impunity;
- The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) that requires that countries party to the Convention take all appropriate steps to end violence.

In addition, the recently passed SCR 1889 recognizes the rights and particular needs of women in post-conflict situations and recovery, including land and property rights, livelihoods, employment. It highlights the need for women's full and effective participation in decision making – including aid management and planning, post-conflict planning particularly at the early stages of peace-building.

The WEPD project assumed a holistic approach at three mutually reinforcing levels:

- at the national policy level, to ensure strategies, policies, plans and budgets are in line with CEDAW and SCR 1325 and 1820 principles;
- at the level of national institutions towards strengthening capacity to deliver better information and services for IDPs and conflict-affected women;
- at the grassroots level by supporting IDPs and conflict affected women's groups and communities to organize and participate actively and effectively in influencing policies and decisions that affect their lives.

Accordingly, the project strived to achieve three outcomes:

4. National policy and legislation (IDP Law, 1325 National Action Plan) are revised/adopted in line with CEDAW and UN SC Resolutions 1325 and 1820;
5. National Institutions (Ministry of Refugees and Accommodation, Public Defender's Office etc.) demonstrate commitment, capacity, and accountability in ensuring the rights of IDPs and conflict-affected women are in line with CEDAW and UNSCR 1325 and 1820 principles;
6. IDP and conflict affected women have increased resources, capacities, and voice to ensure their priorities are included in relevant policies, legislation, programs and budgets.

The project was implemented by the UN Women in close collaboration with a range of national partners such as Taso Foundation (TF), Women Information Centre (WIC), Gender Equality Council (GEC) of the Parliament, Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories of Georgia (MIDPOTAR), Accommodation and Refugees and local governments in the WEPD target five regions of Georgia. The project was executed by the UN Women Project Team (PT) under overall strategic oversight and guidance of the UN Women Regional Programme Director for the EECA SRO at the regional level. Project Steering Committee has been set-up with participation of representatives of Government, civil society representatives and UN Women to ensure coordination, ownership, and maximize high-level political support to the project.

On the policy-level work special emphasis was made on developing and advocating for the adoption of the UN SCR 1325 National Action Plan (NAP).

At the national institutions' level, in five regions of largest IDP concentration (one in Tbilisi and four in regions of Samegrelo, Imereti, QvemoQartli and ShidaQartli) five legal clinics were established together with the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories of Georgia, Accommodation and Refugees to provide IDP and conflict-affected citizens, particularly women, with free of charge legal counselling especially in relation to their property and housing rights. Project closely worked with the local government. The "One-Window Shop" consultation meetings were organized by project partner WIC between IDPs and conflict-affected women and relevant government agencies to facilitate and solve the legal and social problems immediately on the meetings of the most vulnerable groups.

As the third level, the project embarked on community/social mobilization in the five target regions. With the help of TF, IDP and conflict-affected women were supported to organize into self-help groups for the protection of their rights and have access to social and economic opportunities. The project encouraged cooperation between communities and local governments to engage in prioritization exercises for joint government-community initiatives, addressing practical gender needs as defined by the communities themselves.

An internal mid-term project review of the WEPD project took place in November 2011. This research exercise deconstructed progress during the implementation period, and highlighted features to be considered as good practices and lessons learned for further application. The review included field visits by the evaluation programme officer, including meetings with the WEPD project management team, implementing partner organizations, partner ministries, local government, and project beneficiaries (i.e., IDPs and conflict-affected women in one of the target regions of the project). As a result, the report and recommendations for the final year of implementation of the project were developed, the project log frame was revised, and baseline information and targets for achievement that were missing from the original project log frame were included.

B. Purpose of the Evaluation

This evaluation purpose is to assess the achievements and quality of the project in terms of the six evaluation criteria of; relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, inclusiveness, sustainability, and impact. It will highlight; strengths, weaknesses, gaps, challenges to progress, good practices, draw out lessons learned and make recommendations for use in the design of the next steps of project interventions in the area of women, peace, and security in Georgia.

The specific evaluation objectives are to:

- e) Analyze the relevance of the programmatic strategy and approaches;

- f) Validate project results in terms of achievements and/or weaknesses toward the outcomes and outputs, with a critical examination of how/to what extent the project supported efforts and strengthened the capacities of IDP and conflict-affected women's groups, as well as other national partners from government and civil society to advance gender equality and women's human rights in Georgia,
- g) Assess the potential for sustainability of the results and the feasibility of ongoing, nationally-led efforts in advancing WHR of IDP and conflict affected women's groups in Georgia;
- h) Document lessons, learned best practices, success stories and challenges to inform future work of various stakeholders in addressing gender equality within the context of the post-conflict recovery planning agenda; and
- i) Document and analyze possible weaknesses in order to improve next steps of project interventions in the area of women, peace, and security in Georgia.

C. Scope of the Evaluation

This final evaluation of the project is conducted externally by UN Women East Europe and Central Asia Sub-Regional Office with substantive support from UN Women HQ division for Europe and Central Asia. It is planned to be completed between the October and December 2012.

The evaluation covers almost the 36-month project implementation period of December 2009–December 2012.

The review is conducted in Georgia, where the project has been implemented, in the capital Tbilisi with a travel to Qvemo Qartli, Shida Qartli, Imereti and Samegrelo regions (the Project target regions) to collect data as defined by plan.

The information generated by the **evaluation will be used** by different stakeholders to:

- Contribute to building the evidence base on effective strategies for addressing the needs of women IDPs and conflict affected women.
- Support to contribute to strategic planning to convert the project outputs into sustainable outcomes.
- Facilitate UN Women's strategic reflection and learning for programming on addressing the needs of IDP and conflict affected women in support of the implementation of outcomes of the UN Women's strategic plan (2011-2013) including the outcome dedicated to ensure that "Gender equality advocates effectively influence peace talks and recovery/peace building planning processes and transitional justice processes".

D. Evaluation criteria and questions

The WEPD project plan provided for the commissioning an external final evaluation to be undertaken 2-3 months before the end of project activities. Accordingly, UN Women released TOR which set forth following evaluation criteria and key evaluation questions:

Relevance:	Were the programmatic strategies appropriate to address the identified needs of beneficiaries?
Effectiveness:	To what extent did the Project reach the planned results and how sustainable are results? What was not achieved in full and why?
Efficiency:	Have resources (financial, human, technical support, etc.) been allocated strategically to achieve the project outcomes?
Inclusiveness:	To what extent did the project include projects stakeholders and beneficiaries in project planning and implementation and have their inputs been incorporated and addressed?
Sustainability:	Are national partners committed to the continuation of the project (or some its elements) after funding ends?

Impact: What measurable changes have occurred as a result of supported efforts and strengthened capacities of IDP and conflict-affected women's groups, as well as other national partners from government and civil society to advance gender equality and women's human rights in Georgia?

III. EVALUATION APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

A. Evaluation Approach

This results based evaluation adopts a participatory inclusive human rights based approach (HRBA) whereby notions of Intersectionality¹⁷ and triangulation are central to the whole evaluation process. So are concepts of Transitional Justice as they relate to gender and pertinent practices considered under this project. Several data sources, research techniques and data collection methods and tools will be employed to validate findings, pinpoint issues of interest and construct the most comprehensive and solid depiction of the project in order to enable planners and policy makers both at the UN Women and the government of Georgia correct pitfalls and capitalize on achievements.

The evaluation will integrate a HRBA by examining the extent to which the project integrates and enshrines the said approach by incorporating its core principles throughout its processes as well as outcomes, with particular emphasis on the internally displaced and conflict affected women defined as the "right holders" and government officials and civil society organizations as the "duty –bearers" for the purpose of this evaluation. These principles are: 1. Expressively applies the international human rights framework. 2. Empowerment. 3. Participation. 4. Non-discrimination and prioritization of vulnerable groups. 5. Accountability.

In terms of the project intervention's theory of change, this evaluation is informed by selected theories of policy change that appear to be relevant to this project domain of interventions. These are; Coalition Theory¹⁸ (Sabatier, Jenkins-Smith), Power Elite Theory (C. Wright Mills, Domhoff) and Grassroots Theory¹⁹ (Alinsky, Biklen).

B. Stakeholder Participation in the Evaluation

In line with the HRBA adopted in WEPD, in the planning phase of this evaluation it was aimed to ensure that as many stakeholders as possible are involved in the evaluation process, especially IDP and conflict affected populations, who may be least able to promote their own interests. This evaluation was guided by the conviction that perceptions of UN Women neutrality, and at times the success of the project, depend on representatives of the different main stakeholder groups being equally consulted. Therefore, ET field mission included individual and group interviews, group discussion, CCs sites visits as well as policy and community events observations where voices of stakeholders representing the; government (MIDPOTAR, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Municipalities,), NGOs (TF& WIC), international organizations (EUMM & IWPR) and community (SHGs) were all heard and integrated in the evaluation process. The data collection section under the methodology chapter provides the details on this.

C. Evaluation Methodology

In this participatory evaluation the following participatory processes will be ensured:

¹⁷ Intersectionality is a theoretical paradigm for studying, understanding and responding to the ways in which gender intersects with other identities (such as sex, class, ethnicity, age, religion) and how these intersections contribute to unique experiences of oppression and/or privilege.

¹⁸ Also known as Advocacy Coalition Framework

¹⁹ Also known as Community organizing Theory.

(1) Inception phase – the ET will extend its initial interviews in order to understand the expectations of beneficiaries and other outside stakeholders.

(2) Debriefing – the ET will hold debriefing workshop involving beneficiaries and other external stakeholders, with a view to strengthening the quality of collected data, to interpreting data from the viewpoint of field-level stakeholders, and to empowering civil society organizations locally.

C.1.Review of Existing Data/Information

As multifaceted and multidimensional this project is, one can firmly argue that practically it is many projects synergistically put in one. Its mutually reinforcing components endowed each single one with an exceptional capacity to serve as a leverage for the other.

On the outcome of policy and legislations, reviewed documents clearly show that WEDP established national working group (NWG) with representatives from 19 Government and NGOs and created effective dialogue concerning the 1325 NAP, using an inclusive, participatory consultative approach with IDP women active involvement . WEDP -NWG identified legal and policy gaps in relation to IDP vis-à-vis CEDAW and 1325 principles and provisions, and improvements were recommended, some were made.

Concerning NAP document , WEPD supported, technically , financially, and logistically; the 1325 NAP drafting and development and together with the GEC supported its official presentation at the Georgian Parliament after it was reviewed by several ministries.

At the high profile political front, documents show that the project managed to contribute to an increased number of women delegates to the Geneva Peace Talks bringing up ot 4 women out of 10 Georgian delegates. This is a NAP objectives.

At another policy level, it had put in place one-window shop and the roundtables; both being two key effective and functional channels for dialogue between government and IDPs. Under the project a Review of Gender Equality Principles in the National Legislation on Internally Displaced Persons, was prepared upon which revised laws; amended the definition of the IDP, and granted dual citizenship and defined the rights of IDP and obligations of the state.

As for the national institutions, partners capacity was largely enhanced as indicated in the numerous trainings conducted with wide involvement. Phenomenal achievements were made in legal and social empowerment but less so in economic empowerment. The project also managed to establish an effective and visible, self-replicable referral mechanism (including in the local government) through one-window shop and roundtable meetings and Gori GRC/hotline as widely documented in the relevant files.

At the grassroots level the project excelled in a number of ways. One window shop principle meetings and local budgeting roundtables considerably advanced solution of pressing problems among target IDP and conflict-affected communities. It succeeded in mobilizing critical mass of grassroots through SHGs and coalition building from selected communities along ABL. But people-to-people diplomacy did not tangibly materialize, in its traditional form, owing to external political factors. Nevertheless, the project sought alternative innovative forms of p2p diplomacy and confidence building through investing in media (social- portal and classical) and women oral histories.

C.2. Review of Logical Framework, outcome and output indicators

Review of the logical framework adopted in this project shows that it serves quite well the purposes of adequacy by allowing qualitative checking of the adequacy of objectives with regard to the actual needs of the IDPs and conflict affected women. Indicators have a logical link to the planned inputs, outputs and outcomes. Defining measurable results that need to be achieved on each level, the adopted log-frame provides the basis for measuring the efficiency in terms of 'input to output', but also 'output to outcome'. This allows establishing benchmarks in terms of 'value-for-money', i.e. how much is achieved at each level with the results given at the lower level. By evaluating the achieved effects of the project against the needs of the beneficiaries, the relevance of the project is tested ex-post. This is a provisional view that will be examined more thoroughly in the succeeding evaluation phases.

C.3 Detailed Evaluation questions by evaluation Criteria

➤ On Relevance

- Have the project objectives been addressing identified needs of the target groups in national and local contexts in order to realize their rights?
- Were the programmatic strategies appropriate to address the identified needs of beneficiaries?
- Has the project contributed to aligning national strategies, policies, plans and budgets with CEDAW and UNSCR 1325 and 1820 principles?

➤ On Effectiveness

- To what extent did the project reach the planned results and how sustainable results are? What was not achieved in full and why?
- What influence have contextual factors (political, social economic and other) had on the effectiveness of the project?
- To what extent have beneficiaries been satisfied with the results?
- Does the project have effective monitoring mechanisms in place to measure progress towards results?
- To what extent capacities of duty-bearers and right –holders have been strengthened? To what extent capacities of gender equality advocates have been enhanced?
- What were the key approaches and strategies the project used in achieving its outcomes? What worked and what did not and why?
- How effective information sharing and dissemination activities were set up to increase the visibility of the project among stakeholders?
- Are there any good practices and lessons learned that can be replicated or taken into consideration in future programming by UN Women in EECA region?
- What documented changes have occurred on individual, community/ local and national levels since the start of the project , and do they illustrate a positive , negative or neutral shift in addressing needs of IDPs and conflict affected women
- Has the project adapted (when necessary) to changing external conditions to ensure benefits for target groups?

➤ On Efficiency

- Is the project cost –effective, i.e. could the outcomes and expected results have been achieved at low-er cost through adopting a different approach and /or using alternative delivery mechanisms?
- What measures have been taken during planning and Implementation to ensure that resources are efficiently used ?
- Have the outputs been delivered in a timely manner?

- Have UN Women's organization structure, managerial support and coordination mechanisms effectively supported the delivery of the project?
- Have resources (financial human, technical support, etc.) been allocated strategically to achieve the project outcomes?
- Are project resources managed in a transparent and accountable manner (at all levels) which promotes equitable and sustainable development?
- To what extent has the project management structure facilitated (or hinder) good results efficient delivery?

➤ **On Inclusiveness**

- To what extent did the project include projects stakeholders and beneficiaries in project planning and implementation and have their inputs incorporated and addressed to?
- What mechanisms were put in place by project team to ensure involvement of key beneficiaries and stakeholders in project implementation and articulation of their needs / views in various project activities, i.e. policy formulation, etc.

➤ **On Sustainability**

- What is the likelihood that the benefits from the project will be maintained for a reasonable period of time after the project is closed?
- Is the project supported by national /local institutions? Do these institutions demonstrate leadership commitment and technical capacity to continue to work with the project or replicate it ? How revised or adopted new policy frameworks are in line with the CEDAW and 1325 are addressing the needs of IDP women?
- Are national partners committed to the continuation of the project (or some its elements) after funding ends?
- To what extent have relevant target beneficiaries actively involved in decision – making concerning project orientation and implementation?

➤ **On Impact**

- What measurable changes , intended and unintended, have occurred as results of supported efforts and capacities of IDP and conflict-affected women's group, as well as other national partners from government and civil society to advance gender equality and women's human right in Georgia ?

C.4 Data Collection Methods. Mainly qualitative methods will be used in collecting the data in this evaluation. This is as follows;

- C) *Desk review for secondary data analysis from documentary evidence:* More than 30 project and project related are already reviewed (see annex ?). This method seeks insight into WEPD prior to the onset of the field visits. Documents that were reviewed include; basic project document, , project log-frame, implementation plan, progress and annual reports, any specific reports on; beneficiaries (direct and indirect), stakeholders and partners, Project Mid-Term Review report, National Strategy on IDPs 2009-2012, existing national and international reports on review of gender equality in national IDP laws, National Action plan. Any additional documents/reports that may be brought to the attention of the evaluation team throughout the evaluation process by UN Women EECA SRO and WEPD project will be added to this part of the work. Detailed findings on this part will be integrated into the first draft of the report.
- D) *Primary data from direct sources: Mixed-method approach* will be adopted. The following data collection methods will be employed;
- 6) **Individual Interviews (19):** To solicit person-to-person responses to predetermined questions designed to obtain in-depth information about the interviewee's impressions or experiences with regards to WEPD.

Limitations are that it can be time consuming, difficult to analyze, costly and there is a potential for interviewer to bias participant's responses.

- 7) Group Interviews (7):** A small group (6 to 8 people) are interviewed together to explore in-depth stakeholder opinions, similar or divergent points of view, or judgments about the project, as well as information about their behaviors, understanding and perceptions of its achievements, weaknesses, strengths etc and learn about WEPD's tangible and non-tangible changes resulting from its interventions, from the participants perspective. Main limitations are that it can be hard to analyze responses, requires trained facilitator and may be difficult to schedule.
- 8) On-site Direct Observation (12):** Entails use of an observation form to record accurate information on-site about how the project's given component operates/ed including ongoing activities, processes, discussions, social interactions and observable results as directly observed during the course of the visit. Limitations are that it can be difficult to categorize or interpret observed behaviors. It can also be expensive and subject to (site) selection bias. Selected sites and events are;
- Cc -shelters (3)
 - SHGs initiatives (7)
 - Gender Resource Center /Gori Hotline (1)
 - Visibility event-Forum (1).
- 9) Focus Group Discussion (1 youth FGD- 6 boys and girls in Orsantia village).** Focus groups are a great way to collect information from several people very quickly and cost effectively. They are mainly used to gauge people's reactions and feelings to items. The limitations here is possibility of group think (contamination effect) i.e. people expressing an opinion which is in line with the rest of the group even if that opinion is at odds with their own personal one. Another possibility is group domination by one or two members which can create an inaccurate view of what other opinions exist among the group.
- 10) Debriefing Workshop** involving key internal and external stakeholders with the view of strengthening the quality of the collected data and validate it in addition to promoting stakeholder engagement

C.5 Data CollectionTools

- Individual interview schedule protocol
- Group interview schedule protocol
- On-site direct observation form
- Focus group discussion guide
- Debriefing workshop power-point presentation and outline

C. 6 Field Mission

This will extend between 23 November & 11 December 2012. Agenda was jointly set by WEPD project manager, evaluation national consultant in close consultation with the team leader. The mission will include meetings and interviews with key stakeholders, on sites observation for the CCs and visibility event/s, and a debriefing workshop on preliminary findings for validation and stakeholders' engagement purposes. Key deliverables during the field mission include; preparation and submission of the evaluation inception report, progress report and Power Point presentation and an outline.

7. Data Analysis and Synthesis

Upon completing each evaluation component, the team will meet on daily bases to debrief in person. Analysis of qualitative data from interview transcripts, observation field notes or open-ended questions will identify similarities and differences across several accounts, as well as directions, trends and tendencies. For interpretive content analysis, data will then categorize into recurrent themes and topics that are relevant to answer the evaluation questions.

IV. WORK PLAN

Activity	Time-work	Responsibility	Key Deliverables
Stage 1-Preparatory Work	16-21 November		
Core project materials shared	16 November	UN Women SRO Evaluation Task Manager and Georgia Team	
Review of project documents and materials	16-18 November	International / National Consultants	
Draft Inception Report and Evaluation design instruments	19-20 November	International / National Consultants	
Feedback	21-22 November	UN Women WEPD Final Evaluation reference group (Georgia, SRO, HQ)	
Final Inception report	22 November	International Consultant	Inception Report
Programme and Schedule of meetings and focus groups in Tbilisi and 4 regions	16-19 November	Georgia team and National Consultant	
Stage 2 - Field Mission	22 November – 10 December		
Data collection: Stakeholder meetings, interviews, and focus groups	22 – 30 November	International/ National Consultants	
Work on draft Outline and a Power Point presentation and Progress Report of field mission	1 – 6 December	International/ National Consultants	
Outline and a Power Point presentation on preliminary findings, lessons learned, and recommendations shared UN Women/SRO, Georgia team and key stakeholders	10 December	International / National Consultants	ppt. presentation of key findings
Feedback provided	10 – 12 December	Key programme stakeholders (arranged via Georgia Project team) UN Women WEPD Final	

		Evaluation reference group (Georgia, SRO, HQ)	
Final progress report on field visit report submitted	12 December	International /National Consultants	Progress Report
Stage 3 - Data Analysis and Reporting	12 December – 15 January		
Data Analysis Draft Full Evaluation Report	20 December	International/ National Consultants	Draft Evaluation Report
Comments on Draft Report	20 December – 10 January	Key programme stakeholders, UN Women WEPD Final Evaluation Reference group (Georgia, SRO, HQ)	
Finalization of Evaluation Report and 2 page Executive Summary	15 January	International and National Consultants	Final Evaluation Report and 5 page Executive Summary

V. MANAGEMENT OF EVALUATION

The UN Women EECA Sub-Regional Office manages the final evaluation under overall supervision of the UN Women EECA Sub-Regional Project Director and guidance from EECA Programme Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist. During the evaluation process, the SRO office will consult with UN Women Evaluation Office, as may be necessary. Coordination in the field including logistical support will be the responsibility of the Georgia WEPD Project Team.

The evaluation will be conducted in accordance with UN Women evaluation guidelines and UNEG norms and standards. Upon completion of the evaluation, UN Women has the responsibility to prepare a management response that addresses the findings and recommendations to ensure future learning and inform implementation of relevant programmes.

The evaluation management structure is comprised of the coordinating entity (Management Group) and the consultative body (Reference Group). The EECA Programme Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist (evaluation manager) manage the day-to-day aspects of the evaluation.

That this is a consultative/participatory final project evaluation with a strong learning component, the management of the evaluation will ensure that key stakeholders will be consulted.

VI. EXPECTED RESULTS AND DELIVERABLES

As a logical result of the completion of the desk review, the Evaluation Team (ET) will submit an **inception report**, which will contain evaluation objectives and scope, description of evaluation methodology/methodological approach, data collection tools, data analysis methods, key informants/agencies, evaluation questions, performance criteria, issues to be studied, work plan and reporting requirements.

As a result of the completion of the field visits and surveys and interviews with the partners, it is envisaged that several key products will be submitted, namely: **Progress Report** of the Field work to the UN Women Sub-Regional office and key internal and external stakeholders, **Power Point presentation and an outline** on preliminary findings, lessons learned, and recommendations, **Draft**

full report highlighting key evaluation findings and conclusions, lessons learned and recommendations (shall be done in a specific format). The draft report will be discussed with the national partners to ensure participation and involvement of the national stakeholders.

Afterwards a **Final evaluation report** and two-page **executive summary** are expected to be submitted to the UN Women Sub-Regional office incorporating all comments and feedback collected from all partners involved.

“Quality Criteria for UN Women evaluation reports” should be followed. These quality criteria are intended to serve as a guide for preparing meaningful, useful and credible evaluation reports. It does not prescribe a definite format that all evaluation reports should follow but rather indicates the contents that need to be included in quality reports.

A. Outline of the Final Report

Format of the final evaluation report shall include the following chapters: Executive Summary (maximum two pages), Project description, Evaluation purpose, Evaluation methodology, Findings (by outcomes, outputs and evaluation criteria), Lessons learnt, Recommendations and Annexes (including interview list, data collection instruments, key documents consulted, Terms of Reference).

VII. RISKS AND LIMITATIONS IN THE EVALUATION PROCESS

This evaluation is expected to encounter few limitations given the exceptional all-encompassing number of partnerships formed within the framework of the project’s three mutually reinforcing areas of interventions; policy, institutions and community. This is well observed in the documents and correspondences reviewed under the desk review component of this evaluation. However, possible risks and limitations in this evaluation could include;

1. *Challenge of attribution:* Where the internal validity of a given intervention is well established, attribution of outcomes to an intervention will be fairly straightforward. However, in the case of many other projects interventions, internal validity is not well established and attribution is problematic. For example, attributing genuinely a positive change in the Georgian women legal status to an intervention or set of interventions within this project might be hard to confirm in the presence of other national and international interveners in this area meaning that control for confounders is not possible here. The reality of methodological and resource constraints in carrying out this practical evaluation means that often attribution will be expressed in terms of likelihood rather than proof, and that ultimately the test of validity is credibility. This is the guiding professional premise here.
2. *Disproportionate extent of stakeholders’ engagement* is one expected limitation in this evaluation in the sense that it could go rather periodic as feasible. Except for the project staff other stakeholders could be engaged primarily in obtaining stakeholders’ input in describing and learning about the project outcomes. This is ascribed to feasibility issues related to unavailability and structural complexity of the official stakeholders and the resultant difficulties in soliciting their input. The fact that the evaluation field mission coincided with the 16 days National Campaign against GBV was a contributing factor in this regard.

VII. ETHICAL CODE OF CONDUCT

This evaluation will be conducted in accordance with the principles outlined in the UNEG 'Ethical Guidelines for Evaluation'. These include;

- Informed Consent attainment. The principle is that everyone who participates in the evaluation should do so willingly. Therefore, all participants will be guaranteed the rights to; choose whether or not to participate, withdraw from the evaluation at any time, even if they previously gave consent and refuse to complete any part of the data collection instruments.
- Privacy and Confidentiality. It is not always possible to conduct evaluations without identifying information, such as names as the case will expectedly be in part of this evaluation. However, first, all evaluation information will be kept confidential. Second, the evaluators will make sure not to allow particular respondent's identification through data presentation and discussion in the report.
- Ethical issues related to the evaluators' Role.
Throughout this evaluation process ET shall watch over the following principles;
 - Utility: Evaluation addresses important questions, provide clear and understandable results, and include meaningful recommendations
 - Feasibility: Evaluation is maintained realistic and practical, so that it is completed in a time- and cost-efficient manner
 - Propriety: Evaluation is legal and ethical.
 - Accuracy: Information is collected, analyzed, reported, and interpreted correctly, truly and impartially.

Given the nature of this evaluation, research ethics approval was not deemed relevant. Alternatively, institutional review (UN Women) will be employed to reflect on data collection instruments completeness, relevance, soundness, aptness, and propriety.

VIII EVALUATION FINDINGS

- **Relevance of the Project by outcomes**
- **Inclusiveness of the project by outcomes**
- **Effectiveness of the Project by outcomes**
 - Cross Cutting Themes
 - Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA)
 - Partnership Strategy
 - Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation
- **Efficiency of the Project by outcomes**
- **Impact of the Project by outcomes**
- **Sustainability of the Project by outcomes**
- **Lessons Learnt & Recommendations by outcomes**

Appendices

- Appendix I: Terms of Reference
- Appendix II: List of Documents reviewed (preliminary- just a few)
 1. Gori hotline report for 2010-2012 (final report in English, monthly reports in Georgian).
 2. Legal Clinics' 2010-2012 statistics.
 3. First inception report 20102.
 4. 2011 status report with attachments
 5. 2012 Status report with attachments
 6. Human rights observer's reports
 7. WEPD Mid-term report
 8. WEPD project document
 9. WEPD project logical framework
 10. WEPD Budget
 11. WEPD Mid-Term review
 12. WEPD status report 2010
 13. WEPD status report 2011
 14. WEPD status report 2012
- Appendix III: List of People interviewed
- Appendix IV: Data sources/methods by project output indicators
- Appendix VI: Data collection Instruments;
 - Individual interview schedule protocol
 - Group interview schedule protocol
 - On-site direct observation form
 - Focus group discussion guide

Evaluation Planning Matrix

Relevant evaluation criteria	Key Questions	Specific Sub-Questions	Data Sources	Data collection Methods	Indicators / Success Standard	Methods for Data Analysis
<p>Relevance:</p> <p>Extent to which the objectives of a development intervention are consistent with beneficiaries' requirements, country-needs, global priorities and partners' and donors' policies</p>	<p>Were the programmatic strategies appropriate to address the identified needs of beneficiaries?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the project objectives been addressing identified needs of the target groups in national and local contexts in order to realize their rights? • Were the programmatic strategies appropriate to address the identified needs of beneficiaries? • Has the project contributed to aligning national strategies, policies, plans and budgets with CEDAW and UNSCR 1325 and 1820 principles? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Desk review - Key informants and partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - written policy and planning documents review (IDP Law, National action plan... etc) - Interviews 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extent of alignment between the project objectives and national strategies, policies and plans on the one hand and with CEDAW and UNSCR 1325 and 1820 principles on another. - Perception of partners and stakeholders of the existence (or not) of such alignments. Number/type/nature of channels and mechanisms the project has created for dialogue between government actors and IDPs and conflict affected women reflecting the intended alignments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Secondary data analysis - Qualitative content thematic analysis
<p>Effectiveness:</p> <p>Extent to which the development intervention's objectives were achieved, or are expected to be achieved, taking into account their relative importance.</p> <p>Effectiveness</p>	<p>To what extent did the Project reach the planned results and how sustainable are results? What was not achieved in full and why?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To what extent did the project reach the planned results and how sustainable results are? What was not achieved in full and why? • What influence have contextual factors (political, social economic and other) had on the effectiveness of the project? • To what extent have beneficiaries been satisfied with the results? • Does the project have effective monitoring mechanisms in place to measure progress towards results? • To what extent capacities of duty-bearers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project output data - Beneficiaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project progress & annual reports - Individual and group Interviews - Focus groups discussions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Total number of "One-Window shop" consultation meeting/s. - Number of displaced women whose problems were resolved using the " One-Window shop" consultation meetings (total and by region) - Number of conflict affected women the project placed in shelters. - Quality of life of women placed in shelters -Number of IDPs receiving 	<p>Quantitative statistical analysis</p>

assesses the outcome level, intended as an uptake or result of an output.		<p>and right –holders have been strengthened? To what extent capacities of gender equality advocates have been enhanced?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were the key approaches and strategies the project used in achieving its outcomes? What worked and what did not and why? • How effective information sharing and dissemination activities were set up to increase the visibility of the project among stakeholders? • Are there any good practices and lessons learned that can be replicated or taken into consideration in future programming by UN Women in EECA region? • What documented changes have occurred on individual, community/ local and national levels since the start of the project , and do they illustrate a positive , negative or neutral shift in addressing needs of IDPs and conflict affected women • Has the project adapted (when necessary) to changing external conditions to ensure benefits for target groups? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - legal clinics monthly reports - Media outlets materials on the project - Capacity development activities participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Observational assessment - Desk Review and assessments - Workshops -Interviews - Focus group 	<p>services in the project founded legal clinics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of awareness, advocacy and project visibility activities/events - Number , quality, depth, contents and completeness of capacity building activities undertaken by the project during its life time in the areas of gender, integration of UN SCR 1325 and CEDAW principles. -changes in right-holder’s ability to claim rights and how/in which areas -changes in responsiveness to claim related to human rights violations towards women and men in different groups (timeliness, rights-holders satisfaction) - availability of legal services and justice to women and men in different stakeholders groups - Changes in access to information about claims and decisions related to human rights violations 	
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			- IDPs (beneficiaries) partners	discussion		
Efficiency: Measure of how economically resources/inputs (funds, expertise, time, etc.) are converted to results. It is most commonly applied to the input-output link in the causal chain of an intervention	Have resources (financial, human, technical support, etc.) been allocated strategically to achieve the project outcomes?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the project cost –effective, i.e. could the outcomes and expected results have been achieved at low-er cost through adopting a different approach and /or using alternative delivery mechanisms? • What measures have been taken during planning and Implementation to ensure that resources are efficiently used ? • Have the outputs been delivered in a timely manner? • Have UN Women’s organization structure, managerial support and coordination mechanisms effectively supported the delivery of the project? • Have resources (financial human, technical support, etc.) been allocated strategically to achieve the project outcomes? • Are project resources managed in a transparent and accountable manner (at all levels) which promotes equitable and sustainable development? • To what extent has the project management structure facilitated (or hinder) good results efficient delivery? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Project management staff -Implementing partners -Project financial records -Training participants -Project management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Interviews Desk review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Extent to which the allocation of resources to targeted groups took into account the need to prioritize those most marginalized. -percentage of expenditure on project management - Adequacy of staffing, infrastructure and other resources - Actual compared to planned expenditure by project intervention area - Investments made in TOT in the area of HR and GE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Qualitative - Quantitative
Inclusiveness	To what extent did the project include projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To what extent did the project include projects stakeholders and beneficiaries in project planning and implementation and 	Key informant	-Interviews	Systematic and appropriate efforts made to include various groups of stakeholders, including	Qualitative

	stakeholders and beneficiaries in project planning and implementation and have their inputs been incorporated and addressed?	<p>have their inputs incorporated and addressed to?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What mechanisms were put in place by project team to ensure involvement of key beneficiaries and stakeholders in project implementation and articulation of their needs / views in various project activities, i.e. policy formulation, etc. 		-Meetings	<p>those who are most likely to have their rights violated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The extent to which national and local organizations involved in different aspects of the intervention implementation 	
<p>Sustainability:</p> <p>Continuation of benefits from a development intervention after major development assistance has been completed. The probability of continued long-term benefits. The resilience to risk of the net benefit flows over time</p>	Are national partners committed to the continuation of the project (or some its elements) after funding ends?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the likelihood that the benefits from the project will be maintained for a reasonable period of time after the project is closed? • Is the project supported by national /local institutions? Do these institutions demonstrate leadership commitment and technical capacity to continue to work with the project or replicate it ? How revised or adopted new policy frameworks are in line with the CEDAW and 1325 are addressing the needs of IDP women? • Are national partners committed to the continuation of the project (or some its elements) after funding ends? • To what extent have relevant target beneficiaries actively involved in decision – making concerning project orientation and implementation? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project records - Steering committee and other national partners -Progress reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Desk review -In depth individual interviews - Group meetings - Interviews 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proportion of women and men in different project stakeholders groups who are also in policy making positions - Proportion of women and men in the project steering committee who are also in policy making positions - Types of positions held by different women and men in different project stakeholders groups. - Types of positions held by different women and men in the project steering committee. - Capacity development of targeted rights holders (to demand) and duty bearers (to fulfill) rights; - Willingness and capacity of project partners, both from civil society and GOV to integrate project interventions/services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quantitative - Qualitative

					into their own programs	
Impact: Positive and negative, primary and secondary long-term effects produced by a development intervention, directly or indirectly, intended or unintended.	What measurable changes have occurred as a result of supported efforts and strengthened capacities of IDP and conflict-affected women's groups, as well as other national partners from government and civil society to advance gender equality and women's human rights in Georgia?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What measurable changes have occurred as results of supported efforts and capacities of IDP and conflict-affected women's group, as well as other national partners from government and civil society to advance gender equality and women's human right in Georgia 	-Project reports -Key informants	- Desk Review - Interviews Groups interviews -	- Accountability mechanisms operating on HR & GE in place - Mobility of women and men in different stakeholder groups within and outside their residential locality. - Self-perceptions of changed confidence or capacity in women /men of disadvantaged or marginalized groups. - Extent to which women and men in different stakeholder groups have greater economic autonomy, both in private and public.	Qualitative content

YOUTH FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Evaluation team and project introduction .Explain to youth why this focus group is being done and what will happen with what “you tell us”.

SECTION 1 – YOUTH EXPERIENCE

- 1.1 Why did you take part in this SHG?
- 1.2 How did you get involved?
- 1.3 Have you ever been involved in something like this before?
- 1.4 What were the best things about taking part?
- 1.6 Was there anything that would have made it better?

SECTION 2 - EFFECTIVENESS

2. What was the most mobilizing engagement for you personally and why?
- 2.1 What was the most mobilizing engagement for the community and why?
- 2.3 Do you consider the project in your community useful? If yes, in what way?

SECTION 3-IMPACT

3. What impact did this (SHG) participation have on you personally, what did you get out of taking part? Did it help you; better access community resources, made you more assertive and confident, feel better about yourself? Explain please?
- 3.1 What priorities do you have for yourselves or the community should the project continue? Why?

Interview Guide

With: Project Team (Manager)

1. How did you capitalize on the formerly implemented UNIFEM Regional Project “Women for Conflict Prevention and Peace-Building in the Southern Caucasus” in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia (having laid foundations for the first people-to-people diplomacy initiatives)?
2. In terms of people-to-people diplomacy and confidence-building, what joint learning opportunities or support advocacy initiatives did the project carry out, both at the national and international levels, and how do you assess them, in terms of success/or not?
3. How were synergies built with **SHiEld project** implemented simultaneously by UN Women - Enhancing Prevention and Response to Domestic Violence in Georgia funded by Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)?
4. How were synergies built with other players working in the same WEPD project area such as Care International, Consent and others? What mechanisms were put in place to reflect this synergy and how did it materialize?
5. Was the IDP department at the Ministry of Refugees and Accommodation involved in WEPD, if yes how, if not why?
6. Who is the reference organization of the community workers, and what is the logic behind all CBOs being headed by these community workers?
7. What measures did you take during planning and implementation to ensure that resources are used most efficiently?
8. What monitoring instruments were there to observe progress, diagnose problems and tackle them?

9. What was the project component most difficult to implement and why?
10. What would you consider the project weakness/s? why?
11. What would you consider the project achievement/s? why?
12. If the project is to be re-started, what would you do better, why and how?

On Site Direct Observation Guide

This guide follows the field notes as the least structured way to record observations. Using field notes in evaluation means recording observations in a narrative, descriptive style as noticed or heard.

An outline of project component to observe include;

- Characteristics of participants (Individually and as a group)
 - Gender, age, profession, appearance, dress
 - Attitudes toward others, subject or self
 - Skills /knowledge levels
 - Statements about commitments, values and changes to be made
- Interactions including
 - Level of participation, interest
 - Power relations, dynamics, decision making
 - General climate for learning , problem solving
 - Levels of support, cooperation.
- Nonverbal behavior
 - Facial expressions, gestures and posture
 - Group leadership skills
 - Awareness of group climate
 - Flexibility, adaptability
 - Use of Aids
- Physical surroundings
 - The room, space, comfort, and suitability
 - Seating arrangements
 - Available Project material/s (brochures, newsletters etc)

Interview Guide

With: Stakeholders /outsider view ---

Brief introduction about the team and its mission.

1. Have you in this or other way been involved or engaged with the WEPD project activities or events? If yes, how? And what do you make of it?
2. Were you involved in the development of the National Action Plan (including implementation strategy and indicators) on SCR 1325 and 1820 ? if yes, please Explain how did the process go?
3. To what extent and how do you see the project objectives being aligned with the national strategies, policies and plans on the one hand and with CEDAW and UNSCR 1325 and 1820 principles on another?
4. What influence have contextual factors (political, social economic and other) had on the effectiveness of this project?
5. Do you know about any people-to-people diplomacy, conflict resolution and confidence-building initiatives that this project did not invest in/ connect with /coordinate work with etc..? If yes, please elaborate?

6. What is your overall assessment of the project? In terms of strength/s and weaknesses?
7. Where did the project excel? And where did it fail?
8. To what extent were the project activities visible to you and other players in the human rights arena? Elaborate please?
9. What could have been done better but was not and why?
10. What is the likelihood that the benefits from the project will be maintained for a reasonable period of time after the project is closed?
11. Do you recommend WEPD continuation? If yes, what areas, organizations, activities and/or components could be improved, added and/or retracted?

Illustrative Interview Protocol

Introduction: Team, role and mission.

Theme 1: Nature of Relation/Project

1. Could you tell us about the nature of your relation with UN Women (Staff, and implementation partner etc.)
2. What is the exact area/project of cooperation?

Theme 2: Appropriateness/Relevance to Context

1. What are the needs that WEPD project meets? What are the discrepancies/gaps that it addresses within the Georgian context (economic, social, cultural, political, etc.)?
2. How does it fit within the Georgian objectives as stipulated in pertinent State Plans and strategies such as the State Strategy on IDPs-Persecuted (2007) and its action plan(2009-2012) , and 2011-2013 National Action Plan on Gender Equality?
3. How does WEPD serve the objective of achieving gender equality and women empowerment?
4. What specific categories of women (men) does the project target? Why?
5. How does it help in mainstreaming gender in your work/development goals?

Theme 3: Efficiency of the project

1. How do you evaluate the procedures/process through which the needs were identified by the project?
2. Was the process participatory and inclusive? What was the role of UN women? Your institution? The target groups?
3. Were the procedures appropriate? How did they help/impede your ability to serve the objectives?
4. Were there sufficient mechanisms to gauge the outcomes and impacts in the area of gender equality and women empowerment? Elaborate please?
5. What were the main indicators that were used to measure impact?
6. Were the allocated funds sufficient? Elaborate please?

Theme 4: Effectiveness of the project

1. To what extent did you meet your objectives concerning gender equality and women empowerment?
2. To what extent did the project reach the planned results and how sustainable results are? What was not achieved in full and why?
3. To what extent capacities of duty-bearers and right –holders have been strengthened and how?
4. To what extent capacities of gender equality advocates have been enhanced and how?
5. What were the outcomes?
6. What were the challenges in implementing the project?