



40 Years Of **Amplifying**

Women's Voice And Power

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Correspondence:

Please address all correspondence to:

The Executive Director

Isis-Women's International Cross Cultural Exchange (Isis-WICCE)
Plot 7 Martyrs Rd. Ntinda
P.o.Box 4934 Kampala – Uganda
Tel: 256-414-543953
Fax: 256-414-543954
Email: isis@starcom.co.ug; program@isis.or.ug
Website: <http://www.isis-wicce.org>

ISBN: 978-9970-29-025-3

Copyright 2015

All Rights Reserved.

Requests for permission to reproduce or translate this publication for education and non-commercial purposes should be addressed to Isis-WICCE.



40 Years Of **Amplifying**

Women's Voice And Power

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

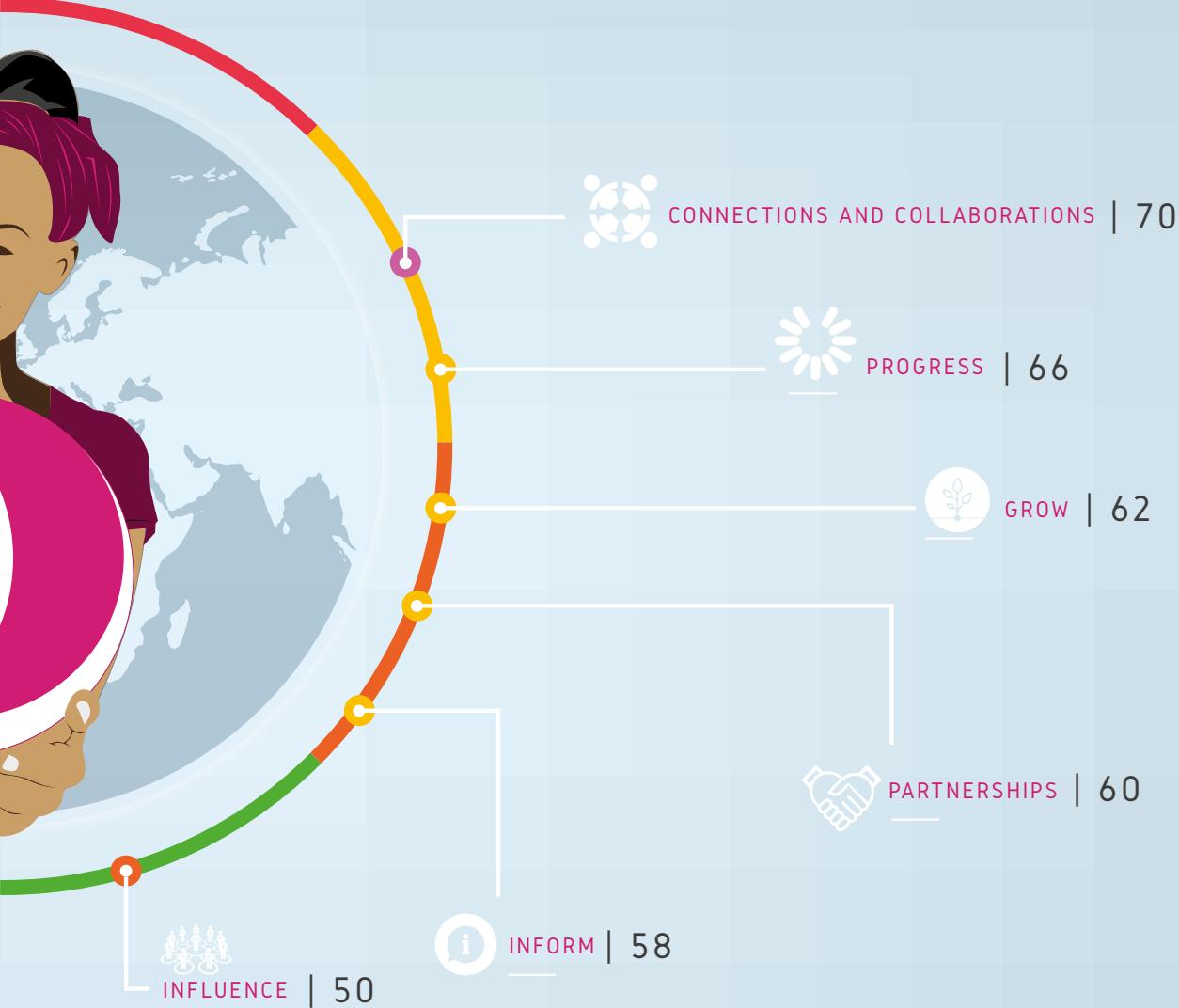
ACRONYMS

ACODE	Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment
AIR	African Institute for Integrated Responses to VAW and HIV/AIDS (AIR)
AMANITARE	African Partnership for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) of women and girls
AU	African Union
CAs	Community Activists
CAR	Central African Republic
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CEDOVIP	Center for Domestic Violence Prevention
CECORE	Center for Conflict Resolution
CEWIGO	Centre for Women in Governance
CSBAG	Civil Society Budget Advocacy group
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EJN	Ethical Journalism Network
FAS	Femmes AfriqueSolidarite
FEMNET	African Women Development and Communication Network
FF	Ford Foundation
FOWODE	Forum for Women in Democracy
GAATW	Global Alliance for Combating Trafficking of Women
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GIMAC	Gender Is My Agenda Campaign
GMR	Global Monitoring Report
HURINET	Human Rights Network
IAWRT	International Association of Women in Radio and Television
ICGLR	International Conference on the Great Lakes Region
ICTs	Information Communication Technologies
IEPI	International Exchange Programme Institute
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
IGAD	Intergovernmental Agency for Development
Isis-WICCE	Isis-Women's International Cross Cultural Exchange
LIPAWA	Lira Palwo Women's Association

LPC	Local Peace Committees
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MoPR	Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction
MONUSCO	United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
MPs	Members of Parliament
NAPs	National Action Plans
NAWHRDs	National Association of Women Human Right Defenders
NGOs	Non-Governmental organizations
OHCHR	United Nations Office of the High Commissioner
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
OSESG-GL	Office of the Special Envoy to the Secretary General on the Great Lakes Region
PRDP	Peace Recovery and Development Plan
POMA	Public Order Management Act
PMC	PRDP Monitoring Committee
PSTD	Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
SGBV	Sexual Gender Based Violence
UAF-A	Urgent Action Fund Africa
UJU	Uganda Journalists Union
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UHRC	Uganda Human Rights Commission
UN ECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
USA	United States of America
UWONET	Uganda Women's Network
UWOPA	Uganda Women's Parliamentary Association
WHRDs	Women Human Rights Defenders
WTF	Women's Task Force
WOPI-U	Women Peace Initiative, Uganda
WOUGNET	Women of Uganda Network
WUNRN	Women's UN Report Program and Network
WYWCA	World Young Women's Christian Association

CONTENTS

iv Isis-WICCE	
2 OUR MOST SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS IN 20 YEARS	
10 Isis-WICCE @40	
14 REVIEW OF OUR STRATEGIC PLAN	
20 THINK	
24 KNOW	
34 EDUCATE	
viii Introduction	
vi Dear Friends	
ii Acronyms	



Dear Friends,

The year 2014 marked 20 years of Isis-WICCE move from Geneva to Uganda and 40 years globally. We are very proud of our achievements over the years and we have geared up for the emerging challenges and realities in the world today. 2015 is a very significant year in terms of women's human rights and women, peace and security discourse. It would be 20 years of the Beijing Conference on Women, 20 years of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 15 years of the Millennium Development Goals, 15 years of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security and will see the introduction of the new Sustainable Development Goals. So 2014 was a year full of reflections of our work and how Isis-WICCE has contributed to these frameworks.



Over the past twenty years, Isis-WICCE has emerged as a leader in the feminist discourse on peace and security.

Over the past twenty years, Isis-WICCE has emerged as a leader in the feminist discourse on peace and security. We have a wealth of data and knowledge collected over the long years of research and advocacy in Africa and Asia. We have managed to influence the mainstream discussion and understanding of conflict by ensuring that States and other stakeholders in peace and security understand human security beyond geographical dimensions of territorial integrity but rather the personal balance of body, mind and spirit, a perspective that has been ignored by mainstream actors.

Since its birth, Isis-WICCE has grown rapidly and innovatively but for this growth to be maintained, and for us to optimize on the current opportunities and build on our achievements, there is need for more focus, optimization and scaling up our approaches to work. In order to maintain our feminist competitive edge and to keep striving for excellence, we need to continue renewing ourselves by stopping, reflecting and planning.

In the coming years, we would like to strengthen our position by evolving into a feminist global leader of excellence in peace and human security. Through research and advocacy, we would like to grow, strengthen and ignite a global network of feminists who will ensure that women are at the centre of all peace building and post conflict reconstruction efforts. Our approaches therefore will be strategic and informed by deeper reflection and understanding of the local and international context. Our content will critique and challenge the status quo while supporting women to make a case for the changes they would like to see in the existing dimensions of power and politics. By developing and presenting alternatives to current policies and practices.

In order to realise this, we are going to strengthen our current partnerships but also reach out for new ones. We are cognisant of the critical importance of maintaining our grass

root linkages. Our case studies have always been and will remain those home grown and community based initiatives that show how and what women have done in their local context to realise peace and security.

Our current strategic plan (2013-2017) is dedicated to visions and goals that move Isis-WICCE from a dynamic international organisation working with a network of allies to a powerful organisation that co-creates with its strategic partners and collaborators. We will build with the co-creators to boost our growth, to scale up our work while acknowledging different contexts within which we work. The most important thing though is that our approach will always centre women's realities and from a contextualisation of those realities will emerge ways of engaging with them. The substance of our work will continue to be informed by the substance of women's lives formed from a feminist perspective where class, race, sexual and other intersecting identities will be taken into account.

We believe in allowing the centrality of our feminist values to shape the way we work together as activists and human rights defenders; using a feminist lens and analysis. Understanding how power operates in both its destructive and constructive configurations and nurturing an attitude of learning from and listening to each other and developing consciousness of our own processes of personal and political change.

We value accountability as well as patience, relentlessness and courage. We are bold in taking risk and working with uncertainties in armed conflict situations. We are tired of begging to be in spaces where we should be, so we have taken a bold decision to create our own space, a space that will enable women to heal, reflect, strategize and develop alternatives that will challenge mainstream practice of peace and security. This is the Women Peace Centre. After 40 years globally and 20 years in Africa we are proud of our successes and the desire to do more, most importantly the need to build a more sustainable institution that will stand the test of time.

That is where we are moving, and we hope you our friends and partners will be part of this journey.

Thank you for your support!

Best wishes



Ruth Ojiambo Ochieng
Executive Director
Isis-WICCE



Cllr. Yvette Chesson-Wureh
Board President
Isis-WICCE

The substance of our work will continue to be informed by the substance of women's lives formed from a feminist perspective where class, race, sexual and other intersecting identities will be taken into account.

INTRODUCTION

This year we are reporting two major milestones, first we reflect on our achievements for the past 40 years globally and 20 years in Africa; secondly we present our achievements for 2014. The report is in two parts. Part One presents our achievements for the past 40 years but narrow our actions since we moved to Africa in 1994, and Part Two presents activities carried out in 2014 and the major results and outcomes.

In 1993, Isis-WICCE moved from Geneva to Uganda to tap on the voices of African women, an aspect that had remained vague in the organization's 20 years of activism. The adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action by the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995 gave Isis- WICCE a niche and a focus; to open up doors for African women affected by armed conflict to be part of the global development discourses. Documentation of the experiences of women became the cornerstone of this goal.

Part One shows what we have been able to achieve in 20 years in Africa within the framework of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, specifically looking at research and women's leadership development. We have engaged in researching and documenting the experiences of women in situations of armed conflict in Africa and globally. The findings have subsequently led to medical interventions to address the reproductive health needs of war survivors; highlight the effects of war on women's economic status; developed women's leadership institute to support women's activist leadership to more effectively participate in peace building; and supported our alumni and their community based organizations in resource mobilization; building partnership and to advocate for gender responsive post-conflict recovery efforts.

Part Two starts with a review of our current strategic plan (2013 – 2017), this is followed by the section 'Think' which is a description of our Think Tanks and what they have contributed to in terms of engaging with women's leadership. The section on 'Know" presents actions taken under research, monitoring and learning. Research and knowledge generation is the core of our work, it informs all other programmes. This is followed by the section on 'Educate', 'Influence', 'Inform', Partnership', 'Grow' and "Progress', 'Connection and Collaborations'; each presenting the major activities and achievements.

PART 1

OUR MOST SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS IN 20 YEARS

Isis-WICCE has been working in Africa and Asia for the past twenty years, over the period the nature of conflict has undergone profound change. Contemporary warfare has introduced a new dimension, society has to face the sophisticated threat of terrorism, deal with an excessively high number of civilian casualties, and witness the suffering of victims of war from Syria to South Sudan. These contemporary conflicts are driven by many factors: re-distribution of political and economic power, ethnicity, religion and control over natural resources. Additionally, new phenomena are shaping the conduct of war, the participation of non-state actors and the “privatisation” of security are just a few examples. Although drivers of war have altered, the consequences remain unchanged: political instability, economic stagnation, social disruption and environmental damage.

we have made significant impact on conflict and post conflict communities through our unique strategy of support to women war survivors;

Post-conflict reconstruction has to take place in order to restore stability in the shattered countries, however, Isis-WICCE's assessment of post conflict reconstruction in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Burundi found that the needs of women continue to be marginalized. Despite the deplorable situation, we have made significant impact on conflict and post conflict communities through our unique strategy of support to women war survivors; here are some of achievements in the past 20 years:-

RESEARCH

Research and knowledge generation is the core of Isis- WICCE programming. Isis-WICCE is known for ground breaking research on women in conflict settings. The organization has been engaged in researching and documenting the experiences of women in situations of armed conflict in Africa and globally. The findings have subsequently led to medical interventions to address the reproductive health needs of war survivors as well as highlight the effects of war on women's economic status.

Over the past 20 years we have conducted 16 research studies in Uganda, South Sudan, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Burundi, Zimbabwe, Nepal and Kashmir - 4966 women and men participated - 123 women were also trained to undertake research.

List of research conducted

No.	Research Titles	Year
1	Women's experience of armed conflict in Uganda, Luweero district 1980 – 1986	1998
2	Women's experience of armed conflict in Uganda, Gulu district 1986 – 1999	2001
3	Documentation of Teso women's Experiences of armed conflict; 1987-2001	2002
4	Women, armed conflict and food security in Uganda: An exploratory study of four districts	2004
5	Nurturers of Peace, 'Sustainers' of Africa: African Women's Unique Peace Initiatives	2005
6	Women's experiences during armed conflict in Southern Sudan, 1983 - 2005: The case of Juba county -Central Equatorial state	2007
7	A situation analysis of women survivors of the 1989-2003 Armed Conflict in Liberia	2008
8	Addressing the intersection between gender based violence and HIV&AIDS in conflict and post conflict situation in Africa	2009
9	Unveiling justice: Rape survivors speak out	2011
10	Child marriage and its impact on development: the case of Kasese district, Uganda	2011
11	Helping the helpers : A report on the psychosocial programme for Health workers, Panzi hospital, Bukavu, Eastern DRC	2012
12	Kashmiri Women: The Burden of Conflict, Half Widowhood and its Psychological Health Effects	2012
13	Making Gender-Just Remedy and Reparation Possible: Upholding the Rights of Women and Girls in the Greater North of Uganda	2013
14	Pushed to the Periphery: The necessity of women's innovation in Activating post-conflict reconstruction (Liberia, Burundi and Sierra Leone)	2013
15	Making A Difference: Towards Substantive Engagement of Women in Parliament and Local Council Decision Making in Uganda	2013
16	Force to Flee: Voices of Congolese Women Refugees in Uganda	2013
17	Towards an Anti-Sexual and Gender Based Violence Norm in the Great Lakes Region of Africa: A Civil Society Review of the Implementation of the 2011 ICGLR Kampala Declaration	2014

Impacts of research studies



In Uganda, the Ministry of Health strengthened the mental health services in the Health Sector Strategic Plan 2001/02 – 2005/2006, as a result of the advocacy using the findings from the research. Government has integrated mental health in all its services from Health Centre I to regional referral hospitals.



The Rwenzururu King and the traditional institution in Kasese districts were outraged and have outlawed child marriage in the Kingdom after Isis-WICCE's study on girl child marriage and its impact.



In Kashmir, India; the "Ulema" (religious leaders) made a declaration in support of the "Half widows" and emphasized that;the disappeared persons/husbands should be treated as alive thus giving half widows the right to own marital property; and for the case of re-marriage, the disappeared husband should be treated as dead after the mandated timeframe thus giving half widows the right to re-marry."



In Nepal, One-stop crisis centres were established in 5 hospitals to support rape survivors after the research conducted in Nepal.

Isis-WICCE's research is action oriented, as a result it responds to research findings by developing actions in partnership with relevant stakeholders. Most significant is the unique and creative model developed in alliance with health professionals to provide quality health care for women survivors in Uganda, Liberia, South Sudan and Kashmir. **The successes are immense;** we share some of them below:

50,000
treated



* Over the years a total of 50,000 women, girls, boys and men have accessed free quality medical treatment and counselling on physical, sexual and reproductive, and mental health.

709 had
surgery



* 709 women and men have undergone successful surgery for urgent and previously hidden sexual and reproductive health related complications, often due to stigma. The conditions include vesico vaginal fistulae, uterine fibroids, ovarian cysts, prolapse of the uterus, infertility, hernia, lipoma and hydroceles for men.

21 Health Facilities



437 health workers



skills exchange



medical intervention



- * 21 health facilities in war torn communities were strengthened by providing the centres with equipment and medical supplies to ensure that health systems remain friendly to women after Isis-WICCE intervention.

- * Supported 437 health workers in Uganda, Liberia, South Sudan, and the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo to understand and manage their own trauma, an issue that is usually neglected. We have oriented and raised their consciousness on the special health needs of women from war situations, by providing them guidelines on the health needs of health workers, and as well as patients, thus improving their practice.

- * South to south exchange of skills contributed to building capacities of health workers in the affected communities. It also exposed them to new learnings, which also improved their approaches of theories to practice.

- * After Isis-WICCE held a medical intervention in Central Equatoria State in South Sudan, the Government of South Sudan committed land for the construction of a Fistula hospital, which is yet to be embraced by donors and investors.

09 mental clinics



health professionals



activists



- * The Uganda health workers who collaborated with Isis-WICCE sought partnership with Peter C. Alderman Foundation and opened 9 mental health clinics in Uganda, Liberia, Kenya, and Cambodia where, more than 15,000 patients have received trauma treatment since 2005. The foundation has also provided skills to 2,837 health workers through annual conferences on trauma management since 2008.

- * Isis-WICCE partnership with health professionals developed three training manuals entitled "Management of Medical and Psychological Effects of War Trauma: A Training manual for Operational level health workers in Southern Sudan and Liberia", customized to the context of each country and utilized as a basis of the training, and as a reference tool for health workers and other practitioners.

- * Isis-WICCE catalyzed the formation and has provided leadership for the growth of networks such as the African Partnership for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of Women (AMANITARE), African Institute for Integrated Responses to Violence Against Women and HIV/AIDS (AIR)

- * Some of the healed women became part of the 2,000 women activists and women human rights defenders (especially from Africa).

EXCHANGE PROGRAMME INSTITUTE

Institute thematic areas of focus

The focus of the Institute has been Violence against Women (VAW) in conflict situations, peace building and conflict transformation, the list below shows the themes of the Institute:-

2000

2000-2003:

From Grassroots to Government: Women Building Peace and Good Neighbourliness in the Great Lakes Region Uganda, Burundi and Kenya

2001-2002:

Documenting Women's Experiences of Armed Conflict: a Tool for Advocacy, Social Justice and Women's Empowerment" Uganda

2003:

Consolidating the Achievements of the Institutes (Reunion: Brisbane, Australia)

2004

2004/2005/2006:

Documenting the Violations of Women's Human Rights During Armed Conflict: A Tool for Advocacy and Sustainable Peace Building. (REP/IEPI) Uganda, Burundi, Kenya

2006:

Institute Reunion on Sharing Global Perspectives on VAW in Armed Conflict (IEPI) Kenya

2008

2008/2009 and 2010-2011:

Human Rights, Human Security and Participation: Documenting Women's Experiences of Armed Conflict (Liberia and Nepal).

2009- 2011:

Women's Leadership in Peace Building in Sudan'

2011:

Women's Leadership in Peace Building and Human Security Alumnae Forum (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)

2012

2011/2012:

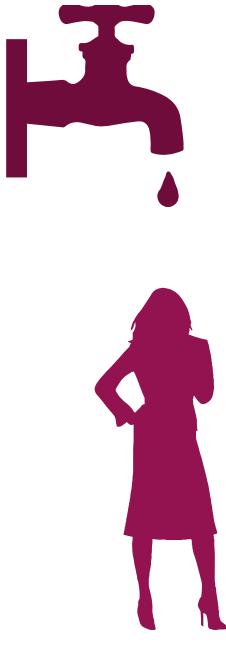
Strengthening Women's Potential in Leadership and Peace Building. (Uganda)

2013/14:

Women's Agency in Peace Building and Human Security (Uganda, Nepal and Thailand)

2016

SUCCESSES OF THE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (1999-2014)



Evidence for action

Generated 133 gender-specific case studies in 29 post-conflict countries in Africa and Asia, as part of hands-on skills to deepen and widen activism

245 evidence based-advocacy engagements as a way of giving back to communities, with replication effect of over 200,000 individuals, groups and communities

Strengthening women's potential in leadership

30 institute intakes of 2 year cycles trained 739 women leaders with knowledge and skills in peace education for peace building and social transformation.

44 alumni have joined corporate governance and national politics after the training. These include female Members of Parliament, executive leaders of CSOs, counsellors and those who joined bilateral agencies, as part of nation building and redefinition of peace and security.

21 newly created CBOs enhancing home grown solutions, local capacities & alternative visions for peace and movement building.



Livelihood enhancement

Empowered 22 groups of women living with HIV and AIDS in Uganda, Liberia and Zimbabwe with financial resources that enhanced their economic wellbeing and activism

Institutional building

Built the capacity of 6 grassroots women organizations in Uganda to programme effectively in post conflict settings



Engaging local communities to demand for accountability from leaders

Isis-WICEE Peace Expositions have brought together over 20,000 men and women who have interfaced with their leaders and demanded for action on issues of SGBV. In Lira, the district increased funding for the SGBV activities and created awareness.

Positioning the needs and concerns of women survivors of conflict at the international level

Isis-WICCE has engaged actors and policy makers at the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), the African Union (AU) and the United Nations (UN) where women survivors of conflict expressed concern on the continuing armed conflicts which have led to increased sexual violence. At the AU Peace and Security Council open session, they demanded Member States to address survivors' full physical and psychological recovery by involving them in planning, designing and implementing recovery, rehabilitation programs; provision of comprehensive medical care through increased health budgets for sexual and reproductive health complications and trauma management



Digital empowerment for women and girls

In 2000, Isis-WICCE started the first ever women's internet café in Kampala to bridge the digital divide between men and women. Over 3000 women and girls acquired ICT skills and accessed information on training opportunities for improved career development. Isis-WICCE was in 2003 recognized with a Gender and ICT award by the Global Knowledge Partnership for this unique, creative and strategic approach of utilizing ICTs to empower disadvantaged and vulnerable women and girls. Isis-WICCE has continued to creatively use ICTs to document and profile voices of women in conflict and post conflict settings for policy advocacy.

We are proud of these achievements and we are committed to continue to work towards sustaining the gains and consolidating our actions through prioritizing on key areas that make meaning in our work.



Women Human Right Defenders from Nepal, Myanmar, Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan and Uganda at the Isis-WICCE Feminist Leadership Institute in Thailand

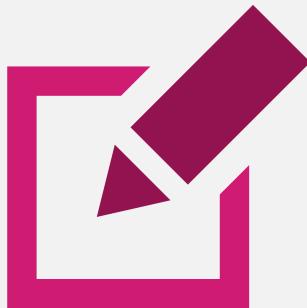


40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS





PART 2



REVIEW OF OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

Our 2103-2017 strategic plan was launched in 2013; derived from various engagement with our different constituencies;

the six main objectives are:

- Increased collaboration,
agenda setting and
knowledge generation

- Increased communication
and knowledge
management for
connections, visibility
and influence

- Scaled up fundraising,
enhanced marketing and
communication strategies



Strengthened women's
activists leadership and
political participation



Restored women's bodily
integrity and dignity



Strengthened
organizational development
and stewardship



Our 20 years celebration enabled us to put together our achievements, and also reflect on where the gaps remain in our area of work. Our achievements gave us the audacity to dream to challenge the status quo and rise up to the reality of the dwindling resources for women's rights work in Africa and globally. We aimed at moving from good to great and to become the centre of excellence on women peace and security globally. 2014 is a year that has enabled us to rethink our governance and how we would like to strengthen our leadership to be more effective in the current global trend.

Building on our achievements in 2013, in 2014 we continued to engage at global, regional and national levels to influence the post 2015 agenda and the African Union agenda 2063. We have been able to influence these actions through our various advocacy activities and by attending several experts meetings, where we used findings from our researches and learning from the field to position the issue of women, peace and security. Isis-WICCE has maintained its position that without peace and human security for women, sustainable peace and development will remain elusive.

The programs for 2014 were developed based on the 2013-2017 strategic plan taking into account the gaps identified through various project monitoring and learning spaces provided for both Isis-WICCE and its partners. We remain mindful of the conflict in South Sudan, Central African Republic(CAR) and Democratic Republic of Congo; we were mindful of the many countries in Africa that would hold elections in 2015; Burundi, Ghana (local), Nigeria, Tanzania, South Sudan, DRC (local), CAR (local), Lesotho and Zambia. We continue to observe and follow the South Sudan peace process and the power struggles among the parties to the conflict. We note with displeasure the inability of the countries in conflict to see the relevance of women's participation in peace building and post conflict reconstruction. This again proves that the strategy of inventing our own space is the way to go. Women are tired of being co-opted into 'male-stream' institutions and structures that have no room to negotiate power or allow women to perform in 'invited' spaces; women are calling for their own base camp; a truly feminists space that would provide them avenues to purposefully develop their own strategies that would confront the patriarchs and patriarchy. In 2014 we started

We aimed at moving from good to great and to become the centre of excellence on women peace and security globally.



Hon. Proscovia Salaam Musumba Chairperson Kamuli District Uganda (also vice President eastern region of the leading opposition Forum for Democratic Change) and Hon. Cecilia Ogwal Member of Parliament Member of Parliament for Dokolo District Women's Constituency

testing some of the activities anticipated for the Women Peace Center. We held Think Tanks; engaged in high level dialogues and provided women with spaces to profile their voices and issues. We are very positive that the Women Peace Center would be a centre of excellence that would enable Isis-WICCE to achieve what the women are calling for.

In recognition of the forgoing and in line with the new Strategic direction to ignite women's leadership, amplify voices and deepen their activism; the 2014 activities ensured that Isis-WICCE remained relevant and active in its countries (Nepal, South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Burma and Uganda) of focus and in influencing global and regional peace and security agenda.

In 2014, we strengthened our international advocacy, improved relationship with academia, improved the institute methodology to enable participants acquire skills for evidence based advocacy; strengthened our learning, monitoring and evaluation component that enabled us track results and show evidence of our work; and built more productive and respectful partnerships. The strategy was to create clear linkage between programs and their outcomes and track contributions to the strategic plan. We improved staff skills for effective program delivery and ensured a conducive work environment for all staff, volunteers and consultants.

An important aspect of our work in 2014 was to improve on sustainability; through improving the way we fundraise. Building strategic alliances was key to achieving our global relevance partnering and engaging with governments to ensure sustainability through the absorption of project outcomes into institutional structures. We built and strengthened networks to harness resources for more impact and sustainability.

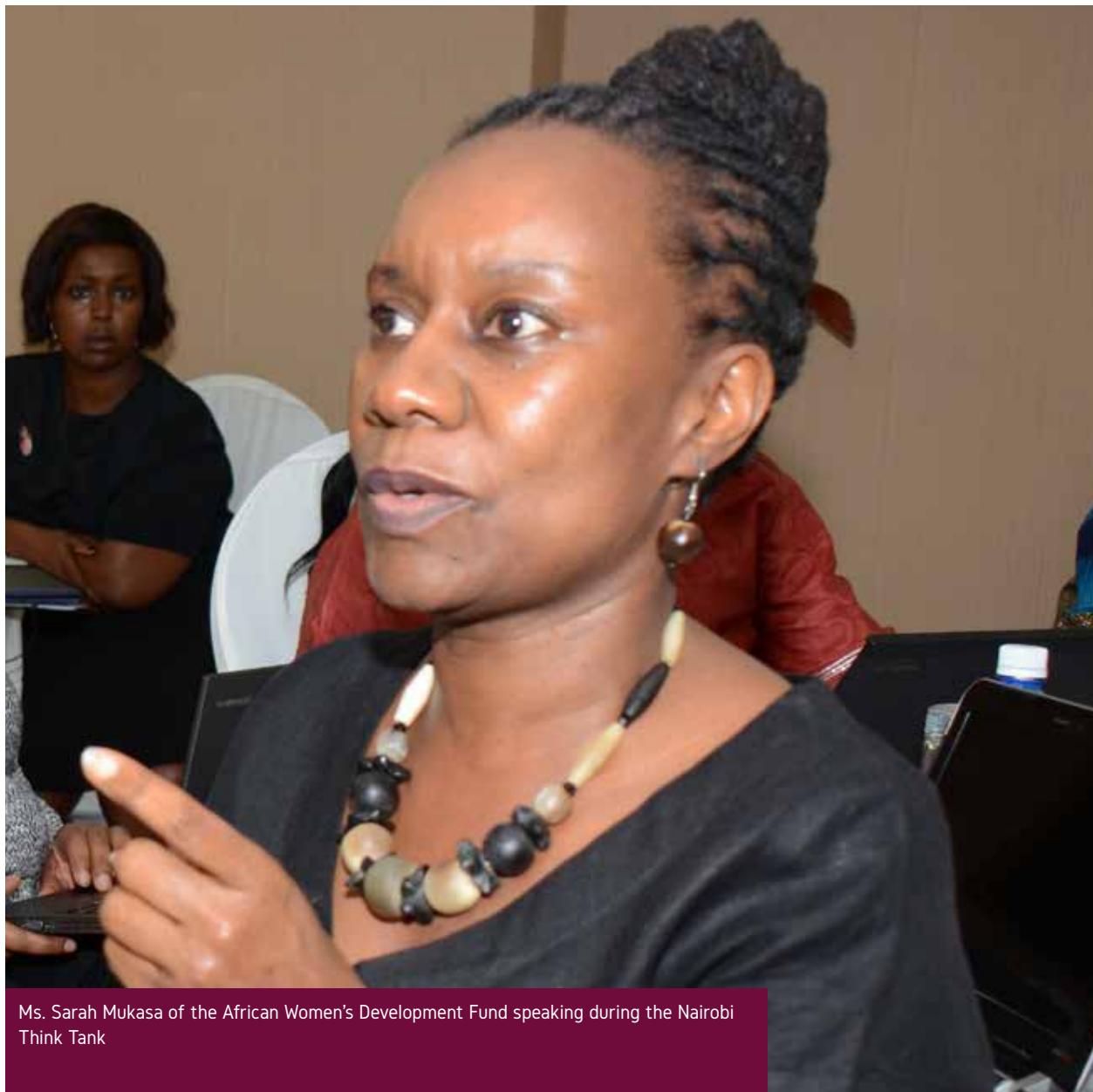
The five countries of the Institute including Nepal, Myanmar, Uganda and DRC have experienced long period of conflict and South Sudan is currently in active war. The assessment of the countries by Isis-WICCE revealed that the impact of war on women globally is gendered. However, in the post war period women continue to suffer different forms of physical and sexual violence with no legal or social justice. In Burma, Nepal, DRC and Uganda women played significant roles during the conflict; transforming their gender identities but the reintegration

**We held Think
Tanks; engaged
in high level
dialogues
and provided
women with
spaces to profile
their voices
and issues.
We are very
positive that the
Women Peace
Center would
be a centre of
excellence that
would enable
Isis-WICCE to
achieve what
the women are
calling for.**

process has excluded them and their needs. The other similarity among the countries is the rise in gender based violence with high levels of impunity for this and other forms of human rights violations. In the on-going peace process for South Sudan, getting women on the peace table took the efforts of the international community and several women human rights groups including Isis-WICCE to convince the parties to include women. Isis-WICCE will continue to provide support to the women at the peace table including some of the women at the Institute. These countries have adopted various policy frameworks in line with international mandates such as the Domestic Violence Act and Human Trafficking Acts in Uganda, Nepal and DRC. However, these national legislations and programs have not been effective in curbing violence against women due to weak implementation and lack of political will to provide adequate resources for their implementation.

Globally, there has been significant increase in the number of women in decision making positions compared to 20 years ago. However, the increase in women's participation has not led to the incorporation of their needs in post conflict reconstruction. We have reflected on this trend; and used the Think Tanks to bring women leaders and thinkers together to interrogate the practice; the key questions are; are policy makers and leaders unaware of the importance of women's participation; or do the mainstream thinking assume that men would adequately represent women's needs and perspective? Our think tanks provided some answers as you will see in this report; the fact remains that women must be involved in the implementation of the various mechanisms and agreements as demanded by UNSCR 1325.

We are making steady progress in the implementation of our strategic plan, in 2015 we will carry out a mid term review to evaluate our performance. The review will enable us rethink and re-strategize towards making effective contribution to sustainable social change and justice.



Ms. Sarah Mukasa of the African Women's Development Fund speaking during the Nairobi Think Tank



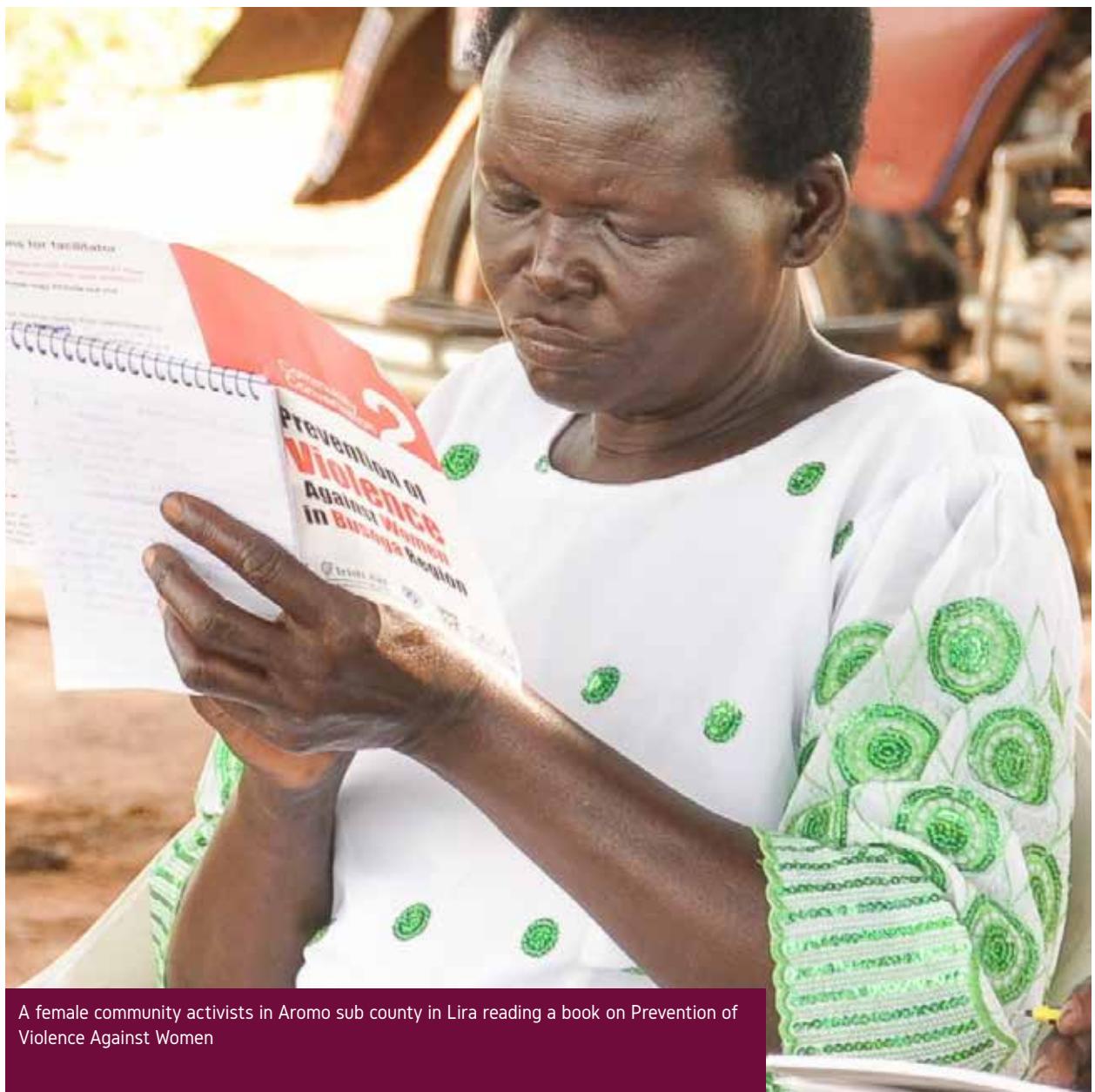
Our work is grounded in the painstaking approaches we have adopted in all our strategies; this has made our work valuable. We pride in challenging ourselves and deepening our analysis to make sense of our work and its impact.

Building on the Think Tanks, which were initiated in 2013, we brought women leaders together from post conflict countries to deepen the analysis on the nature of governance in Africa and women's leadership challenges within the systems and structures that have maintained patriarchal hold on power. The spaces provided a base camp for women to reflect on their personal journeys as leaders and evaluate their contribution to making the change that is being agitated by the population. These conversations have enabled us to better understand the nature of governance that portrays women to be in 'invited spaces'. We define 'invited' spaces as existing governance institutions that has been created by power holders. The Think Tanks argued for women to create their own spaces- what we refer to as 'invented' spaces, where they are in charge and can control the method of work. Here we define 'invented' spaces as spaces occupied by women and claimed by their collective action, but directly confronting the authorities (power holders) and the status quo'. The conversation reaffirmed Isis-WICCE's resolve to create a space for women to reflect, share experiences, analyse research, write, rest and care for themselves. Above all, enable women to interrogate mainstream discourse; demand accountability from governments and set new standards for mainstreaming women into politics and leadership positions. This becomes important as we observe that 'invited' spaces constrain women's agency and women are forced to cope with existing systems of oppression and marginalization; as compared to 'invented' spaces (the Women Peace Center) which would be characterized by defiance that directly challenges the status quo and resistance is mounted to bring it down.

The Women's Peace Center draws its legitimacy from the work of feminists over the years from the grassroots to the international level. We acknowledge the achievements of the women's movement; and are determined to continuously provide the needed support for its sustainability. We know that some of the women/feminist are tired, some are frustrated and others exhausted. The Peace Center provides a space for them to rejuvenate, reflect on their work and pave a way forward. At the political level many women who fought in African Liberation struggles were not allowed into the decision making spaces; and this was a deliberate attempt by the men to send them back to the private sphere. In the coming year, we will capture the stories of these women; which is missing in the history books.

The conversation reaffirmed Isis-WICCE's resolve to create a space for women to reflect, share experiences, analyse research, write, rest and care for themselves.

The Think Tank suggested the following strategies to help the women's movement and women political leaders in their cause: re-energize the feminist movement; build popular feminist political education tools; connect with other movements; engage men in the struggle and work closely with the media.



A female community activists in Aromo sub county in Lira reading a book on Prevention of Violence Against Women



KNOW

Research and knowledge generation is the core of Isis-WICCE's programming. We are known for our ground breaking research on women in conflict and post conflict settings. Since 1996, we have been engaged in researching and documenting the experiences of women in situations of armed conflict in Africa and globally. The focus on women's experiences in armed conflict came from the sheer realization that this was a neglected area and yet very critical. In recent years we have also investigated women's participation in post conflict reconstruction and women's effective leadership in post conflict governance. Our research approach is feminist so we prioritize listening to women, to their silenced voices to gain access to their insights and perspectives of conflict and post conflict reconstruction processes. During the research process, we treat women as knowers rather than merely sources of data.

Over time we have changed our strategy to working with feminists in academic institutions so that our research is more rigorous, with a stronger political analytical approach and more acceptable to our wide audience. Research findings inform our work, and form the basis for policy influencing. Findings also help us identify existing gaps on women peace and security, recurrent themes and the debates and interventions surrounding them. Research enabled us to build valuable entry point for placing women's issues at the centre stage of international action.

Our research is action oriented, this has enabled us to respond adequately to the needs of women war survivors, through providing short term medical intervention to heal women's bodies and counselling to heal the traumas. Furthermore, such documentation allows us to identify skill needs that inform the development of our training curriculum and provide women leaders and women war survivors training to address the identified areas of needs. Overtime we have advocated for the documentation of women's experiences particularly sexual violence, to ensure adequate responses. It was with great delight that we participated in the development and launching of the International Protocol for the documentation of sexual violence in conflict. This is another milestone in the fulfilment of the Beijing Platform for Action that calls for the documentation of women's experiences and also United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 that calls for the prevention of violence and protection of women from all forms of violence.

Overtime we have advocated for the documentation of women's experiences particularly sexual violence, to ensure adequate responses.

3.1 Review of governments' response to gender based violence using UNSCR1325 and other related instruments in Nepal, Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, and Uganda.

In 2013, we carried out an assessment to ascertain the level of implementation of UNSCR1325 in five countries – DRC, Nepal, Burma, South Sudan and Uganda. Following this in 2014 with support from our partners we up-scaled our research by providing policy analysis skills to women to analyze the extent to which their governments have responded to gender based violence and women's rights through laws, policies and practices. The main focus was on women's participation in different sectors of: governance and politics (DRC); police/security sector (Uganda); Political Party/Women's Role in Local Peace Committees (Nepal);

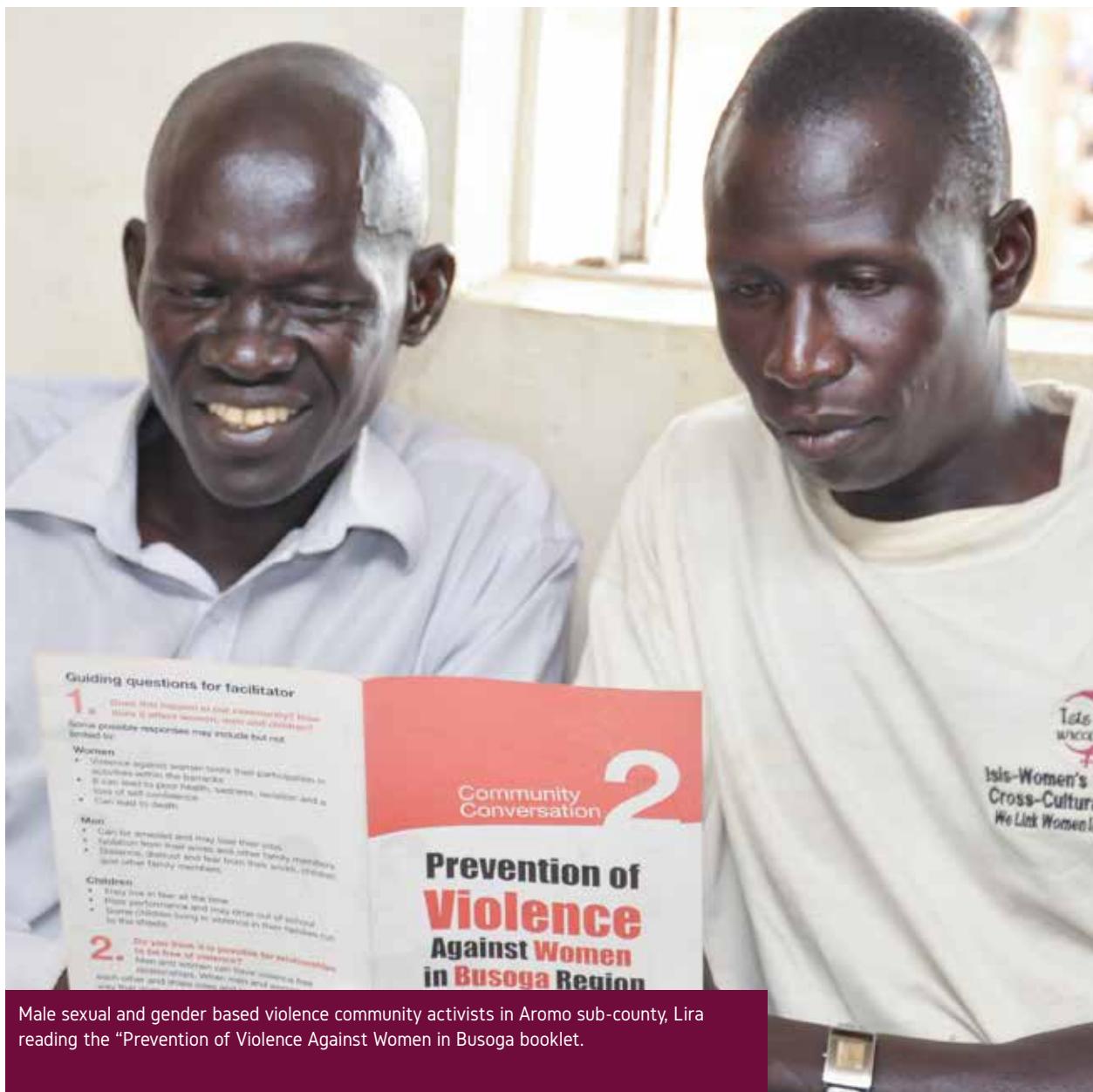
women in peace processes (South Sudan); women and citizenship (DRC refugees in Uganda). The reports found that all countries have put in place policies and laws to ensure women's participation, however these policies have not translated into significant and substantive representation of women in decision making.

In Democratic Republic of Congo despite the government putting in place policies and laws to promote women's participation; the research found that the effective participation of women in decision making remains wanting. Beyond women's lack of participation in decision making is the need to put in place implementation framework for the various laws and policies that promote women's participation and gender equality. This will enable the development of plans and budgets to ensure that gender equality laws are fully implemented.

**Beyond
women's lack of
participation in
decision making
is the need to
put in place
implementation
framework for
the various laws
and policies
that promote
women's
participation
and gender
equality.**

The Nepal National Action Plan for UNSCR1325 (NAP) tasked the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction to increase the quantity and quality of women's participation specifically within the Local Peace Committees (LPCs) under its Strategic Objective 3 that calls for an increase in "women's participation at all levels of political parties, civil society, private sector, and nongovernment organizations" and Strategic Objective 2 "to ensure proportional and meaningful participation of women while making appointments and nominations in positions of public importance". Despite these provisions, minimal gains have been registered. There is low participation of women in mainstream political decision making, this limits their ability to participate in LPCs or take on decision-making positions. As such by excluding women from decision-making within the LPC, the post-conflict reconstruction efforts have not responded to women's specific post-conflict rehabilitation needs thus Nepal's implementation of 1325 remains minimal.

Uganda has a National Action Plan on UNSCR1325 that has an objective to increase women's participation in the police. The analysis found that women's participation in the police remains low due to lack and/or low levels of education, lack of technical and managerial skills, lack of confidence and commitment, low turn up of women during recruitment and lack of women friendly services which discourage potential women recruits to the police.



Male sexual and gender based violence community activists in Aromo sub-county, Lira reading the "Prevention of Violence Against Women in Busoga" booklet.

Although the warring parties in the South Sudan conflict have signed a Cessation of Hostilities agreement, which was a beacon of hope for women and other citizens dealing with displacement, a declining humanitarian situation and various forms of ethnic and gender based violence. The agreement has not been implemented as both sides continue to violate its provisions. More so, the political agreement has suffered setbacks as parties disagree on power sharing. The assessment found an increasingly militarized environment, high incidences of conflict-related sexual violence, lack of protection of women's right and a humanitarian crisis that is predicted to move into full blown war.

Four reports on governments' response to SGBV in DRC, Uganda, South Sudan and Nepal were produced. The findings were synthesized and developed into 4 country specific policy briefs to support the advocacy efforts of trained women and formed the basis for the development of the Women's World magazine that contributes to feminist literature on women and peace, governance and decision making.



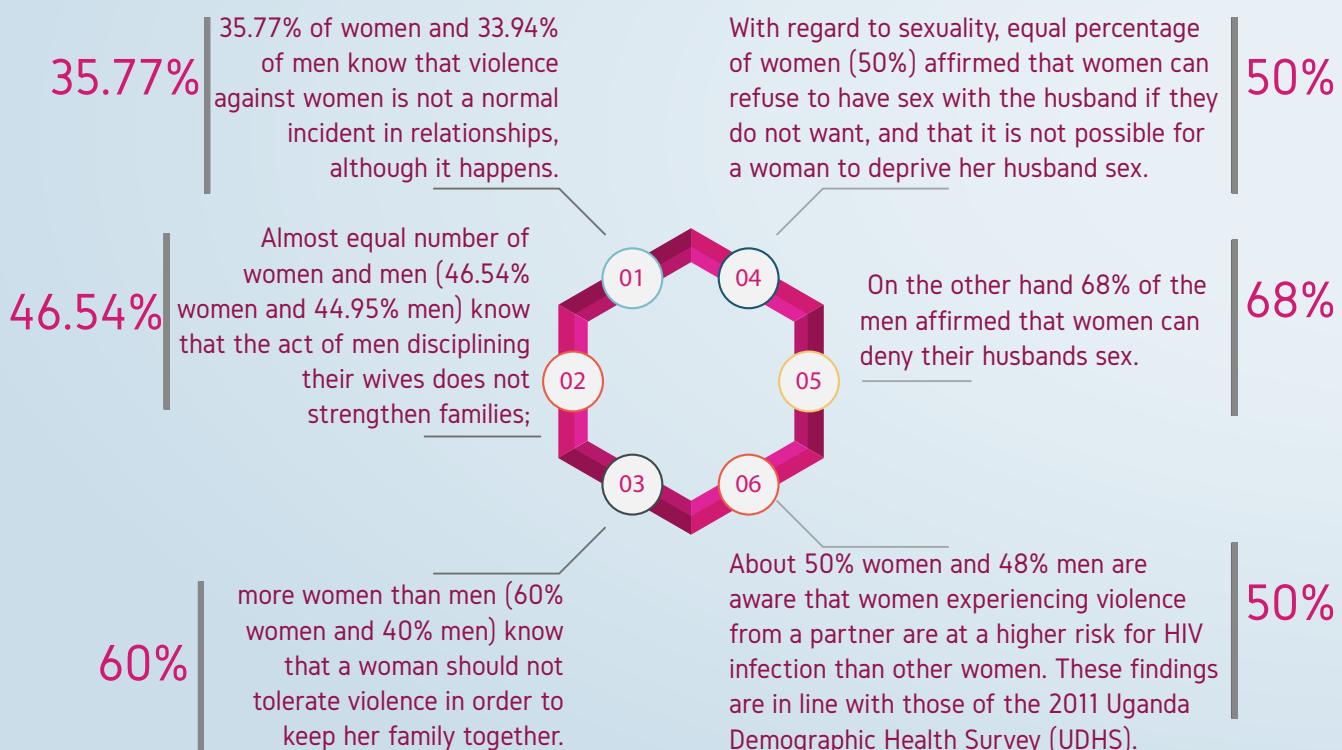
Country	Research Area	Research Findings	Advocacy Focus
Nepal 14 participants	Political Participation of Women: the case of Local Peace Committees	Strategic Objective 2 of the National Action Plan on UNSCR1325 calls for women's participation. Despite the commitment women's participation in positions of leadership is severely lagging behind. For the last elections, the percentage of women candidates in direct elections was less than 11%. Likewise, the study showed that 10 of the study districts Local Peace Committees had been able to achieve 33 percent or more representation of women in current LPC. The remaining 10 (50%) have not been able to maintain this 33 percent representation of women in the committees. Women were there only in the name of inclusion but they were rarely given chance to represent women or bring the issues of women forward.	Appointment of Female Politicians as Coordinators of Local Peace Committees and other Political Structures
Uganda 7 participants	Women's participation in decision making in the police: the case of Uganda	There are various decision making levels within the police force including the PAC (Policy Advisory Committee) and the police council. The highest decision making body within the Police is the PAC which comprises of 17 directors with 3 women (17.6%). The police council comprises of 229. Out of 26 Regional Police Commissioners (RPCs) 2 are women and out of 129 District Police Commissioners (DPCs) 5 are women. The percentage of women's participation in the police is at 14%. This is low compared to the 30% provided by the Constitution of Uganda.	A gender policy for the Uganda police
South Sudan 4 participants	The Impact of the Current Conflict on Women in South Sudan	The research found that the current conflict in South Sudan has pronounced gendered impacts. Specifically women and girls have experienced different forms of sexual violence coupled with the lack of protection and difficult living conditions in the internal displaced peoples camps	Promoting Peace in South Sudan
Democratic Republic of Congo 10 participants	Women's participation in decision making	The DRC has laws to ensure women's participation in decision making, however these laws are not being implemented. As a result the number of women in decision making in DRC remains minimal	Promote the implementation of laws that promote women's Rights
	Situation of Congolese Refugee Women in Kampala	The Uganda Refugee Policy lacks provisions to effectively protect the rights of women refugees living among the population. This has led to difficulty in resettlement and reintegration of such women and their families.	Galvanize support to push for a gender sensitive refugee law in Uganda

3.2 Assessing level of knowledge and attitude on issues of violence against women in Lira district

Research informs the work we do. During the reporting period we also carried out a rapid assessment survey in Lira District in Uganda to ascertain the level of knowledge and attitude on issues of violence against women with 109 (58 women and 51 men) in Aromo Sub County.

Gender based violence (GBV) is a result of an unequal balance of power between women and men; it cuts across cultures, ethnic groups, socioeconomic statuses, and religions. It is the most common type of violence that women experience worldwide, and it has serious consequences for women's mental and physical well-being, including their reproductive and sexual health. Therefore measuring the level of knowledge is significant in understanding the current situation to help measure project progress in ensuring attitude change.

The assessment revealed that the level of knowledge on violence against women is low among women and men.



The UDHS gathered information on women's attitudes towards wife beating by asking women whether a husband is justified in beating his wife in five situations: if she burns the food, if she argues with him, if she goes out without telling him, if she neglects the children, and if she refuses to have sexual intercourse with him. Women who believe that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife for any of the specified reasons may believe themselves to be lower in status than men. High proportions of women who justify wife beating indicate that women generally accept the right of a man to control his wife's behaviour through violence. The survey shows that about six in ten women (58 percent) believe that wife beating is justified for at least one of the specified reasons. The percentage of women who think that denying a husband sex justifies wife beating is higher among rural women (61%) than urban women (46%). This has implications for the project which is rural based.

For level of attitude, our survey found that 28% of women and 39% of men believe that it is acceptable for a man to beat his partner if she does not do housework to his satisfaction. 9% of women and 49% of men believe that women are to blame for the violence inflicted upon them. Majority of women (91%) and half of men (51%) do not believe that women are to blame. This aspect explains why communities see violence against women as normal, particularly men.

Majority of both sexes believe that balanced power in a relationship benefits everyone in the household and the community at large; and that violence against women is a community concern. Information from the assessment fed into the next level of engagement with Community Activists and leaders to combat sexual and gender based violence.

Majority of both sexes believe that balanced power in a relationship benefits everyone in the household and the community at large; and that violence against women is a community concern.

The study identified the major obstacles to women's political leadership to include; militarism, multi-party dispensation, sexual pacification, commercialization of politics and inadequate gender knowledge and capacity.

3.3 Sharing research reports

In 2013, Isis-WICCE conducted a study titled "Making a Difference beyond Numbers: Towards Women's Substantive Engagement in Political Leadership in Uganda". The study sought to make a contribution to a holistic understanding of the conditions under which women in parliament and Local Councils can make a difference in the lives of women in Uganda. The study focused on Women Members of Parliament in Uganda and female councillors in the districts of Pader and Agago in Northern Uganda. The study identified the major obstacles to women's political leadership to include; militarism, multi-party dispensation, sexual pacification, commercialization of politics and inadequate gender knowledge and capacity. Furthermore the research made recommendations for effective women's political leadership. Subsequently in 2014 the report was published and launched on 25th April 2014 at the Uganda Parliament building. The event was officiated by Hon. KahindaOtafire, Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs. In attendance were 156 people including: Members of Parliament (Current and Former), Parliament staff, UWOPA Staff, Civil Society, Women Task Force Members, Local leaders from Agago and Pader districts, University Students and the Media. The launching at the Parliament was significant as the study looked at the Parliament, it was important therefore to ensure that the report is adequately distributed to ensure its recommendations are implemented.

Apart from disseminating the report amongst Parliamentarians and Local Councillors the report was further disseminated and utilised as a basis for discussion during a regional convening on Women's Political Leadership in Africa. The convening was organised by FEMNET (African Women's Development and Communication Network) and Urgent Action Fund – Africa (UAF-A). The findings were also synthesized into a journal article entitled "Making a Difference: Embracing the Challenge of Women's Substantive Engagement in Political Leadership in Uganda" for publication in the 'Feminist Africa Journal Issue of 2014.

The report findings were also disseminated through news and feature articles in 5 print/online newspapers in Uganda and the East Africa region; 2 Television stations and generated debate on 3 radio stations. Further dissemination was

through various electronic list-serves and institutional emails including; the Women's UN Report Program and Network (WUNRN) list-serve and the Gender and Women Studies in Africa network. We received the following positive feedback after sharing the reports:

"I would like to take the opportunity to strongly recommend this report and its collaborative strategy as a very good model for other national studies on women's political participation. In my own teaching on women's movements these cases are very useful. We urgently need more of this kind of work- after all we have 54 nations, with only Uganda and South Africa well studied."Prof. Amina Mama, University of California.

"Thank you very much for sharing the study. It's going to help us (South Sudanese) so much especially in our case not only being the youngest nation but also being torn up by this unjust war. Please keep us updated and i know that we will have a lot to share especially that we are putting in structure our South Sudanese women association in Uganda".Dr.Woda Jeremiah, South Sudan



EDUCATE

There has been demand for women to participate and benefit from peace building processes but they can't do so effectively without robust understanding and analytical capacity to engage at the appropriate decision-making levels. For several years, Isis-WICCE has made every effort, using its International Exchange Programme (the Institute) to develop a critical mass of women with a sound knowledge base and analytical capacity on women, peace and security.

The International Exchange Programme is a distinguishing feature of Isis-WICCE. It's an annual, political awareness and skills development programme where women from different parts of the world, (conflict and post conflict areas) exchange ideas and acquire cross-cultural strategies and solidarity action for addressing a diverse range of issues.

It's a space where women are affirmed as not just survivors of sexual violence but as individuals with the capacity to participate in the transformation of their own societies. It's also a space where women learn across regions, gain political skills, and strategize to advance rights and improve their own leadership as activists. During the Institute, women get to appreciate how indeed the personal (as the frontline of injustice) is political.

During the exchange programme, we intentionally instil and nurture women leaders' capacities to resist and ultimately transform power – in all its relations, structures, forms, spaces, and places. Diversity of participants generate important educational benefits because it brings them in contact with those different from themselves and gives them the experience of living in and learning from a diverse and collaborative community. Our intention is to encourage them to think, learn and act together on specific issues. Note that learning to work with diversities is particularly important in rebuilding societies in which exclusion and marginalization of large sections of the populace are cited among the root causes of conflicts such as in the case of Liberia, Rwanda and Sudan.

We are cognizant that women's experiences and perspectives vary according to ethnicity, race, class, sexuality, caste, religion, location and culture. In this strategic plan, we intend to broaden the participants so that as many diversities of people as possible are included. In addition to building women's skills, we developed Think Tanks that enabled us to interrogate women's leadership and their contribution to gender equality.

The study identified the major obstacles to women's political leadership to include; militarism, multi-party dispensation, sexual pacification, commercialization of politics and inadequate gender knowledge and capacity.



Institute participants at a Cross Cultural Exchange visit to Thailand

4.1 The Institute

The institute process is very intense; it starts with planning, conceptualization and coordination activities that involve internal review and reflection meetings by the Isis-WICCE team and its Institute partners. This is followed by the second and third phases that see participants acquire skills and put the skills acquired into practical use. The planning process help to concretize the plans for the institute, and agree on dates; develop the program; and provide information for the development of the training modules. The first phase of the Institute held in 2013; in 2014 we held the second and the third phases.

Second Phase of the Institute

The second phase is run with participants undertaking field work in their home countries between January and July 2014. During this time, Isis-WICCE remained in close touch, supported participants and where possible undertook joint activities on agreed issues. Activities of this phase included: technical Support to trained women: Isis-WICCE (Africa) and National Association of Women Human Rights Defenders (Asia Pacific) supported participants from the 5 countries on the institute to articulate their research proposals, undertake field assessments and compile their reports. Physical interactions, field visits, online engagements, provision of seed grants to trained women to carry out case studies and action plans in different countries. This led to production of 4 reports on governments' response to SGBV in DRC, Uganda, South Sudan and Nepal.

They include:

- a. South Sudan: Impact of the Current Conflict in South Sudan on Women (policy review in relation to UNSCR 1325: the 2014 Cessation of Hostilities Agreement);
- b. Uganda:Women's Participation in Decision Making in Police (policy review in relation to UNSCR 1325 and Uganda NAP);
- c. DRC I:Women's Participation in Decision Making;
- d. DRC II: Situation of Congolese Women refugees living in Kampala, Uganda (policy review in relation to UNSCR 1325 and the Uganda Refugee Act of 2006);

**Isis-WICCE
remained in close
touch, supported
participants and
where possible
undertook joint
activities on
agreed issues.**

- e. Nepal: A study on the Relationship between Women's Leadership in Local Peace Committees and Women's Political Career (policy review in relation to UNSCR 1325: Nepal NAP 1325 and the 2011 Localization Guidelines).

The findings were synthesized and developed into 4 country specific policy briefs to support the advocacy efforts of trained women and formed the basis for the development of the Women's World magazine that contributes to feminist literature on women, peace and security.

The Third Phase of the International Exchange Institute 2013/2014

The institute provided a tailored training module on Advocacy and Movement Building, for WHRDs to challenge mainstream policies towards social change for communities.

The objective of the institute was to ensure that Women Human Right Defenders (WHRDs) have adequate competencies to take lead and hold policy makers accountable to the needs of women war survivors of SGBV in post conflict reconstruction plans, policies and programs in Democratic Republic of Congo, Myanmar, Nepal, South Sudan and Uganda. The key tool for analysis and advocacy is UNSCR 1325 (its related mechanisms and CEDAW). The institute provided a tailored training module on Advocacy and Movement Building, for WHRDs to challenge mainstream policies towards social change for communities. The module was in response to findings in country studies, which formed the backbone for the country-groups making the case for advocacies that were undertaken in the 5 countries. The module was tailored as pathway to justice and sustainable peace. The institute adopted a number of strategies to make learning conducive for women, they include; cross cultural exchange learning; face to face teaching and learning; country group field work; online discussion forums; practical advocacy platforms and development of user friendly training materials.

Outputs

- * 37 women were trained in the institute and provided with skills to engage and take lead in integrating the needs of women survivors of violence into national planning and post conflict recovery processes; The training increased women's skill and knowledge to undertake evidence based advocacy engagements; and also built women's leadership and agency for policy change on peace and security

- * Four reports on governments' response to SGBV in DRC, Uganda, South Sudan and Nepal were produced. The reports found that while all 4 countries have put in place policies to address SGBV; most do not have plans and budgets for their implementation; and
- * 5 action plans were developed by trained women for evidence based policy influencing to ensure governments respond to the SGBV needs of women survivors of war.

Results

The project has led to increased implementation of UNSCR1325, specifically the aspect of participation, protection and prevention.

- * One of the major impacts is increased ability of trained women to participate in peace building and post conflict recovery process and ensure women's needs are addressed: Trained women participated in influencing the South Sudan peace process. There is evidence that the Cessation of Hostilities agreement took into account the need to protect women from violence. Working with trained women on the Institute, Isis-WICCE and the larger women's peace movement in Africa including World Young Women's Christian Association (WYWCA), Gender is My Agenda Campaign, Femmes AfriqueSolidarite (FAS) Cordaid and ICCO influenced the South Sudan peace mediators (the Intergovernmental Agency for Development - IGAD) to include women in the peace process, this is based on various advocacy at the African Union and IGAD in January 2014. Despite the difficulty in reaching a political agreement, the chief mediator ensured the inclusion of two women in each of the warring parties and also two women in the civil society observation team at the peace negotiations in Ethiopia.
- * In Uganda, the review carried out by trained women found that there is low participation of women in decision making in the police, despite the fact that the National Action Plan for UNSCR1325 specifically focus on increasing women's participation in the police, not much has been done to achieve this aspect of 1325. The report was shared with the Commissioner for Women Affairs of the Ugandan Police Force and she acknowledged the gap. Currently, the trained women are engaging with her office to address the gaps found.

There is evidence that the Cessation of Hostilities agreement took into account the need to protect women from violence.

The institute knowledge and skills provided WHRDs knowledge on advocacy that provides alternatives to existing policy recommendations.

- * In general, progress has been made towards holding governments accountable, through the assessment of the implementation of various aspects of UNSCR1325 by trained women and the development of policy briefs that enabled trained women hold policy dialogues to advocate for the gaps in the implementation of UNSCR1325.
- * The third phase of the institute provided women human right defenders with skills to develop advocacy tools, specifically policy briefs. Each country group developed policy briefs based on the study they conducted with technical support from Isis-WICCE. The policy briefs will be used to carry out qualified dialogues with policy makers at national levels, to ensure that policies and laws respond the needs of women war survivors of violence. The institute knowledge and skills provided WHRDs knowledge on advocacy that provides alternatives to existing policy recommendations. Feedback from institute participants on the relevance of the training:

'I had very limited information on campaign and advocacy, yet where I work, it is all campaign based for difficult policy change. This institute has helped me to grow and understand issues closely. I am now able to work effectively with my skills and knowledge with deeper understanding'.

'This training has clarified advocacy work for me. Now I know how to develop the message, work plan and mapping the audience for my advocacy work' (Institute Participant, 2014)



Women Human Right Defenders at the Institute strategizing on how to effectively engage post conflict reconstruction to address women's needs

4.2 Women Peace Organizations in North and North Eastern Uganda advocate for gender responsive peace and post conflict reconstruction

During the reporting period, Isis-WICCE continued to strengthen the capacity of the Women's Taskforce for a gender responsive Peace, Recovery and Development Plan for northern Uganda (PRDP) to effectively influence the implementation of the PRDP through monitoring implementation at district level and engaging with leaders. Isis-WICCE deepened the work of the women's taskforce in Agago with the Lira Palwo Women's Association (LIPAWA). Also, the period was used to reflect on the work of the women's taskforce for the past three years to document the impact of the project including the gaps that remain in meeting women's needs, this became necessary as the government announced the extension of the PRDP for another three years.

**Isis-WICCE
deepened the work
of the women's
taskforce in Agago
with the Lira
Palwo Women's
Association
(LIPAWA).**

The following activities were undertaken:

1. National planning meeting with the women's task force: The national women's task force held a meeting. The aim was to develop a national plan and agree on key advocacy issues for the year.
2. Exchange visit of members of women taskforce to women's groups in Soroti district for empirical learning. The exchange visit aimed to facilitate peer exchange learning, which is a practical and effective tool to foster learning between organizations in thematic areas identified for the exchange visit and Strengthen the capacity of LIPAWA to improve program quality and effectiveness (and change their attitude) to remain committed to influencing post-conflict reconstruction in Agago district.
3. Women task force members facilitated to attend district planning meetings and lobby for women's needs to be included in the district plans and budgets.
4. LIPAWA provided with financial and technical support to carry out monitoring, advocacy and sensitization on women's post conflict needs.
5. National advocacy efforts with the Office of the Prime Minister.

Outputs

- * 45 women participated in the Peer Cross Cultural Learning and Exchange visit, with the visit to Teso sub-region being the first for 13 of the women. The exchange visit adopted adult learning methods that included practical and innovative strategies that ensured the full participation of all participants. The methods used include story line presentation, site visits, smart economics interactions with successful business women and camp fire on reproductive health concerns.
- * Women's taskforce in Agago District held community dialogues with 486 students (217 girls and 269 boys); 68 adults (51 females and 17 males) including; parents, the school head teacher, representatives of the Parent Teachers Association, the community development officer, the police, the chairperson sub-county education committee and district councillors.
- * During the reporting period, women taskforce members attended several district planning meetings, where they articulated their concerns on the issues they found during monitoring. Specifically women followed up on issues discussed with the district leadership on the state of health facilities such as the lack of adequate staff, drugs and HIV testing kits.
- * Isis-WICCE participated in the PRDP technical working group meetings, the space enabled Isis-WICCE to obtain first-hand information on the implementation and monitoring of the PRDP and also provide a gender perspective in the discussions and decision being made.

The exchange visit adopted adult learning methods that included practical and innovative strategies that ensured the full participation of all participants.

Result

- * At the end of the exchange visit, women from the two participating organizations had increased knowledge about how war impacted on the different regions and how women in the Teso region have managed since after the war. The women dialogued and shared their different experiences and how to strengthen organizational development and learnt new strategies of responding to the post conflict needs of communities through strategic peace building activities and post conflict reconstruction advocacy efforts. Members of LIPAWA have learnt from the exchange visit to Soroti that it is important to improve their livelihood. After they returned they established a savings and loans scheme for their group to improve their economic status.

... the major concerns found in previous monitoring of Lira Palwo health centre III was the lack of adequate staff, drugs and HIV testing kits.

"During the exchange visit we learnt of saving as a group and have started a loans scheme with a monthly contribution of UGsh5,000 (about \$1.60). So far we have saved UGsh300,000 (\$100), which we have kept in LIPAWA's bank account. We will later agree on how this money will be managed to avoid conflict"

- * Trained women task force members are able to have qualified dialogues with policy makers that would influence district development plan to include women's needs: Follow up visit to Lira Palwo health centre III (22 April, 2014): the major concerns found in previous monitoring of Lira Palwo health centre III was the lack of adequate staff, drugs and HIV testing kits. During the visit the team observed that the centre now have three additional staff making it 6 qualified staff and a significant increase from three. However, the Centre is supposed to have nine qualified staff. There is need to continue to push for more staff to match the standard set by the Ministry of Health.

Despite the successes, some challenges remain that requires more advocacy; for instance the drugs supplied are usually not those frequently used by the health centre; the incinerator is not fenced, this poses danger to patients, the delivery room ceiling board is broken and has not been fixed, and there is no stable electricity, meaning that most women will continue to go with touch lights for night delivery. These issues have been discussed with the district for possible action.

"The health centre now has a block of latrines that will be used by staff and patients; it was handed over to the health centre staff in March, 2014. Also it was observed that the Centre has received more HIV voluntary counselling and testing kits for pregnant mothers, thus contributing to reducing mother to child transmission".

- * Increased ability of the women's taskforce to monitor and advocate for gender responsive health and education plans in Agago district
- * Community sensitization on girl child education proposed that the laws



Isis-WICCE engages women war survivors to participate in post conflict reconstruction to ensure that their needs and concerns are included in reconstruction policies and plans.

governing the sub-county that prohibits parents from withdrawing their children from school should be enforced; so that children found loitering or engaging in economic or household activities during school hours are arrested and their parents punished.

Challenges

Despite the successes achieved in the implementation of project activities, some challenges were experienced. In Democratic Republic of Congo, although the gaps identified in policy analysis was the lack of implementation of gender laws and the need for the government to put in place operational plans; this aspect has not been strengthened. This is due to the re-occurring many challenges of dealing with rebel groups in the country, coupled with the most recent civil strife due to the possible postponement of elections to conduct a census. The situation is still tense and this makes it difficult for any effective advocacy, as government priorities are different; there is no interest to address gender inequality. To address this gap in 2015 Isis-WICCE will select a Province in Eastern Congo to work towards promoting gender sensitive policy formulation and implementation.

To address this gap in 2015 Isis-WICCE will select a Province in Eastern Congo to work towards promoting gender sensitive policy formulation and implementation.

4.3 Combating sexual violence in northern Uganda

The project on combating sexual and gender based violence in Lira district is a tripartite collaboration between Lira District Local Government, Women Peace Initiative – Uganda (WOPI-U) and Isis-WICCE. The project was initiated following the peace exposition in Lira in 2012 that alluded to high levels of violence and the need for attitudinal and behavioural change to prevent further damages and under development. The project has run since 2013 in Aromo sub-county focusing on Agot and Akaidebe villages. As part of building ownership and sustainability, male and female volunteer Community Activists (CAs) were selected to spearhead the wave of change in behaviour and attitude towards SGBV through political consciousness raising. The CAs include Local Councillors, religious leaders and clan leaders, with many chosen because of their high level of community influence, their personalities, and ability to be champions of change.

The project also identified circles of influence to support the referral pathway

to ensure justice and more timely response to SGBV. Knowledge and skills have been systematically imparted among the CAs using the step by step process of SASA. So far, the phases covered are: START (interrogate power relationships between women and men to foster change at personal level) and AWARENESS (sensitizing communities and infusing change in behaviour and attitude in the community) phases. The CAs are in the third year of the project where they have embraced the third phase of SUPPORT (supporting community to change attitude and behaviour towards SGBV in a sustainable way).

The 2014 pre activity rapid assessment measured the level of knowledge on violence against women; the process found that knowledge on violence against women is relatively low for both women and men (35.77% women and 33.94% men). With regard to sexuality, 50% of women affirmed that women can refuse to have sex with the husband if they do not want, and the 50% women argued that it is not possible for a woman to deprive her husband sex. About 50% of women and men know that women experiencing violence from a partner are at a higher risk for HIV infection than other women. The variations in knowledge levels in the two project villages (Akaidebe and Ogot) were insignificant. The assessment also found that the attitude of women and men towards VAW is very low.

Due to the training on the different phases significant shifts have taken place among the Community Activists (CAs). They include improved communications, ability to manage family finances, ability to manage conflicts amicably, self-respect in relationships, responsible parenthood, self-confidence and general improvement in domestic relations and cohesion thus providing a peaceful atmosphere. This kind of peaceful atmosphere prevents violence against women from happening.

The Community Activists have taken up the lead role in changing community perceptions using themselves as examples.

“SASA is about ‘act now’. The training has had many changes for me. Before SASA, I was selfish, when I had money I would keep it far away from my wife. I would move with my money everywhere, knowing that money should only be managed by me. Now we sit and make joint decisions on the money that I have” (Community Activist, Aromo sub county, Lira, February, 2015).

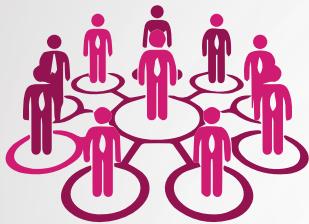
About 50% of women and men know that women experiencing violence from a partner are at a higher risk for HIV infection than other women.

“We men are stubborn. Before this SASA training, I would quarrel and even beat her for the wrong things she did. My temper was hot because I knew I am a man, I am the right one, and when I talk then she should keep quiet. I have now changed; I don’t quarrel in the presence of my children. I call my wife and we share the misunderstanding in privacy” (Community Activist, Aromo sub county, Lira, February, 2015).

Other outcomes include increased competence of CAs to conduct activities that would lead to reduced gender based violence; increased awareness of community on gender based violence through community conversations and community events that sensitized communities on SGBV and its impact.



James Obwana, a Community Activist using culturally adapted SASA tools to sensitize communities members in Aromo sub county Lira district on Gender Based Violence.



INFLUENCE

During the reporting period, Isis-WICCE was involved in several international campaigns they include engagements at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York; advocacy for the inclusion of women in the South Sudan peace process in Ethiopia and the Global Summit to end sexual violence in Conflict organized by the British government among others.

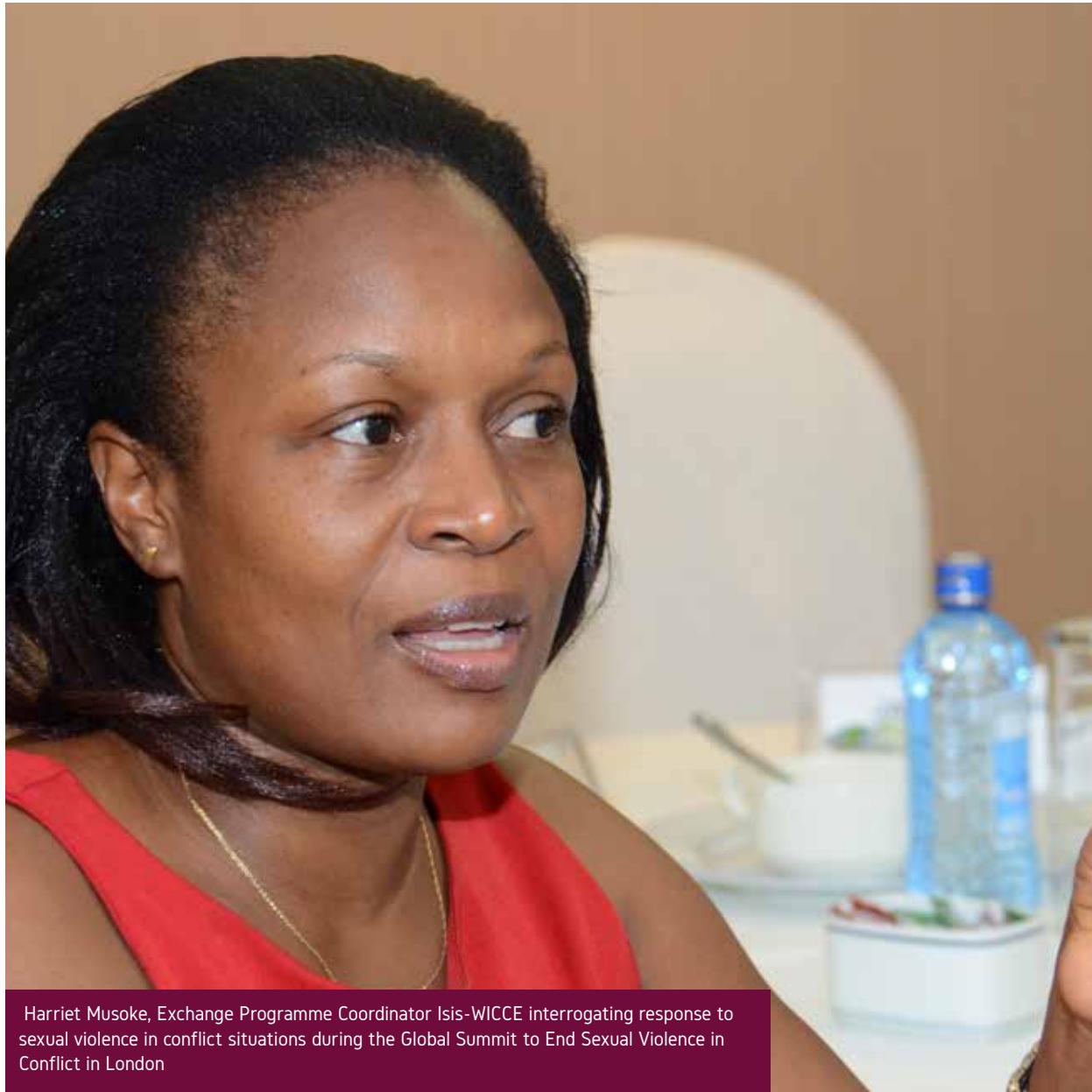
5.1 The Commission on the Status of Women

The 58th session of the CSW focused on the challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls. In preparation for the meeting Isis-WICCE developed a message that demanded specific focus on women and girls in conflict and post conflict situation arguing that without peace development cannot be achieved and the need to address sexual violence against women through social and legal justice mechanisms. Subsequently, this message was conveyed in the different panels held by Isis-WICCE during the CSW including influencing the African Women's Caucus on the same message. It is significant to note that the outcome document recalled United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 and specifically recommended in Section (ss) that State parties must "adopt measures to implement and monitor the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls in armed conflict and post conflict situations, and women and girls affected by violent extremism, and ensure women's effective participation at all levels and at all stages and in peace processes and mediation efforts, conflict prevention and resolution, peacekeeping, peace building and recovery, as laid out in relevant Security Council resolutions on women, peace and security and in this regard support the involvement of women's organizations and civil society organizations, end impunity by ensuring accountability and punishing perpetrators of the most serious crimes against women and girls under national and international laws....."

Isis-WICCE's advocated for a stand-alone goal on peace and security and ensure peace is mainstreamed in all other goals in the context of good governance and rule of law.

The agreed conclusion is a framework that would be used by the UN agencies and development partners to develop the final document for the post-2015 development plan. (see <http://www.unwomen.org/~media/Headquarters/Attachments/Sections/CSW/58/CSW58-agreedconclusions-advanceduneditedversion.pdf>).

In line with the MDGs review process and the development of the post-2015 agenda, Isis-WICCE in June participated in a workshop on 'Strengthening African Women's Voices in the Post-2015 Processes' held in Kampala, Uganda. Isis-WICCE's advocated for a stand-alone goal on peace and security and ensure peace is mainstreamed in all other goals in the context of good governance and rule of law. This perspective is coming from our position that development cannot be achieved without peace.



Harriet Musoke, Exchange Programme Coordinator Isis-WICCE interrogating response to sexual violence in conflict situations during the Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict in London

5.2 The Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict

Isis-WICCE participated in the Global summit to sexual violence in conflict at three levels; the collection of input into the development of the International Protocol for the collection of data on sexual violence in conflict, the actual summit in London and a mini summit held in Kampala. (see Protocol https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/319054/PSVI_protocol_web.pdf)

In preparation for the global summit, the British government carried out country level consultations to receive inputs from civil society organizations towards the development of the International Protocol on the documentation and investigation of sexual violence in conflict as a means of overcoming barriers to prosecutions of these crimes. Isis-WICCE provided practical experience of its documentation approaches, which has a gender and human rights perspective. The contribution by Isis-WICCE emphasized the need for a documentation process that takes into account the trauma that survivors have experienced and ensure it is addressed.

At the global summit Isis-WICCE participated in the civil society fringe event where it held an exhibition showcasing its unique approaches to supporting women war survivors of sexual violence and used case studies to show the viability of the approaches. Also Isis-WICCE held a panel discussion where it shared practical experience of documenting women's experiences of war, which were mostly sexual violence and shared tips on how best to ensure that the International Protocol address social and legal justice for women; such as providing psychosocial support as well as protection for survivors and witnesses. In Uganda, Isis-WICCE also participated in the mini summit organized by the British High Commission; these different spaces enabled Isis-WICCE to continuously profile the need for gender and human rights responsive documentation processes. The summit brought together government representatives including 79 Ministers from 129 countries; 1,700 delegates in total including 8 UN Agency Heads, as well as Presidents and Prosecutors from the ICC and international tribunals and over 300 delegates from conflict affected countries. In preparation for the summit, Isis-WICCE gathered recommendations from Uganda, South Sudan, DRC and Nepal, the voices of

**Isis-WICCE
provided practical
experience of its
documentation
approaches, which
has a gender and
human rights
perspective.**

The summit confirms that Isis-WICCE focus on documenting the experiences of women war survivors is an important tool for advocacy and to obtain justice for women survivors of sexual violence in war.

women were packaged and presented to Angelina Jolie who was one of the host (alongside the British Secretary of State) and also the UNHCR special envoy on refugees when she visited Isis-WICCE exhibition stand. Isis-WICCE was also able to share with her the types and magnitude of sexual violence in conflict situation. The summit confirms that Isis-WICCE focus on documenting the experiences of women war survivors is an important tool for advocacy and to obtain justice for women survivors of sexual violence in war.

As a result of the various engagements and increased political will to address the needs of women war survivors, the British government announced 6 million British Pounds in new funding to support survivors of rape; several other countries including United States, Finland, Bahrain, Australia and Japan also made pledges. The identified areas for change to improve accountability at national and international levels include; provide greater support and protection to survivors, ensuring sexual and gender based violence responses and the promotion of gender equality are fully integrated in all peace and security efforts, and improving international strategic co-operation.

5.3 Engagement with the South Sudan peace process

Following the eruption of violence in South Sudan in December 2013, Isis-WICCE organized a consultative meeting with South Sudan women leaders including current Institute participants from South Sudan. The meeting developed a position paper that informed advocacy at the African Union, where women leaders were facilitated by Isis-WICCE to meet the African Union Political Affairs Commissioner, the IGAD Mediator of the South Sudan Peace process, the representative of the Chair of the African Union, the Norwegian Special Envoy on Sudan and South Sudan, the Norwegian Foreign Secretary, the UN Women Representative to the African Union and the UN Women Executive Director. These various engagements led to IGAD to mandate all parties to include women and also invited civil society organizations and religious institutions. The two parties to the conflict have three women each in their team, while the religious and civil society organizations have also nominated women. Despite the uncertainties, we are positive that the women representatives will ensure that issues of women are effectively represented.

5.4 Think Tanks

In addition to the various advocacy events held by Isis-WICCE and trained women, three think tank dialogues were held during the year. The think tanks provide a unique space for women leaders from post conflict countries to interrogate the type of leadership and the systems and structures that women find themselves. The first think tank, which took place in 2013 raised a number of questions such as: why the change resulting from having more women in position of power not proportional to the increase in the number of women in positions of power? And how can women's leadership be supported? Some of these questions were not answered but required another space to interrogate deeper into the essence of women's leadership and the potential benefit of having women in decision-making. This culminated into three think tanks in 2014. The first looked at the South Sudan conflict and the role of women in peace building, the second think tank in Harare, Zimbabwe. The issues that emerged from the Kampala think tank were re-visited in the Harare meeting; and ideas were shared about how some of the issues can be addressed.

Emerging issues include the fact that women are not adequately prepared for the extraordinary challenges they encounter and seek to overcome as leaders; and the ineffectiveness of advocacy efforts by the women's movement to influence policies to address the needs of women war survivors. This is particularly difficult being that most of the work is done in militarized spaces where women are often invited or may be simply accommodated. The Zimbabwe think tank was followed by the Nairobi think tank, which was the highpoint of all the think tanks. During the conversations it became obvious that to change the nature of women's leadership, more needs to be done by women themselves, but also the need to change the systems and structures where women will operate as leaders.

5.5 National Consultation on Women, Peace and Security in preparation for the Open Day on UNSCR1325

Isis-WICCE in partnership with UN Women organized a national consultative meeting on women, peace and security under the theme 'Women in Armed Conflict'. The main objective was to provide input into the UN Secretary General's

The issues that emerged from the Kampala think tank were re-visited in the Harare meeting; and ideas were shared about how some of the issues can be addressed.

High-level Review and the Global Study on UNSCR 1325. The meeting gathered the views on women's post-conflict priorities from representatives of civil society, public institutions, individual women peace activists, development partners and UN agencies.

At the Open Day, held on October 3, 2014 the women of Uganda presented their recommendations and demands to senior leadership of the UN Mission in Uganda who included Musa Bungudu, Head of UNAIDS Country Office; Hodan Addou, Country Representative UN Women; Miranda Tabifor, Senior Gender Advisor, Office for the Special Envoy of the Secretary General to the Great Lakes (OSESG-GL); EvelyneBamba, Head of Liaison Office, MONUSCO; and the State Minister for Gender and Culture Hon. LukiaNakadama. In their statement that was presented by Catherine Awor from Women Peace Initiatives in Lira district, the women stressed that they would like to be at the centre of all post conflict reconstruction and recovery efforts, access and control of resources especially land. The women also demanded for enough funds for support and reintegrate women survivors of GBV and a conducive environment that ensures their participation in governance at all levels.



Ms. Julie Gichuru Talk show host of Arimus Media Kenya in a dialogue with women leaders.
Hon. Jessica Kabwila from Malawi and Hon. Hannah Lona from South Sudan



INFORM

PUBLICATIONS

Knowledge generation is the bedrock of Isis-WICCE's work and has enabled us realize the change we desire. Since inception Isis-WICCE has developed a wealth of knowledge on women, peace and human security. Data generated has helped to amplify women's voices, through campaigns and evidence-based advocacy, holding national and international governments and institutions accountable to their commitments to gender equality and women's empowerment. This aspect of our work is further facilitated through information sharing. The following is a selection of some of the information Isis-WICCE shared with the world in 2014:

List of Publications 2014

Title	No of copies	Dissemination	Where
Healthy families for a Peaceful Community: Kotido Peace Expo Report	100	Board Members, Donors, UN Agencies, Kotido district leadership, Media	Uganda, USA, Canada, Nepal, South Africa, Liberia, Kenya, Netherlands
Making a difference beyond Numbers: Towards Women's substantive engagement in political leadership	100	Members of Parliament Donors, government Officials, UN Agencies, Academia, Media	Uganda, Zimbabwe, South Africa
Isis-WICCE Brochure	500	Donors, Partners, CSOs, Academia	Makerere University, CSO Fair, Int. Peace Day Celebrations, London Summit on SV
Isis-WICCE@40 Factsheets	350	Donors, government Officials, UN Agencies, Academia, Researchers, Media	London Summit on SV, CSO Fair, Int. Peace Day Celebrations,
Abridged Strategic Plan	50	Donors, Board Members	Uganda, USA, Canada, Nepal, South Africa, Liberia, Kenya, Netherlands
Isis-WICCE Peace Centre Leaflet	100	Current &Prospective Donors	
Annual report 2013	50	Donors, Donors, government Officials, UN Agencies, Academia, Researchers	Uganda, Zimbabwe, USA, Canada, Nepal, South Africa, Liberia, Kenya, Netherlands
Forced to Flee: Voices of Congolese Women Refugees in Uganda	100	Donors, government Officials, UN Agencies, Academia, Researchers, Media	
The Road to Power: Governance and Decision Making, Think Tank II report	100	Donors, Donors, government Officials, UN Agencies, Academia, Researchers, media	
The Harare Conversation	50	Donors, government Officials, UN Agencies, Academia, Researchers, Media	
Women's World No. 47/2013 and Monde des Femmes No. 27/2013.	170	Donors, government Officials, Universities, institute participants	Uganda, Zimbabwe, USA, Canada, Nepal, South Africa, Liberia, Kenya, Netherlands
Total	1370		



PARTNERSHIPS

We have found strength in developing new partnerships and maintaining existing relationships, this has led to more productive work. For instance, even though the South Sudan conflict was not anticipated and therefore was not planned for Isis-WICCE was able to respond adequately to support women's participation through partnership with World Young Women's Christian Association (World YWCA); ICCO and Cordaid. These three organizations teamed up with Isis-WICCE to raise funds and jointly supported the women of South Sudan. The power in working together and galvanising experience was very useful in developing the type of strategy used for this specific intervention.

sis-WICCE strengthened partnership with 2 international organizations, 2 donor organizations and 2 networks at national and international level. Isis-WICCE partnered with 2 organizations to run the International Exchange Programme Institute in Asia, the National Association of Women Human Right Defenders (NAWHRDs) and the Global Alliance for Combating Trafficking of Women (GAATW). During the year, Isis-WICCE strengthened partnership with Urgent Action Fund Africa, who supported the Women's Leadership in Africa Think Tank in Nairobi and also held a joint panel on sexual violence in armed conflict during the Global Summit to end violence against women in conflict.

At the international level Isis-WICCE's membership of the Gender Is My Agenda Campaign at the African Union helped to get women's peace and security issues into the African Union policy makers. Also being members of FEMNET enabled our participation at the African CSOs review of the +20 Beijing Plat Form for Action. At the global level, Isis-WICCE is now a member of the CSW Africa Forum, a platform for African CSOs to effectively engage with the UN CSW.

**... Isis-WICCE
strengthened
partnership with
Urgent Action
Fund Africa,
who supported
the Women's
Leadership in
Africa Think Tank
in Nairobi...**



GROW

The ability of Isis-WICCE to function efficiently and effectively in realizing set objectives relies on appropriate systems and structures; to achieve the above stated objectives and results the following activities were undertaken: annual planning meeting, staff training and learning sessions, 2014 international board of trustees meeting and project monitoring and evaluation.

The annual planning process, which took place in January 2014 enabled staff to reflect on the work done in 2013 and scan the environment to identify key issues that are relevant to Isis-WICCE's strategic plan such as the conflict in South Sudan. The planning processes helped staff to develop program and individual work plans that enhanced tracking of activities implemented. Subsequently, work plans were presented to all staff; this was to enable each program align its activities with other programs to ensure strategic linkages are made. An organization work plan was drawn from the program plans; and was approved by the board.

During the period, Isis-WICCE staff were exposed to a number of different trainings that suit their different positions and skill areas. One that involved the entire staff was a writing training aimed at sharpening staff writing skills in creative writing to enhance staff writing skills. At individual staff levels the Programme Officer Research, Monitoring and Evaluation participated in a training on “Learning Based Monitoring and Evaluation”. Two program officers (Research, Monitoring and Evaluation and Exchange Program Institute) also participated in the International Exchange Program institute were their skills in policy analysis, sexual and reproductive health and rights and advocacy were enhanced. According to one of the Officers “the training provided me a clear understanding of the difference between advocacy; Information, Education & Communication (IEC) materials; community mobilization and Public relations”.

The 21st Isis-WICCE International board meeting took place in May 2014 and was attended by 6 board members. The board meeting is an annual activity that brings together all the board members from their respective continents to ensure that the organization is on track, provide direction and also approve policies, budgets and annual activity plans.

Isis-WICCE supports young women’s leadership, during the year we received an intern, Ms Phiona Kagoya, a third year student from Makerere University; Department of Philosophy who has been supporting the different programs. We believe the learning from Isis-WICCE will enhance her future engagements.

The Research, Monitoring and Evaluation program carried out an annual monitoring review with various departments to assess department progress on indicators and targets set for the year.

Also during the period an evaluation of the project ‘Women’s Leadership for Peace Building and Conflict Transformation (March 2012 – February 2015) was carried out to access the effectiveness of the project and generate lessons learnt to inform future programming. The evaluation found that the project was relevant to the beneficiaries based on the needs assessment conducted. The effectiveness of the project is grounded in Isis-WICCE’s model of empowerment that uses a

... The Research, Monitoring and Evaluation program carried out an annual monitoring review with various departments to assess department progress on indicators and targets set for the year.



Isis-WICCE staff during the 40th Year Anniversary Celebrations from right Jacqueline Kasoga – Front Desk Office, Gloria Adeti – Administrative Assistant, Suzan Nkinzi – Programme Officer Research Monitoring and Evaluation and Prossy Nakaya - Programme Officer Exchange Programme Institute

holistic, inter-linked, integrated building block approach. Also; using empirical evidence and combining theory with practice in the delivery of the Institute enabled participant to conduct research by themselves. The evaluation made the following recommendations; the need for Isis-WICCE to venture into other spaces that are relevant to its work area, this could also enable the building of new strategic alliances and networks around peace and security; strengthen alumnae engagement to deepen their capabilities and ensure additional learning through follow up activities; and strengthen result based reporting capacity of Isis-WICCE.



PROGRESS

The year 2014 was our year of celebrating 20 years of Isis-WICCE in Africa and 40 years globally. We are very proud of what we have achieved, we have summarized them in this report, but we hope to elaborate more in our Women's World of 2015.

Not only the successes and failures of our past but also the global dimension of women, peace and security inform our strategic plan. Our aim is to consolidate our niche of peace and security by offering groundbreaking approaches to the issue of conflict and post conflict reconstruction and what it means to be at peace with oneself.

In the coming year, we would like to continue to work towards strengthening our position by evolving into a feminist global leader of excellence in peace and human security. Through research and advocacy, we would like to grow, strengthen and ignite a global network of feminists who will ensure that women are at the centre of all peace building and post conflict reconstruction efforts. Our approaches therefore will be strategic and informed by deeper reflection and understanding of the local and international context. Our content will critique and challenge the status quo while supporting women to make a case for the changes they would like to see in the existing dimensions of power and politics. By developing and presenting alternatives to current policies and practices.

We will continue to strengthen our current partnerships but also reach out for new ones. We are cognisant of the critical importance of maintaining our grass root linkages. Our case studies have always been and will remain those home-grown and community based initiatives that show how and what women have done in their local context to realise peace and security of their bodies and families even when all state and international actors are absent.

We will scale up our work while acknowledging different contexts within which we work. The most important thing though is that our approach will always centre women's realities and from a contextualisation of those realities will emerge ways of engaging with them.

Since its birth, Isis-WICCE has grown rapidly and innovatively but for this growth to be maintained, and for Isis-WICCE to optimize on the current opportunities and build on its achievement, there is need for more focus, optimization and scaling up. In order for us not to lose our feminist competitive edge and to keep striving for excellence, we need to continue renewing ourselves by stopping, reflecting and planning.

Thank you for being part of this journey as we celebrate our 20 years of our work globally and prepare for another decade of more exciting and impactful work.

In order for us not to lose our feminist competitive edge and to keep striving for excellence, we need to continue renewing ourselves by stopping, reflecting and planning.

Isis-WICCE STRATEGIC VISIONS



Strategic visions	Think	Know	Educate	Influence	Inform	Partnerships	Grow	Progress	Connections and collaborations
Vision 1	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Vision 2	X	X	X	X		X		X	
Vision 3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Vision 4								X	
Vision 5				X	X	X	X	X	X
Vision 6							X	X	X



CONNECTIONS AND COLLABORATIONS

Partnership

Meeting with a Representative from the British Council in charge of South Sudan. British Council Development Services to discuss and share Isis-WICCE's involvement and work in South Sudan, on 14th February 2014

Meeting with the Director of Terrs Des Femmes to discuss issues of Women in Post Conflict situations, on 7th May 2014

The National Public Dialogue on the theme: Women influencing Service Delivery: A Best Practise of Local Communities organised by UWONET at Hotel Africana-Kampala on 20th /March, 2014

Meeting with Ford Foundation, Serena Hotel, Kampala Uganda, 7th February 2014

Meeting with delegates from the UN Special Envoy to the Great Lakes Region, 29th July 2014

Learning

Financial Sustainability Training

organized by Ford Foundation at Lake Victoria Serene Hotel from 2nd – 5th June 2014

Writing Training for Staff of Isis-WICCE,

University of Barcelona (Spain) Kampala, Uganda, 14th to 18th July 2014

Capacity enhancement workshop in Peace Building

organised by CECORE Kampala, Uganda 25th – 28th March 2014

Budget Advocacy and Local Accountability Training

organised by CSBAG Kampala, Uganda 27th - 28th March 2014

ICT and Social Training

organised by AllianceKampala, Uganda 31st – 4th April 2014

Human Rights Defenders' National Training

on Delivery and Promotion of Human

Rights Education

organised by HURINET,Kampala, Uganda 24th – 25th June 2014

Awareness Workshop on “Turning the Page of Hate” for Media Professionals

organised by International Association of Women in Radio and Television (IAWRT) Uganda Chapter together with Uganda Journalists Union (UJU) and Ethical Journalism Network (EJN) with support from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Kampala, Uganda 23rd – 24th May 2014

Gender Budgeting, Advocacy and Accountability

Training organised by FOWODE Kampala, Uganda 27 – 28 May 2014

Skills training Workshop for UNSCR1325

Coalition members organised by CEWIGO Kampala, Uganda 2nd – 6th June 2014

● Monitoring and Evaluation
Training organised by EASUN Moshi, Tanzania from 20th – 24th July 2014

The Regional Conference East and West Africa
organised byFAKT on behalf of Bread for the World Nairobi, Kenya 25-29th November, 2014

Regional Conference on Women's Political Participation organized by CORDAID Bujumbura Burundi 10th – 12th December 2014

Networking

Advisory Group Meeting on the Global Study on the implementation of UNSCR1325 organised by UN Women in New York from 27-31 October 2014

Support visit by Womankind Worldwide, Kampala, Uganda 8th May 2014

Mini Summit on the International Protocol on Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence in Conflict organized by British High Commission, Kampala, Uganda, 11th March 2014.

Expert Meeting on Monitoring the Impact of the PRDP on Peace & Conflict in Northern Uganda Organised by International Alert, Kampala, Uganda, 11th March 2014.

CSBAG Justice/Law & Order Thematic Sector Working Group Meeting organised by CSBAG Kampala Uganda 11th March 2014

CSO's Consultative Round Table Meeting on Witness Protection organised by the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights in collaboration with Uganda Law Reform Commission, Kampala Uganda 13th March 2014

National Public Dialogue on Women influencing Service Delivery: A Best Practice of Local Communities organised by UWONET Kampala, Uganda 21st March 2014

International Campaign to stop Rape and Gender Violence in Conflict organised by Nobel Women Initiative, Nairobi, Kenya 28th – 3rd March 2014

Women in Political Leadership – Pre Planning Meeting organised by Urgent Action Fund, Nairobi Kenya 23rd – 24th April 2014

National Policy Dialogue "Making Post Conflict Recovery Program work for women: Building focus on land beyond 2015" organised by UWONET and UN Joint Program on Gender Equality at UWONET offices in Kampala on 28th May 2014.

Launch of "Uganda Democracy Audit 2008-2013: Building better democracies in Uganda" organised by HURINET in partnership with Action Aid International Uganda, Kampala, Uganda 17th April 2014.

Advocacy

58th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women on "the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls", New York, USA. 10 to 21 March 2014

Universal Peer Review and NAP on Human Rights CSO Stakeholders Meeting organised by HURINET - Uganda, Kampala on 14th March, 2014

CSBAG Meeting with Accountability Sector Working Group organised by CSBAG at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kampala, Uganda 4th April, 2014.

National Consultation on the establishment of a Civil Society coalition to implement, monitor and evaluate the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the DRC and the Region organised by Akina Mama wa Africa in collaboration with UNDP, ICGLR, Care Uganda, NPI-Africa and CECORE and facilitated by the O/SEGRL, Kampala – Uganda August 27, 2014

ECOSOC Sensitization and Motivation Campaigns organized by Uganda National NGO Forum Kampala Uganda 8th September 2014

Reconvening Trauma convening and AIR Steering Committee meeting organised by Stephen Lewis Foundation, Kigali, Rwanda 22nd - 25th September 2014

Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict organised by the UK Government London United Kingdom, 7th – 15th June 2014

The International Colloquium on Women's Leadership in Peace-Building organized by African Study Centre Leiden, Amsterdam and Netherlands 16 - 17 October 2014

Symposium on maximizing Impact of Women, Peace & Security Policies in Africa organised by Inclusive Security, University of Nairobi in partnership with Cordaid and supported by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nairobi, Kenya 22nd – 25th July 2014

CSO Consultative Session on the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) organized by the ACODE South Africa, Bujumbura, Burundi 6th -7th February 2014

JASS Feminist Review and Planning Meeting organised by Just Associates Johannesburg, South Africa 7th – 11th April 2014.

Carr Stanyer Sims & Co.

Certified Public Accountants

Ground Floor, Kisizi House
8 Kyaggwe Road
P. O. Box 6283, Kampala, Uganda
Phone: +256 (0)41 4258458/4236732
Fax: +256 (0)41 4236796
Email: carrstan@carrstanyersims.com

Page 9

Independent Auditor's Report

to the Members of Isis - Women's International Cross-Cultural Exchange

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Isis - Women's International Cross-Cultural Exchange as set out on pages 11 to 55, which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2014, the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by Management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Carr Stanyer Sims & Co.

Certified Public Accountants

Ground Floor, Kisizi House
8 Kyaggwe Road
P. O. Box 6293, Kampala, Uganda
Phone: +256 (0)41 4258458/4236732
Fax: +256 (0)41 4236796
Email: carrstanyersims.com

Page 10

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Isis - Women's International Cross-Cultural Exchange

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of Isis-WICCE at 31 December 2014 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with donor reporting guidelines and comply with the Companies Act 2012.

Reporting on Other Legal and Statutory Requirements

The Companies Act requires that in carrying out our audit we consider and report to you the following matters. We confirm that:

- (i) We have obtained all the information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit.
- (ii) In our opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the Company, so far as appears from our examination of those books; and
- (iii) The Financial Statements are in agreement with the books of account.

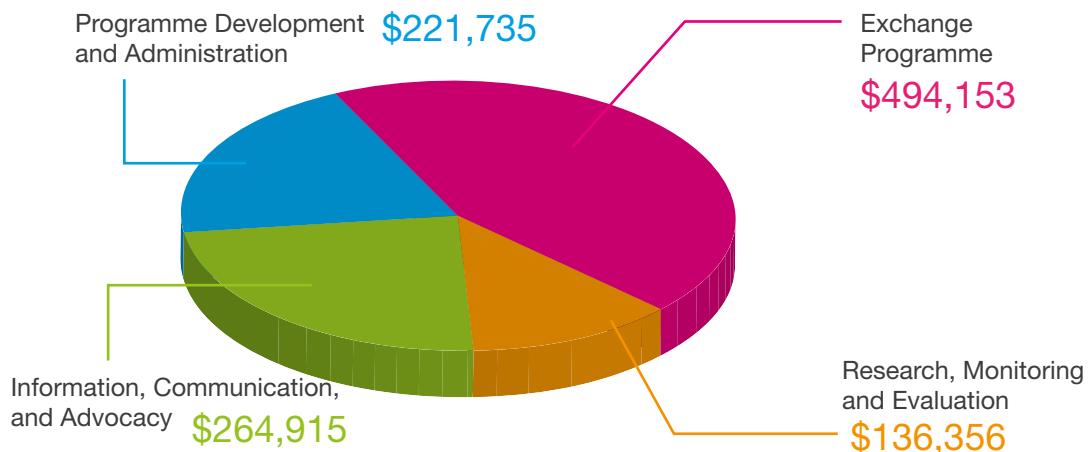

Carr Stanyer Sims & Co.
Certified Public Accountants



24 AUG 2015

Kampala, Uganda

EXPENDITURE - 2014 Actual US\$



INCOME - 2014 Actual US\$

