

**A Call to Action on the PRDP**  
Output of the workshop hosted by the  
Ugandan Women Parliamentary Association and The Initiative for Inclusive Security  
Jinja, Uganda  
September 21 – 23, 2008

### **Critique**

An analysis of the Peace, Development and Recovery Plan (PRDP) for Northern Uganda conducted by women Members of Parliament (MPs) and civil society leaders reveals that the PRDP does not reflect Ugandan women's needs or priorities. The overall framework is not in line with accepted national, regional and international gender instruments such as Uganda's 1995 Constitution, the Uganda Gender Policy, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), or the Beijing Platform for Action. Further, it does not reflect the Millennium Development Goals, nor does it adhere to the requirements set out in United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace, and security.

The PRDP does not include sex-disaggregated data. This is an enormous barrier to the creation of intervention programs that properly address the needs of men and women, and of monitoring and evaluation tools that are gender-responsive. As a result, the PRDP's four strategic objectives do not delineate the different needs of men and women. Further, no budget allocation broken down by gender has been forthcoming, making it nearly impossible to determine the projected spending on men and women, or boys and girls.

There is no clarity on PRDP implementation structures and mechanisms. Potential implementation agencies such as the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), line ministries, development partners, local government, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have not accounted for gender in their management and service delivery structure. This is particularly true in the Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) where women are underrepresented and have insignificant decision-making power. The beneficiary population and stakeholders, particularly women, are ill-informed about the PRDP and program implementation.

### **Need for Urgency**

Though the PRDP was launched in October 2007, many questions remain about its budget allocation, implementation and beneficiaries. Women constitute over 50% of the conflict-affected population and are critical for sustainable recovery and reconciliation efforts. Women bear a disproportionate burden during conflict and offer unique perspectives on promoting peace and security. In fact, 80% of internally displaced persons are women and children. If gender gaps are not urgently addressed, the PRDP's intended objectives will fail to deliver tangible results. One year after the launch of the three-year plan, there is a critical need for immediate review of the PRDP to ensure the needs of women are addressed before it is too late. Corrective measures must be taken to redress the existing gaps.

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## **Critical Action Items**

1. The Minister of Finance must immediately clarify funding arrangements and present a budget that makes explicit all of the PRDP activities. The PRDP budget must clarify how resources are allocated to women and men. For example, health spending should report the level of expenditures on reproductive health.
2. Monitoring and evaluation of the PRDP must include the development of gender-sensitive indicators and the collection of sex-disaggregated data. The Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and the National Planning Authority should provide sex-disaggregated data as a basis for targeting resources.
3. All implementing partners – OPM, line ministries, development partners, local government and NGOs – must ensure that a thorough gender analysis and coordinated approach are fully incorporated in their PRDP programming and spending.
4. Women MPs from the war-affected areas should be incorporated in the Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC), and women councilors should be included local PRDP monitoring committees. At least 50% of the members of such committees should be women.
5. Gender experts should be recruited for all offices and at all levels to advise in implementation of the PRDP. Essential staff members should be trained in gender analysis.
6. The Prime Minister should be called to Parliament to deliver a statement about the gender-sensitivity of the PRDP.
7. The Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development should conduct a gender audit of the PRDP by mid-2009.
8. Efforts to popularize the PRDP must be made so that all stakeholders understand it and can contribute to its review. Special outreach should be done to women and women's groups; women parliamentarians could lead such outreach efforts.
9. OPM should ensure that information about the implementation of the PRDP is widely disseminated through local media so that all stakeholders, especially women, have access to the information.
10. The PRDP must be re-aligned with the principles of international, regional and national legislation and instruments that protect and promote gender equity and equality.