



Global Acceleration Instrument on Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action (GAI)

Annual Project narrative progress report – Secretariat function of the GAI

Reporting period: 30 August – 31 December 2016

<p>Project Title: Secretariat of the Global Acceleration Instrument on Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action Project Number: 00101763</p>	<p>PUNO(s): UN Women</p>
<p>Reporting Period: 30 August – 31 December 2016 Report submitted by: UN Women as the Secretariat of the Global Acceleration Instrument Name: Ghita El Khyari Entity: UN Women Title: Policy Specialist, Peace and Security Section Email: Ghita.khyari@unwomen.org</p>	<p>Implementing Partner(s): N/A</p>
	<p>Project Location: Global – Secretariat based in New York</p>
<p>Project Description: This project covers the Secretariat functions for the Global Acceleration Instrument (GAI) on Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action. The expected outcome of the Project is to enable the achievement of the GAI’s theory of change through sound technical and policy support, a strong culture of accountability and transparency and results-based management, reporting and evaluation, as well as solid knowledge management and communication strategies.</p>	<p>Total Approved budget: 360,929 USD – first tranche (total approved budget of 1 819 553 USD)</p>
	<p>Project Start Date: 30 August 2016 Project End Date: 31 December 2018 Total duration (in months): 28 months</p>
<p>GAI’s Outcome the Project is contributing to : N/A</p>	
<p>GAI’s indicator the Project is reporting on: N/A</p>	

SUMMARY

This report covers the four first months of implementation of UN Women's project under the Global Acceleration Instrument (GAI) on Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action, in its capacity as the GAI Secretariat. A full GAI report will be submitted by the end of April 2017.

During the reporting period, the Secretariat finalized the GAI's founding documents, including its Operations Manual and results framework.

UN Women also provided support to two meetings of the GAI Funding Board at working level, with relevant documentation and implementation of the decisions taken.

The Secretariat ensured the roll out of the Fund in the four target countries for 2016, i.e. Burundi, Colombia, Jordan and Solomon Islands and the Pacific (multi-country allocation), including through a monitoring mission to Jordan. As a result, by December 2016, projectization at country level was completed in two out of the four countries (Burundi and Solomon Islands), and launched in the two others (Colombia and Jordan).

Significant efforts were dedicated to positioning the new fund within the peace and security community, but also to showcasing the alignment of the GAI with the recommendations of the World Humanitarian Summit and the localization work stream of the Grand Bargain.

The Secretariat also led multiple resource mobilization initiatives, including bilateral meeting with donors, proposal submission, a donor briefing and an event around the UN Security Council open debate on women, peace and security. It also launched the recruitment process of a private sector consultant for the GAI. As a result of these efforts, the Secretariat secured an additional CAD 1,5 million from Canada in November.

I. Purpose and new developments

In October 2015, recognizing the urgent need to prioritize action in the field of women, peace and security and humanitarian action, the Global Study on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 recommended the establishment of the Global Acceleration Instrument (GAI) for Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action. This recommendation was recognized in the Secretary-General's 2015 Report¹ as well as in UNSCR 2242 (2015).

In February 2016, the GAI was formally established as a pooled funding mechanism with the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO). Its Terms of Reference were finalized and a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Participating UN Organizations (UNDP, UNFPA and UN Women) and MPTFO. On 24 February 2016, the GAI was officially launched during an event co-hosted by the Missions of Australia, Ireland, Japan, Sierra Leone, Spain and the United Kingdom to the United Nations, in partnership with the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders, Cordaid and UN Women.

Following the launch, the Secretariat initiated discussions with the members of the Funding Board² and started the drafting process of the Operations Manual.

On 1 April 2016, the Funding Board met formally for the first time during an inception meeting aimed at laying the foundations of the GAI. During the meeting, Assistant Secretary General Glemarec, UN Women's Deputy Executive Director, was designated as the Chair of the Funding Board. The Operations Manual was discussed and further structural

¹Paragraph 137.

² At the time PBSO, UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women, Australia, Ireland, Spain, the United Kingdom, the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders and Cordaid.

comments were provided, including on the methodology for the elaboration of the longlist of eligible countries and their prioritization.

In April 2016, the Secretariat continued its consultations with the Funding Board members on the methodology for the elaboration of the longlist of eligible countries and an agreement was reached at the end of the month. A list of twenty-two countries was cleared by the Funding Board.³

In May 2016, with the Secretariat's support, the Chair of the GAI Funding Board sent a letter to the Resident Coordinators in the twenty-two eligible countries, informing them of the funding opportunity and inviting the United Nations Country Teams at country level to submit a Country allocation proposal to the Funding Board. The Secretariat organized calls with and provided support to all the countries in the drafting process. By the beginning of June, the Secretariat had received 18 country allocations, four countries having decided not to submit or did not submit within the deadline.⁴ Based on scoring criteria approved by the Funding Board, the Secretariat proceeded to the technical review and the scoring of the 18 proposals received. The Secretariat also drafted a resource mobilization strategy, finalized the GAI's Operations Manual as well as the project document for the Secretariat function for the Fund.

On 21 June 2016, the GAI Funding Board convened for the second time at decision-making level. The Funding Board approved the GAI's investment plan for the first year. The first four countries prioritized for investment are: Burundi, Colombia, Jordan (Syria crisis) and Solomon Islands and the Pacific (multi-country allocation). The Funding Board also approved the Operations Manual for the Fund with reservations as well as the project for the Secretariat function (the present project).

During the summer, the Secretariat worked on finalizing the Operations Manual for the fund, including its results framework and translating relevant documents.

On 30 August 2016, the first tranche of the present project was transferred to UN Women as the Secretariat of the Global Acceleration, for an amount of 360,929 USD.

The expected outcome of the project is to enable the achievement of the GAI's theory of change through sound technical and policy support, a strong culture of accountability and transparency and results-based management, reporting and evaluation, as well as solid knowledge management and communication strategies. The present report covers the period from 30 August to 31 December 2016.

II. Results

i) Narrative reporting on results:

Outcome: The present report covers only four months of the project (30 August – 31 December 2016). It is too early to report at Outcome level at this stage.

Output 1.1. Quality technical support and advisory to the funding board is provided

During the reporting period, there was no formal meeting of Funding Board.

However, and in compliance with the Operations Manual which states that the Board will meet at working level at least every three months, the Secretariat organized two meetings at working level on 7 October and 16 December.

³ The longlist of eligible countries agreed to by the Funding Board is comprised of: Afghanistan, Burundi, C.A.R, Colombia, D.R.C. Iraq, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Myanmar, Nigeria, Palestine, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands (multicountry), Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Syria crisis (multicountry), Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine and Yemen. Haiti was added to the longlist by the Funding Board in November 2011

⁴ The four countries are Afghanistan, Turkey, Ukraine and Yemen.

During the 7 October meeting, the Funding Board members discussed update on country allocations, results achieved by the pilot project in Burundi, as well as communications and resource mobilization. It was also decided that a CSO focused event would be organized around the UN Security Council open debate on women, peace and security. The partner CSO GNWP presented the results of its capacity building project on Financing the National Action Plans on UNSCR 1325.

During the 16 December meeting, the Secretariat provided a comprehensive update on projectization at country level, including on projects selected in Burundi and the Solomon Islands and the Pacific. The Boards also discussed resource mobilization efforts, and the possible organization of a side event during CSW61. The partner CSO WILPF presented the results of its knowledge management project under the initial phase of the GAI. The 2017 formal Funding Board meeting was also discussed.

For both meetings, the Secretariat prepared the relevant documentation as well as the documentation requested by the Board, before and after the meetings. The Secretariat circulated the minutes for approval and worked on implementing all the decisions made by the Board.

During the reporting period, significant efforts were dedicated to positioning the new fund within the peace and security community, but also to showcasing the alignment of the GAI with the recommendations of the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) and with the localization and humanitarian-development nexus work streams of the Grand Bargain.

Regarding resource mobilization efforts, the Secretariat drafted a 2016 Operational Plan based on the resource mobilization strategy approved by the Board in June 2016. The Operational Plan was discussed and approved by the Board at working level. The Operational Plan covers research and briefs, visibility events and communications efforts as well as direct outreach to traditional and non traditional donors.

In its efforts to implement the Operational Plan, the Secretariat organized a donor briefing on 31 August 2016. During the briefing, the Secretariat, current donors to the GAI as well as partner CSOs underlined the importance and the added value of the GAI. The informational briefing was attended by a large number of potential donors and partners.⁵

On 27 October 2016, during the annual debate on Women, Peace and Security at the UN Security Council, the Funding Board members, together with the CSO WILPF, co-hosted an event on “Financing the Women, Peace and Security agenda: good practices and lessons learned for accountability and implementation”. Speakers included Deputy Permanent Representative of Ireland, GNWP, WILPF, the UN peacebuilding support office and UN Women.

In November 2016, the Secretariat also initiated discussions with Canada regarding a possible contribution to the GAI. The Secretariat drafted and submitted a proposal. At the end of November, Canada announced a contribution of CAD 1,5 million and as one of the largest donors to the Fund, joined its Funding Board for 2017.

At the end of December 2016, the Secretariat prepared and advertised terms of reference for the recruitment of a private sector consultant who will be in charge of developing and starting the implementation of a private sector strategy for the GAI.

⁵ USA, New Zealand, Netherlands, Swiss Development Cooperation, Australia, Japan, Spain, UK, Canada, Germany, Belgium, EU, Philippines, Sweden, Liechtenstein, Denmark, Rep. of Korea, Colombia

Output 1.2. The Secretariat promotes in its operations a culture of risk management, accountability and transparency

At the end of August 2016, the Secretariat finalized the GAI's Operations Manual, including its results framework, and worked on addressing comments of the Funding Board members. When submitting the proposal to Canada, the Secretariat also updated the risk matrix as included in the Fund's ToRs.

During the reporting period, the Secretariat also prepared all the relevant documents for the funds transfer, including Fund transmittal forms and cover project documents for the Management Entities for CSOs. The Secretariat held very regular meetings with the GAI Fund Manager at MPTFO, including with regard to the implementation of provisions of the Operations Manual.

Output 1.3. Results-based monitoring, reporting and evaluation successfully contributes to achieving the Outcomes of the GAI

The Secretariat prepared the Fund's results framework for consideration and approval by the Funding Board.

After the finalization of the Operations Manual, including the results framework, as well as the translation of the relevant documents, the Secretariat drafted templates for call proposals Terms of Reference of the National Steering Committees. These documents were also translated into Spanish and French.

In October, Secretariats of the four National Steering Committees started working, with the support of the Global Secretariat, on the establishment of the National Steering Committees, the launch of the call for proposals and the technical support to CSOs on proposal drafting. In Burundi, Jordan and the Solomon Islands, the global Secretariat also proceeded to the technical review and scoring of all the project proposals submitted.

More specifically:

- In Colombia, it was decided that the GAI will act as a feeder fund to the UN MPTF post Conflict. Negotiations were launched in September between the GAI Secretariat, the MPTF Colombia and MPTFO on the GAI acting as a feeder fund while safeguarding its identity. Three main issues were discussed, including the presence of civil society organizations in the decision-making bodies, the tracking of expenses and the reporting on the GAI's indicators. A proposal was virtually submitted to the MPTF Colombia Steering Committee and was approved on 15 December.
- In Jordan, the National Steering Committee had to be established due to the inexistence of a preexisting structure. The NSC met for the first time on 30 October 2016. A call was launched with a deadline of 29 November 2016. Only 2 proposals were received and the call had to be extended to 21 December 2016. The Secretariat undertook a mission in Jordan to support the GAI launch. Extensive outreach to CSOs resulted in the presence of 15+ CSOs representatives at a briefing session on the GAI organized on 11 December 2016. A total of 20 proposals were submitted by the deadline of 21 December. By 30 December 2016, the Secretariat reviewed and scored the 20 proposals received.
- In Solomon Islands and the Pacific, the National Steering Committee met for the first time on 14 October 2016. A call was launched with a deadline of 11 November 2016. Twelve relevant applications were received. After the technical review of the Secretariat, the Steering Committee met on 1 December 2016 and decided on the following allocations:
 - Oxfam Solomon Islands for a project called "the Womanitarian project" (\$275 000 – Solomon islands). The project is a response to Outcome 3 of the GAI and aims to develop an innovative and sustainable model of engaging women's civil society organizations and mainstreaming gender into humanitarian response in Solomon Islands, which can be expanded to other areas in the future.

- Samoa Red Cross for a project called “Mainstreaming gender analysis into Samoa Red Cross Society humanitarian programming” (\$110 000 – Samoa). The project will respond to GAI’s Outcome 3 and increase participation of women in emergency response planning at community level, will institutionalize gender analysis into Samoa red cross staff, volunteers and planning, and will ensure long term capacity into Samoa red cross society that will last beyond the project funding.
 - Save the children Vanuatu (with CARE Vanuatu) for a project called “Increasing women and girls voice in the humanitarian sector: The localization of the Vanuatu Gender and Protection Cluster” (\$275 000 – Vanuatu, Solomon islands, Fiji). This project is a response to GAI’s Outcome 3 and aims to support other CSOs to strengthen their understanding of gender and protection, as well as their capacity to develop proposals on gender and protection through a mentoring scheme. The project will also train female disaster committee members at the local and provincial levels on gender and protection.
 - Medical Services Pacific (MSP) for a project entitled “protecting our women, engaging rights – POWER” (\$ 270 000 – Fiji and Solomon islands). The project is a response to GAI’s Outcome 5 and aims to increase protection for women and girls, action human rights provisions, enable women’s participation and agency, improve health, social services and security and better enable the prosecution of sexual offenders in Fiji and Solomon Islands.
- In Burundi, the GAI is using the Joint Steering Committee of the Peacebuilding Fund, co-chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator and the Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The JSC met for the first time on the GAI on 27 October 2016. The call was launched and 25 proposals were received, 18 meeting the eligibility criteria (Outcomes 2 and 6). Following the technical review by the Secretariat, the Steering Committee met for a second time on 11 December and approved the following proposals:
 - ABAZIMYAMURIRO BAZIRA IMBIBE (ABI-Burundi) for a project titled « Appui à la création des sociétés pacifiques et égalitaires » (Outcome 6). This projects aims to provide to 525 women grouped in 35 mutuelles de solidarite means enabling them to participate in the socio-economic recovery in 10 provinces of Burundi: Budget : \$ 131 000
 - BURUNDI LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM (BLTP) for a project entitled: « Promotion de l'autonomisation des femmes leaders en politique et de la société civile en vue de leur implication dans la consolidation de la paix et le relèvement économique » (Outcome 2). This project aims to strengthen social cohesion at the community level through dialogue, information sharing and civic education. It will strengthen the coordination between all community levels and provide capacity building and economic empowerment for for women mediators (Budget: \$ 200 000)
 - DUSHIREHAMWE et ASSOCIATION DES GUIDES DU BURUNDI (AGB) for a project entitled Renforcement du rôle des femmes dans la consolidation de la paix au Burundi . This project aims to promote the leadership of women and their organizations through (i) community level economic empowerment projects (ii) support to advocacy initiatives in the field of peacebuilding and recovery (Budget: \$299 967)

Output 1.4. The GAI is a recognized hub of knowledge in the field of Women, peace and security and humanitarian action

Although there were no targets for 2016 under this output, the Secretariat worked on strengthening its communications and knowledge management efforts during the reporting period. In addition to the visibility event mentioned above and which was organized during the Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security at the Security Council, the Secretariat produced and updated communications materials, including the launch of a GAI Twitter account, a printed version of the Operations Manual, 2-pager for the Fund, updates on results achieved in Burundi, etc. At the end of 2016, the Secretariat also launched a call for proposals for the selection of a vendor in charge of establishing the GAI webpage.

Regarding knowledge products, they were scheduled to be produced starting from year two.

The following lessons were learned from the four first months of implementation:

- More time needs to be allocated in the future to the selection process, in order to ensure full ownership of NSCs as well as more manageable deadlines for the Secretariat.
- The Briefing session in Jordan proved to be very useful in widening the pool of prospective applicants. Similar events could be organized in other countries in the future.
- Multi-country allocations have proven very challenging in the operationalization process. Further discussion with all stakeholders, including the AA will be necessary to ensure smooth implementation.
- The time dedicated to this project in terms of professional staff (One P4 – 70% of the time), seems to be insufficient. It is therefore suggested that the Professional staff dedicates 100% of their time to the GAI.

ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment:

	<u>Achieved</u> Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)	Source of Verification
<p>Outcome 1: The achievement of the GAI's theory of change is enabled by sound technical and policy support, a strong culture of accountability and transparency and results-based management, reporting and evaluation, as well as solid knowledge management and communication strategies. Indicator:% GAI's Result Framework targets met: Baseline: Baseline: 0 Planned Target: At least 20%</p>	N/A	It is not possible at this stage to measure the Fund's impact as (i) the projectization at country level only started at the end of 2016 and (ii) the assessment will be conducted at the id-term review	

<p>Output 1.1 Quality technical support and advisory to the funding board is provided.</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.1 % of Funding Board meetings for which relevant documents have been circulated at least one week in advance:</p> <p>Baseline: N/A Planned Target: 100%</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.2 % of Funding Board decisions implemented</p> <p>Baseline: N/A Planned Target: 100%</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.2 Number of Resource mobilization strategy operational plans available</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 1</p>	<p>The target of 100% was reached. All documents were circulated at least 1 week in advance, and in most cases 2-3 weeks in advance</p> <p>All the decisions of the Funding Board were implemented</p> <p>A Resource mobilization plan was drafted and discussed by the Funding Board at working level in July 2016. The plan aims to operationalize the resource mobilization strategy through concrete actions in terms of research, communications, as well as outreach to both traditional and non traditional donors</p>	<p>No variance</p> <p>No variance</p> <p>No variance</p>	<p>Emails to the Funding Board</p> <p>Minutes of the meetings</p> <p>Resource mobilization operational plan Minutes of the meeting at working level</p>
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<p>Output 1.2 The Secretariat promotes in its operations a culture of risk management, accountability and transparency</p> <p>Indicator 1.2.1 Availability of a Funding Board approved Operations Manual: Baseline: No Planned Target: Yes</p> <p>Indicator 1.2.2 Periodicity of update of the risk management matrix Baseline: N/A Planned Target: at least once a year</p>	<p>The Fund has an Operations Manual that was approved by the Board</p> <p>The Risk matrix as included in the Fund's ToR was updated in November 2016. A more detailed and comprehensive risk management strategy is still to be developed.</p>	<p>No Variance</p> <p>No variance</p>	<p>Minutes of the Funding Board meeting and exchange of emails Operations Manual</p> <p>Risk matrix and updated risk matrix</p>
<p>Output 1.3 Results-based monitoring, reporting and evaluation successfully contributes to achieving the Outcomes of the GAI</p> <p>Indicator 1.3.1 Availability of a results framework Baseline: No Planned Target: Yes</p>	<p>The results framework was elaborated, cleared by the Funding Board and included in the Fund's Operations Manual</p>	<p>No variance</p>	<p>Operations Manual</p>
<p>Output 1.4 The GAI is a recognized hub of knowledge in the field of Women, peace and security and humanitarian action (no target for 2016)</p>			

III. Assessments, Evaluations and Knowledge

- There were no assessment/evaluation during the reporting period
- There were no knowledge products planned for 2016.

IV. Programmatic Revisions

In 2017, the Secretariat will finalize the roll out of the GAI at country level, and focus on projectization in Jordan and Colombia. Strong focus will be given to monitoring at country level as well as quality reporting on results.

Priority – including in terms of financial investment - will also be given to resource mobilization through ambitious communications efforts, high level visibility events and outreach to non traditional donors – including private foundations and corporations.

Depending on the availability of funds, the Secretariat will also initiate, at the end of 2016, a research on support to women's organizations in crises contexts, that will feed in evidence-based advocacy as well as inform GAI programming and support provided to partner CSOs.