

Strategy Paper – Integrating a Gendered Perspective in International Engagement.

As Defence strengthens and increases its international engagement and collaboration footprint, there are growing opportunities to build consideration of the WPS agenda into its international engagement framework. To this in end, in May 2017, the Defence Strategic Policy Committee endorsed a new strategy for integrating a gender perspective into all international engagement activities conducted by Service International Engagement, Strategic Policy Division and International Policy Division. The strategy builds on Defence's achievements to date and will ensure a continued focus on mainstreaming a gender perspective through following lines of effort: policy and process; people-to-people links; training; infrastructure and exercises and operations.

Incorporating a gender perspective into Defence's International Engagements highlights the scope and depth of Defence's commitment to UNSCR 1325, as captured in whole-of-government policy such as the National Action Plan and DFAT's Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Strategy. Defence's strong and demonstrable commitment to the WPS agenda, as enacted through international engagement policy and activities, is likely to have a positive influence on those countries that we engage with, while also ensuring that Defence meets Government expectations of a stronger, more innovative international engagement footprint.