

ASIA-PACIFIC CENTER FOR SECURITY STUDIES WOMEN, PEACE, & SECURITY STRATEGY

MISSION STATEMENT:

In support of the National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security (WPS), APCSS will foster an inclusive security sector through engagement and executive education, producing lasting experiences and outcomes for security practitioners in the Asia-Pacific region.

PURPOSE: Through awareness and advocacy, promote women's participation in the security sector in all efforts related to building a sustainable and lasting peace to advance "peace, national security, economic and social development, and international cooperation."¹ Support efforts include conflict prevention, conflict management and resolution, as well as post conflict relief and recovery.

1. As directed by the Executive Order, the goal of the National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security is "to empower half the world's population as equal partners in preventing conflict and building peace in countries threatened and affected by war, violence, and insecurity."² Coordinated efforts will be directed toward the advancement of women's inclusion in peace-building activities, to include negotiations, and conflict prevention. Other areas of focus include protection from sexual and gender-based violence; as well as ensuring equal access to relief and recovery assistance.
2. The national action plan is guided by five principles:
 - a. **Engagement and protection of women as agents of peace and stability** in order to promote security, prevent, respond to, and resolve conflict, and rebuild societies.
 - b. **Advancement of gender integration** to complement and enhance existing initiatives on gender equality, women's empowerment, ensure respect for human rights, as well as addressing the needs of vulnerable populations in crisis and conflict environments.
 - c. **Inclusion** to actively seek out the views and participation of stakeholders—women and girls, men and boys, members of marginalized groups including youth, ethnic, racial or religious minorities, persons with disabilities, displaced persons and indigenous peoples, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals, and people from all socioeconomic strata.
 - d. **Ensure full and complete coordination** for activities in support of WPS among all actors, national and international. Interagency coordination will not be limited at the national level, but, WPS activities will be integrated into relevant United

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States foreign policy initiatives and enhanced by engagement with international partners.

- e. United States Government agencies are **accountable** for implementation of policies and initiatives.
3. This National Action Plan demonstrates commitment to integrating women's views and perspectives fully into American diplomatic, security, and development efforts as agents of peace, reconciliation, development, growth and stability in order to make significant progress toward sustainable peace and security.

OBJECTIVES:

1. EXPERIENCES & OUTCOMES: APCSS facilitate outcomes that result in a more inclusive security sector and broadened security dialogue.
 - a. Once a course is complete, APCSS will maintain networks and connections through the WPS "Community of Interest" by furthering the WPS dialogue.
 - b. APCSS will follow-up on WPS Fellows Projects to measure effectiveness of the WPS program.
2. EDUCATION: APCSS is committed to the professional development of women in the security sector, as well as providing exposure, advocacy, and awareness on WPS security issues to all security professionals. In the context of curricular elements, we will pursue this goal through a tiered approach.
 - a. Incorporating WPS elements into course curriculum. As a minimum requirement for Course Managers, the following elements need to be designed into each course, as described:
 1. Advanced Security Cooperation and Comprehensive Crisis Management courses will focus on substantive WPS education and application providing Fellows with a deeper understanding of WPS issues which they will be able to apply:
 - i. A specific WPS element will be integrated into the curriculum as a formal element of the course (it may be an exercise, plenary lecture, or activity with a specific WPS focus).
 - ii. Integrate gender-related discussion into the course through plenary lectures (as it relates to the topic), seminar discussion, brown bag lunches, electives, exercises, and case studies as appropriate. It should not be in all areas, but interspersed throughout course curriculum.
 - iii. Include polling on the topic of WPS as appropriate.

1. Executive Order 13595, <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/12/19/executive-order-instituting-national-action-plan-women-peace-and-security>
2. United States National Action Plan on Women, Peace, & Security, http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/email-files/US_National_Action_Plan_on_Women_Peace_and_Security.pdf

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2. Comprehensive Security Responses to Terrorism and Asia-Pacific Orientation courses will focus on awareness and exposure of WPS issues to Fellows:
 - i. Integrate gender-related discussion into the course through plenary lectures (as it relates to the topic), seminar discussion, brown bag lunches, electives, exercises, and case studies as appropriate.
 - ii. Include polling on the topic of WPS as appropriate.
 3. Transnational Security Cooperation and Senior Asia-Pacific Orientation courses will focus on advocacy of the WPS program and recruitment of WPS Fellows for APCSS courses:
 - i. Integrate gender-related discussion in the course through lectures (as relevant), electives, and case studies.
 - ii. Include polling on the topic of WPS as appropriate.
 - iii. Actively recruit female participants “by name” for other APCSS courses.
 - b. WPS Cohort: When appropriate, work towards the integration of a WPS Cohort for specific courses which Fellows will be working on a Fellows Project together, dealing with a gender-related security issue. The cohort can be from one country or a sub-regional group.
3. **REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT:** APCSS is committed to creating inclusive dialogue in the Asia-Pacific security community.
 - a. Incorporate WPS elements into workshops where appropriate.
 - b. Develop WPS workshop for FY16.
 4. **GENDER BALANCE:** APCSS strives to achieve greater gender balance in all APCSS courses and workshops by:
 - a. Reaching an initial goal of 20% female participation in all resident courses
 - b. Actively recruit female participants by working in concert with U. S. country teams within partner nations to increase female participation in courses and workshops.

MEASURES OF EFFECTIVENESS:

- a. Implementation of WPS Fellows Projects.
- b. Increased participation of female fellows in all resident courses.
- c. Increased dialogue of gender-related security issues.