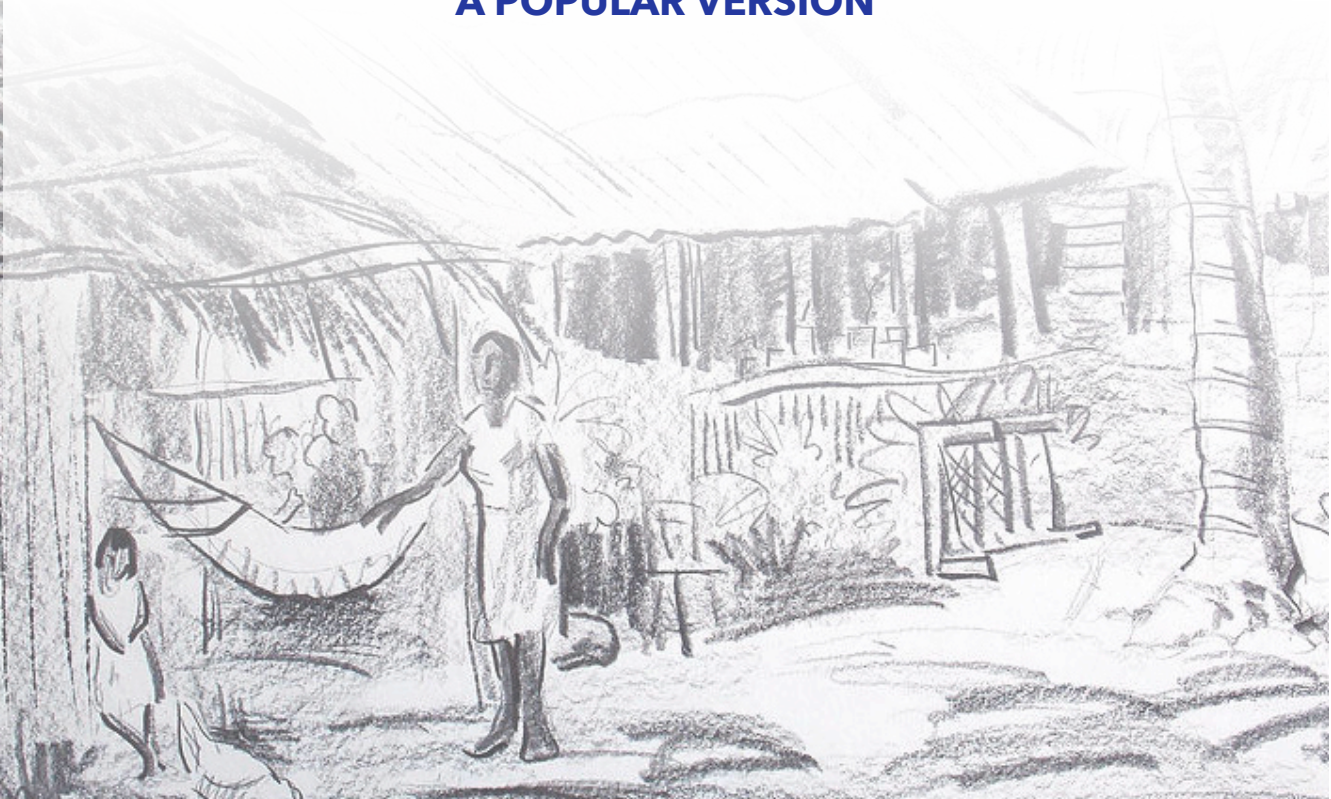




REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

# THE THIRD NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY 2021-2025

## A POPULAR VERSION



MINISTRY OF GENDER, LABOUR AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

## THE THIRD NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY 2021-2025

A POPULAR VERSION



# FOREWORD

The Government of Uganda recognizes the critical importance of ensuring sustained peace and security through enhanced meaningful participation of women in peace and development processes and is committed to the implementation of the National Action Plan III (NAP III) on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) 2021-2025.

This commitment has been demonstrated through the development and implementation of the NAP 1 (2008-2010) and NAP II (2011-2015). The development of NAP III was premised on the lessons learnt from the previous two NAPs, with a new focus on investing in rigorous and addressing the challenges that prevail in achieving lasting and inclusive peace through women’s meaningful participation.

The Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development has the responsibility of coordinating Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Private Sector and communities to implement the NAP III in a more effective, efficient, and coordinated manner to support the Women, Peace and Security Agenda.

The Ministry remains grateful to all Partners in particular UN Women, the Government of Norway and the Coalition for Action on 1325 (COACT) for the continued support and participation towards the development of the NAP III Popular Version.

I am therefore, pleased to introduce the Popular Version of the NAP III for use as a guide and tool to bring the WPS related issues and actions to scale. I also urge all the stakeholders to disseminate it widely.

For God and my Country,



**HON. BETTY AMONGI ONGOM (MP)**  
**MINISTER**



# INTRODUCTION

## **Who wrote the NAP III?**

The NAP III was written by a National Technical Committee that includes representatives of Government ministries and institutions, security sector institutions, non-governmental organisations, the private sector, Makerere University, and the media. The members of this committee took part in workshops in Uganda and East Africa to learn about NAPs. They also consulted men and women, the youth, the Police, District Local Government and political leaders, LC III leaders, religious leaders, civil society leaders, cultural leaders, Local Council leaders and other community leaders during large regional meetings held Arua for West Nile, Gulu for Acholi and Lango region, Soroti for Teso and Karamoja, Jinja for Bugisu and Busoga region, Kampala for Central Region, Fort Portal for Rwenzori region and Mbarara for South Western region. This was done to make sure leaders from different sectors at all levels all key stakeholders felt included so that they would own the final NAP III. The NAP III therefore represents the views of many Ugandans.

## **What should I do after reading this booklet?**

After reading this booklet, please share the information with others. Tell your friends, your family, members of the groups you belong to, and those you worship with about the NAP III. Explain to them what they can do to prevent conflicts and violence at family and in the community. Explain to them the important role women play in building and maintaining peace. It is important that all Ugandans are part of the effort to eliminate the challenges that keep majority of Uganda's women from participating in decision making, in preventing and resolving conflicts and in building peace. The NAP III is one of the plans of Government that will help increase respect for the human rights of Uganda's women and girls to improve their well-being.

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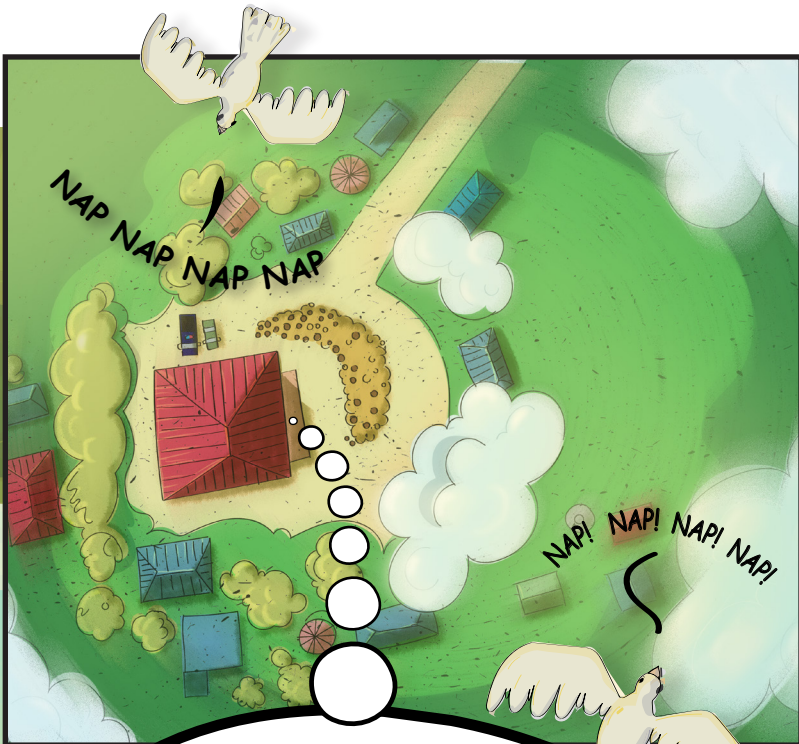
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# LIST OF ACRONYMS

<b>CBO</b>	Community Based Organisation
<b>COACT 1325</b>	Coalition for Action on 1325
<b>CSO</b>	Civil Society Organisation
<b>NAP I</b>	The First National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security
<b>NAP II</b>	The Second National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security
<b>NAP III</b>	The Third National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security
<b>UN Women</b>	United Nations Entity for Gender, Equality and the Empowerment of Women
<b>UNSCR</b>	United Nations Security Council Resolution
<b>WPS</b>	Women, Peace and Security





**Hello! My name is Joyce.**  
I am a Peacebuilder. I am delighted to meet you!

I love to promote peace and to help others do the same. I am here to talk to you about Uganda's Third National Action Plan on women, peace and security. Each of us has a role to play to promote peace and security in Uganda. If we are to do this well, we must understand the third National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (NAPIII). It guides us on what to do. The actual NAP III is a big document but this Popular Version is short and easy to understand. Nothing complicated. It has been written for ordinary citizens like you and me. Peacebuilding is good work. Work with me and let us work together to keep peace and security for our families, communities and Uganda!



# SECTION ONE: AN INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN AND PEACE BUILDING

## 1.0 Section summary

Welcome to section one of this popular version of Uganda's Third National Action plan on Women, Peace and security. In this section, we will explain basic words that will help us understand the NAP III. These include:

1. Peace
2. Security
3. The Women, Peace and Security Agenda
4. The National Action Plan (NAP)
5. The Women, Peace and Security Agenda
6. Relevant Laws and Policies
7. UN Security Council Resolution 1325
8. The Third National Action Plan on Women Peace and Security
9. Why the NAP III is important
10. How the NAP III was created

## 1.1 What does Peace mean?

Peace is being free from conflict and all forms of violence as individuals and as a country. Peace for an individual means the ability to meet one's needs and the needs of the family. It also means freedom to participate in activities that one is interested in. Without hostility, fighting, poverty, and other issues that worry us in our families, communities, at the work place and as a country, we can say we have peace. When we are able to do our work without being disturbed, we have peace.



## 1.2 What is Security?

Security means freedom from, or strength to deal with, possible harm caused by others or natural disasters and other threats. Security means safety and the measures taken to be safe or protected, and to prevent those things that make one not feel safe. It means freedom from danger, fear or anxiety. For example when you are home at night with the doors locked, you feel safe. Security means feeling safe at home, at school, and at work. The security of a state means a country is able to protect itself against enemy attacks. The 1995 Constitution of Uganda says Peace and security are for all Ugandans to enjoy and protect.

### 1.3 What is human security?

Traditional security is about **the ability of the Government to protect and defend the country against external enemies**. However, **human security** is people-centered. It is about protecting people, every individual. We can therefore say that human security involves the well-being of individuals, and it responds to the needs of ordinary people in dealing with sources of insecurity. Government puts in place measures to prevent **challenges to the survival, livelihood and dignity of the people**.




Let us talk about conflicts in Uganda

#### A History of Conflicts in Uganda.

Since independence in 1962, Uganda has gone through many violent conflicts which have led to loss of lives and property. Some examples of the major conflicts in different parts of Uganda include:

1. The Buganda wars between 1962 and 1979 (Central region)
2. The Allied Democratic front conflict 1990's (South Western region)
3. The West Nile Bank Front Conflict (North Western region)
4. The Lord's Resistance Army War (LRA) 1987-2006 (Northern region)

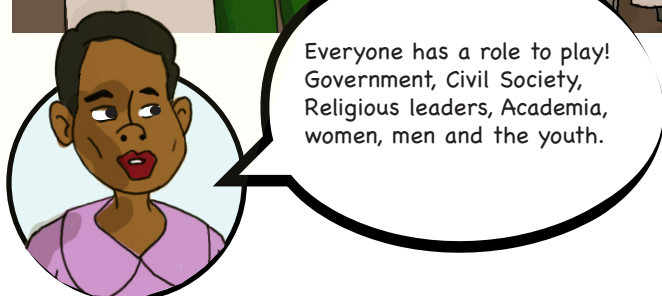
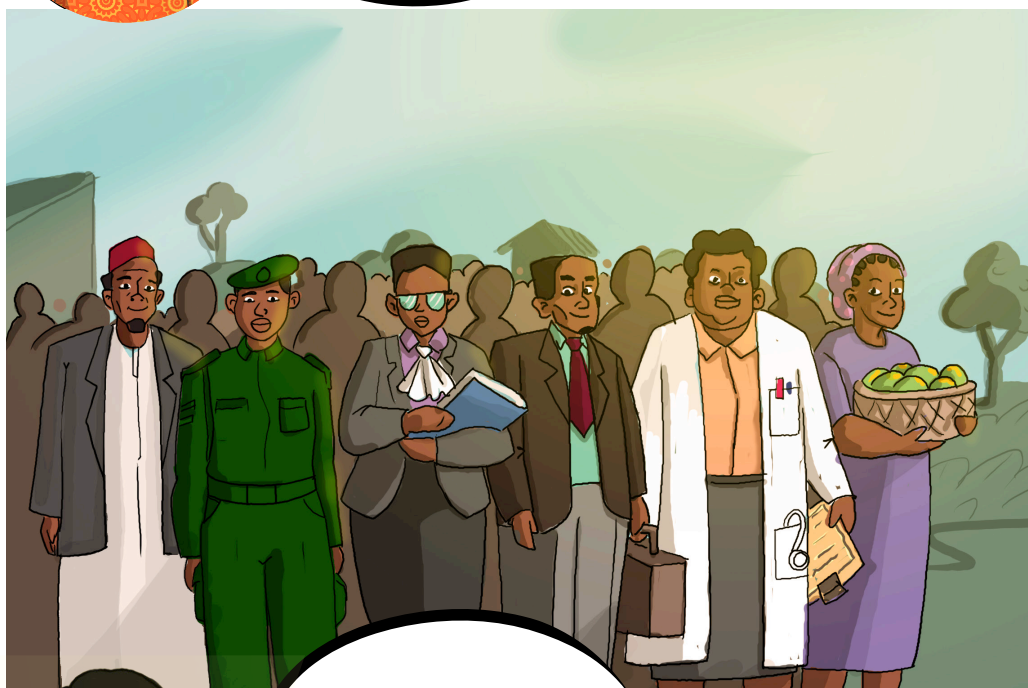
These conflicts were caused by governance challenges, unequal access to resources and opportunity including scarce land, pasture and limited water resources. Conflicts also may arise out as a result of natural or man-made disasters. Sadly, in all situations of conflict, women and girls are the most affected group of people. Yet, women are left out in making decisions and plans that affect their peace and security in the home and community.



Conflict affects men differently from the way it affects women.

## 1.4 What is the Women, Peace and Security Agenda?

Women and girls are the most negatively affected in conflict. However, they are excluded from decision making, conflict prevention and peacebuilding processes. We must create special ways to protect women and girls in conflict situations and involve them in conflict prevention and peace building. The Women Peace and Security Agenda (WPS) is about actions that need to be taken to get more women involved in building and maintaining peace.



## 1.5 How do women shape peace and security?

Women in Uganda have been part of peace and security efforts. One inspiring example is Betty Bigombe who talked to the LRA rebels to persuade them to accept peace talks. Some women in Acholi and Lango persuaded mothers and wives of LRA rebels to come out of the bush. Many more women in different parts of Uganda have formed organisations that do peace building work. They help refugees, that provide relief to communities during conflict, educate communities on how to live together peacefully and others have trained women to mediate conflicts, and to be effective leaders.



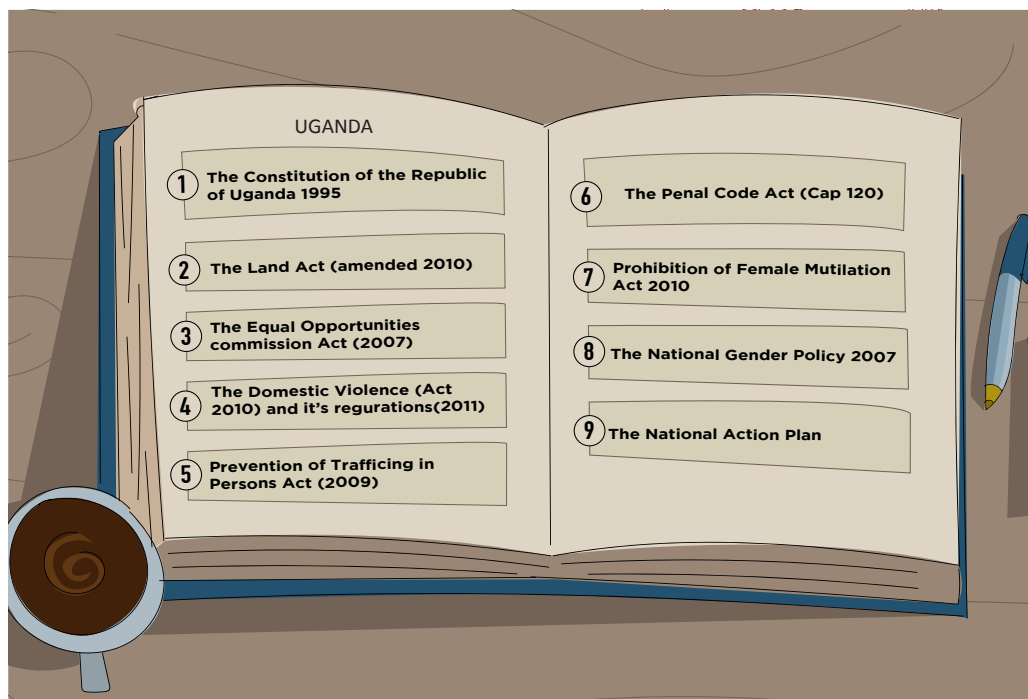
## 1.6 What laws and policies support the participation of Women in Peace and Security?

There are a number of international laws and standards that promote women's participation in peace and security.

They include:

- The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action of 1995
- The Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women
- The United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security
- The Sustainable Development Goals agreed by all members of the United Nations in 2015

The Women, Peace and Security Agenda is a combination of many of the above promises and many more.



## 1.7 What is the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR )1325?

On October 31st, 2000, the United Nations Security Council passed a decision known as Resolution 1325. To ensure women's voices were part of peace processes, women around the world worked together and demanded women's participation at all levels of decision making, including peace building, mediation and in prevention conflicts.



**The resolution has Four pillars. We call them the Four Ps**

- 1. Participation** of women in decision making and peace processes
- 2. Protection** of women during conflicts and post conflict situations
- 3. Prevention** of conflict and all forms of violence
- 4. Post Conflict Relief and Recovery** programmes that have a gender perspective





Resolution 1325 opened the door for other important decisions to be taken to promote women's role in peace and security. By September 2021 there were ten resolutions of the UN Security Council on women, peace and security.

Many countries have adopted the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and developed National Action Plans to implement the Women, Peace and Security agenda. Uganda launched the first National Action Plan in 2008, the second NAP in 2011 and in March 2021 launched the Third National Action Plan known as **NAP III**.



## 1.8 What is a National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (NAP III)?

The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda 1995 prohibits discrimination against any person on the basis of sex, religion, tribe, race, political opinion, or disability. Our constitution promotes the Women, Peace and Security agenda. Each country needs to look at its unique situation, experiences and needs and create a National Action Plan that shows a list of actions they want to take to tackle conflicts and other problems that undermine women's participation in decision making, conflict prevention and resolution. The NAP III shows the intentions of Government to reduce conflicts and eliminate violence. This can only happen when women are involved.



## 1.9 Why is the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security important?

- The NAP III helps us know the plans that the Government has put in place for women to be involved in decision making, conflict prevention and resolution.
- The NAP III shows how Government plans to prevent conflicts
- Explains the role of women, district local governments and civil society in promoting women's participation, peace and security
- Helps Government and partners to work together to implement the women, peace and security agenda effectively.
- During creation of NAP III Government was able to include steps to end all types of Gender Based Violence (GBV) in Uganda's Third National Development Plan.

## 1.10 How was the NAP III on women, peace and security developed?

Government of Uganda formed a National Technical Committee made up of Government ministries, departments and agencies, the civil society organisations, the Private sector, UN agencies, the Media, Donors at national level and the academia. The Government of Uganda consulted about 1000 people including women, men, government officials, civil society groups, religious and cultural leaders, youth and the media on what information should be in the NAP III. The consultations were held in Arua for West Nile Region, Gulu for the Acholi Lango Region, Soroti for the Teso Karamoja region, Jinja for the Busoga-Bugisu region, Fort Portal for the Rwenzori region, Mbarara for the South West, and Kampala for central region. Government also consulted civil society organisations and donors. The NAP III therefore captures voices representing all Ugandans.



## SECTION TWO: NAP III PRIORITIES

### 2.0 Section summary

In this section, we shall look at the expected results of NAP III. The chapter begins with an introduction to NAP III and the outlines the following **NAP outcomes:**

1. All forms of violence prevented and conflicts resolved
2. Good governance enhanced at all levels
3. Natural and human made disasters prevented and mitigated
4. Systems and structures for the implementation of NAP III are strengthened.



## 2.1. Introduction to the NAP III?

The NAP III highlights key concerns that undermine women's peace and security which the government of Uganda seeks to address from 2021 to 2025. Such concerns hinder the participation of women in peace and security efforts. Addressing these concerns would increase women participation in leadership, preventing and resolving conflicts, and building lasting peace.



## 2.2. Outcome One: All Forms of Violence prevented Conflicts resolved

The NAP III spells out how Government intends to address concerns that cause conflicts and violence.

- More women mediators
- Awareness campaigns on resolving conflicts peacefully
- Early warning systems
- Women educated on land rights
- More women on peace committees
- More women on election tribunals
- Use communication technology to promote peace

### 2.2.1. To ensure all forms of violence are prevented and all conflicts are resolved, Government will:

#### a) Ensure Social Cohesion is enhanced.



#### b) Work to reduce Election related violence

Support women's civic engagement and political participation.



### c) Address land related conflicts

Educating women and men on land rights will reduce conflicts related to land.



### d) Reduce inter-ethnic conflicts and promote peaceful coexistence within communities

- Encourage traditional and cultural institutions to promote peaceful coexistence
- Appoint more women on peace committees
- Train women in conflict mediation and negotiation
- Support women to lead and participate in dialogues that bring together people of different cultures



## 2.2.2. Outcome Two: Good governance enhanced at all levels

To ensure good governance at all levels, Government and partners will take the following actions:

### a) Increase the participation of women in the security sector

- Conduct media campaigns to promote women's leadership in the security sector
- Pass gender policies for all security sector institutions
- Address sexual harassment in the police and UPDF
- Educate all the security sector officials on human rights and the impact of sexual harassment
- Increase the numbers of women in the leadership of the Police and UPDF.



### b) Make sure that cultural and religious norms and practices are in line with the human rights standards.



**c) Encourage women's participation in dialogues on Peace and security**

- Support more women to participate in peace dialogues
- Implement programmes that mentor and coach women in leadership and management



### 2.2.3. Outcome Three: Natural and human made disasters prevented and mitigated

To prevent natural and man-made disasters and ease their effect on families, Government and partners will take the following actions:

- Train women to plant more trees and to take part in activities that promote environmental conservation
- Train women refugees and host communities in decision making and in living peacefully together with one another and others
- Involve women in preventing and reducing terrorism
- Support women to lead efforts to prevent disease outbreaks

#### a) Involve more women in conserving the environment

- Implement programmes that reduce floods, land slides and droughts
- Train women to use solar and energy saving stoves
- Train women on early warning to reduce the impact of disasters



**b) Encourage Women refugees and those from host communities to participate in decision making so they can live together peacefully.**

- Train women refugees and host communities in conflict prevention and resolution to promote peaceful co-existence.
- Implement programmes that increase incomes for refugee women and host communities
- Train women refugees on laws that promote women's rights in Uganda



**c) Promote women's participation in reducing and eliminating terrorism.**



**d) Advocate for more women to take up leadership to prevent viral diseases and reduce their effect.**

- Educate women on how to prevent and manage diseases like Corona, Ebola, and other such diseases
- Increase knowledges and skills of health workers, social workers and communities to prevent disease outbreaks and control their impact.



### 2.2.4. Outcome Four: Systems and Structures for the implementation and coordination of the NAP III strengthened

To make sure implementing the NAP III is effective, Government and partners will take the following actions:

- a) **Ensure that adequate resources for the implementation of NAP III are available**



## b) Promote ownership of the NAP III by different stakeholders

- Publicise information about the NAP III
- Organise meetings with civil society, the business community and donors to explain their role in implementing NAP III
- Support district local governments to develop local action plans to reduce conflicts and end all forms of violence in communities.



## c) Communicate progress made on NAP III implementation regularly through:

- Prepare and share quarterly newsletters
- Organise community outreach activities
- Hold meetings with stakeholders at national level
- Implement the communication plan for NAP III.

#### **d) Conduct research to improve NAP III implementation**

- Write down and share lessons learnt and best practices
- Study the causes of conflicts with a gender perspective
- Compile data on women's participation in security sector institutions and peace keeping missions.

#### **e) Monitoring and evaluating NAP III**

- Conduct a baseline survey on women participation in decision making conflict prevention and resolution
- Conduct regular meetings to review progress
- Produce annual report on women participation in decision making, in the security sector, in conflict prevention and resolution



# **SECTION THREE: WHO WILL DO WHAT AND HOW NAP III PROGRESS WILL BE COORDINATED AND REPORTED**

## **3.0 Section summary**

Under section three, we look at the following: -

1. Roles and responsibilities of different players in the NAP III
2. Structures to coordinate the NAP III
3. Tracking and reporting progress on the NAP III
4. Budget for the NAP III

### 3.1. What are the roles and responsibilities of different players in the NAP III?

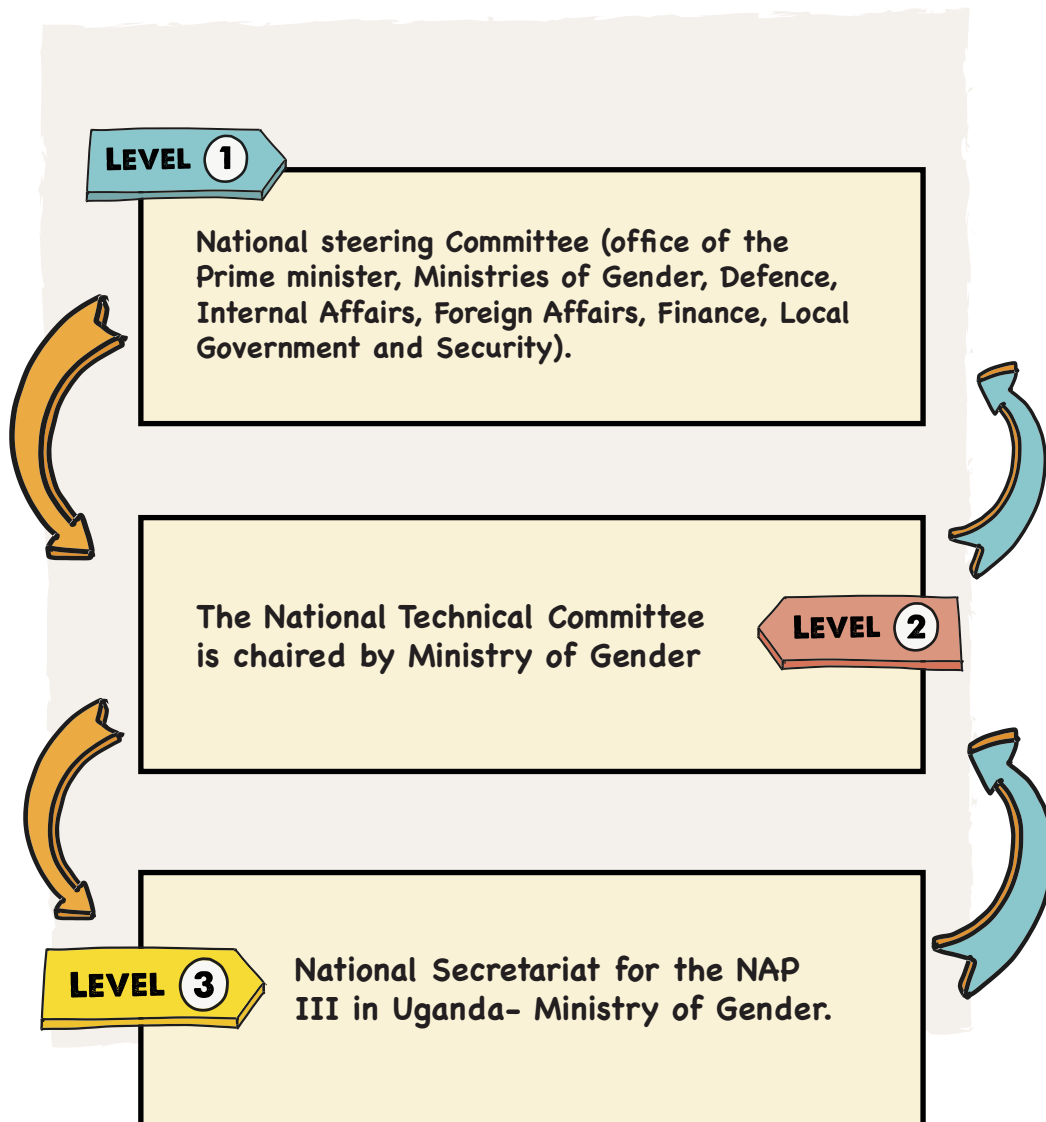
For NAP III to be successful, different actors must work together. These actors all have different roles and responsibilities, some of which include:

- Parliament will ensure adequate allocation of resources to the NAP III process
- Women’s organisations must advocate for the full implementation of the NAP III.



### 3.2. How is NAP coordinated?

There is a national team in place that will make everyone involved in implementing NAP III to work together to achieve the objectives of the NAP III. It is called the National Coordination structure for NAP III and has three levels.



### 3.3. How will progress on NAP III implementation be tracked?

**There are a number of ways to track how the implementation of the NAP III is progressing.**

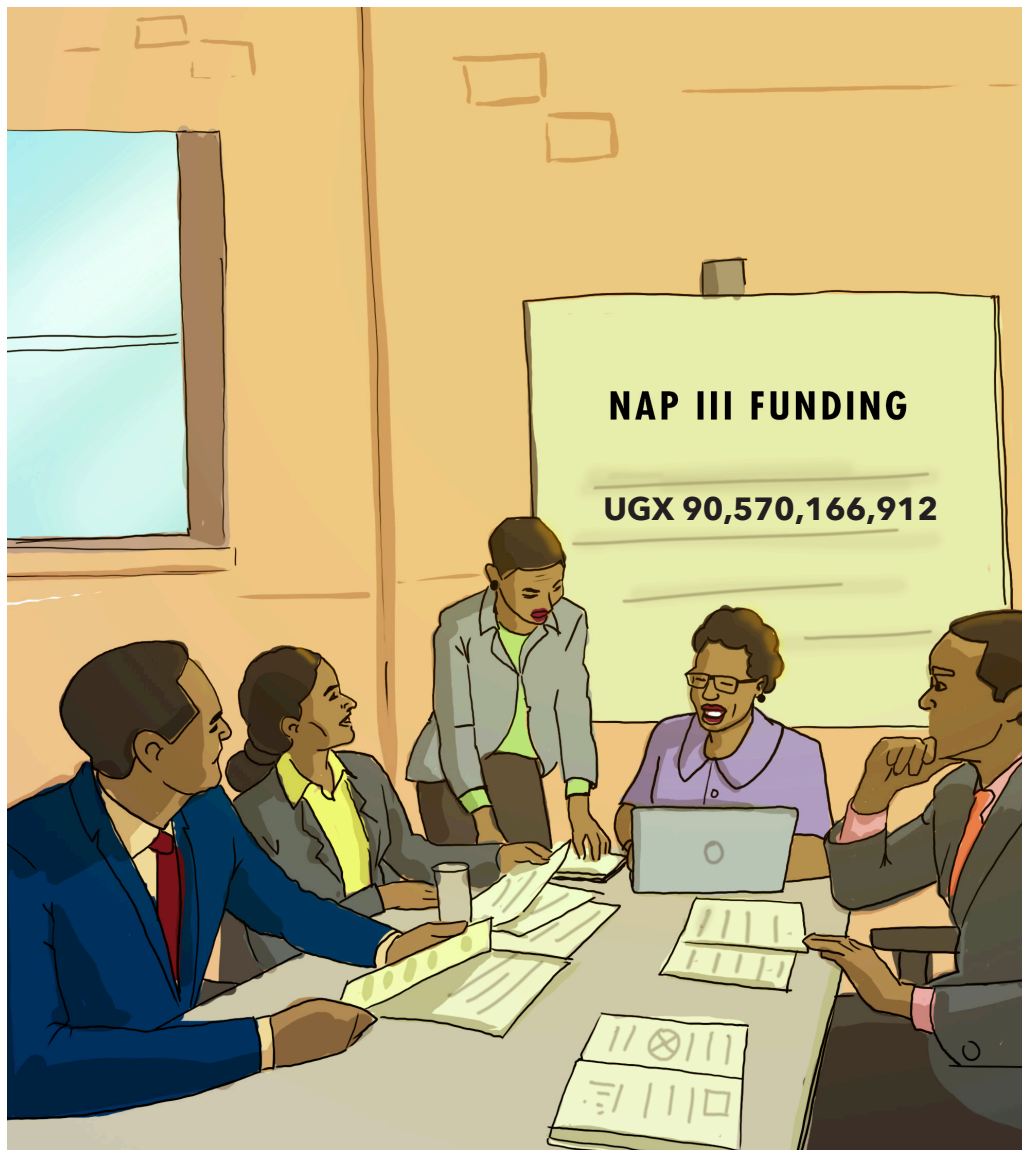
- There will be a Mid Term review in 2023
- The NAP III communication plan will enable accurate and timely information sharing among all partners and citizens.


#### LOOKING AHEAD → 2023



### 3.4 What will it cost to deliver the NAP III?

To achieve all that is expected of the NAP III, we will require at a minimum of **90,570,166,912 Uganda shillings**.





Thank you for reading the NAP III Popular version. You are on your way to becoming a peace builder like me!

Please share this Popular Version with everyone you know to promote the NAP III agenda.

Together we can make Uganda Secure for all women.

For GOD and My Country!



Norwegian Embassy  
*Kampala*

