



BURKINA FASO



Coordination meeting on the pilot phase for the implementation of the manual on the management of victims of GBV

From 12 to 14 September, DCAF held a coordination meeting with the heads of defence and security forces (DSF) schools and training centres to plan the dissemination of the manual on the management of victims and survivors of gender-based violence (GBV). Five training institutions, the Ecole Nationale de Police, the Centre National de Qualification des Sous-Officiers de Gendarmerie, the Ecole Nationale de la Garde de Sécurité Pénitentiaire, the Ecole Nationale des Eaux et Forêts and the Ecole Nationale des Sous-Officiers D'Active were represented by their respective heads. The meeting provided an opportunity to present the process for disseminating teaching techniques and exercises for the management of GBV victims, and to gather participants' observations and comments on the manual. The meeting, which was attended by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the ministers in charge of gender and security, provided an opportunity to involve the schools and centres and to agree on how the pilot phase should proceed. A similar meeting will be organised with the remaining DSF training institutions to gather amendments from all the relevant institutions. A national workshop will then be organised to finalise and adopt the manual. Finally, a national campaign will be organised to disseminate the manual throughout the country.

MALI



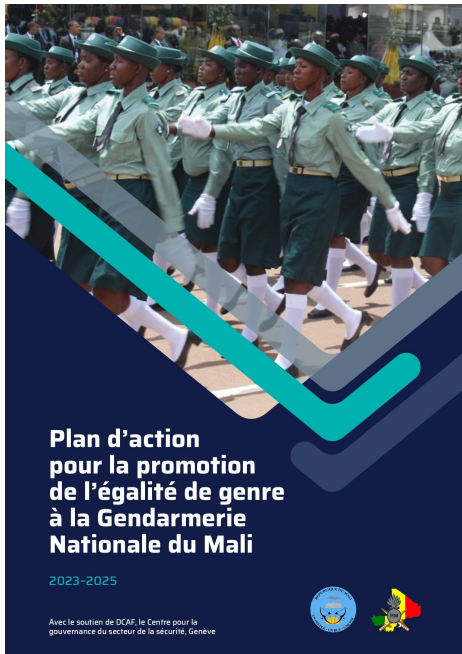
Launch of the six Consultative Security Committees (CCS) in the Bamako district

As part of the reorganisation of the armed and security forces initially provided for in the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali, Consultative Security Committees (CCS) comprising representatives of the State, security institutions, local authorities, local communities and traditional authorities are to be established in all the country's regions and communes. These CCSs constitute a platform to assess the security situation, issue opinions and recommendations to the local executive and security actors, and help inform the population about the measures taken to meet security needs. DCAF supports the organisation of the regional CCSs in Bamako and San. However, it quickly became clear that the absence of communal CCSs in regions where a regional CCS had been established was undermining the effectiveness of the latter. As a result, in December 2022, the Governor of the District of Bamako sent a letter to the mayors of the six communes of Bamako asking them to set up communal CCSs. After several months of work with the communal teams and the organisation of training sessions on participatory governance by DCAF, the six communal CCSs in the District of Bamako were established in August and September. This stage, which is crucial to the operationalisation of the communal CCSs, but also more broadly to the implementation of the full architecture of the CCSs, opens the way to actions to identify and support civil society organisations (with an emphasis on women's and youth CSOs) to enable them to play their full role within the CCSs.



Launch of the analysis of the barriers to the recruitment and promotion of women in the national police

Mali has adopted numerous policies and strategic plans to promote gender equality, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women. However, the participation of women in the security sector in Mali remains low. The number of women in the police force, all ranks combined, represents less than 20% of the total workforce, and very few of them hold positions of responsibility. In partnership with DCAF, the national police force has therefore launched a process to assess the barriers to the recruitment and promotion of women within the institution. In September, DCAF and the police working group, composed of 20 people including four women and led by the institution's gender focal point, held meetings to draft and adapt the questionnaires needed to collect the data required for the analysis. Data collection started in September and will continue throughout October with the first version of the report being expected in November. It should serve as a basis for drawing up a gender action plan for the National Police.



Presentation of the gendarmerie's gender action plan

DCAF supported the development of a gender equality self-assessment within the national gendarmerie to evaluate how gender was integrated into both human resource management and service delivery within the institution. Following this self-assessment, the national gendarmerie asked DCAF for further support in developing an internal action plan to improve how gender is mainstreamed within the institution. After several workshops and iterations, a final version of the action plan was adopted in June 2022. During September, the gendarmerie's gender focal point and DCAF organised several working meetings with international partners committed to gender-inclusive security sector reform in Mali to present the action plan and explore opportunities for collaboration in its implementation. The action plan provides a general framework set by the gendarmerie, in which international partners participate according to their competencies and resources. This approach enables coordinated implementation of the long-term vision for strengthening gender mainstreaming in the gendarmerie.

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