



United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)

**COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE FIFTEENTH-YEAR REVIEW
AND APPRAISAL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING
PLATFORM OF ACTION (BPFA+ 15)**

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INTRODUCTION

Country Questionnaire for the Fifteenth-Year Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA) +15

The adoption of the Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA) in 1995 ushered in a new era in terms of addressing women's empowerment and advancement. The inception of this Platform carried with it, a call for Governments to accelerate their efforts towards addressing gender inequality. In 2004, and in line with the BPFA, African member States reiterated their commitment to the provisions of the Platform and to gender equality in general. African member States committed themselves to addressing challenges as identified in the *Synthesis of the national progress reports on the implementation of the Dakar and Beijing Platforms for Action* (2004). The current review will therefore cover the extent to which countries have scaled up efforts, post the 7th African Regional Conference on Women (Beijing+ 10).

The United Nations (UN) General Assembly has mandated the UN Regional Commissions, including the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), to follow-up the implementation of the BPFA. At the recent meeting of the Committee on Women and Development (CWD), the process for the African review of the implementation of the Platform was presented to member States. This process was adopted with amendments during the CWD session in August 2008.

The process for the African review will be carried out by a number of stakeholders including the AU and UN Agencies. To ensure that a comprehensive review is undertaken, this questionnaire seeks to solicit information on the status of implementation of policies, programmes and legislation in the area of women's empowerment and advancement in your country. It will be appreciated if this questionnaire could be filled in a collaborative way and in consultation with all stakeholders involved in the implementation of activities related to the empowerment and advancement of women in your country. The national gender machinery is expected to coordinate the completion of this questionnaire and also provide documents supporting information provided.

The completed questionnaires will be analysed and summarized by ECA and the results will be published in the *synthesis report* of the regional report on Beijing+ 15. The report will form part of Africa's contribution to the global review and appraisal of the Beijing +15.

The ECA Executive Secretary would therefore appreciate it if you could submit the completed questionnaire to ECA through the REC and ECA Sub-Regional Office in your region, for onward transmission to:

**The OIC
African Centre for Gender and Social Development
Economic Commission for Africa
P.O. Box 3001
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Fax: 251 11 551 2785/ 4416**

Soft copies in MS Word format should also be emailed to the following address:

eleteane@uneca.org

The deadline for the submission of the report is **31 March 2009**

Thank you in advance for your keen collaboration.

ACRONYMS

ACHPR	African Charter on Human and People's Rights
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AU	African Union
BPFA	Beijing Platform for Action
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women
CWD	Committee on Women and Development
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
GBV	Gender Based Violence
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HR	Human Rights
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development (<i>held in Cairo Egypt in 1994</i>)
ICTs	Information Communication Technologies
ILO	International Labour Organisation
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NDS	National Development Strategy
NGP	National Gender Policy
NDP	National Development Plan
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
SDGEA	Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infections
UN	United Nations
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
VAW	Violence Against Women

PART 1: Enabling Environment

Preamble: In this section, countries assess the degree to which there is an enabling environment at country level for supporting effective implementation of the Beijing Platform of Action. This appraisal focuses on the following aspects of the creation of such an enabling environment for the implementation of the BPFA:

- a) Institutional Arrangements
- b) Commitment to CEDAW
- c) Commitment to continental level gender equality protocols
- d) Commitment to sub-regional level gender equality protocols
- e) Adoption of a national gender policy
- f) Emerging issues for Africa
- g) Integration of gender equality principles into national development strategies (NDS) and Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSP)

a) Institutional Arrangements for Gender Equality, Equity and Empowerment of Women

- 1.1** Have any institutional arrangements been put in place for promoting Gender Equality, Equity and Empowerment of Women in line with the strategic objectives for the BPFA, and recommendation from reviews of the BPFA. Yes

If yes, please list the various institutional arrangements and mechanisms:

Institutional Arrangement	Year of Establishment	Function(s)
Ministry of Women and Children Affairs	2001	
GDO, Women caucus, parliamentary select committee on gender and children	1989 to date	

- 1.2** What are the major constraints that prevent the National Gender Machineries from being effective?)
Financial and Human Resource constraints.

b) Commitment to CEDAW

- 1.3** What additional work has been done on CEDAW since the 2004 evaluation? What are the lessons learnt?

New legislation to promote the rights of women and girls promulgated. New policies formulated to enhance early childhood development and education being implemented. Measures to accelerate implementation of Affirmative Action Policy (A.A.P) to enhance participation of women in decision making.

- 1.4** Has the Government ratified the Additional Protocol to CEDAW?

No

c) Commitment to Continental Level Gender Equality Protocols

1.5 Indicate actions taken to implement the following continental level policy/strategy/framework in your country:

- Year
1. *AU Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa* [_____]
 - 1.1. Frequency of reporting: Once- Ghana among the first countries to report.
 2. *The African Women's Protocol* ratified
 - 2.1. Frequency of reporting: Annually

d) Commitment to Relevant Sub-regional Level Policies and strategies

1.6 State the relevant sub-regional level policy or strategy and actions taken at country level

Instrument	Action taken at country level
ECOWAS protocol on trafficking	Human trafficking Act enacted and being implemented
ECOWAS gender policy	Gender and Children policy of Ghana implemented and being reviewed
Poverty reduction strategy	Gender concerns incorporated and being implemented

e) Adoption of a National Gender Policy

1.7 Has the Government developed a national gender policy or reviewed an existing one to conform to the BPPA+10 Recommendations?

(a) Developed Yes Year of adoption [2003] and implemented. The policy is being reviewed

f) Emerging Issues for Africa

1.8 Has your Government adopted Gender Responsive Budgeting as a mechanism?

Yes Year of adoption [2008]
Capacities of MDAs being built in fifteen Ministries, Departments and Agencies

1.9 What are the lessons learnt in formulating, implementing and monitoring the National Gender Policy?

- Need for wider consultation with all stakeholders to ensure national ownership and to enhance implementation. Dissemination of the policy to all stakeholders and need to monitor implementation.
- Need for formulation of MDAs sector specific policies as well as mainstream gender issues into sectoral policies and programmes.

g) Integration of Gender Equality Principles in the NDS/ PRSP

1.10 Has the Government formulated a National Development Strategy (NDS) / PRSP?

NDS: Yes Year [_____] No
 PRSP: Yes Year [2003-2009]

If Yes, please indicate which of the following areas articulated in the NDS and budgeted for in the national programme of activities? (Tick the box for which the answer is 'Yes' or leave box unchecked if answer is 'No')

	<i>Gender Issues Articulated In the NDS/ PRSP</i>	<i>Gender Issues Budgeted for in the NDP</i>
BPFA 12 Critical Areas of Concern	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
1. Women and Poverty	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Women in the Economy	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Education and training for women	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Women and health	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Violence Against Women	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Women in Conflict Situations	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Women in Power and Decision Making	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Human rights of women	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Women in the media	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Women and the environment	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. The Girl Child	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. HIV/AIDS	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Emerging Issues for Africa		
13. Financing for Gender Equality	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Other (Specify)		<input type="checkbox"/>

With the adoption of Gender responsive budgeting MDAs are required to budget comprehensively and allocate resources in areas of needs in an disaggregated manner – men, women, boys and girls and other socially disadvantaged groups.

1.12 Please rate availability of the following statistics and data in your country?

Very effective	Good	Average	Poor	Ineffective
1	2	3	4	5

Availability of gender statistics in following areas	Response				
	1	2	3	4	5
Sex disaggregate data on social issues (education, health)	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex disaggregate data on economic issues (production, income, trade, employment, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex disaggregate data on environmental issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex disaggregate data on Time-Use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>
Statistics on GBV/Violence Against Women	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Statistics for women in decision-making positions (cabinet, parliament, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1.13 How effective is the dissemination strategy of Gender Statistics in your country?

Very effective	Good	Average	Poor	Ineffective
1	2	3	4	5
	x			

1.13.1 Does it involve use of ICT? Yes

Please elaborate:

Data can be accessed through the Ghana Info data system and also from various National surveys. i.e Demographic and Health surveys, Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2006 (MICS), Institutional data in MDAs, research documents in research institutions and universities.

PART 2: Review of the 12 Critical Areas of Concern and other Emerging Issues

Preamble: Part 2, provides a set of guiding questions that can be used to assess a country’s performance against expected actions to be taken by governments as stipulated in the BPFA for 1995. All the 12 critical areas of concern are covered. Countries will also review their performance against cross cutting and emerging issues for the BPFA for Africa.

Section 1: Women and Poverty

a) Measures taken by government to empower women and reduce poverty

2.1.1 Indicate actions taken by your government through review of macro policies, development of new legal framework and other socio-economic measures and strategies all aimed at empowering women and reducing their level of poverty. (Tick the box for which the answer is ‘Yes’ or leave box unchecked if answer is ‘No’)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and when (year)
Reallocation of public spending in favour of programmes and projects aimed at empowering women	Yes	GPRS- LEAP project. Women Development Fund	Funds allocated to the National Machineries budget/ HIPC Funds
Design social protection tools (gender-sensitive safety nets in favour of women and girls)	Yes	Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) Programme which protects and provides support to the poor and vulnerable	
Provision of services (training, legal services, credit) to women to enable them to start up businesses.	Yes	Women Development Fund, Micro, Small and Medium Loans Schemes.	

b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFA

2.1.2 For the critical area of Concern “Women and Poverty”, please indicate if any of these issues were addressed in efforts to empower women and reduce poverty. (Tick the appropriate response)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Effective Result Based Management mechanism		No
Involvement of men and boys		No
Capacity Building	Yes	
Gender and ICTs for women and poverty	Yes	
Food security	Yes	
Financing gender equality to reduce poverty	Yes	

If you have responded “yes” to any of the questions above, please elaborate:

The growth and poverty reduction strategy has specific measures in place to reduce feminized poverty among rural and urban poor women.

Ghana’s ICT policy for accelerated socio-economic development and strategies and plans of actions specifically addresses issues of bringing the gender-digital divide as well as measures to enhance women’s access to ICT. Women in the informal sectors are encouraged to use mobile phones to reach their clients through reduction in prices of mobile phones.

Section 2: Education and training for women

a) Measures taken by government for education and training of women

2.2.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to ensure education and training of women. (Tick the box for which the answer is 'Yes' or leave box unchecked if answer is 'No')

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and when (year)
Elimination of barriers that hinder boys and girls' access to education	Yes	Girl-friendly school environment created. - improved toilet facilities. - school health and sanitation programmes in place - Availability of water and hand washing facilities in schools to encourage girls to go to school.	
Measures to increase tertiary enrolment and retention of women and girls, especially in sciences, mathematics and technology-related disciplines	Yes	Science and maths clinics organised for girls to whip their interest in science and mathematics.	
Eliminate gender gap in basic functional literacy	Yes	Functional literacy classes organized for adults including women and out of school girls.	
Support and develop gender studies and research	Yes	Gender Centre for Policy and advocacy established at the University of Ghana and a Gender and Development resource centre at	

		Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration.	
Eliminate gender disparities in all areas of tertiary education by 2015	Yes	Structural inequalities being addressed through making transformation of Halls of Residence into Mixed Halls as well as expansion in Residential accommodation.	
Measure to eliminate barriers to schooling of pregnant adolescents	Yes	There is a policy which allows adolescents who become pregnant to continue school or to relocate to other schools or return to school after delivery.	

b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFA

2.2.2 For the critical area of Concern “*Education and training of women*”, please indicate if any of these issues were address in efforts to empower women and reduce poverty. (*Tick the appropriate response*)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Effective policy development and implementation	Yes	
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place		No
Availability of sex disaggregated data	Yes	
Capacity Building	Yes	
Gender and ICTs for women and education	Yes	
Addressed food security issues	Yes	
Financing gender equality education and training of women	Yes	

If you have responded “yes” to the question above, please elaborate:

Both government and non-governmental agencies have focused attention on the promotion of girl-child education to bridge the gender gaps in education to remove stereotypical portrayal of boys and girls in the design of text-books. Special scholarships, food packages are in place to encourage more girls to go to school. There is a monitoring mechanism to measure the gender parity levels in schools.

Section 3: Women and health

a) Measures taken by government for women and health

2.3.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to ensure quality health services for women (Tick the box for which the answer is 'Yes' or leave box unchecked if answer is 'No')

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and when (year)
Implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action and the Copenhagen Declaration	Yes	A National population council, coordinating machinery is in place to ensure implementation of the ICOD programme of Action.	Reproductive health and rights, gender, environment, youth have been formulated and being implemented.
Design and implement and monitor gender-sensitive health programmes, including affordable sexual and reproductive health care services and education for women and girls, and increase resources for women's health	Yes	Family planning services and reproductive health education extended to all community hospitals including CHPS compounds.	
Reduce maternal morbidity and mortality, deal with health impacts of unsafe abortions, ensure that girls have continuing access to necessary health and nutrition information and services, and address harmful traditional practices that harm women and girls' health including female genital mutilation	Yes	Various interventions are being deepened. Last years health summit for example focused on maternal and neo-natal health. Lessons and challenges heightened in our 2009 priority activities. A natural task force is in place to monitor implementation of strategies and initiatives for	

		reducing maternal and child mortality.	
Support interventions to curb the spread of malaria, cardiovascular diseases, STIs and cancer that affect women, including provision of free and subsidized reproductive health care services	Yes	The ministry has set up a special committee that oversees the implementation of cervical and breast cancer in women as well as prostate in men. This is to ensure effective implementation of programmes.	
Medical school curriculum include gender-sensitive mandatory courses.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		

b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFA

2.3.2 For the critical area of Concern “*Women and Health*”, please indicate if any of these issues were addressed in efforts to ensure quality health for women. (*Tick the appropriate response*)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place	Yes	
Involvement of men and boys	Yes	
Capacity Building	Yes	
Gender and ICTs for women and health	Yes	
Addressed food security issues	Yes	
Financing gender equality for women’s health	Yes	
Provision of support for elderly women	Yes	
Provision of support for HIV/AIDS affected girls	Yes	

If you have responded “yes” to any of the questions above, please elaborate:

A monitoring tool for assessing women’s health and development is in place to monitor implementation of policies, programmes and activities. Capacities of Health Personnel are being built to enhance service delivery.

Section 4: HIV/AIDS and its Gender Implications

a) National Institutional and Policy Framework

2.4.1 Has the Government put in place the institutional framework to address HIV/AIDS or adopted any recent strategies or measures including changes in legislation to address HIV/AIDS concerns?

Yes

If yes, please indicate as follows:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
1. Existence of an engendered national HIV/AIDS policy	yes	
2. Engendered service delivery guidelines and standards	yes	
3. Availability of adequate human resources	yes	
4. Others (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Organized support for orphans and vulnerable children affected by HIV/AIDS. Mainstreaming of HIV/AIDS in reproductive health programmes, education and support for vulnerable groups.

Para-ministerial and multi-sectoral body charged with responsibility to manage the national response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Ghana.

Efforts at awareness creation, care and support of people living with AIDS and control and Management has been intensified. These combined efforts have resulted in the reduction in the HIV/AIDS prevalence rate to about 1.9%.

- A National HIV/AIDS/STDS policy and work plan developed and being implemented.

- Anti-retroviral treatment for people living with HIV/AIDS introduced and scaled-up

- Increased voluntary counselling and testing services.

2.4.2 Has your government established, enforced and monitored strict legal frameworks to address the vulnerability of girls and women

Yes

If Yes give details

There is now an act on domestic violence (Domestic Violence Act-732)

b) HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment Strategy

2.4.3 Has the Government adopted any recent measures and strategies including changes in legislation as part of the country's HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment strategy?

HIV Prevention and Treatment Strategies	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and when (year)
Counselling and voluntary testing	Yes	Review of guidelines	
Male and female condom availability and use	Yes	Promotion of condom use	
Targeted intervention to women and other vulnerable groups	Yes	Funding for gender specific interventions	
Prevention of mother to child transmission	Yes	Review of guidelines	

Provision of antiretroviral therapy	Yes	Review of guidelines	
Behaviour change communication	Yes	Scaling up implementation	
Medical, psychological and social care to HIV/AIDS victims	Yes	Funding for civil society organisations	
Home based care	Yes	Funding for Faith Based Organisations (FBOs)	
Other (please specify)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		

Section 5: Violence Against Women

a) Measures taken by government for elimination of violence against women

2.5.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to ensure elimination of violence against women (*Tick the box for which the answer is 'Yes' or leave box unchecked if answer is 'No'*)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and when (year)
Legal sanctions for violence against women	Yes	Institutional structures i.e. law enforcements agencies such as the police, court are in place to sanction culprits of violence.	Prosecutions and sentencing has served has a deterrent to would be perpetrators.
Enacted or reinforced country legislation to punish offenders and support women subjected to violence with justice and legal services	Yes	Domestic Violence Act-732, 2007	Awareness created on the D.V. L Act. Policy and plan of action formulated to implement the law.
Mainstreamed gender perspectives in all policies and laws related to VAW	Yes	Various Ministries, Departments and Agencies required to mainstream D.V.L in their programmes.	The process is on-going. VAW is a trigger in accessing multi-donor support system for accessing donor support.
Women with disabilities have access to information on services for violence against women	Yes	To some extent	
Provide well funded shelters and relief support for girl and women	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	Only few shelters manned by CSOs	
Promote research, collect data and compile statistics on domestic violence	Yes	Data is collected by DOVSU	
Measures aimed at preventing sex tourism and trafficking	Yes	Ministry of Tourism has put in place measures to address that.	
Encourage the media to examine the impact of gender role stereotyping including those encouraged by commercial advertising.	Yes	To some extent	

b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFA

2.5.2 For the critical area of Concern “*Violence Against Women*”, please indicate if any of these issues were addressed in efforts to ensure elimination of violence against women. (Tick the appropriate response)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Effective policy development and implementation	Yes	
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place	Yes	
Availability of sex disaggregated data	Yes	
Involvement of men and boys	Yes	
Capacity Building	Yes	
Financing gender equality for violence against women	Yes	

If you have responded “yes” to any of the questions above, please elaborate:

Organized support for orphans and vulnerable children affected by HIV/AIDs. Mainstreaming of HIV/AIDs in reproductive health programmes, education and support for vulnerable groups. Para-Ministerial and multi-sectoral body charged with responsibility to manage the national response to the HIV/AIDs epidemic in Ghana. Efforts to awareness creation care and support of people living with AIDs and control and management has been intensified. These combined efforts have resulted in the reduction in the HIV/AIDs prevalence rate to about 2.5%.

- A National HIV/AIDs/STDs policy and work plan developed and being implemented
 - Anti-retroviral treatment for people living with HIV/AIDs introduced and scaled up.
- Increased voluntary counselling and testing services.

Section 6: Women and Armed Conflict

a) Measures taken by government for protection of women in armed conflict situations: Emelang

2.6.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to ensure elimination of violence against women (Tick the box for which the answer is ‘Yes’ or leave box unchecked if answer is ‘No’)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and when (year)
Women’s voices in conflict prevention are heard and they are meaningfully involved in peace processes, including in the planning, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of refugee projects	Yes	To some extent women are involved in conflict prevention, process, peace matters	
Train women in conflict resolution, reconciliation and tolerance	Yes	Early warning systems. MOWAC in collaboration with CSOs	
Integration of a gender perspective in the resolution of armed and other forms of conflict	Yes	Ghana is in the process of finalizing its National Plan of	

		<p>Action on UN Security Council Resolution 1325 On Women Peace and Security. Ghana has a National Architecture for Peace and Security with structures from National, regional and district levels to ensure Peace and Security, through conflict prevention resolution and management.</p>	
<p>Investigate and punish policy, security and armed forces involved in acts of VAW</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Yes, there is a legislation on Domestic Violence which criminalizes any act of violence, physical, psychological, sexual within the domestic sphere. Since the passage of the law a number of prosecutions have been made in areas such as rape, defilement, non-maintenance of children, assault, among others.</p>	
<p>Protect the safety and integrity of women refugees</p>	<p>Yes</p>		
<p>Train military officials on the human rights of women and measures to assist women refugees deal with the trauma of rape and rejection</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Same training has been given to the security personnel's, police, law enforcement agencies generally on the human rights issues and the protection of the rights of all citizens as well as that of refugees. - Examples refugee camps are visited and refugees</p>	

		counselled on issues of violence as well as sensitised on their protection and well beings, and on existing laws to ensure their protection.	
Implement provisions of UNSC Resolution 1325	Yes	Yes, to some extent, even though we are now finalizing our Plan of Action a lot has been done by way of implementation. We have in place a National Architecture for Peace and Security. Structure are in plan at National, Regional and District levels to broker peace in some conflict areas in the Northern parts of the country. Sensitization programmes on peace making and conflict prevention are on going. A monitoring mechanism and early warning systems coordinated by a desk within the Ministry of Interior is place to ensure maintenance of Peace and Security.	
Implement provisions of the AU Protocol on Women's Rights	Yes		
Ratified and domesticated international Conventions and Protocols	Yes	CEDAW	

b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFAs

2.6.2 For the critical area of Concern “*Women in armed conflict*”, please indicate if any of these issues were address in efforts to protect women in armed conflict. (*Tick the appropriate response*)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place		No
Availability of sex disaggregated data	Yes	
Involvement of men and boys	Yes	
Capacity Building	Yes	
Gender and ICTs for women in armed conflict situations		No
Addressed food security issues	Yes	
Financing gender equality for women in armed conflict		No

If you have responded “yes” to any of the questions above, please elaborate:

There are activities being carried out to ensure improved performance of the rural sector in the interest of the poor and cross sectoral natural resources and environmental management, and greater coordination of agriculture related spending across relevant MDAs to ensure agricultural sector growth rates.

Section 7: Women and the Economy

a) Measures taken by government for women and economy

2.7.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to ensure full participation of women in the economy. (Tick the box for which the answer is 'Yes' or leave box unchecked if answer is 'No')

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and when (year)
Adopt and enact laws that guarantee an equal access to employment opportunities and social protection benefits.	Yes		Improve environment for business and financing development OF private sector enterprises.
Ensure equal access to capital and trade opportunities.	Yes		
Build capacity in gender-sensitive economic analysis.	Yes		
Ratified and domesticated International Conventions that guarantee the participation of women in the economy			

b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFA

2.7.2 For the critical area of Concern “Women and the Economy”, please indicate if any of these issues were address in efforts to ensure equal participation of women in the economy. (Tick the appropriate response)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Effective policy development and implementation		No
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place		No
Availability of sex disaggregated data	Yes	
Involvement of men and boys		No
Capacity Building	Yes	
Gender and ICTs for women and the economy	Yes	
Addressed food security issues	Yes	
Financing gender equality for women and the economy		No

If you have responded “yes” to any of the questions above, please elaborate:

Socio-economic sex-disaggregated data is being collected by the Ghana Statistical service. Plans are ahead to undertake time-use survey with the support ECA using Ghana as a pilot country.

Section 8: Women, governance, power and decision making

a) Measures taken by government on women governance, power and decision-making

2.8.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to ensure meaningful participation and involvement of women in power and decision-making. (Tick the box for which the answer is 'Yes' or leave box unchecked if answer is 'No')

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and when (year)
Encourage and promote stronger representation of women in political and diplomatic circles	Yes	Implementation of Affirmative Action to ensure 40% representation is being implemented	
Encourage greater involvement of women, in particular indigenous women, in decision-making processes	Yes	Representation of Women at District level about 10%	
Support research to help identify adequate ways and means to politically empower women		Directory on Women developed	

b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFA

2.8.2 For the critical area of Concern “Women in power and decision making”, please indicate if any of these issues were address in efforts to ensure equal participation of women in power and decision-making. (Tick the appropriate response)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Institutional mechanisms in place	Yes	
Effective policy development and implementation	Yes	
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place		No
Availability of sex disaggregated data	Yes	
Involvement of men and boys		No
Capacity Building	Yes	
Gender and ICTs for women	Yes	
Food security issues		No
Financing gender equality		No

If you have responded “yes” to any of the questions above, please elaborate:

Women appointed as Ministers for strategic Ministries such as Justice and Attorney Generals, Science and Environment, Trade and Industry, Women and Children Affairs, Tourism, Ag. Inspector General of Police, Speaker of Parliament and Chief Justice as well as a Regional Minister and Deputy Ministers of Information.

Section 9: Human rights of women

a) Measures taken by government for human rights of women

2.9.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to protect human rights of women. (Tick the box for which the answer is 'Yes' or leave box unchecked if answer is 'No')

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and when (year)
Report on schedule to the Committee on CEDAW	Yes		
Publicise information on national, regional and international mechanisms for seeking redress of HR abuse	Yes		
Embody the principle of the equality of men and women in country legislation and strengthen development of programmes to protect the human rights of women	Yes	1992 constitution of Ghana. Justice for all-programme is being implemented.	
Translate to user friendly language information relating to the equal status of women including relevant protocols	Yes		
Ratified and domesticated International and African Conventions and Protocols that guarantee the human rights of women	Yes	Some of them such as CEDAW	There are also specific laws enacted to deal with these protocols

b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFA

2.9.2 For the critical area of Concern “*Human rights of women*”, please indicate if any of these issues were address in efforts to protect human rights of women in decision-making. (Tick the appropriate response)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place		No
Availability of sex disaggregated data	Yes	
Involvement of men and boys	Yes	
Capacity Building	Yes	
Gender and ICTs	Yes	
Food security issues	Yes	
Financing gender equality	Yes	

If you have responded “yes” to any of the questions above, please elaborate:

Some articles of CEDAW incorporated into the 1992 constitution of Ghana. Specific laws also enacted to address remaining articles of CEDAW such as Human Trafficking Act, Domestic Violence Act, Disability Act, Aging Policy, and National Health Insurance Scheme.

The Justice for all programme is to bring Justice to the door step of all remand prisoners who have been deemed a fair trial and to decongest overcrowded prisons.

There is also prosecutor's capacity building project implemented. The programme aims to develop a formal training programme for prosecutor's ethics (code of conduct) and create a unit which can issue and revoke licences to prosecute.

Section 10: Women in media

a) Measures taken by government for human rights of women

2.10.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to ensure effective participation of women in media (*Tick the box for which the answer is 'Yes' or leave box unchecked if answer is 'No'*)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and when (year)
Measures that support research on women and media and ensure women's access to and participation in media	Yes		
Promote gender-aware media policies and gender balance in appointments at all levels of the media	Yes	Ministry is collaborating with MDAs to mainstream gender in polices including Ministry of Information and Ministry of Communication.	
Encourage and recognise women's media networks	Yes	Close collaboration increased with women's page editors	Increased publication and broadcast of Women issues.
Encourage the participation of women in the development of professional guidelines and codes of conduct for media	Yes	The Ghana Journalist Association has a code of ethics.	
Promote gender sensitive research and implementation of a strategy of information, education and communication and support research on women and the media	Yes	Ministry of Information is engendering its policy	
Enforcement of provisions of the World Summit on the Information Society	Yes	Ministry of communication is implementing strategies of the WSIS with the collaboration of relevant stakeholders.	

b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFA

2.10.2 For the critical area of Concern “*Women in media*”, please indicate if any of these issues were address in efforts to promote equal participation of women in media (Tick the appropriate response)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Institutional mechanisms in place	Yes	
Effective policy development and implementation	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Availability of sex disaggregated data	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Involvement of men and boys	Yes	
Capacity Building	Yes	
Food security issues	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Financing gender equality	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

If you have responded “yes” to any of the questions above, please elaborate:

There are the Ministries of Information and Communications and The Media Commission. There are associations such as Women in Broadcasting and Ghana Journalist Association and Curious Minds, a youth organisation that targets young persons and groom them for the media in addition there are many FM stations and media houses.

Section 11: Women and the environment

a) Measures taken by government on women and the environment

2.11.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to ensure beneficial participation of women in the environment. (Tick the box for which the answer is 'Yes' or leave box unchecked if answer is 'No')

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and when (year)
Measures integrating gender in the design and implementation of environmental sound resource management, especially in rural areas	Yes	A national environmental management project is being implemented in the country specifically in the Northern Regions of Ghana.	Communities sensitized on continuous threats of desertification and drought in three Northern Regions.
Measures to engender MDG 7, empower women as producers and consumers to ensure effective environmental actions	Yes	A gender strategy on environmental management is being developed to ensure integration of gender in design and implementation of environmental and resource management.	Increased institutional capacity for gender mainstreaming, women empowered in sustainable management of dry land resources.
Provide technical assistance to women in sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, small enterprises, trade and industry	Yes	Women in agriculture directorate established. Statistical research and information directorate established. Savannah agric research institute in place.	
Evaluate policies and programmes in terms of environmental impact and women's equal	Yes		

access to and use of natural resources			
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b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFA

2.11.2 For the critical area of Concern “*Women and the environment*”, please indicate if any of these issues were address in efforts to promote equal participation and benefit in the environment. *(Tick the appropriate response)*

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Effective policy development and implementation	Yes	
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Availability of sex disaggregated data	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Involvement of men and boys	Yes	
Capacity Building	Yes	
Gender and ICTs	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Food security issues	Yes	
Financing gender equality	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

If you have responded “yes” to any of the questions above, please elaborate:

There is a national environmental management programme being implemented and to monitor threats to desertification in the three northern Regions of Ghana; as well as to improve cross sectoral natural resources and environmental management.

Section 12: The girl child

a) Measures taken by government on the girl child

2.12.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to ensure beneficial participation of women in the environment. (Tick the box for which the answer is 'Yes' or leave box unchecked if answer is 'No')

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and when (year)
Eliminate injustice and obstacles related to inheritance by girl children	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Enact and enforce legislation protecting girls from all forms of VAW and ensure marriage is by young women's consent	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Implement policies, plans and programmes for the survival, protection, development and advancement of the girl child	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Ongoing research on the situation of the girls and realignment of policies and programmes	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Develop and adopt curricula, teaching materials and textbooks to improve the self image, lives and work opportunities of girls	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Facilitate the equal provision of appropriate services and devices to girls with disabilities	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		

2.12.2 For the critical area of Concern "The girl child", please indicate if any of these issues were addressed in efforts to promote the rights of the girl child. (Tick the appropriate response)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Effective policy development and implementation	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Availability of sex disaggregated data	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Involvement of men and boys	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Capacity Building	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Gender and ICTs	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Food security issues	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Financing gender equality	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

b) Ratification or domestication of relevant global protocols

2.12.2 Has your country ratified and domesticated the Convention on the Rights of the child?

Ratified
Yes

Domesticated
Yes

If you have responded "yes" to the question above, please elaborate:

There are measures in place to increase access to and participation in education and training at all levels. To improve equity and access to basic education by reducing disparities in education service delivery, increasing resources for deprived districts and also improvement in infrastructure in schools. The Primary Net Enrolment rate in deprived districts is 77.7% as against the National rate of 81.6%. There are measures in place to

increase enrolment and completion rates in deprived districts from a Baseline 2006/2007 rates of 72.7% as against the National Average of 78.6%.

PART 3: Review on key Achievement, Challenges and Lessons Learnt

Overall, what do you view as your key achievement, challenges and lessons learnt in your efforts to implement the BPFA at country level. For each of the three items highlight 4 priority.

Key Achievement in implementing the BPFA

1. Institutional mechanisms to coordinate and ensure gender mainstreaming in Ministries, Departments and Agencies
2. Political participation by women in Parliament and in District Assemblies and appointment of women as Ministers and Deputy Ministers.
In strategic positions as heads of Public Institutions such as, the Speaker of Parliament, Chief Justice, Ag. Inspector General of Police, Ministers of Women Children Affairs, Justice and Attorney-General, Science and Environment, Trade and Industry, Tourism, Information as a Regional Minister.
3. Legislations in favour of women's rights and children rights, such as the Children's Act 1998, Human Trafficking Act of 2009 and Domestic Violence Act of 2007
4. Ratification and implementation of International Conventions and Protocols such as (CEDAW) Convention on the Rights of the child (CRC).
5. Economic empowerment of women through the establishment of the Women's Development Fund and the Medium and small loans schemes.
6. Incorporation of gender concerns into Ghana growth and poverty reduction strategy 2006 – 2009 (GPRS II) and into political Parties Manifestos.
7. Measure put in place to enhance and focus on reproductive health and rights of women to ensure safe-motherhood and address incidence of high maternal and child mortality.
8. Deepened Democratic process and maintenance of Peace and Security.
9. Systematic compilation of disaggregated data
10. Awareness created on gender issues and on women empowerment
11. Introduction of gender responsive budgeting to ensure resource allocation for Gender equality programmes

Key Challenges in implementing the BPFA

- ❖ Law representation of women in decision making positions. Ghana is yet to attain 30% of critical mass of Women in Decision-making positions at all levels.
- ❖ Inadequate access to productive resources (credit, land, technology, information).
- ❖ Negative, cultural perception of gender equality.
- ❖ Disproportionate burden of HIV/Aids pandemic on women and girls and addressing adequately gender issues of HIV/AIDs pandemic
- ❖ Challenges related to law enforcement and women's access to the justice system.
- ❖ Financial and Human Resource constraints

Key Lessons Learnt in Implementing the BPFA

- ❖ Involvement of men, and sensitizing them as advocates for gender-equality and women's Empowerment produces results.
- ❖ Building bridges and partnership with all stakeholders towards implementation of the BPFA is critical.
- ❖ Commitment and strong Political will is critical in the implementation of the BPFA.

Final Note:

Are there any relevant issues that were not covered in the questionnaire? If yes, what are your views, comments and observations on these issues?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!