

Project UN Resolution 1325

To increase equality between women and men in conflict and peace-building processes, the United Nations adopted the Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security in year 2000. Sweden has adopted two National Action Plans (NAP) for implementing the resolution, the current plan running to 2012. The plans have identified the Folke Bernadotte Academy as an important actor in the implementation of the NAP, to which the Academy's training courses are one important contribution. The aim of the present evaluation is to assess whether the Academy's courses for gender equality within the framework of Project UN Resolution 1325 have contributed to the implementation of the NAP.

The relevance of the courses in relation to the action plan varies and the gender perspective has not been fully integrated in the courses

Reported results to promote gender equality are few. The courses' contribution to the national plan varies

The evaluation includes five courses¹ conducted between 2008 and 2010 with gender as a main or partial focus.

The evaluation questions concern the *relevance* of the courses to the objectives of the NAP, and to the situation and context the participants encounter in their work. The evaluation also seeks to answer if the courses have contributed to promoting gender equality, and thereby to the *achievement of the NAP objectives*.

A review of documents, policies and strategies was made, and interviews were conducted with course coordinators and participants.

The review and interviews indicate that *the courses varied in their relevance* to the objectives of NAP, and that *the gender perspective is not fully integrated* in the courses.

The interviews with course participants show that *the perceived relevance*

to work and context vary between courses, due to the participants different backgrounds, knowledge and expectations of the courses. The interviews indicate *few results* in gender promotion in the participants' work related to the NAP objectives. Stated results include improved reporting with more pronounced gender perspective, and new positions with greater influence within organisations giving better opportunities to pursue gender issues.

The assessment is that the *courses' contribution to NAP objectives varies*. Field preparatory courses with gender as the main focus show more results in gender equality in line with NAP objectives, than field related courses with gender issues as a partial focus. The evaluation concludes that the assessed courses as a whole contributed only to a limited degree to the implementation of the NAP.

The Academy has started to address several of the problems identified in the evaluation, and based on the conclusions of the evaluation the main recommendations to the Academy are:

- Create a strategic framework for Project UN Resolution 1325 to operationalise NAP and design courses to enable adequate planning and follow-up.
- Monitor and evaluate the courses on a regular basis in the context of the NAP.
- Analyze training needs for a relevant course portfolio for implementing NAP.
- Develop internal policies and strategies for gender mainstreaming in the Project UN Resolution 1325 courses in other programs in the Academy.

- Review training needs among Academy staff in gender mainstreaming issues.
- Use the Project UN Resolution 1325 staff as a resource for education and advisory purposes in gender mainstreaming.
- Strengthen the marketing of courses to reach and attract relevant target groups.

Recommendation to the Government Offices:

Discuss the interpretation of the implementation of NAP with the Academy, and develop forms for follow-up of results.

¹ The evaluated courses are: Leadership and gender in peace operations, Gender Field Adviser Course, Gender Focal Point Officer Course, General course for Civil Monitors, Observers and Field Staff Dialogue and Mediation

SOURCES AND FURTHER INFORMATION

This SADEV Evaluation Brief is based on the report *Projekt FN Resolution 1325*, SADEV Report 2010:8. This and other SADEV publications are available at www.sadev.se