

As it works to implement the Feminist International Assistance Policy and support the achievement of SDG 16, Canada is focusing on:

- improving multilateral management of peace and security challenges;
- supporting inclusive and gender-responsive violent-conflict prevention, crisis response and sustainable peace in fragile and conflict-affected states; and
- supporting gender-responsive security threat reduction and security system reform.

IMPROVING MULTILATERAL MANAGEMENT OF PEACE AND SECURITY CHALLENGES

Canada is committed to a rules-based international order that lies at the centre of peace and security action. Collective action on peace and security is necessary because problems often cross borders, engagement sectors and institutional mandates.

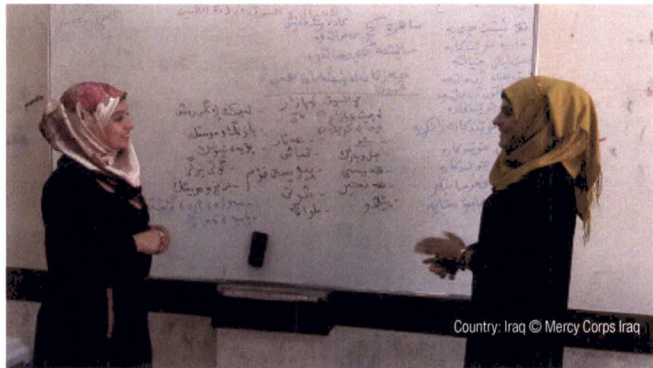
In 2017-2018, Canada continued its contributions to strengthening the capacity of the multilateral system to prevent, and respond to, violent conflicts and security threats in an inclusive and gender-responsive manner. This included assistance in training peacekeepers and deploying military, police and civilian experts to enhance the capacity of international organizations and peacekeeping missions. It also encompassed the rapid deployment of experts in support of mediation efforts and the investigation of alleged human rights abuses, war crimes and crimes against humanity, including sexual and gender-based violence.

Canada's Peace and Stabilization Operations Program (PSOPs) has been supporting the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA). It has worked to:

- strengthen the conflict-sensitivity capacity of its planners, stabilization officers and mediators, among others;
- enhance MINUSMA's analytical capacity; and
- improve the delivery of MINUSMA's stabilization and peacebuilding initiatives.

Canada has also been supporting MINUSMA's implementation of the peace agreement in Mali. In 2017-2018, this included activities to:

- support and enable the restoration of state authority in conflict-affected areas;
- reinforce social cohesion and enable conflict prevention and mediation efforts to reduce inter- and intra-community violence;
- extend the rule of law;



WOMEN'S COMMITTEE IN IRAQ

Samira is a Kurdish woman living in a mainly Kurdish area of Chamchamal, Iraq. She joined a women's committee, established through Canadian programming, which aimed to develop women's skills and ensure their voices were heard. It included Arab women who had fled to Chamchamal to escape Daesh. Samira participated in a project to teach Kurdish and Arabic courses. Designed to bridge the language gap between the Arab internally displaced persons and the Kurdish host community, women developed relationships while practising each other's languages. Samira eventually enrolled in a course to learn Arabic. She soon realized that the Arab women in her classes were nothing like she had imagined and she developed friendships with her Arab classmates. "Previously, I looked at Arabs with fear. Now, this fear is gone."

- enable the protection of civilians; and
- support security sector reform in north and central Mali.

Through the Canadian Police Arrangement, a partnership between Global Affairs Canada, Public Safety Canada and the RCMP, the Government of Canada authorizes deployments of civilian police officers to international peace and stabilization operations. Under the arrangement, the RCMP is responsible for all logistical activities. In 2017-2018, 66 Canadian police officers were deployed to Colombia, Haiti, Iraq, the Philippines, Ukraine, and the West Bank and Gaza.

Canadian police continued to work with the UN and other countries to help increase the number of female police deployed to peace operations worldwide. For example, to assist the UN in its goal of increasing female police participation in UN missions, in 2017-2018, Canadian police officers and UN counterparts travelled to Senegal. There, they delivered the UN's pre-Assessment for Mission Service Selection Assistance and Assessment Team training. This training prepares female police officers for a variety of skills, including communication, firearms and driving. Training is given in advance of testing by the UN candidate selection team to qualify to participate in UN peacekeeping operations. Canada helped train 47 team candidates during 2017-2018.