BACKGROUND

- The effects of the ecological breakdown, economic crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic have intensified gender inequalities.
- Socioeconomic stressors have a significant impact not only on violence but also on women’s well-being overall.
- The UPR is a powerful mechanism to prevent and respond to human rights violations. It can play a role in articulating the measures required to achieve women’s substantive equality with men in enjoyment of ESC rights.
"The UPR offers a unique and powerful opportunity to push for gender equality worldwide. Civil society plays a crucial role in identifying and following up on important recommendations. Therefore, Germany is convinced that close cooperation with Women Human Rights Defenders and Civil society organizations is indispensable."
MÁRIO MARTINS


"In terms of this current pandemic, Portugal took a number of specific legal and policy measures to try to mitigate the negative impact on women."

- Development of guidelines for pregnant women to reduce the risk of infection.
- Co-sponsored the joint statement protecting the right to sexual and reproductive health and promoting gender responsiveness in the Covid-19 crisis in the UN context.
- Strengthened existing victim support services.
- Promoted gender research during the pandemic.

CLEMENT KADOGBE

Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) of Ghana

- Established of a stigma and discrimination reporting system through which the CHRAJ receives complaints from vulnerable groups.
- Cooperated more with civil society groups.
- Cooperated with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) to build the capacity of public and private agencies in the use of the human rights-based approach and advocacy campaigns.
- Delivered anti-stigma activities: Training of trainers (ToT), radio and television talk shows, design and distribution of jingles etc.
Organized webinars for civil society organizations to train on the UPR, present women's ESC rights and engage the participants in the UPR cycle.

Presented to the government an advocacy brief focused on the UPR recommendations related to ESC rights of women and girls.

Disseminated the advocacy note on social networks and website.

Hosted a press conference to raise awareness on the UPR recommendations related to ESC rights of women and girls.

Organized financial education and experience sharing sessions with beneficiaries.

- Adopted more horizontal approaches to consultations to ensure that grassroots women CBOs and groups participate and provide input
- Rolled out more awareness programmes on the importance of grassroots organizations’ participation in the process
- Designed tailor-made consultations programmes from grassroots level to cater for minority rights (LGBTQI, PLWHA, PLWDs and other groups) to ensure No-One is Left Behind
- Ensured women who are part of the marginalised and minority groups are consulted on mechanisms and methodologies for UPR consultations

VICAR BATUNDI HANGI
Foyer de Développement pour l’Autopromotion des Pygmées et Indigènes Défavorisés (FDAPID), DRC

JODIE REID SETON
Liberia Initiative for Empowerment Concept