

## Côte d'Ivoire Police set sights on inclusive peacekeeping with latest Elsie Initiative Fund support

***Abidjan/New York, 02 October 2025 — The Elsie Initiative Fund has confirmed that Côte d'Ivoire National Police and UN Women Côte d'Ivoire are to receive new funding to strengthen the participation of Ivorian policewomen in United Nations peace operations.***

The two-year project will address the findings from the Côte d'Ivoire National Police's 2022 Measuring Opportunities for Women in Peacekeeping (MOWIP) assessment, which identified barriers to the deployment of women in peacekeeping roles. These include restrictive deployment criteria, lack of access to information, limited career advancement opportunities, and inadequate training infrastructure. In response, key interventions will include:

- **Policy reform:** Introducing a minimum 30 per cent quota of women for deployment selection processes and reducing the required years of experience from 15 to 10.
- **Strategic planning:** Development and dissemination of a comprehensive Gender Strategy for the National Police, including a budgeted action plan and training for gender focal points.
- **Capacity building:** Integrating peacekeeping-focused training curricula for the Abidjan and Korhogo Police Academies, targeting 500 officers over two years, including at least 70 per cent women.
- **Advocacy and communications:** Delivering a nationwide awareness campaign and enhancing internal police communication platforms to increase information access for women in policing and amplify peacekeeping achievements.

Following the announcement, Youssouf Kouyate, Inspector General of the Côte d'Ivoire National Police welcomed the upcoming project stating that, "This new funding provides a unique opportunity to address, in a targeted and relevant way, the main obstacles hindering the participation of Ivorian policewomen in United Nations Peacekeeping Operations. These challenges were clearly highlighted by the MOWIP barrier assessment, made possible thanks to the EIF's initial support."

Adjaratou Ndiaye, UN Women Resident Representative in Côte d'Ivoire added, "UN Women welcomes this strategic partnership and reaffirms its commitment to supporting the National Police in implementing this project, which brings hope, innovation, and progress. Together, we are taking a new step toward a society where women and men contribute equally to peacebuilding and the sustainable protection of communities."

The initiative is aligned with Côte d'Ivoire's second-generation National Action Plan for UNSCR 1325 (2024–2028) and its broader Security Sector Reform (SSR) goals. The Côte d'Ivoire National Police are the latest national security institution to begin a project in 2025 with EIF support, alongside partnerships in Fiji, Sierra Leone, and Tanzania.

## **About the Elsie Initiative Fund**

The EIF is the only global fund dedicated to removing barriers and accelerating women's meaningful participation in UN peacekeeping operations. Hosted by UN Women, the Fund targets security sector reform; strengthens the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, and advances the UN Uniformed Gender Parity Strategy (UGPS). Funded by contributions from forward-thinking donors, including Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, the Republic of Korea and the United Kingdom, the EIF supports the sustainable deployment and meaningful participation of uniformed women peacekeepers by providing financial assistance and incentives. For more information on the EIF, please visit [elsiefund.org](https://elsiefund.org) or follow the Fund on [X](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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