

# The Global Network of Women Peacebuilders

## Gender equality to build peace

The Women in Peacebuilding Program, WIPNET, of the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding, WANEP was initiated in 2001 with the broad goal to elevate women from their state of obscurity to the fore to enable them play key roles alongside men in building peace. This was based on the realization that “gender and peacebuilding” did not adequately respond to the existing gap between men and women and that men and women cannot attain equal opportunities espoused in the gender equality definition if women are absent from the scene altogether. In the course of regional and national consultations with women groups across West Africa, WIPNET realized that aside from the fact that women are excluded by design or default from peace processes by male establishment, women also suffer from lack of awareness and skills in peace making and also lack the confidence, exposure and opportunity to get involved.



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**[www.gnwp.org/members/wipnet](http://www.gnwp.org/members/wipnet)**

