



Summary of the Evaluation: Consultations on Canada's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security

What elements of the consultation did you participate in?

There were 31 responses. All respondents participated in the workshop (April 20-21). 26 read the background documents, 21 participated in the webinars, 12 completed the survey, and 7 were part of the Twitter conversation. Other respondents noted further involvement in the form of planning, presentations, meetings, and providing written submissions.

What other consultation methodologies could have been used to encourage discussion and input?

There were 24 responses. Overall respondents were happy with the diverse methodology. Suggestions included:

- Regional consultations in Canada prior to the national consultation and more intentional consultation and participation from partners in the Global South
- Having the draft NAP in advance
- Broader outreach to national organizations working on violence against women.
- A survey prior to the event to determine interests and expertise of participants to focus discussion
- Focus groups
- Greater table work
- Facebook page - one stop shopping (documents, webinar links) with the ability to meet the other people on the site and to leave comments/start conversations with those sharing your interest in this topic
- Open space wall or some visual representation at the consultation of the development of the conversation.

What did you like about the consultation process (including online activities)

There were 30 responses to this question. The respondents praised the variety of methods to be involved. The overwhelming majority of respondents spoke highly

of the variety of ways to get involved and participate. 9 directly referenced the preparation activities (webinars, documents, Twitter conversation) and noted their importance for fruitful and informed discussions. 8 respondents appreciated the workshop's interactive and action oriented focus. The mixture of panel discussions and group work was applauded. Generally, respondents were very happy with the organization of the overall process, the workshops themselves (including the opportunity to work directly with government officials), and the quality of work that came from panel and table discussions.

There was one suggestion – circulate a participant list and ask for permission to share contact information as part of the registration process.

What could have been improved?

There were 28 responses. 3 respondents noted the unfortunate absence of voices from the Global South. Understanding the difficulty associated with travel costs and obtaining Visas, one individual suggested using technology such as a Skype teleconference to access these voices.

4 comments expressed dissatisfaction with the level of government engagement. Respondents said government input was vague, and needed to be more candid with clearer direction as to what the government hopes to get from these consultations.

There were suggestions to improve the table discussions. Two respondents noted the wide variety of experience, expertise and knowledge on the topics presented. For more fruitful discussions, one respondent suggested breaking down the groups by experience on C-NAP and its implementation. Alternatively, to address the experience gap, the other respondent suggested creating a WPS 101 page or video summary listing acronyms and providing definitions for key concepts.

Having dealt with dominating personalities, two respondents expressed concern over the lack of guidelines for table discussions. One proposed creating 'rules of engagement' while the other suggested creating a 'table chair' that would monitor and facilitate the discussion.

Two respondents suggested more time for the world café sessions.

Two respondents noted the need for more of an even balance between government officials and civil society representatives.

Two respondents spoke to the panel discussions. One felt some panellists were unorganized and lacked focus and the other suggested having professional moderators. One individual suggested longer presentations and another requested more time for questions following the panels.

Other suggestions for improvement include:

- Closing the sessions with a reflection, similar to how the workshops were opened
- Regional consultations
- Representation from Indigenous women's organizations
- More focus on peace and security aspect – a lot of the conversations focused on gender equality rather than women, peace and security overall
- Sharing draft logic model in advance for comments and feedback
- More answers following the discussion (i.e. what are the next steps, what are the next steps, how else will CSOs be engaged, when a draft will be received).

Do you have any other comments?

There were 24 responses. The overwhelming majority expressed gratitude and excitement for being included. There were many thanks and praises for the organizing committee for creating a robust and historical consultation. The two pagers were seen as great tools. One respondent appreciated the ability to rotate individual representation as a means to ensure consistent organizational presence for the full two days.

Two respondents hoped for the increased inclusion of women with disabilities, with one suggesting an accommodation budget for future consultations.

Two individuals mentioned the benefits of learning from and sharing of international experiences. One requested more time to focus on strengths and weaknesses of other NAPs.

One respondent indicated that the setting of priorities for themes and competitive advantages was very practical.

There were comments surrounding government participation. Many expressed their hope that the government and those tasked with drafting the C-NAP took the findings of the workshops seriously. There was a comment indicating disappointment in specific government officials and some inappropriate comments made. There was another suggestion to have a clear explanation of where GAC already is, where they need help, and what their political limitations are.