

The  
G7 Research Group  
at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at Trinity College  
in the University of Toronto presents the

## 2019 G7 Biarritz Summit Interim Report

27 August 2019 — 20 December 2019

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*“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”*

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

*G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?*

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme,  
in *G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit*



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## 6. Gender: Women's Entrepreneurship in Africa

"We will continue to support women's entrepreneurship in Africa, including by supporting the removal of legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic participation and empowerment."

*Annex I: Promoting Women's Entrepreneurship in Africa*

### Assessment

	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom		0	
United States		0	
European Union		0	
Average		+0.38 (69%)	

### Background

For the first time in G8 history at the 2008 Tokyo Summit, G8 leaders agreed to promote gender equality and women's empowerment as a principle in their development cooperation through mainstreaming and specific actions.<sup>473</sup> They promised to improve women's security through protection and empowerment of women and their communities.<sup>474</sup>

At the 2015 Schloss-Elmau Summit, for the second time G7 leaders agreed to take steps towards empowering women in regard to women's health, economic empowerment and climate protection.<sup>475</sup> Leaders affirmed to contribute to women's entrepreneurship as a key driver for innovation, growth, and jobs for women across G7 members.<sup>476</sup> This is the first time G7 leaders chose and vowed to address the specific needs of women and promised to promote their access to finance, markets, skills, leadership opportunities and networks.<sup>477</sup> G7 members asked the Organisation for Economic and Co-operation and Development (OECD) to monitor progress on promoting women's entrepreneurship as it would work to promote gender equality as well as the full participation of empowering all women and girls.<sup>478</sup> Additionally, G7 leaders condemned all forms of sexual violence in conflict and are committed to enhancing the role of women in international peace and security.<sup>479</sup>

<sup>473</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 July 2008. Access Date: 14 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

<sup>474</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 July 2008. Access Date: 14 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

<sup>475</sup> G7 Leaders' Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>476</sup> G7 Leaders' Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>477</sup> G7 Leaders' Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>478</sup> G7 Leaders' Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>479</sup> G7 Leaders' Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

Members declared that in order to offer inclusive sustainable solutions to peace and stability women must be included to establish effective governance.<sup>480</sup>

Also at the 2015 Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 leaders recognised that being equipped with relevant skills for decent work, especially through technical and vocational education and training (TVET) via formal and non-formal learning, is key to the economic empowerment of women and girls, including those who face multiple sources of discrimination (e.g. women and girls with disabilities), and to improving their employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.<sup>481</sup> G7 leaders committed to increasing the number of women and girls technically and vocationally educated and trained in developing countries through G7 measures by one third (compared to “business as usual”) by 2030.<sup>482</sup> G7 leaders promised to work to increase career training and education for women and girls within G7 members.<sup>483</sup> Members promised to take steps to foster access to quality jobs for women and to reduce the gender gap in workforce participation within countries by 25 per cent by 2025, taking into account national circumstances including by improving the framework conditions to enable women and men to balance family life and employment, including access to parental leave and childcare. Moreover, members recognize that the private sector also has a vital role in creating an environment in which women can more meaningfully participate in the economy.<sup>484</sup> G7 leaders vowed to support the UN Women’s Empowerment Principles and call on companies worldwide to integrate them into their activities.<sup>485</sup> This initiative was the first time G7 leaders promised to coordinate their efforts through a new G7 working group on women.<sup>486</sup>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 members committed to taking concrete actions, internationally and in their own countries and reaffirmed their commitment to achieve gender equality and human rights for women and girls, and to enable women and girls to realize their full potential to 1. actively engage in society and to take control of their own destiny; 2. contribute to and benefit from sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth and quality of life at home, in the community, and in all spheres of society; and 3. fully and effectively participate in all phases of the peacebuilding continuum, from conflict prevention to resolution and ultimately reconciliation.<sup>487</sup> G7 leaders also remained committed to preventing and responding to all forms of gender-based violence and discrimination against women and girls as they are pervasive barriers in realizing their full potentials.<sup>488</sup> This was the first time that members actively encouraged the active role of women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) careers, and strived to remove gender bias in careers, through promoting institutional change and creating legal and policy environments

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<sup>480</sup> G7 Leaders’ Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>481</sup> G7 Leaders’ Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>482</sup> G7 Leaders’ Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>483</sup> G7 Leaders’ Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>484</sup> G7 Leaders’ Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>485</sup> G7 Leaders’ Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>486</sup> G7 Leaders’ Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>487</sup> G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: Towards a Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/principles-women.html>

<sup>488</sup> G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: Towards a Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/principles-women.html>

which effectively advance gender equality, and thereby increase the number of female students in STEM fields, and broaden the participation of women in research, engineering and entrepreneurial careers.<sup>489</sup>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders also committed to addressing barriers to equal access for all women and men to quality technical, vocational and tertiary education.<sup>490</sup> Members committed to take into account women's diverse needs and to encourage a more equal division of unpaid care and domestic work between women and men, in order to facilitate women's access to education and training, and thereby, to increase female labor force participation rates.<sup>491</sup> G7 leaders committed to enhance education, training and programs to support women to assume leadership positions in the public and private sector, and to increase the number of female leaders at all levels of decision-making in political, economic, academic and public life.<sup>492</sup>

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders adopted the Roadmap.<sup>493</sup> In line with the principles endorsed in the Taormina Declaration, the Roadmap focuses on the structural policies falling within our central governments' jurisdiction that are likely to have the greatest impact in delivering gender equality through enabling women's labor force participation, entrepreneurship, economic empowerment and thus their full and equal participation in society.<sup>494</sup> Members agreed to increasing women's participation and promoting equal opportunities and fair selection processes for leadership at all levels of decision-making.<sup>495</sup> This includes recommendations that G7 members take action to increase the representation of women in all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life by 2022.<sup>496</sup> In addition, they agreed to encourage the private sector to value women's active role in private companies by developing positive actions, such as leadership trainings and gender equality labels/certifications, and promoting role models.<sup>497</sup> Furthermore, leaders also vowed to strengthen the foundation of women's access to decent and quality job, promote participation by girls and women in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Medicine (STEMM), and eliminate violence against women and girl throughout their lives.<sup>498</sup>

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<sup>489</sup> G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: Towards a Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/principles-women.html>

<sup>490</sup> G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: Towards a Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/principles-women.html>

<sup>491</sup> G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: Towards a Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/principles-women.html>

<sup>492</sup> G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: Towards a Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/principles-women.html>

<sup>493</sup> G7 Roadmap for Gender-Responsive Economic Environment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/gender.html>

<sup>494</sup> G7 Roadmap for Gender-Responsive Economic Environment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/gender.html>

<sup>495</sup> G7 Roadmap for Gender-Responsive Economic Environment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/gender.html>

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<sup>498</sup> G7 Roadmap for Gender-Responsive Economic Environment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/gender.html>

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders recognized that gender equality is fundamental for the fulfillment of human rights and is a social and economic imperative.<sup>499</sup> Leaders declared to remove the barriers that keep their citizens, including women and marginalized individuals, from participating fully in the global economy.<sup>500</sup> Members promised to reinforce their commitment to eradicate poverty, advance gender equality, foster income equality, ensure better access to financial resources and create decent work and quality of life for all.<sup>501</sup> Further, members support efforts to promote and protect women's and adolescents' health and well-being through evidence-based healthcare and health information.<sup>502</sup> Similarly, members vowed to expand market-driven training and education, particularly for girls and women in the STEM fields.<sup>503</sup> G7 leaders recognized the need to remove barriers to women's leadership and equal opportunity to participate in all aspects of the labour market, including by eliminating violence, discrimination and harassment within and beyond the workplace.<sup>504</sup> Members committed to explore innovative new approaches to apprenticeship and vocational learning, as well as opportunities to engage employers and improve access to workplace training.<sup>505</sup>

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders promised to work to remove barriers to women's participation and decision-making in social, economic and political spheres as well as increase the opportunities for all to participate equally in all aspects of the labour market.<sup>506</sup> Leaders vowed that their path forward will promote women's full economic participation through working to reduce the gender wage gap, supporting women business leaders and entrepreneurs and recognizing the value of unpaid care work.<sup>507</sup> Through the Charlevoix Declaration on Quality Education for Girls, Adolescent Girls, and Women in Developing Countries, G7 members affirmed their commitment to increase opportunities for at least 12 years of safe and quality education for all and to dismantle the barriers to girls' and women's quality education, particularly in emergencies and in conflict-affected and fragile states.<sup>508</sup> We recognize that marginalized girls, such as those with a disability, face additional barriers in attaining access to education.<sup>509</sup> In addition, through the endorsement of the Charlevoix Commitment to End Sexual and Gender-Based violence, Abuse and Harassment in Digital Contexts they affirm to strive for a future where individuals' human rights are equally protected both offline

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<sup>499</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>

<sup>500</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>

<sup>501</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>

<sup>502</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>

<sup>503</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>

<sup>504</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>

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<sup>506</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>

<sup>507</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>

<sup>508</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>

<sup>509</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>

and online; and where everyone has equal opportunity to participate in political, social, economic and cultural endeavors.<sup>510</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

The G7 committed “to continue to support women’s entrepreneurship in Africa, including by supporting the removal of legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women’s full and free economic participation and empowerment.”

The core of this commitment is to support women’s entrepreneurship in Africa. This means the G7 member must aim to support and create programs or a project to promote and advance a women’s economic empowerment and remove legal, social, and regulatory barriers. “Support” is understood to mean “the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.”<sup>511</sup>

“Entrepreneurship” is the activity of setting up a business or businesses, taking on a financial risk in the hope of a profit.<sup>512</sup> This must be aimed at women, such as giving equal access to financial capital, a social barrier.<sup>513</sup>

To achieve this, the G7 committed to support African countries’ efforts to remove legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women’s full and free economic participation and empowerment. In this commitment “removal” means to eliminate or get rid of any barrier that may be “legal” deriving from authority or established by law, “social” deriving from human society, and “regulatory” under the control of law or constituted authority that may discriminate against women’s full and free economic empowerment.<sup>514</sup>

“Promoting women’s economic empowerment” implies tangible efforts by a G7 member to increase women’s labour market participation and employment opportunities, improve labour conditions and reduce the gender pay gap.<sup>515</sup> Examples of women’s economic empowerment include, but are not limited to, creating employment opportunities, encouraging skills development, encouraging property ownership, and increasing access to economic and educational resources and financial services. Women’s empowerment is actively promoted through the removal of barriers in women’s education, training and professional development.

To achieve full compliance, the G7 member must to support women’s entrepreneurship in Africa by doing the following three: 1. Supporting African countries to remove legal barriers; 2. Supporting African countries to remove social barriers; and 3. Supporting African countries to remove regulatory barriers that discriminate against women’s full and free economic empowerment.

For a score of partial compliance, the G7 member has only strongly supported one or two of the three criteria or somewhat supports all three criteria’s of: 1. Supporting African countries to remove legal barriers; 2. Supporting African countries to remove social barriers; and 3. Supporting African

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<sup>510</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>

<sup>511</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>

<sup>512</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>

<sup>513</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>

<sup>514</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>

<sup>515</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>

countries to remove regulatory barriers that discriminate against women’s full and free economic empowerment.

For a score of non-compliance, the G7 member has done none of the aforementioned criteria.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member has failed to take action to 1. Support African countries to remove legal barriers; 2. Support African countries to remove social barriers; and 3. Support African countries to remove regulatory barriers that discriminate against women’s full and free economic empowerment.
0	G7 member has only strongly supported one or two of the three criteria or somewhat supports all three criteria’s of: 1. Supporting African countries to remove legal barriers; 2. Supporting African countries to remove social barriers; and 3. Supporting African countries to remove regulatory barriers that discriminate against women’s full and free economic empowerment.
+1	G7 member has taken action in all three areas of: 1. Supporting African countries to remove legal barriers; 2. Supporting African countries to remove social barriers; and 3. Supporting African countries to remove regulatory barriers that discriminate against women’s full and free economic empowerment.

*Compliance Director: Joanna Ilunga-Kapinga  
Lead Analyst: Emma Davy*

### Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to women’s entrepreneurship in Africa by supporting the removal of legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women’s full and free economic participation and empowerment.

On 20 September 2019, Canada committed CAD4 million to the Rights to Inclusive Education and Retention of Girls in School in Côte d’Ivoire until 30 September 2021.<sup>516</sup> The components of the project include training leaders of women’s and youth organizations, improving access to sexual health and reproductive health services, and improving preventative responses to gender-based violence.<sup>517</sup> The initiative aims to reduce barriers for more than 700,000 girls between the ages of 10 to 19 in order to support equitable access to education.<sup>518</sup>

On 29 October 2019, the Government of Canada made a national statement at the United Nations General Assembly on the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda during the Open Debate at the UN Security Council.<sup>519</sup> The three areas of focus in implementing the agenda

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<sup>516</sup> Rights to Inclusive Education and Retention of Girls in School in Côte d’Ivoire, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007019001>

<sup>517</sup> Rights to Inclusive Education and Retention of Girls in School in Côte d’Ivoire, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007019001>

<sup>518</sup> Rights to Inclusive Education and Retention of Girls in School in Côte d’Ivoire, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007019001>

<sup>519</sup> Canada National Statement - Women, Peace and Security Open Debate UN Security Council, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\\_relations-relations\\_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2019-10-women-femmes.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2019-10-women-femmes.aspx?lang=eng)

include; innovative partnerships, new approaches to funding, and focusing on inclusion.<sup>520</sup> With regards to funding, Canada has doubled its commitment to the Women Peace and Humanitarian Fund, launched the Equality Fund, and made a three year, CAD650 million commitment to close gaps in supporting sexual and reproductive health and rights.<sup>521</sup>

On 29 October 2019, the Government of Canada pledged CAD3,730,020 to the project for Enhancing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for Women and Adolescents in Ethiopia.<sup>522</sup> The project activities include providing reproductive health training, medical equipment, identifying gaps in medical coverage and providing advocacy using local women's organizations.<sup>523</sup> As of 14 November 2019 Canada, has disbursed CAD976,370.<sup>524</sup>

On November 22–23 2019, the Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs, participated in the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Nagoya, Japan.<sup>525</sup> The ministers discussed issues such as ensuring sustainable economic growth of Africa, assisting African-led progress on peace and security, and addressing the root causes of the outstanding challenges in Africa.<sup>526</sup>

Canada has demonstrated partial compliance with its support for the removal of social barriers that discriminate against women through issuing statements, pledging funds, and partial disbursements toward their commitments.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Alexandra Miller*

#### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to support women's entrepreneurship in Africa, including by supporting the removal of legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic participation and empowerment.

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<sup>520</sup> Canada National Statement - Women, Peace and Security Open Debate UN Security Council, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\\_relations-relations\\_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2019-10-women-femmes.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2019-10-women-femmes.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>521</sup> Canada National Statement - Women, Peace and Security Open Debate UN Security Council, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\\_relations-relations\\_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2019-10-women-femmes.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2019-10-women-femmes.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>522</sup> Project profile — Enhancing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for Women and Adolescents in Ethiopia, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006317001>

<sup>523</sup> Project profile — Enhancing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for Women and Adolescents in Ethiopia, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006317001>

<sup>524</sup> Project profile — Enhancing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for Women and Adolescents in Ethiopia, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006317001>

<sup>525</sup> Foreign Affairs Minister to attend G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/11/foreign-affairs-minister-to-attend-g20-foreign-ministers-meeting.html>

<sup>526</sup> Foreign Affairs Minister to attend G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/11/foreign-affairs-minister-to-attend-g20-foreign-ministers-meeting.html>

On 23 September 2019, France announced its plan to co-host the next UN Women’s Generation Equality forum alongside Mexico in July 2020.<sup>527</sup> As one of the “Core Group” members, France will share ultimate decision-making power over initiatives to encourage urgent action and accountability for global gender inequality.<sup>528</sup>

On 8 November 2019, Agence Française de Développement (AFD), an agency of the governmental Committee for International Cooperation and Development, awarded Cameroonian company KmerPad with a prize and funding package for its solidarity-based entrepreneurship.<sup>529</sup> Started by Cameroonian women, the company produces sanitary pads with the goal of removing barriers that discriminate against women’s full and free involvement in education and work due to social taboos that discourage hygienic menstruation practices.<sup>530</sup>

On 12 November 2019, French Minister of State for Gender Equality and the Fight against Discrimination Marlene Schiappa hosted international ministers and UN Women executives at a Paris Peace Forum exhibit showcasing the success of women’s entrepreneurship projects supported by the French government including “African Girls Can Code” from Ethiopia and “Buy From Digital Platform for Smallholder Farms” from Mali.<sup>531</sup>

On 19 November 2019, the Consulate General of France in Johannesburg unveiled its “Challenge for 1000” initiative, in which 1000 African entrepreneurs will be selected to showcase innovative solutions to urban problems at the Africa-France summit in June 2020.<sup>532</sup> The Consulate General included in the announcement a commitment to ensure gender parity to support women entrepreneurs and decrease barriers to their participation.<sup>533</sup>

On 28 November 2019, AFD announced it will contribute EUR3 million toward the creation of treatment centres for female victims of sexual and gender-based violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Central African Republic.<sup>534</sup> The centres will provide physical, psychological, legal

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<sup>527</sup> Generation Equality Forum, UN Women (New York). 23 September 2019. Access date: 5 November 2019.

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/get-involved/beijing-plus-25/generation-equality-forum>.

<sup>528</sup> Generation Equality Forum, UN Women (New York). 23 September 2019. Access date: 5 November 2019.

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/get-involved/beijing-plus-25/generation-equality-forum>.

<sup>529</sup> Lifting the Menstruation Taboo in Cameroon, Agence Française de Développement (Paris). 8 November 2019.

Access Date: 15 December 2019. [https://www.afd.fr/en/lifting-menstruation-taboo-cameroon?origin=/en/actualites?field\\_region\\_country\\_target\\_id=187&field\\_date\\_value=&field\\_date\\_value\\_1=&field\\_type\\_target\\_id=All&field\\_theme\\_target\\_id=All&items\\_per\\_page=5&page=4](https://www.afd.fr/en/lifting-menstruation-taboo-cameroon?origin=/en/actualites?field_region_country_target_id=187&field_date_value=&field_date_value_1=&field_type_target_id=All&field_theme_target_id=All&items_per_page=5&page=4).

<sup>530</sup> Lifting the Menstruation Taboo in Cameroon, Agence Française de Développement (Paris). 8 November 2019.

Access Date: 15 December 2019. [https://www.afd.fr/en/lifting-menstruation-taboo-cameroon?origin=/en/actualites?field\\_region\\_country\\_target\\_id=187&field\\_date\\_value=&field\\_date\\_value\\_1=&field\\_type\\_target\\_id=All&field\\_theme\\_target\\_id=All&items\\_per\\_page=5&page=4](https://www.afd.fr/en/lifting-menstruation-taboo-cameroon?origin=/en/actualites?field_region_country_target_id=187&field_date_value=&field_date_value_1=&field_type_target_id=All&field_theme_target_id=All&items_per_page=5&page=4).

<sup>531</sup> UN Women Deputy Executive Director Anita Bhatia attends Paris Peace Forum, UN Women (New York). 14

November 2019. Access date: 15 December 2019. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/11/news-coverage-ded-bhatia-attends-paris-peace-forum>.

<sup>532</sup> African entrepreneurs take part in Challenge of 1,000 at the Africa-France 2020 Summit, Consulat général de France à Johannesburg (Johannesburg). 11 November 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019.

<https://johannesburg.consulfrance.org/Africans-entrepreneurs-take-part-in-Challenge-of-1-000-at-the-Africa-France>.

<sup>533</sup> African entrepreneurs take part in Challenge of 1,000 at the Africa-France 2020 Summit, Consulat général de France à Johannesburg (Johannesburg). 11 November 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019.

<https://johannesburg.consulfrance.org/Africans-entrepreneurs-take-part-in-Challenge-of-1-000-at-the-Africa-France>.

<sup>534</sup> Stopping Violence Against Women in Central Africa, Agence Française de Développement (Paris). 02 December 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. [https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/stopping-violence-against-women-centralafrica?origin=/en/actualites?field\\_region\\_country\\_target\\_id=187&field\\_date\\_value=&field\\_date\\_value\\_1=&field\\_type\\_target\\_id=All&field\\_theme\\_target\\_id=All&items\\_per\\_page=5&page=1](https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/stopping-violence-against-women-centralafrica?origin=/en/actualites?field_region_country_target_id=187&field_date_value=&field_date_value_1=&field_type_target_id=All&field_theme_target_id=All&items_per_page=5&page=1).

and economic support to victims with the goal of helping to rebuild their lives and reduce barriers that may prevent them from achieving empowerment.<sup>535</sup>

France has continued to support women's entrepreneurship in Africa, including by supporting the removal of legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic participation and empowerment.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Kathryn Mullins*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support women's entrepreneurship in Africa, including by supporting the removal of legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic participation and empowerment.

On 30 August 2019, the government-backed development bank Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW) announced its provision of USD458 million in support for female-owned businesses in developing countries.<sup>536</sup> The funding was raised in contribution with development banks from other G7 nations in the "2X Challenge," an initiative to raise US\$3 billion for women entrepreneurs and employees in the developing world by 2020.<sup>537</sup>

On 1-28 October 2019, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) contributed to the funding of several "African Code Week" initiatives.<sup>538</sup> Over 1.5 million youth in 37 African nations participated in the week-long events which aimed to improve the digital literacy of girls in particular, reducing the 'digital divide' which creates social and regulatory barriers to women's participation in the economy.<sup>539</sup>

On 23 October 2019, German Chancellor Angela Merkel pledged EUR30 million for the promotion of women's digital literacy to the African Development Bank.<sup>540</sup> The Chancellor announced the funding during a speech awarding the 2019 German-Africa Prize to Kenyan information technologist Juliana Rotich, emphasizing the importance of digital skills for African women to achieve full economic participation and empowerment.<sup>541</sup>

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<sup>535</sup> Stopping Violence Against Women in Central Africa, Agence Française de Développement (Paris). 02 December 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. [https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/stopping-violence-against-women-centralafrica?origin=/en/actualites?field\\_region\\_country\\_target\\_id=187&field\\_date\\_value=&field\\_date\\_value\\_1=&field\\_type\\_target\\_id=All&field\\_theme\\_target\\_id=All&items\\_per\\_page=5&page=1](https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/stopping-violence-against-women-centralafrica?origin=/en/actualites?field_region_country_target_id=187&field_date_value=&field_date_value_1=&field_type_target_id=All&field_theme_target_id=All&items_per_page=5&page=1).

<sup>536</sup> 2X Challenge: USD 2.5 billion mobilised for women's economic empowerment, Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (Frankfurt). 30 August 2019. Access Date: 23 October 2019. [https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details\\_539264-2.html](https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details_539264-2.html).

<sup>537</sup> 2X Challenge: USD 2.5 billion mobilised for women's economic empowerment, Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (Frankfurt). 30 August 2019. Access Date: 23 October 2019. [https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details\\_539264-2.html](https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details_539264-2.html)

<sup>538</sup> Germany promotes education in development cooperation worldwide, Deutschland.de (Frankfurt). 11 November 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.deutschland.de/en/topic/politics/education-and-development-cooperation-projects-from-germany>.

<sup>539</sup> Germany promotes education in development cooperation worldwide, Deutschland.de (Frankfurt). 11 November 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.deutschland.de/en/topic/politics/education-and-development-cooperation-projects-from-germany>.

<sup>540</sup> German Africa Prize 2019, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin). 24 October 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/afrika-preis-2019-1685170>

<sup>541</sup> German Africa Prize 2019, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin). 24 October 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/afrika-preis-2019-1685170>.

On 25 October 2019, the German Federal Foreign Office helped launch a start-up project called Maisha Business Women In Europe.<sup>542</sup> The project, will offer women refugees from African countries opportunities to develop their entrepreneurial skills and help them participate in the economies of their home countries upon their return.<sup>543</sup>

On 13 November 2019, the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ), an agency of the governmental ministry BMZ, renewed its support for a joint fund with the Algerian Environment Ministry to encourage women in rural areas to establish cooperative businesses for the sale of sustainably harvested plant products.<sup>544</sup> GIZ will finance oil presses and other production tools that help Algerian women manage their own entrepreneurial projects.<sup>545</sup>

On 17 December 2019, KfW launched its Gender Smart Opportunity Assessment program to support financial institutions in developing countries in providing opportunities suited to the needs of women.<sup>546</sup> They aim to help women gain better access to credit for entrepreneurial projects and increase the number of employment opportunities available to women, leading to more full and free economic participation.<sup>547</sup>

Germany has continued to support women's entrepreneurship in Africa, including by supporting the removal of legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic participation and empowerment.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Kathryn Mullins*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to support women's entrepreneurship in Africa by supporting African countries to remove social barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic empowerment.

On 26 August 2019, Italy provided UNICEF Eritrea with a grant of EUR1 million to enhance existing community-based child protection programs.<sup>548</sup> As part of this program, adolescent girls

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<sup>542</sup> Project to support African women entrepreneurs in Europe launches, The African Courier (Berlin). 18 October 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.theafricancourier.de/business/business-support-project-for-african-women-in-europe-launches/>.

<sup>543</sup> Project to support African women entrepreneurs in Europe launches, The African Courier (Berlin). 18 October 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.theafricancourier.de/business/business-support-project-for-african-women-in-europe-launches/>.

<sup>544</sup> Algeria: Natural cosmetics sourced from protected areas and produced by women, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (Bonn). 13 November 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.giz.de/en/mediacenter/80797.html>.

<sup>545</sup> Algeria: Natural cosmetics sourced from protected areas and produced by women, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (Bonn). 13 November 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.giz.de/en/mediacenter/80797.html>.

<sup>546</sup> DEG advisory service: empowering female entrepreneurs in developing countries, Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (Frankfurt). 17 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. [https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/Pressemitteilungen-Details\\_557568-2.html](https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/Pressemitteilungen-Details_557568-2.html).

<sup>547</sup> DEG advisory service: empowering female entrepreneurs in developing countries, Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (Frankfurt). 17 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. [https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/Pressemitteilungen-Details\\_557568-2.html](https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/Pressemitteilungen-Details_557568-2.html).

<sup>548</sup> Italy Grants €1 Million to UNICEF Eritrea, TesfaNews (Asmara). 26 August 2019. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <https://www.tesfanews.net/italy-grants-one-million-euro-unicef-eritrea/>.

from disadvantaged families receive cash incentives to enable the girls to remain in school and pursue secondary education.<sup>549</sup>

On 25 November 2019, Italy reaffirmed its support for the removal of all forms of discrimination and violence against women and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation subscribed to UN Women's campaign on gender violence called #OrangetheWorld.<sup>550</sup>

On 9 December 2019, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation allocated EUR642,000 from the Africa Fund to the United Nations Capital Development Fund to promote inclusive credit services for refugees in the Tigray, Somaliland and Addis Ababa areas of Ethiopia.<sup>551</sup> This project aims to enable economic self-sufficiency of refugees, especially refugee women and Ethiopians willingly returning to the country.<sup>552</sup>

Italy has taken some actions to support support women's entrepreneurship in Africa through the removal of social barriers to women's full and free economic empowerment.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Brandon Yih*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to continue to support women's entrepreneurship in Africa and to support the removal of legal, social and regulatory barriers for women's empowerment.

On 28 August 2019, the Japanese government hosted the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7), and issued the Yokohama Declaration and the Yokohama Plan of Actions, which aimed at promoting focus areas including African women empowerment through financial contribution to the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) and the Private Sector Investment Finance of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).<sup>553</sup> These measures aim to empower African women entrepreneurs through increased financial access and supports.<sup>554</sup>

On 28 August 2019, JICA hosted a symposium that focused on the roles and potential of social business and entrepreneurship to address gender barriers in Africa. During the conference, Dr. Yumiko Tanaka, Senior Gender Advisor of JICA, called for the promotion and collaborations to

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<sup>549</sup> Italy Grants €1 Million to UNICEF Eritrea, TesfaNews (Asmara). 26 August 2019. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <https://www.tesfanews.net/italy-grants-one-million-euro-unicef-eritrea/>.

<sup>550</sup> Violence against women: Italy joins #OrangetheWorld, #Generationequality campaigns, OnItalia (New York). 25 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.onitalia.com/violence-against-women-italy-joins-orangetheWorld-generationequality-campaigns/>.

<sup>551</sup> The Foreign Ministry provides two new allocations for refugees in Niger and Ethiopia, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome). 9 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/due-nuovi-contributi-maeci-per-rifugiati-in-niger-e-etiopia\\_0.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/due-nuovi-contributi-maeci-per-rifugiati-in-niger-e-etiopia_0.html).

<sup>552</sup> The Foreign Ministry provides two new allocations for refugees in Niger and Ethiopia, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome). 9 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/due-nuovi-contributi-maeci-per-rifugiati-in-niger-e-etiopia\\_0.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/due-nuovi-contributi-maeci-per-rifugiati-in-niger-e-etiopia_0.html).

<sup>553</sup> TICAD7, the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development, opening in Yokohama: Advancing Africa's development through People, Technology and Innovation, JICA (Tokyo). 28 August 2019. Access date: 22 December 2019. [https://jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2019/2019082\\_01.html](https://jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2019/2019082_01.html).

<sup>554</sup> Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019 & Actions for Implementation of the Yokohama Declaration 2019, MOFA (Tokyo). 30 August 2019. Access date: 22 December 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama\\_action\\_plan\\_en.pdf](https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_action_plan_en.pdf).

promote African women's access to greater economic and political power and thus to combat gender inequalities.<sup>555</sup>

On 29 August 2019, the Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe announced that Japan will introduce assistance policy for human resource development in Africa at the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Horn of Africa and the Neighboring Region.<sup>556</sup> This initiative would allow youth and women to acquire skills to make a living by themselves and to play an increasing role in economic activities.<sup>557</sup>

On 24 September 2019, the Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe, attended the UN General Assembly and announced that Japan pledged to provide enriched education to a minimum of nine million children and women in Sub-Saharan African nations in the next three years, which would help to “promote inclusive quality education for all girls and women.”<sup>558</sup>

On 30 September 2019, Japan's Government Pension Investment Fund (GPIF) signed an agreement with the African Development Bank (AfDB) to channel investment towards inclusive and sustainable growth in Africa.<sup>559</sup> The collaboration would provide investment opportunities to GPIF to fund projects in Africa leading to increase women's employment opportunities in Africa.<sup>560</sup>

On 23 November 2019, Japan's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Toshimitsu Motegi, held a Presidency Press Conference for the G20 Aichi-Nagoya Foreign Ministers' Meeting, in which he confirmed that Japan and other G20 members will continue to support women's empowerment in Africa as part of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.<sup>561</sup>

On 5 December 2019, JICA signed an agreement with the Government of the Republic of Kenya to provide a Japanese official development assistance of JPY 47.8 billion to the Mombasa Gate Bridge construction Project.<sup>562</sup> This project not only aimed to facilitate efficient transportation in East Africa,

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<sup>555</sup> Unleashing the power of Women and Girls in Africa – Social Business and Social Entrepreneurship to Achieve Transformation Change, JICA (Tokyo). 28 August 2019. Access date: 22 December 2019.

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2019/c8h0vm0000f5zxol-att/20190912\\_01\\_11.pdf](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2019/c8h0vm0000f5zxol-att/20190912_01_11.pdf).

<sup>556</sup> Prime Minister Abe and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Kono attended the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Horn of Africa and the Neighboring Region, MOFA (Tokyo). 29 August 2019. Access date: 22 December 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/page4e\\_001075.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/page4e_001075.html).

<sup>557</sup> Prime Minister Abe and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Kono attended the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Horn of Africa and the Neighboring Region, MOFA (Tokyo). 29 August 2019. Access date: 22 December 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/page4e\\_001075.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/page4e_001075.html).

<sup>558</sup> At UN debate, Japan vows to back global push for inclusive quality education for all girls and women, UN News (New York). 24 September 2019. Access date: 22 December 2018. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/09/1047382>.

<sup>559</sup> African Development Bank, Government Pension Investment Fund, partner for green, social and sustainability bond markets, African Development Bank (Abidjan). 11 October 2019. Access date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/african-development-bank-government-pension-investment-fund-partner-green-social-and-sustainability-bond-markets-31954>.

<sup>560</sup> African Development Bank, Government Pension Investment Fund, partner for green, social and sustainability bond markets, African Development Bank (Abidjan). 11 October 2019. Access date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/african-development-bank-government-pension-investment-fund-partner-green-social-and-sustainability-bond-markets-31954>.

<sup>561</sup> Presidency Conference for the G20 Foreign ministers' Meeting by Foreign Minister MOTEGI Toshimitsu, MOFA (Tokyo). 23 November 2019. Access date: 22 December 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/ecm/ec/page25e\\_000367.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/ecm/ec/page25e_000367.html).

<sup>562</sup> Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with the Republic of Kenya: Contributing to the stimulation of regional economic activities by the construction of a bridge at Mombasa, a gateway to East Africa, JICA (Tokyo). 11 December 2019. Access date: 22 December 2019. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20191211\\_41\\_en.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20191211_41_en.html).

but also provided roadside trading facilities and vocational training to African women entrepreneurs in the region, which removed social barriers that discriminate women's economic participation.<sup>563</sup>

Japan's introduction of an assistance policy for human resource development in Africa and its collaboration with the AfDB to fund women's employment opportunities in Africa, Japan has demonstrated action in all three areas by supporting African countries to remove legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic empowerment.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Mary Qiu*

### **United Kingdom: 0**

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to support women's entrepreneurship in Africa by removing legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic participation and empowerment.

On 28 August 2019, International Development Secretary Alok Sharma announced the establishment of a new Commission to mobilize private sector investments following his first visit to Ethiopia.<sup>564</sup> The Commission will be composed of UK and international business experts and aims to facilitate financial investment for infrastructure projects in developing countries.<sup>565</sup> While in Ethiopia, Mr. Sharma met with women who have taken part in entrepreneurial training programs and guidance initiatives supported by aid from the UK and the company Unilever.<sup>566</sup>

On 24 September 2019, UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced GBP515 million to provide education for approximately 12 million children in developing countries.<sup>567</sup> This funding builds on the GBP90 million the Prime Minister committed at the 2019 G7 summit in Biarritz.<sup>568</sup> The new spending commitment will focus on teaching literacy and numeracy to children in African and Asian countries.<sup>569</sup>

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<sup>563</sup> Feasibility Study in the Mombasa Gate Bridge Construction Project, Mombasa County, JICA (Tokyo). March 2019. Access date: 22 December 2019.

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our\\_work/social\\_environmental/id/africa/kenya/c8h0vm00009praz8-att/c8h0vm0000eu3o4t.pdf](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/social_environmental/id/africa/kenya/c8h0vm00009praz8-att/c8h0vm0000eu3o4t.pdf).

<sup>564</sup> International Development Secretary to boost infrastructure in the poorest countries with UK aid, Department for International Development (London) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/international-development-secretary-to-boost-infrastructure-in-the-poorest-countries-with-uk-aid>.

<sup>565</sup> International Development Secretary to boost infrastructure in the poorest countries with UK aid, Department for International Development (London) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/international-development-secretary-to-boost-infrastructure-in-the-poorest-countries-with-uk-aid>.

<sup>566</sup> International Development Secretary to boost infrastructure in the poorest countries with UK aid, Department for International Development (London) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/international-development-secretary-to-boost-infrastructure-in-the-poorest-countries-with-uk-aid>.

<sup>567</sup> PM steps up UK effort to get every girl in the world into school, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street and Department for International Development (London) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-steps-up-uk-effort-to-get-every-girl-in-the-world-into-school>.

<sup>568</sup> PM steps up UK effort to get every girl in the world into school, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street and Department for International Development (London) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-steps-up-uk-effort-to-get-every-girl-in-the-world-into-school>.

<sup>569</sup> PM steps up UK effort to get every girl in the world into school, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street and Department for International Development (London) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-steps-up-uk-effort-to-get-every-girl-in-the-world-into-school>.

On 27 September 2019, International Development Secretary Alok Sharma announced a new UK aid package which will help mobilize GBP500 million in private sector investment, support entrepreneurs in countries across sub-Saharan Africa and provide improved access to financial services.<sup>570</sup> To achieve this, the UK has committed GBP90 million to Financial Sector Deepening Africa, a non-profit organization that works in 28 countries to help people access financial services, such as banking.<sup>571</sup>

On 5 November 2019, the United Kingdom's Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport's International Tech Hub Network opened applications for its new "Africa-UK: Female Tech Founders 2020" program.<sup>572</sup> The program will invite 15 women entrepreneurs from Nigeria, Kenya, and South Africa to partake in workshops and events on business strategies in London from 20-22 January 2020.<sup>573</sup> The goal of the program is to foster inclusive economic growth by giving women entrepreneurs the tools to surmount the gender divide.<sup>574</sup>

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to support women's entrepreneurship in Africa. Through its partnership with Financial Sector Deepening Africa and the "Africa-UK: Female Tech Founders 2020" program the UK has taken actions that support African countries to remove social barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic empowerment. However, the UK has not demonstrated its support for the removal of legal and regulatory barriers in African countries.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Annie Ding*

### **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment towards women's empowerment in Africa.

On 18 November 2019, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) announced that the Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative Fund (W-GDP) would increase its funding to USD100 million.<sup>575</sup> In February 2019, U.S. President Donald Trump established the W-GDP Initiative to increase women's economic participation in developing nations

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<sup>570</sup> UK aid to boost access to finance for sub-Saharan Africa, Department for International Development (London) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-boost-access-to-finance-for-sub-saharan-africa>.

<sup>571</sup> UK aid to boost access to finance for sub-Saharan Africa, Department for International Development (London) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-boost-access-to-finance-for-sub-saharan-africa>.

<sup>572</sup> Applications open for Africa-UK Female Tech Founders 2020, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Blog (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://dcmsblog.uk/2019/11/applications-open-for-africa-uk-female-tech-founders-2020/>.

<sup>573</sup> Applications open for Africa-UK Female Tech Founders 2020, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Blog (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://dcmsblog.uk/2019/11/applications-open-for-africa-uk-female-tech-founders-2020/>.

<sup>574</sup> Applications open for Africa-UK Female Tech Founders 2020, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Blog (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://dcmsblog.uk/2019/11/applications-open-for-africa-uk-female-tech-founders-2020/>.

<sup>575</sup> What is USAID's W-GDP Initiative Fund that recently increases its Funding to \$100 million for New Partnerships?, FundsforNGOs Grants and resources for Sustainability (United States) Access Date: 8 December 2019. <https://www2.fundsforngos.org/featured/what-is-usaids-w-gdp-initiative-fund-that-recently-increased-its-funding-to-100-million-for-new-partnerships/>.

throughout Africa.<sup>576</sup> The initiative seeks to strengthen laws and regulations that promote women's participation in the economy and to provide women entrepreneurs with education, training and support.<sup>577</sup> With the new funding, the initiative seeks to reach 50 million women in 22 developing countries by 2025.<sup>578</sup>

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to support women's empowerment in Africa through its support of the removal of social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic empowerment.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Danielle Maragh*

### **European Union: 0**

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to support women's entrepreneurship in Africa through the removal of legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic participation and empowerment.

On 12 November 2019, the European Investment Bank announced a new initiative called SheInvest.<sup>579</sup> The initiative aims to mobilize EUR1 billion of investment and increase women's economic participation in countries across the African continent.<sup>580</sup> SheInvest plans to organize efforts to invest in projects that increase the capacity of women to participate in the economy and it will provide monitoring to women entrepreneurs so they can better access finance.<sup>581</sup> It will also focus on investment in digital solutions and financial products to help women reach important business services.<sup>582</sup>

The European Union has demonstrated its support for women's entrepreneurship and economic participation in Africa by launching the SheInvest initiative aimed at removing social and regulatory

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<sup>576</sup> What is USAID's W-GDP Initiative Fund that recently increases its Funding to \$100 million for New Partnerships?, FundsforNGOs Grants and resources for Sustainability (United States) Access Date: 8 December 2019. <https://www2.fundsforngos.org/featured/what-is-usaids-w-gdp-initiative-fund-that-recently-increased-its-funding-to-100-million-for-new-partnerships/>.

<sup>577</sup> Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative, The White House (Washington, D.C.) Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wgdp/>.

<sup>578</sup> What is USAID's W-GDP Initiative Fund that recently increases its Funding to \$100 million for New Partnerships?, FundsforNGOs Grants and resources for Sustainability (United States) Access Date: 8 December 2019. <https://www2.fundsforngos.org/featured/what-is-usaids-w-gdp-initiative-fund-that-recently-increased-its-funding-to-100-million-for-new-partnerships/>.

<sup>579</sup> SheInvest - new initiative to mobilise EUR 1 billion for women across Africa, European Investment Bank (Johannesburg and Luxembourg) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 14 December 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-306-sheinvest-new-initiative-to-mobilise-eur-1-billion-for-women-across-africa>.

<sup>580</sup> Africa Investment Forum 2019: Billion dollar boost for African female entrepreneurs, African Development Bank Group (Johannesburg and Luxembourg) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/africa-investment-forum-2019-billion-dollar-boost-african-female-entrepreneurs-32626>.

<sup>581</sup> SheInvest - new initiative to mobilise EUR 1 billion for women across Africa, European Investment Bank (Johannesburg and Luxembourg) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 14 December 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-306-sheinvest-new-initiative-to-mobilise-eur-1-billion-for-women-across-africa>.

<sup>582</sup> SheInvest - new initiative to mobilise EUR 1 billion for women across Africa, European Investment Bank (Johannesburg) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 14 December 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-306-sheinvest-new-initiative-to-mobilise-eur-1-billion-for-women-across-africa>.

barriers. However, no action has been taken yet to address the legal barriers to women's entrepreneurship in Africa.

Thus, the EU receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Nivaal Rebman*