



Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

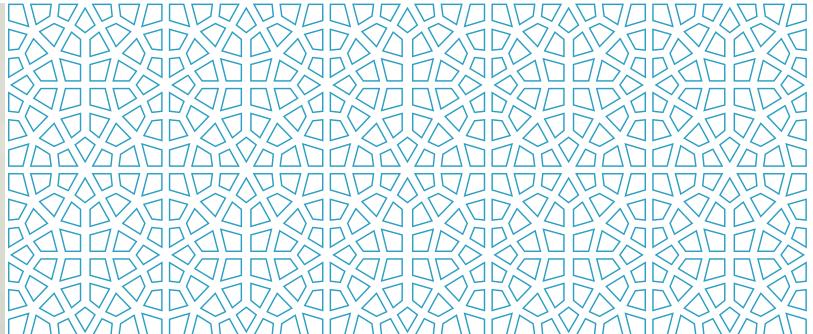
2017 Status Report on the

Afghanistan's National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325
(Women, Peace and Security)



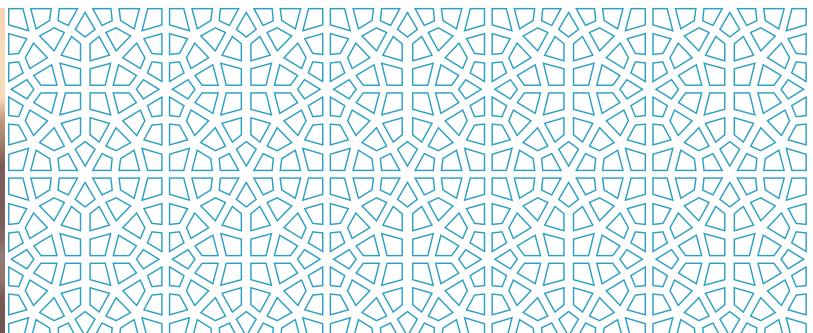
Kabul, Afghanistan

H.E. Muhammad Ashraf Ghani
President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan



“Our Constitution is an important document and covenant in which our national unity, national and Islamic identity and the fundamental rights of our people are enshrined. Doubtlessly, a real peace can be pursued and maintained when Afghan men and women enjoy their fundamental rights without their rights being encroached.”

H.E. Dr. Abdullah Abdullah
Chief Executive Officer of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan



“Every activity toward peace is a pure and sacred act and every step toward peace is appreciated; but when the women take this step, it is much appreciated.”

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AGO	Attorney General's Office
AIBA	Afghanistan Independent Bar Association
AIHRC	Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission
ANA	Afghan National Army
ANP	Afghan National Police
ANSF	Afghanistan National Security Forces
APPRO	Afghanistan Public Policy Research Organization
AWN	Afghan Women's Network
CEDAW	Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CSO	Central Statistics Organization
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DHRWIA	Directorate for Human Rights and Women's International Affairs
EVAW	Elimination of violence against women
GIRoA	Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
HPC	High Peace Council
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
MoD	Ministry of Defense
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoEC	Ministry of Economy
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MoHRA	Ministry of Hajj and Religious Affairs
MoI	Ministry of Interior
MoIC	Ministry of Information and Culture
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MoLSAMD	Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyrs and the Disabled
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health
MoRR	Ministry of Refugees and Repatriations
MoUD	Ministry of Urban Development
MoWA	Ministry of Women's Affairs
NAP	National Action Plan
NAPWA	National Action Plan for the Women of Afghanistan
NDS	National Directorate of Security
NSC	National Security Council
UN	United Nations
UNWOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women
VAW	Violence Against Women
WPS	Women, Peace and Security

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Minister's Message

Today, I am pleased to witness the completion of the second report on the implementation of the National Action Plan on the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (NAP 1325). The report reflects the progress made in the implementation of the NAP 1325 and highlights the main achievements in maintaining women's rights in the areas of participation, protection, prevention, and relief and recovery.

Women's human rights development is one of the most fundamental national and international commitments of Afghanistan. Therefore, the Government of Afghanistan has developed a National Action Plan for better implementation of UNSCR 1325 (Women, Peace, and Security) and has taken practical measures in this regard.

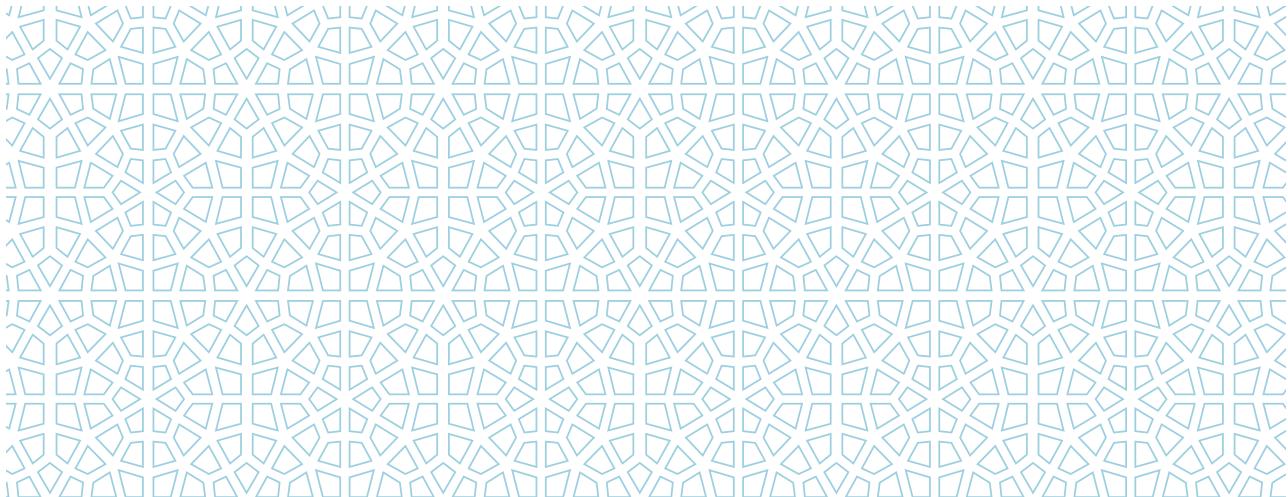
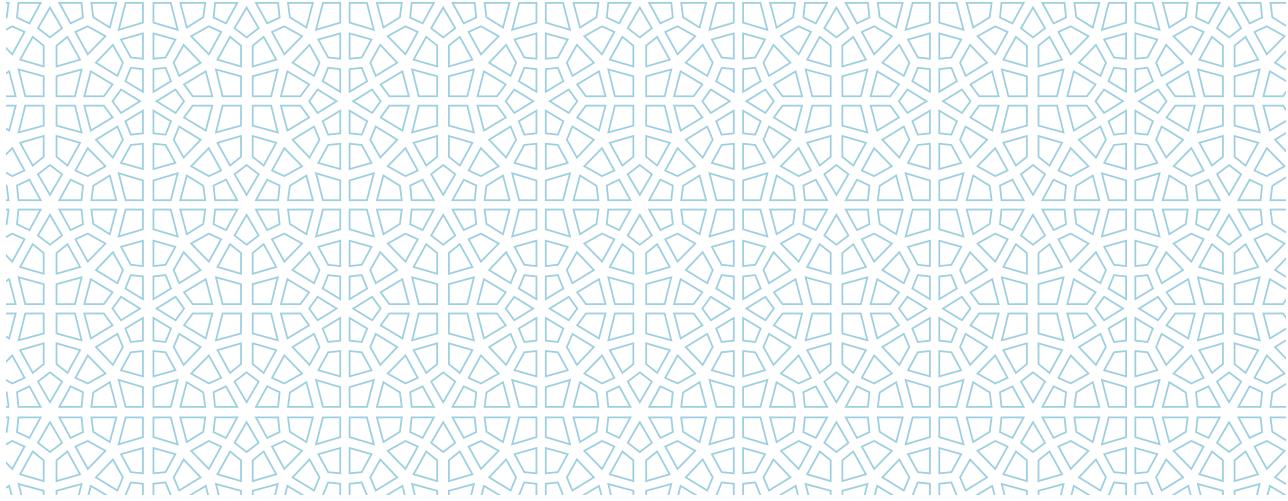
Following the launch of the NAP 1325 in 2015 and the commencement of its implementation, we have been witnessing significant progress in enhancing women's participation in government decision-making levels and their participation within security forces. Women now have a meaningful role in the High Peace Council and have an active role in peace negotiations.

The Government of Afghanistan has also focused on women's role in the fields of economy and commerce through the development of the National Women's Economic Empowerment Program. The vibrant activity and participation of women in the community as one half of society will speed up the growth and development process and will lead the country to a better future.

We should therefore all take responsibility for the women's empowerment and growth as well as the removal of barriers to their participation in national processes. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as the coordinating entity on the implementation of the National Action Plan 1325, expresses its gratitude to the implementing agencies and once again, sincerely requests these organizations to continue their efforts towards the implementation of the NAP 1325.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs also appreciates the representatives of civil society and international partners for their cooperation on the implementation of NAP 1325; in particular, we want to express our deep appreciation for UN Women for providing technical and financial assistance in preparation and printing of the report.

Salahuddin Rabbani
Minister of Foreign Affairs



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Afghanistan's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2015-2022 (NAP 1325) is a government policy to implement the United Nations' Security Council Resolution 1325. Afghanistan's NAP 1325 was developed to address the challenges that women faced in the aftermath of war and continuing conflict in the country. It aims to increase women's participation in peace processes and the security sector as well as address issues around prevention of violence, protection, participation, and relief and recovery services for women.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan (MoFA) prepares its progress report annually and submits to H.E President and National Assembly of Afghanistan. Since the launch of NAP 1325, this is the second progress report on the implementation of the plan. The aim of the report is to highlight the progress on implementation of indicators defined in NAP 1325 while also strengthening the lessons learned during the implementation. The report also contains reflections of success stories and achievements, challenges, and key recommendations for improvement of the implementation of NAP 1325.

This report is prepared by the Directorate for Human Rights and Women's International Affairs (DHR-WIA) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), with technical assistance from UN Women.

The Afghan Government is making sound progress on implementation of NAP 1325 indicators. This report highlights that under the "Participation" pillar, work has been underway to recruit and retain women's employment in the civil service and security sectors, to include women in key peace processes, and to support women voting and standing as candidates in both parliamentary and provincial elections. For example, Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA) has a letter of agreement with Ministry of Interior (MoI) to recruit an additional 200 women into the national police as officers and 566 women into the ranks of soldiers. Furthermore, there is work underway to build and renovate kindergartens for the children of Ministry of Defense (MoD) personnel.

Similarly, the indicators under "Protection" pillar show that protection of women from all types of violence and all forms of discrimination has had remarkable progress through enforcement, monitoring and amendment of existing laws, and through the development of new policies and laws. From the actions undertaken, we can name improvement in the legal structure of elimination of violence against women, amendment of existing laws, and implementation of EVAW law through courts and other judicial institutions. Women's roles have been supported as investigative prosecutors and judges as well as in dispute resolutions. As reflected in this report, Family Guidance Centers (FGCs) have been established in provincial capitals to provide legal advice, health, and psychosocial services for survivors of Gender Based Violence (GBV) violations. These centers provided required services to the survivors.

In addition, the indicators under "Prevention" pillar demonstrate that the need for awareness-raising activities on EVAW is being taken seriously. A public awareness campaign, specific provincial committees, and dedicated training for military personnel are all underway. The oversight of the court processes for implementation of the EVAW law still needs further evaluation for judgment.

Finally, the "Relief and Recovery" pillar shows that there remains a gap between women's civil service participation in Kabul and that of women in the provinces. Rectifying this requires a significant commitment, time, and continued support. Underlying financial and strategic work to integrate gender sensitivity into budgeting (GRB) across governmental programming needs more attention; however, mapping for these activities is currently underway. The IDPs policy on NAP 1325 is well underway towards being fully implemented by MoRR.

BACKGROUND

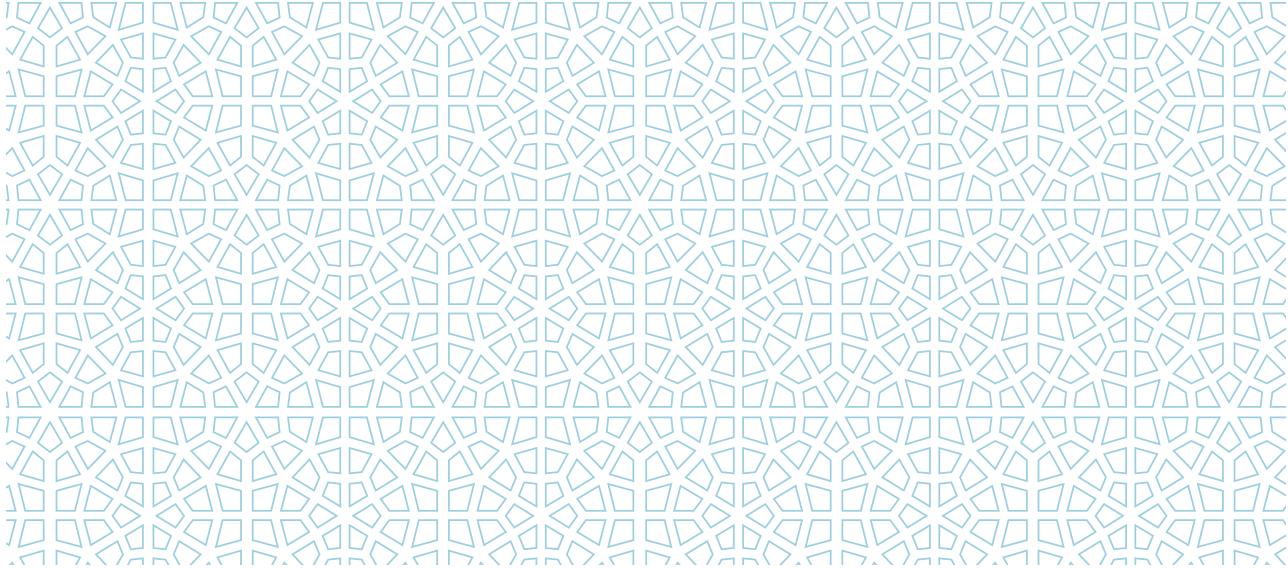
Afghanistan's National Action Plan (NAP 1325) on UNSCR 1325 (Women, Peace, and Security) was launched in 2015. The implementation period of the NAP 1325 is set to be in two phases, phase one from 2015-2018 and phase two from 2019-2022. The NAP 1325 was welcomed both nationally and internationally as an ambitious set of targets around the four pillars of:

- Participation (17 indicators)
- Protection (11 indicators)
- Prevention (5 indicators)
- Relief and Recovery (6 indicators)

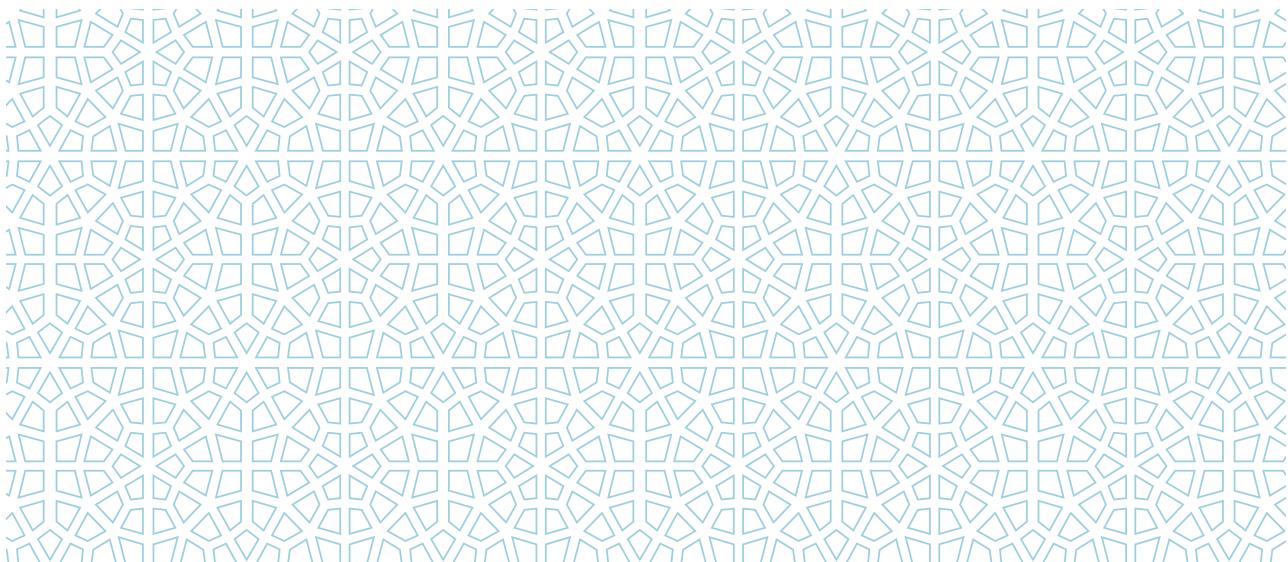
NAP 1325 is overseen by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA). However, it requires the active participation of the entire government, associated agencies, and civil society in order to achieve its goals. Civil society actors, in particular, urged that NAP 1325 must be accompanied by a fully-financed implementation plan in order to realize its potential. The monitoring and evaluation plan has been approved and should be fully active from 2018 onwards. Additionally, there are plans to form a specific and fully funded Women, Peace and Security unit, under the Directorate of Human Rights and Women's International Affairs within MoFA, to perform the coordination, monitoring and evaluation, reporting, and secretariat functions for NAP 1325.

The report is intended to set a baseline for the indicators, and start the multiyear monitoring and evaluation process. The 2016 status report covered 10 out of the 39 indicators while the 2017 status report covers 37 out of 39 indicators. This report concluded that, despite the lack of financial mechanisms/funding modalities, there has already been some progress made on NAP 1325. During the data collection and report drafting, it was highlighted that there was strong political will and awareness at the highest levels of government. However, it is recommended that changes be made on improving coordination, monitoring and evaluation, and finalizing the financial mechanism/funding modality, through which the donors and GIRoA can finance implementation of the NAP 1325.

This 2017 status update report is the first report where the government can systematically assess the progress to date on 37 of the 39 indicators. It is still a curtailed progress report on the implementation of NAP 1325 as the financial plan was not in place during the reporting timeframe. It is important to acknowledge that many indicators show progress despite limited funds. Progress thus far demonstrates how important diffuse political will is, and how effective and significant the actions of determined individuals and whole ministries can be, even under financial constraints.



NAP 1325, Budget Donors' meeting - Kabul, MoFA



METHODOLOGY

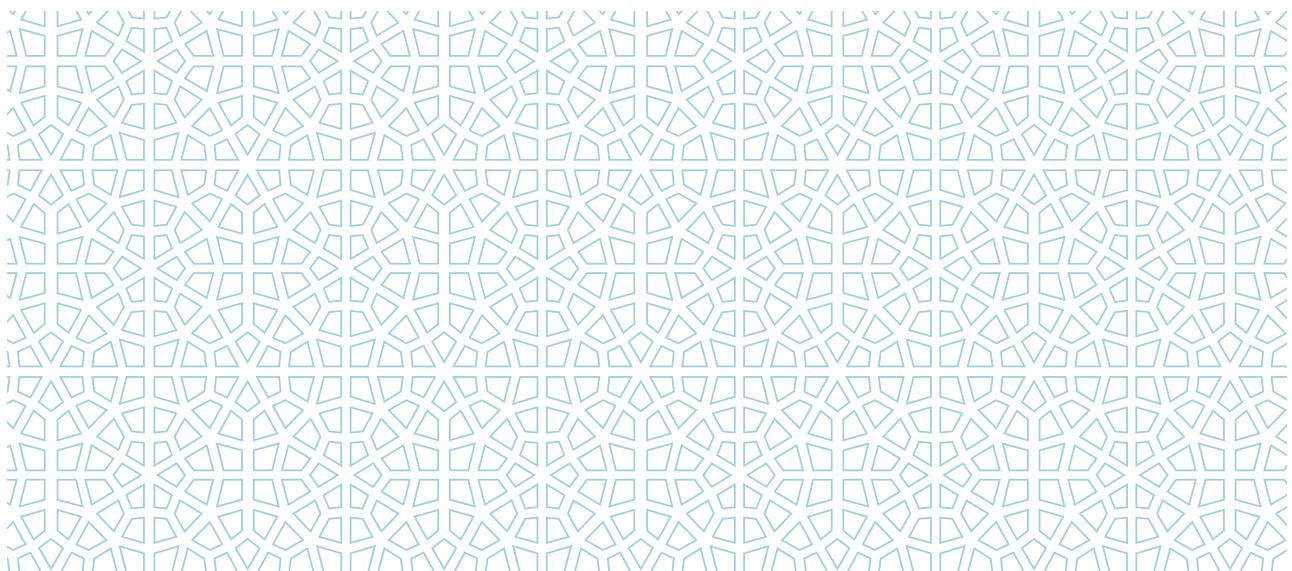
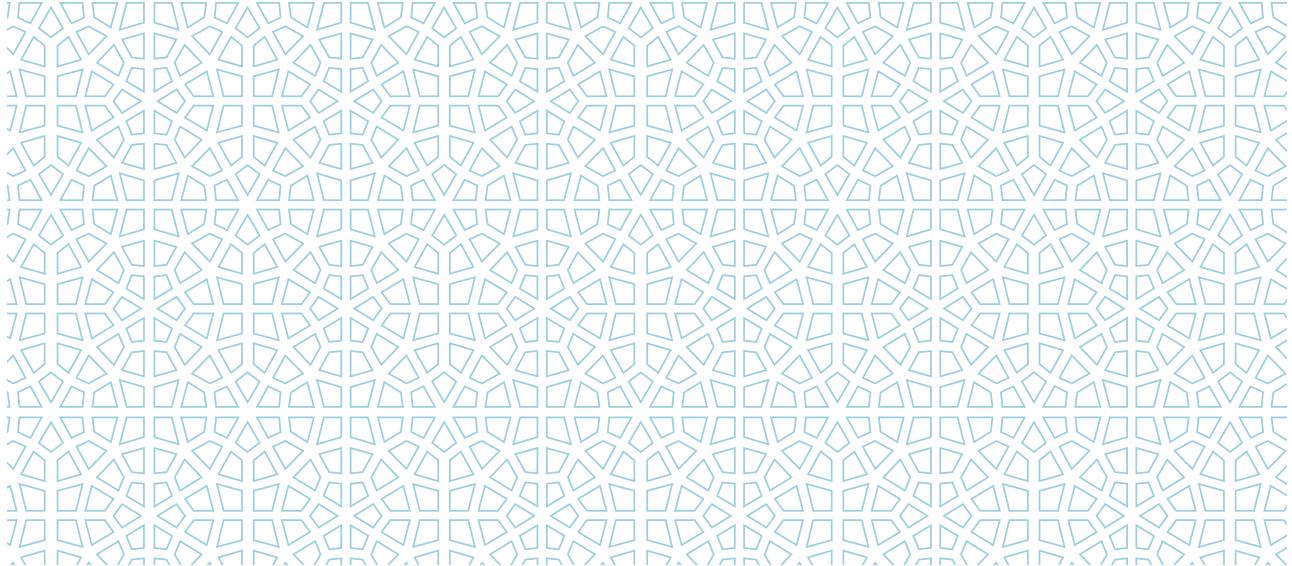
During 2017, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) established the network of Focal Points for NAP 1325¹. For stronger coordination among relevant entities, review, and scrutiny of NAP 1325, and raising awareness about monitoring and evaluation plan (M&E) and reporting mechanism, MoFA conducted a training in October 2017 in Bamyan province. During the training, a questionnaire was distributed to participants (representatives of agencies) for data collection, data from which was used for the second progress report on the implementation of NAP 1325.

Questionnaires for the ministries and/or implementing entities and agencies have been developed based on the indicators and objectives the agencies have defined in NAP 1325. Questions for each agency have been placed under indicators in the framework relevant to the agency. Besides data collection from implementing agencies, we have used data from secondary and accessible sources such as CEDAW Reports and figures from Central Statistics Office (CSO). The questions in the questionnaires are mostly focused on activities under each indicator and evaluation of the progress against each indicator. Indicator number 4, in NAP 1325, is the joint indicator among all relevant agencies, and all agencies provided their responses. Moreover, each agency responded to questions regarding the progress and achievement against each of its indicators. Generally, all indicators show that there has been good progress. All of these have been achieved while NAP 1325 budget and financing mechanism still have to be finalized.

Questionnaire/ templates were crafted to apply specifically to answer questions and reveal data about performance for each indicator. For example, the first question for indicator 18 is “Is a monitoring mechanism in place for the implementation of the Elimination of Violence against Women law? Yes/no” while the first question for indicator 39 is “How many provisions of the IDP policy on UNSCR 1325 have been implemented since 2016?”. This made the process simpler and less time consuming for the ministries’ focal points and enabled better comparative data between and within indicator reports. It also allowed for a specific focus on 1325 activities rather than compiling data from disparate reports on gender. The templates/questionnaires were first circulated at the capacity building workshop held by MoFA/DHR-WIA and UN Women in Bamyan from the 8th to the 11th October 2017. The template format and data completion processes were explained in a group session during the workshop, which was followed up with one-on-one conversations over each indicator to explore any ambiguities in translation or perceived problems in the execution of data measurement. Following the Bamyan workshop, a meeting was held in Kabul by the Directorate of Human Rights and Women’s International Affairs – MoFA where there was a broader discussion about the suitability of the indicators.

Data were received from most of the implementing ministries and governmental organizations. This data was then supplemented by government reports and data covering the relevant objectives to draw out a more complete picture of the implementation status of NAP 1325 in Afghanistan. It is worth recalling that in 2016, after careful consideration of the time and human resources at hand, 10 indicators were selected (from the 39 indicators in NAP 1325) for the data collection. The selected indicators covered all four pillars in the NAP 1325 and were prioritized to reflect key thematic areas in NAP 1325 and give insight into the challenges and successes related to its realization. In 2017, progress has been made and 37 indicators were reported on. In this report, which is the second progress report on NAP 1325 implementation, progress on 37 indicators under all pillars of the

1. NAP 1325 Focal Points



resolution has been reflected; the report also includes progress on specified indicators in policies and programs of each ministry and governmental organization.

A. Templates/questionnaires have been distributed to the following ministries and government organizations.

Participating Agencies

Templates for indicators circulated to:

Ministry/organization	Indicators
Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA)	12
Ministry of Defence (MoD)	7, 6, 8, 12, 33, 5
Ministry of the Interior (MoI)	5, 6, 7
Ministry of Finance (MoF)	37
Supreme Court	30, 18
Ministry of Justice (MoJ)	1, 2, 4, 14, 15, 20, 21, 23, 30, 31
Ministry of Economy (MoEC)	4, 35, 37
Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE)	32
Ministry of Education (MoE)	4, 24
Ministry of Information and Culture (MoIC)	4, 24, 31, 32
Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Martyrs and the Disabled (MoLSAMD)	37, 36, 35
Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA)	1, 9, 10, 12
Ministry of Refugees and Repatriations (MoRR)	39, 4
Ministry of Public Health (MoPH)	26, 27, 28
Ministry of Hajj and Religious Affairs (MoHRA)	12
Attorney General's Office (AGO)	18, 23, 27, 28
Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC)	17
Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA)	23
High Peace Council (HPC)	9, 10, 11, 13, 23, 22
Independent Administrative Reform and Civil Service Commission (IARCS)	1, 3, 4, 34
Independent Elections Commission (IEC)	4, 14, 15, 16
National Directorate of Security (NDS)	4, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 27
The Upper House	4

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS: NAP1325 2016 REPORT VS. NAP1325 2017 REPORT

Security

According to the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict Annual Report 2017 by UNAMA, the national and regional security situation from 2016 to 2017 has not changed significantly for the better, and has perhaps worsened. Security remains extremely challenging and when compounded with already existing difficulties of implementation of NAP 1325 programming in provinces as well as in Kabul, the overall success of implementation of NAP 1325 is negatively impacted.

Financing

In 2016, the costing and the budget were not finalized. In 2017, we have made progress by finalizing the costing as well as the budget. The next step in financing requires the establishment of a financing plan and financing mechanism, and the development of clear instructions for how funds should be allocated, disbursed, and tracked.

Capacity Building & Reporting

In 2016, there were no focal points for NAP 1325 in implementing agencies. In 2017, all the implementing agencies appointed focal points for NAP 1325 implementation and data gathering and reporting. Training for NAP 1325 Focal Points was provided by MoFA with technical support from UN Women.

Provincial Resourcing

In 2017, MoFA has started the process of assigning NAP 1325 focal points in all provinces. However provincial funding and resourcing is a subset of NAP 1325 financing challenges, and thus provincial resourcing will be thoroughly addressed once the national financing mechanisms for NAP 1325 are established.

Policy Coordination

In 2017, MoFA recognized the need for regular NAP 1325 Steering Committee meetings to coordinate policy, M&E, and Program implementation. MoFA has started the work on regularization of the NAP 1325 Steering Committee meetings, and plans to have it on a quarterly basis, and more as needed after the finalization of financial mechanism.

Political Will

In 2017, MoFA observed a strengthening of national political will vis-à-vis NAP 1325 implementation. MoFA recognizes the challenges in commitment among line ministries and is looking at strengthening political will in implementing agencies through various actions, such as agenda items of steering committee meetings, trainings imparted, and potential establishment of a reporting unit inside each implementing agency on NAP 1325.

WPS Focal Points Network

In 2017, Afghanistan became member of WPS Focal Points Network; the national focal point for this network is Director General of Human Rights and Women's International Affairs- MoFA.

FINDINGS

The findings and analysis of this report is based on data collected for 37 out of 39 indicators of NAP 1325 from implementing agencies. This section provides information on how the indicators of NAP1325 have been implemented and what progresses made by implementation of those indicators.

This section is designed on providing comprehensive information based on each pillars and the related indicators.

1. PARTICIPATION



OBJECTIVE I: Increased meaningful participation of women in the decision-making and executive levels of the Civil Service, Security, and Peace and Reintegration.

Indicator(s) measured:

1) Number of laws and policies assessed in order to strengthen women's participation

2) Number of adequate laws and policies amended

These two indicators address the potential legal and structural barriers to women's full participation in the civil service. The indicators are led by MoWA and MoJ, both of whom, as per the NAP 1325, are responsible for drafting laws through consultations.

Evidence for assessment:

In total, the following 6 important documents have been assessed and amended by MoJ for strengthening women's participation in different roles and at different levels:

- “Empowerment strategy” legal document;
- A policy on scoring in recruitment to incentivize women applying;
- Civil servants law;
- Administrative performance law;
- Easy service provision law; and,
- Anti-harassment law on women and children.

The documents cover the key facets that are likely to affect women's participation in the civil service, including freedom from sexual harassment, incentives that address women's historical lack of access to education and non-discrimination within the civil service. IARCSC (Afghan Civil Service Commission) made it clear that they are connecting their work in assessment to the broader debates around women's labor force participation, which should help to strengthen this indicator.

MoWA has assessed 3 laws to increase women's participation:

1. Penal code;
2. Anti-harassment law on women and children;
3. Law on reconciliation Jirgas for civil disputes.

As a result of reviewing the laws, many clauses and articles have been suggested for inclusion in a

future amendment to protect and ensure women rights; and the suggestions have been accepted by MoJ officials. Moreover, MoWA has finalized the Anti-Discrimination regulation and has submitted to MoJ after a second review.

Meanwhile, MoWA has been accepted as a member of the presidential legislative committee after a great deal of advocacy. MoWA will share its views and suggestions on Sharia-based and constitutional rights of women to the committee because of inclusion in laws and regulations which are under consideration. These suggestions will be done after reviewing and carefully analyzing the documents.

Also MoWA has reviewed the following policies and strategies of government organizations during 2017 to restore gender and justice concept into them:

- Draft policies of widowed women with MoLSAMD;
- National labor policy of MoLSAMD
- National policy on protection of consumers with MoIC;
- Gender strategy of IDLG;
- Local Governance Policy²;
- Public-Private Partnership policy- Ministry of Finance;
- Gender Policy of MRRD;
- Policy and Strategy of NDS;
- National Youth Strategy;
- Policy for people with disabilities;
- Policy on decreasing illiteracy rate;
- Policy on the Sustainable Development of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA);
- Strategic plan of MoE;
- Policy on increasing participation in civil service;
- National Policy on Minerals for Ministry of Mine and Petroleum;
- Gender Policy of Ministry of Energy and Water.

Findings of indicator 1 and 2:

The above evidence demonstrates the presence of strong working partnership between MoWA and other different ministries for meaningful participation of women in governmental organizations in terms of policies and laws development. This represents a good start on contributions towards the indicator. The next steps will be to a) continue to review all relevant laws and policies to ensure that there are no barriers to women's full participation in the civil service; and, b) make the necessary changes that are proposed by the strategic plans assessment, as noted above. It is not clear how many laws and policies still need to be assessed for suggested changes, this will need to be ascertained to be sure that the indicator is met.

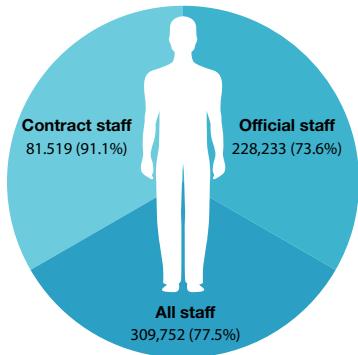
3) Number of women in the civil service (especially in the provinces)

This indicator was revised from “10% of women in the civil service” in the 2016 status report, to a simpler measurement/quantification of the number of women in civil service.

Evidence for assessment:

Data were taken from the CSO 2016 statistical yearbook (the most up-to-date at the time of this report).

2. The draft policy recently has been approved by Rule of Law High Council



Total	
Contract staff	89,435
Official staff	310,139
All staff	399,574

Findings of indicator 3:

Data shows that of the 399,574 employees in the Afghan civil service, women currently comprise 89,822 or 22.5% of the total.

Of these female employees, 7916 are contract staff, and 81,906 are official members of staff. Women make up 8.85% of contract staff, and 26.41% of official staff, demonstrating that women are relegated to more precarious contractual employment in the civil service.

In addition to the variance between women's levels of participation in different ministries, there is also variance in leadership and decision-making roles within the civil service. While women make up 22.5% of the total civil service, they represent only 10.3% of decision makers. This indicator refers more generally to the level of women in the civil service overall, and some progress is being made towards this goal. However, more meaningful, differential progress will be measurable once decision-making and leadership are also disaggregated among the percentage of women present.

4) The number of ministries having the policy of mutual respect in the workplace

This indicator should be viewed in conjunction with indicator 3 above. In order to successfully attract and retain women in the civil service, adequate policies need to be in place that ensures respect and support for these women professionals. Although IARCSC is leading on women's participation in the civil service, every single ministry and organization has a key role to play. Every department must take the responsibility to ensure that women are not discriminated against and that measures are in place to help women overcome barriers to entry as well as ranks promotion.

Evidence for assessment:

According to the data received from the indicator templates, two organizations (IEC and MoE) have policies relating specifically to women in the workplace. MoE has developed a plan to handle the shortage of female teachers. The initiative includes recruitment of 3000 teachers through financial support of Development Partners (Women Economic Empowerment). According to this initiative/plan, 3000 teachers are supposed to be recruited across the country (in 34 provinces) based on the needs of each province. Around 1330 teachers have been recruited through this initiative so far and the process is continuous. A total of 2081 teachers have been recruited in four insecure provinces which are in dire needs of teachers, through the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) program. Several other ministries had broader policies that contained a reference to gender, including MoC's "National Policy of Youth". While it is important to refer to gender in policies that are specifically related to women, in order to increase women's participation in the civil service, each ministry and organization must also have a specific policy that sets out how it will recruit and promote women, and protect them from harassment and discrimination in the workplace.

Findings of indicator 4:

The fact that only 7% of organizations listed in NAP 1325 are able to report that they have the policy of mutual respect in the place indicated that more work is required on this indicator before progress can be reported. For this indicator to be achieved, all ministries and government agencies must have a policy on women's participation in place that is clearly being actively pursued. This will require diffuse political will and strong cooperation between the NAP 1325 focal points.

5) Number of women in leadership positions in the security sector

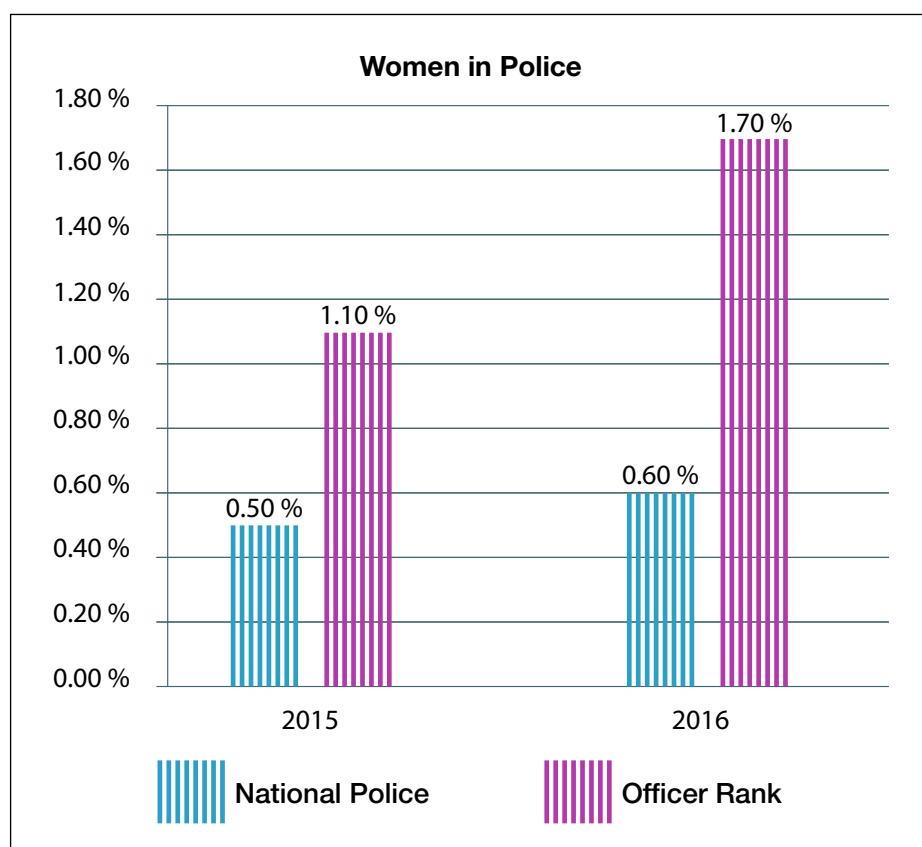
The 2016 status report found some progress in the number of women in leadership positions in the security sector. Following a 2015 strategy for female police personnel, approximately 30 women were recruited to leadership positions. Challenges noted in the National Army found that many female recruits were illiterate and lacked professional development opportunities.

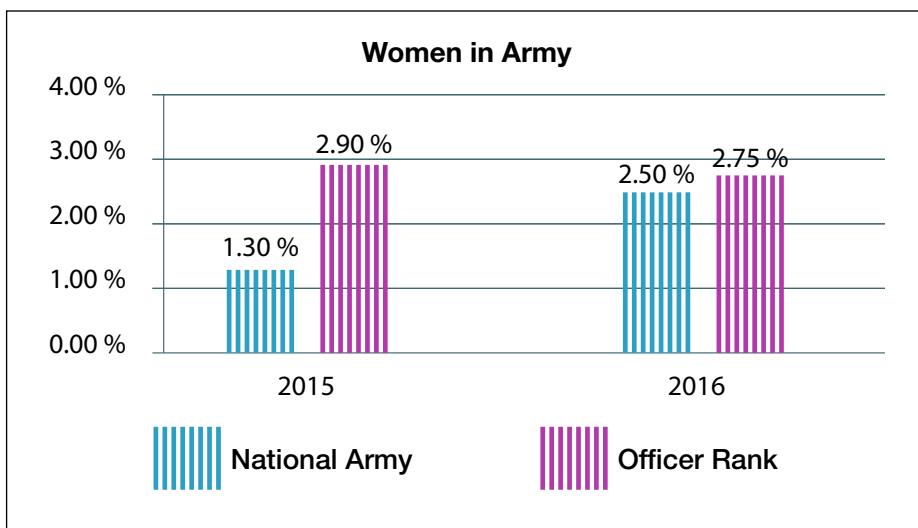
Evidence for assessment:

According to the CSO publication "Women and Men in Afghanistan 2016", there have been increases in women's representation in both the national police and national army. However, these have not been consistent across all ranks.

Findings of indicator 5:

The percentage of women in the national army rose from 1.3% in 2015 to 2.5% in 2016. However, the percentage of women at officer rank decreased from 2.9% in 2015 to 2.75% in 2016. In the police force, however, the percentage of women overall increased more slightly from 0.5% in 2015 to 0.6%, but the percentage of women in officer positions rose from 1.1% in 2015 to 1.7% in 2016.





NDS has responded to the need for professional development opportunities for female recruits by developing a capacity building program, which includes courses on first aid, gunfire, English language, computing, and driving. MoD has reserved 600 leadership grade positions exclusively for women and will be gradually filling these over the coming months. This represents 12% of the 5000 P2 and P3 (UN equivalent for professional and mid-level ranks) posts that are available, showing a commitment to achieving the minimum of 10% women in leadership positions.

Work has therefore started on this indicator, but progress to date is somewhat mixed, with an overall increase in women in the security sector not necessarily reflected in leadership positions. However, the work ongoing with initiatives and policies reported in this status update should lead to greater progress in future updates.

6) Number of women-only training facilities

Evidence for assessment:

Reports from Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of Interior.

Findings of indicator 6:

Reports from the three military sectors (MoD, Mol, and NDS) shows that a number of Military Training Centers have been established for women. MoD report that they have the following women attending training centers within the ministry.



- 143 students at Malalai division of the Military Training Center
- 31 students with Zargona division of Marshal Fahim's military academy
- 36 students at Young Officers' division

Mol report that there are three centers where women are able to be trained, including the National Police Academy, Staff College, and Malalai training Center. NDS report that they have one women-only training facility for English language and computer programming training within their organization.

This indicator should be viewed in conjunction with others relating to women in the security sector. In order to succeed in having more women in leadership positions (indicator 5), and to have effective policies and initiatives for recruiting women to the sector (indicators 7 and 8), women must have acces-

sible and safe training facilities. This may require capital funding so it is understandable that progress towards this indicator to date is limited.

7) Number of policies reviewed for the recruitment and promotion of women in the security sector

Evidence for assessment:

Comparison of data from 2015 to 2016 shows that there is an upward trend in women's recruitment in the security sector, and that trend has continued into 2017. Strong policies need to be in place for this upward trend to continue.

Findings of indicator 7:

Mol has reviewed three of their policies specifically relating to the recruitment and promotion of women within their ministry:

1. Gender policy on women's employment
2. Policy on prevention of violence against women at the ministry level
3. Policy on anti-discrimination against women

Mol reported that they are actively implementing recommendations to increase the number of women in the sector and to improve the conditions of women in the security sector. NDS have reviewed one policy on recruitment. They reported that this is the only policy that needs to be reviewed – however, all policies should be reviewed, even if they do not explicitly relate to women's recruitment and promotion, in order to find inadvertent discrimination.

MoD has shown significant progress against this indicator, reporting that they have reviewed 55 policies to date. Among these 55 policies, 16 relate specifically to the recruitment and promotion of women:

1. Reward and punishment policy
2. Physical security policy
3. Policy of physical security and MoD bases
4. Personnel safety policy
5. Policy for incentive salaries and additional entitlements of national army's personnel
6. Policy for civilian protection
7. Strategic guidance for civilian protection
8. Policy for prevention of civilian casualties
9. Policy for Administration and Human Resources
10. Policy for database management of Human Resources
11. Code of conduct policy
12. Policy for education and professional training of officers and sergeants
13. Policy for recruitment of female personnel of the National Army
14. Development master plan of MoD for gender coordination of the National Army
15. Guidance on the emergency planning of the National Army
16. Ethics policy

Beyond this, MoD has also reviewed 39 policies not specifically related to recruitment and promotion to review them for gender mainstreaming. MoD is to be commended for their thorough approach to

this indicator, not least for their plans to continue to review an additional 81 policies in 2018, for a total of 120 policies. They have established a committee to revise and reform the policies and are clear that they are working “not only for women but for both men and women to achieve gender equality.” These policies demonstrate an excellent understanding of how gender underpins women, peace, and security. This approach not only shows progress but provides an excellent example of commitment and dedication to other parts of the NAP 1325.

8) Number of initiatives to encourage women to join the security sector

Evidence for assessment:

MoD reported on many ongoing initiatives in the ministry. However, this indicator refers specifically to initiatives that will encourage new female recruits to join the security sector, rather than general policies to benefit all women in the security sector (though these are of course important and complementary). Thus the evidence provided may be somewhat tangential to the indicator being measured.

Findings of indicator 8:

There are 7 initiatives specific to recruitment:

1. An incentive policy;
2. 600 P3 (mid-level management) positions in MoD to be reserved for women;
3. Scholarships offered to women;
4. Recruitment from provinces for training in Turkey;
5. Establishment of a women’s council within MoD;
6. Capacity building of female officers in India;
7. Provision of required female-only facilities.

There is work underway to build and renovate kindergartens for the children of MoD personnel. Since women carry the majority of the childcare responsibilities, this initiative will particularly benefit women and serve as an incentive for female recruits who might not otherwise have been able to join. MoD note that increased staffing is needed within their own Directorate of Human Rights and Gender in order to be able to maintain progress on this indicator. So far MoD demonstrates good political will translated into concrete action – financial support for this will be vital if it is to be able to continue.

Other ministries have also demonstrated progress on this indicator. NDS have started initiatives to train women who are already within the organization on subjects including first aid, gunfire, English language, and computing. Although these do not specifically encourage recruitment, creating a workplace that is welcoming and provides good opportunities for women is likely to support women joining in the future. MoWA have a letter of agreement with Mol to recruit an additional 200 women into the national police as officers, and 566 women into the ranks of soldiers. It is not clear what specific plans this recruitment will involve; however, it is another initiative not differentially and clearly mentioned in the list of MoD initiatives above. Overall, the breadth of initiatives both planned and underway represent good progress towards this indicator.

9) The policy ensuring women’s participation in peace, reconciliation, and reintegration

Evidence for assessment:

HPC report that their new five-year strategic plan centers women’s participation in peace, reconcilia-

tion, and reintegration in Afghanistan.

Findings of indicator 9:

In accordance with Afghanistan's non-discrimination constitutional clause, the policy asserts that women should participate in negotiations with armed oppositions both in Afghanistan and internationally. This policy will:

1. Increase the participation of women in HPC and HPC's secretariat;
2. Increase women's participation in provincial peace committees;
3. Create a board to monitor the inclusion of women in all sectors of the peace process; and,
4. Binds HPC to Afghanistan's national and international obligations on the participation of women in peace negotiations and in peace processes across the country.

The policy is currently in place and indicates good progress against this indicator. However, the policy must be fully implemented over the course of the NAP 1325 in order to ensure that it has a meaningful impact both for women and for the success of the peace process.

MoWA contributed for the successful conduct of the symposium titled "Women as Peace Messengers" in Kabul, under the leadership of First Lady of Afghanistan, along with colleagues from First Lady Office, MOFA, and AWN. The symposium aimed to promote inclusion of women in social peace beginning with family, villages and their districts. Therefore, MoWA had an important role in the establishment of a women committee for peace promotion.

10) Number of women in the national roster [of negotiators]

Evidence for assessment:

MoWA reported that there is a roster of 66 women covering 34 provinces in Afghanistan. The women on the roster participated in peace negotiations with the armed opposition both in Afghanistan and abroad.

Findings of indicator 10:

Further efforts and monitoring of rosters should be made to recruit talented women to the roster and encourage their involvement in the peace processes. While the indicator refers to the number of women in the roster, and MoWA has demonstrated progress towards this, it is important that the national roster is itself promoted for selection. To show progress against the indicator in future years, the promotions, and application of the roster will need to be demonstrated.

11) Number of women participating in drafting peace policies and strategies

Evidence for assessment:

Internally, HPC now comprises 65 members of which 12 are women, showing a 3% percent decrease from the 2016 levels of 11 out of 52 members. However, 4 women are now in the executive leadership level and actively take part in the decision-making process at HPC, demonstrating participation beyond simple inclusion. Reflecting this, HPC's five-year strategic plan promotes the role of women in all sectors of peace processes.

Findings of indicator 11:

The evidence of 4 women in executive leadership positions, as stated above, suggests progress against this indicator. However, in order for it to fully demonstrate, a proper record must be kept of all peace policies and strategies and the gender of those involved in drafting them. This is not necessarily a task that requires funding; however, it is time-consuming and requires dedication to the NAP 1325 implementation and its indicators.

12) Number of women participating in awareness raising programmes on NAP 1325

Evidence for assessment:

Work to raise awareness about NAP 1325 was undertaken by several agencies. MoD has launched more than 20 workshops on NAP 1325, integrating it with gender and human rights principles. These are carried out in cooperation with Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) and have reached 690 participants, of whom 345 were women. MoFA has carried out awareness-raising programmes for staff working on the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS), secretariat staff of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, and the NAP 1325 focal points. These specialized discussions have reached 150 participants, of whom 100 were women. HPC in conjunction with CSOs, Ulema (religious scholars/clergy), youth and women's rights activists have held a series of meetings on women, peace, and security at central and provincial level. These meetings covered 34 provinces and were supported by provincial peace committees, school students, and their teachers. MoWA have also contributed towards this indicator. They conducted a 10-day awareness program on NAP 1325, that reached a total of 157 people. Female staff at NDS, including those at the leadership level, participated in an awareness-raising program on NAP 1325, which reached 500 people.

Findings of indicator 12:

The results of women participating across the country among institutions, such as NDS, MoFA, and HPC, are varied and need to be better harmonized. These efforts must be even more concentrated if NAP 1325 is to be fully implemented across the country.

13) Percentage of women in peace negotiating teams

This indicator was revised in 2016 from the original “percentage of expert women negotiators”.

Evidence for assessment:

The 2016 status implementation report found that there had been a “modest increase” in the number of women in HPC following its 2016 restructuring, with 11 out of 52 members being women (In 2017, 12 of 65 were women, signifying a 3% overall decrease). Along with this, HPC reported a positive change in attitudes to women's participation in peace processes. The overall HPC peace process was placed under review in 2015; however despite this, one of a 4-member negotiation team sent to Murree, Pakistan, was a woman.

Findings of indicator 13:

HPC reported that a negotiation meeting on women's rights in Afghanistan was held on the 4th June 2015, and included 4 women (no data was reported on in 2016 as the indicator was revised in 2016). However, this meeting did not happen during the time frame of this report, so does not show progress against this indicator. While the restructuring of HPC and the increase of women at the executive level is

welcomed and will promote women's inclusion in peace processes, it is not an alternative to the active participation of women in meetings and in negotiating teams. As the peace processes restart, details must be kept of each meeting and the percentage of women who attend.

OBJECTIVE II: Strengthening women's active participation in national and provincial elections.

Indicator(s) measured:

14) Number of relevant laws, policies, and procedures reviewed

15) Number of relevant laws, policies, and procedures that have been amended

Evidence for assessment:

Independent Election Commission (IEC) has begun a needs assessment to understand which laws, policies and procedures might be inhibiting women's participation in parliamentary and provincial elections. So far they have assessed:

1. The election law
2. Recruitment policy
3. Procedure on registration of voters
4. Procedure on the list of candidates; supporters

MoJ (Ministry of Justice) has also reviewed the Joint Directive Policy for the national police, national army, national security, IDLG (Independent Directorate for Local Governance) and IEC (Independent Election Commission) on providing parliamentary and district level elections. The next procedures to be assessed include the procedure on ballot counting and voting system and the procedure on the registration of candidates. These will be assessed and amended ahead of the forthcoming parliamentary and district council elections.

Findings of indicator/s 14 and 15:

As with previous indicators referring to reviewing and amending laws, it is important to have a clear picture of the total number of laws, policies, and procedures that relate to women's participation in elections to properly assess progress. However, one can cautiously say that on these indicators, progress signs are encouraging.

16) Number of women running for offices and voting

17) Assurance of the improvement in the elections process

It is recommended that these indicators be revised to one indicator referring to voting, and one for standing and being elected.

Evidence for assessment:

No data is available on the number or percentage of eligible women who are registered to vote. However, in recent elections women have made up between 36% and 39% of the voters:

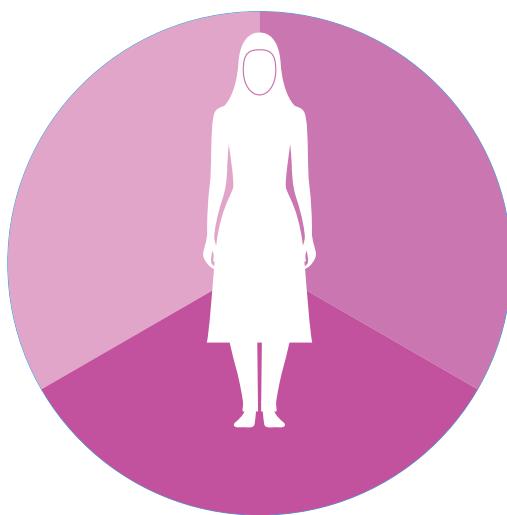
- 2010 Parliamentary elections 39%

- 2014 Presidential and provincial council elections 36%
- 2014 Second round presidential elections 38%

Findings of indicator/s 16 and 17:

The paucity of data shows little change over 5 years, and indeed represents a fall from the 2004 presidential statistics of 44% of voters being women. Concerted action will be required to reverse this and enable women to make up their rightful proportion of the electorate.

Women are represented at all levels of government in Afghanistan, including the Upper House, Lower House, and Provincial Councils. According to the CSO's 2016 "Women and Men in Afghanistan" report, the percentage of women in these levels of government are:



Level of Government	% of women
Upper House (Meshrano Jirga)	31.8%
Lower House (Wolesi Jirga)	25.9%
Provincial Councils	20.9%

In the 2006 parliamentary election, 413 women stood for office, representing around 25% of candidates. From these candidates, 69 women were elected.

The next election will be in 2018, and responsible agencies, including IEC, should prioritize registering women and informing them of their right to vote. Assessment of the structural and social barriers should be carried out to better inform this campaign. In advance of the coming election, IEC intends to:

- Conduct awareness-raising sessions with Ulema and other influencers about women's role in elections;
- Conduct seminars in 8 regions, including specifically for women; and,
- Establish networks for women between government, civil society and other stakeholders for promoting women's participation in elections as voter, candidate, and observer.

2. PROTECTION



OBJECTIVE 1: Protecting women from all kinds of violence (domestic, sexual, etc) and discrimination through the implementation, monitoring, and amendment of existing laws and policies and the development of new laws and policies.

Indicator(s) measured:

18) A monitoring mechanism on the implementation of EVAW LAW

The objective of this indicator is to protect women through monitoring mechanism on the implementation of EVAW law and Anti-Human Trafficking law.

Evidence for assessment:

As the courts are the only reference for implementation of endorsed laws, the courts carry out the implementation of justice and decrease of violence, and monitor their work through a monitoring system and specific regulations. Based on the criminal procedure law and EVAW law, the perpetrator of the crime is chased and punished in accordance with criminal cases reflected in the law. All cases are registered in registration form by a comprehensive electronic system and the registration includes all stages such as criminal cases and the arrest of suspects by police, releasing from prison, submission of legal petition to the Department of Hoquq (Rights) within MoJ or to the courts, and restoring the rights of plaintiffs, and all steps through the courts, including reconsideration of the cases.

Designates from all organizations/entities including Supreme Court, MoJ, Attorney General Office, MoD, MoI, NDS, and AIBA enter all their findings and the steps they have gone through in their relevant parts in the form and enclose them in the file for a proper record of the case in the database. The cases are entered and recorded in the system for the purpose of monitoring, follow up and procedure of trials in all stages, transparency and expediting the cases, and also for better coordination among judiciary bodies. Case Management System has the capacity to record and archive important and key documents of suspects. This is for time efficiency and a safe record of the documents in the system. The registration and recording of cases, is monitored by a body consisting of authorized representatives of relevant entities/ governmental organizations based on the regulation which define the legal status of the system and explains responsibilities of each entity. The system is operational in 34 provinces and more than hundreds of thousand cases have been registered and recorded. The EVAW high commission was established under the chairmanship of MoWA based on Article 15 of EVAW Law and also EVAW provincial commissions are headed by governors with the secretariat of Department of Women Affairs. One of their main tasks is to oversee the implementation of EVAW Law. In addition, the specialized primary, and appeal, EVAW prosecutor's offices oversee the implementation of EVAW Law. Findings of indicator 18:

Afghanistan Attorney General Office has established a monitoring mechanism on the implementation of EVAW law within its offices. The mechanism has four steps; the first step is after registration of the reported case. The case is handed over to an assigned prosecutor and then he/ she will submit the case to the court through primary prosecution office after collecting the evidence and required documents. After receiving the court's order, the documents will be submitted to the court of appeal on violence

cases through secondary/appeal prosecution office. In the final step, the high prosecution office will oversee all other required steps under primary and secondary prosecution office and take legal action on the case. Also, in addition to the four steps within the prosecution office on EVAW, there is an office of audit and control at the level of Attorney General office for such cases.

MoWA has conducted exclusive meetings with several members of EVAW High Commission and provincial EVAW Commissions at zonal level. This helped MoWA to monitor activities of the commissions and to encourage them for development and preparation of effective plans on prevention of VAW. The plan and activities not only focus on addressing VAW cases but also monitor the places women are studying and working as well as women's health and detention centers.

Meetings of EVAW commissions have been conducted in Badakhshan, Takhar, Sar-e Pul, Jawozjan, Samangan, Baghlan and Balkh provinces in the north, as well as in Ghor province due to tragic VAW cases. The results of the meetings have visibly and concretely served the interests of women, particularly for the victims. Tens of pending VAW cases have been focused on and addressed. MoWA successfully published the fourth and fifth reports on the implementation of EVAW law in a single volume. The structure of reports was of a comparative nature. MoWA and implementing partners introduced three reports through governmental media channels in a press conference. The findings of this indicator show that while there has been good progress in this regard, there need to be more action for better results.

19) Number of VAW cases resolved through utilization of EVAW law

Evidence for assessment:

in 2016, this indicator found that 980 cases were reported to MoJ between 2015 and the first half of 2016. The Attorney General Office and the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) have provided necessary information under this indicator.

Findings of indicator 19:

VAW cases worldwide, and particularly in conflict-affected countries such as Afghanistan, are under-reported. Therefore, an increase in reported cases does not represent an increase in violence itself, but rather an increase in confidence of survivors to come forward, and believe that the justice system can work. 1726 cases of violence against women were registered between March and October of 2017, as reported by the AGO. The types of violence registered can be seen in the table below.

Type of violence	Number of cases
Physical assault	995
Sexual Assault	147
Humiliation	124
Harassment	115
Murder	70
Forced suicide	66
Forced labor	62
Causing injuries	46
Forced marriage	21
Forced isolation	21
Forced prostitution	14
Sale/purchase of bride/marriage	9
Burning	8
Prohibition of inheritance	7
Property foreclosure	5
Early marriage	4
Badd (Informal Settlement of conflict)	4
Other	13

In 2017 AIHRC reported that of the 4340 VAW incidents, 2286 cases were registered. Of the registered cases, they observed the following outcomes:

Outcome	Number of cases
Settled with mediation	361
Referred to a safe shelter	153
Complainant canceled	94
Referred to police	194
Referred to AGO	168
Referred to courts	545
Provided with legal advice	611
Referred to health centers	54
Cases which were not criminal and referred to the traditional justice	106

There is a clear increase in the number of cases being reported under the EVAW law since the 2016 report. However, this data suggests that while there is an increase in cases that are being reported to AGO and are being resolved with the application of the EVAW law, there still remain many cases where EVAW law is not yet being applied. One general limitation to full implementation of the EVAW law is the use of traditional justice, customary law or mediation in

lieu of access to constitutional justice/formal justice. As more women around the country, and particularly in hard to reach provinces, are trained in the exercise of their rights and provided with better post-violence services, as per other indicators in NAP 1325, we should expect the number of women wishing to take their cases to court to increase, which should be reflected in this indicator.

20) An assessment of existing law on violence against women and number of recommendations for amendment

21) Number of amendments of existing laws of Afghanistan on violence against women

Evidence for assessment:

MoJ and MoWA presented necessary information under the indicators 20 and 21.

Findings for Indicator/s 20 and 21:

MoJ reports that five laws relating to violence against women have been assessed for an amendment to date. These are:

1. EVAW law
2. Discrimination prevention procedure
3. Harassment prevention procedure
4. Family law
5. Civil law (property section)

Of the above, the discrimination prevention procedure and harassment procedure have already been amended. MoWA reports that the following laws relating to violence against women have been reviewed for amendment:

1. Penal code (for the first time, sexual assault/rape has been defined in the penal code);
2. Civil dispute and resolution;
3. Draft regulation on the prohibition of discrimination ;
4. Documents for entitlement (ownership) and Nekah Naamah (marriage certificate);
5. Anti-torture law.

It is not clear from the input provided by the ministries what amendments were needed and have been made – it will be necessary for future reports to contain this information for transparency purposes, and so that other agencies can learn about possible changes that might need to be made in their work, for example in training women on EVAW law (as in indicator 24).

OBJECTIVE II: Protecting women through access to an effective, active and accountable justice system.

Indicator(s) measured:

22) Number of legal clinics/offices that have been established

Evidence for assessment:

In this part of the report, according to the data provided by MoPH and the findings in the up-

coming draft CEDAW report from the Government of Afghanistan, it is noted that legal assistance centers have been established in all 34 provinces in Afghanistan.

Findings of indicator 22:

The 2016 report from AIHRC further elaborates that 13,422 victims, complainants, and their companions had visited AIHRC for specific legal assistance, of whom 6181, or 46.1%, were female. It is a strong achievement for Afghanistan that legal assistance centers have been set up throughout the entire country. This is especially important in provinces where insecurity means that people, especially women, are both in greater need of legal advice and at the same time less likely to be able to access it safely.

23) Number of Dispute Resolution and Emergency Response Committees with Active Participation of Women

The objective of this indicator is the establishment of a comprehensive mechanism to raise women's awareness regarding legal issues and women's access to justice and their active participation.

Evidence for assessment:

In this section, The Ministry of Justice provided data towards this indicator.

Findings of indicator 23:

Ministry of Justice has reported that a Dispute Resolution Committee has been established in the provincial capitals to address disputes (family and civil) through reconciliation and mediation. Also, provincial Dispute Resolution Committees have been established in 33 provinces including the membership of Department of Rights in the Justice Directorate, with the support of EVAW commissions. Most of these committees are under Attorney General Office.

24) Number of Women trained in Sharia, EVAW Law and Penal Code of Afghanistan

The objective of this indicator is to make a group of expert women on Sharia, EVAW law and penal code of Afghanistan.

Evidence for assessment:

In this area, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Women Affairs, and Ministry of Culture and Information have provided data about their achievements.

Findings of indicator 24:

During 2016 and 2017, Ministry of Education launched awareness-raising workshops and seminars for 128 female participants on EVAW law. During 2016, the anti-harassment committee established within MoE and the Gender Department is the secretary of the committee; while EVAW committee was established within MoE during 2016 and Gender Department is a member of the committee. Also, Gender Department of MoE conducted 13 workshops and 34 seminars during 2016. The workshops and seminars covered topics such as EVAW law, proposal writing, and computer skills. Also, during 2017, the ministry conducted an awareness-raising event for 27 women on the occasion of International day for EVAW. These pro-

grams implemented in 16 urban districts of Kabul and districts of Kabul province for employees of the ministry including teachers, students of grade 10th, 11th, and 12th. All of these programs implemented with the cooperation of Department of Women Affairs in the districts. Ministry of Women Affairs has conducted workshops for 1159 participants on EVAW law, the constitution, labor law, anti-harassment regulation, gender and human rights, gender in national and international law, alternatives for prison, family rights, Gender Based Violence (GBV) within government entities in Samangan, Baghlan, Farah, Ghazni, Ghor, Badakhshan, Nangarhar, Logar, Faryab, and Balkh provinces. Two advocacy conferences have been conducted on prevention of violence against women.

During 2017, short-term training sessions, legal awareness-raising events and campaign events were conducted with support of War Child Canada and other partner organizations in Kabul, Kandahar, and Nangarhar. A total number of 6724 women and girls participants from government entities, national organizations, and beneficiaries of projects attended at these events. The events were focused on EVAW law, women's rights within the purview of Islamic Sharia, mediation in violence cases, and some parts of the civil law and penal code. Also, a total number of 57180 female participants from the mentioned three provinces received awareness on various legal and sharia topics. The awareness was provided by a group of field volunteers and youth groups who were trained previously. Since 2016, 2300 police, prosecutors and judges were trained on addressing VAW cases. Ministry of Information and Culture reported that they have conducted 10 awareness-raising training on EVAW law for its employees. Findings of this indicator demonstrate that the concerned ministries have launched various workshops on Sharia and EVAW law, but the sheer number of experts [especially women experts] necessary in these fields, are still not available.

OBJECTIVE III: Health and psychosocial support are available for survivors of sexual and domestic violence throughout Afghanistan.

Indicator(s) measured:

26) Number of provincial capitals where Protection Centers provide health and psychosocial support as well as safe shelter homes are offered to women survivors of violence

Evidence for assessment:

This indicator was revised by the previous status update report to specify its focus on "women" survivors. It was reported on in the 2016 implementation status update. In the last update report there had been no numerical increase since the inception of NAP 1325 in the number of provincial capitals where such psychosocial support is on offer. However, the quality of services had been improved.

In 2016, it was reported that 28 protection centers had been established in Afghanistan as part of ongoing work to better implement the EVAW law (the number of protection centers has gone up to 29 in 2017). This shows a strong commitment towards ensuring that survivors of violence have the support they need. The establishment of protection centers in the provinces will enable women in more challenging areas to access this support.

MoPH has also established centers to provide health and other support for women survivors of

violence. These include family support centers within health facilities, which are able to provide psychosocial support, medical care and referrals to other facilities. There are currently family support centers in 11 provinces, including Baghlan, Balkh, Bamyan, Daikundi, Farah, Herat, Jawzjan, Kabul, Laghman, Nangarhar, and Panjshir. Since the beginning of 2017, these family support centers have cumulatively supported 16,160 cases of gender-based violence and trained 4,150 doctors, nurses and midwives on Gender-Based Violence services provision, and 1,644 doctors, nurses and midwives on psychosocial counseling.

Findings of indicator 26:

As stated above, in the last update report, no numerical increases were observed since the inception of NAP 1325 in the number of provincial capitals where such psychosocial support is on offer. However, the quality of services has improved. They report that they plan to increase from 15 to 25 psychosocial services centers in 2018. This demonstrates some progress against the indicator; however, more detailed data would have been needed to clarify the extent of it.



Number of Safe Shelters and Number of Women and Children in these Centers			
	2015	2016	2017
Number of Safe Houses	27	28	29
Number of Women in Safe Houses	3059	3052	2848
Number of Children in Safe Houses	250	844	787

27) A monitoring mechanism for the status of women in detention facilities is in place

Evidence for assessment:

AIHRC conducted 288 monitoring visits to detention facilities in 2016, visiting 124 female detention centers. On these visits, they interviewed 592 women to investigate how they were being treated, and if they were being held in accordance with the law. A further 112 visits were made to police custody facilities. As a result of AIHRC's monitoring and intervention, 57 women were released from detention centers, and 2 women were released from police custody. AIHRC has participated in creating a policy for the improvement of access to justice for women in detention centers.

MoPH provides free health services for the women detainees and they regularly have a checklist to monitor the needs of women detainees. MoPH share the result of the monitoring system with relevant department to make sure that the health services are provided for women. MoPH, with coordination of MoJ and MoI and with assistance from UNODC and CSSP, prepared the health strategy for detentions and prisons, with the provision of health services for women being an important part of this strategy.

AGO report that a monitoring mechanism is in place through the Directorates of Attorney of Auditing and Elimination of Violence Against Women. Through the AGO directorate responsible for monitoring detention centers and prisons, there is a committee to monitor detention centers and a responsible official assigned to each place of detention. These work together to monitor complaints and resolve issues to improve the status of women in detention. In the coming year AGO will focus their work on improving the mechanism through:

1. Proceedings of filings
2. Information about the women who are in the detention center
3. Information about human rights' condition and judicial cases' result and procedures
4. Improve the conditions of women who are detained with small children

There are also Monitoring Detention Facilities at AGO that regularly monitor the situation of detainees and prisoners. The department also pays special attention to the rights of female detainees and prisoners. The department developed forms that the detention and prison officials need to fill and report back to the AGO, and they also regularly visit the detention centers and prisons to monitor the situations of inmates, especially women.

Findings of indicator 27:

It is not clear whether this mechanism works on an individual level (making sure each woman in detention is treated appropriately) or with an oversight role (looking at patterns and issues across all women's experience in detention). It will be important for this monitoring mechanism to act as a protective function, not just solving individual issues, but also by identifying systemic issues before they arise and providing a reform agenda for women in detention across the country as a whole. This will require strong political will, and cooperation across different agencies and provinces to demonstrate progress against the indicator.

Through monitoring missions by members of EVAW high commissions and individual missions of colleagues from Protection Centers to provinces. They reflected and shared their suggestions and recommendations with the High Council of Prisons about status and problems of women in detention centers for finding solutions. Many women related cases in Kandahar prison through following up with provincial Justice Department have been focused on and follow up.

28) A number of survivors of violence (including domestic and sexual violence), witnesses, and their family members are protected.

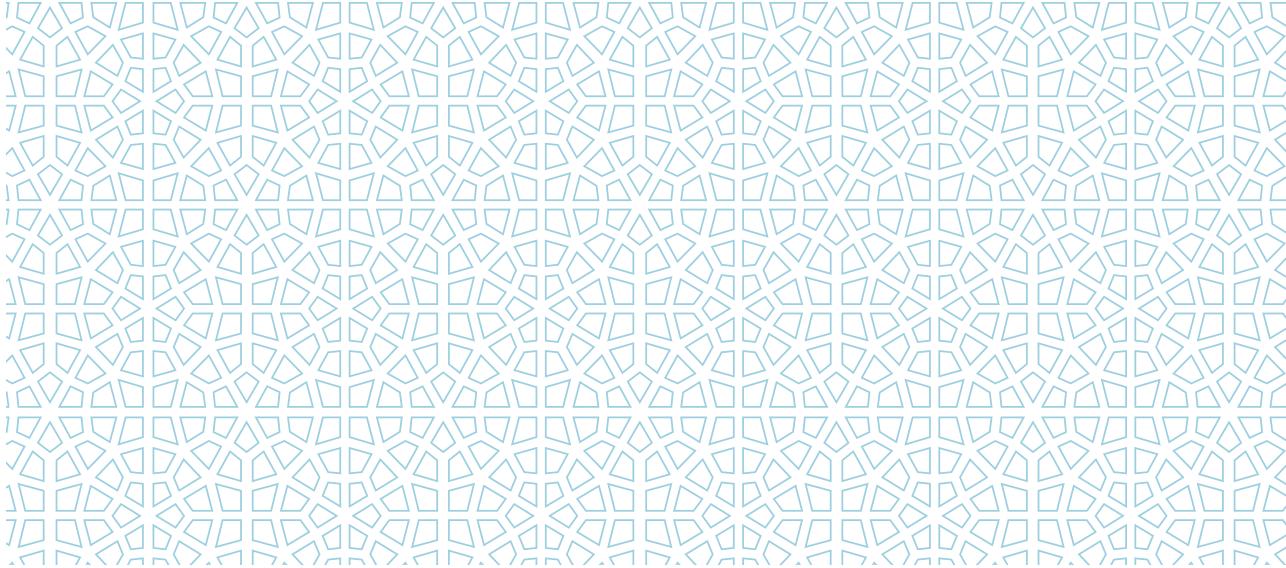
Evidence for assessment:

AIHRC's women's rights unit works to ensure that survivors of violence are protected when they seek support. From a total of 288 monitoring missions conducted to detention centers, 124 were conducted in female detention centers and prisons. They also conducted 232 monitoring missions to 28 women's shelters and 344 monitoring missions to health centers. These visits were then used to make recommendations to help improve the protection.

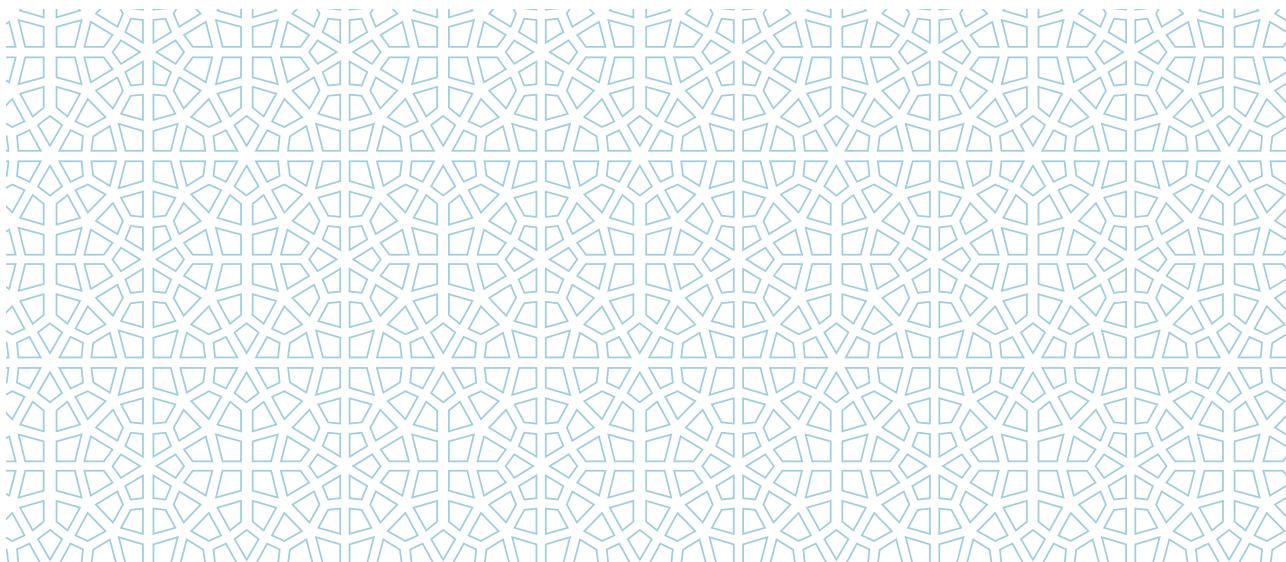
AGO reported that it has set up a process to better provide support to survivors of violence. These include psychological support (provided by Medica-Afghanistan), referral to shelters, and access to medical treatment and forensic services.

Findings of indicator 28:

Given the highly politicized nature of reporting of violence against women, the process needs to include safeguards against sharing of women's information, repercussions against witnesses, and strong guidelines for all AGO professionals involved in cases of EVAW.



NAP 1325, Budget Donor's meeting - Kabul, MFA



3. PREVENTION



OBJECTIVE I: The protection of women from all types of violence and discrimination through awareness raising and public outreach.

Indicator(s) measured:

30) Procedures for accountability and transparency of court decision are in place.

Evidence for assessment:

Under this indicator, the Supreme Court, the Ministry of Women Affairs, and the Ministry of Justice reported their achievements.

Findings of indicator 30:

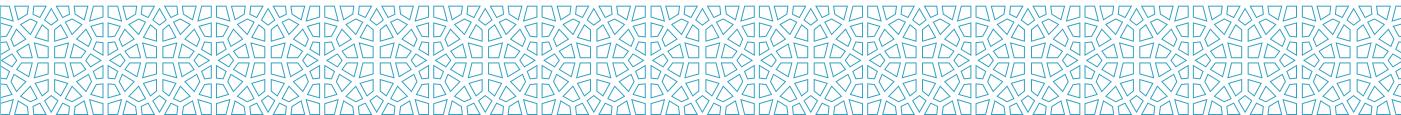
MoJ has reported that based on the legislative plan (review and compliance of legislative decrees, international treaties and constitution and their interpretation) which is implemented by the Supreme Court, cases litigating the prevention of discrimination in VAW courts, will be considered. Review and study of this important document (legislative plan) have been continuing within MoJ and will be included in the 4th quarter of 2017 legislation plan report.

Supreme Court has reported that a regulation has been put in place for prevention of discrimination against women and making the judiciary panel accountable. A regulation has been introduced to make the judges responsible and transparent in their judicial decision-making. The regulations are as follows:

- Regulation for monitoring on judicial and administrative affairs of the courts;
- Regulation of all activities of judges
- Regulation on the assurance of the implementation of final decrees of the courts of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan;
- Regulation on procedure and activities of Directorate of Audit of Supreme Court;
- Regulation on the code of conducts of judges of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan which oversee the judicial system of Afghanistan;

Supreme Court has developed a five-year Action Plan which is applicable within all courts and particularly within EVAW courts. Implementation of EVAW law itself can be used for prevention from discrimination in courts. MoWA has also drafted a regulation on the elimination of discrimination, and it is under process within MoJ. It is worth mentioning that the national strategy on the elimination of violence against women, including its implementation plan, was submitted through the Gender Committee, and approved by a cabinet meeting of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. The implementation period of the strategy is from 2016 to 2020 and the government entities are responsible for implementation.

31) A Campaign to End Violence against Women—EVAW (including radio/TV programmes, workshops, and advertising) launched across the country.



Evidence for assessment:

This indicator specifically refers to campaign events which are going to be launched throughout the country. Several ministries already initiated this campaign. Ministries of Hajj, MoJ and MoIC have reported their achievements in this regard.

Findings of indicator 31:

This indicator more specifically refers to a campaign being launched across the country. Several ministries are engaged on this work already. At MoHRA, this has taken the form of engagement with communities through Islamic scholarship and teachings. In the year 1396, MoHRA's campaign delivered five Friday khutbah to help promote teachings against VAW:

1. Violence against women to be eliminated
2. Islam is a religion of mercy, not a religion of violence
3. The rank of mothers in Islam
4. The place and rank of women on religious teaching
5. Woman as a spouse and life partner

This preaching has been supported with workshops and seminars in Kabul, national radio broadcasts by Ulema, and discussions of violence against women in Islamic discussions on television.

Dissemination of the EVAW campaign through media has also been undertaken by MoIC and MoJ, including articles in Anis Daily, Islah, Heewad, and Kabul Times. MoJ has conducted a 3-month campaign in Herat, Kunduz, Nangarhar, Balkh, Kabul, Bamyan and Badakhshan provinces for school teachers, students, local elders and students of constitutional and Sharia law. MoIC has also undertaken more than fifty awareness-raising workshops for ministry staff. Although this indicator specifically refers to awareness-raising work with the public, these internal workshops will enable the ministry to better carry out their external campaign. The agencies so far have harnessed different media and spokespeople to deliver these messages, showing very good progress against this indicator.

To celebrate a nationwide 16-days of activism campaign on EVAW in all provincial capitals, different events, conferences, radio, TV roundtables, airing TV spots, painting and photo exhibition by survivors of violence, and other such public events have been conducted. A conference called "Let's Hear Survivors Voice" for elimination of violence against women and other activities have been implemented during 2017.

IDLG has achieved the following activities under this indicator:

1. Launched EVAW campaign and women status analysis in 14 districts of Kabul and 17 provinces;
2. With support of senior local authorities, members of provincial councils advocated for women who suffered from violence;
3. Support and cooperation provided to send 5 survivors of violence out of the country and inside the country;
4. Conducted special events focused on gender equality for local government employees through 34 provinces;

Indicator(s) measured:

32) Number of provincial committees (including young men and religious leaders) established in Kabul and all the 33 provinces

Evidence for assessment:

This was one of the 10 indicators assessed in 2016's status update report. Last year (2016), there was no report of any such committee from the agencies responsible for data provision i.e. the MoE, MoHE, MoIC or MoHRA. In the status update report, MoFA committed to address this and to initiate a coordination meeting with the agencies. Data was received from MoIC. They have established youth participation committees in all but three insecure provinces of Afghanistan. Committees in these three insecure provinces were not able to be taken forward because of high degrees of violence in these areas. The members of the youth participation committees include both men and women. The committees are provided with a secretariat function by the provincial department of MoIC.

Findings of indicator 32:

IDLG has achieved the following activities under this indicator:

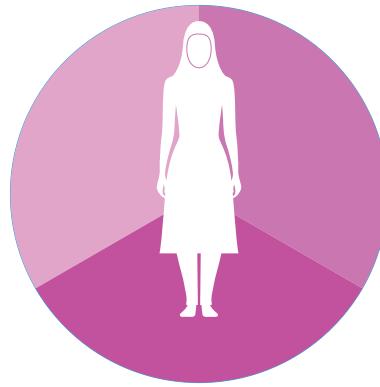
1. Establishment of women's network within local government offices and women leaders in local level will be identified by this network and will be supported;
2. Establishment of anti-harassment and abuse commission in 34 provinces;
3. Establishment of Gender Mainstreaming Committee;
4. Establishment of Gender Committee;
5. Establishment of EVAW provincial commission in 34 provinces.

Also, the establishment of these youth participation committees represents a key success for MoIC. However, MoIC acknowledges that there are several barriers to overcome before the committees' work can be considered truly transformative. In addition to the lack of security in key areas mentioned previously, MoIC has found that the committees' work is being slowed down by the lack of financial resources. This indicator refers to the number of committees that have been established, and good progress has been demonstrated against this. In the future, these committees must also be able to demonstrate that the work these provincial committees undertake is influencing their communities' attitudes to VAW.

33) Number of military personnel briefed on how to protect women from sexual violence and number of commanders informed of their responsibility to protect women

Evidence for assessment:

Military personnel from the police, the national army and from NDS need to understand what their role is in implementing UNSCR 1325 and protecting women from sexual violence. MoD have held awareness-raising seminars for staff on human rights, women's role within Afghanistan's defense structures, EVAW and humanitarian law, in cooperation with AIHRC. AIHRC have also worked to build capacity across the security services on human rights workshops, as in the below table.



Organization	Women trained	Men trained	Total
Police	130	1090	1220
National army	13	957	970
NDS	200	300	210
Total	343	2347	2400

On the particular topics for this indicator, MoD report that they have so far trained 690 military personnel on the prevention of sexual violence.

Findings of indicator 33:

While the data represents less than 1% of the 195,000 strong Afghan armed forces personnel, it is nonetheless a good start towards this indicator. In addition, MoD has briefed 50 commanders about their responsibilities on protecting women. The eventual aim will be for every member of the armed forces in Afghanistan to be trained in preventing sexual violence, and strong political will must be in place for this to happen.



NAP 1325, Steering Committee meeting - Kabul, MoFA

4. RELIEF AND RECOVERY

OBJECTIVE I: Increased economic security for vulnerable women.

Indicator(s) measured:

34) Number of women in the civil service especially in provinces

Evidence for assessment:

Indicator 3 of this report demonstrated that the current level of women in the civil service was 22.5%. For this indicator, the variation of women's participation in the civil service in different areas of Afghanistan is of interest.

Total		Provinces				Capital	
Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men		
22.5%	77.5%	19.01%	80.99%	31.91%	68/1%		
							

This table shows that there are considerable differences in women's civil service employment between the central civil service, in Kabul, and that in the provinces, with women more likely to be employed in the civil service in Kabul than provinces.

Findings of indicator 34:

The findings suggest that while the overall number of women employed in the civil service is increasing, this is disproportionately taking place at the central level (Kabul), and excludes many women living and working in the provinces.

This is compounded when we look at the location of decision makers within the civil service, as described by the CSO's Report on the Third Survey of Women and Men in Decision-Making 2016. This report found that 41.7% of female decision makers were born in Kabul as opposed to Kabul-born male decision-makers at 20% (meaning men decision-makers from other provinces are more mobile than women from other provinces are). Furthermore, 62.9% of female decision makers live in Kabul, compared to only 48.2% of men. Also, it is worth mentioning that IDLG has had other achievements recently as following:

- Recruitment of three women as deputy governors in social affairs in three provinces such as Herat, Kabul and Nangarhar;
- Recruitment of three women as district governors;
- Recruitment of nine women in leadership positions and 105 women in decision-making level positions;
- Recruitment of 394 women in central and provincial offices of IDLG with permanent type of contract or temporary;
- Membership of 406 women in Loca Development Councils and Guzar Councils (informal village, neighborhood, or county council) of Citizen's Charter programs;
- Selection of two women as head of Development Councils and Guzar (Village/Neighborhood) Councils through the Citizen's Charter program.

35) Number of production factories employing increased number of women (especially from conflict-affected communities)

36) The number of factories encouraging women to join and providing incentives to them

Evidence for assessment:

It is recommended that these indicators be merged into one in order to reduce overlap. The intention is that the opening or refurbishment of factories in the provinces will provide secure employment specifically for women. This would either be through factories that only employ women or factories that employ both men and women, with particular incentives and facilities for women in mixed facilities. Finding of indicator/s 35 and 36

This is a financially and logically complex project. MoLSAMD has started initial scoping work to find out how best to implement a plan to establish these production factories, including adding the project into their annual work plan. A committee is being established to undertake a technical feasibility study, which will lead to a comprehensive implementation plan. They estimate that it will take at least \$20 million to be able to launch 8 factories in 8 regions and that at least 2 years will be needed to hand over the factories to production. While the program is ongoing, economic opportunities for women will continue to be promoted with the national labor conference. Through this, MoLSAMD will work with other government organizations and the private sector to provide opportunities for women in cities and rural areas. With a capital program, such as building factories, careful shepherding and oversight of resources will be necessary to ensure political will, technical expertise and finances are in place throughout the entire timescale. Therefore, the launch of the initial scoping work is a good start to this indicator.

OBJECTIVE II: Adequate financial resources are available for activities related to women in emergency
Indicator(s) measured:

37) Number of newly designed government programs which have been designed based on the information according to the map that include a gender perspective and specifically respond to the needs of women

Evidence for assessment:

This indicator requires mapping to be undertaken on the needs of women, so that a gender-sensitive approach to government programming can be implemented. The full mapping has not yet been undertaken, and it is not clear which of the responsible agencies listed in the NAP is to take the lead. MoF reported that they have undertaken some work on this indicator. MoF is planning more NAP 1325 work to be undertaken starting 2018, and reported that in the coming year their priorities will be:

1. Conducting learning sessions on gender responsive budgeting
2. Organizing the reform of budgeting to include gender
3. Coordinating and collecting data to carry out the technical analysis of budgets

Findings of indicator 37:

Although this mapping is overtly referred to in only this one indicator, it will underpin almost all work across the NAP. Without gender-responsive budgeting, much of the funds needed to carry out work related to women, peace and security – both directly outlined in this NAP and more broadly – will not be made available.

38) Number of women/ program initiatives funded through Afghanistan National Budget

Evidence for Assessment:

The Ministry of Finance reports that in total, eight programmes have been initiated and funded through government on-budget support. These projects are started within the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Higher Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Women Affairs, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Economy. Finally, the government will finalize the funding mechanism for implementation of NAP 1325 in 2018.

Findings of indicator 38:

OBJECTIVE III: IDPs policy provisions related to UNSCR 1325 is implemented

Indicator(s) measured:

39) Number of provisions of IDPs policy on UNSCR 1325 implemented

The objective for this indicator is to deliver quality service to Internally Displaced Populations (IDPs).

Evidence for assessment:

Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation has reported about its achievement in this regard.

Findings of indicator 39:

This indicator was assessed in the 2016 status report. That report found that the NAP 1325 was well known across relevant agencies; however, there remain some challenges in the equitable implementation of provisions of the IDPs policy on NAP 1325, due to differential comprehension of the WPS agenda. This is perhaps borne out in the 2017 update, where information was only received from Ministry of Rural Reconstruction (MoRR).

MoRR reported progress, with 14 regulations to date having been implemented in Kandahar, Helmand, Baghlan, Herat, Nangarhar, Balkh and Kabul provinces:

1. The IDPs' special vulnerabilities
2. Identification and registration of IDPs
3. When will displacement end?
4. Disputes, military operations, general violence and human rights abuses
5. Documents
6. Human rights and privileges of displaced persons
7. The right to have adequate shelter and access to land
8. The right to subsistence
9. The right to access healthcare
10. Supporting families
11. The right to education
12. The right to support property and compensation
13. The right of freedom of expression and access to information
14. The right of participation, including the right for voting

MoRR asserted that 21 provisions of the IDP policy on NAP 1325 will be implemented by the end of

2018. The priority actions are to implement the following projects:

1. Project for the establishment of sustainable internal displacement
2. Project for emergency assistance for IDPs
3. Project supporting legal activities, planning and reintegration

The ministry has signed agreements with Afghan Planning Organization to address emergency needs of survivors of violence among IDPs in Kandahar, Helmand and Baghlan. Based on this agreement, services such as psychosocial counseling to the survivors of violence, awareness-raising about prevention of GBV, and other important issues. This represents good progress against the indicator. It will be important for the other agencies to take their responsibilities towards IDPs seriously, and to work closely with MoRR to take the IDP provisions forward.

CHALLENGES

Afghanistan is a challenging context in which to work, and this is especially true when working on security and gender matters, as NAP 1325 does. It is important to acknowledge the challenges faced by implementing agencies, both to highlight the remaining gaps and the actions needed to fill these, and to contextualize the hard work that has already taken place.

The security situation remains volatile and limits the ability of agencies to implement their work across the country. Indeed, women and girls (as well as boys and men) living in areas of dire insecurity are in need of the highest levels of need for NAP 1325 implementation. However, because of the difficulty in operating in these areas, they are frequently the least served. Ensuring that security limitations are not allowed to derail future implementation of NAP 1325 will take investment of time, sensitivity in programming, and sustained funding.³

With the financial mechanism still awaiting confirmation, it is heartening to note that many of the ministries have been able to incorporate their work on NAP 1325 into their general departmental work-plans and have already started work on these (NAP 1325) activities. Indeed, this demonstrates that NAP 1325 works best when it is not silo-ed, but addressed in partnership with other governmental aims and programs. However, shared and generalized funding can only be a short-term solution. Many of the indicators will require significant funding in order to succeed, especially those requiring capital investment. In the medium- and long-term, sustained and sustainable investment is required.

The capacity of agencies to be able to implement and report on their work has been noted as a limitation. Work has already been undertaken to address this, as can be seen in this status update report. However, more work is needed to ensure that this capacity is not held by a few individuals- meaning that agencies risk losing expertise as core staff move on – but is accessible to staff across the government. In particular, monitoring and evaluation must be seen as a key skill to deliver the NAP 1325 and report on its successes and challenges.

It is not just security that can limit the work of the NAP 1325 outside Kabul. It is important that the NAP 1325 is seen as a development tool not just for the center, but for all Afghans throughout the country. Several indicators, notably 34-36, specifically require action to be taken in provinces to be counted as a success. Some agencies have done well in taking their work outside Kabul and working with local

3. NAP 1325 Monitoring Cycle 2, APPRO, January 2018, <http://appro.org.af/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/2018-01-30-NAP-1325-Monitoring-Cycle-2.pdf> (page 9)

partners to ensure that implementation is done sensitively for each area.

Political will and awareness was raised as a concern that might hinder the implementation of the NAP 1325 in the 2016 update report. The report noted strong support at the level of the President and the First Lady but questioned the consistency of this support at ministerial and director levels. MoFA has acted on this, setting up a Steering Committee comprising the Foreign Minister and deputy ministers from other ministries for discussion of the NAP 1325, recognizing the necessity of gaining buy-in from this key level of government. Awareness raising at the level of the civil service has also been enhanced through the NAP 1325 focal point network, and workshops within ministries.

CONCLUSIONS

NAP 1325, as the government policy for UNSCR 1325 adherence, reflects the commitment of the government of Afghanistan on implementation of UNSCR 1325 about women, peace and security. Afghanistan is in the early stages of implementation of its NAP 1325 and its defined objectives. Since its adoption in 2015, important steps have been taken for implementation of NAP 1325. Based on the second chapter of the Constitution, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan is obliged to ensure citizenship rights of all Afghans including men and women; NAP 1325 is a mechanism for ensuring the rights of a major part of Afghan citizens who have been systematically marginalized and historically deprived from social, economic, cultural and political life for continuous years. The aim for development of NAP 1325, in line with UNSCR 1325, is to revive women's status in different sphere of social life. The aim is to increase presence of women in civil services, security sector and their strengthened participation in executive and political decision-making level, promoting women's participation in peace process and in presidential, parliamentary and provincial council elections for reshaping legal, political and economic and cultural institutions; and through promotion of human development indices will pave the way for sustainable development in post-conflict Afghanistan. To achieve such objectives, review and amendment of laws and development of policies related to women, peace, and security are priorities for policy-making institutions and executive bodies of the country. Moreover, reformation of administrative, legal and organizational structures through launching awareness-raising events for public and making them familiar with their civil rights are priorities.

In early years and stages of UNSCR 1325 implementation, the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan has had good achievements and remarkable progress without specific funds allocation for 1325, and much before finalization of NAP 1325 costing, and budgeting in four pillars of the NAP 1325 (Participation, Protection, Prevention, and Relief & Recovery). Despite various challenges for implementation of NAP 1325, joint efforts and collaboration of implementing partner entities demonstrate political commitment and required dedication for implementation of all pillars of NAP 1325. Starting implementation of the first stage of NAP 1325 in the time period of 2015-2018, GIRoA has been able to define the required strategic framework and effective mechanisms for implementation of NAP 1325 executive policies for implementing partners in the area of women, peace and security.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations apply to all entities in GIRoA and as such imply responsibility across all line ministries and implementing agencies of the Afghan Government. In addition to the 2017 recommendations, some recommendations from 2016 also remain applicable as there was inconsistent implementation of some of the recommendations in previous years by implementing agencies. Some of the salient ones are:

Harmonize Levels of Implementation between Kabul and Provinces

The level of implementation of NAP 1325 should be harmonized between Kabul and provinces as there are disparate levels of implementation of NAP 1325 across the nation. While some lead implementing agencies reported that they have not begun implementation of the activities in the NAP 1325, there has been some progress since its adoption (e.g. the increase in women's participation in the High Peace Council). It is important to note that there is a gap between Kabul and the provinces when it comes to the level of awareness and implementation of the NAP 1325. This is due to the fact that the process of developing the NAP 1325 has mostly involved government officials and civil society representatives based in Kabul. Thus, to localize ownership of NAP 1325, it is recommended that

- GIRoA should further hold strategy consultations to develop an action plan and/or steps to localize the NAP 1325 and allocate resources for localization, ensuring that there is a strategy for how to implement NAP 1325 at the local and provincial levels.

Increase Political Will and Awareness

In 2017, through the NAP 1325 Focal Points network and points of contacts within implementing entities/ministries, MoFA was able to help GIRoA raise awareness of, and increase visibility and capacity to engage on NAP 1325. MoFA recognizes the challenges in technical understanding and technical awareness of NAP 1325 and seeks to address it in various ways. There is strong political will and awareness at the highest level of government (the President, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and First Lady, but at the ministerial level, (ministers and deputy ministers) the level of commitment is inconsistent. However, the level of awareness about the NAP 1325 and related responsibilities is variable among colleagues in the ministries.

Risks and Limitations

Risks and limitations as identified in the NAP 1325 and the 2016 status report remain as factors affecting the implementation of the NAP 1325 in 2017 as well. These include:

- Security
- Financing (including fiscal mechanism)
- Capacity Building & Reporting (including technical capacity of implementing agencies)
- Provincial Resourcing (lack of resource allocation mechanisms at provincial level)
- Coordination (in Policy, Program, and M&E across agencies)
- Varying Degrees of Political Will
- Awareness (among line ministries and departments about UNSCR 1325)

In order to address these limitations and fully implement the NAP 1325, strong commitments will be needed from the international community, ministries of the Government of Afghanistan and civil society.

- NAP 1325 Focal Points should be supported in conducting trainings on technical aspects of NAP 1325 for all staff at the ministerial level.
- A series of meetings with leaders of the lead implementing agencies (ministers, deputy ministers and director generals for policy and planning etc.) should be regularly organized to inform them about their responsibilities related to the NAP 1325.
- The Government of Afghanistan needs to follow the high-level lead set by the President and First Lady and demonstrate the political will to see the realization of NAP 1325. Women, peace and security should not be seen as an add-on to core work, but as a policy at the heart of everything that they do.

Strengthen Coordination, Monitoring & Evaluation Capacities

While the approval of a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan is a positive development, only some of the agencies reported that they have begun any monitoring activities related to NAP 1325. Some other challenges include creating a sense of shared understanding about templates for reporting, capacity to collect and analyze the data, and instructions on how to report on the NAP 1325. MoFA and the NAP 1325 Steering Committee fills an important function in coordinating the NAP 1325 work.

- Representatives (NAP 1325 Focal Points) from all lead implementing agencies should be trained on NAP 1325 and related responsibilities;
- All lead implementing agencies should develop their own action plans for the realization of the NAP 1325;
- A platform should be established for continued dialogue with stakeholders (including civil society) on the implementation of the NAP1325. Civil society is a key partner in UNSCR 1325; they have already been included in the development of the NAP1325 and participated in the Bamyan workshop in October 2017.
- Civil society should be continuously represented in the focal point network. Civil society's work in implementing and monitoring the NAP 1325 is welcomed, and they must continue to support the success of the NAP1325;
- All lead implementing agencies should form working groups to coordinate the realization of the joint activities in the NAP1325;
- All NAP 1325 Focal Points should be trained on how to collect data using the indicators and report their findings (using a template);
- All lead implementing agencies should report to MoFA annually, whereby MoFA will compile a report and submit it to the President's Office, the NAP 1325 Steering Committee, and the Parliament.
- The NAP 1325 understanding should be shared by all staff in the implementing agencies, beyond the Focal Points networks, to ensure that everyone understands what the goals are and what their responsibilities are in achieving them.
- The Ministry of Finance's support is needed to finalize the allocation of budget and its financial mechanism. Thus, cooperation and a close working relationship between MoF and MoFA is encouraged to strengthen financial mechanisms;
- Policy Coordination and integration is recommended between NAP 1325, NAPWA, AND Women's Economic Empowerment Program, as there are strong links between the three, and close coordination will prevent duplication and waste of resources.

Establish the NAP 1325 Financing Mechanism

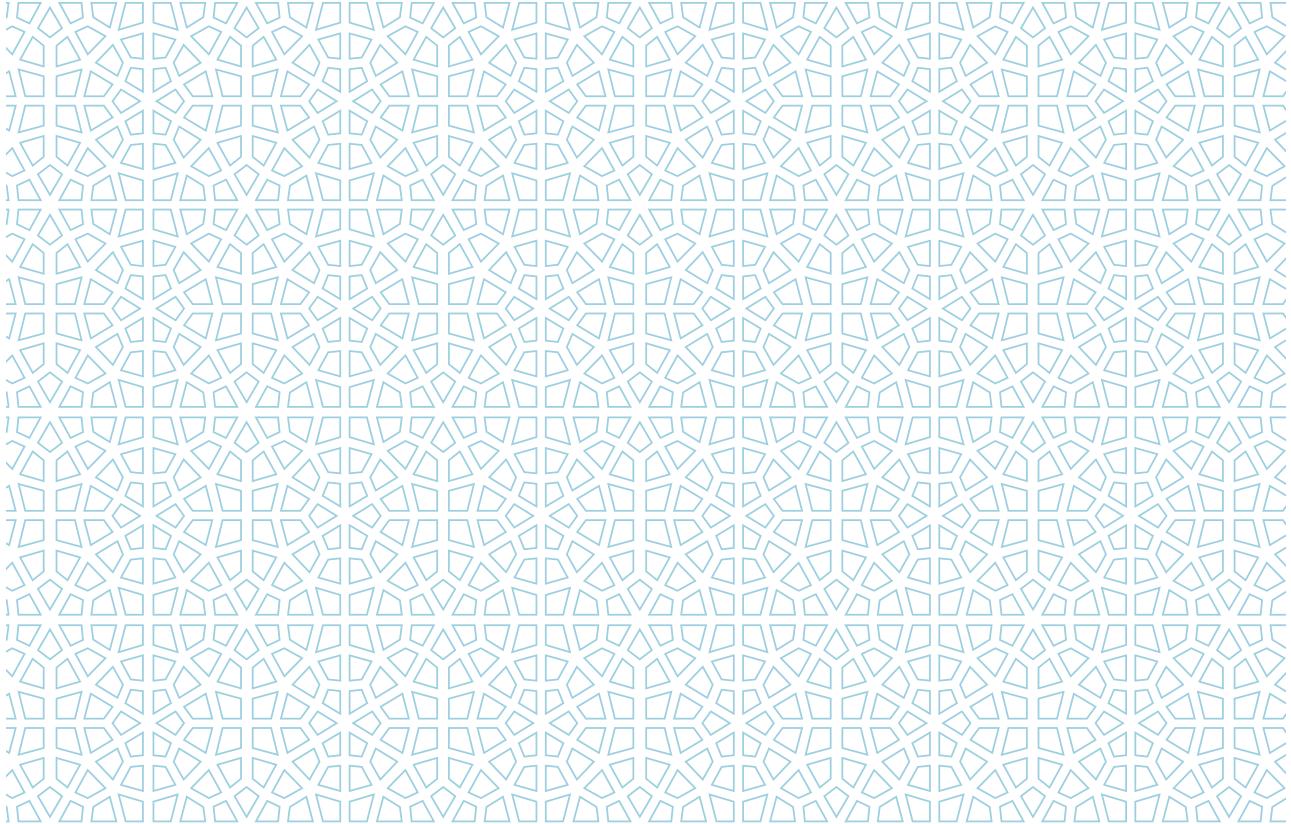
The costing of the NAP 1325 has been completed and the draft budget was finalized in 2017. While this is a great achievement, much work remains to establish a financing plan and mechanism, and develop clear instructions for how funds should be allocated, disbursed, and tracked. To achieve this and safeguard that adequate funds are made available, there is a need for continued dialogue between GIRoA and donors about how to proceed to channel funds and align donor priorities with the activities in the NAP 1325. Steps to regularize the funding for NAP 1325 include.

- NAP 1325 financing mechanism should be established, in consultation with donors, civil society and government agencies.
- Donors and GIRoA should open up further dialogue to align funding with the activities of the NAP 1325 and ensure that all activities are adequately funded.
- Donors should earmark funds to government agencies for NAP 1325 related projects to ensure that funds intended for such projects are not spent on other programming.
- The international community needs to establish mechanisms consistent with commitments made at the Brussels Conference and foreground women, peace and security in its funding and strategies for Afghanistan. This investment is vital to a strong, lasting implementation of the NAP 1325 leading to peace and prosperity for all. This should be viewed as a long-term strategy, rather than a short-term fix. Early and strong support will enable the government to build the technical and financial capacity to build more independence around NAP 1325 in the future.

NAP 1325: THE ROAD AHEAD

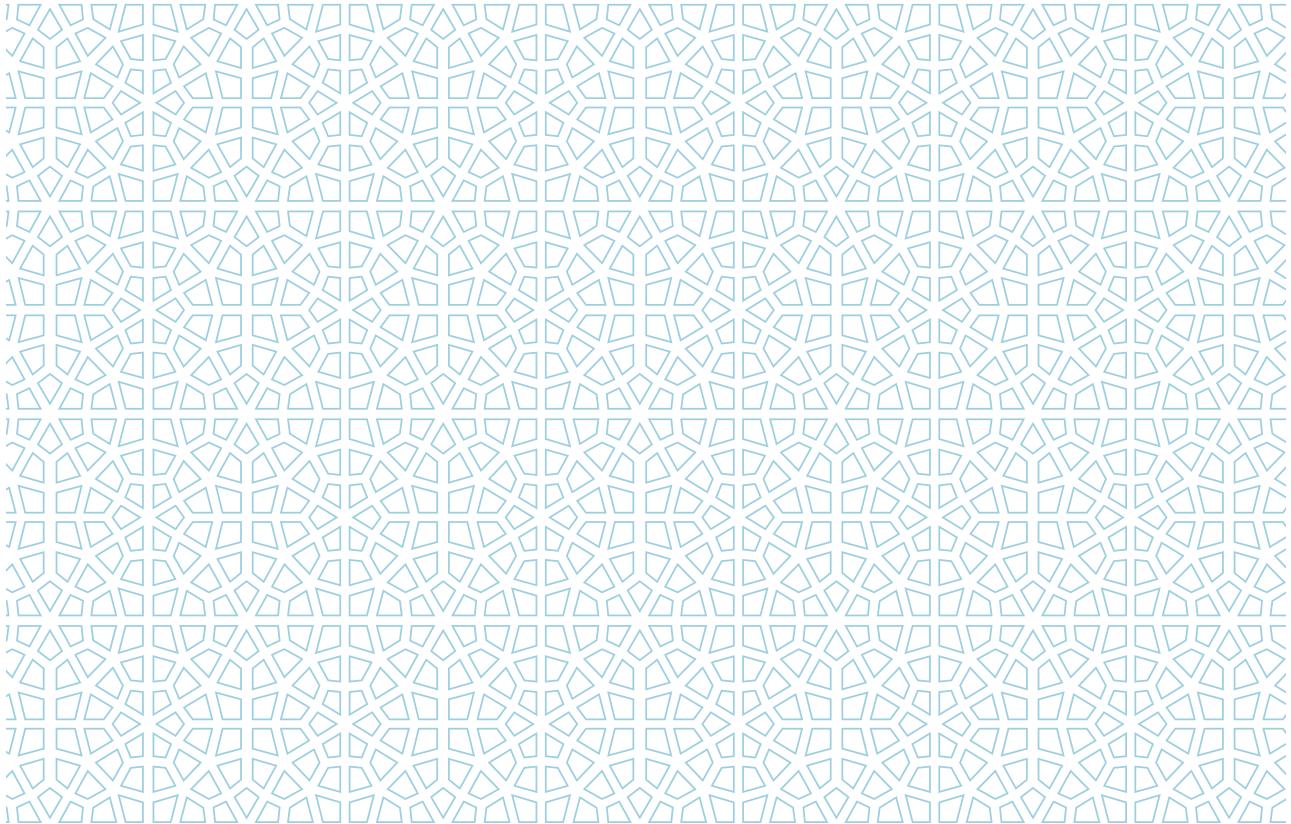
1.Political Will and Awareness	
1.1	Strengthen the Political Will at Leadership Level Organize ongoing sets of meetings with leaders at the lead implementing agencies (ministers, deputy ministers, and director generals for policy and planning etc.) to inform them about their responsibilities related to NAP 1325.
1.2	Raise Awareness at Implementing Agency Support NAP 1325 Focal Points in conducting trainings on the NAP 1325 for staff at the ministerial level.
2.Coordination	
2.1	Create a Platform for Stakeholder Dialogue Establish NGOs, Civil Society and Government engagement platform for dialogue with the stakeholders and organize regular meetings for lead implementing agencies and other stakeholders (including civil society) to update them on developments and discuss and resolve issues to do with the implementation
2.2	Increase Capacity to Implement the NAP 1325 Continually train representatives (including NAP 1325 Focal Points) from all implementing agencies on NAP 1325 and related responsibilities for each implementing agency.
2.3	Develop Institutional Action Plans As stipulated in the Implementation Plan for NAP 1325, all lead implementing agencies should develop their own action plans for the realization of the NAP 1325. The Institutional Action Plans should be shared with MoFA, the NAP 1325 Steering Committee, and the public.
2.4	Update and Train NAP 1325 Focal Points All lead implementing agencies responsible for reporting and realization of NAP 1325 should update and train their NAP 1325 Focal Points. In addition, NAP 1325 Focal Points in provinces and districts should also be appointed.
2.5	Establish NAP 1325 Working Groups In accordance with the Implementation Plan for NAP 1325, all lead implementing agencies should form working groups with other lead implementing agencies to coordinate the implementation of joint activities in the NAP 1325. MoFA can support this by identifying group members and initiating meetings between members.

3. Monitoring and Evaluation	
3.1	Build Capacity to Effectively Monitor the NAP 1325 Train all NAP 1325 Focal Points on how to collect data using the indicators and report their findings (using the provided template).
3.2	Refine Indicators to Ensure they are User-Friendly Refine the indicators in the NAP 1325 in consultation with the responsible lead implementing agencies to make sure that they are measurable and related to concrete targets.
3.3	Report Annually on the Realization of the NAP 1325 As stipulated in the Implementation Plan for NAP 1325, all lead implementing agencies responsible for reporting should report to MoFA annually, whereby MoFA will compile the report and submit it to the NAP 1325 Steering Committee, the President's Office, and the Afghan Parliament.
4. Financing	
4.1	Establish a Financing Mechanism Establish a financing mechanism in consultation with donors, civil society, and government agencies. The financing mechanism should allocate, disburse, and track funds for the realization of the NAP 1325.
4.2	Align Funding with the Activities in the NAP 1325 Donors and GIRoA should increase dialogue to align funding with the activities in the NAP 1325 and make sure that all activities are adequately funded.
4.3	Earmark Funds Donors should earmark funds to government agencies for NAP 1325 related projects to ensure that funds intended for such projects are not spent on non-NAP 1325 programming.
5. Localization	
5.1	Develop a Localization Plan Develop a plan for how to localize the NAP 1325 through consultations with government representatives and civil society in the provinces. Identify relevant best practice examples from other countries that have localized their NAP 1325, and allocate resources for localization.



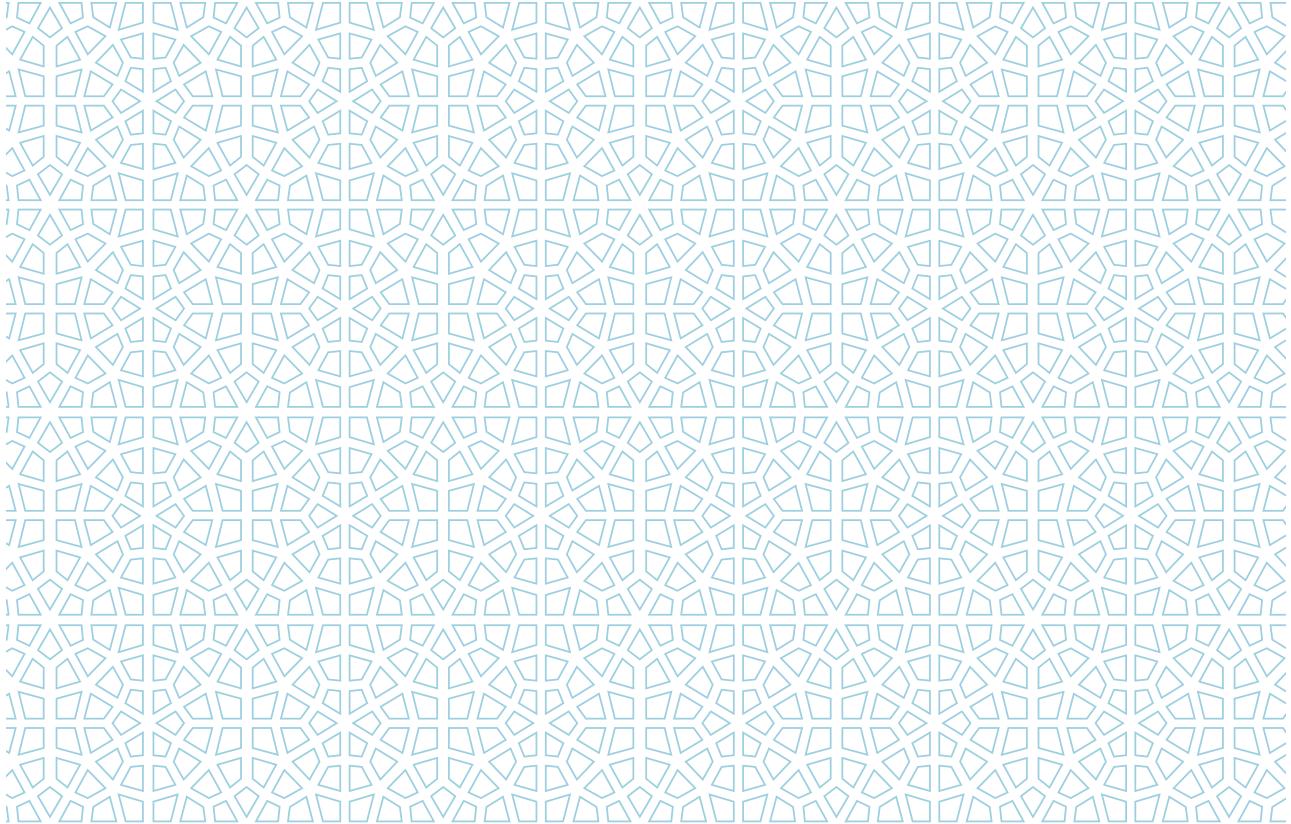
ANNEX I

List of Steering Committee Members



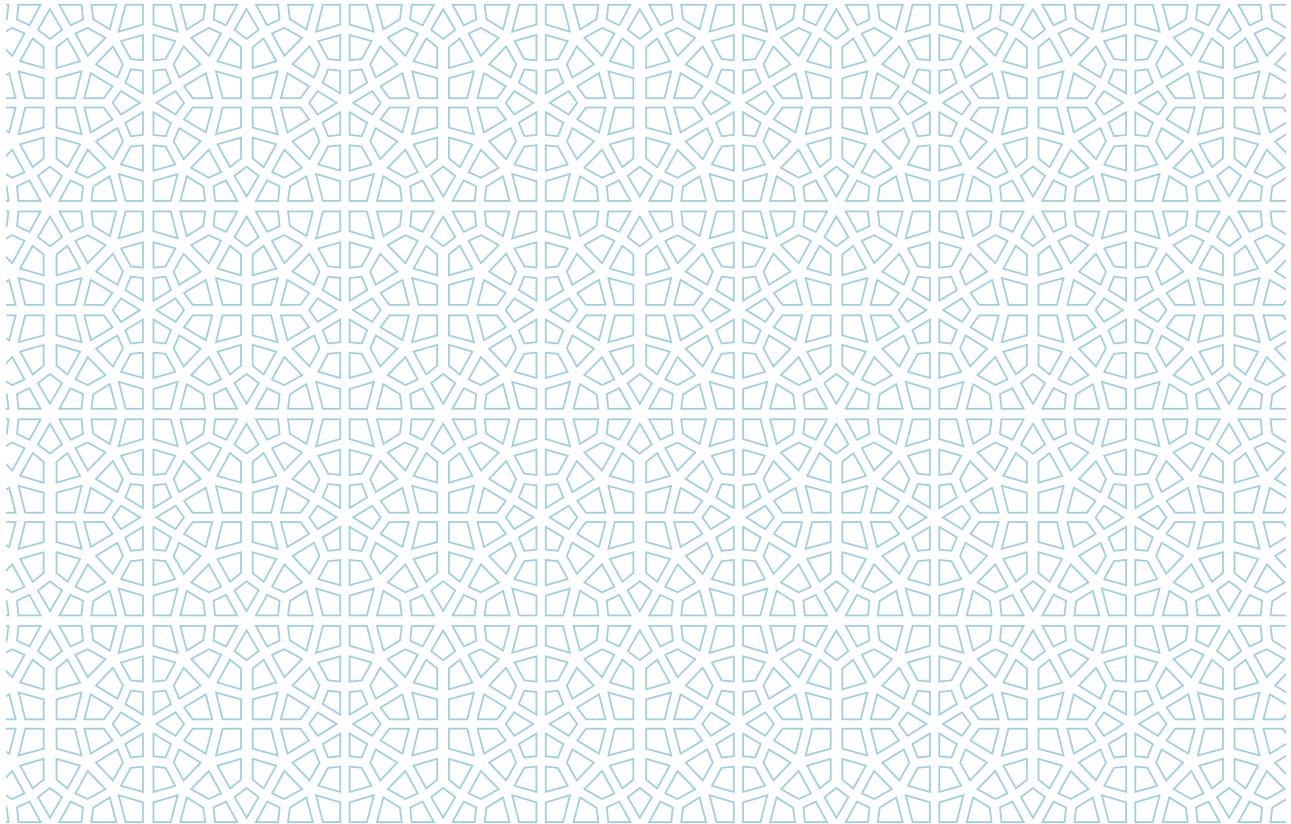
Steering Committee Members
National Action Plan 1325

1	Minister of Foreign Affairs	Head
2	Deputy Minister (MoWA)	Member
3	Deputy Minister (MoH)	Member
4	Deputy Minister (MoRR)	Member
5	Deputy Minister (MoLSAMD)	Member
6	Professional and Policy Deputy (IDLG)	Member
7	Senior Advisor (MoJ)	Member
8	Commissioner (IARCS)	Member
9	Commissioner (IHRC)	Member
10	General Director of Counter Criminal Offences (MoI)	Member
11	Director of Human Rights (MoD)	Member
12	Director General of Human Rights and Womens' International Affairs (MoFA)	Member
13	Deputy Director for Policy and Plan (NDS)	Member
14	Member (HPC)	Member
15	Representative (CS)	Member



ANNEX II

List of NAP 1325 Focal Points



Focal Points
National Action Plan 1325

1	Abeda Osman	Director General of Human Rights and Women's International Affairs	MoFA
2	Parwana Paikan	Deputy DG of Human Rights and Women's International Affairs	MoFA
3	Freshta Rohani Popal	Desk Officer for Women's International Affairs	MoFA
4	Parween Rahimi	Prosecution Director of West Zone	AGO
5	Abdul Saboor Fana	Classification and Professionalism Officer	MoD
6	Gulalai Sediqi	Deputy Director	MoI
7	Nafisa Kohistani	Foreign Relations Officer	MoWA
8	Farzana Akbari	Acting Director	MoPH
9	M. Ayoub Dawlatzada	Human Rights Officer	MoJ
10	Latifa Sultani	Administrative Member	AIHRC
11	M. Wali Safi	Administration/ Finance and Gender Officer	MoRR
12	Sharmila Frugh	Gender Officer	NDS
13	Nooria Haqnegar	Women Affairs and Gender Specialist	AoP
14	M. Ishaq Haidari Arab	Cheif of Staff	MoHRA
15	Abdullah Barikza	Director of Planning and Programme	MoLSA MD
16	Saara Afzali	Gender Officer	AIRC
17	Moh.Sediq	Director of Policy and Planning	MoEC
18	Jamil Ahmad Ahmadi	Finance Officer	MoIC
19	Ab. Hasib Sharifi	Planning and Development Specialist	MoIC
20	Aarefa Paikar	Gender Officer	MoHE
21	Munhema Mansoor Saadat	Director of Policy And Plan	IEC
22	Nadia Salih	Representative on Women's Affairs	FLO
23	Ab. Khalil Azimi	Demography Officer	CSO
24	Shukria Kazimi	Budget Programing and Administarion officer	MoF



NAP 1325, Focal Points - Bamyan 2017

**Directorate General of Human Rights and Women's International Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan**