

# Afghanistan Public Policy Research Organization



## Localization of NAP 1325: A 15-Province Status Report

June 2016

Policy Brief

موسسه مطالعات عامه  
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## Acknowledgements

The project “Monitoring Women’s Peace and Security” (MWPS) was conceived by Afghanistan Public Policy Research Organization (APPRO), Cordaid, and Equality, Peace, and Democracy (EPD) in response to Afghanistan’s commitment to implement the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on women’s peace and security. MWPS is led by Cordaid and funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs to monitor and assist in the implementation of Afghanistan’s National Action Plan (NAP 1325). This Annual Synthesis Report provides an update on MWPS activities by APPRO in conducting a baseline assessment and two in-depth research papers, Cordaid in devising and implementing the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Barometer, and EPD in working with local women’s rights organizations on advocacy activities at the local level based on the findings from the Barometer and in-depth research.

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## **About APPRO**

Afghanistan Public Policy Research Organization (APPRO) is an independent social research organization with a mandate to promote social and policy learning to benefit development and reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan and other less developed countries through conducting social scientific research, monitoring and evaluation, and training and mentoring. APPRO is registered with the Ministry of Economy in Afghanistan as a non-profit non-government organization and headquartered in Kabul, Afghanistan with regional offices in Bamyan (center), Mazar-e Sharif (north), Herat (west), Kandahar (south), and Jalalabad (east). APPRO is also a founding organization of APPRO-Europe (ASBL), registered in Belgium. APPRO and its individual researchers have undertaken projects in Central Asia, India, Pakistan, India, Africa, China, and Turkey.

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## **About EPD**

Equality for Peace and Democracy (EPD) is a nonprofit, non-governmental organization founded to empower women and youth at the community and policy levels in Afghanistan. EPD works to build the capacity of women and youth in order for them to be the front face in presenting their needs in development, peace building and democratic processes of the country. EPD further aims at mass mobilization of women and youth to contribute to overcoming the challenges of instability that Afghanistan is facing. EPD has platforms for women and youth to come together, establish networks, build trust and confidence to transform Afghanistan into a democratic country, free of all forms of violence and discrimination. EPD has peace and security, good governance and human rights as its three strategic areas.

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## **About Cordaid**

Cordaid, based in the Netherlands, has a focus on international development and collaboration in vulnerable regions and areas of conflict. Its mission is to build flourishing communities in fractured societies. Monitoring the transition in Afghanistan is part of Cordaid's program on Women's Leadership for Peace and Security (WLPS). This program aims to increase the capacity of women's networks, give a voice to women at the local level in processes of peace and security, and promote the women's agenda in national and global arenas.

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## List of Abbreviations

AIHRC	Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission
ALP	Afghan Local Police
ANA	Afghan National Army
ANP	Afghan National Police
APPRO	Afghanistan Public Policy Research Organization
CDC	Community Development Council
CSHRN	Civil Society and Human Rights Network
CSO	Central Statistics Organization
DDA	District Development Assembly
DoWA	Department of Women's Affairs
DRC	Danish Refugee Council
EPD	Equality for Peace and Democracy
EVAW	Presidential Decree for Elimination of Violence Against Women
FRU	Family Response Unit
ICRC	International Community of Red Cross
IDMC	Internal Displacement Monitoring Center
IEC	Independent Elections Council
MoLSAMD/DoLSAMD	Ministry / Department of Labor and Social Affairs, Martyred and Disabled
MoRR	Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
PC	Provincial Council
PPC	Provincial Peace Council
PWN	Provincial Women's Network
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNSCR 1325	United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325

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## 1. Introduction

The United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325), adopted on October 31, 2000, is aimed at addressing the disproportionate and unique impact of armed conflict on women. UNSCR 1325 was followed by six additional Security Council Resolutions in subsequent years, providing additional guidance and details on how women can and should participate in all aspects of conflict prevention and resolution and peace. All United Nations' member states are committed to develop National Action Plans for implementing UNSCR 1325 and the subsequent resolutions.

The Government of Afghanistan launched its NAP 1325 in July of 2015. The document calls for the creation of mechanisms that enhance women's participation in negotiations for peace, politics, and decision-making at all levels. NAP 1325 also calls for mechanisms to prevent violence against women and protect women from being subjected violence. Specific emphasis is placed on the situation of women and their needs in relief and recovery efforts.<sup>1</sup>

NAP 1325 is aimed at meeting two broad objectives, namely gender balancing and gender mainstreaming. Gender balancing emphasizes the importance of equal rights of men and women to participate in peace and security processes and leadership. Gender mainstreaming draws attention to the fact that rules, regulations and policies have different impacts men and women, with women faring worse than men. Better understanding of relations and roles of men and women in society and the very different impacts of conflict and policies on men and women can enhance the quality of policies and policy outcomes.<sup>2</sup>

The "Monitoring Women, Peace and Security" (MWPS) project was designed to contribute to efforts in meeting Afghanistan's commitments to the UNSCR 1325 with a focus at the community, grass roots level. MWPS intends to capture women's perceptions and understanding of their conditions and place in peace and security within the framework of Afghanistan's NAP 1325 at the local / community level. As such, the project works closely with women and women's organizations at the district level in efforts to prevent violence against women, foster women's participation in politics and the peace process, protect women from violence, and ensure a that specific attention is paid to women's special needs in relief and recovery efforts.

MWPS has specific activity areas for taking stock of current conditions in the target provinces, applied research on thematic issues, mobilization at the community level, and advocacy at the local, sub-national, national, and international levels. APPRO is responsible for research and research dissemination components of MWPS, Cordaid provides the lead in adapting and implementing the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Barometer and outreach based on Barometer findings at the international level, and EPD and the Provincial Women's Networks in the target provinces are responsible for working with local women and women's rights organizations on advocacy activities at the local and national levels based on the findings from the Barometer and ongoing in-depth research.

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<sup>1</sup> Afghanistan's National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 is made available by Afghanistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs at: [http://mfa.gov.af/Content/files/English%20NAP%206\(1\).pdf](http://mfa.gov.af/Content/files/English%20NAP%206(1).pdf) (12-20-2015)

<sup>2</sup> Jonge Oudraat, De, C. (2013) "UNSCR 1325-Conundrums and Opportunities" in *'International Interactions'*, 39 (4), 614-621

The Barometer is designed for women's empowerment and gender equality in conflict-affected contexts. It builds a knowledge base on how relevant thematic areas intersect in advancing gender equality goals in fragile and conflict-affected states and responds to women's needs by offering integrated interventions.

The Barometer has three intervention pathways: a) understanding local women's realities; b) in-depth research on key issues identified by women; and c) advocacy for policy change based on evidence-based recommendations. These pathways are reinforced by specific capacity development activities for women and women's organizations.

The key characteristics of the Barometer are:

- Women are in the lead. The Barometer places women in Afghanistan, that suffer most acutely from fragility, at the heart of defining priorities for intervention, collecting data, and monitoring and evaluating outcomes and impact.
- It builds credible evidence on women's security in fragile contexts, and on what works to promote women's agency and decision-making power.
- It connects all spheres of impact necessary to achieve real change.
- It creates an enabling environment by transforming gender norms through the involvement of men as partners to achieve gender equality.
- It connects qualitative and quantitative data. Women's perspectives provide the stories behind the quantitative data.<sup>3</sup>

This report provides an update on the conditions of women vis-à-vis NAP 1325 in 15 provinces, grouped under six regions and consisting of 38 urban and rural districts (see Scope, below).<sup>4</sup> In addition to the update, this report synthesizes the pertinent findings from two papers based on research carried out in early 2016, presents a stakeholder analysis of the actors relevant for MWPS and their knowledge and understanding of UNSCR 1325 and NAP 1325, and suggested activities that could be undertaken at the local level by EPD and the PWNs to advocate for women, peace, and security and in support of Afghanistan's NAP 1325 in the remainder of 2016. This report also provides summaries of the activities to February 2016 by PWNs. (See Appendix 2 for full details of the activities).

In the remainder of 2016, EPD and the PWNs will use the information from this report and subsequent in-depth research in the 15 target provinces to work closely with women and women's organizations in the target communities to improve conditions consistent with NAP 1325's pillars of Participation, Protection, Prevention, and Relief and Recovery (See Appendix 1 for a summary of NAP 1325).

## 2. Scope

This report is organized around six regions (Figure 1). These are: Central (Kabul and Parwan), Central Highlands (Bamyan and Daikundi), West (Herat), East (Nangarhar and Laghman), North (Badakhshan, Balkh, Faryab and Kunduz), and South (Helmand, Kandahar, Paktia and Uruzgan). Each regional profile includes a comparison of the provinces within the region. The information for each region includes an

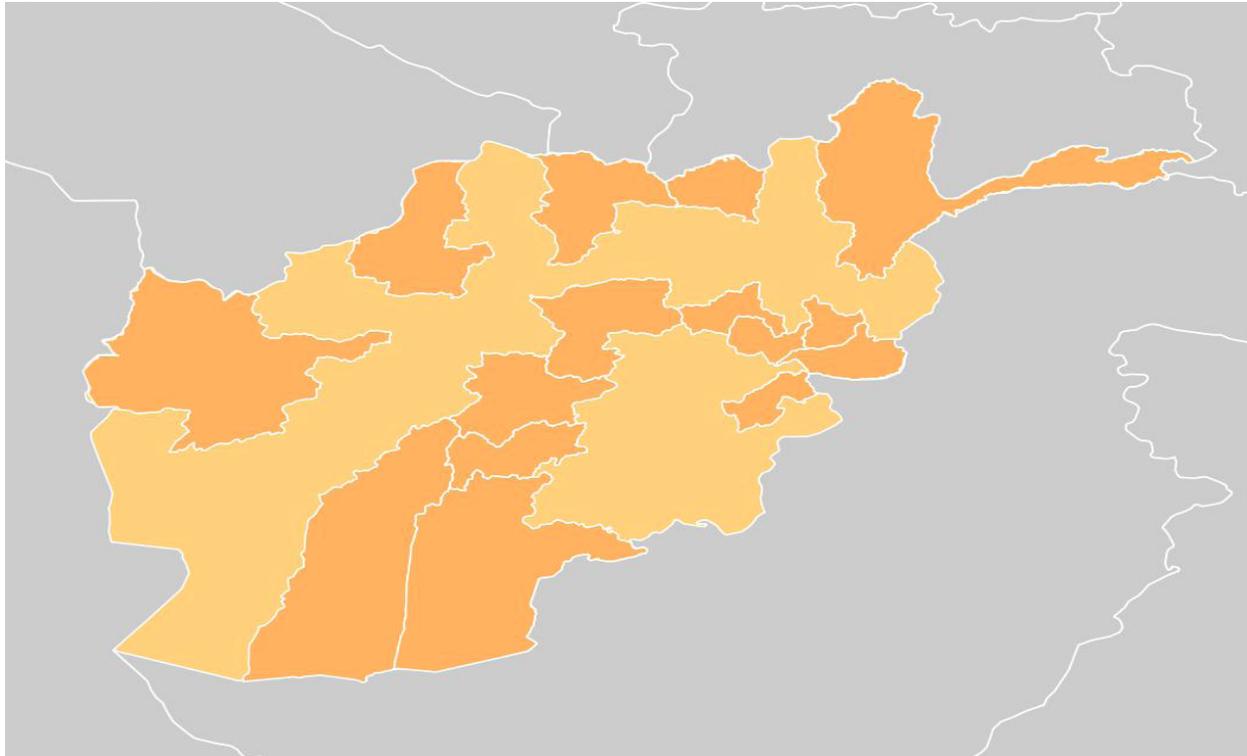
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<sup>3</sup> Based on a brief provided by Cordaid. See Appendix 3 for additional details on the Barometer.

<sup>4</sup> The first assessment was carried out in the last quarter of 2015. The report is available from: <http://appro.org.af/monitoring-women-peace-and-security-a-rapid-assessment/>

assessment of the current conditions and identifies entry points for local action and advocacy on women’s rights consistent with the four pillars of NAP 1325: Participation, Prevention, Protection, and Relief and Recovery. The proxies used for these four pillars are described in Appendix 4.

**Figure 1: Target Provinces**



### 3. Approach and Methodology

The tools used in the collection of primary data for this report were key informant interviews and focus group discussions in the 15 provinces. There were 77 interviews with key informants and 30 focus groups discussions. Two focus group discussions were held in each province, one with women working in government positions and another with women representing civil society. See Appendix 5 for a list of interviewees and a description of the coding system employed in this report.

Secondary sources of data were Central Statistics Office (CSO), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC), provincial departments of Women’s Affairs, Family Response Units, and Afghan National Police (ANP) in all provinces.

The data collection took place during the winter season of 2015-2016. Bad weather and deteriorating security conditions constrained field work and data collection. Helmand and Uruzgan were practically inaccessible for researchers during the end of 2015 due to protracted and exacerbated conflict. The fall of Kunduz City in late 2015 and the subsequent unrest that followed after the government’s recapturing of the city delayed the data collection process.

Badakhshan, Bamyan and especially Daikundi were inaccessible for some time due to heavy snowfall in the provinces. This especially limited access to those key informants and members of the focus group the resided in relatively remote areas of the provinces.

## **4. Organization of This Report**

The next section provides an overview and analysis of the current situation of women in the 15 provinces by region, based on a rapid assessment carried out in late 2015.<sup>5</sup> More up-to-date data were collected in January and February 2016. Section 6 provides regional overviews based on the data collected in early 2016. Each regional overview contains provincial stakeholder analyses and concludes with a list of activities for improving the ground for implementation of UNSCR 1325 and NAP 1325. Section 7 concludes with recommendations.

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<sup>5</sup> For the full report, see: <http://appro.org.af/monitoring-women-peace-and-security-a-rapid-assessment/>

## 5. Overview of Local Conditions for Afghanistan’s NAP 1325

### Participation

#### Participation (NAP 1325):

- Increase effective participation of women in the decision-making and executive levels of the civil service
- Ensure women’s active and effective participation in leadership positions of security agencies
- Ensure women’s effective participation in the peace process
- Encourage women’s meaningful participation in the drafting of strategies and policies on peace and security
- Strengthen women’s active participation in politics.

Source: NAP 1325<sup>6</sup>

Women's participation in politics remains limited in all provinces. Despite the significant changes, including legislative reforms since 2001 to increase participation, Bamyan is the only province where the female participation in the Provincial Council exceeds the 20 percent quota. Though lack of security and conflict are mentioned as impeding factors, it is societal traditionalism and patriarchy that impedes women’s access to politics. Though female members of the Provincial Peace Councils state to have insecurity limiting their mobility, it is primarily the attitude of their male colleagues and family members that limit their participation in meetings and gatherings.

Women’s participation in civil service or in labor market in general is in many provinces impeded by conservatism. Men generally do not appreciate women working with them at the same office, nor do they find their female family members working with other men easily acceptable.

In all provinces, the interviewees expressed a need for more female police officers. However, the community generally has a negative view of women working for the police. This, combined with complaints of harassment on the workplace, deters many women to join the police force.

### Prevention

#### – Prevention (NAP 1325):

- Prevent violence against women.
- Eliminate culture of impunity in violence against women.
- Strengthen the role of women in the security sector and judicial structures.
- Effect gender-related reforms in the security and justice sectors.
- Involve men and boys in the fight against all forms of violence against women.
- Increase awareness among women of their rights and their role in preventing violence and resolving conflict.

Recent data from AIHRC show that the extent violence against women increased in 2015. The nature and types of violence that women are subjected to has become more “dreadful” or “frightening”.<sup>7</sup> Apart

<sup>6</sup> See Appendix 4 for a summary of Afghanistan’s NAP 1325.

<sup>7</sup> Hamidi, R. (2016) “A Look at the Causes of Violence Against Women”, Published in *The Daily Afghanistan* on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Available at: [http://dailyafghanistan.com/opinion\\_detail.php?post\\_id=135610](http://dailyafghanistan.com/opinion_detail.php?post_id=135610) (04-02-2016)

from poverty and unemployment, the main causes of violence against women are said to be lack of preventive mechanisms, such as access to the formal judiciary, which is caused by conservatism and patriarchy.

## Protection

### Protection (NAP 1325):

- Protect women from all forms of violence and discrimination through the enforcement, monitoring and amendment of existing laws and development of new laws and policies.
- Promote women's human rights gender mainstreaming of laws, policies, and institutional reforms.
- Create an enabling environment for women to have access to justice through women's effective participation in the judiciary.
- Protect women from all forms of violence through awareness raising and public outreach.
- Provide health, psychological, and social services for women survivors of violence throughout Afghanistan.
- Effect special measures to ensure women's protection from sexual violence.

Institutions that are in charge of protecting women, such as the formal judiciary and the police are said to be corrupt and systematically discriminatory toward women, treating them unfairly and unequally as compared to men. The ANP and FRU and many governmental organizations lack knowledge of EAW law and NAP 1325. Added to that, deeply ingrained social norms dissuade women from asserting their rights. Reporting abuses would trigger social stigmatization and the loss of social or economic safety nets and could lead to retaliation by perpetrators.<sup>8</sup> Though more common in Southern regions, because of these impediments, most cases of domestic disputes are solved through the involvement of community elders in an informal judicial setting. The decisions made by informal or tribal courts are described as unfair and discriminatory toward women.

## Relief and Recovery

### – Relief and Recovery (NAP 1325):

- Provide relief and recovery services for women affected by conflict, internal displacement and women survivors of violence.
- Increase rural women's economic security through increased employment opportunities.
- Consider women's social and economic needs in the design, implementation, and evaluation of relief and recovery programs.
- Implement the policy provisions of UNSCR 1325 for the internally displaced persons (IDPs).

Though Afghanistan's NAP 1325 promises different types of relief and recovery provisions to female victims of conflict and (sexual) violence, the delivery of many of the provisions is yet to happen.

The exact number of war widows in the country is not known, Afghanistan is assumed to have one of the highest percentages of widows and disabled women in the world.<sup>9</sup> Though the law does require the DoLSAMD in all provinces to provide widows of war with some salary, there is much complaint about the

<sup>8</sup> See also: USIP (2014) "Women's Access to Justice in Afghanistan", Published on July 17, 2014. Available at: <http://www.usip.org/publications/2014/07/17/womens-access-justice-in-afghanistan> (04-02-2016)

<sup>9</sup> Abrahams, J. (2014) "The War Widows of Afghanistan", Published in *Prospect Magazine* on July 18, 2014. Available at: <http://www.prospectmagazine.co.uk/blogs/jessica-abrahams/the-war-widows-of-afghanistan> (02-27-2016)

corruption, nepotism and quality of service delivery. In all provinces, the interviewees added that the provisions are sometimes provided to those who do not have the right to receive it, while those who rightfully claim their benefits are not helped.

Kandahar is the only monitored province where women's access to health services is said to be impeded by traditionalism. In all other provinces lack of medication, health centers and female health professionals are said to limit women's access to healthcare.

Afghanistan has one of the highest numbers of conflict-induced displacements in the world.<sup>10</sup> The protection of IDPs is outlined by the country's IDP policy and falls under the mandate of the Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation (MoRR). The data from the field suggests that insufficient assistance is provided by MoRR to protect the IDPs with the most vulnerable being neglected the most. It is primarily UNHCR, and a few other international organizations, that are the agencies referred to as the entities that provide the most assistance. In terms of protection and prevention programming much more needs to be done in temporary shelters to address basic food and shelter needs while efforts to provide education for children and adults, vocational training for women, and health services for women need to be intensified.

The safehouse in Kunduz has not reopened since its closure after the fall of the provincial capital into the hands of the AOG. Women who need a refuge in Kunduz are taken to safehouses in Takhar and Balkh provinces. Helmand, Kandahar, Kunduz and Paktia provinces have never had a safehouse for women whose lives are being threatened. All provinces generally lack reintegration programs and follow-ups for women residing in safehouses and prisons.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> IDMC (2015) "Afghanistan's IDP Figures Analysis" has estimated the number of IDPs in Afghanistan to be around one million, with 48 percent of them being women, by mid 2016. Data available at: <http://www.internal-displacement.org/south-and-south-east-asia/afghanistan/figures-analysis> (02-29-2016)

<sup>11</sup> For additional details see the MWPS Rapid Assessment Report, available from: <http://appro.org.af/monitoring-women-peace-and-security-a-rapid-assessment/>

## 6. Regional Overviews

This section highlights the findings from the interviews and focus group discussions held in the six regions to provide specific details on the most urgent needs of women. The findings are grouped under the four main pillars of UNSCR 1325: Participation, Prevention, Protection, and Relief and Recovery.

### Central Region: Kabul and Parwan

Table 1: Demographic Profile of Central Region

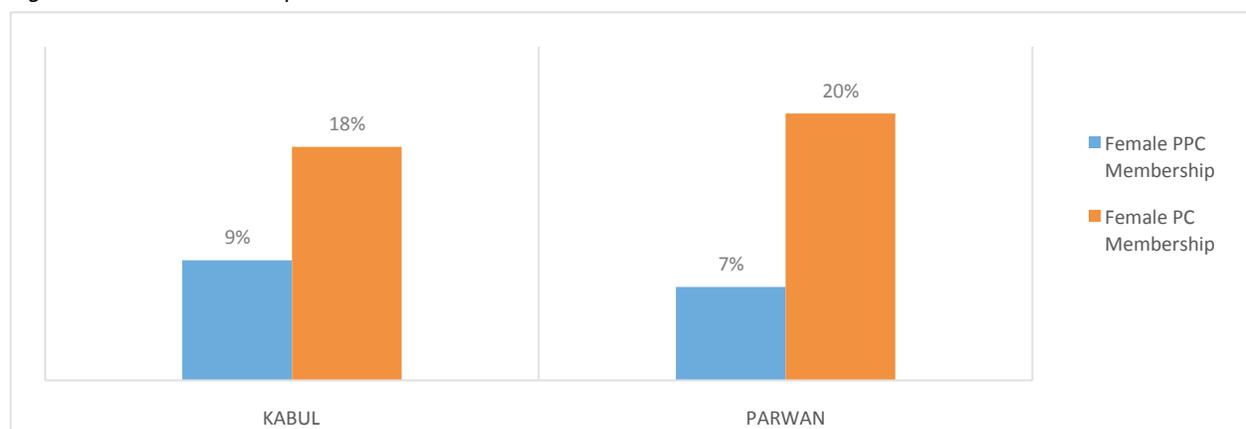
	Kabul	Parwan
Population Division	48%	49%
Representation in Provincial Council	20%	20%
Representation in Provincial Peace Council	33%	8%
Percentage of Prisoners	2,4%	4,4%
Percentage of IDPs in Province	45%	44%
Percentage of teachers	67%	15%
Percentage of Students	43%	38%
Number of Women in ANP	39	30

Sources: Data on IDPs are provided by UNHCR/IDP Task Forces data (June 2015), other data are retrieved from CSO (2013/2014)

### Participation

There is a general consensus among the interviewees that women are capable of participating and contributing to political decision-making and the formal peace process.<sup>12</sup> Despite the optimism, women's participation in formal peace and political process in Kabul and Parwan remains low (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Women's Participation in Peace and Politics in Central Provinces



Reasons for lack of women's participation in peace in both provinces are said to be discrimination and lack of an enabling environment.<sup>13</sup> In Parwan, some interviewees stated the deteriorating security situation as one of the reasons, while in Kabul it was the lack of an enabling environment for women to

<sup>12</sup> KI-F-Kab-5, KI-F-Par-1, KI-F-Par-2, KI-F-Kab-1, KI-M-Par-6

<sup>13</sup> KI-F-Kab-3, KI-F-Kab-3, KI-F-Kab-2, KI-M-Kab-2, KI-F-Par-1

enhance their skills, abilities and network.<sup>14</sup> In both provinces women’s role in peace process is described as symbolic.<sup>15</sup>

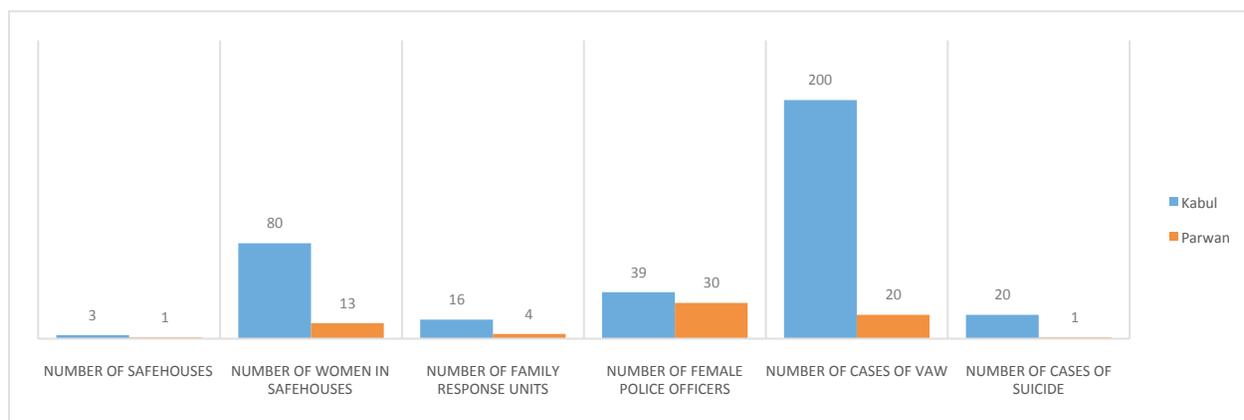
In both provinces, women’s participation in informal peace processes are said to be significant. However, informal peace processes are generally limited to mediation at family level.<sup>16</sup> With two female representatives in National Parliament and three women in Parwan’s Provincial Council, people are generally positive about women’s participation in politics.<sup>17</sup> However, there is a belief that women’s participation in politics is still low and needs to improve. The main causes for lack of participation are said to be the deteriorating security situation and traditional conservatism.<sup>18</sup>

Women’s participation in the civil service remains limited, especially in Parwan. While 34 Percent of all government employees in Kabul are female, in Parwan a mere 13 percent of civil servants are female.<sup>19</sup> In both cases women complain of discrimination in the work place. In both provinces, discrimination in the labor market and at the work place is seen as the main impeding factors in women’s participation in civil service.<sup>20</sup> The percentage of female ANP personnel remains low in both provinces. The general view of women’s participation in ANP remains largely negative.<sup>21</sup> The main impeding factor for women’s participation in the police force is society’s negative view of policewomen.<sup>22</sup>

## Prevention

Though there are different structures that ought to protect women, women in Kabul and Parwan still face much violence and discrimination (Figure 3).

Figure 3: A Profile of VAW and Protective Structures



Source: Number of safehouses and FRUs are provided by DoWA, the number of cases of VAW, cases of suicide and the number of women in safehouses are provided by the AIHRC

<sup>14</sup> KI-M-Par-4, KI-F-Kab-5, KI-F-Par-1, KI-F-Par-2, KI-F-Kab-1, KI-M-Par-6, KI-M-Par-2

<sup>15</sup> KI-M-Par-6, FGD-F-Par-2, KI-F-Par-1

<sup>16</sup> KI-F-Kab-1, KI-M-Kab-4, FGD-F-Kab-1

<sup>17</sup> KI-M-Par-6, KI-F-Par-1, KI-M-Par-6, FGD-F-Par-2

<sup>18</sup> KI-M-Par-4, KI-M-Par-6, KI-F-Par-7, KI-M-Par-3, FGD-F-Par-2,

<sup>19</sup> Central Statistics Organization (2013/2014): “Afghanistan Statistical Yearbook 2013-14”, Table 3-4, page 17. The percentage of female government employees in Kabul, excluding the contractors, is 44 percent.

<sup>20</sup> KI-F-Kab-3, KI-M-Par-6, KI-M-Par-4, KI-F-Par-7, KI-F-Kab-6

<sup>21</sup> KI-F-Par-5, KI-M-Par-6, KI-F-Par-1, KI-F-Kab-6

<sup>22</sup> FGD-F-Kab-1, KI-F-Kab-6, KI-M-Kab-2, KI-M-Kab-4, KI-F-Par-7, KI-F-Par-5, KI-M-Par-3, KI-M-Par-4

Women in Kabul and Parwan are subjected to different kinds of violence, most common ones being physical abuse and injuries, verbal threats of physical violence, denying women alimony, forced and underage marriages and some cases of rape.<sup>23</sup> In Parwan, though decreasing, the interviewees complained about exchange of girls and the tradition of *bad dadan* where women are used as retribution to settle feuds.<sup>24</sup> The greatest part of violence against women is of domestic nature, caused in part by poverty, unemployment, disrespect of women's rights and lack of awareness, illiteracy, and traditional conservatism.<sup>25</sup>

Informal methods of preventing violence against women consist primarily of advocacy and awareness raising conducted by the CSOs and on occasions by the ANP and DoWA.<sup>26</sup>

Formal efforts to prevent violence against women have not been sufficiently fruitful. The ANP and FRU in Parwan are said to be powerless and unable to combat corruption and nepotism in the formal justice system.<sup>27</sup> The judiciary in both provinces is considered as biased and unfair toward women.<sup>28</sup>

None of the interviewees have had direct dealings in their work with UNSCR 1325 or the recently launched National Action Plan for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 (NAP 1325). The implementation of Elimination of Violence Against Women (EVAW) law, however, does seem to be more institutionalized within ANP and the FRU.<sup>29</sup>

## Protection

According to the interviewees, the formal justice system shows significant shortcomings when it comes to protecting women. In Parwan, lack of security is mentioned as an impeding factor for women's access to justice.<sup>30</sup> Formal judicial organs are said to be corrupt and systematically discriminatory toward women, treating them unfairly and unequally as compared to men.<sup>31</sup> Though more in Parwan than Kabul, society is not tolerant of women seeking help from the police.<sup>32</sup> Therefore, many women in Parwan, seek help from the DoWA instead of the ANP and FRU.<sup>33</sup>

Because of these impediments, most cases of domestic disputes are solved through the involvement of community elders in an informal judicial setting, which is more common in districts than the urban areas.<sup>34</sup>

There are three safehouses in Kabul and one in Parwan. The society, especially in Parwan, is not tolerant of women seeking shelter in safehouses.<sup>35</sup>

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<sup>23</sup> FGD-F-Kab-1, KI-F-Kab-6, KI-M-Kab-2, KI-M-Kab-4, KI-F-Par-7, KI-F-Par-5, KI-M-Par-3, KI-M-Par-4

<sup>24</sup> KI-M-Par-4, KI-F-Par-1, KI-F-Par-5

<sup>25</sup> KI-F-Par-5, KI-M-Par-6, KI-M-Par-2, KI-F-Par-7, KI-M-Par-3, KI-F-Kab-6, KI-M-Kab-4, KI-M-Kab-7

<sup>26</sup> KI-F-Par-1, FGD-F-Par-2, KI-F-Kab-1, KI-F-Kab-5,

<sup>27</sup> FGD-F-Par-2, KI-F-Kab-3, KI-F-Kab-5, KI-F-Kab-6, KI-F-Par-1, KI-F-Par-2, KI-M-Par-3, KI-F-Par-7

<sup>28</sup> KI-F-Par-1, KI-F-Par-1, KI-F-Par-2, KI-M-Par-3, KI-F-Par-7

<sup>29</sup> KI-M-Par-4, KI-M-Kab-7, KI-F-Kab-1

<sup>30</sup> KI-F-Par-1, KI-M-Par-2, KI-F-Par-7

<sup>31</sup> FGD-F-Kab-1, KI-F-Kab-3, KI-F-Kab-5, KI-F-Kab-6, KI-M-Par-3, KI-F-Par-7

<sup>32</sup> KI-F-Par-1, KI-F-Par-5, FGD-F-Par-2

<sup>33</sup> KI-F-Par-1, KI-F-Par-5, FGD-F-Par-2

<sup>34</sup> FGD-F-Par-2, KI-M-Par-6, KI-M-Par-3, KI-F-Par-7, KI-F-Kab-1, KI-M-Kab-7

According to interviewees, women are best protected through more awareness among men and women as well as the formal and informal judicial institutions, including the police and other governmental organizations.<sup>36</sup>

## Relief and Recovery

Some sources estimate the number of widows in Kabul and surroundings to be between 500,000-700,000 women.<sup>37</sup> These widows receive practically no financial or other forms of aid. In Kabul the interviewees complained of lack of resources and nepotism within the formal institutions in charge of aid disbursement to widows.<sup>38</sup> In Parwan, the small salary of those who receive assistance is subject to a deduction by officials who approve the disbursement of the salaries.<sup>39</sup>

Disabled women receive a monthly salary of around 5,000 Afghanis from the Ministry or the Department of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyrs, and the Disabled (MoLSAMD).<sup>40</sup> However, the level of financial assistance depends on the type of disability and the fact that the disability has to have been caused by war.<sup>41</sup>

The type and quality of aid and services provided to the IDPs by the government is limited.<sup>42</sup> Most IDPs in Parwan stay with their relatives and those residing in IDP camps rely primarily on aid from INGOs. No special provisions are made to female IDPs in Kabul and Parwan.<sup>43</sup>

There is one safe house in Parwan. The conditions at the safe house are said to be improving, however.<sup>44</sup> Women at the safe house in Parwan are provided with some basic vocational skills.<sup>45</sup> Similar conditions exist for the safe houses in Kabul. The main shortcoming of the safe houses in Kabul and Parwan is the lack of reintegration mechanisms and basic provisions.<sup>46</sup> The community disapproves of women who seek shelter in safe houses while those who seek shelter are ill-prepared for sustaining themselves after they are released from the safe houses.<sup>47</sup>

Conditions in women's prisons remain poor but are said to be improving.<sup>48</sup> Women are provided with basic vocational trainings and have access to medical services and sports facilities.<sup>49</sup> In Parwan, the

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<sup>35</sup> FGD-F-Par-1, KI-F-Kab-6, KI-F-Kab-7, KI-M-Kab-2

<sup>36</sup> KI-F-Kab-3, KI-M-Par-2, KI-F-Par-7, KI-M-Par-3, FGD-F-Par-2

<sup>37</sup> IRINNews (2008): "The Bleak Prospects for Country's Estimated 1.5 Million Widows", Published by IRIN on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008. URL: [www.irinnews.org/report/76492/afghanistan-bleak-prospects-country%E2%80%99s-estimated-15-million-widows](http://www.irinnews.org/report/76492/afghanistan-bleak-prospects-country%E2%80%99s-estimated-15-million-widows)

<sup>38</sup> KI-F-Kab-1, KI-M-Par-9, KI-M-Par-3, KI-M-Kab-2, KI-F-Kab-5, FGD-F-Par-2

<sup>39</sup> KI-M-Par-6, KI-M-Par-9, KI-M-Par-3, FGD-F-Par-2

<sup>40</sup> KI-F-MoL-Kab

<sup>41</sup> KI-F-MoL-Kab

<sup>42</sup> KI-M-Par-9, KI-F-Kab-3, KI-M-Kab-2, KI-M-Kab-7

<sup>43</sup> KI-M-Par-9, KI-F-Kab-3, KI-M-Kab-2, KI-M-Kab-7

<sup>44</sup> KI-F-Par-1, KI-M-Par-6, FGD-F-Par-2

<sup>45</sup> FGD-F-Par-2, KI-F-Par-1, KI-M-Par-6

<sup>46</sup> KI-F-Kab-3, KI-F-Par-4

<sup>47</sup> KI-M-Par-6, KI-F-Kab-3, KI-M-Kab-2, KI-M-Kab-7

<sup>48</sup> KI-F-Kab-6, FGD-F-Kab-1

<sup>49</sup> KI-F-Kab-6, KI-F-Par1, KI-M-Par-6

interviewees stated that the inmates reside in sleeping containers and do not have a yard.<sup>50</sup> In both provinces, the community is unwelcoming of women with prison records.<sup>51</sup> To ensure women's safety after prison, the Departments of Women's Affairs in both provinces monitors the integration process of former female inmates.<sup>52</sup>

Women's access to health in both provinces is impeded by congestion, long waiting lines, corruption and nepotism.<sup>53</sup> There are many complaints about the attitude of doctors and health professionals toward women.<sup>54</sup> Medication provided to the patients is of low quality and insufficient.<sup>55</sup> Traditional conservatism demands that women be treated by female doctors though this does not deter many women from seeking medical help from male doctors when in need.<sup>56</sup>

Women's access to education in both provinces is impeded by the deteriorating security situation and persistent traditional conservatism.<sup>57</sup> Most families do not want their daughters to continue going to school after grade 9.<sup>58</sup>

## Kabul Province Stakeholder Analysis

- **Provincial Women's Network (PWN) Kabul:** Members of the PWN in Bagrami district of Kabul stated to have limited to no knowledge of UNSCR 1325. The ones that did claim to have some awareness of it stated to have gained that knowledge through the media. However, despite not knowing the contents of the document, they do conduct work that concerns women peace and security and acknowledge the importance women's participation as prescribed by UNSCR 1325
- **Ministry of Women's Affairs Kabul:** The interviewees from the MoWA in Kabul stated to have full knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and to participate in trainings, workshops and advocacy activities in the province.
- **Department of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyred and Disabled:** Interviewees from MoLSAMD in Kabul stated to have knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and to have gained that knowledge through trainings, workshops and self-study.
- **Afghan National Police (ANP) Kabul:** The ANP in Bagrami district of Kabul province stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and their main guideline for protection of women's right has been the EAW Law.
- **Family Response Unit (FRU) Kabul:** The FRU in Kabul stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and to have EAW law as the main guideline for protection of women's right.
- **Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC):** Interviewees from AIHRC in Kabul stated to have full knowledge of UNSCR 1325.
- **Civil Society and Human Rights Network (CSHRN):** Interviewees from CSHRN in Kabul stated to have knowledge on UNSCR 1325 and to participate in activities and gatherings intended to enhance the level of awareness on the Resolution among the CSOs of Afghanistan.
- **Women's Solidarity for Justice (WSFJ):** WSFJ (Victims Network) works with the victims of war in

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<sup>50</sup> KI-F-Par-1, KI-M-Par-4

<sup>51</sup> KI-F-Kab-6, KI-M-Par-6, KI-M-Par-2, KI-F-Par-7, KI-F-Par-5, KI-M-Par-3

<sup>52</sup> KI-F-Kab-6, KI-M-Kab-2, KI-M-Kab-4, FGD-F-Kab-1

<sup>53</sup> KI-F-Par-7, KI-M-Par-2, KI-M-Par-4, KI-F-Kab-5, KI-F-Kab-3, FGD-F-Par-2

<sup>54</sup> KI-M-Par-6, KI-F-Kab-5, KI-F-Kab-3, KI-M-Kab-7

<sup>55</sup> FGD-F-Kab-1, KI-F-Kab-3, KI-M-Kab-2, KI-M-Kab-7

<sup>56</sup> KI-M-Par-9

<sup>57</sup> KI-F-Kab-1, KI-F-Kab-6, KI-M-Par-6, KI-M-Par-2, KI-F-Par-7, KI-F-Par-5, KI-M-Par-3

<sup>58</sup> FGD-F-Par-2

Afghanistan. The Victims Network was established to help and raise the voices of the Victims of the conflict in Afghanistan by providing them psychotherapy services, awareness raising workshops, sharing the stories and experiences of the victims through print and electronic media, documentation of war crimes and crimes against humanity. The Victims Network for the first time in the history of Afghanistan established Victims Shuras (Councils) in Kabul.<sup>59</sup> Interviewees from WSFJ showed full awareness of UNSCR 1325 and stated to engage in advocacy and other activities to enhance awareness on the resolution.

### Influence/Awareness Matrix of Kabul Province

		Knowledge on UNSCR 1325		
		High		Low
Influence on Policy-making	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DoWA</li> <li>• DoLSAMD</li> </ul>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AIHRC</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANP</li> <li>• FRU</li> </ul>
	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSHRN</li> <li>• WSFJ</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PWN</li> </ul>

### Parwan Province Stakeholder Analysis

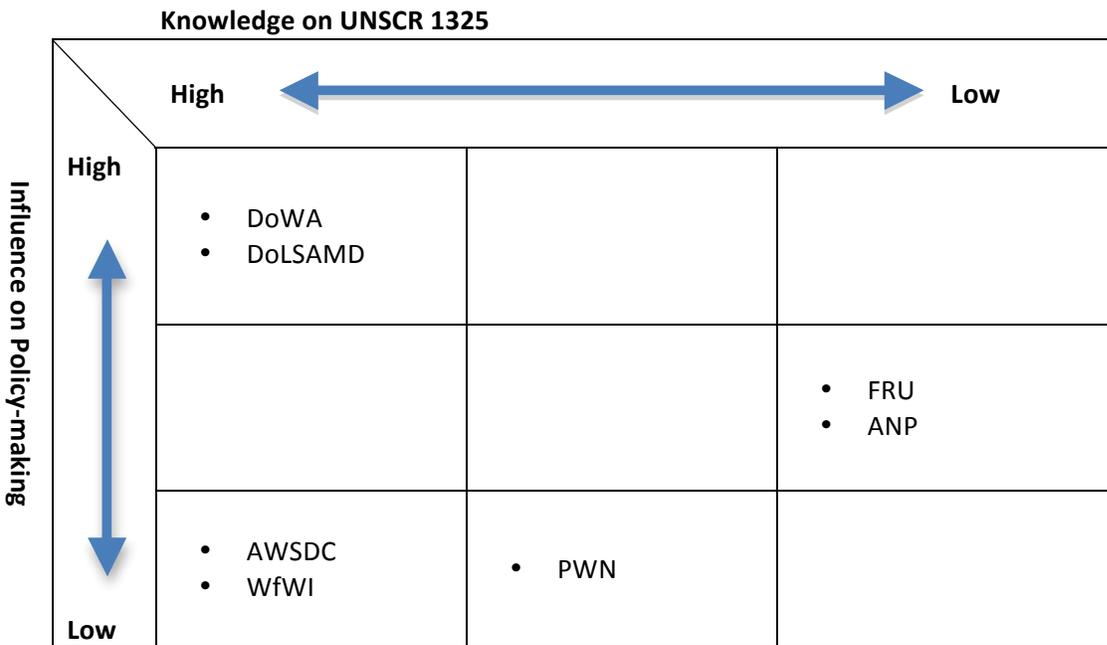
- **Parwan’s Provincial Women’s Network (PWN):** Members of the PWN in Parwan have different degrees of knowledge about UNSCR 1325. Besides being active at the PWNs, all PWN members were engaged in other activities related to women’s peace and security such as participating in seminars, meetings and other formal and informal gatherings on peace and security, through which they gained knowledge of UNSCR 1325. Though much value is assigned to the importance of women’s participation in peace and politics, interviewees pointed to a number of fundamental impeding factors such as traditional conservatism, but also lack of cooperation and support by the government.
- **Department of Women’s Affairs Parwan:** The interviewees from the DoWA in Parwan stated to have knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and its contents. It was also stated that employees of DoWA have never received any trainings on UNSCR 1325 from any external organization and the main source of their knowledge of the Resolution was said to be trainings within the Department. It was also stated that the fact that women in Afghanistan have the right to elect their representatives and be elected as a representative does imply some degree of implementation of the resolution. The DOWA in Parwan

<sup>59</sup> All information on WSFJ is retrieved from “Violence is not Our Culture” (2015), available at: <http://www.violenceisnotourculture.org/partners-foundation-solidarity-justice> (09/10/2015)

stated their efforts in implementing UNSCR 1325 in Parwan is impeded by lack of financial resources and their lack of capacity in the legal department.

- **Department of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyred and Disabled:** Interviewees from DoLSAMD in Parwan stated to have been provided with a document put together by the Department of Justice and AIHRC in which the contents of UNSCR 1325 have been detailed and explained. However, studying the document was not mandatory. No other trainings and workshops on UNSCR 1325 and its implementation in Afghanistan were mentioned.
- **Afghan National Police (ANP) Parwan:** The ANP stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and their main guideline for protection of women’s right has been the EVAW Law.

**Influence/Awareness Matrix of Parwan Province**



- **Family Response Unit (FRU) Parwan:** The FRU stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and their main guideline for protection of women’s right has been the EVAW Law.
- **Afghan Women’s Skills Development Center (AWSDC):** AWSDC is one of the two selected CSOs and it focuses on the needs of Afghan women, including widows and the disabled or chronically ill, and orphan children. The goals of AWSDC are to reduce the suffering of Afghan women and children through promotion of peace and initiation of rehabilitation and development oriented projects reaching the most vulnerable populations in the remote and urban areas of Afghanistan. Currently it is functioning through a central office in Kabul, Afghanistan. It has implemented a number of emergency, relief and development projects involving vocational skills training, literacy, English and computer classes, and providing facilities for informative workshops, resources, networking and collaboration with other organizations.<sup>60</sup> Interviewees from AWSDC stated to be aware of UNSCR 1325 and showed knowledge of its content. Their main source of information on the subject was a one-month training in December 2014 provided to them by Tawanmandi.

<sup>60</sup> All information on AWDC is retrieved from Women Living Under Muslim Law (2015), available at: <http://www.wluml.org/contact/wrrc/content/afghan-women’s-skills-development-centre-awsdc> (09/10/2015)

- **Women for Women International (WfWI):** Similar to AWSDC employees, interviewees from WfWI showed awareness of UNSCR 1325 and its implementation in Afghanistan which was provided to them through internal trainings and workshops.

## **Action Plan: Central Region**

### **Training and Awareness Raising**

In both provinces in, though more so in Parwan than in Kabul, much attention needs to be paid to enhance women's participation in all aspects of peace and security, decision-making and leadership, and the labor market.

Based on the findings from the data, there is a need for awareness trainings and capacity building activities for men and women who are active in peace, politics and civil service in both provinces. The trainings and activities ought to tackle two challenges simultaneously. First, to combat discrimination against women and help create an enabling environment in which women can freely participate and be listened to. Second, to help professionally active women gain the skills and capacity to participate and engage with men more effectively. The trainings that target men ought to be more focused on awareness raising on principles of gender equality and female participation. The trainings that target women ought to contain the awareness raising as well as capacity-building components. UNSCR 1325 as well as NAP 1325 need to be an essential element of the trainings provided to both men and women.

Enhancing women's participation in ANP (Also confidence of the female ANP personnel) and ensuring safe operation of women within the security forces is a priority. Rigorous awareness campaigns are needed to change people's perceptions of women working in the police.

The data shows more awareness to be the most effective measure to reduce violence against women. The PWNs in Kabul and Parwan ought to engage women, but especially prominent men, such as the religious leaders and community elders, in awareness raising projects and trainings.

The stakeholder analysis shows that the FRUs and ANP lack in-depth understanding of UNSCR 1325 and in some instances even the EAW Law. More in Parwan than in Kabul, the ANP and FRU need more training and understanding of EAW-Law as well as NAP 1325.

The use of informal justice is a common practice throughout Afghanistan and the data show that Kabul and more so Parwan, are no exceptions. The procedures of the informal courts are unprofessional and the verdicts are usually described as unjust and skewed in favor of men. The elders presiding over informal courts need rigorous trainings in family law, legal procedures with more emphasis on women's rights.

### **Advocacy**

Structural factors, such as patriarchy, partly caused by traditionalism, but also a history of conflict need to be tackled through rigorous advocacy programs at all levels of society and government. The Provincial Women's Networks in Kabul and Parwan need to engage governmental, non-governmental and civil society organizations at a district, provincial and national level to eliminate discrimination against women and girls in labor market.

Provincial Councils and High- and Provincial- Peace Committees as well as governmental organizations need to set up special provisions to ensure presence and active role of women in agenda-setting and decision making. All decisions made by the councils and committees and policies developed by the government need to have a gender-mainstreaming perspective in their development and implementation activities. This will increase opportunities for women's participation in decision-making and leadership positions. Principles of gender-balancing, as prescribed by UNSCR 1325, need to be institutionalized within all governmental and non-governmental institutions.

Rigorous campaigning is needed to enhance women's participation within the higher ranks of the ANP. These campaign ought to be directed toward the responsible governmental entities as well as the community, where female police officers are stigmatized.

Campaign for inclusion of women's rights issues and elimination of violence against women to be included in post-prayer religious sermons in mosques. Advocate for community elders to be more involved in efforts to prevent violence against women. The advocacy activities ought to be directed toward mosques, community elders, but also the Ministries and Departments of Women's Affairs and Hajj and Religious Affairs to work closely to include issues regarding women's rights in Friday prayer sermons.

Formal judiciary should be the main deterrent for violators of women's rights. However, in both provinces, the formal judiciary is described as corrupt and discriminatory toward women. Effective advocacy, directed toward the Ministries and Departments of Just and Interior as well as the Attorney General's Office, is needed to enhance the quality of justice provided by the formal judiciary. The focus of the advocacy and campaigning ought to be eliminating discrimination of women and girls in need of justice as well as reducing the degree of corruption, of which women are the main victims.

The quality and scope of relief and recovery services delivered to women in Afghanistan come significantly short and need to improve. Advocacy activities should be directed toward the MoLSAMD and DoLSAMDs to enhance the quality of service and provisions delivery to women who are widowed or disabled. The focus of the campaigns should be eliminating corruption and nepotism as well as enhancing the extent and the scope of services and provisions provided.

Ministries and departments of Women's Affairs, Justice and Interior as well as the Attorney General's office should be targeted and approached for enhancing the reintegration mechanisms and services to women who reside in safehouses and female inmates.

Advocacy activities need to be directed toward the ministries and departments of health, education and women's affairs, to increase the number of female doctors in all provinces.

More so in districts of Parwan than in Kabul, awareness campaigns need to take place to change people's perception of girls attending higher education. These advocacy and awareness raising campaigns ought to target the ministries and departments of education, as well as community elders.

## Central Highlands Region: Bamyan and Daikundi

Table 2: Demographic Profile of Central Region

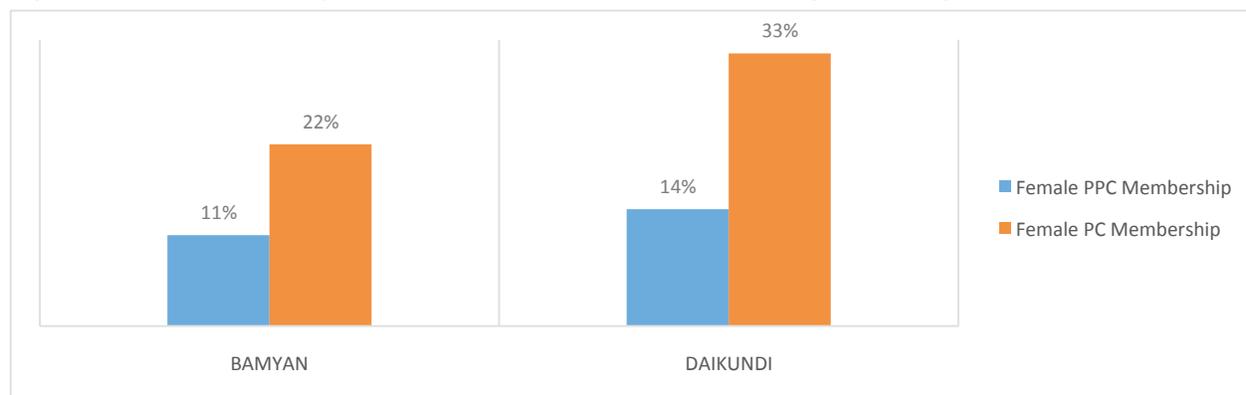
	Bamyan	Daikundi
Population Division	49%	49%
Representation in Provincial Council	22%	33%
Representation in Provincial Peace Council	15%	11%
Percentage of Prisoners	4,1%	11%
Percentage of IDPs in Province	50%	40%
Percentage of teachers	23%	37%
Percentage of Students	45%	45%
Number of Women in ANP	52-54	28

Sources: Data on IDPs are provided by UNHCR/IDP Task Forces data (June 2015), other data are retrieved from CSO (2013/2014)

### Participation

Women in Bamyan and Daikundi are generally believed to be able to participate and contribute to peace process in both provinces. Bamyan is the only monitored province where women's representation at the provincial council exceeds the 20 percent quota (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Women's Participation in Peace and Politics in Central Highlands Region



Daikundi has a female governor, which has inspired many women to engage and participate in politics and leadership.<sup>61</sup> In Bamyan, the interviewees believed that women's participation has increased after the elections, because the electoral debates and campaigning has contributed to women's level of awareness.<sup>62</sup> Despite the optimism, the interviewees believed that there is room for improvement, because women are not listened to the same way that men are and women miss numbers.<sup>63</sup>

In both provinces, women's participation in informal peace processes are said to be significant. However, informal peace processes are generally limited to mediation at family level.<sup>64</sup>

<sup>61</sup> FGD-F-Dai-1, KI-M-Dai-3, KI-M-Dai-2, KI-F-Dai-6, KI-F-Dai-1, KI-M-Dai-6

<sup>62</sup> KI-F-Bam-1, KI-F-Bam-7, KI-F-Bam-2

<sup>63</sup> KI-F-Bam-7, KI-F-Bam-1, FGD-F-Bam-1

<sup>64</sup> KI-F-Bam-7, KI-F-Bam-1, FGD-F-Bam-1

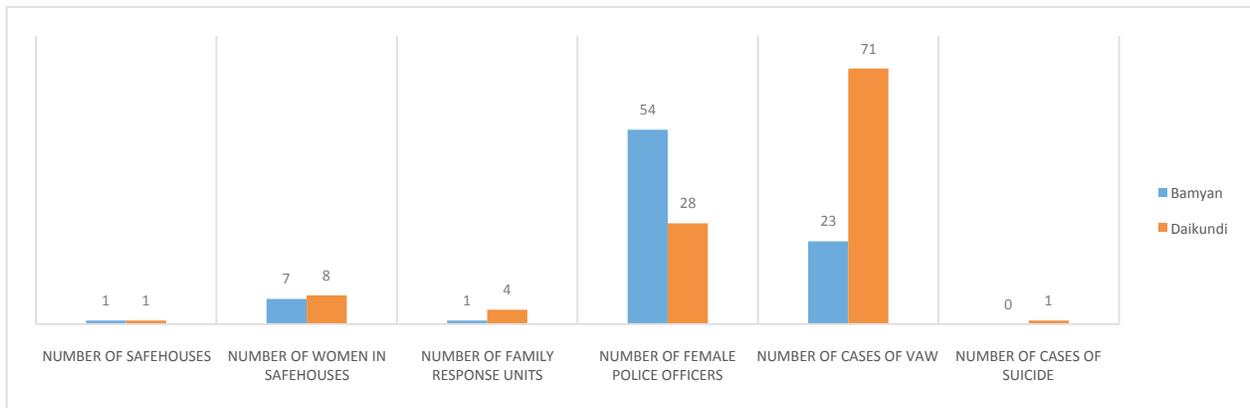
With 29 percent in Daikundi and 17 percent in Bamyan, women’s participation in civil service in both provinces remains limited.<sup>65</sup> The reasons for lack of participation in Daikundi are said to be lack of an enabling environment and some degree of discrimination and patriarchy within the civil service.<sup>66</sup> In Bamyan, where participation is lower, the causes are said to be discrimination, traditional conservatism and political and tribal affiliation and nepotism.<sup>67</sup> Despite complaints of discrimination, women stated to not have witnessed harassment of girls and women in civil service.<sup>68</sup>

The percentage of female ANP personnel remains low in both provinces. The general view of women’s participation in ANP remains largely negative.<sup>69</sup> The main impeding factor for women’s participation in the police force is society’s negative view of policewomen as well as gender discrimination within the police force.<sup>70</sup>

## Prevention

Though there are different structures that ought to protect women, women in Central Highlands still face many challenges in their efforts to combat violence and discrimination (Figure 5).

**Figure 5: A Profile of VAW and Protective Structures**



Source: Number of safehouses and FRUs are provided by DoWA, the number of cases of VAW, cases of suicide and the number of women in safehouses are provided by the AIHRC

Women in Central Highlands are subjected to different kinds of violence, most common ones being forced and underage marriages, physical abuse, verbal threats of physical violence and denying women access to education.<sup>71</sup> Neither in Bamyan, nor in Daikundi, did women complain of bad dadan or exchange of girls. Almost all violence against women happens in the domestic sphere, caused in primarily by lack of awareness, illiteracy, poverty and unemployment.<sup>72</sup>

<sup>65</sup> CSO (2014/2015)

<sup>66</sup> KI-M-Dai-4, KI-F-Dai-1, FGD-F-Dai-1

<sup>67</sup> KI-F-Bam-3, KI-F-Bam-1, KI-F-Bam-5, KI-M-Bam-2, FGD-F-Bam-1

<sup>68</sup> KI-F-Bam-5, KI-F-Bam-7, KI-M-Bam-6, FGD-F-Bam-1

<sup>69</sup> KI-F-Bam-6, FGD-F-Bam-1, KI-F-Dai-7, KI-F-Dai-6

<sup>70</sup> KI-F-Dai-7, KI-F-Dai-6, FGD-F-Dai-1, KI-F-Bam-6, FGD-F-Bam-1,

<sup>71</sup> KI-F-Bam-5, KI-F-Bam-3, FGD-F-Bam-1, KI-F-Dai-1, KI-F-Dai-6, KI-M-Dai-4

<sup>72</sup> KI-F-Dai-5, KI-F-Dai-6, KI-F-Bam-1

In Daikundi, the interviewees stated to not be aware of any organizations or government having taken any special measures to prevent violence against women.<sup>73</sup> In Bamyan however, the interviewees described awareness raising strategies as the main preventive measure.<sup>74</sup> Two interviewees proposed for awareness-raising to be a part of the primary and secondary education in the province.<sup>75</sup>

In both provinces the interviewees complained about the formal institutions not doing enough to prevent violence against women.<sup>76</sup> In Bamyan, it has been stated that violators of women's rights are rarely detained and brought to justice.<sup>77</sup> In Daikundi, though the implementation of the law is commended, the escape of violators of women's rights from detentions has led to people questioning the ANP's capacity in that region.<sup>78</sup>

None of the interviewees have had direct dealings in their work with UNSCR 1325 or the recently launched National Action Plan for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 (NAP 1325). The implementation of Elimination of Violence Against Women (EVAW) law, however, does seem to be more institutionalized within ANP and the FRU.<sup>79</sup>

## Protection

Women's access to formal justice in the Bamyan and Daikundi is described as limited.<sup>80</sup> In Bamyan the police are said to not take women's cases seriously and there are complaints of corruption and discrimination within the formal judiciary.<sup>81</sup> In Daikundi people are generally more satisfied with the attitude of the police and the judiciary.<sup>82</sup> However, many people in Daikundi live in remote areas and there are complaints about lack of access for those people.<sup>83</sup>

The main reasons for lack of access to formal justice in Bamyan, apart from a dysfunctional judiciary, are said to be illiteracy and lack of awareness among women of their rights.<sup>84</sup> In Daikundi, it is the remoteness of the region combined with poverty and lack of resources for transportation.<sup>85</sup>

Women occasionally seek help from the community elders to settle domestic disputes. Though the practice of informal justice in Bamyan and Daikundi is less common than in other monitored provinces.<sup>86</sup> The interviewees in Bamyan and Daikundi, contrary to other provinces, stated to find the decisions of the community elders relatively just.<sup>87</sup>

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<sup>73</sup> KI-F-Dai-6, KI-M-Dai-2, KI-M-Dai-4, KI-M-Dai-3

<sup>74</sup> KI-F-Bam-3, KI-F-Bam-4

<sup>75</sup> KI-F-Bam-5, KI-M-Bam-2

<sup>76</sup> KI-F-Dai-5, FGD-F-Dai-1, KI-M-Dai-4, KI-F-Bam-3, FGD-F-Bam-1

<sup>77</sup> KI-F-Bam-3, FGD-F-Bam-1

<sup>78</sup> KI-M-Dai-2, KI-F-Dai-1, KI-F-Dai-7, KI-M-Dai-3

<sup>79</sup> KI-M-Dai-4, FGD-F-Dai-1, KI-F-Bam-7, KI-F-Bam-1

<sup>80</sup> KI-F-Dai-1, KI-M-Dai-3, KI-M-Dai-2, KI-F-Dai-6, KI-F-Bam-3, FGD-F-Bam-1

<sup>81</sup> KI-F-Bam-3, KI-F-Bam-1, KI-F-Bam-4, FGD-F-Bam-1

<sup>82</sup> KI-M-Dai-4

<sup>83</sup> FGD-F-Dai-1, KI-M-Dai-2, KI-F-Dai-6

<sup>84</sup> KI-F-Bam-5, KI-M-Bam-1

<sup>85</sup> FGD-F-Dai-1, KI-M-Dai-2, KI-F-Dai-6

<sup>86</sup> KI-M-Bam-2, KI-F-Bam-1, KI-F-Bam-6, KI-F-Bam-3, FGD-F-Bam-1, KI-M-Dai-4, KI-F-Dai-1, KI-F-Dai-7

<sup>87</sup> KI-M-Bam-2, KI-F-Bam-3, , KI-M-Dai-4, KI-F-Dai-1

Bamyan and Daikundi each have one safehouse, which is accessible to women whose lives are being threatened.<sup>88</sup> There are no complaints about the accessibility of the safehouses.

The interviewees in both provinces stated that the best way to protect women from violence and abuse is to enhance the level of awareness among the population and strengthen the capacity and quality of the formal judiciary.<sup>89</sup>

## Relief and Recovery

Provisions to widows in Bamyan and Daikundi are limited. In Bamyan the interviewees stated to not know of any provisions to widows, except a monthly allowance of 5,000 Afghanis to widows of war, which is not always delivered to those who deserve it.<sup>90</sup> In Daikundi, the interviewees stated that the transfer of provisions to widows of war is done through bank accounts, but because of corruption and nepotism, much aid is being given to women who are not widows.<sup>91</sup>

Women who have been disabled by war have the right to similar provisions, the height of which depends on their extent of disabilities. However, the disbursement of the funds is impeded by nepotism and corruption.<sup>92</sup>

The interviewees in Daikundi stated to not have large numbers of IDPs in their province, nor are they aware of any IDP camps.<sup>93</sup> In Bamyan however, the interviewees stated that the IDPs in their province have not received any aid from the government and mentioned UNHCR to be the main agency helping the IDPs.<sup>94</sup>

Bamyan and Daikundi each have one safehouse. The conditions at the safe house are said to be improving.<sup>95</sup> Women in both provinces are provided access to health centers and receive basic literacy trainings and different kinds of tailoring courses.<sup>96</sup> Bamyan has a committee in charge of safe return of women and girls from safehouses to their communities, which consists of mediation and monitoring of women's conditions after returning to their houses.<sup>97</sup>

The conditions in prisons in both provinces are said to be poor.<sup>98</sup> The community is generally harsh in their opinions of women who have been in prison.<sup>99</sup> Female inmates in Daikundi are said to lack access to health services and the rooms are described as overcrowded.<sup>100</sup> In Bamyan, though they do have some access to health, the rehabilitation and reintegration mechanisms need improvement as they lack teachers and facilities.<sup>101</sup>

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<sup>88</sup> KI-M-Dai-4, KI-M-Dai-3, KI-M-Dai-2, KI-F-Bam-3, KI-F-Bam-4, KI-F-Bam-5

<sup>89</sup> KI-F-Bam-5, KI-M-Bam-2, KI-M-Dai-4, KI-F-Dai-6

<sup>90</sup> KI-M-Bam-2, KI-F-Bam-3, KI-F-Bam-5

<sup>91</sup> KI-M-Dai-4, KI-F-Dai-1, KI-F-Dai-6

<sup>92</sup> KI-F-Bam-7, KI-F-Bam-5, FGD-F-Bam-1

<sup>93</sup> KI-M-Dai-2, KI-M-Dai-3, KI-F-Dai-6, KI-F-Dai-7

<sup>94</sup> KI-F-Bam-1, KI-F-Bam-3, KI-F-Bam-5

<sup>95</sup> KI-F-Bam-5, KI-F-Bam-1, KI-F-Bam-4, KI-F-Bam-7, KI-M-Dai-4, KI-F-Dai-1, FGD-F-Dai-1

<sup>96</sup> KI-F-Bam-4, KI-F-Bam-7, KI-M-Dai-4, KI-F-Dai-1, FGD-F-Dai-1

<sup>97</sup> KI-F-Bam-5, KI-F-Bam-7

<sup>98</sup> KI-M-Bam-2, KI-F-Bam-7, KI-F-Bam-1, FGD-F-Bam-1, KI-F-Bam-5, KI-KI-F-Dai-7, KI-F-Dai-5, KI-F-Dai-7

<sup>99</sup> KI-F-Bam-3, KI-F-Bam-7, KI-F-Bam-1, KI-F-Bam-6, KI-M-Bam-2, KI-F-Bam-4, FGD-F-Bam-1,

<sup>100</sup> KI-KI-F-Dai-7, KI-F-Dai-5, KI-F-Dai-7

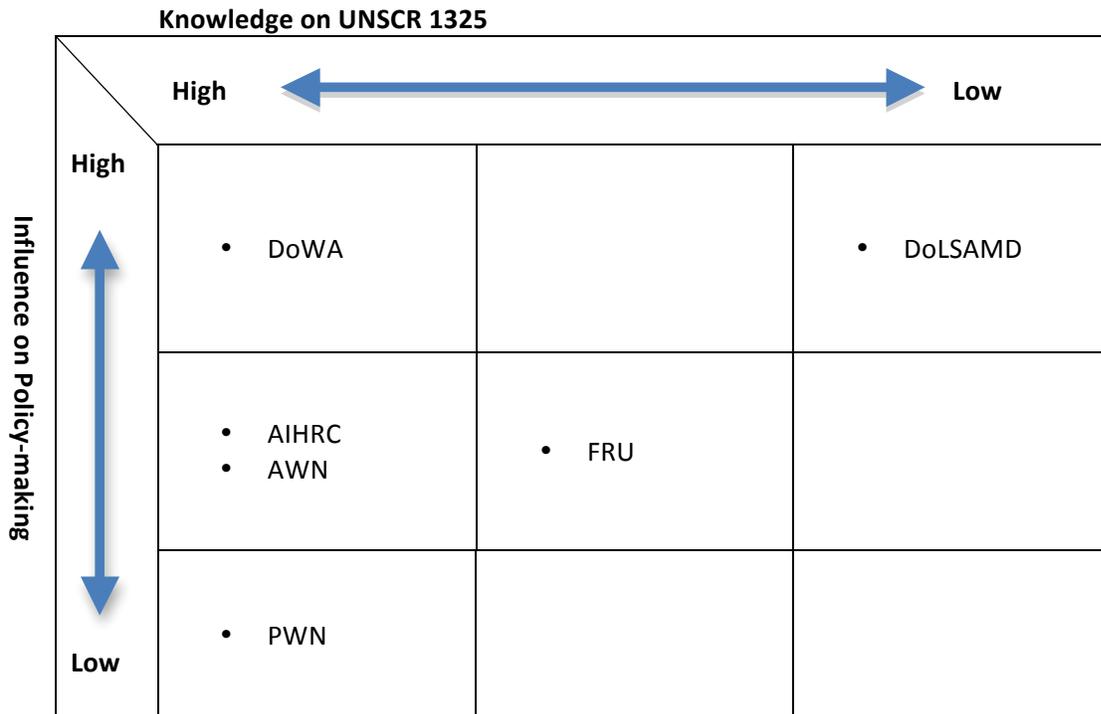
<sup>101</sup> KI-M-Bam-2, KI-F-Bam-7, KI-F-Bam-5, FGD-F-Bam-1

Women’s access to health and education in Bamyan is said to be good. There are clinics in all districts and many villages, which has led to almost all women giving birth in health centers.<sup>102</sup> Despite the access, there are some complaints about lack of medication and personnel.<sup>103</sup> In Daikundi, access to health and education is only limited to those women who live in central areas. Lack of medical personnel, long distances and lack of means of transportation makes health centers practically inaccessible to women in villages and remote districts.<sup>104</sup>

### Bamyan Province Stakeholder Analysis

- **Bamyan’s Provincial Women’s Network (PWN):** Knowledge of UNSCR 1325 among the PWN members of Bamyan is relatively high as most members showed some degree of awareness of the content and intentions of resolution. Some members stated to have received trainings on UNSCR from Afghanistan’s Civil Society and Human Right Network (CSHRN) and showed clearly more knowledge of the subject than others.
- **Department of Women’s Affairs:** The interviewees from the DoWA showed knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and the importance and mechanisms of its implementation.
- **Department of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyred and Disabled:** Interviewees from DoLSAMD stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325, nor have they ever had any trainings on the document and its contents.

### Influence/Awareness Matrix of Bamyan Province



<sup>102</sup> KI-F-Bam-5, KI-F-Bam-6, KI-F-Bam-7, KI-F-Bam-3, KI-F-Bam-4, FGD-F-Bam-1

<sup>103</sup> KI-F-Bam-5, KI-F-Bam-6

<sup>104</sup> FGD-F-Dai-1, KI-M-Dai-2, KI-M-Dai-3

- **Family Response Unity (FRU):** The FRU in Bamyan stated to have had workshops on UNSCR 1325 provided to them by AWN, but that their main guideline for protection of women's right has been the EAW Law.
- **Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC):** Interviewees from AIHRC in Bamyan showed full knowledge of UNSCR 1325. They have been receiving trainings or workshops on UNSCR 1325 for the past three years.
- **Afghan Women's Network (AWN):** The Afghan Women's Network is a non-partisan, non-profit network of women and women's NGOs working to empower Afghan women and ensure their equal participation in Afghan society. The members of the Network also recognize the value and role of children as the future of Afghanistan and, as such, regard the empowerment and protection of children as fundamental to their work. The Network seeks to enhance the effectiveness of its members by fostering partnerships and collaboration between members, undertaking advocacy and lobbying, and building their individual capacities. Beside this, the other core key objective of the AWN is to raise the voice of women to empower them to tackle for their rights and to take active part in the overall arenas of their life.<sup>105</sup> The interviewee from AWN showed knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and stated to have participated in a number of advocacy activities on the subject between 2009 and 2010.
- **Civil Society Assembly (CSA):** Interviewee from CSA showed full awareness of UNSCR 1325 and stated to give extensive workshops and trainings on the Resolution to many governmental and non-governmental organizations.

## Daikundi Province Stakeholder Analysis

- **Department of Women's Affairs Daikundi:** The interviewees from the DoWA in Daikundi stated to have knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and its contents. It was also stated that employees of DoWA have received trainings from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Office for Peace and Democracy in Bamyan province.
- **Department of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyred and Disabled:** Interviewees from DoLSAMD in Daikundi stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325.
- **Afghan National Police (ANP) Daikundi:** The ANP stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and their main guideline for protection of women's right has been the EAW Law.
- **Family Response Unit (FRU) Daikundi:** The FRU stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and their main guideline for protection of women's right has been the EAW Law.
- **Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC):** Interviewees from AIHRC showed significant knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and stated the implementation of the Resolution to be a part of their work.
- **Civil Society and Human Rights Network (CSHRN):** Interviewees from CSHRN in Daikundi showed some degree of awareness on UNSCR 1325. However, the extent of their knowledge was limited to the Resolution being about women in times of conflict. No further details about the content of UNSCR 1325 could be provided.
- **Payam Development and Education Institution (PDEI):** PDEI works to enhance the level of education among the population in Daikundi. Their main aim is to enhance the capacity of other CSOs in Daikundi and increased knowledge of UNSCR 1325 is a part of the trainings that they give to the CSOs. Therefore, the interviewees from PDEI showed significant knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and its implementation in Afghanistan.

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<sup>105</sup> Information on AWN is retrieved from AWN (2015), available at: <http://www.awn-af.net/cms/more/176> (09/13/2015)

## Influence/Awareness Matrix of Daikundi Province

		Knowledge on UNSCR 1325		
		High		Low
Influence on Policy-making	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DoWA</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DoLSAMD</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AIHRC</li> <li>• AWN</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FRU</li> </ul>	
	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PWN</li> </ul>		

## Action Plan: Central Highlands

### Training and Awareness Raising

Findings from the field show that the 2015 Presidential and Provincial Council Elections in Bamyan have created a momentum and enhanced female participation in politics. This momentum ought to be sustained through more politically oriented activities, awareness trainings and workshops. In Bamyan and Daikundi, awareness trainings and capacity building activities for men and women who are active in peace, politics and civil service can be very effective. These activities should focus on teaching women how to be more effective advocates of their cause within the political arena.

Additional awareness trainings and workshops are needed to combat discrimination within the labor market, especially the civil service and the security forces and create an enabling environment for women who are already active within these sectors to promote to higher ranks and participate in decision-making. The trainings that target men ought to be more focused on awareness raising on principles of gender equality and female participation. UNSCR 1325 as well as NAP 1325 need to be an essential element of the trainings provided to both men and women.

Enhancing women's participation in ANP and ensuring safe operation of women within the security forces is a priority. Rigorous awareness campaigns are needed to change people's perceptions of women working in the police.

The data shows awareness, especially among men, to be the most effective measure to reduce violence, most of which is domestic and familial, against women. The PWNs in Central Highlands, especially

Daikundi, ought to engage in extensive awareness campaigns aimed to reduce domestic violence against women. Key actors to direct campaigns toward and have as partners in advocacy and awareness raising are prominent men such as the religious leaders, community elders, men in the higher ranks of the government and security forces (ANP and ANA).

The stakeholder analysis shows that the FRUs and ANP lack in-depth understanding of UNSCR 1325 and in some instances even the EVAW Law. More in Daikundi than in Kabul, the ANP and FRU need more training and understanding of EVAW-Law as well as NAP 1325.

Though the use of informal justice in Bamyan and Daikundi is not as common as other provinces, it still happens. The procedures of the informal courts are unprofessional and the verdicts are usually described as unjust and skewed in favor of men. The elders presiding over informal courts need rigorous trainings in family law, legal procedures with more emphasis on women's rights.

Intensive awareness campaigns are needed to change people's perceptions of female inmate and ex-inmates. Community and religious elders as well as prominent women should be important allies in changing people's perceptions.

## **Advocacy**

Structural factors, partly caused by traditionalism and exacerbated by a history of conflict need to be tackled through rigorous advocacy programs at all levels of society and government. The presence of a female governor in Daikundi has shown to be a source of inspiration for many women who aspire a career in politics and decision-making in the province. Such role models need to engage extensively at a community-level with the aim of enhancing female participation. This also requires engagement of men and campaigning and advocating for a society where men encourage women to actively participate in politics and conflict resolution.

In both Bamyan and Daikundi, campaigning is needed to increase the number of women working for ANP, especially within its higher ranks. These campaign ought to be directed toward the responsible governmental entities as well as the community, where female police officers are stigmatized.

Campaign for inclusion of women's rights issues and elimination of violence against women to be included in post-prayer religious sermons in mosques. Advocate for community elders to be more involved in efforts to prevent violence against women. The advocacy activities ought to be directed toward mosques, community elders, but also the Ministries and Departments of Women's Affairs and Hajj and Religious Affairs to work closely to include issues regarding women's rights in Friday prayer sermons.

Formal judiciary should be the main deterrent for violators of women's rights. However, in both provinces, the formal judiciary is described as inaccessible. In Bamyan, campaigns should be directed toward the ANP to ensure that women's cases are taken seriously and handled accordingly. In Daikundi, campaigns should focus on making the formal judiciary, especially the police, more accessible to women residing the remote districts of the province.

Effective advocacy, directed toward the Ministries and Departments of Just and Interior as well as the Attorney General's Office, is needed to enhance the quality of justice provided by the formal judiciary.

The focus of the advocacy and campaigning ought to be eliminating discrimination of women and girls in need of justice as well as reducing the degree of corruption, of which women are the main victims.

The quality and scope of relief and recovery services delivered to women in Afghanistan come significantly short and need to improve. Advocacy activities should be directed toward the MoLSAMD and DoLSAMDs to enhance the quality of service and provisions delivery to women who are widowed or disabled. The focus of the campaigns should be eliminating corruption and nepotism as well as enhancing the extent and the scope of services and provisions provided.

Ministries and departments of Women's Affairs, Justice and Interior as well as the Attorney General's office need to ensure that women residing in prisons in Bamyan and Daikundi have better access to health and education services as well as improved standard of living. The mentioned institutions need to ensure that there are good reintegration mechanisms for those leaving the safehouses and prisons.

Intensive awareness campaigns are needed to change people's perceptions of female inmate and ex-inmates. Community and religious elders as well as prominent women should be important allies in changing people's perceptions.

Advocacy activities need to be directed toward the ministries and departments of health, education and women's affairs, to increase the number of female doctors in all provinces.

More so in districts of Daikundi than in Bamyan, awareness campaigns need to take place to change people's perception of girls attending higher education. These advocacy and awareness raising campaigns ought to target the ministries and departments of education, as well as community elders.

## Eastern Region: Laghman and Nangarhar

Table 3: Demographic Profile of Eastern Region

	Laghman	Nangarhar
Population Division	49%	49%
Representation in Provincial Council	22%	21%
Representation in Provincial Peace Council	8%	8,0%
Percentage of Prisoners	1,1%	1,1%
Percentage of IDPs in Province	48%	49%
Percentage of teachers	7%	11%
Percentage of Students	46%	40%
Number of Women in ANP	9	50

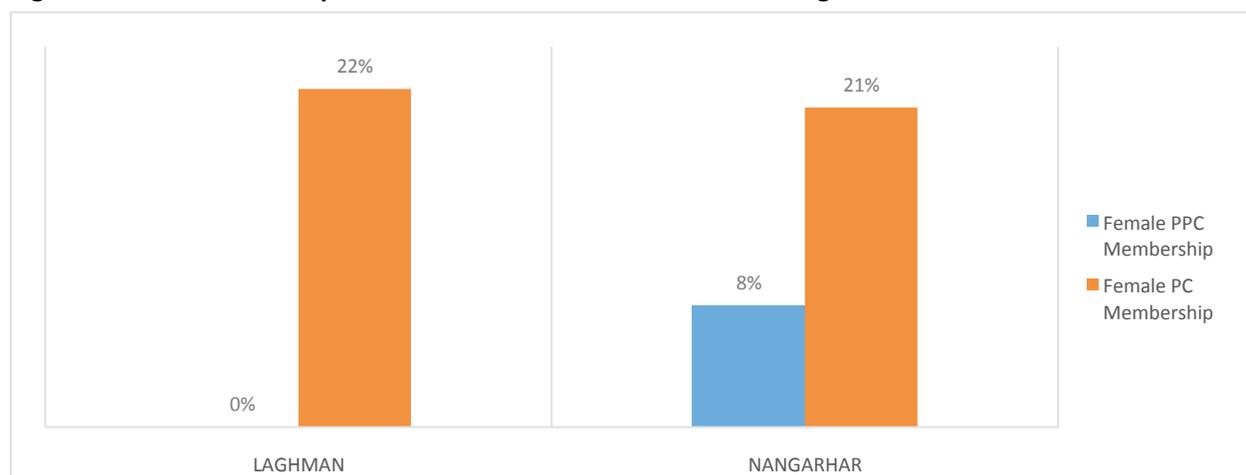
Sources: Data on IDPs are provided by UNHCR/IDP Task Forces data (June 2015), other data are retrieved from CSO (2013/2014)

### Participation

Women's participation in formal peace process in eastern Regions, especially Laghman, is limited (Figure 1). There are no women in PPC in Laghman, because the head of Department of Women's Affairs in the province, who was a member of the PPC has fled the province.<sup>106</sup> Though the PPC in Nangarhar does have two female members, they are not being listened to and their role is described as symbolic.<sup>107</sup> The main reasons for lack of women's participation in peace are said to be lack of security, conservatism and lack of an environment where women are listened to.<sup>108</sup>

In both provinces, women are said to participate more in the informal peace process. However, informal peace processes are generally limited to mediation at family level.<sup>109</sup>

Figure 6: Women's Participation in Peace and Politics in Eastern Region



<sup>106</sup> KI-M-Lagh-6, KI-M-Lagh-2, KI-F-Lagh-1, KI-F-Lagh-5, KI-F-Lagh-4

<sup>107</sup> KI-F-Nan-1, KI-F-Nan-5, KI-M-Nan-3

<sup>108</sup> KI-M-Lagh-2, KI-F-Lagh-4, KI-F-Lagh-5, KI-F-Lagh-7, KI-F-Nan-4, KI-M-Nan-2

<sup>109</sup> KI-F-Nan-1, KI-F-Nan-5, KI-F-Nan-6, KI-F-Lagh-3, KI-M-Lagh-6

Women’s participation in politics in both provinces is limited. Apart from insecurity and lack of awareness, traditionalism is said to be a deterrent for women’s participation in politics as well.<sup>110</sup> Men in both provinces generally do not appreciate women being in public and engaging in political debates.<sup>111</sup>

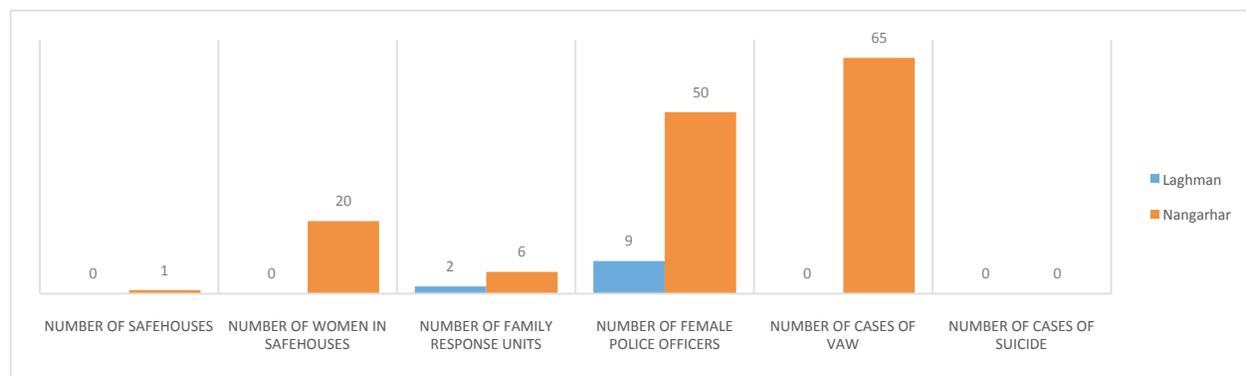
Laghman is among the provinces with the lowest female representation in the civil service in the country, with six percent.<sup>112</sup> In Nangarhar, the heads for the departments of Women’s Affairs, Health, Education, Administrative Reform, and AIHRC are female.<sup>113</sup> Despite holding leadership positions, women are still significantly underrepresented in civil service in the province at 10 percent. The key factor for lack of women’s participation is said to be traditional conservatism, where working women are considered a disgrace for the men in the family.<sup>114</sup> Complaints about discrimination in the labor market and within the civil service were limited to Nangarhar province.<sup>115</sup>

The percentage of female ANP personnel in Eastern Region, especially in Laghman, remains low. Of the nine female police officers in Laghman, three are said to be working in detention centers, while six are employed at the ANP headquarters.<sup>116</sup> All female police officers work in the provincial capital and none in the districts.<sup>117</sup> The main impeding factor for lack of female participation in security forces is said to be lack of the society’s tolerance.<sup>118</sup> In Laghman, lack of security and lack of facilities for female police officers were also mentioned as impedances.<sup>119</sup>

## Prevention

Despite the different structures for protecting women, women in Laghman and Nangarhar continue to face numerous challenges in terms of violence and discrimination (Figure 2).

**Figure 7: A Profile of VAW and Protective Structures**



Source: Number of safehouses and FRUs are provided by DoWA, the number of cases of VAW, cases of suicide and the number of women in safehouses are provided by the AIHRC

<sup>110</sup> KI-F-Lagh-1, FGD-F-Lagh-1, KI-F-Nan-4

<sup>111</sup> KI-F-Lagh-1, FGD-F-Lagh-1, KI-F-Nan-4

<sup>112</sup> CSO (2014/2015)

<sup>113</sup> KI-M-Nan-6, KI-M-Nan-2, KI-F-Nan-5, KI-M-Nan-3

<sup>114</sup> KI-F-Lagh-1, KI-F-Lagh-3, KI-M-Lagh-6

<sup>115</sup> KI-F-KI-M-Nan-2, KI-M-Nan-3, KI-F-Nan-5, KI-F-Nan-4, FGD-F-Nan-1

<sup>116</sup> KI-F-Lagh-7, FGD-F-Lagh-1

<sup>117</sup> KI-F-Lagh-7, FGD-F-Lagh-1

<sup>118</sup> KI-F-Nan-1, KI-F-Nan-5, KI-M-Nan-7, FGD-F-Nan-1

<sup>119</sup> KI-F-Lagh-7, FGD-F-Lagh-1

Women in Laghman and Nangarhar are subjected to different kinds of violence. Physical, verbal and mental abuse, forced and underage marriages and denying access to education and labor market are described as the most common types of violence in both provinces.<sup>120</sup> In Laghman, multiple interviewees complained of Bad Dadan, which is said to be specific to- and common in- Alishang and Alinegar districts.<sup>121</sup> The greatest part of violence against women is of domestic nature, caused in part by poverty, unemployment, drug addiction among men, illiteracy, and traditional conservatism.<sup>122</sup>

The interviewees in Laghman recommended a number of strategies that could prevent violence against women:

The existing laws need to be implemented, security needs to improve, efforts should be centered around preventing violence against women, the sources and causes of violence against women need to be identified and eliminated. These issues should be accompanied by awareness raising strategies. District attorneys, who are specifically in charge of violence against women should be appointed and the appeal court that is active in Laghman and Nangarhar need to be strengthened. There is a need for more defense attorneys and women's rights should be incorporated in the curricula at schools.<sup>123</sup>

Formal efforts to prevent violence against women have not been sufficiently fruitful. In traditional societies of Nangarhar and especially Laghman, women who seek help outside the family are not tolerated by their families and surroundings.<sup>124</sup> The judiciary in Nangarhar is considered as biased and unfair toward women and women's complaints are either not registered at all or taken seriously by the police.<sup>125</sup>

None of the interviewees have had direct dealings in their work with UNSCR 1325 or the recently launched National Action Plan for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 (NAP 1325).

## Protection

Formal judiciary in Laghman and Nangarhar does not have been the salvation for women. In Laghman, the traditional society and poverty as well as lack of awareness among women and lack of judicial institutions are said to be the main reasons why women cannot access formal judiciary.<sup>126</sup> In Nangarhar, the interviewees stated that the formal judiciary is weak when it comes to dealing with powerful individuals such as warlords, which gives them the free hand to get away with any kind of crime, even murder, against women.<sup>127</sup> An important impedance to women's access to justice in Nangarhar is traditionalism.<sup>128</sup>

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<sup>120</sup> FGD-F-Lagh-1, KI-F-Lagh-5, KI-F-Lagh-4, KI-M-Lagh-2, KI-F-Nan-6, KI-F-Nan-5, KI-F-Nan-3, KI-M-Nan-2

<sup>121</sup> KI-F-Lagh-1, KI-M-Lagh-1, FGD-F-Lagh-1

<sup>122</sup> KI-F-Lagh-4, KI-F-Lagh-5, KI-F-Lagh-1, KI-F-Lagh-7, KI-M-Lagh-2, KI-M-Lagh-6, KI-F-Nan-6, KI-F-Nan-3

<sup>123</sup> KI-F-Lagh-4, similar views confirmed by: KI-F-Lagh-5, KI-F-Lagh-1, KI-F-Lagh-7, KI-M-Lagh-2, KI-M-Lagh-6

<sup>124</sup> KI-F-Lagh-1, KI-F-Lagh-7, KI-M-Lagh-2, KI-F-Nan-1, FGD-F-Nan-1

<sup>125</sup> KI-F-Nan-4

<sup>126</sup> KI-F-Lagh-1, KI-F-Lagh-7, KI-M-Lagh-2

<sup>127</sup> KI-F-Nan-4

<sup>128</sup> KI-F-Nan-1, KI-F-Nan-4, FGD-F-Nan-1

Due to the mentioned impeding factors, especially traditional conservatism, most women in Laghman and Nangarhar resort to informal justice, where arbitration is done by community elders.<sup>129</sup> The proceedings and verdicts of informal courts have been criticized and described as often unfair.<sup>130</sup>

There are no safehouses in Laghman and women's whose lives are being threatened or are being subjected to extreme violence are kept at a safehouse in Jalalabad.<sup>131</sup> In Nangarhar, there is a safehouse for women whose lives are being threatened. Victims are granted shelter in the safehouses upon approval from DoWA, AIHRC, WAW and AIBA.<sup>132</sup>

## Relief and Recovery

In Laghman the interviewees complained of corruption within the formal institutions in charge of aid disbursement to widows of war.<sup>133</sup> In Nangarhar, the DoWA stated DoLSAMD to have 1,000 registered widows and women with disabilities who are provided with a salary and some repatriation trainings.<sup>134</sup> Other interviewees however, stated that no provisions are given to women who are widows or disabled.<sup>135</sup>

In Laghman, women with disabilities are said to receive prosthetics from the Department of Health and non-governmental organizations are said to have taken steps to help reintegrate disabled women into the labor market.<sup>136</sup>

Most IDPs in provincial capital of Laghman are from Alishang and Alinegar districts of the province.<sup>137</sup> According to the interviewees in both provinces, the government has not provided any special to any groups within the IDP community.<sup>138</sup> The limited resources, such as tents and emergency aid, that the IDPs in the province have received have been delivered to them by UNHCR and NRC. Most IDPs in both provinces reside with families and relatives instead of IDP camps.<sup>139</sup>

There are no safehouses in Laghman. In Nangarhar, the conditions inside the safehouses are generally described as good.<sup>140</sup> Women are said to have proper nutrition and receive some vocational trainings as well as Koran lessons.<sup>141</sup> However, no special reintegration mechanisms have been mentioned.

Female inmates in both provinces are said to reside in good conditions, with access to health services, proper nutrition and TV.<sup>142</sup> As reintegration mechanism, women in prisons are provided with literacy

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<sup>129</sup> KI-F-Nan-4, KI-F-Nan-1, KI-M-Nan-2, KI-F-Lagh-7, KI-M-Lagh-6, KI-M-Lagh-2, FGD-F-Lagh-1

<sup>130</sup> KI-F-Lagh-1, KI-F-Lagh-4, KI-M-Lagh-8

<sup>131</sup> KI-M-Lagh-6, KI-M-Lagh-2, KI-F-Lagh-1, KI-F-Lagh-7, FGD-F-Lagh-1

<sup>132</sup> KI-F-Nan-1, FGD-F-Nan-1

<sup>133</sup> KI-M-Lagh-6, KI-M-Lagh-2, KI-F-Lagh-7, KI-F-Lagh-5, KI-F-Lagh-4, FGD-F-Lagh-1

<sup>134</sup> KI-F-Nan-6

<sup>135</sup> KI-F-Nan-5, KI-M-Nan-3, KI-M-Nan-7

<sup>136</sup> KI-F-Lagh-3, KI-M-Lagh-8

<sup>137</sup> FGD-F-Lagh-1, KI-M-Lagh-8, KI-F-Lagh-7, KI-F-Lagh-1

<sup>138</sup> FGD-F-Lagh-1, KI-M-Lagh-8, KI-F-Lagh-7, KI-F-Lagh-1

<sup>139</sup> KI-F-Lagh-1, KI-F-Lagh-3, KI-F-Lagh-7, KI-F-Nan-1

<sup>140</sup> KI-F-Nan-1, KI-F-Nan-5, KI-F-Nan-6, KI-M-Nan-7, FGD-F-Nan-1

<sup>141</sup> KI-F-Nan-1, KI-F-Nan-5, KI-F-Nan-6, KI-M-Nan-7, FGD-F-Nan-1

<sup>142</sup> KI-F-Nan-1, KI-F-Nan-5, KI-M-Nan-7, FGD-F-Nan-1, FGD-F-Lagh-1, KI-F-Lagh-2, KI-M-Lagh-4

courses as well as trainings in tailoring and other vocational skills.<sup>143</sup> However, most women reside in prisons with their children. The children in prisons have very limited mobility and access to education.<sup>144</sup>

In Laghman, women living in urban or central areas have more access to health than those living in rural areas.<sup>145</sup> Though there are health centers, but the prime impedance for women's access to health in rural areas is said to be lack of awareness.<sup>146</sup> In Nangarhar, women in central as well as rural areas have more access to health and the attitude of the health personnel is described as professional.<sup>147</sup> The main complaint about access to health in both provinces is the lack of high quality medication.<sup>148</sup>

Access to education for women in Laghman and Nangarhar is limited by traditionalism and lack of security.<sup>149</sup> Girls in Alishang and Alinegar districts of Laghman province have limited access to primary- and practically no access to higher- education because of insecurity.<sup>150</sup> Similar cases have been mentioned in districts of Nangarhar province, though the major limiting factor there is said to be traditionalism.<sup>151</sup>

### Laghman Province Stakeholder Analysis

- **Department of Women's Affairs Paktia:** The interviewees from the DoWA in Laghman showed knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and stated that trainings on the issue have been provided to them by AWRC.
- **Department of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyred and Disabled:** Interviewees from DoLSAMD in Laghman had no knowledge of UNSCR 1325.
- **Afghan National Police (ANP):** The ANP in Laghman stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and their main guideline for protection of women's right has been the EAW Law.
- **Youth Health and Development Organization (YHDO):** YHDO primary focus is to offer a range of services to Afghan youth and other marginalized groups in the wider society. YHDO aims to improve living conditions and promote healthy lifestyle among young people. The interviewee from YHDO stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and to not have received any trainings on the issue.
- **Afghan Women's Network (AWN):** Interviewees from AWN Laghman stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and to not have received any training on the matter.

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<sup>143</sup> KI-F-Nan-1, KI-F-Nan-5, KI-M-Nan-7, FGD-F-Nan-1, FGD-F-Lagh-1, KI-F-Lagh-2, KI-M-Lagh-4

<sup>144</sup> KI-F-Lagh-3, KI-M-Lagh-1

<sup>145</sup> FGD-F-Lagh-1, KI-F-Lagh-7, KI-M-Lagh-6, KI-M-Lagh-2

<sup>146</sup> KI-F-Lagh-4

<sup>147</sup> KI-F-Nan-4, KI-F-Nan-6, KI-M-Nan-7, FGD-F-Nan-1

<sup>148</sup> FGD-F-Lagh-1, KI-M-Lagh-8, KI-M-Nan-3

<sup>149</sup> KI-F-Nan-1, KI-F-Nan-5, KI-M-Nan-3, KI-F-Lagh-5, FGD-F-Lagh-5

<sup>150</sup> FGD-F-Lagh-1, KI-M-Lagh-6

<sup>151</sup> KI-F-Nan-1, KI-F-Nan-5, KI-M-Nan-3

## Influence/Awareness Matrix of Laghman Province

**Knowledge on UNSCR 1325**

		High	←————→	Low
Influence on Policy-making	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DoWA</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DoLSAMD</li> </ul>
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AWN</li> <li>• ANP</li> </ul>
	Low			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• YHDO</li> </ul>

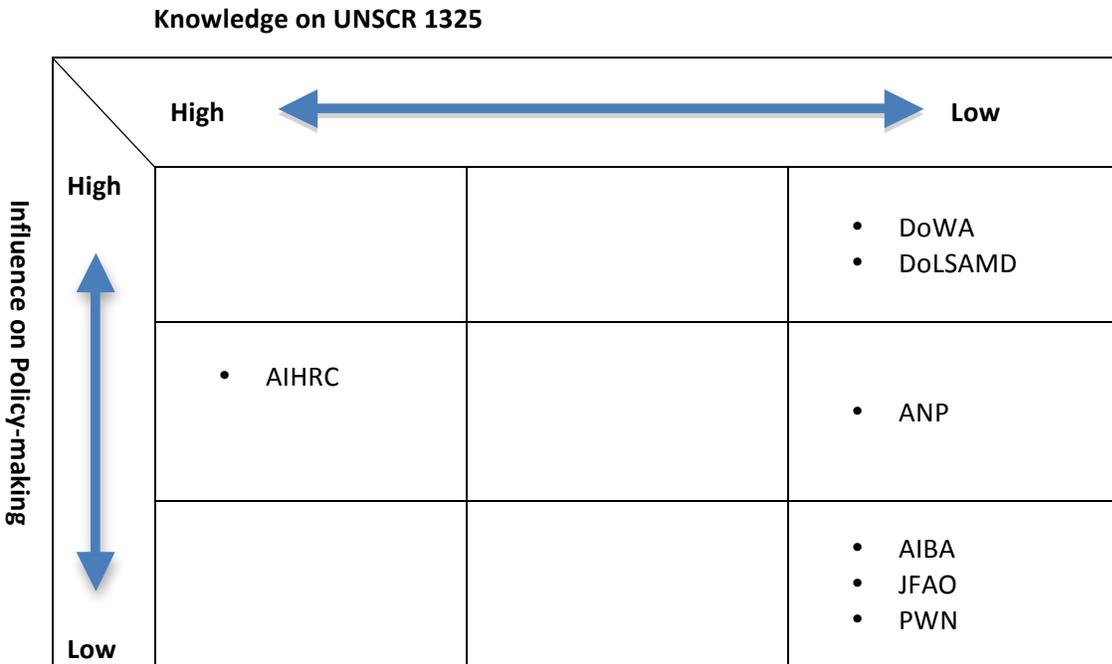
## Nangarhar Province Stakeholder Analysis

- **Provincial Women’s Network (PWN) Nangarhar:** Members of the PWN in Nangarhar stated to have almost no knowledge of UNSCR 1325. Nor have they had any trainings or workshops on the issue.
- **Department of Women’s Affairs Nangarhar:** The interviewees from the DoWA in Nangarhar stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325.
- **Department of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyred and Disabled:** Interviewees from DoLSAMD in Nangarhar stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325.
- **Afghan National Police (ANP) Nangarhar:** The ANP in Kama as well as Behsood districts of Nangarhar stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and their main guideline for protection of women’s right has been the EAW Law.
- **Family Response Unit (FRU) Nangarhar:** The FRU in Nangarhar stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and their main guideline for protection of women’s right has been the EAW Law.
- **Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC):** Interviewee from AIHRC in showed some knowledge of UNSCR 1325, but it was mainly achieved through self-study.
- **Women for Afghan Women (WAW):** WAW is a grassroots, human rights organization aimed to secure and protect the rights of disenfranchised Afghan women and girls in Afghanistan and New York. Particularly the right to develop individual potential, self-determination, and representation in political, social, cultural and economic arenas.<sup>152</sup> Interviewee from WAW stated to not have any knowledge of UNSCR 1325. It was however mentioned that the Afghan NAP 1325 is not being implemented because of lack of capacity of the government
- **Afghan Women’s Educational Center (AWEC):** AWEC aims to “Establishing an environment free of violence and discrimination, enabling women and children to access their human rights within the

<sup>152</sup> All information on WAW is retrieved from “Women for Afghan Women” (2015), available at: <http://www.womenforafghanwomen.org> (09/11/2015)

country, based on concepts of civil society democracy, justice and gender equity.” 153 The interviewee from AWEC stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325.

### Influence/Awareness Matrix of Nangarhar Province



### Action Plan: Eastern Region

#### Training and Awareness Raising

Women’s participation at all levels of the society in Eastern Provinces, especially Laghman, is relatively low. When provisions provided to employees or activists are scarce, women suffer more than men. The society and more specifically the communities in these provinces, which generally are sensitive to issues concerning women, need tailor-made strategies to enhance women’s participation in peace, politics, civil service and decision-making and leadership. Men, who are active in peace, politics and civil service in all four provinces need trainings on principles of gender-mainstreaming and gender-equality.

The trainings and activities ought to create an enabling environment in which women can participate and be listened to and also help professionally active women gain the skills and capacity to participate and engage with men more effectively. The trainings that target men ought to be more focused on awareness raising on principles of gender equality and female participation. The trainings that target women ought to contain the awareness raising as well as capacity-building components. EAW Law, UNSCR 1325 as well as NAP 1325 need to be an essential element of the trainings provided to both men and women.

<sup>153</sup> Information on AWEC is retrieved from “Pax Populi: The Peace of the People” (2015), available at: <http://www.paxpopuli.org/voices-for-peace/afghan-womens-educational-center-awec/#sthash.yzX0zS54.dpbs> (09/11/2015)

Enhancing women's participation in ANP and ensuring safe operation of women within the security forces is a priority. Rigorous awareness campaigns are needed to change people's perceptions of women working in the police.

The data show that women in Eastern Provinces are subjected to all kinds of violence, some of which approved by the informal or tribal courts. The procedures of the informal courts are unprofessional and the verdicts are usually described as unjust and skewed in favor of men. Awareness has generally been considered to be the most effective measure to reduce violence against women. Community and religious leaders, especially those presiding over informal courts need rigorous trainings on the implications of violence against women, as well as the principles of EAW- and family law.

The stakeholder analysis shows that the FRUs and ANP lack in-depth understanding of UNSCR 1325 and in some instances even the EAW Law. More in Parwan than in Kabul, the ANP and FRU need more training and understanding of EAW-Law as well as NAP 1325.

## **Advocacy**

All efforts should be made to ensure that there is female representation at the Provincial Council in Laghman. This requires close cooperation from the ANP and ALP in the province to ensure the safety and security of female PC members as well as collaboration with local community and religious leaders to enhance awareness among the community members. Provincial Councils and Provincial Peace Committees as well as governmental organizations need to set up special provisions to ensure presence and active role of women in agenda-setting and decision making.

The Provincial Women's Networks in Laghman and Nangarhar need to engage religious leaders and governmental, non-governmental and civil society organizations at a district, provincial and national level to eliminate discrimination against women and girls and institutionalize some sort of gender justice in the four southern provinces.

All decisions made by the Provincial Councils and Peace Committees and policies developed by the government need to have a gender-mainstreaming perspective in their development and implementation activities. Principles of gender-balancing, as prescribed by UNSCR 1325, need to be institutionalized within all governmental and non-governmental institutions.

Women working for the police in Eastern provinces lack numbers and hold the lowest possible ranks, without any prospects of a promotion. Rigorous campaigning is needed to enhance women's participation ANP. This especially applies to having women in higher ranks of the ANP. These campaign ought to be directed toward the responsible governmental entities as well as the society, where female police officers are stigmatized.

Provincial Women's Networks in Laghman and Nangarhar provinces need to partner-up with the religious leaders and community elders and advocate against violence against women. The advocacy activities also ought to be directed toward the Ministries and Departments of Women's Affairs and Hajj and Religious Affairs to work closely to include issues regarding women's rights in Friday prayer sermons.

Formal judiciary in Laghman and Nangarhar is more a deterrent for women seeking justice than the violators of women's rights. It is described as institutions where practices of nepotism, corruption and

gender discrimination are common. Effective advocacy, directed toward the Ministries and Departments of Justice and Interior as well as the Attorney General's Office, is needed to enhance the quality of justice provided by the formal judiciary. The focus of the advocacy and campaigning ought, in the first place, to be on enhancing women's access to the police and empowering the FRUs to be more effective and, secondly, eliminating discrimination of women and girls in need of justice as well as reducing the degree of corruption, of which women are the main victims.

The quality and scope of relief and recovery services delivered to women need to improve. Advocacy activities should be directed toward the MoLSAMD and DoLSAMDs to enhance the quality of service and provisions delivery to women who are widowed or disabled. The focus of the campaigns should be eliminating corruption and nepotism as well as enhancing the extent and the scope of services and provisions provided.

Though more in Laghman, there is a need for well-equipped safehouses in both provinces. Advocacy activities for enhanced conditions for women in safehouses and prisons need to be directed toward the ministries and departments of Justice, Interior and women's affairs as well as the Attorney's Office.

Ministries and departments of Women's Affairs, Justice and Interior as well as the Attorney General's office should be targeted and approached for enhancing the reintegration mechanisms and services to women who reside in safehouses and female inmates.

Advocacy activities need to be directed toward the communities to accept women's needs for health and educational services as well as toward the ministries and departments of health, education and women's affairs, to increase the number of female doctors and female teachers in all provinces and districts.

## Western Region: Herat

Table 4: Demographic Profile of Herat Province

	Male	Female
Population Division	51%	49%
Representation in Provincial Council	79%	21%
Representation in Provincial Peace Council	90%	10%
Percentage of Prisoners	95%	5%
Percentage of IDPs in Province	51%	49%
Percentage of teachers	51%	49%
Percentage of Students	51%	49%
Number of Women in ANP	Classified	170

Sources: Data on IDPs are provided by UNHCR/IDP Task Forces data (June 2015), other data are retrieved from CSO (2013/2014)

### Participation

All interviewees in Herat expressed their confidence in women's ability to participate in -and contribute to- the political decision-making and peace process. Despite the optimism, women's participation is limited with female membership of (Provincial) Peace Councils being described as symbolic.<sup>154</sup> Three out of 29 members of the Provincial Peace Council and four out of 19 members of the Provincial Council are women.<sup>155</sup>

The lack of female participation in peace and politics is attributed to the AOG's unwillingness to talk to women, traditional conservatism, lack of security and the lack of an enabling environment.<sup>156</sup>

With 40 percent, Herat has one of the highest percentage of female participation in civil service.<sup>157</sup> However, the interviewees stated that women in civil service, only fill administrative positions and do not participate at a decision-making level.<sup>158</sup> There are complaints of discrimination in the work place, where men perceive women to be less capable. The conservative nature of the society, especially in rural areas, impede women's participation in civil service and labor market in general.<sup>159</sup>

Though women's participation in ANP is said to have improved, there is insufficient number of female ANP personnel in Herat.<sup>160</sup> The main impeding factor for women's participation in ANP are said to be traditional conservatism and discrimination and violence within the police force, where women are not promoted and not given any authority.<sup>161</sup>

<sup>154</sup> KI-F-Herat-5, FGD-F-Herat-1

<sup>155</sup> Pajhwak (2014) and IEC (2014)

<sup>156</sup> KI-F-Herat-4, KI-M-Herat-3, KI-F-Herat-6, KI-F-Herat-7, KI-M-Herat-2, FGD-F-Herat-1

<sup>157</sup> CSO (2014/2015)

<sup>158</sup> KI-F-Herat-7, KI-F-Herat-4, KI-M-Herat-2, KI-M-Herat-2

<sup>159</sup> FGD-F-Herat-1, KI-F-Herat-6, KI-F-Herat-5

<sup>160</sup> FGD-F-Herat-1, KI-F-Herat-7, KI-M-Herat-2, KI-F-Herat-6

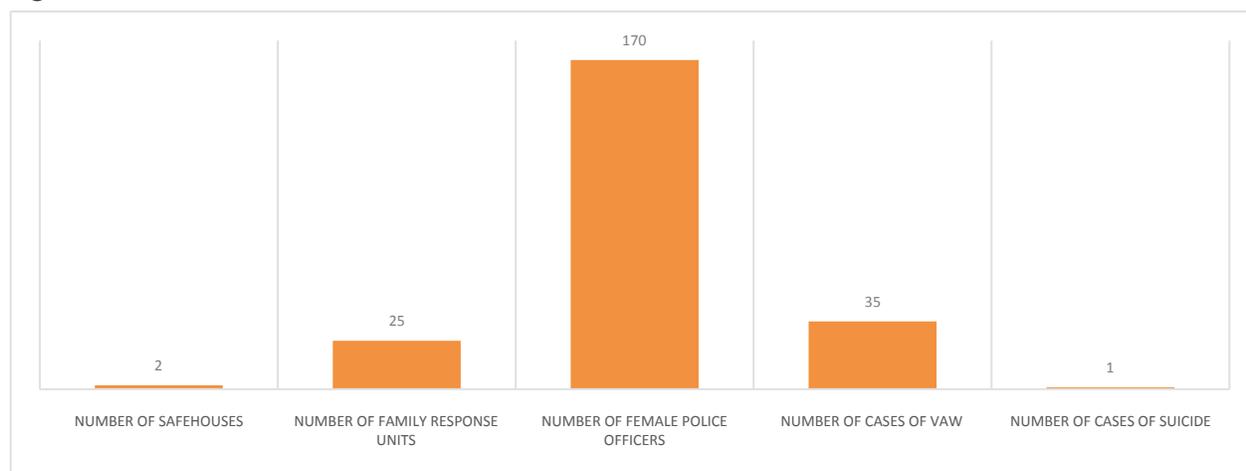
<sup>161</sup> KI-F-Herat-5, KI-F-Herat-4, KI-F-Herat-1, KI-M-Herat-3, FGD-F-Herat-1

## Prevention

Though there are different structures that ought to protect women, women in Herat still face many challenges in combating violence and discrimination (Figure 6).

Women in Herat are subjected to different kinds of violence, most common ones being physical abuse and injuries, verbal threats of physical violence, forced and underage marriages, exchange of girls and denying women alimony.<sup>162</sup> Some interviewees also mentioned cutting of women's body parts and self-immolation, which has traditionally been common in Herat, as types of violence against women in Herat.<sup>163</sup> One of the interviewees stated to have witnessed incidents of *bad dadan*, which are uncommon in Herat.<sup>164</sup>

**Figure 8: A Profile of VAW and Protective Structures**



Source: Number of safehouses and FRUs are provided by DoWA, the number of cases of VAW, cases of suicide and the number of women in safehouses are provided by the AIHRC

Many interviewees described awareness raising through media and religious leaders as the most effective instrument in preventing violence against women.<sup>165</sup> Proposed measures for prevention of violence consist of implementation of the existing laws and emancipatory measures, where women have more employment opportunities, allowing them to contribute to the economy at a macro- and a micro level.<sup>166</sup>

Formal efforts to prevent violence against women are not very effective, especially in rural areas, where the societies are generally more traditional, with little government presence.<sup>167</sup> The formal judicial and governmental organizations are said to not function ideally and there are some complaints of corruption.<sup>168</sup>

<sup>162</sup> KI-F-Her-5, KI-F-Her-1, KI-F-Her-4, KI-F-Her-6, FGD-F-Her-1

<sup>163</sup> KI-F-Her-7, KI-F-Her-5

<sup>164</sup> KI-F-Her-7, Bad dadan is the practice of using girls and women as retribution in cases of conflict between tribes or families

<sup>165</sup> KI-F-Her-7, KI-F-Her-1, KI-F-Her-3, KI-F-Her-4, FGD-F-Her-1

<sup>166</sup> KI-M-Her-2, KI-F-Her-4, KI-M-Her-3, FGD-F-Her-1

<sup>167</sup> KI-F-Her-5, KI-M-Her-3, FGD-F-Her-1

<sup>168</sup> KI-F-Her-7, KI-F-Her-1, KI-M-Her-2, KI-M-Her-3

The interviewees stated not to deal directly with UNSCR 1325, the recently launched National Action Plan, or its implementation. The implementation of EAW law, however, is more institutionalized, and the police generally operates within the guidelines outlined in the EAW Law.<sup>169</sup>

## Protection

Access to formal judiciary for women in Herat remains limited. Women living in urban areas and having awareness about their rights, have some access to the formal judiciary in Herat.<sup>170</sup> For those living in rural areas, the formal judiciary is described as practically non-existent.<sup>171</sup> The main impeding factor for women's access to justice are said to be lack of awareness, discrimination by the judiciary and the police and traditionalism.<sup>172</sup>

Because of lack of access to formal judiciary in rural areas, women and families usually resort to services provided by community elders in informal judicial settings. The informal courts are described as being solely presided by men and discriminatory, unfair and unjust toward women:

They never listen to women or take women's words in consideration. None of their decisions are taken in favor of female victims. They are all men and have do not know much about conditions of women. Their attitude is violent and there is no one who can defend the woman.<sup>173</sup>

Women who face threats of violence in Herat can access safe houses. The conditions in these safe houses are described as women-friendly and women can stay there for as long as they feel it is safe for them to leave and/or have an alternative safe residence.<sup>174</sup>

## Relief and Recovery

There are no special provisions or policies regarding divorcees and disabled women of Herat. Provisions provided to widows are limited to those who have lost their husbands in battle as a member of the ANA.<sup>175</sup> The attitude of government employees toward war widows collecting their benefits is described as uncooperative and there are complaints of corruption.<sup>176</sup>

The IDPs residing in Herat are provided with tents and some land for agriculture, though no special provisions or measures are mentioned to female IDPs in the province.<sup>177</sup> Lack of security and mistrust between the host communities and the IDPs have limited the interaction between the IDPs and the host communities.<sup>178</sup>

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<sup>169</sup> KI-F-Her-6, KI-F-Her-7, KI-M-Her-2, FGD-F-Her-1

<sup>170</sup> KI-F-Her-4, KI-F-Her-5

<sup>171</sup> KI-F-Her-4, KI-F-Her-5

<sup>172</sup> KI-F-Her-3, KI-F-Her-7, KI-F-Her-4, KI-F-Her-5, FGD-F-Her-1

<sup>173</sup> KI-F-Her-1, KI-F-Her-4, KI-F-Her-5, KI-F-Her-6, FGD-F-Her-1

<sup>174</sup> KI-F-Her-1, KI-F-Her-3, KI-F-Her-5, KI-F-Her-7, KI-M-Her-3

<sup>175</sup> KI-F-Her-1, KI-F-Her-7

<sup>176</sup> KI-F-F-Her-4, KI-M-Her-2

<sup>177</sup> KI-F-Her-1, KI-M-Her-1, FGD-F-Her-1

<sup>178</sup> KI-F-Her-5, KI-F-Her-7, KI-M-Her-3, FGD-F-Her-1

The conditions inside the safehouses in Herat are said to have improved.<sup>179</sup> AIHRC is said to monitor the safehouses regularly and women get basic vocational trainings and attention is paid to their diet and clothing.<sup>180</sup> However, due to traditionalism, many in Herat are against the existence of safehouses.<sup>181</sup>

The general conditions of women's prison in Herat is described as below standard and in need of improvement.<sup>182</sup> Women used to have a prison of their own, which was newly built by the foreign forces in the province, but due to rise in criminality and numbers of male inmates, that prison is now being used for men and women are detained in an old prison where the conditions are bad.<sup>183</sup> Inmates are said to not have proper access to their lawyers and their diet and clothing need improvement.<sup>184</sup> However, female inmates do get some basic vocational trainings to become beauticians and tailors.<sup>185</sup>

Women in the cities generally have more access to health services than those living in rural areas.<sup>186</sup> The single impeding factor for women's access to health is said to be lack of female doctors.<sup>187</sup> The society is generally acceptant of women seeking medical help.<sup>188</sup>

Girls' and women's access to education in Herat has improved significantly over the last number of years.<sup>189</sup> However, traditionalism remains the main impeding factor, especially in rural areas where girls are not allowed to go to school after grade 9.<sup>190</sup> The number of literacy courses in rural areas is said to have increased along with the number of attendees.<sup>191</sup>

## Herat Province Stakeholder Analysis

- **Herat's Provincial Women's Network (PWN):** Members of the PWN in Herat stated to have some knowledge of UNSCR 1325. However, their extent of knowledge about the content of the Resolution seemed limited. Some stated to have been hearing about the Resolution, but not know exactly what it is about. They have also expressed the need to know more about UNSCR 1325 and stated to not have had any trainings on the issue.
- **Department of Women's Affairs Herat:** The interviewees from the DoWA in Herat had no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 nor have they received any trainings on the subject.
- **Department of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyred and Disabled:** Interviewees from DoLSAMD in Herat stated to have limited to no knowledge of UNSCR 1325.
- **Afghan National Police (ANP) Herat:** The heads of ANP in Injil and Guzara districts of Herat province stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325.
- **Family Response Unit (FRU) Herat:** The FRU in Herat stated to have some knowledge of UNSCR 1325, which they have obtained on their own without any formal trainings and workshops.

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<sup>179</sup> KI-F-Her-1, KI-F-Her-4, KI-F-Her-6, KI-F-Her-7, FGD-F-Her-1

<sup>180</sup> KI-F-Her-1, KI-F-Her-4, KI-F-Her-6, KI-F-Her-7, FGD-F-Her-1

<sup>181</sup> KI-F-Her-5

<sup>182</sup> KI-F-Her-4, KI-F-Her-6, KI-F-Her-5, KI-M-Her-2, KI-M-Her-3

<sup>183</sup> KI-F-Her-5, KI-F-Her-6

<sup>184</sup> KI-F-Her-5

<sup>185</sup> KI-M-Her-2, KI-M-Her-3

<sup>186</sup> KI-F-Her-1, KI-M-Her-2, KI-M-Her-3

<sup>187</sup> KI-F-Her-4

<sup>188</sup> KI-F-Her-5, KI-M-Her-2, KI-M-Her-3

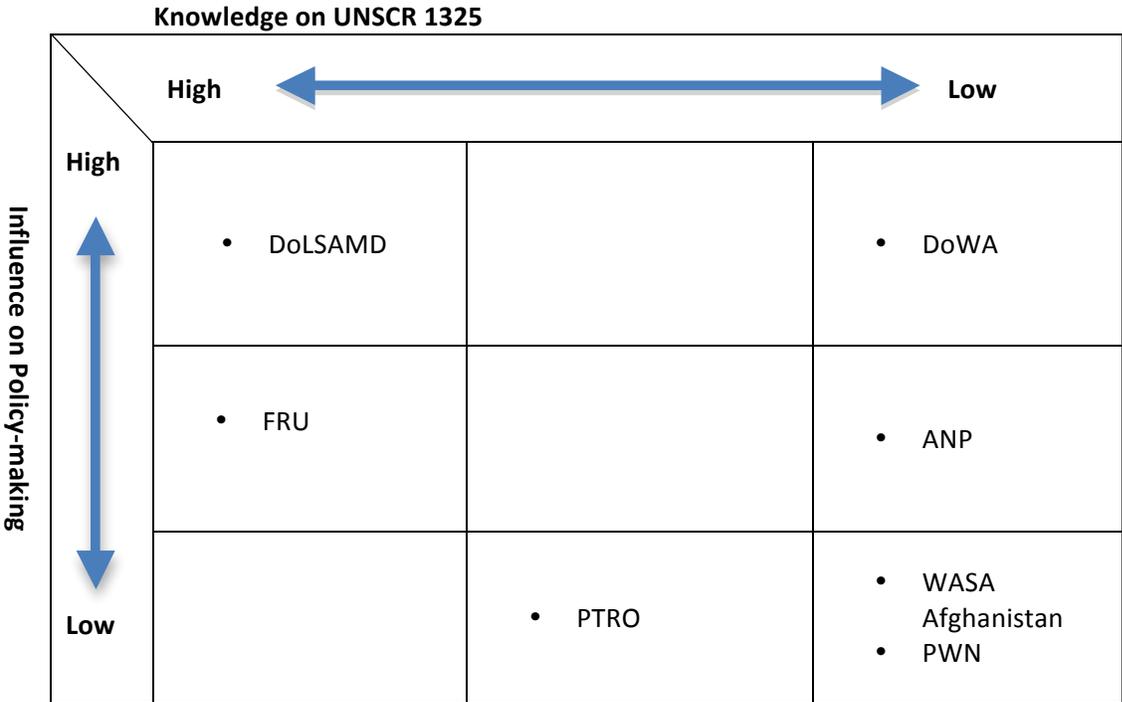
<sup>189</sup> KI-F-Her-5, KI-F-Her-6

<sup>190</sup> KI-M-Her-3

<sup>191</sup> KI-F-Her-1, KI-M-Her-2, FGD-F-Her-1

- **WASA Afghanistan (WASA):** Interviewees from WASA in Herat stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and not to have received any training on the matter.
- **Peace Training and Research Organization (PTRO):** PTRO is an Afghan NGO based in Kabul. It works on peace, conflict and justice issues, and provides training in peace building and good governance. It also conducts research for national and international governmental organizations, NGOs and national bodies, to inform policy and provide a deeper understanding of the relevant issues. The interviewees from PTRO indicated did posses knowledge of UNSCR 1325. However, they did say to not have received any training on the issue.

**Influence/Awareness Matrix of Herat Province**



**Action Plan: Western Region**

**Training and Awareness Raising**

Findings from the field show that women’s participation in peace and politics in Herat is impeded by insecurity, lack of an enabling environment and traditionalism, where male community elders do not appreciate women operating in public. Awareness trainings and capacity building activities for men and women who are active in peace, politics and civil service can be effective. These activities should focus on teaching women how to be more effective advocates of their cause within the political arena as well as teaching male members of the community and civil service and politics about the importance of female participation in public affairs.

Awareness trainings are needed in Herat to combat discrimination within the civil service and the security forces and create an enabling environment for women who are already active within these sectors to promote to higher ranks and participate in decision-making. The trainings need to target men as much as they target women and should be more focused on awareness raising on principles of

gender equality and female participation. UNSCR 1325 as well as NAP 1325 need to be an essential element of the trainings provided to both men and women.

Enhancing women's participation in ANP and ensuring safe operation of women within the security forces is a priority. Rigorous awareness campaigns are needed to change people's perceptions of women working in the police.

The PWN, especially in rural areas of Herat, needs to engage in extensive awareness campaigns aimed to reduce domestic violence against women. Key actors to direct campaigns toward and have as partners in advocacy and awareness raising are prominent men such as the religious leaders, community elders, men in the higher ranks of the government and security forces (ANP and ANA).

The stakeholder analysis shows that the FRUs and ANP lack in-depth understanding of UNSCR 1325 and in some instances even the EVAW Law. More in Daikundi than in Kabul, the ANP and FRU need more training and understanding of EVAW-Law as well as NAP 1325.

The verdicts of the informal courts are described as unjust and biased toward men. The elders presiding over informal courts need rigorous trainings in family law, legal procedures with more emphasis on women's rights.

## **Advocacy**

Structural factors, partly caused by traditionalism and exacerbated by a history of conflict need to be tackled through rigorous advocacy programs at all levels of society and government.

In Herat, especially the rural areas, campaigning is needed to increase the number of women working for ANP, especially within its higher ranks. These campaign ought to be directed toward the responsible governmental entities as well as the society, where female police officers are stigmatized.

Campaign for inclusion of women's rights issues and elimination of violence against women to be included in post-prayer religious sermons in mosques. Advocate for community elders to be more involved in efforts to prevent violence against women. The advocacy activities ought to be directed toward mosques, community elders, but also the Ministries and Departments of Women's Affairs and Hajj and Religious Affairs to work closely to include issues regarding women's rights in Friday prayer sermons.

In Herat, the formal judiciary is described as inaccessible. Campaigns should be directed toward the ANP to ensure that women's cases are taken seriously and handled accordingly.

Effective advocacy, directed toward the Ministries and Departments of Just and Interior as well as the Attorney General's Office, is needed to enhance the quality of justice provided by the formal judiciary. The focus of the advocacy and campaigning ought to be eliminating discrimination of women and girls in need of justice as well as reducing the degree of corruption, of which women are the main victims.

The quality and scope of relief and recovery services delivered to women in Afghanistan come significantly short and need to improve. Advocacy activities should be directed toward the MoLSAMD and DoLSAMDs to enhance the quality of service and provisions delivery to women who are widowed or

disabled. The focus of the campaigns should be eliminating corruption and nepotism as well as enhancing the extent and the scope of services and provisions provided.

Female inmates in Herat have been transferred to an old facility, where the conditions are described as dire, while their new, more suitable facility has been given to male inmates. Ministries and departments of Women's Affairs, Justice and Interior as well as the Attorney General's office need to ensure that women residing in prisons have better access to health and education services as well as improved standard of living. The mentioned institutions need to ensure that there are good reintegration mechanisms for those leaving the safehouses and prisons.

Advocacy activities need to be directed toward the ministries and departments of health, education and women's affairs, to increase the number of female doctors in Herat, this especially applies to rural areas of the province.

## Northern Region: Badakhshan, Balkh, Faryab and Kunduz

**Table 5: Demographic Profile of Central Region**

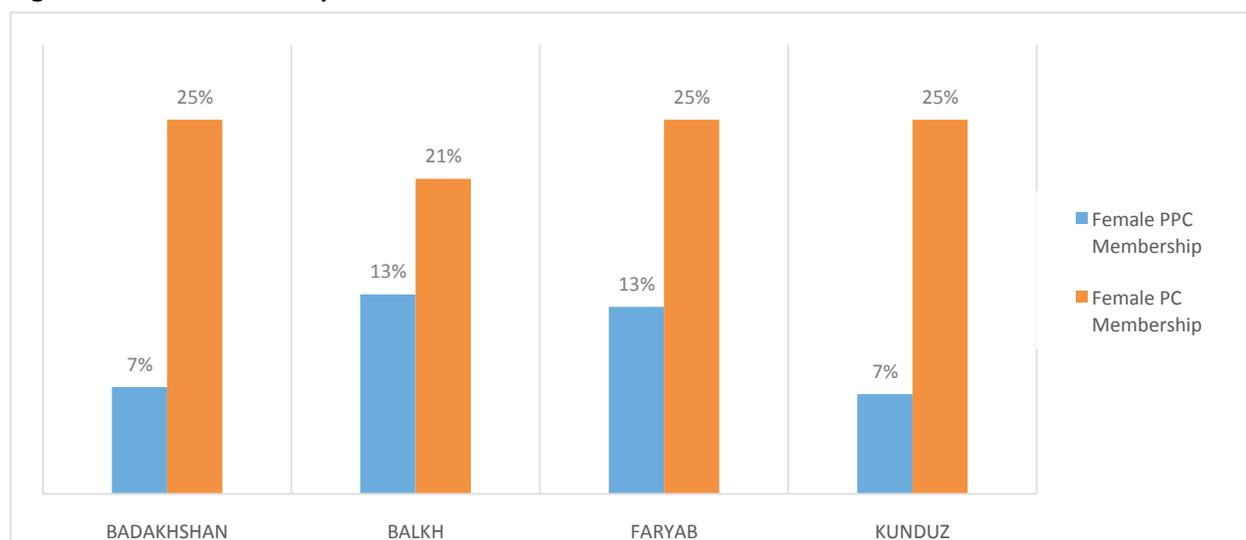
	Badakhshan	Balkh	Faryab	Kunduz
Population Division	49%	49%	50%	49%
Representation in Provincial Council	20%	21%	33%	20%
Representation in Provincial Peace Council	8%	10%	9%	6,7%
Percentage of Prisoners	4%	7,4%	2%	4%
Percentage of IDPs in Province	50%	51%	49%	50%
Percentage of teachers	31%	54%	37%	28%
Percentage of Students	46%	46%	29%	39%
Number of Women in ANP	27	122	40	44

Sources: Data on IDPs are provided by UNHCR/IDP Task Forces data (June 2015), other data are retrieved from CSO (2013/2014)

### Participation

There is a general consensus among the interviewees that women are capable of participating and contributing to the formal as well as informal peace process. Despite the optimism, women's participation in formal peace and political process in in all four provinces remains low (Figure 7).

**Figure 9: Women's Participation in Peace and Politics in Northern Provinces**



Reasons for lack of women's participation in Northern Regions is primarily conservatism and patriarchy.<sup>192</sup> Female representatives lack numbers, male PPC members do not listen to them and the AOG is unwilling to talk to them directly, which limits women's contribution significantly. Faryab was the only province where the interviewees specifically mentioned a declining role for women in peace due to deteriorating security situation and heightened conservatism.<sup>193</sup>

<sup>192</sup> KI-F-Bad-1, KI-F-Bad-4, KI-F-Bad-9, KI-M-Bad-2, KI-M-Bad-2, KI-M-Bal-2, KI-M-Bal-4, KI-M-Bal-6, KI-F-Bal-5, KI-F-Far-1, KI-F-Far-3, KI-F-Kun-1, KI-F-Kun-2, KI-M-Kun-1, KI-M-Kun-4

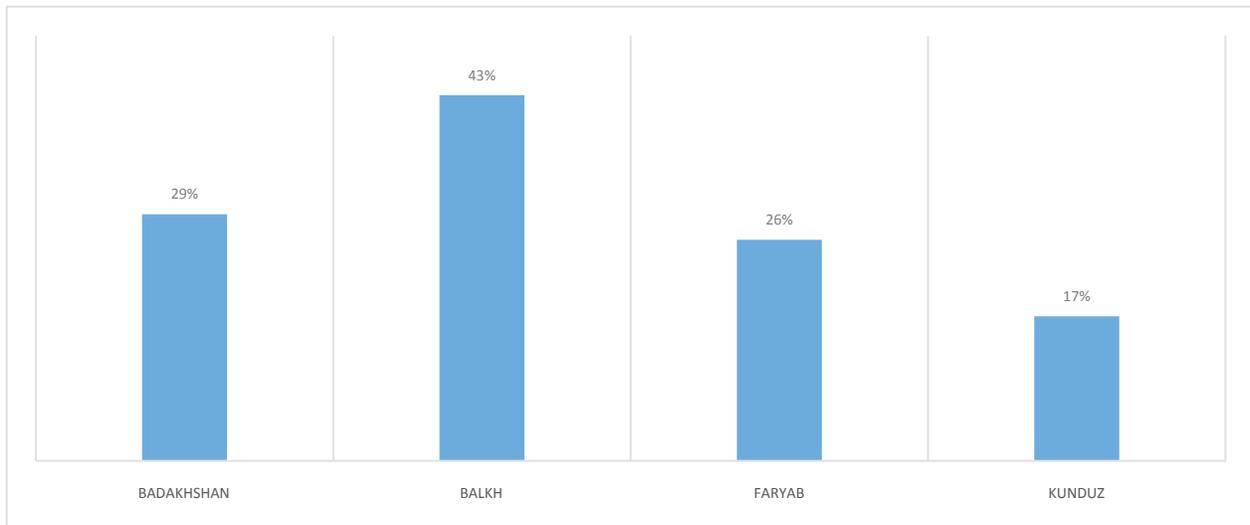
<sup>193</sup> KI-F-Far-1, KI-F-Far-3

In all provinces, people generally find women’s contribution in the informal peace process to be more significant.<sup>194</sup> At a community or familial level, women’s words are generally taken more seriously and women are more involved in their children’s upbringing.

In Badakhshan, women stated that with three women from the province in the Parliament and the Senate, they feel well-represented at a national level.<sup>195</sup> At a provincial level however, they complained that women’s participation is impeded by conservatism and discrimination.<sup>196</sup> Similar statements were made by interviewees from other provinces, where women’s participation in politics is described as very limited.<sup>197</sup>

Women’s participation in the civil service in Northern provinces is highest in Balkh and lowest in Kunduz (Figure 8). Despite the high participation, the interviewees in Balkh complained of unequal treatment of women.<sup>198</sup> In Badakhshan, the interviewees stated that women are not listened to and no capacity-building efforts have been directed toward women.<sup>199</sup> In Kunduz, the main impeding factor was said to be men’s attitude towards women working and their fear of women taking over men’s positions.<sup>200</sup> In all provinces, there were complaints of discrimination of women in civil service.<sup>201</sup> In none of the provinces did women complain of harassment at workplace.

**Figure 10: Women's Participation in Civil Service in Northern Region**



Source: CSO (2014/2015)

In all provinces, the number of women within ANP remains low (Table 4). The main impeding factor for women’s participation within the police force in all provinces is said to be the society’s attitude toward

<sup>194</sup> KI-M-Bad-2, KI-M-Bal-2, KI-F-Far-3, KI-F-Kun-1, KI-F-Kun-2

<sup>195</sup> KI-F-Bad-1, KI-F-Bad-5, KI-F-Bad-6, KI-F-Bad-9, KI-M-Bad-2, KI-M-Bad-3, KI-M-Bad-7, KI-M-Bad-8

<sup>196</sup> FGD-F-Bad-1, KI-F-Bad-1, KI-F-Bad-5, KI-F-Bad-6, KI-F-Bad-9,

<sup>197</sup> FGD-F-Bal-1, KI-F-Far-2, KI-F-Far-4, KI-F-Kun-1, KI-M-Kun-4

<sup>198</sup> FGD-F-Bal-1, KI-F-Bal-1

<sup>199</sup> KI-M-Bad-3, KI-F-Bad-4, FGD-F-Bad-1, KI-M-Bad-2, KI-M-Bad-7, KI-M-Bad-7

<sup>200</sup> FGD-F-Kun-1, KI-F-Kun-2

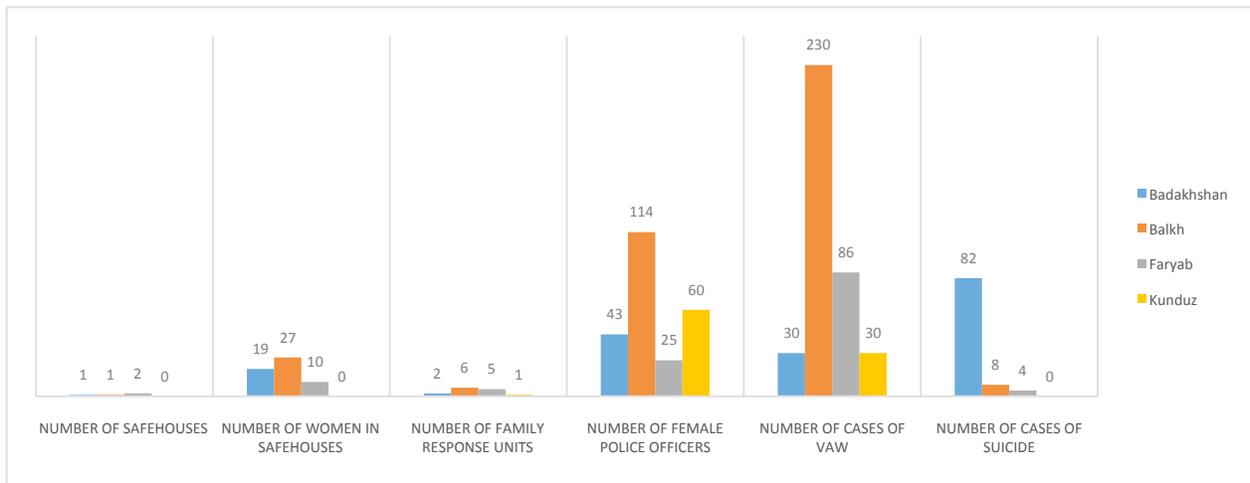
<sup>201</sup> KI-F-Bad-4, FGD-F-Bad-1, FGD-F-Bal-1, KI-F-Bal-1, KI-F-Far-3, KI-F-Far-5, FGD-F-Kun-2

policewomen.<sup>202</sup> Though in Faryab and Kunduz, the interviewees stated to have witnessed some improvements in society's attitude.<sup>203</sup> In all provinces, the interviewees stated that women within the police force are subjected to discrimination. Badakhshan is the only province where interviewees specifically mentioned harassment of female police officers by their male colleagues.<sup>204</sup>

## Prevention

Though there are different structures that ought to protect women, women in Northern provinces still face many challenges and shortcomings in their efforts to combat violence and discrimination (Figure 2).

**Figure 11: A Profile of VAW and Protective Structures**



Source: Number of safehouses and FRUs are provided by DoWA, the number of cases of VAW, cases of suicide and the number of women in safehouses are provided by the AIHRC

The most common types of violence that the interviewees in all provinces complained about were physical, verbal and psychological abuse of women and forced and underage marriages leading to escaping from homes.<sup>205</sup> Economic violence such as denying alimony are specifically mentioned in Badakhshan and Kunduz.<sup>206</sup> The main causes of violence against women are said to be lack of awareness and poverty.<sup>207</sup>

No methods of preventing VAW have been mentioned. However, the interviewees in all provinces stated that more awareness-raising and capacity-building activities as well as better implementation of the law would decrease the extent of violence against women significantly.<sup>208</sup> In Badakhshan, the interviewees specifically mentioned that marriages should be done in courts and the rights of the

<sup>202</sup> FGD-F-Bad-1, KI-F-Bad-5, KI-F-Bad-9, KI-M-Bal-4, KI-M-Bal-6, KI-F-Far-4, KI-F-Far-2, FGD-F-Kun-1

<sup>203</sup> KI-F-Far-2, KI-F-Far-4, KI-M-Kun-5, KI-M-Kun-3, KI-M-Kun-2

<sup>204</sup> FGD-F-Bad-1, KI-F-Bad-5, KI-F-Bad-9

<sup>205</sup> KI-F-Bad-4, KI-F-Bad-5, KI-F-Bad-9, KI-F-Bal-1, KI-M-Bal-7, FGD-F-Bal-1, KI-F-Far-1, KI-F-Far-2, KI-F-Far-4, KI-F-Kun-1, KI-F-Kun-2

<sup>206</sup> FGD-F-Bad-1, KI-F-Bad-6, KI-M-Bad-2, KI-F-Kun-2, KI-M-Kun-1

<sup>207</sup> KI-F-Bad-5, KI-F-Bad-9, KI-F-Bal-1, KI-M-Bal-7, FGD-F-Bal-1, KI-F-Far-1, KI-F-Far-2, KI-F-Far-4, KI-F-Kun-1, KI-F-Kun-2

<sup>208</sup> KI-M-Bad-2, KI-M-Bad-3, KI-M-Bad-7, KI-F-Bad-4, KI-F-Bad-6, KI-F-Bad-7, KI-M-Bal-1, KI-M-Bal-4, KI-F-Bal-1, KI-F-Far-1, KI-F-Far-2, KI-F-Far-3, KI-F-Far-7, KI-F-Kun-2, FGD-F-Kun-1

woman should be recording in the marriage certificate.<sup>209</sup> The registration would give women leverage to combat violence as well as ensure that no underage marriages take place.

In Badakhshan, the interviewees believed that women did have access to the police and that the violators of women's rights are punished more often than not.<sup>210</sup> In Kunduz however, the deteriorating security situation since 2014 has limited women's mobility, which includes limitations to women's access to justice.<sup>211</sup> In Faryab and Kunduz, the interviewees mentioned corruption and lack of implementation of existing laws as deterrence to women seeking help from the formal judiciary.<sup>212</sup>

In all provinces, the interviewees found the police to be generally aware of EVAW law. However, there is a belief that more training on the law could be useful.<sup>213</sup>

## Protection

According to the interviewees, the formal justice system shows significant shortcomings when it comes to protecting women. In Badakhshan, Faryab and Kunduz the interviewees stated that women in districts have practically no access to the formal judiciary due to lack of services at a local level and lack of logistical means to reach the center.<sup>214</sup> In Balkh, Faryab and Kunduz the interviewees stated discrimination and bad attitude of the formal judiciary toward women as the main deterrent for women appealing to formal justice.<sup>215</sup>

In all provinces, the interviewees stated that women generally lack awareness to approach judicial institutions and would not be able to appeal to the formal judiciary without any assistance from the local CSOs.<sup>216</sup>

The use of informal justice, especially for the resolution of domestic cases, is more common and accessible. In all provinces, the use of informal justice is said to be more common in districts and rural areas, where societies are more traditional and formal judiciary less accessible. In Badakhshan and Balkh, the interviewees stated that people generally abide by the decisions made by the elders and if there is no consensus, then they seek help from the formal judiciary.<sup>217</sup> In Faryab, the interviewees attributed the popularity of informal courts to the formal judiciary's incompetence and lack of delivery.<sup>218</sup> In Kunduz, the interviewees stated that the use of informal justice is more common in areas where the AOG has the upper hand, making it hard for the formal judiciary to operate.<sup>219</sup>

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<sup>209</sup> KI-F-Bad-1, KI-F-Bad-4, KI-F-Bad-6, KI-F-Bad-7, KI-M-Bad-2, KI-M-Bad-3, KI-M-Bad-7

<sup>210</sup> KI-F-Bad-1, KI-F-Bad-2, KI-F-Bad-6, KI-F-Bad-9, FGD-F-Bad-1, KI-M-Bad-2, KI-M-Bad-3, KI-M-Bad-7, KI-M-Bad-8

<sup>211</sup> KI-F-Kun-2, KI-F-Kun-2, FGD-F-Kun-1, KI-M-Kun-4

<sup>212</sup> KI-F-Far-1, KI-F-Far-3, KI-F-Kun-1, KI-M-Kun-2, KI-M-Kun-3, KI-M-Kun-5

<sup>213</sup> KI-F-Bad-4, FGD-F-Bad-1, FGD-F-Bal-1, KI-F-Bal-1, KI-F-Far-3, KI-F-Far-5, FGD-F-Kun-2

<sup>214</sup> KI-F-Bad-1, KI-F-Bad-4, KI-F-Bad-6, KI-M-Bad-8, FGD-F-Far-1, KI-F-Far-1, KI-F-Far-2, KI-F-Far-3, KI-F-Kun-2, FGD-F-Kun-1, KI-M-Kun-2, KI-M-Kun-5

<sup>215</sup> KI-F-Bal-1, FGD-F-Bal-1, KI-M-Bal-3, KI-M-Bal-4, KI-M-Bal-6, FGD-F-Far-1, KI-F-Far-1, KI-F-Far-2, KI-F-Far-3, KI-F-Kun-2, FGD-F-Kun-1, KI-M-Kun-2, KI-M-Kun-5

<sup>216</sup> KI-F-Bad-1, KI-F-Bad-4, KI-F-Bad-6, KI-M-Bad-8, FGD-F-Far-1, KI-F-Far-1, KI-F-Kun-2, FGD-F-Kun-1

<sup>217</sup> KI-F-Bad-1, KI-F-Bad-5, FGD-F-Bal-1, KI-M-Bal-3

<sup>218</sup> KI-F-Far-1, KI-F-Far-3

<sup>219</sup> KI-F-Kun-2, FGD-F-Kun-2, KI-M-Kun-2, KI-M-Kun-5

Badakhshan, Balkh and Faryab each have one safe house for the entire province. The safehouse in Kunduz closed down after the fall of the city and its residents have been moved to either Takhar or Kabul provinces.<sup>220</sup> At the time of writing, the safehouse in Kunduz has not reopened.

## Relief and Recovery

There are no special provisions for widows in general in any of the four provinces. Though the law does require the DoLSAMD in all provinces to provide widows of war with some salary, there is much complaint about the corruption, nepotism and quality of service delivery. In all provinces, the interviewees added that the provisions are sometimes provided to those who do not have the right to receive it, while those who rightfully claim their benefits are not helped.<sup>221</sup>

Disabled women ought to receive a monthly salary from the government as well. The level of the benefits and provisions depend on the extent of the disability. However, just as the provisions provided to the widows of war, the delivery of the service is subjected to corruption and fraud, leading to many not receiving their benefits.<sup>222</sup>

Of the four provinces monitored in the North, Kunduz has witnessed the highest number of conflict-induced displacement, caused by the AOGs take-over of the provincial capital in late September/early October 2015. No benefits or provisions especially assigned for female IDPs have been mentioned. The interviewees stated that the IDPs generally reside with relatives.<sup>223</sup> Those residing in IDP camps receive some aid from UNHCR and WFP, which is not enough as most of them do not even have access to drinking water.<sup>224</sup>

Women residing in the safehouse in Badakhshan and Faryab are said to have access to health services as well as receiving tailoring, weaving and literacy classes.<sup>225</sup> In Balkh, in addition to vocational and literacy trainings, the safehouse has a kindergarten where children stay during the day and spend the nights with their mothers.<sup>226</sup> The society's attitude toward women residing in safehouses is generally negative, which deters many women from seeking refuge in the safehouses.<sup>227</sup> No mention was made of follow-up procedures ensuring women's safety after their departure from safehouses.

In Badakhshan, as a reintegration mechanism, female inmates are taught carpet weaving, in addition to tailoring and literacy trainings.<sup>228</sup> The general conditions in women's prison in Faryab and Kunduz are said to be good as well.<sup>229</sup> In Balkh, there were complaints about the conditions of female inmates. There are no vocational or literacy trainings provided and the quality of food and residence are said to be below standard.<sup>230</sup>

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<sup>220</sup> KI-F-Kun-2, KI-F-Kun-1

<sup>221</sup> KI-M-Bad-2, KI-M-Bad-3, FGD-F-Bad-1, KI-F-Bad-6, KI-F-Bal-5, KI-M-Bal-3, KI-M-Bal-4, KI-F-Far-1, KI-F-Far-3, FGD-F-Kun-1, KI-M-Kun-2

<sup>222</sup> KI-M-Bad-2, KI-M-Bad-3, KI-F-Bad-6, KI-M-Bal-3, KI-M-Bal-4, KI-F-Far-1, KI-F-Far-3, FGD-F-Kun-1, KI-M-Kun-2

<sup>223</sup> KI-M-Kun-2

<sup>224</sup> KI-M-Kun-2, KI-M-Kun-3, KI-M-Kun-4, KI-M-Kun-5, FGD-F-Kun-2, KI-F-Kun-2

<sup>225</sup> KI-F-Bad-1, KI-F-Bad-5, KI-F-Bad-6, KI-F-Bad-9, KI-M-Bad-2

<sup>226</sup> FGD-F-Bal-1, KI-F-Bal-1, KI-M-Bal-6, KI-M-Bal-7

<sup>227</sup> FGD-F-Bal-1, KI-F-Bal-1, KI-M-Bal-6, KI-M-Bal-7

<sup>228</sup> KI-F-Bad-1, KI-F-Bad-6, KI-F-Bad-9, FGD-F-Bad-1

<sup>229</sup> KI-F-Far-5, KI-F-Far-7, KI-F-Far-6, KI-M-Kun-2, KI-M-Kun-3, KI-M-Kun-4, KI-F-Kun-2

<sup>230</sup> KI-F-Bal-5, KI-M-Bal-4, KI-M-Bal-7

In all provinces, women stated to have limited access to health services. Women living in districts have a harder time accessing health centers. This is especially a challenge in Badakhshan because of the remoteness of the terrain.<sup>231</sup> In All provinces women complained of lack of quality medication and bad attitude of health professionals.<sup>232</sup>

In Badakhshan, women and girls living in Warduj and Yamagan districts have limited access to education because of deteriorating security situation.<sup>233</sup> In Balkh, the interviewees stated that lack of funding by donors has led to fewer literacy courses in districts.<sup>234</sup> In Faryab, women and girls in districts are said to lack access to education in districts due to distances to school and traditionalism.<sup>235</sup> In Kunduz, the main impeding factor to girls' education is deteriorating security and AOGs' opposition to girls going to school.<sup>236</sup>

## Badakhshan Province Stakeholder Analysis

- **Department of Women's Affairs:** The interviewees from the DoWA showed in-depth knowledge of UNSCR 1325, its history and importance and stated to have had an internal training on the Resolution.
- **Department of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyred and Disabled:** Interviewees from DoLSAMD in showed some knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and stated to have had trainings on the issue from a CSO that worked on legal issues.
- **Afghan National Police (ANP):** The ANP in Badakhshan stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and their main guideline for protection of women's right has been the EVAW Law.
- **Family Response Unity (FRU):** The FRU in Badakhshan stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and their main guideline for protection of women's right has been the EVAW Law.
- **Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC):** Interviewees from AIHRC in Badakhshan showed full knowledge of UNSCR 1325. They have had no specific trainings or workshops on UNSCR 1325, however, the resolution does constitute a part of most of the trainings and workshops that they receive on different issues.
- **Women for Women International (WfWI):** WfWI has been active in Afghanistan since 2002 with the aim to enhance women's empowerment by providing them with opportunities and the skills to be financially independent. Similarly, the empowerment program also works on eliminating violence against women and enhancing women's access to formal judiciary. The WfWI has developed programs to engage men in women's empowerment by improving their knowledge about health, social, and economic issues that negatively affect women.<sup>237</sup> Interviewees from WfWI stated to not be aware of UNSCR 1325 and its contents.
- **Justice for All Organization (JFAO):** Justice for All Organization (JFAO) works to strengthen the rule of law and expand access to justice for indigent women in Afghanistan. JFAO also trains women about their constitutional and social rights, preparing them for leadership roles within Afghanistan's legal and political sectors. Interviewees from JFAO in Badakhshan stated to have no knowledge on UNSCR 1325.

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<sup>231</sup> KI-F-Bad-1, KI-F-Bad-5, FGD-F-Bad-1, KI-M-Bad-2

<sup>232</sup> KI-F-Bad-5, FGD-F-Bad-1, KI-M-Bad-2, KI-M-Bal-6, KI-F-Far-3, FGD-F-Kun-2, KI-F-Kun-2

<sup>233</sup> KI-F-Bad-1, KI-F-Bad-6, KI-M-Bad-8

<sup>234</sup> KI-F-Bal-5, KI-M-Bal-4

<sup>235</sup> KI-F-Far-1, KI-F-Far-3, KI-F-Far-4

<sup>236</sup> KI-M-Kun-1, KI-M-Kun-2, KI-M-Kun-4

<sup>237</sup> All information on WfWI is retrieved from Women for Women International (2015), available at: <http://www.womenforwomen.org/what-we-do/countries/afghanistan> (09/10/2015)

## Influence/Awareness Matrix of Badakhshan Province

		Knowledge on UNSCR 1325		
		High	Low	
Influence on Policy-making	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DoWA</li> <li>• DoLSAMD</li> </ul>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AIHRC</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANP</li> <li>• FRU</li> </ul>
	Low			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WfWI</li> <li>• JFAO</li> </ul>

## Balkh Province Stakeholder Analysis

- **Department of Women’s Affairs Balkh:** The interviewee from the DoWA in Balkh showed full awareness of UNSCR 1325, its contents and goals.
- **Department of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyred and Disabled:** Interviewees from DoLSAMD in Balkh stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325.
- **Family Response Unit (FRU) Faryab:** The FRU in Balkh stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and their main guideline for protection of women’s right has been the EAW Law.
- **Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC):** Interviewee from AIHRC in Balkh showed full awareness of UNSCR 1325 and stated to provide workshops and trainings of other governmental and non-governmental organizations in the province.
- **Civil Society and Human Rights Network (CSHRN):** The Civil Society and Human Rights Network (CSHRN) aims to contribute to a society based on democracy and the rule of law in accordance with human rights, where all people are aware of their rights and able to claim them through the rule of law. CSHRN consists of 58 Afghan organizations which are active in the promotion of human rights. The purpose of this work is to increase the knowledge and understanding of member and partner organizations in all different fields of human rights.<sup>238</sup> Interviewee from CSHRN in Balkh stated and showed to have full awareness of UNSCR 1325 and its implications for Afghanistan.
- **Welfare Center for Women and Youth (WCWY):** Interviewee from WCWY stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325

<sup>238</sup> All information on CSHRN is retrieved from Insight on Conflict (2014), available at: <http://www.insightonconflict.org/conflicts/afghanistan/peacebuilding-organisations/cshrn/> (09/10/2015)

## Influence/Awareness Matrix of Balkh Province

		Knowledge on UNSCR 1325		
		High		Low
Influence on Policy-making	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DoWA</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DoLSAMD</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AIHRC</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FRU</li> </ul>
	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSHRN</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WfWI</li> <li>• WCWY</li> </ul>

## Faryab Province Stakeholder Analysis

- **Department of Women’s Affairs Faryab:** The interviewees from the DoWA in Faryab stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325.
- **Provincial Women’s Network (PWN) Faryab:** Members of the PWN in Faryab stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325. However, despite not knowing the contents of the document, they do conduct work that concerns women peace and security and acknowledge the importance women’s participation as prescribed by UNSCR 1325.
- **Department of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyred and Disabled:** Interviewees from DoLSAMD in Faryab stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325.
- **Afghan National Police (ANP):** The ANP in Faryab stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and their main guideline for protection of women’s right has been the EAW Law.
- **Family Response Unit (FRU) Faryab:** The FRU in Faryab stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and their main guideline for protection of women’s right has been the EAW Law.
- **Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC):** Interviewees from AIHRC in Faryab stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325.
- **Cultural Training for Women and Youth (CTWY):** Interviewees from CTWY in Bamyan stated to have no knowledge on UNSCR 1325
- **Culture Intellectuals and Civil Society (CICS):** Interviewee from CICS stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325

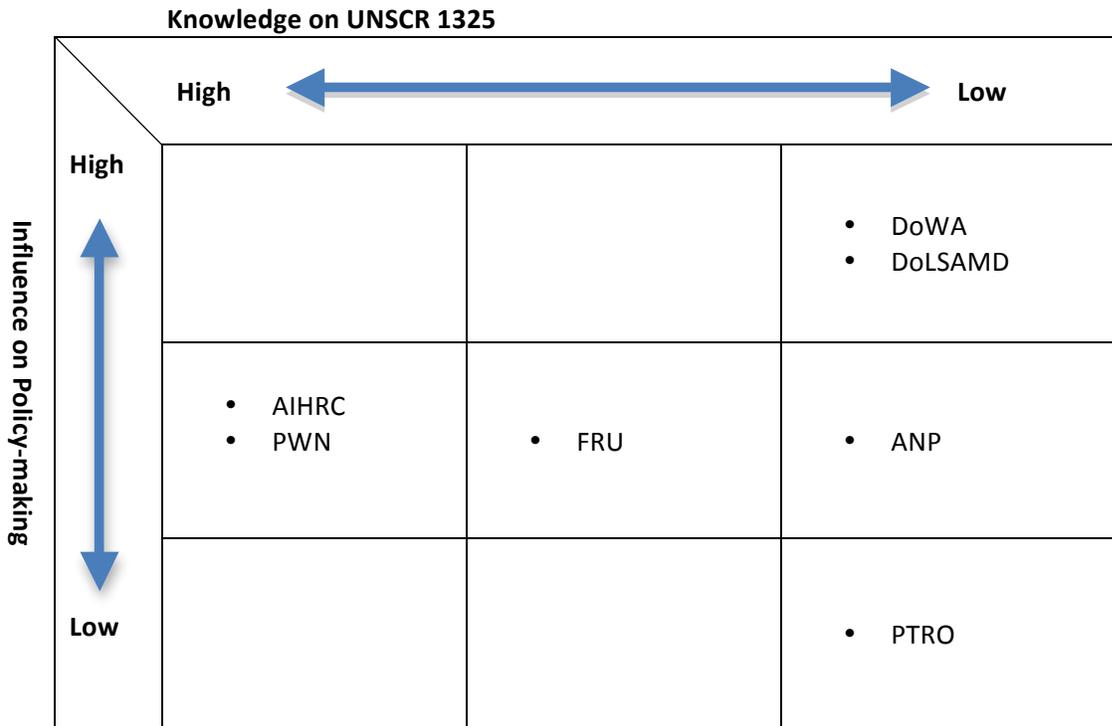
## Influence/Awareness Matrix of Faryab Province

		Knowledge on UNSCR 1325		
		High		Low
Influence on Policy-making	High			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DoWA</li> <li>• DoLSAMD</li> </ul>
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AIHRC</li> <li>• ANP</li> <li>• FRU</li> </ul>
	Low			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CISC</li> <li>• CTWY</li> <li>• PWN</li> </ul>

## Kunduz Province Stakeholder Analysis

- **Provincial Women’s Network (PWN) Kunduz:** The PWN members of Kunduz stated to have some knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and stated it to be about women being affected differently by conflict than men and the need for a women’s involvement in post-conflict reconstruction. They stated to have gained their knowledge on the issue through a three-day workshop provided to them by CIDA.
- **Department of Women’s Affairs Kunduz:** The interviewee from the DoWA stated to have no awareness on UNSCR 1325.
- **Department of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyred and Disabled:** Interviewees from DoLSAMD in Kunduz showed no knowledge of UNSCR 1325.
- **Afghan National Police (ANP) Kunduz:** The head of ANP in Aliabad district of Kunduz province stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and their main guideline for protection of women’s right has been the EAW Law.
- **Family Response Unit (FRU) Kunduz:** The FRU in Kunduz demonstrated some knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and stated to have had no trainings on the issue. To FRU, EAW law is considered to be the main guideline for protection of women’s right.
- **Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC):** Interviewee from AIHRC showed full awareness of UNSCR 1325 and stated to have obtained that knowledge through internal workshops and trainings provided by the AIHRC to its employees.
- **Peace Training and Research Organization (PTRO):** Interviewees from PTRO in Kunduz stated to have no knowledge on UNSCR 1325.

## Influence/Awareness Matrix of Kunduz Province



## Action Plan: Northern Region

### Training and Awareness Raising

Findings from the field show that in all four of the Northern Provinces, male dominance, such as men being in the majority and not listening to women's voices, has been the main impeding factor for women's participation in all facets of life. In all provinces, awareness trainings and capacity building activities ought to be given directed to men and women who are active in peace, politics and civil service. These activities should focus on teaching men the importance of gender-mainstreaming and gender-balancing and women how to be more effective advocates of their cause within the political arena.

Additional awareness trainings and workshops are needed to combat discrimination within the labor market, especially the civil service and the security forces and create an enabling environment for women who are already active within these sectors to promote to higher ranks and participate in decision-making. The trainings that target men ought to be more focused on awareness raising on principles of gender equality and female participation. UNSCR 1325 as well as NAP 1325 need to be an essential element of the trainings provided to both men and women.

Enhancing women's participation in ANP and ensuring their safe operation is a priority. Rigorous awareness campaigns are needed to change people's perceptions of women working in the police.

The data shows awareness to be the most effective measure to reduce violence against women. The PWNs in Northern Provinces should engage in extensive awareness campaigns aimed to reduce domestic violence against women. Key actors to direct campaigns toward and have as partners in advocacy and awareness raising are prominent men such as the religious leaders, community elders, men in the higher ranks of the government and security forces (ANP and ANA).

The stakeholder analysis shows that the FRUs and ANP lack in-depth understanding of UNSCR 1325 and in some instances even the EVAW Law. More in Daikundi than in Kabul, the ANP and FRU need more training and understanding of EVAW-Law as well as NAP 1325.

The use of informal justice is a common practice throughout Afghanistan and the data show that Kabul and more so Parwan, are no exceptions. The procedures of the informal courts are unprofessional and the verdicts are biased in favor of men. The elders presiding over informal courts need rigorous trainings in family law, legal procedures with more emphasis on women's rights.

## **Advocacy**

In Faryab and Badakhshan, advocacy campaigns, directed toward the Departments of Defense, Interior and Justice to ensure the safety and security of women participating in current affairs.

Structural factors, such as patriarchy, partly caused by traditionalism, but also a history of conflict need to be tackled through rigorous advocacy programs at all levels of society and government. The Provincial Women's Networks in Kabul and Parwan need to engage governmental, non-governmental and civil society organizations at a district, provincial and national level to eliminate discrimination against women and girls in labor market.

Provincial Councils and Provincial Peace Committees as well as governmental organizations need to set up special provisions to ensure presence and active role of women in agenda-setting and decision making. All decisions made by the councils and committees and policies developed by the government need to have a gender-mainstreaming perspective in their development and implementation activities. This will increase opportunities for women's participation in decision-making and leadership positions. Principles of gender-balancing, as prescribed by UNSCR 1325, need to be institutionalized within all governmental and non-governmental institutions.

Rigorous campaigning is needed to enhance women's participation within the higher ranks of the ANP. These campaign ought to be directed toward the responsible governmental entities as well as the society, where female police officers are stigmatized.

Campaign for inclusion of women's rights issues and elimination of violence against women to be included in post-prayer religious sermons in mosques. Advocate for community elders to be more involved in efforts to prevent violence against women. The advocacy activities ought to be directed toward mosques, community elders, but also the Ministries and Departments of Women's Affairs and Hajj and Religious Affairs to work closely to include issues regarding women's rights in Friday prayer sermons.

Formal judiciary should be the main deterrent for violators of women's rights. Effective advocacy, directed toward the Ministries and Departments of Just and Interior as well as the Attorney General's Office, is needed to enhance the quality of justice provided by the formal judiciary. The focus of the

advocacy and campaigning ought to be eliminating discrimination of women and girls in need of justice as well as reducing the degree of corruption, of which women are the main victims.

Advocacy activities should be directed toward the DoLSAMDs to enhance the quality of service and provisions delivery to women who are widowed or disabled. This is especially the case in Kunduz, where the fall of the provincial capital into the hands of the AOG has led to much destruction of the existing infrastructure. The focus of the campaigns should be eliminating corruption and nepotism as well as enhancing the extent and the scope of services and provisions provided.

More effort needs to be put into reopening the safehouse in Kunduz, which has been closed for a number of months now. Ministries and departments of Women's Affairs, Justice and Interior as well as the Attorney General's office should be targeted and approached for enhancing the reintegration mechanisms and services to women who reside in safehouses and female inmates. This is especially the case in Balkh, where the conditions of women's prisons are said to be dire and in need of improvement.

## Southern Region: Helmand, Kandahar, Paktia, and Uruzgan

Table 6: Demographic profile of the Central Regions

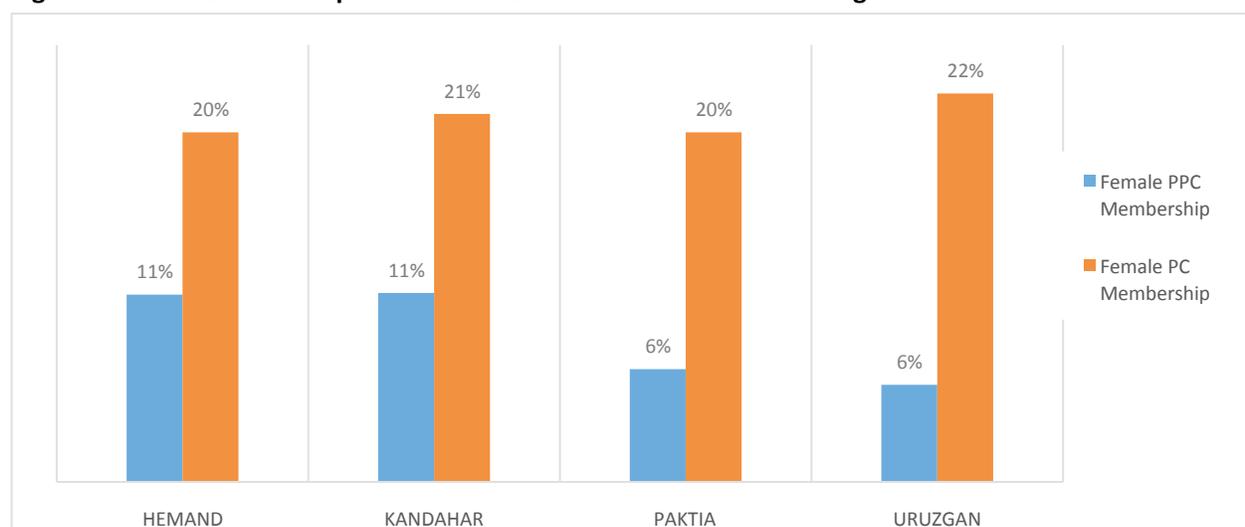
	Helmand	Kandahar	Paktia	Uruzgan
Population Division	49%	49%	49%	49%
Representation in Provincial Council	21%	21%	20%	22%
Representation in Provincial Peace Council	14%	10%	7%	1
Percentage of Prisoners	1,5%	0,6%	1%	0%
Percentage of IDPs in Province	50%	50%	50%	49%
Percentage of teachers	18%	16%	5%	5%
Percentage of Students	24%	29%	30%	15%
Number of Women in ANP	35	119	20-25	22

Sources: Data on IDPs are provided by UNHCR/IDP Task Forces data (June 2015), other data are retrieved from CSO (2013/2014)

### Participation

Women's participation in formal peace and political process in all four provinces remains low (Figure 7).

Figure 12: Women's Participation in Peace and Politics in Southern Region



All interviewees in Helmand stated that women in their province do not participate in peace, be it formal or informal. The main reasons for lack of participation are traditionalism, lack of security and government not creating an enabling environment for women to participate.<sup>239</sup> In Kandahar, women mostly contribute to peace through informal means by resolving conflicts at a community level.<sup>240</sup> In Paktia, women are said to want to contribute to peace through formal means, but are deterred by administrative structures and lack of an enabling environment.<sup>241</sup> In Uruzgan, views on women's participation in formal peace is divided. The general perception is that women are active and do

<sup>239</sup> FGD-F-Hel-1, KI-F-Hel-1, KI-F-Hel-4, KI-F-Hel-5, KI-F-Hel-6, KI-M-Hel-2, KI-M-Hel-3

<sup>240</sup> FGD-F-Kan-1, KI-F-Kan-1, KI-F-Kan-6

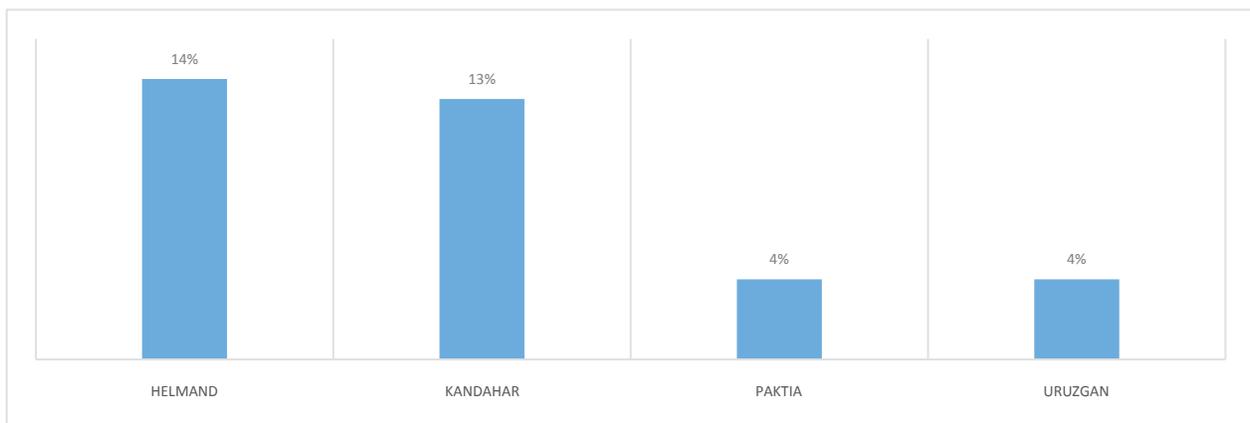
<sup>241</sup> FGD-F-Pak-1, KI-F-Pak-6, KI-M-Pak-2

participate, but lack of development and low literacy rates has created a society where women's participation in peace is not prioritized.<sup>242</sup>

Women's participation in politics in Helmand is said to be impeded by lack of security, but mostly nepotism and patriarchy, where men do not tolerate women at the workplace.<sup>243</sup> In Kandahar and Paktia, most complaints concern traditionalism and patriarchy, where women who do manage to participate in politics are not given time to speak and not listened to.<sup>244</sup> In Uruzgan, bad security situation and discrimination at workplace have limited women's participation in politics significantly.<sup>245</sup>

Women's participation in the civil service in the four Southern provinces, especially in Paktia and Uruzgan, is among the lowest in Afghanistan (Figure 11). In Paktia, women who work for the government are said to be subjected to discrimination and harassment.<sup>246</sup> In Uruzgan, apart from harassment and discrimination, lack of facilities in governmental organizations is described as deterring women from working for the government.<sup>247</sup> In Helmand and Kandahar, most complaints concerned patriarchy, where women are not taken seriously or listened to.<sup>248</sup>

**Figure 13: Women's Participation in Civil Service in Southern Region**



Source: CSO (2014/2015)

In the four Southern provinces, women working for the police face severe challenges:

There are some women working for the police in Helmand (...) the people of the province do not like women working in military functions. The main cause of this is lack of awareness and education (...) Also, so far, five female police officers have been killed, so bad security is also a reason why women do not want to work for the police ...<sup>249</sup>

<sup>242</sup> KI-F-Uru-5, KI-F-Uru-6, KI-M-Uru-2, KI-M-Uru-7

<sup>243</sup> FGD-F-Hel-1, KI-F-Hel-4, KI-F-Hel-5, KI-M-Hel-7

<sup>244</sup> FGD-F-Kan-1, KI-F-Kan-1, KI-F-Kan-5, KI-F-Kan-6, KI-M-Kan-4, FGD-F-Pak-1, KI-F-Pak-5, KI-M-Pak-2

<sup>245</sup> FGD-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-5, KI-F-Uruz-6, KI-M-Uru-2, KI-M-Uru-3, KI-M-Uru-4, KI-M-Uru-7

<sup>246</sup> KI-M-Pak-2, FGD-F-Pak-1, KI-F-Pak-2

<sup>247</sup> FGD-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-5

<sup>248</sup> FGD-F-Hel-1, KI-F-Hel-6, KI-M-Hel-2, FGD-F-Kan-1, KI-F-Kan-1

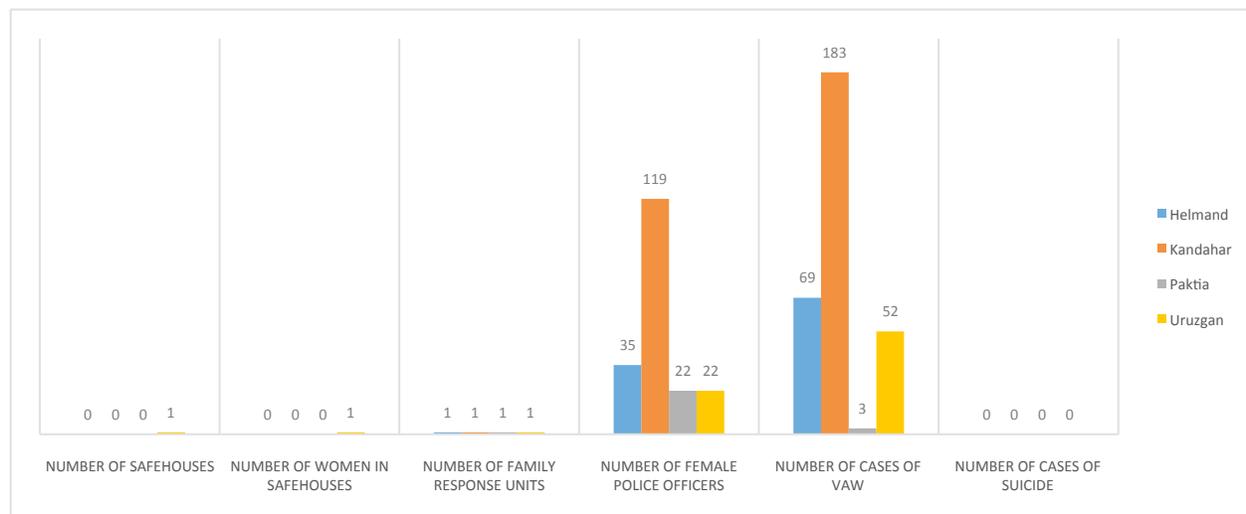
<sup>249</sup> FGD-F-Hel-1, KI-F-Hel-1, KI-F-Hel-4, KI-F-Hel-6, KI-M-Hel-2, KI-M-Hel-2

The main challenges are said to be lack of security and the society’s lack of respect toward women who join the police force.<sup>250</sup>

## Prevention

Though there are different structures that ought to protect women, women in Southern provinces face severe shortcomings in facilities available to them in their efforts to combat violence and discrimination (Figure 12).

**Figure 14: A Profile of VAW and Protective Structures**



Source: Number of safehouses and FRUs are provided by DoWA, the number of cases of VAW, cases of suicide and the number of women in safehouses are provided by the AIHRC

The most common types of violence that women in Southern provinces are subjected to are economic, physical, verbal and psychological abuse and forced and underage marriages.<sup>251</sup> However, what makes Southern provinces, except Kandahar, different from other provinces is how common the tradition of *Bad Dadan*, where women are used as retribution to settle feuds between tribes, is. In Helmand, Paktia and Uruzgan, *bad* is mentioned as a common type of violence.<sup>252</sup> The main causes of violence against women are said to be lack of awareness and poverty.<sup>253</sup>

In none of the four provinces could the interviewees identify structures and mechanisms that actively try to prevent violence against women. The formal institutions, which are the main deterrents, such as the judiciary and the police are said to lack capacity and awareness of ERAW law to punish violators of

<sup>250</sup> FGD-F-Kan-1, KI-F-Kan-5, KI-M-Kan-2, KI-M-Kan-4, KI-M-Kan-7, KI-F-Pak-3, KI-M-Pak-7, KI-M-Uru-7, KI-M-Uru-2, KI-M-Uru-3

<sup>251</sup> KI-F-Hel-1, KI-F-Hel-4, KI-F-Hel-5, KI-F-Hel-6, KI-F-Kan-1, KI-F-Kan-6, KI-M-Kan-2, KI-M-Kan-7, FGD-F-Pak-1, KI-M-Pak-2FGD-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-5, KI-F-Uru-6

<sup>252</sup> FGD-F-Hel-1, KI-F-Hel-1, KI-F-Hel-4, KI-F-Hel-5, KI-F-Hel-6, FGD-F-Pak-1, KI-M-Pak-2FGD-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-5, KI-F-Uru-6

<sup>253</sup> KI-F-Hel-1, KI-F-Hel-4, KI-F-Hel-5, KI-F-Hel-6, KI-F-Kan-1, KI-F-Kan-6, KI-M-Kan-2, KI-M-Kan-7, FGD-F-Pak-1, KI-M-Pak-2FGD-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-5, KI-F-Uru-6

women's rights.<sup>254</sup> In all provinces, the interviewees recommended awareness trainings for men and women as well as religious leaders to be an effective method to prevent violence against women.<sup>255</sup>

In Helmand the interviewees FRUs to be the only unit within the ANP to have knowledge of EAW law.<sup>256</sup> In Kandahar and Paktia, the police lack knowledge of EAW law and not to act upon it.<sup>257</sup> In Uruzgan, the police are said to have some knowledge of the EAW law, but choose not to act upon it.<sup>258</sup>

## Protection

The four Southern provinces have much in common with regards to women's access to justice and the judiciary's ability to protect women. In all provinces, the interviewees stated that women who seek help from the formal judiciary are not tolerated by their families and tribes.<sup>259</sup> Helmand, Paktia and Uruzgan, corruption was mentioned as a major deterrent for women seeking justice.<sup>260</sup> Lack of female employees within the formal judiciary is also said to obstruct women's access to justice significantly.<sup>261</sup> In all provinces the interviewees stated that women generally lack awareness and literacy, which makes it practically impossible for them to seek justice.<sup>262</sup>

The use of informal judiciary in Southern provinces is more common than other regions in the country. Every family, tribe or groups of specific religious denomination are said to have an informal court of their own.<sup>263</sup> In all provinces, the interviewees stated that the decisions and verdicts of the informal courts are unjust and informed and those presiding over informal courts are said to lack legal or religious knowledge to fulfill their duties.<sup>264</sup>

Uruzgan is the only province where women whose lives are being threatened can seek refuge in a safehouse. However, the safehouse there is not an official safehouse but one that is founded by the provincial police chief upon his personal insistence.<sup>265</sup>

## Relief and Recovery

No special provisions are provided to widows and disabled women in any of the four provinces. Though the law does require the government to provide widows of war with some salary, corruption and lack of capacity within the governmental organizations limits the capacity to deliver the required provisions to those who have the right to earn them. In all provinces, the interviewees stated that NGOs are the only

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<sup>254</sup> FGD-F-Hel-1, KI-M-Hel-2, FGD-F-Kan-1, KI-F-Kan-6, FGD-F-Pak-1, KI-F-Pak-4, KI-M-Pak-2, FGD-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-5, KI-F-Uru-6, KI-M-Uru-4

<sup>255</sup> FGD-F-Hel-1, KI-F-Hel-4, KI-F-Hel-6, FGD-F-Kan-1, KI-F-Kan-1, KI-F-Kan-6, FGD-F-Pak-1, KI-F-Pak-5, FGD-F-Uru-1

<sup>256</sup> FGD-F-Hel-1, KI-M-Hel-2

<sup>257</sup> FGD-F-Kan-1, KI-F-Kan-6, FGD-F-Pak-1, KI-F-Pak-4, KI-M-Pak-2

<sup>258</sup> FGD-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-5, KI-F-Uru-6, KI-M-Uru-4

<sup>259</sup> FGD-F-Hel-1, KI-M-Hel-1, KI-M-Hel-3, FGD-F-Kan-1, KI-F-Kan-1, KI-M-Kan-4, KI-M-Kan-7, FGD-F-Pak-1, KI-F-Pak-5, FGD-F-Uru-1, KI-M-Uru-2, KI-M-Uru-4, KI-M-Uru-7

<sup>260</sup> FGD-F-Hel-1, KI-M-Hel-1, KI-M-Hel-3, FGD-F-Pak-1, KI-F-Pak-5, FGD-F-Uru-1, KI-M-Uru-2, KI-M-Uru-4, KI-M-Uru-7

<sup>261</sup> KI-M-Hel-1, KI-M-Hel-3, FGD-F-Kan-1, KI-F-Kan-1, KI-M-Kan-4, FGD-F-Pak-1, KI-F-Pak-5

<sup>262</sup> FGD-F-Hel-1, KI-M-Hel-1, KI-M-Hel-3, FGD-F-Kan-1, KI-F-Kan-1, KI-M-Kan-4, KI-M-Kan-7, FGD-F-Pak-1, KI-F-Pak-5, FGD-F-Uru-1, KI-M-Uru-2, KI-M-Uru-4, KI-M-Uru-7

<sup>263</sup> KI-F-Hel-4, KI-F-Hel-3, KI-M-Hel-7, FGD-F-Hel-1

<sup>264</sup> KI-M-Hel-2, KI-F-Hel-5, KI-F-Kan-6, KI-F-Kan-5, KI-M-Kan-2, KI-M-Pak-3, KI-M-Pak-7, KI-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-5

<sup>265</sup> FGD-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-6, KI-M-Uru-1

units that provide some assistance to widows and disabled, but the provisions are said to be below the minimum requirements.<sup>266</sup>

Helmand has witnessed elevated levels of conflict in many of its districts in recent months. This has led to high numbers of conflict-induced IDPs between districts. Despite the surge in IDP numbers, the interviewees stated that no provisions are being provided to IDPs in their province.<sup>267</sup> Female IDPs who, together with children, are among the most vulnerable of IDPs are left to the mercy of their male relatives for shelter and food.<sup>268</sup> In Kandahar, Paktia and Uruzgan, the interviewees stated the only source of assistance to IDPs to be a number of INGOs and that there is a need for more.<sup>269</sup>

Uruzgan is the only province among the Southern provinces that has a safehouse. The conditions in the safehouse are described as below minimum and no reintegration mechanisms are said to be present.<sup>270</sup>

There is no women's prison in Uruzgan and convicted women are taken to prisons in neighboring provinces.<sup>271</sup> In Helmand, Kandahar and Paktia, the conditions of prisons are described as bad. Female inmates are said to have no access to education and health services, which makes their reintegration challenging.<sup>272</sup>

In Helmand, though women in the center do have access to health and education services, the deteriorating security situation has limited their access to significantly.<sup>273</sup> Kandahar is the only province where the interviewees stated that women's lack of access to health but also education is caused by their families not allowing them to visit health centers.<sup>274</sup> In Paktia and Uruzgan, the interviewees stated that women do have access to health, but expressed a need for more facilities and human resources, such as female teachers and doctors and better medication.<sup>275</sup>

## Helmand Province Stakeholder Analysis

- **Department of Women's Affairs:** The interviewee from the DoWA had no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and stated it to be the first time that she has heard its name.
- **Department of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyred and Disabled:** Interviewees from DoLSAMD stated to have some knowledge of UNSCR 1325 because they have participated in a workshop given in Kandahar province.
- **Family Response Unity (FRU):** The FRU in Helmand stated to have no knowledge UNSCR 1325 and how it is related to women. Nor have the employees of the FRU ever participated or been invited to a workshop or training regarding UNSCR 1325.

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<sup>266</sup> FGD-F-Hel-1, KI-F-Hel-4, KI-F-Hel-5, KI-F-Hel-6, FGD-F-Kan-1, KI-F-Kan-1, KI-M-Kan-7, FGD-F-Pak-1, KI-M-Pak-1, FGD-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-5, KI-F-Uru-6

<sup>267</sup> FGD-F-Hel-1, KI-F-Hel-4, KI-F-Hel-5, KI-M-Hel-7

<sup>268</sup> KI-M-Hel-7, FGD-F-Hel-1, KI-F-Hel-4, KI-F-Hel-5

<sup>269</sup> FGD-F-KAn-1, KI-F-Kan-1, FGD-F-Pak-1, KI-F-Pak-5, KI-M-Pak-2, KI-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-5

<sup>270</sup> FGD-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-5, KI-M-Uru-7

<sup>271</sup> FGD-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-6, KI-M-Uru-3

<sup>272</sup> FGD-F-Hel-1, KI-F-Hel-4, KI-F-Hel-6, KI-M-Hel-2, KI-F-Kan-1, KI-F-Kan-6, FGD-F-Kan-1, FGD-F-Pak-1, KI-F-Pak-5, KI-F-Pak-4

<sup>273</sup> FGD-F-Hel-1, KI-F-Hel-6, KI-M-Hel-2, KI-M-Hel-7

<sup>274</sup> KI-F-Kan-5, KI-F-Kan-6, KI-F-Kan-1, FGD-F-Kan-1

<sup>275</sup> FGD-F-Pak-1, KI-F-Pak-4, KI-F-Pak-5, KI-M-Pak-2, KI-M-Pak-3, KI-M-Pak-6, KI-M-Pak-7, FGD-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-1, KI-F-Uru-6, KI-M-Uru-3

- **Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC):** Interviewees from AIHRC in Helmand showed full knowledge of UNSCR 1325.
- **Afghanistan Independent Bar Association (AIBA):** There is little or no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 or NAP 1325 within AIBA, despite the mandate to improve access to fair trials, increase confidence in the legal profession among the public, improve cooperation between stakeholders in the justice sector, promote new generations of dedicated legal professionals, and fight against administrative corruption.<sup>276</sup>
- **Wazir Mohammad Akbar Khan Association (WMAKO):** Interviewee from WMAKO stated to have heard about the resolution in the media, but to have no knowledge of its contents.

**Influence/Awareness Matrix of Helmand Province**

		Knowledge on UNSCR 1325		
		High		Low
Influence on Policy-making	High		• DoLSAMD	• DoWA
		• AIHRC)		• FRU
	Low			• WMAKO

**Kandahar Province Stakeholder Analysis**

- **Provincial Women’s Network (PWN) Kandahar:** Members of the PWN Kandahar stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325. However, despite not knowing the contents of the document, they are aware of issues that concern women’s peace and security and acknowledge the importance women’s participation as prescribed by UNSCR 1325.
- **Department of Women’s Affairs Kandahar:** The interviewees from the DoWA showed awareness of UNSCR 1325 and stated to have received trainings from AIHRC in the province.
- **Department of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyred and Disabled:** Interviewees from DoLSAMD in Kandahar stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325.
- **Afghan National Police (ANP) Kandahar:** The ANP in Kandahar stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and their main guideline for protection of women’s right has been the EVAW Law.
- **Family Response Unit (FRU):** The FRU in Kandahar stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and their main guideline for protection of women’s right has been the EVAW Law.

<sup>276</sup> All information on AIBA is retrieved from Insight on Conflict (2015), available at: [http://www.aiba.af/english/index.php?rcv\\_main=about%20us.html](http://www.aiba.af/english/index.php?rcv_main=about%20us.html) (09/10/2015)

- **Afghanistan Independent Bar Association (AIBA):** Interviewees from AIBA in Kandahar stated to have no knowledge on UNSCR 1325
- **Justice for All Organization (JFAO):** Interviewees from JFAO in Kandahar stated to have no knowledge on UNSCR 1325.

**Influence/Awareness Matrix of Kandahar Province**

		Knowledge on UNSCR 1325		
		High		Low
Influence on Policy-making	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DoWA</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DoLSAMD</li> </ul>
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANP</li> <li>• FRU</li> </ul>
	Low			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AIBA</li> <li>• JFAO</li> <li>• PWN</li> </ul>

**Paktia Province Stakeholder Analysis**

**Department of Women’s Affairs Paktia:** The interviewees from the DoWA in Paktia showed some knowledge of UNSCR 1325 but stated to have not received any training on the subject.

**Department of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyred and Disabled:** Interviewees from DoLSAMD in Paktia stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325.

**Afghan National Police (ANP) Paktia:** The ANP in Paktia stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and their main guideline for protection of women’s right has been the EAW Law.

**Family Response Unit (FRU) Paktia:** The FRU in Paktia stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and their main guideline for protection of women’s right has been the EAW Law.

**Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC):** Interviewees from AIHRC in Paktia showed full knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and stated to have participated in the launch event of Afghanistan’s NAP 1325 in June of 2015.

**Afghan Women’s Network (AWN):** Interviewees from AWN Paktia stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and not to have received any trainings on the matter.

**Sheen Chaman Organization, Ahmadabad Youth Society, Mirzaka Youth Council:** All CSOs interviewed in Paktia stated not to know about UNSCR 1325 and not to have had any trainings on the issue as well.

## Influence/Awareness Matrix of Paktia Province

		Knowledge on UNSCR 1325		
		High		Low
Influence on Policy-making	High			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DoWA</li> <li>• DoLSAMD</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AIHRC</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AWN</li> <li>• ANP</li> <li>• FRU</li> </ul>
	Low			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sheen Chaman Organization</li> <li>• Ahmadabad Youth Society</li> <li>• Mirzaka Youth Council</li> </ul>

## Uruzgan Province Stakeholder Analysis

- **Department of Women’s Affairs Uruzgan:** The interviewees from the DoWA in Uruzgan stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325.
- **Department of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyred and Disabled:** Interviewees from DoLSAMD in Uruzgan stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325.
- **Afghan National Police (ANP) Uruzgan:** The ANP in Uruzgan stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325 and their main guideline for protection of women’s right has been the ERAW Law.
- **Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC):** Interviewees from AIHRC in Uruzgan stated to have no knowledge of UNSCR 1325.
- **Afghanistan Independent Bar Association (AIBA):** Interviewees from AIBA in Uruzgan stated to have no knowledge on UNSCR 1325
- **Justice for All Organization (JFAO):** Justice for All Organization (JFAO) works to strengthen the rule of law and expand access to justice for indigent women in Afghanistan. JFAO also trains women about their constitutional and social rights, preparing them for leadership roles within Afghanistan’s legal and political sectors. Interviewees from JFAO in Uruzgan stated to have no knowledge on UNSCR 1325.

## Influence/Awareness Matrix of Uruzgan Province

		Knowledge on UNSCR 1325		
		High		Low
Influence on Policy-making	High			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DoWA</li> <li>• DoLSAMD</li> </ul>
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AIHRC</li> <li>• ANP</li> </ul>
	Low			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AIBA</li> <li>• JFAO</li> </ul>

## Action Plan: Southern Region

### Training and Awareness Raising

Women's participation at all levels of the society in Southern Provinces is lower than other regions monitored in this report. When provisions provided to employees or activists are scarce, women suffer more. The society and more specifically the communities in these provinces need targeted and tailor-made strategies to enhance women's participation in peace, politics, civil service and decision-making and leadership. Men, who are active in peace, politics and civil service in all four provinces need trainings on principles of gender-mainstreaming and gender-equality.

The trainings and activities ought to combat discrimination against women and help create an enabling environment in which women can freely participate and be listened to and also help professionally active women gain the skills and capacity to participate and engage with men more effectively. The trainings that target men ought to be more focused on awareness raising on principles of gender equality and female participation. The trainings that target women ought to contain the awareness raising as well as capacity-building components. EVAW Law, UNSCR 1325 as well as NAP 1325 need to be an essential element of the trainings provided to both men and women.

Enhancing women's participation in ANP and ensuring safe operation of women within the security forces is a priority. Rigorous awareness campaigns are needed to change people's perceptions of women working in the police.

The data show that though all kinds of violence against women occur, women in Southern Provinces are more subjected to Bad dadan by through informal or tribal courts than women in other provinces. The procedures of the informal courts are unprofessional and the verdicts are usually described as unjust and skewed in favor of men. Awareness has generally been considered to be the most effective measure to reduce violence against women. Community and religious leaders, especially those presiding over informal courts need rigorous trainings on the implications of bad dadan, as well as the principles of EAW- and family law.

The stakeholder analysis shows that the FRUs and ANP lack in-depth understanding of UNSCR 1325 and in some instances even the EAW Law. More in Parwan than in Kabul, the ANP and FRU need more training and understanding of EAW-Law as well as NAP 1325.

## **Advocacy**

Patriarchy, partly caused by traditionalism, but also a history of conflict is more dominant in Southern provinces than any other monitored region. The Provincial Women's Networks in these four provinces need to engage religious leaders and governmental, non-governmental and civil society organizations at a district, provincial and national level to eliminate discrimination against women and girls and institutionalize some sort of gender justice in the four southern provinces.

Provincial Councils and Provincial Peace Committees as well as governmental organizations need to set up special provisions to ensure presence and active role of women in agenda-setting and decision making. All decisions made by the councils and committees and policies developed by the government need to have a gender-mainstreaming perspective in their development and implementation activities. This will increase opportunities for women's participation in decision-making and leadership positions. Principles of gender-balancing, as prescribed by UNSCR 1325, need to be institutionalized within all governmental and non-governmental institutions.

Women working for the police in Southern provinces lack numbers and hold the lowest possible ranks, without any prospects of a promotion. Rigorous campaigning is needed to enhance women's participation ANP. This especially applies to having women in higher ranks of the ANP. These campaign ought to be directed toward the responsible governmental entities as well as the society, where female police officers are stigmatized.

Women's rights activists in these four provinces need to partner-up with the religious leaders and community elders and advocate against violence against women, especially the tradition of Bad dadan. The advocacy activities also ought to be directed toward the Ministries and Departments of Women's Affairs and Hajj and Religious Affairs to work closely to include issues regarding women's rights in Friday prayer sermons.

Formal judiciary is more a deterrent for women seeking justice than the violators of women's rights. In all provinces, the formal judiciary is described as institutions where practices of nepotism and corruption are common and where women are discriminated against. Effective advocacy, directed toward the Ministries and Departments of Justice and Interior as well as the Attorney General's Office, is

needed to enhance the quality of justice provided by the formal judiciary. The focus of the advocacy and campaigning ought, in the first place, to be on enhancing women's access to the police and empowering the FRUs to be more effective and, secondly, eliminating discrimination of women and girls in need of justice as well as reducing the degree of corruption, of which women are the main victims.

The quality and scope of relief and recovery services delivered to women need to improve. Advocacy activities should be directed toward the MoLSAMD and DoLSAMDs to enhance the quality of service and provisions delivery to women who are widowed or disabled. The focus of the campaigns should be eliminating corruption and nepotism as well as enhancing the extent and the scope of services and provisions provided.

Uruzgan is the only southern province with a safehouse, which lack facilities and is not officially acknowledged or registered with formal authorities. There is a need for well-equipped safehouses in all four provinces. There are no women's prisons in Uruzgan and the living conditions for female inmates in other provinces need to improve. Advocacy activities for enhanced conditions for women in safehouses and prisons need to be directed toward the ministries and departments of Justice, Interior and women's affairs as well as the Attorney's Office.

Ministries and departments of Women's Affairs, Justice and Interior as well as the Attorney General's office should be targeted and approached for enhancing the reintegration mechanisms and services to women who reside in safehouses and female inmates.

Advocacy activities need to be directed toward the communities to accept women's needs for health and educational services as well as toward the ministries and departments of health, education and women's affairs, to increase the number of female doctors and female teachers in all provinces and districts.

## 7. Conclusion

The “Monitoring Women, Peace and Security” (MWPS) project was designed to contribute to efforts in meeting Afghanistan’s commitments to the UNSCR 1325. As such, the project is expected to contribute to efforts to reduce violence against women, foster women's participation in politics, and support their role in the peace process. The project has specific activity areas for taking stock of current conditions in the target provinces, applied research on thematic issues, mobilization at the community level, and advocacy at the local, sub-national, national, and international levels.

Women's participation in politics remains limited in all provinces. Though lack of security and conflict are pointed to as key impeding factors, social conservatism and patriarchy are the underlying factors that constrain women’s access to politics.

Similarly, though female members of the Provincial Peace Councils state to have insecurity limiting their mobility, it is the attitude of their male colleagues and family members that limit their participation in meetings and gatherings.

Violence against women has increased in 2015. Apart from poverty and unemployment, the main causes of violence against women are said to be lack of preventive mechanisms, such as access to the formal justice, which is caused by conservatism and patriarchy.

Institutions charged with protecting women, such as the formal judiciary and the police, are said to be corrupt and systematically discriminatory toward women, treating them unfairly and unequally as compared to men. ANP and FRU and many governmental organizations lack knowledge of ERAW law and NAP 1325. Women who report violence against them run the likely risk of social stigmatization, loss of social or economic safety nets, and could retaliation by perpetrators.

Though more common in Southern regions, because of these impediments, most cases of domestic disputes are solved through the involvement of community elders in an informal judicial setting. The decisions made by informal or tribal courts are described as unfair and discriminatory toward women.

Though Afghanistan’s NAP 1325 promises some relief and recovery provisions to female victims of conflict and (sexual) violence, the delivery of many of the provisions is yet to happen.

Though the law does require the DoLSAMD in all provinces to provide widows of war with some salary, there is much complaint about the corruption, nepotism and quality of service delivery. In all provinces, the interviewees added that the provisions are sometimes provided to those who do not have the right to receive it, while those who rightfully claim their benefits are not helped.

Kandahar is the only monitored province where women’s access to health services is said to be impeded by traditionalism. In all other provinces lack of medication, health centers and female health professionals are said to limit women’s access to healthcare.

The protection of IDPs is outlined by the country’s IDP policy and falls under the mandate of the Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation (MoRR). The data from the field suggests that insufficient assistance is provided by MoRR to protect the IDPs with the most vulnerable being neglected the most. It is primarily

UNHCR, and a few other international organizations, that are the agencies referred to as the entities that provide the most assistance. In terms of protection and prevention programming much more needs to be done in temporary shelters to address basic food and shelter needs while efforts to provide education for children and adults, vocational training for women, and health services for women need to be intensified.

The relevant external stakeholders for this project in each province are identified to be the MoWA, MoLSAMD, ANP/FRU, AIHRC and two relevant civil society organizations. An analysis of relevant external stakeholders in monitored provinces show that almost all of them lack operational and knowledge and understanding of UNSCR 1325 and especially the NAP 1325. It has been recommended that all these stakeholders need trainings and workshops on UNSCR 1325, NAP 1325 and the EAW law as well as the importance of gender mainstreaming and gender balancing as prescribed by UNSCR 1325.

The recommended activities, aimed to enhance the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and NAP 1325 consist of advocacy and awareness trainings and workshops directed toward the civil service and men and women active in peace talks, politics and the security forces as well as male and female community and religious leaders. The trainings and activities ought to combat discrimination against women and help create an enabling environment in which women can freely participate and be listened to and also help professionally active women gain the skills and capacity to participate and engage with men more effectively. The trainings that target men ought to be more focused on awareness raising on principles of gender equality and female participation. The trainings that target women ought to contain the awareness raising as well as capacity-building components. EAW Law, UNSCR 1325 as well as NAP 1325 need to be an essential element of the trainings provided to both men and women.

The other part of the recommendations are advocacy activities directed toward the government aimed to protect women from violence and prevent violence against women as well as enhance the provisions of relief and recovery provided to women in need. These provisions also include reintegration mechanisms for women residing in shelters and prisons as well as provisions provided to women who are widowed and disabled.

## Recommendations

1. In all provinces, engage in capacity-building activities to help women active in politics gain the required skills needed for active political participation.
2. Through advocacy and active engagement of prominent women, keep the momentum caused by the elections in Bamyan to enhance and enable women to participate more in politics.
3. In Daikundi, by campaigning for more female participation at the decision-making level, create an enabling environment within the civil service for women to participate and influence decision-making
4. Enhance women's participation in formal peace by engaging men and advocating for more female HPC/PPC membership.
5. Empower women and enhance awareness among men to combat discrimination within civil service.
6. Campaigning for more female participation at the decision-making level in all provinces, especially in Parwan, Uruzgan, Helmand, Kandahar.
7. Combat discrimination and abuse within the police force to enhance women's participation in ANP.
8. Increase the number of female police officers, by changing people's perceptions of female police
9. To limit the extent and types of violence against women, more awareness is needed on violence against women for men and women.
10. More awareness on women's rights and EAW law to men and women as well as the ANP and FRUs.
11. Set up structures that could prevent violence against women before it happens.
12. Enhance the quality of the formal judiciary, which is the main deterrence for those violating women's rights.
13. In all provinces, especially in the Southern ones, enhance the quality of informal judiciary and teach those presiding over informal courts on human and women's rights
14. Campaign for better delivery of provisions for widows and disabled women.
15. Set up structures that are in charge of reintegration and safety of women who leave safehouses and/or prisons
16. Enhance the quality of trainings and workshops given to female inmates in order to help them reintegrate after their release
17. Increase awareness on the importance of education for girls.
18. Increase the number of female doctors by making medical school more accessible to women.
19. The safehouse in Kunduz needs to be reopened.
20. Improve living conditions and enhance reintegration mechanisms for women residing in prison women's prison in Balkh and Southern provinces.
21. Enhance awareness against *Bad Dadan* in all provinces, especially Helmand, Paktia and Uruzgan
22. Include religious institutions and religious leaders in efforts to combat violence against women
23. Increase the number of effective women in the formal judiciary, especially in the Southern provinces
24. There is a need for new and better equipped safehouses in Helmand, Kandahar, Paktia and Uruzgan
25. In all provinces, engage in capacity-building activities to help women active in politics gain the required skills needed for active political participation

## Appendix 1: Summary of Afghanistan's NAP 1325 (2015-2022)

To implement UNSCR 1325, the Government of Afghanistan has developed this National Action Plan to achieve the following:

- Participation of women in the decision making and executive levels of the Civil Service, Security and Peace and Reintegration;
- Women's active participation in national and provincial elections;
- Women's access to effective, active and accountable justice system;
- Health and psychosocial support for survivors of sexual and domestic violence throughout Afghanistan;
- Protection of women from all types of violence and discrimination;
- Provision of financial resources for activities related to women in emergency;
- Implementation of IDPs policy provisions related to UNSCR 1325;
- Put an end to impunity for violence against women (VAW) and related crimes;
- Engage boys and men in fighting Violence Against Women;
- Support and provide capacity building for civil society (particularly women's organizations) on UNSCR 1325 and women, peace, and security;
- Increase economic security for vulnerable women through increased employment opportunities;
- Increase access to education and higher education for girls and women, particularly for the internally displaced persons and returnees;

Due to more than 3 decades of war, the following major areas require focused attention:

- Women are vulnerable to sexual violence, including: rape, sexual harassment, trafficking, forced prostitution, and forced marriages
- In remote areas, women lack access to justices
- As a result of the armed conflict and the marginalization of women in society at large, women lack proper access to healthcare services, education, and employment opportunities.
- As a result, illiteracy and unemployment rates are highest among women, and Afghanistan suffers from a significant maternal mortality rate. Internally displaced women and women living in conflict-affected communities are particularly vulnerable to insecurity.

### Constitutional Provisions

According to Article 22 of the Afghan Constitution, "[a]ny kind of discrimination and distinction between citizens of Afghanistan shall be forbidden. The citizens of Afghanistan, man and woman, have equal rights and duties before the law." This Article is the foundation for incorporating principles of gender equality and non-discrimination in government policies and initiatives. Women's right to vote and representation in the National Assembly is enshrined in the 1964 Constitution. These rights were strengthened in 2004 with the new Constitution that set the 26 percent quota of seats for women in the Lower House (Wolesi Jirga) and 17 percent in the Upper House (Meshrano Jirga). Following the 2010 elections, Afghan women represented 27.7% of the Wolesi Jirga.

Articles No 43, 44, 53, and 54 of the Afghan Constitution articulate provisions on education, healthcare, welfare, and employment services for women. These articles ensure women's access to education, healthcare, and employment in Afghanistan, which are pre-conditions for their meaningful political participation as well as an important component of the relief and recovery.

## **Legal Provisions**

The laws of Afghanistan guarantee the protection of women's right and freedom. The government is legally bound to protect women against violence. In 2009 the Elimination of Violence against Women (EVAW) Law was adopted, which lists 22 offences including forced marriage and rape. In an attempt to strengthen the legal provisions and structures to eliminate violence against women and increase women's participation, the government has taken the following significant steps:

- Adoption of the EVAW Law
- Amendment of some of the provisions in the Civil Servants Law to promote women's rights
- Development of the Family Law
- Development of procedures to prevent discrimination
- Development of Shelter Regulations, and
- Presidential Decree No 45 (Paragraph 32) on Elimination of Violence against Women.

## **NAP 1325 Pillars**

### **Participation:**

- Increase effective participation of women in the decision-making and executive levels of the civil service
- Ensure women's active and effective participation in leadership positions of security agencies
- Ensure women's effective participation in the peace process
- Encourage women's meaningful participation in the drafting of strategies and policies on peace and security
- Strengthen women's active participation in politics

### **Protections:**

- Protect women from all forms of violence and discrimination through the enforcement, monitoring and amendment of existing laws and development of new laws and policies.
- Promote women's human rights gender mainstreaming of laws, policies, and institutional reforms.
- Create an enabling environment for women to have access to justice through women's effective participation in the judiciary.
- Protect women from all forms of violence through awareness raising and public outreach.
- Provide health, psychological, and social services for women survivors of violence throughout Afghanistan.
- Effect special measures to ensure women's protection from sexual violence.

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### **Prevention:**

- Prevent violence against women.
- Eliminate culture of impunity in violence against women.
- Strengthen the role of women in the security sector and judicial structures.
- Effect gender-related reforms in the security and justice sectors.
- Involve men and boys in the fight against all forms of violence against women.
- Increase awareness among women of their rights and their role in preventing violence and resolving conflict.

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### **Relief and Recovery:**

- Provide relief and recovery services for women affected by conflict, internal displacement and

women survivors of violence.

- Increase rural women’s economic security through increased employment opportunities.
- Consider women’s social and economic needs in the design, implementation, and evaluation of relief and recovery programs.
- Implement the policy provisions of UNSCR 1325 for the internally displaced persons (IDPs).

### Implementation

The implementation occurs in two phases of four years each: 2015-2018 and 2018-2022.

The implementing agencies have been divided into two categories lead (governmental) and support (civil society).

### Reporting and Accountability

All lead and supporting implementing agencies will be responsible for reporting on their assigned activities on an annual basis to the DHRWIA-MoFA. The DHRWIA will compile the reports and submit them to the Steering Committee for approval. After approving the report, the Steering Committee will submit the final report to the President Office, the National Assembly and the international community. The annual reporting will address: the extent of activities implemented, financing allocated, disbursed and spent, progress made, challenges encountered, and suggestions to improve the implementation.

#### 1 – Steering Committee:

The Steering Committee was established on April 14, 2012, under Presidential Order No 434, and is an overarching body to advise and direct the NAP development process. The Steering Committee is comprised of relevant government agencies as well as a representative from civil society. Following the adoption of the NAP, the Steering Committee will continue to have a central role in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the NAP.

#### Steering Committee Members

Institution	NAP Role
1. Minister of Foreign Affairs	Chairperson Member
2. Deputy Minister (Policy) of MoD	Member
3. Deputy Minister (Security) of the MoIA	Member
4. Deputy Minister of Public Health (Healthcare Services)	Member
5. Deputy Minister (Admin and Finance) of MoRR	Member
6. Deputy Minister (Technical and Policy) of MoWA	Member
7. Senior Advisor of MoJ	Member
8. Director of DHRWIA of MoFA	Member
9. Deputy Director of NDS	Member
10. Women’s Rights Commissioner of the AIHRC	Member
11. Representative of Civil Society	Member
12. Director of International Relations of the Office of Administrative Affairs and Secretariat of Ministers’ Council	Member

#### 2 – Technical Working Group:

In order to ensure effective implementation and reporting of the NAP, the annual reports as well as the midterm review and final review will be published on MoFA’s website.

### Monitoring and Evaluation

A Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan is designed, which includes annual, mid-term (after two years) and final review in the fourth year. The M&E Plan includes tracking and monitoring of financing for the

NAP to ensure transparent and effective implementation, for which the Steering Committee is responsible. The GIROA recognizes the important role of civil society as an independent oversight body for the successful implementation of the NAP.

## Appendix 2: PWN-related Activities

### Central Region

#### Kabul:

- The PWN meeting in Kabul was held on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2015 with 30 members. During the meeting the provincial coordinator briefed members about UNHCR 1325, and potential strategies for monitoring violence against women in the community.
- At a follow-up meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug 2015, the members discussed issues facing women in their community. There was agreement to try to establish literacy and sewing workshops for local women, to help achieve financial independence.
- A follow up on the July meeting on UN 1325 and violence against women was held on 18<sup>th</sup> November. The Kabul members formed an advocacy group with an action plan, designed to follow up on incidents of gender-based and increase women's access to justice.
- On 18<sup>th</sup> December, the members met to apply the principles of UN 1325 to local issues and to identify ongoing the concerns of women in the community.
- Members met on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2016 to identify factors affecting women's access to justice locally, along with the corresponding strategies: promoting awareness among women about their fundamental rights, increasing the number of female staff in the judicial system and campaigning for the fair implementation of the law.
- On 5<sup>th</sup> Feb 2016, 45 women and 33 men gathered to attend the screening of documentary "Six Days" in Kabul.

#### Parwan:

- PWN office established on 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> December 2015
- On 18<sup>th</sup> Jan 2015, the documentary "Six Days" was screened for 70 participants in Bagrami and the centre of Parwan province. 70 participants attended the screening, consisting of 38 female and 32 male participants.
- The Paktia PWN met on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2016 to outline the drivers limiting access to justice for women, notably the lack of: awareness, rule of law, female legal staff and financial independence.

### Central Highlands

#### Bamyan:

- On 27<sup>th</sup> July 2015, a PWN meeting was conducted in Bamyan province. The training was attended by 30 members, with the purpose of setting up an M & E mechanism to chart the incidence of gender-based violence within the province and track the success of governmental efforts to empower women.
- On 12<sup>th</sup> August 2015, a meeting was held to strengthen the capacity of the network. The members confirmed that their advocacy efforts on justice for women had already begun, winning justice for a women who had been beaten by her brother-in-law by successfully referring the case to the HRC.
- Following up on their work on gender-based violence, the members met on 23<sup>rd</sup> November to draw up an action plan and to form an advocacy group to bring justice to victims of VAW.
- Meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> December, applying principles of UN 1325 to issues affecting women within the community.

- Members met on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016 to identify factors affecting women’s access to justice locally, along with the corresponding strategies: promoting awareness among women about their fundamental rights, increasing the number of female staff in the judicial system and campaigning for the fair implementation of the law.
- The documentary “Six Days” was screened on 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> January 2015 for 75 participants in Sheybar, Yakawlang and centre of Bamyan province. The participants comprised of 4 male and 71 female civil society activists, community elders, governmental authorities and students. In Sheybar, a total of 15 participants attended the screening, whereas in Yakawlang and the centre of Bamyan, 30 participants were present. The feedback from the participants was overwhelmingly positive. Attendees appeared to recognize that the public is not aware of their rights, which can therefore be violated on a regular basis far more easily. Following the screening, a number of the activists stated that they now had a much better understanding of the importance of awareness raising as a strategy for change.

#### **Daikundi:**

- PWN office was established on 2<sup>nd</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> December 2015.
- Members met on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016 to identify factors affecting women’s access to justice locally, along with the corresponding strategies: promoting awareness among women about their fundamental rights, increasing the number of female staff in the judicial system and campaigning for the fair implementation of the law.
- In Daikundi, the documentary “Six Days” was shown to 75 participants in Shahristan and centre of the province on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> January respectively. The audience was comprised of 13 men and 62 women across both localities.

### **Western Region**

#### **Herat:**

- A PWN meeting was held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015 with 30 members. The participants learnt about UNSCR 1325, challenges facing women in Herat and the need to monitor such threats so as to advocate for women’s rights more effectively.
- The next session, on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2015, involved an evaluative assessment undertaken by PWN HQ. They also shared their main problems with the representatives of the central office, notably the lack of facilities and threats to women who came from districts.
- Following up on the issue of violence identified in the previous meeting, on 21<sup>st</sup> November members drew up an action plan and formed an advocacy group to bring perpetrators of gender-based violence in the community to justice.
- In a meeting on December 17, 2015, members discussed the local prevalence of violence against women, along with its link to self-immolation which remains most common in Herat. The members pledged to raise awareness about gender-based violence before the next meeting, in effort to reduce cases of suicide.
- Members met on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2016 to identify factors affecting women’s access to justice locally, along with the corresponding strategies: promoting awareness among women about their fundamental rights, increasing the number of female staff in the judicial system and campaigning for the fair implementation of the law.
- In Herat, the screening of documentary “Six Days” was conducted over two-days for 75 people in the centre and in Enjil district. 40 male and 35 female participants attended the event.

## Northern Region

### Faryab:

- During the PWN meeting in Faryab on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2015, 30 members learnt about UNSCR 1325 and the need to advocate for monitoring the expiry date of medicines.
- A follow-up meeting was held on 25<sup>th</sup> Aug 2015, to plan an advocacy plan to be implemented before the next meeting.
- On 27<sup>th</sup> October, members confirmed that they had received reports of gender-based violence against women in their community, which they had referred to the Department of Women's Affairs (DoWA).
- On 22<sup>nd</sup> November, following the discussion about violence against women, the participants formed an advocacy group to follow-up on such cases within the community.
- Meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> December, applying principles of UN 1325 to issues affecting women within the community.
- Members met on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016 to identify factors affecting women's access to justice locally, along with the corresponding strategies: promoting awareness among women about their fundamental rights, increasing the number of female staff in the judicial system and campaigning for the fair implementation of the law.
- On 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015, the documentary "Six Days" was screened for 75 male and female participants of Faryab. The participants were made up of 25 male and 50 female members.

### Kunduz:

- On 28<sup>th</sup> July 2015, the PWN meeting was conducted in Kunduz province with 30 members in attendance. The participants discussed the negative impacts of insecurity on women's education as well as social engagement in the province. They outlined a plan to advocate for girl's education at the local and provincial level over upcoming months.
- In a follow-up meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> Aug 2015, the members reported that they had visited schools to hear about the concerns of the students. They heard complaints about a lack of transparency in examinations, including the manipulation of test results by teachers. On this basis, the members met with the head of the local Department of Higher Education, who agreed to appoint a board to monitor the examination process in the aforementioned schools. Besides this, women's employment in the police sector was identified as another key issue to focus on in future.
- On 28<sup>th</sup> November, the members learnt about UN 1325 and how security can impact disproportionately on women. The participants formed advocacy groups among them to follow the cases of violence against women in their respective communities.
- Office damaged by Taliban attack following November meeting; reestablished by EPD between December 23-27.
- On 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016, the Kunduz PWN met to outline factors affecting access to justice among women. They identified the following corresponding target areas: promoting awareness among women about their fundamental rights, increasing the number of female staff in the judicial system and ensuring that the law is implemented in cases of VAW.
- On 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> January, the documentary "Six Days" was screened for 24 participants in Khan Abad district and 30 participants in centre of Kunduz province. The screenings were attended by 4 male and 50 female participants.

### Balkh:

- PWN office established on 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> October 2015

- On 30<sup>th</sup> November, the Balkh members learnt about UN 1325 and how insecurity can have a disproportionate effect on women. The participants outlined an action plan and agreed to advocate for justice regarding local cases of gender-based violence.
- In a meeting with 29 members on 16<sup>th</sup> December, those present agreed to focus on the problem of street harassment. Members pledged to meet with the Department of Hajj and Religious Affairs before the next meeting with view to undertaking advocacy. Additional local issues identified were: child marriage, illiteracy, the poor education system (including inadequate books in schools) and the increasing rate of violence against women.
- Members met on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016 to identify factors affecting women’s access to justice locally, along with the corresponding strategies: promoting awareness among women about their fundamental rights, increasing the number of female staff in the judicial system and campaigning for the fair implementation of the law.
- The documentary “Six Days” was screened in Balkh during February 4-7, 2016. Seventy people attended, consisting of 30 female and 40 male participants. The screening was organized over 3 days for 3 different districts of Balkh: Karte-Noor Khuda, Khulm and Dawlat Abad.

#### **Badakhshan:**

- PWN office established on 16<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> November 2015
- Members met on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2016 to identify factors affecting women’s access to justice locally, along with the corresponding strategies: promoting awareness among women about their fundamental rights, increasing the number of female staff in the judicial system and campaigning for the fair implementation of the law.
- The documentary “Six Days” was screened for 75 participants in Badakhshan on 18<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> January in Urgo and the centre of the province respectively. 33 male and 42 female participants attended the screening.

#### **Southern Region**

##### **Helmand:**

- PWN office established 27<sup>th</sup> Oct- 30<sup>th</sup> Nov 2015
- Members met on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2016 to identify factors affecting women’s access to justice locally, along with the corresponding strategies: promoting awareness among women about their fundamental rights, increasing the number of female staff in the judicial system and campaigning for the fair implementation of the law.
- The documentary screening “Six Days” was conducted on January 18, 20, and 21, 2016 in the centre, Nad-e- Ali and Grishk districts of Helmand. Seventy five participants, 20 males and 55 females, attended the screening.

##### **Kandahar:**

- During the PWN meeting conducted in Qandahar on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2015, 30 participants attended. Those present discussed critical problems local women face, including monitoring violence against women and family disputes, among other prevalent issues in the province.
- In a follow-up meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> August, members confirmed they had successfully mediated between a bride and her mother-in-law, who agreed to reconcile heir relationship once they had discussed the Islamic nature of women’s rights with the PWN. Besides this, the members agreed on education and literacy as another key issue, pledging to arrange a meeting with the Directorate of Education before the next meeting.

- On 29<sup>th</sup> October, the group learnt about UN 1325 and the disproportionate effects of insecurity on women. The members reflected on local examples, including the fact that some mothers stop their daughters going to school out of fear of violence.
- The group reconvened on 15<sup>th</sup> November, and formed an advocacy group designed to follow up on cases of violence against women within the community in accordance with an organized activity plan.
- The members met on 12<sup>th</sup> December to follow up on their advocacy efforts, and to identify challenges facing women locally.
- On 14<sup>th</sup> January, 30 members met to identify the key challenges preventing access to justice among women. The group agreed upon discrimination through cultural norms, lack of knowledge of legal rights and governmental/judicial corruption as three key areas to be focused on in future.
- In Qandahar, the screening of the documentary “Six days” was shown to 75 participants in the centre and Arghandab district. On 19<sup>th</sup> Jan 2016, the screening was conducted in Arghandab district with 20 female participants, while on 24<sup>th</sup> Jan, 55 female participants attended the viewing in the centre.

#### **Uruzgan:**

- PWN office established 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> November 2015
- Members met on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2016 to identify factors affecting women’s access to justice locally, along with the corresponding strategies: promoting awareness among women about their fundamental rights, increasing the number of female staff in the judicial system and campaigning for the fair implementation of the law.
- The documentary movie “Six Days” was screened for 75 female participants (60 from the centre, and 15 from the districts) on 20<sup>th</sup> Jan 2016. It is worth mentioning that due to insecurity in the region, it was difficult for the provincial coordinators to conduct the screening in the districts, such that the centre was the main focal point on this occasion.

#### **Paktia:**

- PWN office established 31<sup>st</sup> October – 4<sup>th</sup> November 2015
- The Paktia PWN met on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2016 to outline the drivers limiting access to justice for women, notably the lack of: awareness, rule of law, female legal staff and financial independence.
- The documentary “Six Days” was screened for 75 participants on 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> Jan in the centre, Mirzaka and Ahmad Aba. 24 male and 51 female participants attended the screening.

### **Eastern Region**

#### **Nangarhar**

- The PWN meeting was held in Nangarhar on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2015, with 30 members. The participants discussed UNHCR 1325, the challenges affecting women’s education and health, and the poor quality of service delivery in clinics and hospitals. The participants agreed to follow up on the issues with relevant government authorities in order to address the problem.
- A follow-up meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2015 confirmed that members had met with students and teachers at private universities to identify their concerns. Topics raised included the expense of tuition fees and the quality of teaching. Members brought these concerns to principals and administrators, successfully negotiated 5 scholarships along with discounts of between 10-50% for students referred by the PWN.

- The cohort met on 16<sup>th</sup> November to follow up on the theme of gender-based violence and UN 1325. The members formed an advocacy plan, to bring justice to perpetrators of violence against women within the community in line with a clear activity plan.
- On 12<sup>th</sup> December, members agreed upon the following key concerns: the poor provision of service in the Public Hospital of Nangarhar, the damage of local schools caused by a recent earthquake, family disputes and violence against women (VAW). They formed three working groups to confront these issues: an education committee, health committee and peace and advocacy committee. Each team agreed upon roles and follow-ups among their members, with the peace and advocacy committee tasked with communicating with the Provincial HPC and CSOs to seek their support in handling cases of VAW.
- On 11<sup>th</sup> January 2016, 30 members met to share cases illustrating lack of awareness and fear as two key factors keeping women from accessing the formal justice sector.
- During the documentary of “Six Days” was screened in Nangarhar between February 4 and February 7, 2016. Seventy five participants attended, 50 females and 25 males. The screening was held separately for male and female participants.

#### **Laghman:**

- PWN office established 23<sup>rd</sup>- 27<sup>th</sup> October 2015
- On 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016, the Laghman branch of the PWN met to decide on focus areas. The high illiteracy rate among women was identified as a major problem, as a result of which women fail to access justice provisions. There was agreement on the need for rights-based education, upon which members plan to conduct advocacy.
- In Laghman, the documentary “Six Days” was screened for 75 participants over 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> Jan 2015, in Qarghayi, Alishing, and the centre of Laghman province.

## Appendix 3: The Barometer Process

Cordaid's Barometer has three intervention pathways: a) understanding local women's realities; b) in-depth research on key-issues identified by women; and c) advocacy for policy changes based on evidence-based recommendations. These pathways are reinforced by specific capacity development activities for women and women's organizations.

### *a) Understanding local women's realities*

The Barometer of Women's Security is an innovative approach that engages vulnerable women in identifying and communicating their needs, and empowers them to engage with relevant stakeholders to design and implement solutions. Moreover, it's a tool, a database with real-time indicators formulated by women that monitor and report their needs and track progress. The Barometer is therefore both a strategy to empower women, and also a monitoring tool. On the one hand, it builds voice, agency, and decision making power among women, while it also builds an evidence base of women's practical security needs. The Barometer of Women's Security provides legitimacy to the project. The realities and voices of women - the outcomes of the barometer - are used to identify areas that require further in-depth research and analysis, and are integrated into activities at local, national and international levels to generate policy change, improved representation and greater accountability for the security of women and their communities.

### *Approach*

The Barometer is a holistic approach of women's empowerment and gender equality in conflict affected contexts. It builds a knowledge base on how relevant thematic areas intersect in advancing gender equality goals in fragile and conflict affected states and responds to women's needs by offering integrated interventions. Some key characteristic:

- Women are in the lead. The Barometer places women in Afghanistan, that suffer most acutely from fragility, at the heart of defining priorities for intervention, collecting data, and monitoring and evaluating outcomes and impact.
- It builds credible evidence on women's security in fragile contexts, and on what works to promote women's agency and decision-making power.
- It connects all spheres of impact necessary to achieve real change.
- It creates an enabling environment by transforming gender norms through the involvement of men as partners to achieve gender equality.
- It connects qualitative and quantitative data. Women's perspectives provide the stories behind the quantitative data.

### *b) In-depth Research*

A strong evidence base is essential for informed advocacy, and to increase our understanding of the factors impacting - positively or negatively - on the security situation of women. MWPS' partners identified the need to strengthen, and adapt the research component of the proposed project. The project focuses on researching issues emerging from the barometer around women, peace and security as a means to develop evidence-based advocacy tools for the PWN members and to mobilise support at national level. This contributes to increased awareness among key government stakeholders, the donor community, and civil society of the needs, interests and perspectives of women with regards to peace and security, and the root causes of related problems. This allows the formulation of concrete

recommendations on how to e.g. reduce violence against women. The research is conducted in fifteen provinces.

Based, on this the annual synthesis reports reflect on changes and trends in the security situation for women in Afghanistan.

*c) Advocacy for policy changes*

The project strengthens the influence of local people - especially women and women's groups - in political processes in Afghanistan as a pre-condition for inclusive policies, social justice and democratic governance. The project applies a comprehensive advocacy approach that connects community-led advocacy initiatives with advocacy at the provincial, national and international level. With the mobilization and monitoring activities conducted through the Barometer, the project ensures that advocacy aimed at instigating behavioral and policy changes are informed by women's perspectives, interests and needs on the ground. This enhances the legitimacy of the project's advocacy work and bridges the gap between decision-makers and the women affected by insecurity and violence.

The lobby and advocacy component of this project focuses on local and national levels. Grassroots advocacy is crucial as public support is necessary to advocate for change at the policy-making level and that local communities themselves raise awareness about the issues, challenges and opportunities and mobilize people for demanding change. The project ensures the overall advocacy is community-led and informs the project's national advocacy strategy. In turn, this links with the international lobby activities organized by Cordaid.

*d) Capacity development of women's organizations*

Capacity development is an indispensable element of women empowerment and mobilization, as local communities will receive the required training and support in order for them to be in the forefront of effecting behavioral and policy changes based on a needs assessment among PWN members.

2) Overall structure of the barometer:

*See the project's activity plan as well*

1. Preparation stage
2. Tool and process design
3. Data collection
4. Data management and analysis
5. Data utilization (local, state and international levels)
6. Feedback loops
7. Planning ongoing monitoring and scaling-up

3) A brief description of the relevant barometer activities you have done i.e. what were the first steps of setting up barometer and what has been done:

*Please also refer to the MPWS progress report submitted to RNE*

Following the project's inception phase, the methodology for collecting and updating information generated through the barometer approach has been developed. The experiences of piloting the approach in several countries has been reviewed to develop a matrix that included a detailed questionnaire covering the different dimensions of women's security concerns. The matrix also includes a clear set of related indicators that will allow data to be compared between regions, and to distil trends over time. These indicators are aligned with the UNSCR 1325 indicators.

The approach has been carefully reviewed to require less time while not jeopardizing the local dynamics of trust building and jointly analyzing findings with the interviewees. An important added value - and additional challenge - in Afghanistan is that it is undertaken in fifteen provinces simultaneously. During the pilot initiatives in the different countries, it could take up to a year to start producing barometer reports where one well-established local partner would work within one province.

Once the remaining eight provincial women's networks had been established, the PWN in Kunduz was re-established after the province was overrun by the Taliban, an introduction to the barometer process was presented to all provincial coordinators during their first meeting in Kabul. Subsequently, a workshop was conducted for thirty women selected from PWNs from all fifteen provinces in March. The first step in the barometer approach is to create a common ground for agreed action planning through conducting an adapted Future Search.

The participants from the provinces were trained in facilitating the barometer processes in their localities. They reflected on the draft questionnaire that had been designed and translated into Dari to ensure that it aligned with local realities. Feedback from the women has been incorporated and final versions of the questionnaire will be shared with the PWN to be used by the women to collect data. A comprehensive step-by-step guide to implement the different activities within the barometer process has been discussed. This document will be updated, translated and made available to the PWNs. During the training, participants drafted provincial action plans were drafted to guide the data collection, and - analysis in the coming period. This will allow for the generation of the barometer report by the end of June.

In addition, the women used the opportunity of their presence in the workshop where they were representing a large portion of the country to reflect on current factors affecting women's security in Afghanistan at the current moment. The mind-mapping exercise highlighted three key factors that will form the basis to develop research questions. MWPS will conduct research and presented related case-studies in order to better understand these factors and their root causes.

4) What are the future activities, specific to barometer. What matters here is that we report on deliverables\*). What do you expect to get out of the barometer within the coming three months, six months, etc.?

\*) Note that the annual synthesis report is focusing on reflecting on performance towards joint learning. Reporting on agreed upon deliverables is done through regular project reporting to the donor.

*Also refer to the updated activity plan shared with RNE*

The upcoming activities planned for this reporting period:

- Updating the questionnaires and sharing the translated versions with the PWN members trained.
- Supporting the process of data collection and, - analysis.
- In May, MWPS will schedule a meeting to articulate the use of the barometer to new potential local, national, and international users
- Needs assessment of PWN members will be incorporated within regular monitoring activities by all three partners. A capacity assessment tool for lobby and advocacy will be shared.
- Developing the Barometer report by the end of June 2016.

In general, the project will realize the following outputs under the first pathway of understanding local women's realities (refer also the project proposal for further details):

1. The evidence base of women's security and development is strengthened. Women are mobilized and engaged in an assessment of women's security and development needs and priorities. Context appropriate data collection approaches are designed to capture women's inputs. Women are trained as data collectors, conduct field surveys, interviews, share experiences in focus groups and community meetings, and analyze the information themselves to identify trends. Feedback on findings is ensured through multi-stakeholder processes and community radio.
2. A network of empowered women leaders who demonstrate increased social capital and strengthened decision-making power at home and in the community is formed.
3. Integrated interventions towards more equitable decision making power, security, development and economic outcomes are developed, implemented, and tested. In addition to identifying problems, the Barometer process allows women to come up with solutions that they can achieve individually and collectively, jointly with men in their communities, and through involvement of different stakeholders.
4. The barometer is up-scaled to a national instrument boosting the sustainability of the interventions and the results expected to be realized based on the advocacy initiatives. In close collaboration with government, scope for adopting the barometer approach will be explored and promoted.

## Appendix 4: Proxies for UNSCR 1325 Pillars

### Participation

Resolution 1325 calls for increased participation of women at all levels of decision-making, including in national, regional, and international institutions; in mechanisms for the prevention, management and resolution of conflict; in peace negotiations; in peace operations, as soldiers, police, and civilians; and as Special Representatives of the U.N. Secretary-General.

#### **Indicators:**

1. Extent to which women are actively involved in political decision-making process
2. Extent to which women are actively involved in formal peace processes
3. Extent to which formal and informal peace agreements affect women and girls
4. Extent to which women are represented in ANSF based on professional role, rank and number
5. Extent to which women participate in civil service

Sample questions for this Indicator:

- a) How and to what extent are women involved in political decision-making?
- b) How and to what extent are women involved in formal peace process?
- c) How can women's participation in peace and politics be enhanced?
- d) How do formal and informal peace agreements affect women's lives?
- e) How are women who are involved in peace and/or politics treated by their colleagues and the society?
- f) Do women who work for ANSF face specific gender based challenges?
- g) What is the number/percentage of female government employees (quantitative)?

### Prevention

Resolution 1325 calls for improving intervention strategies in the prevention of violence against women, including by prosecuting those responsible for violations of international law; strengthening women's rights under national law; and supporting local women's peace initiatives and conflict resolution processes.

#### **Indicators:**

1. Types and nature of violence against women
2. Extent to which violation of women's rights are reported, referred and investigated
3. Extent to which the ANSF address cases of violence against
4. Extent to which violators of women's rights and prosecuted
5. Extent to which EAW and the NAP 1325 are put implementation

Sample questions for this Indicator:

- a) What are the most common types of violence that women are subjected to?
- b) What formal and informal efforts do ANP/FRU/CSO/DoWA you make to protect women from VAW? Focus of **prevention**?
- c) Do women who seek justice face specific gender based challenges?
- d) What improvements can be made to better prosecute those who violate women's rights?
- e) How are EAW and NAP 1325 are put to implementation?

## **Protection**

Resolution 1325 calls specifically for the protection of women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence, including in emergency and humanitarian situations, such as in refugee camps.

### **Indicators:**

1. Extent to which women are protected from sexual and gender-based violence through formal justice system
2. Extent to which women are protected from sexual and gender-based violence through informal justice system
3. Extent to which female victims of sexual and gender-based violence are provided with alternatives (safehouses, etc.)
4. Gender perspective in social / economic planning (reflected in budgets at the district level)

Sample questions for this Indicator:

- a) How can your organization better protect women from sexual and gender-based violence?
- b) What are the social / traditional barriers for victims of sexual and gender-based violence in access to justice?
- c) Are women protected by the informal justice system? How?
- d) How is gender perspective included in humanitarian program planning?
- e) Do women have access to shelters? What happens to them after they leave the shelters?
- f) Do women who seek justice face specific gender based challenges?

## **Relief and Recovery**

The Relief and Recovery Pillar of the Women, Peace and Security agenda focuses on ensuring that relief needs specific to women and girls are met and that special attention is paid to the most vulnerable, including displaced women and girls, survivors of gender based violence, and those with disabilities. It also calls for efforts to support women's activities as agents in relief and recovery efforts, including providing women with equal access to livelihoods activities.<sup>277</sup>

### **Indicators:**

1. Extent to which gender perspective is included in humanitarian program planning
2. Extent to which CSOs have access to capacity and resources to address a gender perspective
3. The extent of formal provisions provided to women widowed and disabled as a result of conflict
4. The extent of informal provisions (at a community level) provided to women widowed and disabled as a result of conflict
5. Extent to which the specific needs of internally displaced women are taken into account and acted upon by government and development actors
6. Extent to which women have access to health and education services
7. Existence and practice of rehabilitation measures for women released from safehouses
8. Existence and practice of rehabilitation measures for women released from prisons

Sample questions for this Indicator:

- a) What capacities do you have to address a gender perspective?
- b) How is gender perspective included in humanitarian program planning?

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<sup>277</sup> <http://www.peacewomen.org/e-news/article/women-peace-security-panel-series-wps-panel-series-relief-and-recovery-pillar>

- c) What are the working conditions of female government employees and how can it be improved?
- d) How do you stimulate women's employment and entrepreneurship?
- e) Do women have access to shelters? What happens to them after they leave the shelters?
- f) How are female inmates treated in prison? What happens to them when they leave the prison?
- g) What provisions are there by the government, CSOs, donors or NGOs for Internally Displaced Women?
- h) What are the rehabilitation measures for women out of prisons and safehouses?
- i) What provisions are there by the government, CSOs, donors or NGOs for widows?
- j) Do women have access to health and education services? What are the barriers?

**Quantitative Data from Secondary Sources:**

1. The number of women in Provincial Councils (Available on IEC)
2. The Number of women in Provincial Peace Councils
3. Number of female inmates (Also available in CSO yearbooks)
4. Number of women in shelters (Ask ANP, FRU and/or CSOs)
5. Women in Civil Service (Available in CSO yearbooks)

## Appendix 5: Key Informant and Focus Group Discussion Codes

### All Provinces

Interview type	Total Number	Total
Key Informant Interviews	77	77 (15 Semi-governmental)
Focus Group Discussions	30	30 (15 non-governmental)
Total		107

### Description of codes:

Each code consists of four units of information, the table below shows the types of the interview and interviewee as well as the province in which the interview has taken place. The affiliation of the interviewees is described in a separate table.

Unit within the code	Description of the abbreviation
KI	Key Informant Interviewee
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
F/M	Female or Male interviewee
Bad/Bal/Bam/Dai/Her/Kab/Kan/Kun/Lagh, Nan/Par/Uru	The first three letters of the name of the visited province
Number	The fourth unit indicates the affiliation of the interviewee, which can be found in a separate table

### Affiliation of the interviewees

Number	Affiliation of the Interviewee
1	Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Organization (AIHRC)
2	Department of Justice (DoJ)
3	Department of Education (DoE)
4	Department of Public Health (DoH)
5	Focus Group with Department of Women's Affairs (DoWA)
6	Provincial Council Member (PC)
7	Provincial Peace Council Member (PPC)
8	Family Response Unit/ Afghan National Police
9	Department of Work and Social Affairs, Martyred and Disabled (DoLSAMD)