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Enhancing Afghan Women's Capacity in Monitoring and Evaluation

Gender Equality Project conducted six-day training workshop on Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) for the Provincial Department of Women Affairs of Balkh in Mazar-e-Sharif. A number of women staff members from other partner institution of gender equality project also participated in this learning event. The training objective was to enhance the capacity of women staff members of provincial departments with advanced skills of monitoring and evaluation. The training also contributed in improving of auditing gender development indicators and results based management which develops the management skills of women. In total 20 women from various provincial departments e.g. women affairs, Justice, Agriculture and Rural Rehabilitation participated. The Director of Provincial Director for Women Affairs (DoWA) of



M&E Skill Building Workshop Participants

Balkh, Ms. Friba Majeed vigorously participated in training and emphasized on enhancing the capacity of women in the fields of management and leadership for the benefit of society as well as strengthening participation of women in the socio-economic and political development of the country. She pointed that limiting the participation of women in governance and development throughout the history—is a contributing among the major factors of political instability and war in Afghanistan.

Promoting Legal Awareness of women in communities

Gender Equality Project conducted a legal awareness training for the women members of Community Development Councils (CDCs) in Khulm District of Balkh Province. The legal awareness capacity of over 30 women participants were enhanced significantly in enhancing their knowledge related to Islamic laws, Panel Codes of Afghanistan, International law as well as about the women rights guaranteed in the religion as well as recognized in the constitution. The women trainees are enabled with advanced skills of promoting legal awareness of women in communities that will contribute in reduction of violence

against women as well in enhancing women participation in decision making. The training was based on Islamic provisions indicated rights of women, as well in accordance to the International treaties, conventions like Human Rights Convention and the convention of eliminating all kinds of discriminations against women endorsed by Afghanistan.



Legal Rights Trainings Participants

Rehabilitating Justice Institutions in 10 districts

The past three-decade of war damaged the infrastructure in Afghanistan which extensively effected Justice institutions located at district level. At present large scale infrastructure programmes are underway which require period for rehabilitation. The current level of support is not adequate to address the requirements of the justice sector. This is truly applied to the district level, as districts frequently benefiting a lot from centrally driven infrastructure programmes. It is crucial for Justice Project to engage in infrastructure not only because it is included in the top priority of the local project partner institutions but also because of local justice infrastructure is the most visible aspect of the justice system. The existence of functioning infrastructure is integral for the achievement of all other aspects of access to justice.

UNDP's Justice and Human Right (JHRA) project through its rehabilitation of infrastructures unit conducted an assessment with the purpose to assess the feasibility of existing justice facilities namely the premises of primary courts, justice residential houses, detention centers and attorney offices at the district level. The project also assessed the aforementioned facilities in 10 districts of Jawzjan, Balkh, Baghlan, Kunduz and Badakhshan provinces and recommended

their rehabilitation. The procurement process related to the construction is completed. The rehabilitation work will start in the first quarter of 2010 and will be completed before third quarter of 2010.



An extensively damaged premises of a Justice Institution recommended for Rehabilitation

Supporting Parliamentary initiatives on Environmental protection

Support to the Parliament Project (SEAL II) facilitated a meeting of Parliamentary group of energy and environment in January 2010. The meeting was chaired by Ms. Rida Azimi Head of Energy and Environment Parliamentary group of Senate. The main purpose of this meeting was to give a start up in organizing a Living Environment Conference in Kabul scheduled this year. A number of senators, government officials from various ministries, members of civil society organizations and representatives of environment protecting institutions participated in this technical meeting. The discussion covered the concerning impact of environment on life of people and society in overall.

Solutions were also presented to mobilize resources for healthy and favourable environment. The follow up meeting of the parliamentary group on energy and environment was also conducted in the first of February 2010 and SEAL technically assisted and assigned expert project colleagues in the working groups who presented factors of contamination to environment and finding the solutions to address these issues. The agenda for upcoming environment conference in Kabul was highlighted in context to the identifications of technical participants and other necessary arrangements.



Parliamentary group on Energy and Environment in meeting

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