



Women and Peace

A listing of organizations
working for
women's rights *and* peace
in Afghanistan
2015

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WOMEN AND PEACE: AN INCOMPLETE SOUTH ASIAN DIRECTORY

This project originated in a quest to identify potential partners for peace-related projects. That quest shifted shape, but we kept the kernel of the work and expanded its scope to include all SAARC member countries.

We started with the question, “Which women’s organizations work on peace?” But given that feminists define peace as far more than the cessation of conflict and hostilities, the term was hardly a filter. After all, peace is also empowerment, engaged citizenship, good governance, sustainable development and a free flow of information and expression. As we identified organizations across a spectrum of activities, we began to tag them with ‘keywords’:

- Peace and conflict transformation
- Women’s rights and empowerment
- Capacity building and community mobilization
- Governance and policy advocacy
- Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development
- Information and communication

The keywords are simply intended to help in our search to identify resources and partners, not to narrowly define an organization’s work in any way.

The directory is the product of a desk-based Internet search. We invite you to email us with names and website addresses for organizations you think should be included. Email us at prajnyatrust@gmail.com.

Profound thanks are due to Vignesh Rajendran, Research Intern at Chaitanya-The Policy Consultancy; it is his diligent research that made this project possible. Thanks are also due to Mitha Nandagopalan whose meticulous editing has refined these documents immensely.

January 1, 2015

About Prajnya

The Prajnya Trust is a Chennai-based non-profit engaged in research, public education and network-building in areas related to peace, justice and security. This project is located at the intersection of its two initiatives—Politics, Security and Women and Education for Peace. Prajnya’s online coordinates:

Email: prajnyatrust@gmail.com

Web: <http://www.prajnya.in>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/prajnyatrust>

Twitter: [@prajnya](https://twitter.com/prajnya)

NAME	LOCATION	KEYWORDS	CONTACT PERSON/ EMAIL	PAGE
Afghanistan Women Council (AWC)	Kabul	Women's rights and empowerment; Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development; Capacity building and community mobilization	awcafgh@yahoo.com	7
Afghanistan Independence Peace Development Organization (AIPDO)	Kabul	Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development; Women's rights and empowerment; Peace and conflict transformation; Capacity-building and community mobilization.	Najeeb.aipdo.org@gmail.com Najeeb.arsala.af@gmail.com	8
Afghan Women's Educational Center (AWEC)	Kabul	Women's rights and empowerment; Peace and conflict transformation; Capacity-building and community mobilization	AWEC.KABUL@AWEC.INFO	9
Afghan Women's Resource Center (AWRC)	Kabul	Capacity-building and community mobilization, Information and communication.	info@theawrc.net	10
Bakhtar Development Network (BDN)	Kabul	Women's rights and empowerment; Capacity-building and community mobilization; Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development.	bakhtardf@yahoo.com	11

NAME	LOCATION	KEYWORDS	CONTACT PERSON/ EMAIL	PAGE
Bureau for Reconstruction and Development (BRD)	Kabul	Peace and conflict transformation; Women's rights and empowerment; Capacity-building and community mobilization; Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development.	info@brd.org.af	12
Cooperation for Peace and Development (CPD)	Kabul	Women's rights and empowerment; Peace and conflict transformation; Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development	cpd.afg@gmail.com	13
Cooperation for Peace and Unity (CPU)	Kabul	Peace and conflict transformation	info@cpau.org.af	14
Equality for Peace and Development (EPD)	Kabul	Peace and conflict transformation	epd.afghanistan@gmail.com	15
Humanitarian Assistance for Women and Children Of Afghanistan (HAWCA)	Kabul	Women's rights and empowerment; Peace and conflict transformation; Information and communication.	hawca@hawca.org	16
Organization of Promoting Afghan Women's Capabilities (OPAWC)	Kabul	Women's rights and empowerment; Capacity-building and community mobilization.	opawc99@gmail.com	17

NAME	LOCATION	KEYWORDS	CONTACT PERSON/ EMAIL	PAGE
Peace Training & Research Organization (PTRO)	Kabul	Peace and conflict transformation; Women's rights and empowerment; Capacity building and community mobilization	mirwais.wardak@ptro.org.af	18
Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan (RAWA)	Quetta/Pakistan	Women's rights and empowerment; Peace and conflict transformation; Capacity building and community mobilization	rawa@rawa.org	19
Research Institute for Women Peace & Security (RIWPS)	Kabul	Peace and conflict transformation; Capacity-building and community mobilization; Governance reforms and policy advocacy; Women's rights and empowerment	riwps.afghanistan@gmail.com wfrogh@yahoo.com	20
Sanayee Development Organization (SDO)	Kabul	Peace and conflict transformation; Information and communication	Dalili_Kabul@hotmail.com/ sdokabul@gmail.com	21
Shuhada Organization	Kabul	Women's rights and empowerment; Capacity-building and community mobilization; Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development	jawad.wafa@shuhada.org	22

NAME	LOCATION	KEYWORDS	CONTACT PERSON/ EMAIL	PAGE
Voice of Women Organization (VWO)	Kabul	Women's rights and empowerment; Capacity-building and community mobilization; Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development		23
The Welfare Association for the Development of Afghanistan (WADAN)	Kabul	Peace and conflict transformation; Governance reforms and policy advocacy	info@wadan.org	24
Women & Children Legal Research Foundation (WCLRF)	Kabul	Women's rights and empowerment; Information and communication	wclrf@yahoo.com / wclrf@wclrf.org.af	25
Women Activities and Social Services Association (WASSA)	Herat	Peace and conflict transformation; Women's rights and empowerment; Capacity-building and community mobilization; Information and communication	info@wassa-af.org / sw.sayedi@gmail.com	26

AFGHANISTAN WOMEN COUNCIL

<http://www.afghanistanwomencouncil.org/>

Keywords: Women's rights and empowerment; Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development; Capacity building and community mobilization

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Fax: 928-832-3054

Email: awcafgh@yahoo.com

Factfile

- AWC was founded in 1986 with the objective of enlightening women, improving their living conditions and strengthening their socio-economic status in society.
- In 2001, the AWC had its Head office in Kabul, setting up regional offices in Kandahar and Jalalabad after the fall of Taliban.
- It was founded and run by Ms. Fatana Said Gailani who has been an advocate of women rights since 1980.

Areas of activity

AWC work on women empowerment and rehabilitation consist of the following:

- The relief and rehabilitation of women affected by conflict.
- Facility of finance and skill training workshops for enabling women achieve economic independence.
- Seminars on peace building exclusively for women to enhance their role their role as peace builders in the region.
- Its research center is involved in spreading awareness of women's issues and study on Afghan women's rights in accordance to the Islamic law.

AFGHANISTAN INDEPENDENCE PEACE DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (AIPDO)

<http://www.aipdo.org/>

Keywords: Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development; Women's rights and empowerment; Peace and conflict transformation; Capacity-building and community mobilization.

No. 10, Sulh Road
Green Village
Afghanistan

Telephone: 0093(0) 786 202 995/ 708 810 100

E-Mail: Najeeb.aipdo.org@gmail.com, Najeeb.arsala.af@gmail.com

Factfile

- AIPDO is a democratic Kabul based NGO established on May 5, 2011 with a special focus on Afghan women and their socio-economic conditions. Its main objective is capacity building and vocational training for upliftment of Women's Entrepreneurs.
- The organization is led by Mr. Najeeb Arsala Meherabi who is the Founder & Managing Director who has a decade long experience working Afghanistan's government & other international agencies.

Areas of activity

AIPDO's work on gender welfare & development involves:

- Work for building sustainable peace through the spread of education and employment opportunities in Afghanistan.
- Networking initiatives involving work to establish linkages with other national and international organization working for the Afghan cause.
- Skills training and development workshops on soft skills and handicrafts for Afghan tribal women.
- Fund-raising activities for carrying out its educational, economic, social and political empowerment operations for afghan women.

AFGHAN WOMEN'S EDUCATION CENTRE (AWEC)

<http://www.awec.info/>

Keywords: Women's rights and empowerment; Peace and conflict transformation; Capacity-building and community mobilization

House #1228, Street #12
Kart-E-She, Kabul

Telephone: +93 (0) 700263794

Email: AWEC.KABUL@AWEC.INFO

Factfile

- Established in 1991 by a group of educated Afghan women the AWEC strives for women empowerment, peace building and capacity building. It played a key role in the rehabilitation of women refugees. In the recent years it has expanded its activities to include Peace-Building education in the refugee camps.
- It is led by Ms Hasina Safi who is the executive head of the organization.

Areas of activity

AWEC runs women's rights protection programme which conducts:

- Workshops on reducing gender based violence and mainstreaming gender relations.
- Training on peace building and conflict resolution on the schools and women's education centers operated by AWEP in Kabul and Peshawar.
- Training on education and employment skills through Afghan women empowerment program (AWEP).
- Shelters for protecting women and promoting awareness on legal and democratic rights through Women's Rights Protection and Promotion Program (WRPPP).

AFGHAN WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER (AWRC)

<http://theawrc.net/>

Keywords: Capacity-building and community mobilization, Information and communication.

Dainow dibori
Street #3 silo (across from Aryana Kabul Hotel)
Near Raiyasat Awdat Mahajirin
Kabul, Afghanistan

Telephone: +93-799203056, +93-700280179

Email: info@theawrc.net

Factfile

- AWRC was started in 2002 as a non-political NGO with a vision for transforming Afghan women from passive victims of oppression to active agents of positive change by educating the masses towards promoting the important role of women in the society.
- The director of AWRC is Ms Partawima Hashemme.

Areas of activity

The community mobilization centers (CMC) of the organization is involved in:

- Establishing home-based and community-based literacy classes for women in both rural and urban areas.
- Awareness through workshops promoting women's status and counter the harmful cultural practices against women.
- Enhancing the overall capabilities of civil society organizations (CSO) through networking of organizations working in the eastern regions.
- Capacity building by assisting schools and colleges on improving the overall quality of their curriculum.

BAKHTAR DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

<http://www.bdn.org.af/>

Keywords: Women's rights and empowerment; Capacity-building and community mobilization; Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development.

Hs. 326, Hammam Street Baharistan
Karte Parwan
Kabul

Telephone: 0799007564/ 0776672659

Email: bakhtardf@yahoo.com

Factfile

- BDN was established in 2001 by group of Afghan Nationals and officially registered in 2004 with the government with its main focus is on improving the healthcare facilities especially for women with a view to long-term change of the issue of women's rights in Afghanistan.
- Mr Ahmad Farid Fayeq is the Managing Director of BDN.

Areas of activity

BDN's development activities and networking does:

- Gender surveys regarding political and social barriers that the Afghan women face on accessing basic rights and health services.
- Training of female health workers.
- Awareness campaign on women's health issues in the in the rural areas.
- Increasing accessibility of health centers to women and children in remote areas through health Sub Centers (SCs).

BUREAU FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT (BRD)

<http://www.brd.org.af>

Keywords: Peace and conflict transformation; Women's rights and empowerment; Capacity-building and community mobilization; Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development.

Street 3, Part A, Khoshal Maina
Kabul, Afghanistan

Telephone: 0093 (0) 797876393

Email: info@brd.org.af

Factfile

- BRD was established in 2002 by a group of Afghan activists with the aim of social change for improvement of women, implementation of the peace making and conflict resolution schemes.
- Mr. Khan Aga Dawoodzai is the Director and contact person of BRD. He also serves as a Civil Affairs Officer in United Nations Afghanistan.

Areas of activity

BRD's gender responsive governance project focuses on:

- Women to increase their work experience and develop their employability, by the training provided by BRD.
- Gender awareness campaigns ensuring participants receive knowledge about gender related issues in their respective provinces.
- Facilitating the active involvement of women in the promotion and advocacy women rights.
- Enhancing the capacity of women-led civil society through efficient networking.
- Workshops to promote overall peace building and democratization to rebuild and develop the post conflict society of Afghanistan.

COOPERATION FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT (CPD)

<http://cpdo.blog.af/>

Keywords: Women's rights and empowerment; Peace and conflict transformation; Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development

Office 55, 3rd Floor, Khurasan Market
Opposite Shadab Zafar residential blocks
Kote Sangi
Kabul, Afghanistan

Telephone : 0778585890 / 0700177740

Email : cpd.afg@gmail.com

Skype : cpd.afg

Twitter: @cpdafg

Factfile

- CPD was established in 2011 as non-profit NGO aimed at bringing intellectual change in the mindset of Afghans to ensure perpetual peace in the region.
- It acts as a bridge between marginalized Afghan women and the government.
- CPD's activities are based on Afghan Constitution and other international conventions.

Areas of activity

CPD in collaboration with government works on:

- Framing and implementation of policies necessary for peace building in the region.
- Advocating for long term solutions for tackling the raising extremism in the region through education.
- Promoting voluntarism and human rights focusing on the upliftment of women in the region.
- Conducting week long workshops and sporting events to educate the Afghan youth on environment, women empowerment and peace building.

Note

- CPD is part of MSQEA (Movement for Support of Quality Education in Afghanistan) with an aim to ensure that government acts quickly to promote gender-just quality education.

COOPERATION FOR PEACE AND UNITY (CPU)

<http://www.cpau.org.af/>

Keywords: Peace and conflict transformation

Second Street Haji Yaqoob
House# 587, Shar-e-Now
Kabul, Afghanistan.

Telephone: +93(0)202211083

Email: info@cpau.org.af

Factfile

- CPAU was established in 1996 as a NGO that aims to promote peace and social justice in Afghanistan. Over the last decade CPAU has implemented more than 400 projects in more than 26 provinces across Afghanistan where it has conducted research, peace & conflict management, innovative education and media projects.
- CPAU is led by Mr Kanishka Nawabi and Mr Idress Zaman.

Areas of activity

A CPAU effort on peace and conflict transformation includes:

- Establishing peace councils in villages for training elders acting as mediators on conflict negotiations and mediation skills.
- Peace education offered to 1-12 grades to promote peace, reconciliation and conflict resolution among the youth to prevent violence.
- Fight for Peace Project (FFP) the all girls Afghan boxing team established as symbol to improve the social status of Afghan girls.
- Investment in key industries providing Afghans with employment for building a secure, democratic and prosperous nation.

Note

- CPU's distinction is its raising of the all girls boxing team in Afghanistan which has participated and won in several international tournaments despite the opposition by the fundamentalists and society.

EQUALITY FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT (EPD)

<http://www.epd-afg.org> (under construction)

Keywords: Peace and conflict transformation; Governance and policy advocacy

24000 Kabul, Afghanistan

Phone: +93 79 411 1160

Email: epd.afghanistan@gmail.com

Fact file

- EPD is a non-profit NGO established in 2010 with n aim to empower women and youth at community and policy levels in Afghanistan.
- EPD was founded and led by Ms. Nergis Nehan.

Areas of activity

EPD's activities include:

- Conducting peace building workshops for women from different provinces of Afghanistan.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN OF AFGHANISTAN (HAWCA)

<http://www.hawca.org/>

Keywords: Women’s rights and empowerment; Peace and conflict transformation; Information and communication.

House No. 1137/P, Selo Oil Pump Street
Khusal Khan Mina
District 5, Kabul
Afghanistan

Telephone: +93(0) 706 66 23 27/ 202 561491
Email: hawca@hawca.org
Skype ID: hawca1999

Factfile

- HAWCA was established in 1999 to encourage the active participation of women in the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan.
- HAWCA recognizes that violence against women and girls is one of the most prevalent forms of discrimination in Afghanistan and provides direct help and assistance to women facing violence and uses its experience to raise awareness within the communities of Afghanistan along with the national government and internationally.

Areas of activity

HAWCA is engaged on promoting peace and women empowerment by:

- Opening legal aid center in Heart city for female victims of violence.
- Providing free literacy classes for women in remote areas of Afghanistan.
- Emergency assistance for victims affected by natural disasters and armed conflict.
- Promoting peace building and conflict resolution among children through “The Peace Building for the New Generation” project.
- Building networks with other organization to improve women’s legal rights and protection.

ORGANIZATION OF PROMOTING AFGHAN WOMEN'S CAPABILITIES (OPAWC)

<http://opawc.org/>

Keywords: Women's rights and empowerment; Capacity-building and community mobilization.

Sector 5, Khoshal Khan Mina
P.O Box 207
Kabul

Email: opawc99@gmail.com

Factfile

- OPAWC was established in 2003 by a group of Afghan women eager to play a proactive and concrete role for promoting women empowerment in country dominated by fundamentalist social structure. To serve this objective OPAWC focuses on literacy, proper wage and health of the Afghan Women.
- Ms Latifa Amady is the Director of OPAWC.

Areas of activity

OPAWC vocational training centers work on:

- Providing literacy classes and training for women who are victims of war and violence.
- Organizing workshops on aspects of liberal peace building focusing on particle methods for bringing peace in Afghanistan.
- Imparting English knowledge and computer skills for 50 Afghan girls for one year.
- Workshops and seminars on law for elimination of violence against women and women rights.
- One day workshop for enhancing the skills of master trainers in improving their knowledge imparting abilities.

Note

- OPAWC is currently working on western province of Farah Province where a large number of men & women are addicted to drugs and facing constant security threats due constant NATO bombings and threat from the Taliban.

PEACE TRAINING & RESEARCH ORGANIZATION (PTRO)

<http://www.ptro.org.af/>

Keywords: Peace and conflict transformation; Women's rights and empowerment; Capacity building and community mobilization

House No 115, Takhneek Street
Close to Police Department No 3
Kart-e-Char
Kabul, Afghanistan

Telephone: +93(0) 799 261 864/ 799 302 080

Email: mirwais.wardak@ptro.org.af

Factfile

- Peace Training and Research Organization (PTRO) was established in 2001 as an NGO based in Kabul to work on peace, justice issues and providing training in peace building. Over the past decade PTRO's staff have pioneered the ways of working across different justice systems and connecting communities to formal institutions by supporting, training and mentoring those involved in resolving community disputes.
- PTRO is led by Mr Mirwais Wardak who is the Managing Director. Its head office is located in Kabul with 25 permanent staff.

Areas of activity

PTRO's staff and volunteers work on:

- Imparting peace education for women and children in training centers and schools.
- Developing projects and curriculum on conflict resolution, mediation, advocacy skills and social – integration.
- Conducting large scale training to provincial and village councils on their role on Afghan peace and reintegration.
- Research on the role of women in peace process.
- Reintegration of former insurgents and extremists into the society.
- Conducting survey on people's opinions on peace building in Afghanistan.
- Contributing to the on-going discussions around the peace process and negotiation as a non-government advisory.

REVOLUTIONARY ASSOCIATION OF THE WOMEN OF AFGHANISTAN (RAWA)

<http://www.rawa.org/>

Keywords: Women's rights and empowerment; Peace and conflict transformation; Capacity building and community mobilization

P.O.Box 374
Quetta, Pakistan

Telephone: 0092-300-5541258

Email: rawa@rawa.org

Factfile

- RAWA was founded in 1977 by the young revolutionary women activist Ms Meena Keshwar Kama. She strongly opposed the then soviet supported government of Afghanistan. She also established schools and hospitals for Afghan women refugees and children. Her strong protest against the oppression of Afghan women by the religious fundamentalist led to her assassination in 1987.
- RAWA was initially based on Kabul but later shifted its base to Quetta, Pakistan.

Areas of activity

For over three decades RAWA has struggled for women's empowerment in Afghanistan by:

- Campaigning and demonstrating for a greater social and political role for women in Afghanistan.
- Providing relief and rehabilitation of female victims of war atrocities of Afghan occupying forces.
- Fundraising for running hospitals, schools and training centers in Pakistan and Afghanistan.
- Operating underground schools and education centers for girls in areas were religious fundamentalist denying them education.
- Propagate anti-fundamentalism through plays, songs and documentaries.

Note

- RAWA is a unique organization in Afghanistan that opposes the overall Islamic fundamentalism and foreign rule of Afghanistan including the Taliban, Northern Alliance and even the NATO forces.

RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR WOMEN PEACE & SECURITY (RIWPS)

<http://www.riwps-afghanistan.org/>

Keywords: Peace and conflict transformation; Capacity-building and community mobilization; Governance reforms and policy advocacy; Women's rights and empowerment

Taimani, Street 8
Near Pajhwak News Agency)
Kabul

Telephone: 0093-0792615421

Email: riwps.afghanistan@gmail.com, wfrogh@yahoo.com

Factfile

- RIWPS was established in 2012 and is focusing on women's meaningful participation in the peace processes as well as with the local organizations and activists for building community based inclusive peace. It has assembled an Advisory Council comprised by a group of Afghan and international experts on women, peace and security to advise on the work of the Institute and its functions.
- The Institute is led by its founder and executive director Ms. Wazhma Frogh.

Areas of activity

RIWPS works on the concepts of women, peace and security through activities of:

- Campaigning to promote the vital role of women in achieving and maintaining peace and security from the grassroots level.
- Advocating the women's participation in the national, regional and international platforms through various seminars and petitions to the Afghan government.
- Training women leaders in local communities in order to enhance their decision-making and advocacy skills.
- Has developed the first handbook consisting of the women's rights from the Islamic perspective in collaboration with the Kateb University.

SANAYEE DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (SDO)

<http://www.sanayee.org.af>

Keywords: Peace and conflict transformation; Information and communication.

House #408, Street #6
Taimani Road
Kabul, Afghanistan

Telephone: 0093 (0)20 220 1693, Mobile: +93 (0) 700200638
Email: Dalili_Kabul@hotmail.com/ sdokabul@gmail.com

Factfile

- SDO was established in 1990 as non-profit NGO with its programs focusing on community-based peace building, education, civil society development and community health in 12 provinces of Afghanistan.
- The organization is led by Mr. Hadia Kakar.

Areas of activity

SDO's community development approach is carried out by activities of:

- Supporting sustainable peace-building and non-violent resolution methods by establishing centers training people from various provinces of Afghanistan.
- Making documentaries to raise awareness on the poor living conditions of Afghan women and children.
- Developing peace education curriculum for educating war affected children and youth.
- Conducting special session for youth and women involving activities like brainstorming, role plays and ppt presentations on their view on peace building.
- National solidarity program (NSP) for overall capacity building, fund raising and establishing community development centers (CDCs).

Note

- It also yearlong football tournaments funded by European agencies in various provinces to promote peace among the youth.

SHUHADA ORGANIZATION

<http://shuhada.org.af>

Keywords: Women's rights and empowerment; Capacity-building and community mobilization; Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development.

No: 60, Pul-e Surkh
Behind Omar Jan Qandahari Mosque
Kabul, Afghanistan

- Mobile: +93(0)788 886 965 / +93(0)799 409 544
- E-mails: jawad.wafa@shuhada.org

Factfile

- Shuhada Organization (SO) was established in 1989 by Dr Sima Samar and Mr. Abdul Rauf Naveed for addressing the poor social status of Afghan women affected by decades of conflict. Its main focus is on the health and empowerment of women and also peacebuilding through democracy.
- Its founder Dr. Sima Samar who received her medical degree from Kabul University in 1982 and has been playing proactive role in educating Afghan women for 3 decades under constant conflict. She has also established the first ever Afghanistan ministry of Women's Affairs in 2002.

Areas of activity

Shuhada organization (SO) work on women's rights and education includes:

- Construction of 118 schools providing education for over 90000 students where majority are girls.
- Establishing the Gawharshad Institute of higher education as non-profit private university.
- Workshops for media professionals to train them in advocating for women's rights through media.
- Training the Afghan rural public on women rights, democracy, social justice and healthcare.
- Focus on Afghan women's healthcare by the operating several hospitals and health clinics.

VOICE OF WOMEN ORGANIZATION (VWO)

www.vwo.org.af

Keywords: Women's rights and empowerment; Capacity-building and community mobilization; Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development.

Badmorghan
Across Masjid e Reza
Herat City
Afghanistan.

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Mobile: +93 700298732, 799209386
Fax: +93 40 234915

Factfile

- VOW was established in 1998 by a group of Afghan professionals to create schools for girls in the capital city of Kabul under the oppressive regime of the Taliban. After the fall of the Taliban in 2001, VWO was the first women's NGO to be formally registered in the post-Taliban era.
- Ms Suraya Pakzad is the Executive Director of VOW. She was recognized by the TIME magazine as one of the world's 100 most influential persons for her extensive work for Afghanistan women.

Areas of activity

The relief and rehabilitation work of VWO exclusively women and youth involves:

- Establishment of women shelters for rehabilitating women refugees and providing them with monetary and moral support.
- Legal assistance to women seeking justice through its Legal Advice Bureau (LAB).
- Capacity building to women on decision making and employment through the resource center set up with the aid of the US consulate.
- Teachers training project to enhance the skills of teachers on imparting education on women's rights, peace, democracy and tolerance.
- Drug Addicted Adolescents Treatment & Rehabilitation Center (DAATC) for comprehensive treatment and rehabilitation of large number of youth and women addicted to drugs.
- Training women on small scale industry like silk production and establishing tea stalls run exclusively by women.
- Water sanitation and conservation awareness through the Water Sanitation and Hygiene Education (WASH) set with Japanese aide.

THE WELFARE ASSOCIATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFGHANISTAN (WADAN)

<http://www.wadan.org/>

Keywords: Peace and conflict transformation; Governance reforms and policy advocacy

House No. 10, Nahya Street
Dehbori
Kabul, Afghanistan.

Telephone: +93 (0) 799 889 928

E-mail: info@wadan.org

Factfile

- WADAN was established in 2002 with aims to foster peace and stability, women empowerment, human rights and drug control.
- Mr. Mohammad Nasib is the Chairman of WADAN. Its head office is in Kabul and regional offices are in Nangarhar, Kunduz, Kandahar and Gardez.

Areas of activity

WADAN's conflict resolution projects are centered on the following activities:

- Training community leaders regarding the skills of peace building and prevention of social evils by setting up workshops on tribal areas.
- Imparting the skills peaceful conflict resolutions to children in primary schools.
- Training the teaching staff of schools and education centers on methodology and education philosophy focusing on imparting peace.
- Regular meetings with community heads and government officials regarding peace building efforts in the country.
- Propagating policy reforms and conflict resolution through broadcast in local and electronic media.
- Rehabilitation centers to treat the large drug addicted youth and awareness campaigns to ban the cultivation of poppy as a counter to the spread of narcotics.

Note

- Currently WADAN has a special focus on the rapid rise of drug addiction among the youth of Afghanistan. It engages in several awareness and rehabilitation drives to campaign against the growing drug trade in the region.

WOMEN & CHILDREN LEGAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION (WCLRF)

<http://www.wclrf.org.af/>

Keywords: Women's rights and empowerment; Information and communication

House # 432, Behind Noorin TV Street
Dehnaw Dehnaw, Kabul

Telephone: +93 (0) 700 64 91 91

Email: wclrf@yahoo.com / wclrf@wclrf.org.af

Factfile

- WCLRF was established in March 2003 by group of Afghan women lawyers with an aim for conducting different research and advocacy projects on women and children rights in Afghanistan.
- The organization is led by Miss Natasha Latiff who is a human rights activist and a lawyer.

Areas of activity

WCLRF's efforts on women's rights and research are conducted through:

- Research on causes of violence against women through nationwide survey and documentation.
- Protection of women through legal advocacy and women friendly policy reforms through petitioning to the Afghan government.
- Yearlong seminars and conferences to educate the community, government and civil societies on women's issues.
- The publication of Waqeyat (reality) reflecting issues women and childrens in Afghanistan.
- Creating awareness to counter unfair social structures and systems based on adherence to Islamic laws.

WOMEN ACTIVITIES & SOCIAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION (WASSA)

<http://wassa-af.org/>

Keywords: Peace and conflict transformation; Women's rights and empowerment; Capacity-building and community mobilization; Information and communication.

Nazar Qale Nawi Street

Mahtab Street

Herat, Afghanistan.

Telephone: +93 (040) 444027

Mobile: 93 (0797) 421640

Email: info@wassa-af.org / sw.sayedi@gmail.com

Factfile

- WASSA was established in 2002 as Afghan based NGO aimed to offer innovative social, legal and development assistance to the community. Its area of operation extends in five provinces of Afghanistan includes; Herat, Badghis, Ghor, Farah and Nimrooz.
- It is led by its founder and chairperson Ms Nilufar Sakhi.

Areas of activity

Activities of WASSA on peace, a women empowerment and community mobilization consists of:

- Identification of women under severe violence experience through armed conflicts.
- Rehabilitation of those women through trauma healing meetings and connecting legal aid organization to acquire justice.
- Elevating condition of women working in small scale factories through its Legal & Social Protection center.
- Workshops on capacity building of civil society organizations for enhancing their role post war recovery.
- Pre-employment training like resume writing, interviewing, organizational behavior and ethics through the Afghanistan Workforce Development Program-Employment related Services (AWDP-ERS).
- Raising awareness on social issues through electronic and print media by its ANNAR multimedia center.