

# next generation women, peace and security:

case studies on women's inclusion

N-Peace 2018-2019 edition



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### n-peace network

N-Peace is a multi-country network of peace advocates in Asia seeking to advance women, peace and security (WPS). It supports women's leadership for conflict prevention, resolution and peacebuilding, and promotes the implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325, and the broader WPS agenda.

Rolled out in 2010, N-Peace is active in **Afghanistan, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines** and **Sri Lanka.** 

The N-Peace network plays four key roles:

- It convenes dialogues between civil society, government and other key stakeholders on policies related to women, peace and security
- It builds capacity of women-peace advocates to advance WPS priorities, and broaden country and regional advocacy on the WPS agenda
- It facilitates knowledge-sharing of best practices in implementing UNSCR 1325 between peacebuilders¬
- It advocates for women's engagement in peace and security, bringing to light stories of leadership and resilience.

In 2018, the N-Peace initiative launched the civil society small grants component to strengthen civil society action in some of the most remote and isolated peacebuilding contexts in the above countries. The pilot awarded small grants to 21 civil society organizations which resulted in approximately 8,474 direct beneficiaries.

This inaugural publication of *Next Generation Women*, *Peace and Security: Case Studies on Women's Inclusion* chronicles how women and gender activists from N-Peace are using social innovation to respond to ongoing conflict and peacebuilding contexts, whilst rising to address emerging conflict concerns. Touching on all four key components of N-Peace, their work is fortifying gender equality from grassroots to international levels.



## n-peace awards

The N-Peace Awards is the central component of the initiative. Launched in 2011, the awards are aim to give visibility to women, peace and security advocates at local, national, regional and international levels. Since the launch of the initiative over 70 advocates have been awarded. Early results of a sample survey of previous awardees conducted in 2018, found that 66.7% reported being included in formal and informal peace processes after winning the award, and 86% reported greater visibility for their work.

In 2018, online voting for individual awards saw 7,947 registered voters, from whom 5,557 cast verified votes from 98 countries.

Overall, N-Peace saw an increase in public participation across online spaces with Twitter #NPeaceAwards, achieving nearly **20 million timeline deliveries.** 

According to the Women, Peace and Security Index (2018) countries in South Asia overall scored below the global index expressing negligible numbers of women in decision making. N-Peace network members, including the 2018 awardees, have been working towards ameliorating the current baseline for participation. Highlights of their work are detailed in the following pages.

#### Awardees

· Afghanistan, March 2018

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- · Afghanistan, December 2018
- · Afghanistan, March 2019
- Indonesia. 2019

- Habiba Sarabi, N-Peace Awardee (2016) and Deputy Chairperson of the High Peace Council, was part of a delegation of women leaders that addressed the United Nations Security Council on the importance of including women in the peace process.
- · Mary Akrami, N-Peace Awardee (2018) and Wazhma Frogh, Founder of the CSO Grant selected Women & Peace Studies Organization, launched the Twitter campaign #AfghanWomenWillNotGoBack - a campaign that captured online WPS advocacy globally and garnered international news media attention.
- The four N-Peace Awardees from Afghanistan (2018) were featured on BBC Pashto for their efforts in promoting gender equality.
- Mira Kusumarini was awarded the N-Peace Award (2018) for her efforts in creating an intersectional approach to localised prevention of violent extremism, and rehabilitation and re-integration methods for women deportees and returnees. Her work aims to build resilience of communities through comprehensive understanding of the gender dynamics behind violent extremism.

- · Indonesia, 2012
- as a gendered crime.
- Pakistan. August 2018
- Philippines, October 2018
- Indonesia, November 2018
- Pakistan, November 2018

- Suraiya Kamaruzzaman, 2012 Awardee, was profiled for protests in relation to this Bill. The PKW Bull has not yet been passed, but serves to address legal vacuum by broadening the scope of sexual harassment
- · At the UN Security Council meeting on mediation, Mossarrat Qadeem, N-Peace Awardee 2016, spoke of the importance of investments in women's meaningful participation.
- Samira Gutoc-Tomawis, N-Peace Awardee (2018) announced her candidacy for Senator and accepted the nomination of civil society groups to be part of the opposition's Senate slate.
- Valentina Sagala, 2013 Awardee was featured on international news outlets giving commentary on the introduction of the draft Law on Elimination of Violence Against Women (commonly referred to as the PKW Bill).
- · A commission was formed for the protection of minority rights. Rubina Feroze Bhatti, 2015 Awardee, was selected to be a member of the fourteen person commission.

2012

Suraiya Kamaruzzaman profiled for protests in relation to Bill.

August 2018

**Mossarat Qadeem** speaks at the UN Security Council meeting on mediation. Oct 2018

Samira Gutoc-Tumawis, N-Peace Awardee (2018) announces her candidacy for Senator **Nov 2018** 

Valentina Sagala is featured on international news outlets to introduce the PKW Bill.

Nov 2018

A commission is formed for the protection of minority rights. Rubina Feroze Bhatti was selected to be a member.

**Dec 2018** 

Mary Akrami and Wazhma Frogh launch the Twitter campaign #AfghanWomenWillNot GoBack through the Afghan Women's Network. **March 2018** 

**Habiba Sarabi** and Deputy Chairperson of the High Peace Council, attend a delegation of women leaders.

2019

Mira Kusumarini's gendered responsive approach to Rehabilitation and Reintegration of women returnees and deportees recognized internationally.

**March 2019** 

The four N-Peace Awardees from Afghanistan are featured on BBC Pashto.

## civil society organization small grants

The N-Peace Civil Society Organization ('CSO') Small Grants were rolled out to all N-Peace participating countries in 2018, off the success of the pilot projects (2016) run in Indonesia and Nepal.

N-Peace received 57 proposals, from which 47 were cleared for online voting after thorough due diligence of the institutional capacity of the organizations to implement proposed projects. 2,937 verified votes were cast from 69 countries.

The implemented Women, Peace and Security orientated projects had approximately 8,474 direct beneficiaries.



#### Afghanistan

Afghanistan is taking steps to increase women's participation in accordance with UNSCR 1325 and its National Action Plan on Women and Security. As of 2018, women only make up 10.3% of the decision makers in public administration, and there has been an approximate 3% decrease in the number of women members of the High Peace Council since 2016. The 2018-2019 peace talks have only comprised of between 2% to 13% of women. In some of the most remote and inaccessible parts of Afghanistan, support has been provided by N-Peace for civil society to address inclusion at all levels, through engagement of civil society and gender equality advocates.

## WOMEN & PEACE STUDIES ORGANIZATION (WPSO)

Category: Local Level Initiatives Direct beneficiaries: 80 Indirect beneficiaries: 837

Women and Peace Studies Organization (WPSO), an institution founded with the aim of increasing women's inclusion in Afghanistan, conducted research on women's leadership conditions in Provincial Peace Councils (PPCs) in Herat, Kapisa, Parwan and Panjshir. Before the programme the gender representation in PPCs for all 34 provinces of Afghanistan was 750 men and 87 women.





Figure 1: Baseline data illustrating gender representation in Provincial Peace Councils (Afghanistan)

This represents an increase of the 2012 proportion of 70 women in PPCs across the country. WPSO conducted pilot assessment of barriers towards inclusion of women in this forum in four provinces in Herat, Kapisa, Parwan and Panjshir.

Anchored on the theory of change:

'If WPSO conducts an assessment on meaningful participation of female Provincial Peace Committee members in the provincial peace process, then the recommendations will contribute to development of policies to take further action in ensuring meaningful participation.'

WPSO conducted interviews and focus group discussions with 80 PPC members on structural barriers to women's participation. The resulting desk review and collation of data was shared with the High Peace Council and government actors in the form of recommendations. Overall the assessment revealed the interconnectedness and interdependence of peace, development and social justice in addressing women's inclusion in Afghanistan; stating the following key barriers:

- Security continues to be the main concern for women who want to actively participate in policy making. The presence of armed forces from different conflict actors restricts women's mobility and impacts participation. Women PPC members from the Northern Provinces of Kapisa and Parwan relayed that increased violence has led to less women taking an active role in peace and development, as they are under personal threat.
- A lack of access to technical skills and governance structures was further noted with geographical factors directly linked to socioeconomic development and access to justice
- The prevailing patriarchal society makes it difficult to vindicate women's human rights.

#### RADIO AZAD

Category: Local Level Initiatives
Direct beneficiaries: 190

Indirect beneficiaries: approximately 300,000 (listeners in Balkh Province)

Radio Azad, an Afghanistan radio station broadcasting primarily in Balkh Province, implemented a project which created radio programming on women's rights and entitlements, with the aim that awareness would result in more women and girls claiming their rights.

Radio Azad launched a two-week campaign between 15 September 2018 and 1 October 2018 focused on Women, Peace and Security. During this period, six different one-minute-long promotional trailers were produced and broadcast several times a day. Given the success of this campaign, Radio Azad continued producing the one-minute long shorts through the grant period. A total of 30 shorts was produced by the 15th of February 2019. The shorts were centred around women's legal rights in Afghanistan, international accords on Women, Peace and Security as well as religious orders and their impact on gender equality.

Live roundtable discussions were further held inviting multiple stakeholders to debate various aspects of women's security and gender empowerment. Aired every Tuesday between 2–3 pm (local time), over thirty episodes were produced with participants including local government, academics, human rights activists and women's organizations and Mullahs (religious leaders). This radio programme had a public engagement component which invited members of the public to participate.

Record of the numbers of the calls which have been made to the programs during each months as of 26 March, 2019 from Balkh province and its districts:



The five regions are divided into districts to indicate the regional totals

Figure 2: Radio Azad - Proportion of Calls from the Public During Women, Peace and Security Live Roundtable Programme

## PUBLIC AWARENESS TIME HOUR ORGANIZATION (PATH-O)

**Category:** Youth Led Initiatives **Direct beneficiaries:** 1,893

Public Awareness Time Hour Organization (PATH-O) works to create an enabling environment for youth to actively participate in community development.

Registered in Kabul, but operating primarily in remote northern provinces in Afghanistan, PATH-O was selected for the N-Peace CSO

Small Grants for its project to mobilize youth groups in Faryab Province for Women, Peace and Security advocacy through the electoral process and other democratic participation activities. With the aim of ensuring that women were included in the provincial elections of 2018, the project model was designed around 3 main activities: coordination with stakeholders including local government, school administrations, youth groups and Peace Councils, capacity building and training, and finally youth mobilization.

PATH-O selected 9 schools in Maimana city to conduct this project and the gender disaggregated data for participation in the programme was as per the diagram below.

#### **BENEFICIARIES**

SR	GROUPS	DIRECT BENEFICIARIES				TOTAL
		STUDENTS		TEACHERS		SCHOOLS STUDENT
		FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	STODENT
_1	Gawhar Shad Begum Higher Secondary School	180	_	11	-	1600
2	Sitara Higher Secondary School	190		14	_	2670
3	Afghan Kot Higher Secondary School	180	_	12		2476
4	Karte Sulh Higher Secondary School	180	_	9		1600
5	Mawlana Amrullah Higher Secondary School	180		15		1330
6	Abo Obaid Jawzjani Higher Secondary School	_	180	_	6	1656
7	Kohi Khana Higher Secondary School	_	180	12	3	1240
8	Tajrobawi Arab Khana Higher Secondary School	_	150	_	9	2956
9	Amir Ali Shir Nawai Higher Secondary School	_	150	_	7	1283
10	Peace Council Members	125	100			_
	Total	1035	760	73	25	16810
	Total Direct Beneficiaries					1893
	Total Indirect Beneficiaries					30061
	Formula = (Direct beneficiaries X 7 - average family members in a family) + total school students					

Figure 3: Direct beneficiaries mobilized on WPS training

Over 1,600 students from different high schools were mobilized in a campaign in support of youth participation in Faryab Provincial Elections, and for women candidates to be meaningfully considered for electoral posts through the #GoToVote street and online campaign.

#### **Afghanistan Impact Analysis**

Overall the organizations working in Afghanistan had approximately 2,163 direct beneficiaries, in spite of operations being frequently disrupted due to security concerns. Implementing projects in some of the most isolated areas of Afghanistan, the impact of the organizations was at grassroots level and national levels.

The combination of the mass media through Radio Azad meant that a broader pool of indirect beneficiaries were realized particularly in Balkh Province. Models engaging youth groups in women's empowerment discussions had a positive effect with the 2018 elections in Afghanistan seeing the highest number of female candidates in recent history – over 400 women



Participants from the Women and Peace Studies Organization ('WPSO').

#### Indonesia

Indonesia has over 75 ethnic groups and 240 different religions, across 17,000 islands. Over the last decade, growing tensions have migrated from subnational communal violent conflicts, to broader religious friction. In this changing landscape, Women, Peace and Security efforts are aligned with improving participation and developing community resilience against violent extremism and the impact of this form of conflict on women and girls.

#### NATURAL ACEH

Category: Local Level Initiatives

Direct beneficiaries: approximately 144

Natural Aceh is an organization based in Banda Aceh, Indonesia. Under the N-Peace grant, Natural Aceh implemented a project to impact Aceh legislation to ensure that conflict and disaster affected women with disabilities are included in public forums. With the view of strengthening the tabled Bill to strengthen women's participation (MUSRENA), Natural Aceh aalvanized the support from



Broadly stated the activities included consultations with local non-governmental organizations (NGO) on data categories to assess the levels of data that State actors use in the development of policies. From this analysis Natural Aceh identified data points that were points of concern and convened workshops and trainings with 24 women's rights organizations and focus groups discussions with local government officials under the theme: Inclusion of Marginalized Women in Decision-Making.

According to the focus group discussions, consultations and data assessment, it was noted that women with disabilities are often marginalized and report physical and social barriers to access to decision making forums. Media and street campaigns were then

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https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5\_11712



Natural Aceh's seminars with government served as a mediation forum between officials, civil society and women populations living with disabilities. The public made submissions for the drafting of the Mayor's Regulation No. 1/2019, and local officials expressed a lack of data on disabilities – a task that Natural Aceh and the network of civil society committed to provide support.

## THE ASIAN MUSLIM ACTION NETWORK ('AMAN INDONESIA')

Category: Local Level Initiatives – Indonesia Direct beneficiaries: 56

AMAN Indonesia was awarded two grants based on two independent proposals – one for strengthening capacity for participation of girls in Indonesia, and the other for a multi-country initiative which used inter-faith dialogues as a means to address regional peace concerns in Myanmar and Sri Lanka. Both programs used interfaith methodologies to foster social cohesion.

With the objective of promoting UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, and UNSCR 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security, AMAN Indonesia received 142 applications from girls from different islands in Indonesia, from which 46 were selected. Aptly named 'Girl Ambassadors for Peace' and based on a module developed by 10 experts, the 3 week camp provided training on the aforementioned security council resolutions, identified the issues faced by young women and girls from diverse backgrounds, and further provided a venting clinic which

acted as a safe space to share experiences of gender-based violence, provide sexual reproductive health education, and mental health support.

As Ambassadors for Peace, the young women were encouraged to start similar projects.

Outcome monitoring revealed that various initiatives by the girls have already been initiated which include:

- Using fashion to bring visibility to issues of violence against women, one of the alumni has begun production line of T-shirts; and
- Another alumni has begun to facilitate tolerance and peace building lessons for approximately 130 children a week at her local mosque every Friday.