



**Islamic Republic of Afghanistan**

**Open Government Partnership  
Forum of Afghanistan**

Midterm Self-Assessment Report

(2018-2019)



## **1. Introduction and Background**

Open Government Partnership (OGP) is a multilateral initiative that aims to promote transparency, accountability and public partnership in governments. The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan obtained the membership of OGP in 2016 with an objective to fulfill its constitutional obligations, making the public service delivery more transparent, accountable and participatory.

In 2017, the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, in accordance with the OGP Guidelines, established its Open Government Partnership Forum and co-created its first national action plan with more than 300 civil society organizations (CSOs), representatives of private sector and academia. The country's national action plan includes 13 ambitious commitments focused on national priorities such as open legislation, open audit, open contracting, rule of law as well as quality health and education. The country's national action plan is not only aligned with the national strategies of the country such as Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework, Afghanistan National Priority Programs, Afghanistan National Anti-Corruption Strategy, but is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals and the OGP thematic priorities.

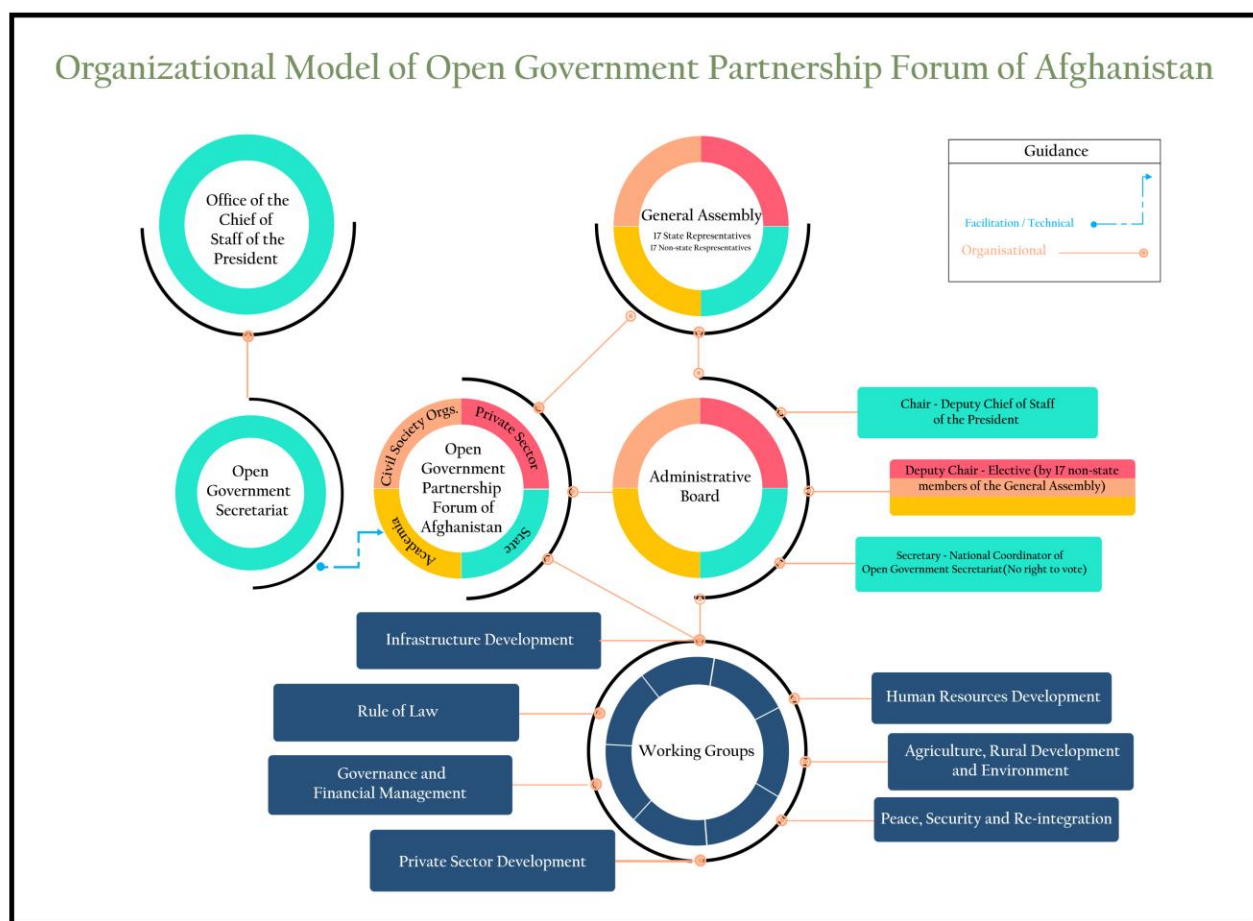
It is expected that by the implementation of the National Action Plan the public service delivery become more transparent, accountable and participatory in the country. In particular, the implementation of the National Action Plan will lead to a historic change in legislative development procedures of the country, shifting from closed legislation-making to open legislation-making. The Supreme Audit Office, by delivering its commitment, will ensure public participation in conducting audits of the public expenditures, thereby making the audit processes open. The National Procurement Authority will ensure citizen's access to procurement data in all phases of public procurement. The Supreme Court of Afghanistan will extend citizens' access to justice and the Ministry of Interior of Afghanistan ensures public engagement in defining and addressing security problems across the country.

This mid-term self-assessment report reveals that the implementation of the county's first national action plan is successful and the implementation of all 13 commitments are on track.

## 2. Participation and Co-creation Throughout the OGP Cycle

### A. Designing and Managing the Open Government Partnership Forum of Afghanistan

To ensure that public participation is involved throughout the open government initiatives in Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan reviewed international best practices and conducted inclusive consultations with government agencies, CSOs, private sector and OGP Supporting Unit on the structure, functions and legitimacy of the Open Government Partnership Forum of Afghanistan (OGPFA). As a result the OGPFA was established and officially inaugurated by the President of Afghanistan in 2017. The OGPFA includes a general assembly, seven working groups, and an administrative layer as demonstrated in below.



As demonstrated in above model, The OGPFA's general assembly consists 17 state and 17 non-state members. The general assembly is chaired by the deputy chief of staff of the president. The deputy chair of the general assembly is elected by the 17 non-state representatives of the forum. The Open Government Secretariat of Afghanistan has the secretary role in the OGPFA with no right to vote. The seven working groups are represented by the CSOs and government agencies.

The working groups report to the general assembly and the administrative board. The government of Afghanistan has placed immense efforts to apply the participation and co-creation principles of the OGP throughout the open government initiatives cycle. Therefore, given the best practices compiled in the Designing and Managing Multi-stakeholder Forum Manual of the OGP, OGPFA has been legitimized by an executive decree of the president of Afghanistan. A key characteristic of OGPFA can be marked in the inclusion of the judiciary and legislature. In order to make sure that the open government initiatives cover openness in the Supreme Court and parliament of the country, the representation of these two branches of state are ensured in the general assembly of the OGPFA too. Since established, the general assembly of the OGPFA has had 5 meetings while the working groups had 14 meetings. The minutes of all these meetings have been crafted by the Open Government Secretariat of Afghanistan and made accessible to all participants.

### **B. Participation and Co-creation in Development of National Action Plan**

The government of Afghanistan has co-created its first national action plan (NAP) with more than 300 civil society organizations. Development of NAP has gone through the following processes:

**First Co-creation Session:** The first consultation and co-creation session was attended by directors of policy and planning of public sector and CSOs based in the capital of the country, Kabul. In this session, the participants drafted 24 commitments and suggested the crucial ones into the NAP.

**Second Co-creation Session:** In order to ensure the participation of provincial CSOs in development of NAP, a session attended by representatives CSOs in 34 provinces of the country was conducted. In this session not only the above 24 suggested commitments were reviewed but also few other commitments were added in to the list of suggested commitments.

**OGPFA Meeting:** As the OGPFA was officially launched, a meeting of the OGPFA was convened. Given that all members of the OGPFA were engaged in the previous consultations on the development of NAP, they had a prior knowledge of OGP participation and co-creation principles. In a two day session, the OGPFA went through the suggested commitments and developed 5 more commitments. Afterwards, the members of OGPFA adopted a criteria based on which they reviewed the relevance and objectives of the suggested commitments to the values of the OGP. Consequently, the OGPFA members have shortlisted 14 commitments out of 29 and suggested them to the general assembly of the OGPFA.

**OGPFA General Assembly:** The general assembly's meeting was conducted. The members of the general assembly reviewed all 14 commitments and after discussion and scrutiny every suggested commitment went to vote. As a result, the members of the general assembly approved the inclusion of 11 commitments into the NAP.

**Approval of Cabinet:** The 11 commitments approved by the general assembly of the OGPFA was presented to and approved in the cabinet meeting.

**OGP Support Unit:** It is worth mentioning that the Open Government Secretariat of Afghanistan had numerous regular online consultations on the structure and management of OGPFA as well as development of NAP with the Support Unit of OGP and the processes benefited their regular consultations.

**Addendum:** A number of CSOs later suggested the inclusion of two more commitments in the NAP. This was discussed with the OGP Support Unit in Georgia and an agreement was made. The 2 suggested commitments were then taken to the general assembly of the OGPFA. The general assembly approved them and later the commitments were submitted to OGP Support Unit as an addendum to NAP.

### **C. Participation and Co-creation in Implementation and Monitoring**

The role of CSOs and public in the implantation of the NAP has been crucial. To make sure that CSOs are involved in the implementation phases of NAP, the Open Government Secretariat of Afghanistan has made sure that the OGPFA meet regularly, discuss the issues and make decisions. As mentioned earlier, the general assembly of the forum met five times and the working groups of the forum met 14 times throughout the implementation phase so far. In these meetings, the status of the progress on each commitment have been reviewed and challenges were addressed.

Similarly, to make sure wider consultations and engagement of CSOs and public 34 consultation meetings with CSOs were conducted by the implementing agencies and 5 online consultations were conducted on numerous policies and legislations.

Moreover, the Open Government Secretariat of Afghanistan has provided the CSOs with means of verifications and evidence on the progress of each commitment included in the NAP. Further, an electronic document repository was developed that tracks the progress on the each commitment and provides access to means of verifications.

#### **D. Participation and Co-creation in Reporting**

In order to produce this midterm self-assessment report, the Open Government Secretariat of Afghanistan facilitated the meeting of OGPFA and provided each member of the forum with evidence on the implementation of NAP. In light of the evidence provided and CSOs scrutiny, the implementation of each commitment was reviewed in the forum meeting. The minutes of the meeting along with the key decisions made in the meeting was then circulated and finalized. Afterwards, the Open Government Secretariat of Afghanistan developed this midterm self-assessment report based on the conclusions of the said forum meeting and then presented it to the forum. This report was then finalized by the forum with few corrections. Afterwards, given the advice received from the OGP Support Unit, the midterm self-assessment report went for public scrutiny via (<https://ocs.gov.af>), and ([www.sacs.gov.af](http://www.sacs.gov.af)) websites as well as Open Government Partnership Afghanistan's Facebook for two weeks and was then finalized in light of the comments received and new progress.

#### **3. IRM Recommendations**

None.

#### 4. Implementation of National Action Plan Commitments

The implementation status of each commitment of the National Action Plan is explained in below:

<b>Revising and Implementing the Mechanism of Public Partnership in Inspection Process</b>	
1. Revising and Implementing the Mechanism of Public Partnership in Inspection Process	
January 2018 - August 2019	
Lead implementing agency	High Inspection Office
<b>Commitment Description</b>	
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	<p>Lack of public participation in the inspection processes has lowered transparency, accountability and public access to information, and undermined public oversight over performance of governmental entities. This situation may pave the ground for corruption, challenging delivery of public services.</p> <p>In absence of public oversight over inspection processes, there are chances that facts are concealed based on conspiracy and compromise between inspectors and authorities under inspection. This eventually increases corruption and undermines public service delivery.</p>
What is the commitment?	<p>High Inspection Office has previously developed a mechanism for public partnership in the inspection process without the involvement of media and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). However, as demanded by CSOs in the consultative meetings of Open Governance Partnership-Afghanistan, the office committed to revising, finalizing and implementing the mentioned mechanism in partnership with CSOs.</p> <p>This mechanism has not been implemented as civil society organizations and media were not involved in its formulation. Revision of the mechanism with the participation of civil society organizations and media will enrich the mechanism and facilitates its implementation. It is expected that implementation of this mechanism ensure public oversight over inspection process, enhancing transparency and accountability in public service delivery to minimize chances of corruption.</p>

<p>How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?</p>	<p>Revision and implementation of this mechanism would enable CSOs and media to participate in the process. Once the commitment is implemented, the mentioned organizations will become part of the process through having oversight over government performance. Additionally, with the implementation of this commitment, training courses will be held for a number of representatives from CSOs and media on their part in the joint inspection process. These courses will enhance their capacities to actively participate in the joint inspection processes during and after the implementation of the mechanism in question.</p> <p>Implementation of this commitment is expected to prevent inspectors and authorities under inspection from any compromise over concealing facts in major cases. This will eventually enhance transparency and accountability in public service through restricting chances of corruption.</p>			
<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>This commitment has relevancy with different values of Open Government Partnership. First, once put into practice, the mentioned mechanism will ensure public participation in inspection processes. Second, engagement of CSOs and media in the inspection processes will result in enhanced transparency and accountability in government's activities.</p>			
<p>Additional information</p>	<p>The necessary fund for implementing this commitment is provided through a World Bank-supported project in Afghanistan, i.e. Fiscal Support Performance (FSP), for a period of four years.</p> <p>This commitment is consistent with Afghanistan Peace and Development Framework and IP-ARTF as one of the benchmarks of World Bank.</p>			
<p>Completion Level</p>	<p>Not Started</p>	<p>Limited</p>	<p>Substantial</p>	<p>Completed</p>
			<p>✓</p>	
<p>Description of the results</p>	<p>This commitment has five milestones. Out of five milestones, four of them are completed. The immediate results are 1) a constructive working relationship between the Supreme Audit Office has been established. 2) A mechanism that ensures the participation of CSOs in the audit processes is developed and accessible. 3) An action plan for audit of public sector is finalized. The Supreme</p>			



	Audit Office and the CSOs will start their joint audit of public sector according to the action plan. The implementation of this commitment is ongoing based on the NAP.		
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct 7 inspections based on the Authorities Inspection Plan</li> </ul>		
Milestone status	Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level
Holding three joint meetings with CSOs and media in order to revise, scrutinize and approve the mechanism of public partnership in the inspection process. One final publication reflecting civil society and media perspectives, suggestions, recommendations and final decisions on the scrutinized inspection process accessible.	January 2018	March 2018	Completed
Essential administrative structures established by High Inspection Office (HIO). 3 training sessions conducted on the implementation of the mechanism by HIO for their employees who will be upholding the structures established. The training topics will be identified after the establishment of the mechanism with each training topic mandated to concurrently and effectively correspond with each other.	April 2018	September 2018	Completed
Holding two awareness-raising seminars on issues related to the CSOs and media participation in the inspection processes. Make a compilation of the awareness-raising seminars in one video available online.	October 2018	December 2018	Completed
Formulating an Authorities Inspection Plan based on a risk assessment practice both of which are conducted with the participation of CSOs and media according to public partnership mechanism	January 2019	March 2019	Completed
Conduct 7 inspections based on the Authorities Inspection Plan	April 2019	August 2019	Ongoing
Contact information			

Lead implementing agency		High Inspection Office
Persons responsible from implementing agency		Amin Younasi
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Other Actors Involved	Government Ministries, Department/Agency	Public Accounting Commission at Lower House and World Bank
	CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	CSOs and media
Additional Information		

**Amendment of the Law on Processing, Publishing and Enforcing Legislative Documents (LPPELD)**

2. Amendment of the Law on Processing, Publishing and Enforcing Legislative Documents

January 2018 - August 2019

Lead implementing agency

Ministry of Justice (MoJ)

**Commitment Description**

What is the public problem that the commitment will address?

LPPELD is a law which includes the step-by-step articulations of how a bill should be drafted, processed and turned in to law in Afghanistan. This means that all legislations should be developed and processed based on LPPELD. Unfortunately however, the LPPELD does not include a layer based on which the bills should be consulted with CSOs on behalf of the citizens. Given the notion that what affects public lives should be consulted with public is undermined in the legislation development processes in Afghanistan. This existence can lead to development and passage of laws which can negatively impact public lives and well-being, including social inclusion and rule of law.

What is the commitment?

To remedy this shortcoming, the ministry of justice has been mandated in the Open Government Partnership meetings to amend LPPELD with a purpose to allow CSOs in the scrutiny of all bills. It is expected by amendment of LPPELD CSOs will gain a platform to participate in the scrutiny of all bills in Afghanistan thereby ensuring that the voices of public are represented in the legislative process, ultimately strengthening the rule of law.

To do so, the ministry of justice of Afghanistan will take the LPPELD to a consultative meeting with CSO's in order to identify at what stage of the bill development the CSOs should be involved for scrutiny. Taking the CSOs consultations into account, amendments to the LPPELD will be prepared and put into discussion in the legislative committee meeting of the cabinet. Upon approval of LPPELD by the cabinet, it will be presented to and endorsed by the parliament of the country.

How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?	The amendment of LPPELD as mentioned above will ensure the CSOs long-lasting participation in the legislation making processes in the country, thereby bridging the gap between the public and government, strengthening the rule of law and values of participatory democracy.			
Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?	This commitment represents public participation, holds the legislative process accountable and ensures transparency in the legislation making processes.			
Additional information	This commitment will be funded by Ministry of Justice. This commitment is in line with MoJ's Justice Sector National Reform Program.			
Completion Level	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
			✓	
Description of the results	In order to implement this commitment, overall 7 basic activities have been considered, out of which, 5 activities have been completed and by performing these activities: 1- The work relationship has been established between Ministry of Justice of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and CSOs, and the CSOs are practically involved in the Amendment of the Law on Processing, Publishing and Enforcing Legislative Documents. 2- The Law on Processing, Publishing and Enforcing Legislative Documents has been amended in a way that it obliges the public sector to outline the laws with the participation and consultation of the relevant public sector. This law has been approved in the cabinet meeting as well and it is enforced on the basis of legislative decree. By amendment of the aforementioned law, there has been a shift in the legislation making processes of Afghanistan from close to opened legislation. The implementation of this commitment is ongoing based on the NAP.			
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approval of the amendments by the National Assembly.</li> </ul>			
Milestone status	Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level	

MoJ drafts the amendments to LPPELD.	January 2018	February 2018	Completed
MoJ holds two consultative meetings with related governmental agencies and CSOs on the draft amendments	March 2018	April 218	Completed
Executive Committee of MoJ's Legislation Department finalizes the amendments and reflections that were gathered from the CSOs.	May 2018	May 2018	Completed
Present the finalized draft of the amendment, having incorporated all feedback from related governmental agencies and civil society, to the legislative committee for its feedback before sending to the Cabinet for approval. This meeting will be attending by CSOs as well.	June 2018	July 2018	Completed
Present the final amendments to the Cabinet for approval.	August 2018	September 2018	Completed
Approval of the amendments by the National Assembly.	October 2018	March 2019	Ongoing
Signing, publishing and enforcing the LPPELD.	April 2019	August 2019	Completed by a presidential decree
Contact information			
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Justice (MoJ)		
Persons responsible from implementing agency	M. Qasem Halimi		
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Other Actors Involved	Government Ministries, Department/Agency	National Assembly	

	CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	Relevant CSOs, private sector, Law Practitioners Union, Afghanistan Independent Bar Association
Additional Information		

## Establishing Special Courts to address Violence against Women (VaW) Crimes in 12 Provinces of the Country

### 3. Establishing Special Courts to address Violence against Women (VaW) Crimes in 12 Provinces of the Country

January 2018 - August 2019

Lead implementing agency      Supreme Court

#### Commitment Description

What is the public problem that the commitment will address?      Given the socio-cultural context of Afghanistan, women would feel comfortable if their VaW cases are addressed through especial VaW courts in presence of female judges. Currently, VaW cases are addressed through Criminal Department (Dewan-e Jaza) in 19 provinces of Afghanistan and in the remaining 15 provinces, VaW cases are addressed by VaW special courts. This situation can undermine inclusive access to justice within the country.

What is the commitment?      In order to address this challenge, Supreme Court of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan committed, during the consultative meetings of Open Government Partnership-Afghanistan Forum, to establish 12 more VaW special courts in 12 provinces of the country in collaboration with CSOs.  
  
Established special courts to address VaW crimes are expected to increase women's access to justice in the mentioned provinces, address and reduce VaW crimes.

How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?      First, implementation of this commitment would contribute to inclusive access to quality judicial services in the 12 provinces. Second, the special courts in the provinces will be supported by legal organizations such as Afghanistan Independent Bar Association (AIBA), women rights networks, women rights advocacy organizations, MoWA and AIHRC to ensure women access to justice. Supreme Court of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan will organize training sessions for CSOs in Kabul and 12 provinces to raise their awareness about the mandate and jurisdiction of VaW special courts, and will request them to transfer this information to the general

	<p>public. This will prevent VaW cases from staying on the table and encourage people to use these courts to address VaW crimes. Third, these courts will better address VaW crimes according to applicable laws of Afghanistan, contributing to decreased VaW crimes and enhanced rule of law in the country.</p>			
Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?	<p>Establishment of the special courts will ensure that women have unhindered access. Further, the functionality of special courts will prevent the accumulation VaW cases in the supreme court thereby not only increasing access but also the accountability. These courts are mandated to work with AIBA, women rights networks and AIHRC to make sure cases are dealt with in just and timely manner. Moreover, the aforesaid CSOs can attend the trials within the scope of law. Given all said, the commitment is relevant to public participation, accountability and transparency.</p>			
Additional information	<p>Necessary fund for implementing this commitment will be provided from the budget of Supreme Court and through international donor agencies.</p> <p>This commitment is relevant with National Justice and Judicial Reform Program.</p>			
Completion Level	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
			✓	
Description of the results	<p>In order to meet this commitment, overall 3 basic activities have been considered. The Supreme Court of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan initially outlined the creation of special courts for addressing of violence crimes against woman in 12 provinces, subsequently, according to the mentioned outline, right now, the special court for addressing of violence crimes against women have been created in 6 provinces of the country. The Supreme Court of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan is resolved to create mentioned courts according to the National Action Plan's time frame, in the remaining 6 provinces. The Supreme Court of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan has conducted 7 awareness sessions in Panjshir, Badghis, Bamyan, Kapisa, Balkh, Samangan and Kabul provinces to raise awareness level of the citizens on work patronage of the abovementioned courts. In these sessions, around 272 representatives from CSOs</p>			



	<p>participated and availed the information provided therein. It's expected that these institutions conduct awareness raising session on work patronage of the abovementioned courts for the citizens of the country. Based on the reports, the created courts have proceeded 115 cases over the two quarters of the current year. The accomplishment of this commitment has increased women's access to the justice. The implementation of this commitment is ongoing in accordance with the timeframe of the country's National Action Plan-1.</p>		
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing special courts for addressing VaW crimes in 6 remaining provinces</li> </ul>		
Milestone status	Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level
Supreme court designs the organizational structure of special courts for VaW crimes in the 12 provinces based on the law.	January 2018	July 2018	Completed
The courts will hold 13 awareness raising sessions (one session in the center and 1 session in each of the 12 provinces) with representatives of AIBA, women rights networks, women rights advocacy organizations, MoWA and AIHRC with a purpose to communicate the mandate of the courts. These organizations will then be encouraged to provide awareness to citizens with the intention of achieving the following: increase the women's knowledge of the existence of the special courts and their mandate and procedures and how women can file their cases to these courts.	August 2018	August 2019	Ongoing
Establishing special courts for addressing VaW crimes in 12 provinces	August 2018	August 2019	Ongoing
Contact information			
Lead implementing agency	Supreme Court		
Persons responsible from implementing agency	Fetratullah Farhat		

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Other Actors Involved	Government Ministries, Department/Agency	MoWA, AIHRC
	CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	AIBA, women rights networks and women rights advocacy networks
Additional Information		

## Developing Public-Police Partnership Councils

### 4. Developing Public-Police Partnership Councils

January 2018 - August 2019

Lead implementing agency

Ministry of Interior

#### Commitment Description

What is the public problem that the commitment will address?

In the present situation of the country, there is growing gap between police and the public. People have limited collaboration with police in provision of security, public order and law enforcement, owing to lack of structures that can facilitate public-police partnership and police accountability.

In order to address this challenge, MoI has established and operationalized 23 public-police partnership councils in 23 provinces of the country, which has increased public engagement in provision of security and public order, thereby decreasing gap between police and the public.

Based on the lessons learned and as requested by CSOs during consultative meetings of Open Government Partnership-Afghanistan, MoI decided to expand public-police partnership councils to remaining 11 provinces of the country and operationalize them in these provinces. The functions of these councils in the 11 provinces will be expanded to ensure that the police forces are held accountable by the councils.

What is the commitment?

Public-police partnership councils are composed of tribal elders, influential persons, youth, women, university professors, religious scholars and university students. Membership in these councils is based on an elections procedure.

Public-police partnership councils collaborate with police in the following areas: prioritizing security and safety challenges at provincial and district level; police reports made available to the councils on the progress made in addressing the security and safety challenges that have been prioritized; council members report on public complaints on police corruption and misconduct to the council and police take the necessary actions and report

	<p>back to the council on the progress; dispute resolution and decreasing crimes at local level; and facilitating police-initiated awareness programs for citizens. Instead, police will provide information about how its services are delivered, to these councils, and through them, to citizens and demand their collaboration.</p>
<p>How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?</p>	<p>This commitment ensures public participation in prioritization of security and safety challenges in their localities. In addition, public-police partnership councils will provide appropriate, practical solutions to the security challenges and collaborate with security organs in implementing them.</p> <p>Also, expansion of these councils to remaining 11 provinces will enhance collaboration and joint decision making by public and police authorities. In consultation with these councils, security institutions will be able to identify timely challenges in the related areas and recover public trust in security forces through addressing them. Through this process the loop between the council and the police will be closed as the police will have to demonstrate in their progress reports and actions taken to address security challenges and complaints identified by the public through the council. The feedback received plays a critical role in identifying whether the police are taking appropriate actions or not. This in itself creates a body of documentation, which otherwise, does not exist which can be used as proof of the effectiveness or ineffectiveness of the police.</p> <p>Implementation of this commitment is expected to improve security conditions in provinces and districts, resulting in enhanced public trust in national police through ensuring public engagement in delivering police-related services.</p>
<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>This commitment is related to public partnership, accountability and transparency: on one hand, the public-police partnership scheme is designed with participation of the public. On the other hand, the general public will play an effective role in identifying local security challenges and implementing solutions to them by using joint decision making mechanism involving police and security institutions. Moreover, the police reports to the council on the necessary actions taken to address security challenges</p>

	and public compliant. The minutes of the council's session will be made available to the public via MoI website.			
Additional information	<p>The necessary budget for developing public-police partnership councils will be provided by UNDP's MoI &amp; Police Development (MPD) project.</p> <p>This commitment has relevancy with Afghanistan Peace and Development Framework as well as national priorities of MoI.</p>			
Completion Level	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
			✓	
Description of the results	<p>In order to perform this commitment, Overall 5 activities have been planned. According to the planned activities, 11 Public-Police Partnership Councils are established. The members of the abovementioned councils have conducted meetings since the establishment till now and have taken decisions on security issues to resolve security challenges on monthly basis. As a result of creation of these councils, the citizens' relationships have improved with the national police, and the citizens of the country are actively involved in the security making- decisions of their region. In addition, the Ministry of Interior Affairs has conducted 11 public awareness programs and around 367 individuals were provided with the required information. Also, two training programs have held on security issues for members of the police and people partnership council. The implementation of this commitment is ongoing in accordance with the timeframe of the country's National Action Plan-1.</p>			
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organizing monthly sessions of the public-police councils.</li> </ul>			
Milestone status	Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level	
Establishing general directorates of community-based police ( <i>police mardumi</i> ) in 11 provinces of Afghanistan (Laghman, Nimroz, Ghor, Nuristan, Badghis, Kunar, Uruzgan, Baghlan, Ghazni, Logar and Paktika)	January 2018	December 2018	Completed	

Organizing 11 awareness conferences in 11 mentioned provinces, and holding councils' elections based on the existing electoral procedure	January 2018	December 2018	Completed
Holding 11 training programs on behalf of community-based police for the elected members of the councils in the 11 target provinces	January 2018	December 2018	Completed
Formulating and organizing monthly sessions for public-police partnership councils on their functions.	March 2018	August 2019	Ongoing
Publicize the minutes of councils monthly sessions via MoI website.	March 2018	August 2019	Ongoing
Contact information			
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Interior		
Persons responsible from implementing agency	Mohammad Mustafa Nooristani		
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Other Actors Involved	Government Ministries, Department/Agency	Local governance institutions, UNDP's MoI & Police Development (MPD) project	
	CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	CSOs, international organizations, provincial councils	

Additional Information

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## Registering, Publishing and Reviewing Assets of 100 High-ranking Government Officials

### 5. Registering, Publishing and Reviewing Assets of 100 High-ranking Government Officials

January 2018 - August 2019

Lead implementing agency

Administrative Office of the President

#### Commitment Description

What is the public problem that the commitment will address?

Based on article 154 of Afghanistan's Constitution and article 12 of the Law on Overseeing Implementation of Anti-Administrative Corruption Strategy, the Administrative Office of the President is obliged to register and publish assets of high-ranking officials. However, a number of officials have not completed their asset declaration forms for registration and publishing.

Incomplete registration process and lack of timely declaration and publication of officials' assets undermines performance of the government, adversely affects access to information and paves the grounds for administrative corruption.

What is the commitment?

During a consultative meeting with Open Government Partnership-Afghanistan Forum, Administrative Office of the President is committed to registering, publishing and reviewing assets of 100 high-ranking officials who have never registered their assets, who have not followed the annual requirements of updating their registered assets, who have not provided adequate information regarding their assets, and those who lack cooperation in the follow up assessment of their registered assets. The above mentioned four broad areas of criteria correspond with the criteria stipulated in the Constitution of Afghanistan as well as article 12 of the Law on Overseeing Implementation of Anti-Administrative Corruption Strategy. This will promote transparency, public access to information and prevent from corruption in the public sector.

For this purpose, the office is intended to hold a joint session with the collaboration of CSOs for prioritizing 100 high-ranking officials whose assets ought to be registered and published in order to register and publish their assets. Implementation of this commitment is expected to



	increase transparency, enhance citizen's access to information, prevent from corruption, and eventually promote public trust in the government.			
How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?	<p>Registration and publication of high-ranking officials' assets will decrease grounds for misuse of office and illegal accumulation of assets by government officials. Additionally, the commitment will lead to increase transparency and public access to information.</p> <p>In order to implement this commitment, Administrative Office of the President will prepare a list of high-ranking officials whose assets are not yet registered and published or need to be re-registered. Consequently, the office will complete the process in collaboration with CSOs once the list is prioritized. The office is intended to give a monitoring role to CSOs and media through publishing the list in its official website. It will then organize an awareness-raising session in order to inform the public from high-ranking officials' assets. Implementation of this commitment will cause a decline in administrative corruption through enhancing transparency, accountability and rule of law.</p>			
Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?	This commitment is relevant to three values of Open Government Partnership: people would gain access to information through the publication of high-ranking officials' declared assets. Public access to such information will ensure and promote transparency in performance of the government. Additionally, implementation of this commitment is made possible through the participation of CSOs, and access to information would enable the general public to hold the government accountable.			
Additional information	<p>The required fund for implementing this commitment is provided from the budget of Administrative Office of the President.</p> <p>This commitment is consistent with Anti-Corruption Strategy.</p>			
Completion Level	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
			✓	

Description of the results	<p>This commitment has 7 milestones. The delivery of 5 milestones have been completed successfully. The assets of 100 senior officials have been registered and published. A mechanism allowing the CSOs to monitor the verification of assets has been developed with the participation of the CSOs. The verification processes has been started and is ongoing based on the established mechanism. The Administrative Office of the President is reporting on the progress made on the verification of assets of senior public officials on a regular basis to the open government partnership forum of Afghanistan. The implementation of this commitment is ongoing based on the NAP.</p>		
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completing the reviewing of 100 officials’ assets with monitoring of CSOs based on above established mechanism. A summary of the completed review within the scope of laws will be prepared, published and disseminated jointly by Administrative Office of the President and CSOs.</li> <li>• Holding 5 public awareness raising campaigns which include but is not limited to CSOs, media, academic institutions and youth organizations on how to access Administrative Office of the President findings.</li> </ul>		
Milestone status	Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level
Prepare a list of high-ranking officials whose assets are subject to registration and publication	January 2018	March 2018	Completed
Prioritize registration of 100 officials’ assets together with CSOs and publicize the list of 100 high-ranking officials via Administrative Office of the President website and media.	April 2018	May 2018	Completed
Sending the assets forms to 100 high-ranking officials for completion and collection	June 2018	October 2018	Completed
Publishing the registered assets of each of the 100 high-ranking officials as completed by Administrative Office of the President who will disseminate it on their website.	November 2018	January 2019	Completed

Establishing a mechanism for CSOs' monitoring of the asset reviewing process jointly designed by Administrative Office of the President and CSOs. This mechanism will ensure the CSO's engagement in the asset reviewing process.	November 2018	December 2018	Completed
Completing the reviewing of 100 officials' assets with monitoring of CSOs based on above established mechanism. A summary of the completed review within the scope of laws will be prepared, published and disseminated jointly by Administrative Office of the President and CSOs.	January 2019	August 2019	Ongoing
Holding 5 public awareness raising campaigns which include but is not limited to CSOs, media, academic institutions and youth organizations on how to access Administrative Office of the President findings.	February 2019	August 2019	Ongoing
Contact information			
Lead implementing agency	Administrative Office of the President		
Persons responsible from implementing agency	Sayed Aiamal Ebad		
Title, Department	senior expert of administration of asset registration and verification		
Email and Phone	aimalebad@gmail.com 0744189543		
Other Actors Involved	Government Ministries, Department/Agency	HR departments within ministries and governmental agencies	
	CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	CSOs, citizens and media	

Additional Information

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## Developing and Implementing a Scheme for Establishing Health Service Accreditation Entity in Afghanistan

### 6. Developing and Implementing a Scheme for Establishing Health Service Accreditation Entity in Afghanistan

January 2018 - August 2019

Lead implementing agency: Ministry of Public Health (MoPH)

#### Commitment Description

**What is the public problem that the commitment will address?**  
Recent reports show that there is limited access to tertiary health services, while citizens complain about deterioration in service delivery standards and inappropriate attitude of health staff. This situation has declined level of trust between health service providers and their beneficiaries, which, in turn, increases the number of persons who travel to neighboring countries for treatment.

**What is the commitment?**  
Given the abovementioned challenges, Ministry of Public Health of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan committed, during consultative meetings of OGP, to develop the health centers accreditation scheme in partnership with relevant CSOs. MoPH will establish Health Service Accreditation Entity based on this scheme.  
It is expected that development of this scheme and consequent establishment of the accreditation entity lead to increased access to tertiary health services in Afghanistan. This will, in turn, increase public trust with health service providers and decrease number of individuals who ought to travel to neighboring countries for treatment.

**How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?**  
MoPH will develop Health Service Accreditation Scheme in partnership with CSOs, including Afghanistan National Public Health Association, Hospitals Association, Afghan Midwives Association, Association of Private Health Institutes, National Public Health Institute, Association of Pharmacies and other relevant organizations that work on transparency and accountability in the public sector.  
It is expected that development of this scheme facilitate establishment of Health Service Accreditation Entity. The first step to implement the commitment is to define service delivery standards at national level and deliver training to health centers' (management and technical) staff. Second, implementation of these standards at health centers will be monitored in order to ensure beneficiaries' satisfaction with availability and quality of services in each monitored centers. Third, based on

	<p>monitoring findings, health centers will be ranked by the quality level of their service. Consequently, a ranking results report will be prepared and shared with citizens annually.</p> <p>This will encourage competition among public and private health centers and cause the quality of health service delivery to increase, followed by increased access of citizens to quality health services.</p>			
Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?	<p>This commitment has relevancy with three values of Open Government Partnership: the health service delivery accreditation scheme is developed in partnership with relevant CSOs. On the other hand, conduction of beneficiary survey paves the way for public partnership and enhances transparency and accountability in health service delivery. The ministry of public health and evaluated health service providers will be mandated to make the ranking list of health service providers and fundamental health service standards accessible to public via their websites and through pamphlets.</p>			
Additional information	<p>The necessary fund for implementing this commitment will be provided from MoPH's budget.</p> <p>This commitment has relevancy with Goal 3 (ensure healthy lives and well-being) of SDGs.</p> <p>This commitment is also relevant to Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework.</p>			
Completion Level	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
			✓	
Description of the results	<p>This commitment includes six milestones. The ministry of public health has delivered four milestones on time. The Health Service Accreditation Entity is established with participation of the CSOs. The immediate results of the four milestones deliver include establishment of a constructive dialog between ministry of public health and CSOs and involving of CSOs in the leadership board of the Health Service Accreditation Entity. The implementation of this commitment is ongoing based on the NAP.</p>			
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Register and accredit 20 health centers in the country based on the Health Service Accreditation Scheme.</li> <li>• Deliver 20 training courses to the staff of registered centers with Health Service Accreditation Entity</li> <li>• The Health Service Accreditation Entity will publish and disseminate 10000 pamphlets on the fundamental health service standards to the public.</li> </ul>			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initiate a survey to assess beneficiaries level of satisfaction with services of health providers and publish the ranking list of the health centers</li> </ul>		
Milestone status	Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level
Draft Health Service Accreditation Scheme which should include the criteria for evaluation of health service providers, fundamental health service standards and civil society monitoring mechanism of the scheme. The Health Service Accreditation Scheme will be made accessible to the public via ministry of public health website.	January 2018	February 2018	Completed
Organize two consultative sessions with relevant CSOs to finalize Health Service Accreditation Scheme	March 2018	April 2018	Completed
Present the scheme for approval to the cabinet	May 2018	June 2018	Completed
Establish Health Service Accreditation Entity in Afghanistan. This entity will be mandated to evaluate the health service providers based on established criteria and rank them in terms of their quality of services and professionalism as well as make the ranking list available to the public.	July 2018	December 2018	Completed
Register and accredit 20 health centers in the country based on the Health Service Accreditation Scheme.	January 2019	August 2019	Ongoing
Deliver 20 training courses to the staff of registered centers with Health Service Accreditation Entity	January 2019	August 2019	Ongoing
The Health Service Accreditation Entity will publish and disseminate 10000 pamphlets on the fundamental health service standards to the public.	January 2019	August 2019	Not started
Initiate a survey to assess beneficiaries level of satisfaction	January 2019	August 2019	Not started

with services of health providers and publish the ranking list of the health centers				
Contact information				
Lead implementing agency		Ministry of Public Health (MoPH)		
Persons responsible from implementing agency		Diwa Samad		
Title, Department		Deputy Minister of Policy and Plan at MoPH		
Email and Phone		<a href="mailto:Diwa.samad@gmail.com">Diwa.samad@gmail.com</a> 0780122338		
Other Actors Involved	Government Ministries, Department/Agency			
	CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	National Public Health Association, National Public Health Institute, Afghan Midwives Association, Association of Hospitals, Private Health Institutes Association, Pharmacies Association, other relevant CSOs that work on transparency and accountability in the public sector and international health organizations.		
Additional Information				



## Developing Urban Improvement and Rehabilitation National Policy

### 7. Developing Urban Improvement and Rehabilitation National Policy

January 2018 - August 2019

Lead implementing agency

Ministry of Urban Development and Housing (MUDH)

#### Commitment Description

What is the public problem that the commitment will address?

Lack of public service delivery in informal and unplanned urban areas has led to increased vulnerability of citizens; their denial to basic rights; heightened urban poverty; lack of infrastructure; lapse in social status; formation of social identity crisis; and increased environmental risks, and incurred staggering expenditures on the government, urban administration and broader society.

What is the commitment?

In order to address the abovementioned challenges, Ministry of Urban Development and Housing (MUDH) decided to develop and approve national urban improvement and rehabilitation policy in consultation with social and civic organizations.

It is expected that development of this policy will provide grounds for recognizing unplanned areas by the government in collaboration with the public. Under this policy, measures will be taken to prevent the growth of unplanned areas, given the factors that are contributing to this growth. This will restore basic rights of citizens and reduce their vulnerability. In addition, development of this policy will pave the grounds for investment and job generation for residents of informal, unplanned areas.

How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?

Development of this policy in collaboration with the relevant public sector departments as well as social and civic organizations will highlight the need for the establishment of Citizens Empowerment Offices at provincial level. Once this policy is approved by the cabinet, then the MUDH will develop an action plan for the policy with inputs from social and civic organizations.

This policy and the consequent action plan will provide legitimacy to implementing a detailed adjustment plan for informal and unplanned areas, under which unplanned areas will be included in planned areas to benefit from

	<p>public service delivery. It is expected that by formulating and implementing of this policy the basic rights of citizens will be restored and their vulnerabilities will be addressed.</p>			
<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>Since the Urban Improvement and Rehabilitation Policy is to be developed and implemented with public participation, people will be able to effectively take part in good urban governance to identify their socio-economic challenges and suggest and implement alternative solutions in collaboration with the government.</p> <p>As a result, this commitment has relevancy with public participation as one of values of Open Government Partnership, since CSOs and the related professionals will be involved in development of the mentioned policy. Municipalities, community-based councils, neighborhood representatives and influencers in unplanned areas will take an active role in urban improvement and rehabilitation.</p> <p>This commitment is also relevant with the principle of accountability. In the current situation, the government fails to provide essential public services in unplanned, informal areas. Development of this policy will pave the ground for delivering urban basic services to all residents in unplanned areas. In addition, people will be able to hold government accountable through participating in urban improvement and rehabilitation processes.</p>			
<p>Additional information</p>	<p>The necessary fund for implementing this commitment will be provided from MUDH's budget. This commitment has relevancy with Urban National Priority Program.</p>			
<p>Completion Level</p>	<p>Not Started</p>	<p>Limited</p>	<p>Substantial</p>	<p>Completed</p>
			<p>✓</p>	
<p>Description of the results</p>	<p>The Implementation of this commitment includes overall seven basic milestones. The results of the implementation of this commitment are as follows: 1- drafting of Urban Improvement and Rehabilitation National Policy in Partnership with the People has been prepared by the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing. 2- The Ministry of Urban Development and Housing has held 19 consultative meetings with Governmental bodies, CSOs, Lecturers of the University and Representatives of the People to compile and incorporate the participants' views</p>			

	into the mentioned policy in Kabul, Nangarhar, Herat, Balkh and Kandahar provinces. 3- it's expected that the final draft of the Improvement and Renovation National Policy shall be provided to the Urban Development High Council for approval soon. The implementation of this commitment is ongoing based on the NAP.		
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approval of the policy in the Urban Development High Council.</li> <li>• Finalization of the relevant Action Plan.</li> </ul>		
Milestone status	Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level
MUDH prepares the draft Urban Improvement and Rehabilitation National Policy	January 2018	February 2018	Completed
MUDH holds a consultative meeting with the social and civic organizations to attain their inputs on the draft urban improvement and rehabilitation national policy.	March 2018	May 2018	Completed
MUDH holds two inter-ministerial consultative meetings to attain their inputs on the draft urban improvement and rehabilitation national policy.	June 2018	July 2018	Completed
MUDH incorporates the comments and recommendations obtained from the consultations with the public sector and the social and civic organizations in developing final version of the policy and submit it to High Council for Urban Development for the approval.	August 2018	December 2018	Ongoing
MUDH drafts an action plan for the implementation of the policy	January 2019	February 2019	Ongoing
MUDH holds 2 consultative meetings with public sector departments and social and civic organizations on the draft action plan.	March 2019	May 2019	Not started
MUDH incorporates the comments and recommendations obtained from the consultations with the public sector and the social and civic organizations in the final version of action plan	June 2019	August 2019	Not started

Contact information		
Lead implementing agency		Ministry of Urban Development and Housing (MUDH)
Persons responsible from implementing agency		Eng. Mowluddin Popal
Title, Department		Head of Department of Unplanned Areas Improvement
Email and Phone		<a href="mailto:mawluddin_popal@yahoo.com">mawluddin_popal@yahoo.com</a> +93(0)782788780/+93(0)752151496
Other Actors Involved	Government Ministries, Department/Agency	Ministry of Public Work, Ministry of Transportation, Municipalities, Independent Directorate of Local Governance, Independent Land Authority and Capital Region Independent Development Authority
	CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	Social and civic Organizations
Additional Information		

## Developing and Approving a Protection Policy for Women under Conflict and Emergency Situations

### 8. Developing and Approving a Protection Policy for Women under Conflict and Emergency Situations

January 2018 - August 2019

Lead implementing agency

Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA)

#### Commitment Description

What is the public problem that the commitment will address?

Conflict and emergency situations disproportionately affect women and there is lack of a specific mechanism the related agencies can use to address the issues women face in these situations such, but not limited to, sexual violence, internal displacement, poverty and loss of access to education and health care services, and psychological trauma. Lack of such a mechanism has adversely affected different aspects of women's well-being. This situation may harm women more than any other social strata by restricting their access to adequate food, safety, health and mental health provisions and services.

What is the commitment?

In order to reduce vulnerability of women under conflict and emergency situations, MoWA, in collaboration with related ministries, agencies and local governance entities, CSOs, women's rights organizations, international partner organizations and other relevant actors will develop a protection policy for women under conflict and emergency situations. After finalization of the policy, it will be submitted for approval to Cabinet.

How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?

This commitment will enable the related agencies mentioned above to present their ideas and proposals to be incorporated into the protection policy for women under conflict and emergency situations.

In order to implement this commitment, MoWA will first establish a committee composed of the related government agencies, women rights organizations, CSOs and international organizations. This committee will be responsible for drafting the protection policy for women under conflict and emergency situations.

	<p>The established committee will develop the policy and share it with the related governmental and non-governmental agencies for their comments. After collecting all comments, the committee will incorporate them and develop the final draft and will then send it for approval to the Cabinet.</p> <p>With the approval of this policy, a specific mechanism will be established to protect women under conflict and emergency situations.</p> <p>The committee will prepare and finalize an action plan to facilitate the implementation of the policy.</p> <p>Consequently, the implementation of the policy and its action plan is expected to reduce vulnerability of women in conflict and emergency situations, and address their needs and issues on a timely basis.</p>			
<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>This commitment is relevant to OGP values as it is inclusive of public participation, as it leads to the development of a protection policy in consultation with related CSOs, women’s human rights organizations, and women focused international organizations.</p>			
<p>Additional information</p>	<p>This commitment will be funded by MoWA and will underscore the Afghanistan’s SDG commitment Goal 5 which stipulates ‘Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.’ This goal includes 5 specific targets which highlight’s Afghanistan’s commitment to Resolution 1325 thereby touching upon the issues mentioned above that affect women in conflict and emergency situations.</p>			
<p>Completion Level</p>	<p>Not Started</p>	<p>Limited</p>	<p>Substantial</p>	<p>Completed</p>
			<p>✓</p>	
<p>Description of the results</p>	<p>This commitment has 5 milestones. The Ministry of Women Affairs performances results in implementation of this commitment are as follows: 1- The Ministry of Women Affairs has established a committee consisting of relevant governmental Institutions, Women Rights Organizations, CSOs, International counterpart Organizations to draft Protection Policy for Women under Conflict and Emergency Situations. 2- The draft of Protection Policy for Women under Conflict and Emergency Situations has been prepared by the committee.</p>			

	<p>3- This draft was shared in a consultative meeting with the relevant governmental institutions, women rights organization and CSOs in Kabul and provinces, and their views have been compiled and incorporated into the draft.</p> <p>4- it's expected that this draft will be approved by the Cabinet of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan until end of the February of 2019. The implementation of this commitment to be continued in accordance with the timeframe of the country's National Action Plan-1.</p>		
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approval of the Protection Policy by the Cabinet.</li> <li>• The committee will prepare and finalize an action plan to facilitate the implementation of the policy.</li> </ul>		
Milestone status	Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level
MoWA will establish a committee comprised of related government agencies, women rights organizations, CSOs and international organizations who will be responsible for drafting the protection policy for women under conflict and emergency situations.	January 2018	February 2018	Completed
The committee will draft the protection policy for women under conflict and emergency situations.	March 2018	August 2018	Completed
The committee will hold one consultation session in Kabul attended by related government agencies, women rights organizations, and CSOs from the provinces. Their feedback will be incorporated into a final draft of the protection policy by the committee.	September 2018	October 2018	Completed
Approval of the Protection Policy by the Cabinet.	November 2018	February 2019	Ongoing
The committee will prepare and finalize an action plan to facilitate the implementation of the policy.	March 2019	August 2019	Ongoing
Contact information			
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA)		

Persons responsible from implementing agency		Farida Quraishy
Title, Department		Head of Policy and Planning Department, Ministry of Women's Affairs
Email and Phone		Farida.qurisha123@gmail.com 0784683641
Other Actors Involved	Government Ministries, Department/Agency	Ministry of Interior, State Ministry for Disaster Management, Ministry of Refugees and Repatriations, Ministry of Public Health, IDLG, Ministry of Rural Development and Rehabilitation, and Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock
	CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	AIHRC, Afghan Women Network, international partner organizations, especially UNDP, UN-Women, USAID and other relevant CSOs
Additional Information		



## Developing and Implementing Civil Society Oversight Plan for Transparency and Quality of Education and Higher Education

### 9. Developing and Implementing Civil Society Monitoring Plan for Transparency and Quality of Education and Higher Education

January 2018 - August 2019

Lead implementing agency

Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) and Ministry of Education (MoE)

#### Commitment Description

What is the public problem that the commitment will address?

Existing reports and evidence show that service delivery in education and higher education sector does not meet the people's demand and requirements of the job market. In addition, service delivery in these sectors is poor and low-quality.

Statistics and figures indicate that half of the existing students in the country are pursuing their higher studies in private universities and institutes of higher education. The government and the private sector are main education service delivery institutions where lack of transparency and quality is seen within both public and private sector.

According to the assessments, people, Civil Society, private sector, non-governmental organizations have collaborated with MoHE and MoE in long-term and strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation of their activities and projects, identifying challenges, and providing solutions in education and higher education sectors; but these collaborations are not satisfactory.

What is the commitment?

In order to address the abovementioned challenges, MoHE and MoE have decided to develop and approve a plan for civil society oversight over transparency and quality of education and higher education, in consultation with Civil Society and other relevant institutions.

The plan will enable the civil society and its stakeholders to monitor how education and higher education related services are delivered. Oversight by civil society will ensure transparency in education and higher education service delivery and improve their quality in Afghanistan.

<p>How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?</p>	<p>Civil Society and non-governmental institutions' participation will enable them to further engage in design and devising of long-term plans and identifying existing challenges within education and higher education's programs and to provide realistic solutions in order to solve them. As CSOs, in the past, were contributing with education and higher education institutions and shared their consultations in formulation of the education and higher education sectors' strategic plans, CSOs participation will be included within the plans of both ministries and facilitated through development councils in Citizen Charter program, getting membership to leading committees of strategic plan implementation and other programs of the two ministries. Both MoHE and MoE are interested in CSOs active participation for ensuring transparency and quality in education and higher education service delivery.</p> <p>A committee (National Oversight Committee) composed of representatives from MoHE, MoE, public and private education institutes, and civil society will be established as the first step to implement this commitment. The committee will be responsible to draft the monitoring mechanism to improve transparency and quality in education service delivery. Once drafted, the mechanism will be shared with CSOs during consultative meetings for their feedbacks. The mechanism will be finalized after incorporation of comments from CSOs and the stakeholders. Finally, the mechanism will be submitted for approval to the relevant entities.</p> <p>Implementation of this commitment will enable civil society to be involved in developing the oversight plan through presenting their insights and concerns with regards to education\higher education service delivery, and to improve transparency and quality in education/higher education delivery through implementing the oversight plan. This will ensure transparency and improved quality in education/higher education service delivery.</p>
<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>This commitment has relevancy with public participation and transparency, because CSOs will be involved in developing the oversight plan and will maintain oversight on education/higher education service delivery, which in turn, will bring about transparency in related service delivery.</p>

Additional information	<p>This commitment will be funded jointly by MoHE and MoE.</p> <p>This commitment is consistent with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4: Quality Education.</p>			
Completion Level	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
			✓	
Description of the results	<p>This commitment includes 7 milestones. The outcome of the performances are as below: 1- The National Oversight Committee on Transparency and quality of education has been established in participation of representatives of the CSOs and private sector, and its job description has been crafted. 2- The mentioned committee has finalized the national monitoring mechanism of the members of the CSOs for the quality and transparency of the educational services in the country. 3- Based on the drafted mechanism and according to the National Action Plan-1, Ministries of Education and Higher Education created four provincial committees in Nangarhar, Herat, Kandahar and Balkh provinces that provincial committee members are included University Chancellor, University Academic Vice Chancellor, Education Director, Education Deputy Director for Admin and Finance Affairs and four members of civil society of the respective provinces. 4- The provincial committee members have been invited in Kabul by the Ministries of Education and Higher Education and they were provided with the information on issues such as open government participation, the commitment of the ministries of education and higher education, the responsibilities of the provincial committee members and their work manners. 5- Based on the 5<sup>th</sup> activity of this commitment, it's expected that members of the provincial committee to conduct a survey on the quality and transparency of education in Kabul and four abovementioned provinces, and their required recommendations for improvement of education services will be provided to the ministries of education and higher education. The implementation of this commitment is ongoing based on the NAP with no delay.</p>			
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Monitoring at the level of primary education will be conducted in the capital of five</li> </ul>			

	<p>provinces, including Kabul through a sub-national monitoring committee that will be developed based on the holistic monitoring mechanism created by NOC, representing its subnational arm. NOC will be conducting the community monitoring in Kabul itself.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A student satisfaction survey at the level of higher education in 5 provinces, including Kabul will be conducted by NOC and the sub-national monitoring committees. The findings of the survey will be publicized.</li> <li>• The findings of community monitoring and student satisfaction survey will be published individually and disseminated by NOC to all relevant stakeholders.</li> </ul>
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Milestone status	Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level
MoE and MoHE establish a National Oversight Committee for the Transparency and Quality of Education and Higher Education with specific ToR. The committee will consist of representatives of MoE, MoHE, public and private education institutes, and civil society.	January 2018	February 2018	Completed
The National Oversight Committee (NOC) will develop a holistic monitoring mechanism that will provide oversight taking the form of community monitoring and student satisfaction survey assessing the quality of teaching in education and higher education institutes.	March 2018	May 2018	Completed
Presentation and approval of the aforesaid mechanism by MoE and MoHE.	June 2018	July 2018	Completed
NOC establishes 4 subnational monitoring committees in Balk, Herat, Kandahar and Nangarhar. NOC will provide an orientation for the 4 subnational monitoring committees in Kabul.	August 2018	October 2018	Completed
Community Monitoring at the level of primary education will be conducted in the capital of five provinces, including Kabul through a sub-national monitoring committee that will be	November 2018	June 2019	Ongoing

developed based on the holistic monitoring mechanism created by NOC, representing its subnational arm. NOC will be conducting the community monitoring in Kabul itself.				
A student satisfaction survey at the level of higher education in 5 provinces, including Kabul will be conducted by NOC and the sub-national monitoring committees. The findings of the survey will be publicized.		November 2018	June 2019	Ongoing
The findings of community monitoring and student satisfaction survey will be published individually and disseminated by NOC to all relevant stakeholders.		July 2019	August 2019	Not started
Contact information				
Lead implementing agency		Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) and Ministry of Education (MoE)		
Persons responsible from implementing agency		Dr. Ahmad Siyar Mahjur - Dr. Hamidullah		
Title, Department		MoHE's Deputy Minister of Administrative and Financial Affairs - MoE's Deputy Minister of Administrative and Financial Affairs		
Email and Phone		<a href="mailto:mahjoor2017@gmail.com">mahjoor2017@gmail.com</a> +93(0)791400589 <a href="mailto:dr.sayedhamidullah@moe.gov.af">dr.sayedhamidullah@moe.gov.af</a> +93(0)729118118		
Other Actors Involved	Government Ministries, Department/Agency	Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyrs and the Disabled, and Ministry of Public Health		
	CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	Relevant CSOs, education/higher education-related unions and other interested organizations		
Additional Information				



**Preparing, Approving and Implementing the Plan for Establishment of Joint Committee of State Agencies and Civil Society for Overseeing the Implementation of Anti-Corruption Strategy (2017 - 2020)**

10. Preparing, Approving and Implementing the Plan for the Establishment of a Joint Committee of State agencies and Civil Society for Overseeing the Implementation of the Anti-Corruption Strategy (2017-2020)

January 2018 - August 2019

Lead implementing agency

Special Anti-Corruption Secretariat

**Commitment Description**

What is the public problem that the commitment will address?

During the last decade, Afghanistan has continued to gain the title of the most administratively corrupt country, ranked between 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> position, amongst all countries in the World Corruption Perception Index produced annually by Transparency International. Corruption is as problematic as insecurity, terrorism and drug trafficking acting to preventing the strengthening of good governance in Afghanistan.

The government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan has taken initiatives for the purpose of effectively combating corruption and fulfilling its commitments through accession to the United Nations Convention against Corruption as well as enforcement of the Law on Overseeing the Implementation of Anti-Corruption Strategy.

What is the commitment?

The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan has recently prepared and approved the new Anti-Corruption Strategy. In order to effectively oversee the implementation of the Anti-Corruption Strategy in Afghanistan, it was decided in the Open Government Partnership meetings that a joint committee comprised of the public sector and CSOs should be established.

The committee is supposed to oversee the implementation of the Anti-Corruption Strategy and provide necessary recommendations for the High Council on Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption. The committee will also track the progress of the implementation of the recommendations given to the High Council and develop a knowledge

	<p>product for future enrichment of anti-corruption strategies in the country. The tracking of the progress by the committee, will in part, be based on the reports submitted by the implementing agencies on their actions and achievements on the implementation of the Anti-Corruption Strategy.</p>
<p>How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?</p>	<p>The commitment provides the opportunity for Special Anti-Corruption Secretariat and CSOs to oversee the implementation of the strategy on a continuous basis which will compel governmental agencies to fulfill their responsibilities in combating corruption.</p> <p>First, for the implementation of the commitment, Special Anti-Corruption Secretariat will prepare the draft plan on the establishment of a joint committee comprised of state agencies and CSOs which will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the anti-corruption strategy. The joint committee will develop an action plan for the oversight of the implementation of the Anti-Corruption Strategy.</p> <p>The joint committee will enable CSOs to directly engage in the process of overseeing the implementation of the Anti-Corruption Strategy, provision of recommendations and production of knowledge product for further enrichment of anti-corruption efforts.</p> <p>It is expected that the functions of the committee will facilitate the proper implementation of the strategy and ultimately improve service delivery and Afghanistan's standing in the World Corruption Perception Index.</p>
<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>This commitment has relevancy with the OGP values because it will ensure participation of CSOs in the oversight process of the Anti-Corruption Strategy. As the joint committee produces a knowledge product and makes it available to the public, this commitment relates to transparency. In terms of its relevance to accountability, the joint committee provides oversight, tracks the progress and provides recommendations to the implementing agencies.</p>
<p>Additional information</p>	<p>The implementation of this commitment is funded by the Special Anti-Corruption Secretariat. This commitment is relevant to the Anti-Corruption Strategy (2017-2020).</p>



Completion Level	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
				✓
Description of the results	<p>To meet this commitment, overall 7 basic activities have been planned. The outcome of performances of Special Anti- Corruption Secretariat for the implementation of this commitment are as follows: 1- The draft proposal for creation of joint governmental and civil society committee has been prepared, to monitor the implementation of the national anti- corruption strategy. 2- The Special Secretariat for Anti- Corruption has held 4 meetings for enrichment of the mentioned draft with the CSOs and governmental institutions, the participants' views are compiled and incorporated into the draft. Subsequently, the draft was approved by the participants of the meeting. 3- The final draft of the mentioned committee has been approved by the president of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. 4- The committee prepared and finalized their Action Plan for assessment of the National anti-corruption strategy. The implementation of this commitment is ongoing based on the NAP.</p>			
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The joint committee will hold monthly meetings and provide necessary reports and recommendations to the High Council on Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption.</li> <li>• The joint committee will produce one knowledge product that highlights the challenges, existing gaps, lessons learnt and recommendations for informing future anti-corruption strategies.</li> </ul>			
Milestone status	Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level	
Special Anti-Corruption Secretariat prepares the draft plan for the joint committee comprised of state agencies and CSOs to oversee the implementation of the Anti-Corruption Strategy.	January 2018	February 2018	Completed	
Special Anti-Corruption Secretariat holds three consultative meetings with CSOs and relevant public departments to attain their inputs and	March 2018	May 2018	Completed	

incorporate it into the final draft plan for the joint committee.				
Special Anti-Corruption Secretariat will present the final draft plan to the High Council on Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption for approval.		June 2018	August 2018	Completed
Special Anti-Corruption Secretariat will establish the joint committee based on the approved plan.		September 2018	October 2018	Completed
The joint committee will develop an action plan for the oversight of the implementation of the Anti-Corruption Strategy.		November 2018	December 2018	Completed
The joint committee will hold monthly meetings and provide necessary reports and recommendations to the High Council on Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption.		January 2019	August 2019	Ongoing
The joint committee will produce one knowledge product that highlights the challenges, existing gaps, lessons learnt and recommendations for informing future anti-corruption strategies.		July 2019	August 2019	Not started
Contact information				
Lead implementing agency		Special Anti-Corruption Secretariat		
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Other Actors Involved	Government Ministries, Department/Agency	Ministries and state agencies		

	CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	CSOs
Additional Information		

## Evaluation of Information Units, Preparing the Plan to strengthen the Information Mechanism in 60 Governmental Agencies and its Implementation

11. Evaluation of information units, preparing the plan to strengthen the Information Mechanism in 60 governmental agencies and its implementation

January 2018 - August 2019

Lead implementing agency

Ministry of Information and Culture (MoIC)

### Commitment Description

What is the public problem that the commitment will address?

According to the reports published by the Monitoring Commission on Access to Information, information units have been established in 60 government agencies at national level in Afghanistan. However, these units are said to be ineffective, as they offer limited access to digital forms of information due to lack of a comprehensive information database, deficient documentations system and prolonged waiting periods to attain requested information.

Therefore, ineffectiveness of the existing information units has led to continued lack of public and media access to information, undermining transparency, accountability and responsiveness in governmental agencies.

What is the commitment?

In order to address the mentioned challenges MoIC is intended to 1) assess the capacities at these units; 2) formulate a capacity development plan with a purpose to enhance the capacity of these units to deliver their mandate and 3) to implement the capacity development plan in the MoIC and Ministry of Mines and Petroleum, Independent Administrative Reform and Civil Service Commission, and Ministry of Transport as a pilot project.

It is expected that the implementation of this commitment will ensure that there is a well-functioning digital and manual system of information management and dissemination in place. This will ultimately ensure existence of digitalized data, smooth processing of public requests and easy public access to the data within the aforementioned ministries.

<p>How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?</p>	<p>The commitment will enable journalists, research organizations, CSOs and related agencies to share their insights for improving the plan.</p> <p>The digitalization of information management within the agencies will expedite the dissemination of information ensuring that the public gains easy and timely access to all relevant information.</p> <p>Another advantage associated with the digitalization of information is that it will ensure all data requests are formally documented and lodged.</p>			
<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>This commitment is relevant to Open Government Partnership values because it is inclusive of public participation. Moreover, the implementation of this commitment will enhance public access to accurate information thereby promoting accountability and transparency in the public sector.</p>			
<p>Additional information</p>	<p>This commitment is relevant with the National Anti-corruption Strategy.</p> <p>The necessary fund for implementing this commitment will be covered by the targeted ministries.</p>			
<p>Completion Level</p>	<p>Not Started</p>	<p>Limited</p>	<p>Substantial</p>	<p>Completed</p>
			<p style="text-align: center;">✓</p>	
<p>Description of the results</p>	<p>To meet this commitment, overall 5 basic activities have been planned. The Ministry of Information and Culture’s implementation outcomes on the accomplishment of this commitment are as follows: 1- The Information Units Reform Panel has been formed of members of the Oversight Commission on Access to Information and the staff of the Ministry of Information and Culture. 2- The mentioned panel within the civil societies has created providing information assessment mechanism which consists of special questionnaire. 3- Based on the developed mechanism, the mentioned panel has collected and analyzed the information on modality of performances of providing information units of 60 government institutions. The mentioned panel evaluation findings publicized through the official website of the Ministry of Information and Culture. It’s expected that the mentioned board in line with their findings, to develop and implement a capacity building plan for providing</p>			

	information units to the public sector. The implementation of this commitment is on track.		
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The capacity development program is implemented within the targeted ministries with the technical support of IURP.</li> <li>• IURP produces a lessons learned report on the implementation of the program in the targeted ministries. The report will be shared with all information units and stakeholders as well as made available via MoIC website.</li> </ul>		
Milestone status	Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level
MoIC establishes the Information Units Reform Panel (IURP) consisting of CSOs who are member of Oversight Commission on Access to Information and MoIC's employees to develop a plan and tools to inform the methodology of the assessment that will be carried out in the information units.	January 2018	March 2018	Completed
IURP carries out the assessment in 60 information units and produces the findings of the report. The findings of assessment will publicized and made available via MoIC website.	April 2018	September 2018	Completed
IURP creates a capacity development program based on the findings of the assessment. The capacity development program will be made available via MoIC website.	October 2018	January 2019	Ongoing
The capacity development program is implemented within the targeted ministries with the technical support of IURP.	February 2019	August 2019	Not started
IURP produces a lessons learned report on the implementation of the program in the targeted ministries. The report will be shared with all information units and stakeholders as well as made available via MoIC website.	July 2019	August 2019	Not started
Contact information			

Lead implementing agency		Ministry of Information and Culture (MoIC)
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Other Actors Involved	Government Ministries, Department/Agency	60 governmental agencies and Monitoring Commission on Access to Information
	CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	Civil society, media and UNESCO Office in Kabul
Additional Information		

## Open Data and Citizen Monitoring in Public Procurement

### 12. Open Data and Citizens' Monitoring in Public Procurement

(1 Jan 2018 - 31 August 2019)

Lead implementing agency

National Procurement Authority

#### Commitment Description

What is the public problem that the commitment will address?

Lack of involvement of citizens and other stakeholders in government contracts, procurement processes (procurement plan, contracting, and contract implementation), and unavailability of clear and well defined mechanism for publishing procurement information and government contract lifecycle are the main causes of lack of adequate accountability of authorities to citizens which has led to a widespread systematic and systemic corruption in procurement system that has widened the gap of mistrust between citizens and the government.

Moreover, absence of transparency in the procurement processes has resulted in lack of sense of ownership of citizens for the contracts being implemented and has decreased the public monitoring of the contracts. However, in some cases, it is even impossible for public monitoring due to lack of access to public procurement data and information.

These problems have, not only, contributed in reduction of quality of projects, but also, have led in wastage of financial resources, and thus decreased the utilization rate of government budget.

As a result, we can summarize the consequences of lack of transparency in procurement processes in the following three areas:

- Inability of gaining the optimal rate of return from the investments done through implementation of contracts and not achieving value for the money being spent;
- Monopolization of contract monitoring processes by government and unavailability of an adequate mechanism and platform for public monitoring of services provided to citizens.



	<p>Lack of complete transparency in procurement processes have made it difficult for citizens, civil society, and other stakeholders to identify corrupt public and private officials to monitor their activities and to take corrective and preventive actions for improvement of these officials performance.</p>
<p>What is the commitment?</p>	<p>The National Procurement Authority, as a sole policy maker in the public procurement sector of the country, signed a trilateral memorandum of understanding with Integrity Watch Afghanistan (IWA) and Open Contracting Partnership (OCP) on the sidelines of the Anti-Corruption Conference held in London, England, in 2016. Based on that, NPA is committed to provide the mechanism and platform to publish public procurement information and documents activity for the interested stakeholders.</p> <p>The National Procurement Authority is developing a system in accordance with the Open Contracting Data Standards (OCDS), to publish contract-related information in machine-readable format.</p> <p>NPA is committed to publish these information in the following five stages based on OCDS, Afghanistan Procurement Law and Rules Procedure with direct involvement of Procurement Entities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Project Planning</li> <li>2. Project Bidding</li> <li>3. Contract Award</li> <li>4. Signed Contract</li> <li>5. Contract Implementation</li> </ol> <p>In addition, this organization is committed to develop a dedicated procurement portal through which the procurement entities are able to enter the contract related information using their accounts and publish and share the information with citizens.</p> <p>It is worth mentioning that the disclosing of this information only covers the supply side of contracting information, the demand side of this information and involvement of citizen in monitoring and pushing the Procurement Entities in publishing timely information to increase transparency and value for money is led by Integrity Watch Afghanistan. NPA commits to working closely with IWA and other stakeholders to ensure the information disclosed is accessible, useful, and used by interested parties.</p>

<p>How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?</p>	<p>As everyone knows, the public procurement makes up to nearly 20% of gross domestic product-GDP in the country and approximately 50% of budget of government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan is spent through procurement. Therefore, reform in public procurement has been the core topic in Afghanistan Government's agenda. Since establishment of NPA, a huge amount of Afghanistan's high officials' time have been invested in procurement reform. Further, the former head of NPA, current Minister of Public Works Yama Yari, played a key role in Afghanistan's joining the OGP, and open contracting was cited in the country's letter of intent to join the OGP. Moreover, transparency in procurement processes (in the various procurement stages) will not only assist in achieving the goals of reform, but will also enable the Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to fulfill its commitments to the international community. It will also contribute in reducing corruption in the procurement arena and push the private and public authorities to improve the service delivery based on the accepted principles and standards. Clearly, with the implementation of this commitment, the Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan can create transparency in contract signature, and contract implementation and as a result, it creates accountability in contracting process. Through standardized publication of information using the technology will pave the path for citizen-centric government which is one of the essential values of open governance.</p>
<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>The following results are expected to be obtained by fulfilling this commitment and publishing timely and required information of contracts in the specific portals with unconditional access with no time and geographical restrictions to citizens:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Providing the opportunity for public monitoring and citizen-centered governance will pave the way for increased sense of ownership for public project and continual and objective monitoring. Moreover, this in turn will led to improve in quality of project, increase value for money, and timely implementation of project for better and effective utilization of government budget.</li> <li>2. Providing transparency in procurement processes and publishing the information in all stages of</li> </ol>

	<p>procurement processes will provide information to the private sector on the investment opportunities, challenges in contract implementation, service delivery rate and other contracts related issues. By gaining this information, the private sector will be able to take informed decision on their investments, as well as whether or not to bid on public contracts, and deliver services with high quality in a standardized manner.</p> <p>Contracting information collected at different times and different areas of Afghanistan are stored in one place, allowing the researchers, specialists, students and other interested organizations to access and use this information to conduct accurate research in order to provide feedback to government and ultimately improve the service delivery of public projects. Moreover, by providing machine-readable data, the researchers and technical companies can analyze the data and use it for making more informed decisions.</p>			
Additional information	<p>Through this commitment, the Government of Republic of Afghanistan is committed to accomplish and achieve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active engagement of public, CSOs, government agencies, and researchers in procurement processes</li> </ul> <p>Active disclosure of linked procurement processes information to assists the private sector in taking informed decision in investment, provide relevant information for researchers and academicians to conduct their research easily, and pave the way for better service delivery as public monitoring increases and pressurize the relevant authorities to conduct their jobs on time and efficiently.</p>			
Completion Level	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
			✓	
Description of the results	<p>To meet this commitment, overall 4 basic activities have been planned that the National Procurement Authority implementation outcomes on the accomplishment of this commitment are as follows: 1- The National Procurement Authority in the area of award of contracts has published information regarding (4777) contracts in the implementation section, Information on (1147) contracts in the relevant portal. 2- This information will be updated</p>			

	<p>based on the activities accomplishment. 3- All this information is available through the below address (<a href="https://ageops.net">https://ageops.net</a>). 4- The work on conducting of a meeting with the CSOs by the National Procurement Authority is in progress. In this meeting, an Action Plan will be developed to monitor the public contracts by the civil society for transparency, currency value and justice. This action plan will open the way for civil society to monitor all procurement process. The implementation of this commitment is on track.</p>		
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of OCDS on procurement plan stage</li> <li>• Implementation of OCDS on Bidding and contract award stages</li> </ul>		
Milestone status	Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level
Implementation of OCDS on contract stages and contract implementation	01 June 2018	30 Sep 2018	Completed
Together with CSOs, co-development of a pilot program to engage CSOs in the monitoring of public contracting for integrity, value for money and fairness.	1 Oct 2018	30 Nov 2018	Completed
Implementation of OCDS on procurement plan stage	1 Oct 2018	30 Dec 2018	Completed
Implementation of OCDS on Bidding and contract award stages	01 Jan 2019	30 June 2019	Ongoing
Contact information			
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Other Actors Involved	Government Ministries, Department/Agency	All Procurement Entities
	CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	Integrity watch Afghanistan, Open Contracting Partnership, World Bank, Afghanistan Public Policy Research Organization, and Transparency International Afghanistan
Additional Information		

## Developing a Public Participatory and Supervision Mechanism for the Planning and Implementation of Road Network Projects

13. Developing a Public Participatory and Supervision Mechanism for the Planning and Implementation of Road Network Projects

(7 September 2018 – 10 May 2019)

Lead implementing agency

Ministry of Public Works

### Commitment Description

What is the public problem that the commitment will address?

Based on the estimations conducted by the Ministry of Public Works, it indicated that the development and supply of transport infrastructure doesn't meet public's demand. It means that there is an imbalanced development compared to demand for transport infrastructure.

The second challenge to be addressed remains the poor quality of transport infrastructure in particular highways, urban roads, bridges and culverts. For example, roads are being built in Afghanistan, which destroy within six months or one year.

The third problem is slow development and supply process of transport infrastructure in Afghanistan. Most of the infrastructure projects are not executed within specified time period, and last longer than the contracts period.

The fourth problem is the operation & maintenance of transport infrastructure. Both government and public have neglected in this regard.

The fifth problem is lack of priority infrastructure projects identification. Since limited resources are available for development of infrastructure, so according to financial principles, the limited resources should be allocated to prioritized projects.

Sixth, political interventions in selection and implementation of road projects and lack of specific standards in this regard, plus, high cost of infrastructure development in Afghanistan are the main factor which not

	<p>only slow the road development process, but retards the national development as well.</p>
<p>What is the commitment?</p>	<p>To address the aforesaid problems, MPW is greatly committed to engage provincial representative and local community in project selection and execution process. In this regard, MPW has come up with community engagement framework. Under the framework, MPW is patronizing the engagement of local communities to identify and select projects. This would facilitate MPW to strengthen a strong government/communities' partnership via injecting the sense of ownership rights to communities having influence on identification and selection of projects.</p> <p>In addition to that MoPW is also working to involve civil society particularly integrity watch of Afghanistan (IWA) to monitor MoPW activities. In this regard, MoPW has drafted MoU with integrity watch of Afghanistan in order to ensure transparency in MoPW activities. In coordination with MoPW, local communities, and volunteers, IWA will monitor all operational activities of MoPW associated with procurement process, project selection, project execution, and contract allotment to the bidders in order to ensure that all processes are being followed in a transparent manner. And MoU will get sign once finalized.</p> <p><b><i>I. Government</i></b></p> <p>As main Infrastructure entity, Ministry of Public Works will embark on provincial connectivity program by engaging local community in all the prioritized provinces. This engaging process will be done through provincial and district representatives. Once the engagement process starts, the local community will be allowed to vote as to whether agree on government proposed project (Projects selection indicators) or to propose the desirable projects in that area.</p> <p><b><i>II. People's Representatives</i></b></p> <p>People's Representatives engagement process will play an imperative role in building relationship between local population and governments. Here, People's representatives both provincial and district will closely work with MPW to facilitate local community engagement in order to ensure active participation of</p>

MPW will implement the project based on

	<p>local population in project selection in each area. Thus, this process will immensely help to identify the community-based demand in term of project selection.</p> <p><b>III. Local community</b></p> <p>Local community has always been a great focus for the government. Therefore, this process will greatly depend on local population’s demands in terms of project selection. In this process, the desirable projects will be identified and selected by the community through local engagement process. Thus, the choice will be given to local community in term of project selection in their areas by the government.</p> <p><b>IV. Project execution</b></p> <p>In this phase, the government will not only implement all those recommended projects in prioritized districts but also will monitor the project implementation process in coordination with local community. To do so, MPW and local community will work closely in project execution phase.</p>
<p>How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?</p>	<p>By developing the public participatory and supervision mechanism in consensus with representatives of civil society and all related entities will not only set a specific standard for development of transport infrastructure, but also strengthens Government/public partnership in supervising and monitoring from start to end process of projects development, including selection, implementation and maintenance of road network will be feasible.</p> <p>First; providing opportunity for public participation in projects’ selection will cause to allocate the resources to projects which are priority on the basis of defined indicators. Second; public monitoring will lead to development of road network projects with allocated resources, given time, and certain quality. Third; Creating a sense of ownership, commitment and responsibility will encourage public to cooperate in maintenance of completed road projects with the government.</p>
<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>This commitment is linked to public participation and assurance of open government transparency. First;</p>



	<p>people and representatives of civil society get involved in prioritization of projects. The prioritization of projects would be done with consensus of public and where to allocate the limited financial resources. This is related to the commitment to open government public participation.</p> <p>Second; public monitoring will force in-charge authorities to develop the projects with specific resources, and with certain time and quality. In this case, the purpose of transparency of open-governance will be ensured.</p>			
Additional information	<p>This commitment will be funded jointly by Ministry of Public Work.</p> <p>This commitment relates to sustainable development, strategy of Ministry of Public Works, and regulation maintenance of public benefit assets</p>			
Completion Level	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
			✓	
Description of the results	<p>To meet this commitment, overall 7 activities have been planned. Out of 7 activities, 5 activities have been completed. The Ministry of Public Works established a working group to draft the mechanism. The panel drafted the mechanism and put it under consultation with civil society organizations and other stakeholders. The comments received within the consultation meetings have been compiled and incorporated in the mechanism. The mechanism was then finalized in an inter-ministerial meeting. The implementation of this commitment is on track.</p>			
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start of public consultation process with 10 priority provinces</li> <li>• Developing budget plan.</li> </ul>			
Milestone status	Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level	

Creating a working group to arrange a draft.	7 September 2018	20 September 2018	Completed
Developing draft of the framework for provincial roads connectivity program in partnership with the people.	20 September 2018	30 October 2018	Completed
Organizing an advisory meeting with relevant civil society.	1 November 2018	20 November 2018	Completed
Arrange an inter-ministerial meeting with involved entities in this regard.	21 November 2018	10 January 2019	Completed
Finalizing the framework	11 January 2019	25 January 2019	Completed
Start of public consultation process with 10 priority provinces	26 January 2019	24 April 2019	Ongoing
Developing budget plan	25 April 2019	10 May 2019	Not started
Contact information			
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Other Actors Involved	Government Ministries, Department/Agency	Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Urban Development, Ministry of Justice and Municipalities.	

	CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	Different social entities, Local Councils, Religious Scholars of Masjids, Medias and International non-governmental organizations.
Additional Information		