ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Provision of 64 workshops for 1600 women activists & Imams in 8 provinces and through the trainees we reached 21600 women & 28, 000 men
- 3 Pashto & 3 Dari religious messages for all over Afghanistan
- Conducting 16 campaigns in 8 provinces for 3200 individuals
- Through monthly massages in Dari & Pashto by famous Imams and women activists we reached to

Thanks to SDC who made us able to be part of this successful process

SUMMARY:

The Afghan elections on April 5 was marked the first democratic transfer of power in Afghanistan's history. The 2014 elections would also be a milestone for Afghan women around seven million Afghan women were registered to vote, there were three female vice-presidential candidates and a greater percentage of provincial council candidates than ever before are women, which were remarkable. It is also clear that Afghan women still struggle for their basic rights because of insecurity, corruptions, man domination and culture & customary life style. From the other side, low literacy rates, and poor economic condition & confined social life. Afghan women voting out reach increase was a significant achievement in Afghan history with a strong massage "Afghan Women's movement is irreversible"

Despite extensive planning and preparation related to election security, the situation in Afghanistan remained volatile. In a country where attacks on candidates are common and the Taliban had issued a warning to Afghans not to participate in the elections, each woman who steps forward as a candidate or a voter would put her safety at risk. Yet millions of women & men took the risk and utilize their voting power. NECDO is proud to be part of this successful process and with financial support of SDC. NECDO part of its moral obligation tries hard to ensure that the hard fought gains that have been won are not rolled back, nor forsaken for political expediency. The future success of Afghanistan will require that the voices of Afghan women be heard, because the future stability and development of Afghanistan will be a direct result of the role they play. They are of immense consequence if women remain as secondary or inactive members it would be half body paralyzed and inactive.

Through implemented project "Afghan Women Voting Outreach Program" NECDO successfully conduct a wide range of awareness raising workshops in 8 provinces for 800 Imams & 800 women activists. Through support of the Imams we farther trained 280,000 individuals in 8 provinces, and by support of women trainees we could mange to farther train 21600 women. Through the Radio nation wide programs at peek hours we could provide wide range of awareness rising for public from Islamic perspective on women's political participation at least to 3400,000 individuals. Through campaigns in the last two Fridays close to election we conducted physically campaigns in 8 provinces for 3200 individuals about importance of voting out reach by women & men. The Nation wide Radio Campaign for 20 minutes on the last week of campaigns we sent the strong massage of voting outreach was provided awareness for at least 3400,000 individuals nation wide.

We remained committed members of AIEC in 8 provinces where we attended their coordination meetings, distributing their awareness packages and promoting voting out reach through NECDO's Network of Imams in 15 provinces with more than 1000 Imams. We cordially thank SDC for their financial support and we are also thankful

to MoWA & MoRA for provision of all kind of help in implementation of the project. Last but not the least we are thankful from AIEC for their trust and looking forward for a better future for every Afghan women, youths, men, children and aged people from all walks of life and every category of life.

2. PROJECT BACKGROUND:

Women's political participation in Afghanistan is similar to one step forward and two step back situation. The achievements with regards to women's political participation in the last twelve years are significant but the peace negotiation with the Taliban without women's involvement in the process, is the same as the increase in political conservatism such as the press statement by the Afghan Ulema Council in March of 2012, the election laws on 2010, the stand of parliamentarians against the EVAW Law, and silence of the Afghan government as one of the signatories of to CEDAW are major concerns at present.

Approval of the Afghan constitution in 2004 was a great step forward towards women's political participation, and a constitutional guarantee that one fourth of the sets in the Parliament will be allocated to female MPs. This legal protection has opened the doors for women to meaningfully participate in elections and to choose their representatives and the right candidates. A research conducted by AREU on women's participation in the past elections, shows how Afghan women experienced this journey and what a great impact it had on their personal & social lives. The parliamentarian and provincial council elections in 2005, 2009, & 2010 showed that women are able to equally participate like men and run as candidates. **This** was an encouragement for women to believe in their own capability, which gave them hope for it paving the way for their political participation.

Outreach to female voters is not a new phenomenon in Afghanistan; but they faced with great challenges from cultural and social life perspectives. In main cities, outreach to women has been greater, but in remote areas, majority of women are unaware of elections and their rights such as voting. These challenges included insecurity, economic, social, cultural, and religious constraints, besides lack of awareness about their rights and what impact their vote can make.

3. PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

NECDO as a brick in this society for reconstruction and development understood the importance of 2014 presidential and provincial elections as a gate way to a better future for Afghanistan, especially for women who feared that their achievements of past years will be compromised, as the gradual withdrawal of the International community is underway, as well as the fear that Taliban may be given a role to play in the political set up. Therefore, it's very important that women as half of the society contribute in the process and through casting their votes, bringing the right people in the office. In the last decade, women movements had major achievements and they should not step back now, rather should ask themselves the question of how they could impact this time.

Gender Equality & Human Rights are the cross cutting issues in NECDO's program strategy. The proposed project is designed based on our past experience in the field of promoting women's right and women's political participation. Throughout the AWVO project we planned to mobilize 800 Imams and 800 women activists in 8 provinces (Kabul, Ningarhar, Wardak, Parwan, Balkh, Herat, Takhar & Badakhshan) of Afghanistan, and use them as important entry points to pave way for women's participation in the 2014 presidential & provincial election.

The aim was to bring a change in the communities' behavior through the use of campaign, and community gatherings in order to risen the awareness in the community. The geographic focus for this project was eight provinces, where they would represent the entire Afghanistan. Our expectation was to reach 800 Imams & 800 women activists and by signing MoU between the participants & NECDO we would have reach to 96,000 individuals

We also coordinate with the local Radio, community mosques, and public centers for public awareness in the 8 provinces. We planned to reach out to at least 800,000 women & men. In the last month of the project, we organized 2 Friday's campaigns by Imams and women trainees and broadcasted their gathering through local radio channels. We also worked to organize gatherings in schools and public spaces for more public awareness.

4. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Based on the past experience, working in coordination with MoWA, MoHE, MoRA, AIHRC and having more than 1000 Imams in 15 provinces as human resources, NECDO was determined to play its role for the 2014 election by empowering Imams, take advantage of their influence on the community for public awareness, and side by side we planned to empower a group of women social workers to encourage other women to take part in the 2014 election. The proposed project focused on women political participations by mobilizing the communities importance and influential figures such as Imams, men & women Shuras, community leaders and grass roots in very Afghan & localized ways. Mobilizing Imams and utilizing Imam's power to change community attitude is one of the most successful experience that we have since 2007. We also focused on the importance of community leader's role in mobilizing communities through communication with their audience. Based on the selected goal & objectives of the AWVOP:

Goal of the Project: Women's turnout in the upcoming 2014 presidential election increased

Objectives:

- To increase women's participation by 30% in the targeted areas for the upcoming presidential election, and to educate them on the importance of casting their vote.
- To raise awareness among imams and other community influential figures to pave way for women's participation in the 2014 presidential election through trainings, campaign and Friday khutbas.

4.2 EXPECTED OUTCOMES:

The proposed project was designed in line with adoptability of norms in Afghan culture community, where men domination is very strong. We used localized methodology by involvement of the community's important figures. We with not much financial support or time duration, we were able to reach bigger numbers of audiences directly to 1600 and indirectly more than 96,000 individuals

Using local Radio and mosques will be another strong, free, and trustworthy way to unite the community. This will reach to at least 800,000 individuals just like that.

Organizing Final 2 Friday's as campaigns for mobilizing community will be another heavy push forward for community to feel ownership of the election and taking part in it and at least 800,000 people will get awareness for the next day of election

- 5. DETAILS OF THE PROJECT (1ST JANUARY 15TH APRIL 2014)
- 5.1.PROJECT STAFF RECRUITMENTS: The preparations for the implementation of the project began with hiring qualified staff of trainees and administration. According to NECDO HR Policy announced the vacancies for the post of project manager, project trainers. Fortunately, we were able to hire 4 trainers. We faced problem with receiving a qualified person for the project manager position. We were reluctant to give 70% of this task responsibility to Mr. Fazal Ghani Kakar, program coordinator of NECDO and hire Ms. Husnia Tooba as assistant Manager who was selected based on a written test and an interview contracted by the top management of NECDO. The issue we had with female trainers were that no one agreed to go without Mahram due to very tense security and the harsh winter conditions. NECDO was obliged to take the burden of Mahram for the female trainers as well.

Trainer's positions were announced through the e-mail group. The written test was conducted on 26th of December 2013, 2 Male Mr. Mohd Naim Qaderi and Mr. Ghulam Mohd Mahmood and 2 female Ms. Jamila Safi and Ms. Pashton Humaira were short listed in the interviews. Mr. Qaderi and Mr. Mahmood were selected as male trainers and Ms. Safi and Ms. Humaira as female trainers. The orientation for the selection was based on the good marks they earned in their written tests and also their experience in teaching and trainings for the last 5 years. Ms. Jamila Safi remained teacher and trainer for 15 years. Ms. Humaira worked as trainer and teacher for 7 years. Mr. Qaderi, in addition to being a qualified writer, remained trainer for 4 years. Mr. Mahmood was a teacher and trainer for almost 17 years. Based on their good experience and high marks on their tests, they were selected for the above-mentioned positions.

5.2.DEVELOPMENT OF MANUAL ON WPP: NECDO's key managers hired a consultant (Mr. Hayat Mahmoodi) to compile the already existed material on the issue of women political participation from Islamic perspective and Afghan cultural norms and a comparative study of successful Democracy in Islamic countries, with a special focus on women's political

participation. The specific part of the training manual was on the importance of vote by each and every individual for brining the right person in the main office. Based on the need of different provinces we had to translate the manual in Pashto as well. The manual on the issue of Women's Right to Voting in accordance to the perspective of Islam, the topics addressed in the manual were focused on women's Right in social and political participations, the Elite women, Advantages of women political and social participations just in the first chapter. In the second chapter, it focused on the tolerance and cooperation on national and international levels, and the picture that the prophet gave from a real human society. The third chapter mentioned about women's position in politics in times of prophet, the equal position that Islam has given to men and women in social and political affairs, and women's role in the spread of ethics in the beginning of Islam. The fourth chapter focused on women's responsibilities in spreading the virtues, understanding the rights and responsibilities of women. The manual after extensive review was given for printing where by starts the first trainings we got manuals on hand as hand book for trainees to utilize it for more community awareness raising

5.3.TOT FOR THE PROJECT STAFF: The project orientation (goal & objectives of the project and project work plan) was explained in a ToT session with the new project staff in a full day meeting, where Ms. Afghani herself was facilitating the ToT session, in coordination with Mr. Fazal Ghani Kakar NECDO PC, Mr. Abdul Hakim Naseri master trainer NECDO. Ms. Afghani gave orientation on the project objective and activities proposed in a detailed session.

During the TOT the topics of the manual were explained to the trainers, by Mr. Kakar the topics were as below:

- 1- Ulama's (Imams) and their responsibilities for the belter mat of the society.
- 2- Political participation of women from Islamic perspective.
- 3- Elite women in history of Islam.
- 4- Women's political position in times of prophet and now.
- 5- Qualities of a successful leader.
- 6- Election in country national law.
- 7- Electing leader from times of prophet till now.

The second day was specified to work on methodologies both Mr. Nassery and Kakar worked with the trainers on participatory methodology explaining them theoretically and practically to the trainers. They also finalized the project work plan, and we decided to start the trainings from Kabul.

5.4. THE LOGISTICS WERE SIMULTANEOUSLY DOING ALL ARRANGEMENTS: of purchasing stationary, printing of manuals, banners for trainings and any other relevant tasks, each participant was considered a pack of one pen (ball point), one plastic bag, one copy of manual, some flash card, copies of pre – post test, Evaluation, commitment sheet and some white paper. The trainers were in 2 teams each team was purchased a bag to carry all their training

materials of flip charts, markers, white board, flash cards, charts, pens, tapes, banners and other required items as camera and administrative papers in.

5.5. NETWORKING WITH MORA & MOWA, AIEC, AIHRC, AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS: the project manager and project assistant both worked together to get formal support letter from MoRA where beside NECDO Imam's network we had to have some representative from MoRA, we also had MoWA, through a formal support letter from ministries to its directorate to support NECDO's activities. We got a signed MoU between AIEC with NECDO for support of the project activities as well as we contacted AIHRC to be aware of our activities. At the same time NECDO team contacted Imams network and also we contacted civil society organizations to support of the activities. At the same time the project manager and assistant were negotiating with MOWA and MORA to provide NECDO support letters to their provincial development, we faced hardship in getting letter, the issue was resolved after meeting was held with the ministries in Kabul and orientations were given to them on the activities and objectives of the (AWVOP) project. It's after time consuming to make the ministries understand the goal, objectives, and activities of a project. The provincial directors also needed orientation on the goal, objectives, and aims of the project which were explained in detail by NECDO to them after their understanding and satisfaction (each PD) they agreed to be hold the trainings in their directorates, we began simultaneously our communication through a formal letter from NECDO with (IEC) Independent Election Commission for signing the MOU. Our meeting at first was successful, the commission promised to be preparing MOU with NECDO within 5 days, but, letter it got delayed for about 3 weeks, however, our continuous follow up resulted to sign the MOU, in which the IEC had mistakenly mentioned only seven provinces which was later corrected by email and our communication with them, right after signing the MOU, IEC sent their emails to the 8 provinces provincial offices to cooperate with NECDO (although their provincial representation were not so active only they attended the trainings in workshops of Badakhshan and Maidan Wardak provinces

6. NETWORKING MEETINGS ON PROVINCIAL LEVELS:

NECDO team before starting their workshops in every provinces, the project manager in coordination with related ministries and commissions, civil society, Imams network & women groups arranged a pre workshop networking meeting where requested to invite active women from the long distance area as well, in order to make women aware of their voting power in far sighted areas. In connection with inviting women from farsighted areas the issue of transportation for male came up and finally it was decided that the nearby paritcipants should be given Afs.500/participants and those going from farsighted locations should be given double Afs.1000 (500 for participants & 500 for Mahram). In total we had only 174 women were coming from far districts and we had 1426 participants (female & male) from centers.

LIST OF NETWORKING MEETINGS:

No	Date	No. Of participants	Location	Province
1	3/1/2014	34	NECDO office	Kabul
2	4/1/2014	36	Hafasa Madrasa	Kabul
3	4/1/2014	36	Department of Hajj	Balkh
4	8/1/2014	34	Aisha Dorani	Kabul
5	26/1/2014	35	Department of Hajj	Takhar
6	27/1/2014	36	Department of Women	Badakhshan
7	13/2/2014	34	Department of Hajj	Maidan Wardak
8	16/2/2014	34	Department of Hajj	Ningarhar
9	16/2/2014	35	Department of Women	Parwan
10	13/3/2014	36	Department of Hajj	Herat

7. CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOPS:

We Conducting 64 workshops in 8 provinces for 1600 Imams and women social workers based on the work plan time line the project started its workshops from 2nd, January onwards the initial workshop started from Kabul where Ms. Afghani conducted the first workshop in order to have practical work for trainers of the project. Based on the developed training manual we provided 2 full days of training for 800 Imams & 800 women social workers in 8 provinces by a mobile team of trainers.

The trainees were selected from different districts not only center and farther they were supposed to work for sharing the information with others. The trainees were selected through the networking with MoRA, MoWA, AIHRC, AIEC and other civil society and NECDO's

connections. Before workshop in every province we had to organize a face to face networking meetings with women & men from different walks of life for paving the way to have those women from far sighted districts.

The team was divided into one male and one female in each province; the Activities were successfully accomplished as described in the chart bellows. The trainings were arranged 2 days for 25 participants, applying the modern methodology of training

Below is the list of 64 workshops conducted in 8 provinces:

Province	Date Implemen	tation	Activity	No. Of participants	Sex	Facilitators
	Start	End				
Kabul	1 st - 16 th 2014	January	Four 2 days workshops	100	Women (Female)	Jamila Safi Mahmoud
			Four 2 days workshops	100	Imams (Male)	Jamila Safi Mahmoud
Balkh	$\begin{vmatrix} 1^{\text{st}} - 16^{\text{th}} \\ 2014 \end{vmatrix}$	January	Four 2 days workshops	100	Women (Female)	Qaderi Humaira
			Four 2 days workshops	100	Imams (Male)	Humaira Qaderi
Takhar	18 th Janua Feb 2014	ary -2 nd	Four 2 days workshops	100	Women (Female)	Mahmood Jamila Safi
			Four 2 days workshops	100	Imams (Male)	Jamila Safi Mahmoud
Badakhshan	18 th Janua Feb 2014	ary -2 nd	Four 2 days workshops	100		Humaira Qaderi
			Four 2 days workshops	100		Humaira Qaderi
Ningarhar	4 th Feb – 2014	19 th Feb	Four 2 days workshops	100		Mahmoud Jamila Safi

		Four 2 days workshops	100		Jamila Safi Mahmoud
Parwan	4 th Feb – 19 th Feb 2014	Four 2 days workshops	100		Qaderi Humaira
		Four 2 days workshops	100		Humaira Qaderi
Maidan wardak	22 nd Feb – 11 th March 2014	Four 2 days workshops	100		Jamila Safi Mahmood
		Four 2 days workshops	100		Mahmoud Jamila Safi
Herat	22 nd Feb – 11 th March 2014	Four 2 days workshops	100		Humaira Qaderi
		Four 2 days workshops	100		Qaderi Humaira
Totals		64 Workshop	1600	800 Male 800 Female	4 trainers

The Kabul workshop was stared by facilitation of Ms. Afghani on, where the trainers also took part. The workshops were for two full days in NECDO Office where in every workshop we had 25-30 participants. In total we covered 120 women from Kabul province. At the same time we conducted 4 workshops for Imams in Kabul province in Golden Star hotel. In the provinces the Imams trainings conducted in DoRA and women trainings conducted in DoWA considering the security issues as well accesablity participants. The provincial workshops conducted by a team of female & male trainers. The first day of the workshop the following activities were inducted:

- 1- Recitation of few vases / conducting pre test
- 2- Introduction to the objective of the workshop
- 3- Introduction among the participant
- 4- Fears and expectations along the roles and regulation of the workshop

- 5- The first day topics introduced to the participants
- 6- The first session was on case study of good & bad leadership (case study of Maroof & Jamila)
- 7- Tea break,
- 8- Continuation of the topics
- 9- Signing the commitment sheet (MOU)
- 10-Evaluation of the Day.

The second day activities were arranged in accordance to the

- 1- Recap of first day activities and lessons.
- 2- Women position in political in times of prophet.
- 3- Elections from time of prophet to date in Islam.
- 4- National law on election.
- 5- Imams and their responsibilities in the upcoming election
- 6- Post test
- 7- Evaluation
- 8- Distribution of IEC posters, stickers and Brochures....
- 9- Selecting contact person
- 6.1 TERMS AND CONDITION OF THE TRAININGS: We had to sign MoU with every individual participant who had to attend the workshop for two full days and at the same time they have to share the information with another community members. For Imam the condition was each Imam had to share the information with at least another 100 Imams and community members and every woman had to share the information with at least 25 other women.

6.2. METHODOLOGY OF THE TRAINING

The trainings were conducted in accordance to the modern training methodology, participation of all participants was assured through their methods to take all participant out of silence and absorb their attention to words enlightening their minds on the goal and objectives of the workshop Brain storming as an effective method was applied by the trainers. Discussion and group work methods were applied for sharing the awareness topics of the manual, case study was another method to improve their analytical abilities in the process of election, demonstration and role plays were applied to empower women and enhance the Imams on women participation and increasing their member in the election, presentation and lecture were also utilized during the trainings in order to transfer more information to the participants in short time, using white board, flip charts and flash cards was to stringiness the information in minds of the participant and to cause a change in the behavior of the individuals, in particular the participants who are negative and passive about the concept of women's participation in the upcoming elections.

6.3. REPRESENTATIONS (CONTACT PEOPLE)

At the end of each workshop we appointed one person on election base to be our contact person, doing follow up with the trainees, reporting to NECDO from the progresses in their villages and districts in the province as well as campaigning for women's participation in the elections and spreading the knowledge they have gotten during the trainings about women's right in social and political participation in the light of Islam, Law and international norms at least with 10 more persons by each trainee.

6.4. BANNERS:

Banners as a tool of better propagation of the main objective of the project were designed in three pieces. One piece bigger in size had the title of the project in three languages Pashto, Dari and English with logos of both NECDO and SDC. The second banner had a quotation from the Quran in which women's right in the election of a leader and ruler is clearly ratified, this banner was a quotation of one of the famous scholars who is of vast respect among the people proving the women's participation in social and political affairs, this banner was also developed in Pashto and Dari in order to be understood by speakers of both language, the banner had the logos of NECDO and SDC. These banners were made in three copies for a separate banner was designed and printed for the campaign that announced the campaign by NECDO and SDC. During the training the hall was decorated by all the tree banners in front of the hall and two sides.

6.5. PHOTOGRAPHY AND RECORDING

The trainings in all the 8 provinces were photographed and the campaigns were recorded in clips. In some of the provinces some of the women due to security reasons or culture excused to take part in the group photos, we were also considering and respecting their concerns.

6.6. MONITORING & EVALUATION OF THE WORKSHOPS: GENERAL VIEWS OF THE PARTICIPANTS:

- 1. People are disappointed from the government and they are wiling a change.
- 2. Government failed to motivate people.
- 3. We look forward to clear and clear elections.
- 4. We would like to have a stable, elected and transparent government.
- 5. Women should vote and be part of the political process.
- 6. More workshops on such issues are needed.
- 7. People need right leadership who really bridge people and government.
- 8. We are supporting women's political participation and particularly this election.
- 9. Women are viewed as: mothers, sisters, wives and future leaders as they start their experience as leaders by leading families. Through this, there's a high chance for them to also lead and be part of communities.

- 10. The upcoming government must work on the educational, political, economical and security betterment of the country in particular on women's core issues of rights and eliminations of all sorts of violence against them.
- 11. Imams have a certain responsibility to address the issues related to women rights in their Khutba in view of teaching of Islam.

Imams view on working for the increase of women voters on percentage described in the chart below:

No	Description	Percentage
1	Addressing and propagation on women's participation increase in upcoming election	45%
2	Working on individual level with people to improve women's part in the election	20%
3	Analytical discussion on community level about election and women's voting in view of Islam	16%
4	Using media and publication for encouraging women to take part in election	15%
5	Answering questions of the people and communities on women's part in elections	10%

6.7. FINDING OF PRE TEST RESULTS WHICH SHOW LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE OF PARTICIPANTS ON THE TOPIC:

Based on the discussions, pre-post tests and evaluations we had the following findings:

- 1- Pre training characteristics of the trainees.
- No Awareness from law: 95% of the participants had no idea from law in participator the election law, which was focused on by the trainers during the sessions and their was much improvement in their knowledge of the law later on.
- No punctuality: On the first day of the training we found that these people did not know the value of time, the trainings focused on the enlightening of the trainees in particular the women to understand the value of time and utilize it for their advantage.
- Less patience and tolerance in the first day
- The other charactering each other and were getting angry by a small gesture or a word of their friend, we tried to work hard despite the short time to make them understand the values of tolerance and patience.
- Partial knowledge and information about women political participation

- Almost 85% of the participants had very limited information from their surroundings and the system in particular the election
- Our focus was to change this through our training sessions and discussion.
- 50% of male participants were against women political participation
- On the first day of the training after we distributed the pre-test papers and collected back, we found that 50% of the Imams were against women political participation. Based on the quotations from Quran and Sunnah we changed mentality of these and proved that women's political participation, such us election, is proved by Quran as Allah says to his prophet if women are doing (Bayaat) = Select you with your leadership do agree.
- Male interpretations about women political participation was mixed with cultural norms
- Totalitarianism: Almost 15 to 20% of the participants in particularly imams were emphasizing on their own viewpoint and were considering their views valid. This character, was changed after we brought very clear cut quotations, that even prophet was listening to view points of his campaigns and was changing his view point for the view point of others.

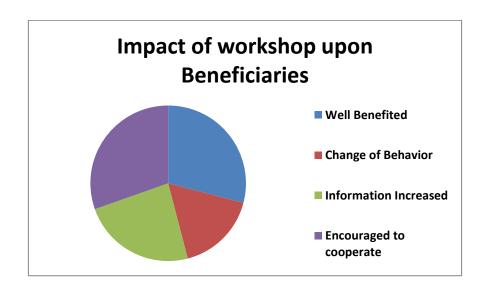
POST TEST FINDINGS:

- (Baayat) with them, also we borough very strong practical examples from Bayaat Agaba-Awal and Sanni (First and second Bayaat) in which women joined the social political accord with the prophet in Makkah and Misaq-e-Madina accord women had a clear presence.
- Among the participants particularly in Imams there were same people who wrongly interpreted women's political participation. They gave priority to cultural norms then the real reaching of Islam. They were using the proverbs "for women is home or grave" others were saying "Is there man starvation that women inters political" a trainee in Takhar said "if women go out of house, mischief will occurs". After we presented the session on women political participation and its advantages, and we provided with solid reasons and valid quotations from Quran and Sunnah such mentalities were changed. In his post test the man is writing that "I was ashamed that if any one come to know name of my wife, going for election was far away from my insight. During the two days of workshops I feel proud that my wife name is Khadija and Khadija was name of Holy Mohammad's wife. We Muslims and no Muslims know her well and we have many good leason from her life. If I do not allow her to take part in selection of a good leader their will be two curse on me: 1. Allah will be angry at me, 2. Provision of chance for a bad leader. It means my this world and that world will be doomed.
- The network of NECDO's Imam remained very helpful to change the mentality of Imams coming to workshop introduced by MoRA. The Imams who were pressuring our trainer to accept their mentality our trainers with support of Imams network members could changed the mentality with strong reasoning in a very polite and logical ways, it was another good practical way that those Imams having logical argument with politeness and

- patience, made the hard liner Imams to re think of their behavior and style. Therefore, in post test opionion
- Disagreement with photography: 18% of the Imams were not agreeing with the photography, they did not want to take pictures or be photographed. We worked on the issue and by the end of the workshop; there were same smoothers in the position of these Imams.
- In women portion, it was also sometimes a problem, but this reason was security only.
- These was much gap between those went to Madrasa and those who got modern knowledge. We found that only classical studies mate the Madrasa learners for from understanding and analyzing the current affairs well, we also focused during our sessions that Imams should improve their modern knowledge and get aware of the development in the world and in particular the new order.
- Most of the participants were for the first time attending such workshop and were less
 familiar with modern methodologies, the workshop had good impact on their mind and
 cloud be a good beginning for a change in their ways of thinking and understanding
- In the Imams training session, we found that they have the potential and need little of work to change and improve. The Imams are two characters, soft and hard, valid reason and strong quotation from Quran and Sunnah make them soft and get prepared to change soon.

6.8. MONITORING & EVALUATION:

The participants in general had the following views about the effectiveness of the workshops conducted in all the 8 provinces. We conducted written evaluation from all the trainees at the end of workshops and we also consider their pre test & post test papers. Based on the review of Evaluation forms, pre test and post test we get the below chart as result:

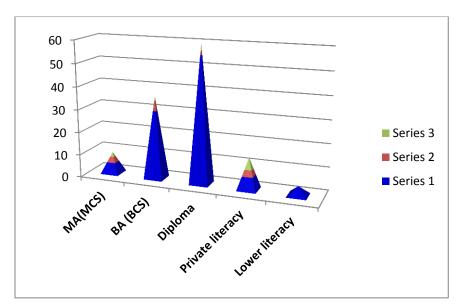


OVER ALL VIEW OF THE PARTICIPANTS ARE IN BELOW LINES:

- 1- The workshops were good, informative, we now understand from Islamic perspective that women have the right to elect and to be elected.
- 2- The topics and discussions were relevant and well analyzed.
- 3- The participants were given chance to share their views, we liked the methodology applied in these workshops.
- 4- In this project the involvement of Imams was a thoughtful decision and concept, because they are neutral people and their voices are more effective, all people in the communities respect them.
- 5- The political participation of women was an interesting subject of the workshops, in particular to us the Imams, we really needed such information that are cannot find during our studies in Madrasa.
- 6- We as women did not know about the elite Muslim women in their position in the political system in Islam, this workshop has infect been a turning point for us, we will now think differently about our position in the society.
- 7- In this workshop we the Imams understood the real meanings for election, law, democracy and peoples, in the past we lad different understanding and different ideas.
- 8- We in result of the information we got from these workshops will work hard to encourage women be part of this important event, electing a right leader for the future of country our children and their safety.
- 9- Security is our concern, but we will use our mosques as please from wore the message of peace to be given to the nation and even ask the IEC to have some of their poling site inside the mosque.
- 10- The manual gave us the knowledge of years in 2 days; it is effective we will share it with many people as possible.
- 11-Women are half of human community, therefore, they have rights in political participation and it make the political process just and complete.
- 12- Women political participation gives them protection and rights preservation
- 13- In result of (WPP) the society gets stabilized.
- 14-WPP provides women an opportunity to develop and improve in skills.
- 15- Equality and justice will prevail with in the society
- 16- The voice of the deprived class will be heard well.
- 17-Social justice will be fulfilled
- 18- The Sunnah of the prophet will be obeyed.
- 19- The employment opportunities will go higher for women, which will have good impact of family economy.
- 20- The culture of tolerance and patience will develop and get stronger.
- 21-WPP will help with the restoration of peace and development of the country in general.

6.9 LITERACY SCALE OF PARTICIPANTS

We also kept in mind the level of literacy of the target benefices in order to manage better level of provision of service and below chart shows the catagories of the level of literacy of participants



7. RADIO SPOTS.

Based on a formal contract with Radio Salam Watandar (SW) three rounds of radio spots were recorded each round in 2 languages of Pashto and Dari.

The first spot was recorded with the length of 3.5 minutes in Dari and 3.5 minutes in Pashto total of which comes to 7 minutes 4 Imams Mr. Mohd Ihsan Saiqal and Mr. Mohd Sarwar Tawhidi were invited to record the Dari spots emphasizing on the right of women to take part in the coming elections and have her right as an electoral and candidate based on her position in political participation in Islam. In the same time Mr. Azizurrahman Sediqi and Mr. Salahuddin Hashimi two other famous scholars and Imam spoke Pashto and based on strong quotations from Quran and traditions of the prophet encouraged the people to vote in the coming elections both male and female who have completed the legal age to vote.

These spots were broadcasted in peak hours nationwide in 34 provinces. 10 times in Dari 10 times in Pashto a reputation of 10 times each which in total become 40 times peak hours broadcasting on national level which spread through 34 province in the country.

One male and one female scholar recorded the second round; this spot was also in two languages Dari and Pashto for 3.5 minutes each total of which came to 7 minutes. This spot called on women and men nationwide to vote it is their right in law, Islam and international convention. Women and men have equal rights to vote and can be a vote or voted for. This spot was also

broad casted 10 times the reputation in total 20 times on national level peak hours in the morning and evening.

The SW Radio gives us 25% discount and we use the discount for repetition of the spots

The third round was the campaign a spot of 20 minutes was developed out of it SW with a massage by two scholars in both national language which was broadcasted here times nationwide in 34 provinces and with a repetition of 3 more times during peak hours, on the 31st March 1st 2nd of April before the hours of silence.

Time table of radio Salam Watandar:

The feedback recorded by SW showed a vast welcome by the public to the spots on elections in participation in the elections of 2014.

(Index # 1Broadcasting Certificate)

8. MONITORING OF PROJECT MANAGER FROM THE FIELD ACTIVITIES:

The project manager conduct from the workshops which conducted by trainers in all the 8 provinces and major questions he had to consider in his monitoring were the following points:

List of dates of Monitoring by Project Manager:

No	Date	Location	Province
1	1/1/ 2014	NECDO office	Kabul
2	4/1/2014	Hafasa Madrasa	Kabul
		Kabul star hotel	
3	5/1/2014	Department of Hajj	Balkh
	9/1/2014	DoWA	
4	10/1/2014	Aisha Dorani	Kabul
5	27/1/2014	Department of Hajj	Takhar
	1/2/2014	DoWA	Tuniui
6	2/2/2014	Department of Women	Badakhshan
	7/2/2014	VV OIIICII	
		DoRA	
7	26/3/2014	Department of Hajj	Maidan Wardak

	Department of Hajj	Ningarhar
′2014 I	DoWA	
1	Women	Parwan
	1	Herat
/	2014	Department of Women DoRA Department of Hajj

During the monitoring the following points were observed:

1. Did the trainers move in line with Project objectives?

- a- Increasing women participation in upcoming.
- b- Provision of training to 100 women and 100 Imam.
- c- Utilization of the manual emphasizing on role of women in election in view paint of Islam and law.

2. Did Networking take place with the PD of MoWA and MoRA and IEC?

The project and program coordinator had done the networking with MoWA and MoRA, both ministries, issued official letters to the concerned provincial department to assist with the introduction of participants to the planned 2day trainings and cooperate with NECDO team in securing the training venues. In some of the provinces we had representatives from IEC such as Takhar, Maidan Wardak, Ningrhar but in rest we had not. In every workshop we had representatives from MoWA & MoRA

3. Did the PD of MORA & MOWA provide letter of approval? After the completion of the activity in the province a letter was issued from each department (MoRA and MoWA) approving the successful conduction of the trainings in the province.

4. What activity was observed?

Observed the training session of both male and female sections, the male session was conducted in Gulden Star Hotel in Kabul and females were trained in NECDO training hall. I observed the session by all male and female trainers. (The group activities, presentations and discussions) How were the training arranged?

The training were arranged in group of 25-27 participants from the trainees introduced by the concerned MoWA and MoRA departments as well as from Imams network, civil society, lists of participants were sent prior to the training dates by MoRA and MoWA communication was done with participants by NECDO team for confirmation. Trainings were conducted in participator manner in accordance to the timetable.

There were three banners hung in the training halls of both male and female sections. Banner 1 showed the title of the project and logos of SDC and NECDO. The 2 other banners a bit smaller in size were having some messages regarding the election and women's role in 2014 election. Were the trainees provided with refreshment and food? The trainees were provided with one tea break around 10:00 am with cake and cookies, followed by lunch and them a tea break at 12:15 pm with some sweets.

5. What methodology was used during the trainings?

1. Presentation, 2- group work, 3- Q+A and discussions, were used by the trainers, the trainings were conducted in good sphere, participants in both training particularly women were taking active part in discussions.

6. What materials were provided to the trainees in the workshops?

Each trainee was provided with,

- 1. A pen (ballpoint)
- 2. A not book
- 3. Plastic bag (file)
- 4. A copy of the manual
- 5. Some white paper
- 6. Some flash cards

7. Did pre-test & posttest & MoU take place?

Pre-test & posttest were conducted based on the timetable after the introduction on the first day of the training. As well as a posttest was conducted after the conclusion on the second day of every training, also each participant signed the MoU with NECDO to work with 100 more people and share the information with them.

8. What was participants' feedback?

Checking the papers of evaluation, most of the participants, (90 %) showed their satisfaction with the training method, theme and materials. (60%) of the participants asked for more extensive trainings on the issue. 95 % wrote they have come to know about the election and it's important for women. The Imams showed their support to the program and promised to work

from there alters on the increase of women in election during 2014. And we also controlled to have MoU's of the participants with our trainers

OVER ALL FINDINGS OF MONITORING BY PROJECT MANAGER:

Based on the plan the monitoring conducted from the 8 provinces and major findings were as below:

- The trainers were dealing professionally with adult methodology of training (participatory methods)
- The knowledge of trainers on the topic was good
- The trainers were using the hand book topics for the trainings
- The participation was high among the trainees
- Women were showing more interest on the topic
- Imams were less cooperative coming from the MoRA but the Imams from NECDO network played very important role in convincing the new Imams on the board

The challenges monitored in general it was very bad weather condition in Balkh, Badakhshan & Takhar provinces. Due to the security issue and pressure from DoRA & DoWA we had to conduct the trainings inside the DoRA &DoWA building and they had less facilities. We had to provide fuel for heating, gas kit for heating of the hall. Even some of the halls had no chairs, and cotions for the participants.

9. CAMPAIGNING:

Right after the compilation of the workshops the campaigns were arranged in the following provinces. Where the two last Fridays 21st & 28th March we organized, through the networking and the representatives we had in each workshops and in Harat one of our trainers, in Badakhshan was Ms. Muhiba Zarani, in Takhar Qazi Delaram, and in Ningrhar Mr. Mahmoodi, and

The campaings were gathering of 150-200 individual (male group & female group) and the gathering started with speeches by famous scholars and community leaders. During the gathering

No	Province	Date	No. Participant
1	Kabul	21-03-2014	200 Women
		28-03-2014	300 Men
2	Balkh	21-03-2014	200 Women
		28-03-2014	200 Men

3	Badakhshan	21-03-2014	180 Women
		28-03-2014	170 Men
4	Parwan	21-03-2014	300 Women
		28-03-2014	160 men
5	Maidan Wardak	21-03-2014	100 Women
		28-03-2014	200 men
6	Ningarhar	21-03-2014	500 Women
		28-03-2014	100 Men
7	Herat	21-03-2014	200 men
		28-03-2014	200 women
8	Takhar	21-03-2014	100 Women
		28-03-2014	200 men

10. COMPARATIVE STUDY OF EXPECTED OUT COMES AND ACHIEVEMENTS ON THE GROUND:

Afghanistan cannot afford to ignore its women, to slip back into the past, and neglect half of its population. Most importantly, Afghanistan cannot afford to lose the gains of the past decade for to do so would mean it would lose its place in the global community and its regional sphere of influence. Afghans turned out in strong numbers for the presidential and provincial council elections on April 5, with an estimated seven million people casting their votes for the candidates of their choice. The presidential election is Afghanistan's first ever-democratic transition of power, with current President Hamid Karzai, the dominant political figure of the past 12 years, unable to run again. However, much more is at stake than a power shift from Karzai to whoever succeeds him; the country's stability after the pending withdrawal of U.S. and NATO forces at the end of 2014, civil liberties, and women's rights all hang in the balance.

As such, Afghan women took their civic duty seriously according to the Independent Election Commission of Afghanistan, 35 percent of the 16 million eligible voters in 2014 were women. However, with votes still being counted and preliminary results that might lead to a run-off scheduled to be announced, there are now indications that the percentage of Afghan women voters might be much higher.

In 2009, due to security threats and rampant election fraud, only 4.6 million votes were cast from a voting population of 15 million, with women constituting 38 percent of registered voters. In 2004, when the country was filled with optimism and the Taliban threat was minimal, women

represented 42 percent of the eligible voting population, and then totaling 12 million registered voters. This election season also featured pictures of female candidates alongside male contenders. That fact alone speaks volumes about the country's transition from the oppressive rule of the Taliban more than 13 years ago, when women were considered non-citizens and were forbidden to participate in public life.

In 2014, 323 female politicians openly campaigned for seats in the provincial councils, elevating the status of Afghan women in a traditionally patriarchal society. Although there was no female candidate for president, there were three women vying for the position of vice president. Dr. Habiba Sarabi is the most prominent, having once served as Afghanistan's first female governor in Bamiyan province. Her current bid to become Afghanistan's first female vice president has been part of an effort to get out the women's vote as candidates realized they needed them to win.

The top three presidential candidates were vocal proponents of Afghan women's rights during the campaign season, courting the women's vote. Top contender Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai broke tradition by including his wife, Rula, a Lebanese-American Christian, to speak at an International Women's Day rally, as did his running mate, Uzbek warlord Rashid Dostum, whose wife, Zubaida, also participated.

Because of security problems, most female candidates limited their campaign outings to Kabul. The Taliban had openly threatened to disrupt the election process, saying that they would kill candidates as well as their supporters. The Taliban claimed that the election would be another ploy by the United States to continue its stranglehold of Afghanistan.

A statement posted on the Taliban's website ordered its fighters to target election workers, election sites, and security escorts given to candidates. Since early February, the Taliban killed nearly two dozen election workers, and the Afghan National Police reported that 24 people were killed and 43 civilians wounded during attacks on Election Day.

Despite claims of fraud and not enough paper ballots due to the high turnout, the presidential and provincial elections went better than expected and should be seen as a victory for the Afghan people More importantly, the elections will determine to what degree the gains of the past decade in women's rights will be safeguarded during the transition and by the new government. Afghan women worry that those gains could easily be reversed if extremists come back into power, or if Western support dwindles. Those concerns have added urgency to this campaign season for women who are fighting to make their leadership more acceptable in a still deeply conservative society.

11. ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PROJECT (DIRECT AND INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES):

The initial plan was like each Imam has to share the information to 100 individual especially during Friday Khutbas. The women trainees from high schools and CBCs should also take responsibility to share the information with at least 20 other individuals. In order to ensure that the Imams and women trainees keep their promises we appoint a team leader in each workshop

and they were voluntarily taken responsibility to go and monitor the trainees about the work they do for information sharing with other community members and to send us report on what he or she observes. At the end of project we have the data that 800 Imam who received trainings with us, they could serve around 350 individuals. We expected 80,000 individual and now our reports shows that 280,000 individual were received awareness by 800 trained Imams in 8 provinces. In every women workshop we had around 5-10 women for whom we had not lunch & transportation cost but they attended the workshops in full and but we have not included their names in our list. There were 224 women extra in our workshops.

We had the expectation that the 800 women trainees will farther shared the information with at least 20 women n total we expected to reach 16000 women. Based on the current data in hand and reports from team leaders the trainees could serve 28000 women.

We planed the have on monthly basis radio massages by Imams & women activists to promote women voting out reach and we planed to have it in 8 provinces of Afghanistan but with a very good deal of SALAM WATANDAR Radio station we broadcasted to 34 provinces in peak hours. The SW Radio give us discount of 25%, based on SW Radio reports they have around 10 millions of listeners and we expect that at least 4 million received our massages.

In the last month of we planed to organize national wide campaign the Imams Friday khutbas be broad casted through local Radio and other media channels. In this way we expect to reach to large number of people by involvement of local Radio stations, mosques, community centers, high schools and universities. The recording of the campaign had to broadcasted to 8 provinces and we expected 800,000 people would have to be benefited. According, the data in hand we have reached to at least 4 millions by Radio and 3200 individuals by physical campaigns in 8 provinces.

After the training sessions the trainers will also go for monitoring of at least 10 locations in each province to see the impact of their trainings and the trainings by the trainees according to a follow up work plan and even in coordination with FIFA the trainers will be going to some polling sights to observe women participation in the targeted areas.

According to Mr. Amar khail head of secretariat office of IEC "We observed and we received very good feed backs from our field offices about NECDO's working on AWVOP even more successful than any other implanters even better than The Asia Foundation"

12. FACTUAL STORIES:

2. Mr. Saiqal an influential Imam in Kabul said "If we confine women to their homes and deprive them from their rights it is in fact a slap on face of religion, women can go every where to masques, they can participates in social and political life." This was supported by other participants in the workshop, today our nation is passing from time tested

- moment for making our future stabilized and if half of nation does not take part than we may have 50% of future not 100% future"
- 3. In Balkh Mr. Hayatullah one of the famous Imams said, "silence in safeguarding the rights of women is a sin, we are should defend the rights of women, their right to education, rights of inheritance, right of marriage and right to ownership as well as special and political participation is preserved in Islam, we Imams should aware our communities and fulfill our responsibility in front of God Almighty to express the rights of women to them."
- 4. One of the Imams in Balkh was very extremist and he had hard line stand on women political participation and was denying it in full, our discussions and quotations from Quran and women's right to participate in social and political life made him silent and an the second day of the training he excused in front of others for the misunderstanding he had so for in the past.
- 5. In Ningarhar on of the Imams who was extremist said, "Women who get out of home are bad." He come under the hard criticism of other Imams and the debate become very hard and hash, finally the majority made him take his words in the future, because one of the Imams who got very angry with him said, our waives are also going outside house, they go to market, to hospital, to school so they are not bad, it's the trust and respect which shapes relation of men & women inside house and outside house."
- 6. In Parwan, one of the Imams shared his views he said "In the past we were very negative about women, even he said one Khatib in Juma was saying that the word (Zan) women is take from Bezar which beat, but now we are the advocates for women rights we are working hard to convince the communities in our Khutbas to give women their rights. They are not only half of our society but they are sharing 70% of daily work with us (men)"

13. CHALLENGES:

In general there were no big challenge are obstacles to halt the project, however there are always challenges in Afghanistan for implementers of projects and programs in particular working with Imams and women in the provinces is not as easy task here are some of the challenges, we share.

1- The ministry of Haj and Religions Affairs was creating red tapes to delay the issuance of support letter to their provincial departments about AWVOP project, they were reasoning that the minister should first know about all the particulars of the project and will then allow the letter to be issued. Although, we had so we shared all the particulars of the project attached with the letter, they were reasoning the documents are in English, provide us in Dari or Pashto so we had to translate all the papers and provide them for the information. They were keen to know about budget and asking the money for Imams should be given directly to MoRA and ministry distribute the money to Imams. After big

- some of arguments we had to utilize our personal relationships to get the support letter without paying them some thing in hand
- 2- The ministry of women issued the letters to provincial departments, but they had mistaken in the letter, they mentioned that there will be trainings on gender, so we had to ask them to issue another letter correcting the will be text that in each province 100 women will be trained on the issues related to the elections and their increase in voting. The DoWA were giving us hard time that we had to change the topic of workshop, through coordination with project manager we hold meeting with MoWA to issue us a correct letter
- 3- The MoU we signed with AIEC they also forgotten to mention Herat & Takhar, and again we communicate with them on correction of the MoUs
- 4- The weather conditions were also challenging in particular in the north of the country. However, the teams did have courage our job traveling to Badakhshan, Takhar, Parwan, Balkh, Maidan Wardak, Herat and Ningarhar.
- 5- In some provinces, such as Takhar our team was threatened for the photographs some of the Imams in the workshops denied the photography at first and the trainers had to do a hard job make them understand.
- 6- Some government institutions in particular (ANS) was getting concerned with the gatherings of Imams and women in the provinces, but the team was community and making them understand that it is a pro election program implemented by civil society with understanding of MoRA and MoWA.
- 7- Maidan Wardak the province where every step is a challenge, traveling, staying and conducting a workshop and returning to Kabul were all big challenge well to everyone's life, but our network of Ulama did a good job security the area and using their inference to control the situation, similar to Maidan Wardak the situation in Ningarhar was not stable and the Ulama network of NECDO their helped in reducing the risk and we kept low profile in our movements and during the travels.
- 8- The timing for the project was very short within period of 3 months doing all the arrangement, communications, networking's, trainings and travels was a semi marathon for NECDO, however with the grace of God Almighty we could successfully came out the challenges and could computer the task in a better way.
- 9- There was very short time for writing the reports, on the field there was no computer with trainers. They were forgotten some of important points from each workshops
- 10- We had major issue in selction of trainers without Mahram and finally we were obliged to take trainers with Maharam for field work which was extra burden on NECDO
- 11- Selection of Project manager was another bid problem no qualified person was agreed to work for short period of time and we had to take extra burden of work and assigned Mr. Kakar (NECDO) program coordinator to lead the project

- 12-We also faced longer distance issue as the flight in Kunduz and Faizabad were not done due to weather condition than our team was obliged to go to Balkh and than by road to Takhar & Badakhshan which made the journey double
- 13-Due to heavy work and bad weather condition only project manager could go for monitoring not some other key managers

Noor Educational and Capacity Development Organization (NECDO) is a non-governmental, non-partial and non-political organization, registered with Ministry of

Economy in 2002 with INO.95. NECDO was established in January 2001 by a group of volunteers to help and support needy Afghan women, youth and children when Afghan nation was passing from the time- tested moments of its history in Peshawar Afghan Refugee Camps.

The destructive civil war has had material and spiritual loses for the nation. NECDO started its activities with smallness of means, and greatness of purpose, which is based on the humanitarian and development assistance. We believe that unity, faith, mobilization & empowerment of Afghan community can reduce the miseries of Afghan nation.

During our social activities in the camps, we realized the need for education, capacity building and income generation projects in order to help our nation with sustainable development; specially educating Afghan women, youth and children were the priorities set forth; with the believe that it's better to light a candle rather than curse the darkness we initiated several projects successfully.

The encouragement of many individuals and organizations for the successful work gave birth to the idea of formal establishment of Noor Educational and Capacity Development Organization in 2001. Initial step was taken for collection of donations for drought effected people in Peshawar Afghan Refugee Camps for 7,000 families alongside a tailoring class including literacy for widows and orphans so that they are able to find a tool for earning living cost for themselves. Several awareness workshops & empowerment trainings on gender, human rights, Child Rights Conventions were conducted for several Afghan organizations.

In the part of informal educational activities such as English special classes, literacy education, home schools, Quranic education, vocational training, health education. In addition NECDO initiated Nazo Ana Library for spreading culture of reading among women who currently have been equipped with more than 7,000 books on various topics with other modern library equipment's with its branches in Kabul, Ghazni, Jalalabad and Badakhshan.

NECDO since 2002 has initiated and implemented projects with a special focus on EVAW such as conducting training and awareness programs (including gender, human rights, Child Rights Conventions, psychosocial and peace education, elimination of violence against women, gender and Islam and Islam and Human Rights), professional training in the field of management, finance, and databases and computer applications, small business training for women).

NECDO's enhancement from relief to development programs that ensure sustainability in long term for women is the focus point with understanding of gender as cross cutting issue through our program and projects in the strategic plan for 2015.











