

PRESS RELEASE

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Gender Training Expanded to Eleven Ministries

Aug 08, 2004 Kabul - Six government ministries signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Women's Affairs and UNDP yesterday to implement a gender-training programme. This MoU is the second such signing, expanding the programme to eleven ministries in total. Over 400 civil servants in six provinces over the past year have participated in the training.

The programme is designed to ensure that selected ministry officials are equipped with the attitudes, knowledge and skills to understand how their work impacts women in Afghanistan. Discussions examine the concerns of both women and men in the design, implementation, monitoring and outcomes of government policies and programmes, with the aim of achieving gender equality. The signing of the MoU yesterday signifies a high level of political commitment and inter-ministerial collaboration toward the cause of gender equality.

The six ministries are: Haj (Pilgrimage), Information and Culture, Rural Rehabilitation and Development, Higher Education, Foreign Affairs and Interior Affairs. They join the Ministries of Health, Planning, Education, Commerce and Justice as programme participants.

The Gender Training Programme is part of the UNDP's "Institutional Capacity Building and Support to the Ministry of Women's Affairs" project, and consists of four levels of training: gender awareness, gender and development, gender analysis and gender mainstreaming. The programme is soon to be institutionalized through the establishment of a Gender Training Institute, in collaboration with Kabul University. Other components of the UNDP project include training in management, reporting and finance to MoWA staff and the construction of a new Training and Advocacy Department in the Ministry.

[For more information, please contact:](#)

Fulya Vekiloglu, Programme Manager, Institutional Capacity Building and Support to the Ministry of Women's Affairs Project, fulya.vekiloglu@undp.org
or Eliana Escobedo, Communication officer, eliana.escobedo@undp.org