



German Cooperation with Afghanistan

+++ Press Release +++

Human Rights and Gender: Improved Training to Benefit 7,600 Future Teachers

Mazar-e Sharif, Balkh, 10th August 2018 – 20 lecturers from ten pilot Teacher Training Centres (TTCs) participated in a six-day workshop in Mazar-e Sharif, Balkh. Attendees got familiar with a new teaching manual on human rights and gender. TTC master trainers conducted the workshop, supported by the Afghan-German Cooperation's Basic and Secondary Education Programme for Afghanistan (BEPA). TTCs operate under the umbrella of the Afghan Ministry of Education's Teacher Education Directorate (TED). More than 7,600 future teachers, including almost 3,000 women, will benefit from improved training.

A TTC lecturer emphasised: "The six-day human rights and gender workshop was very important as this subject is utterly needed to be taught. It was good that different methods were used throughout the activity. It made the topics more understandable. We acquired new knowledge and learned different teaching methods at the same time."

Over the last two years, the TED developed the manual with BEPA's support and input by TTC lecturers. The manual will be introduced at 10 pilot TTCs located in various Afghan provinces. It shall help TTC lecturers teaching the subject of human rights and gender to future school teachers. The manual includes lesson plans for different topics, such as discrimination and gender roles as well as efficient teaching methods.

Another attendee commented: "We learned very interesting methods that we can not only use for teaching the subject of human rights and genders but other subjects, too. The teaching workshop was conducted very participatory, which is great."

The master trainers who conducted the workshop had received training on human rights and gender as well as teaching methodology before the activity. They followed a participatory approach. Participants had to complete a series of tasks to explore and reflect on their own attitude towards human rights and gender. The master trainers also encouraged attendees to use new teaching methods in accordance with the manual.

Participants shall serve as multipliers at their respective TTCs, disseminating their new knowledge among future teachers. More than 7,600 students at 10 pilot TTCs in various Afghan provinces will directly benefit from the new manual and respective courses.

The Basic and Secondary Education Programme (BEPA) is implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH on behalf of the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). BEPA aims at improving the quality of basic education in Afghanistan by assisting the Afghan Ministry of Education (MoE) with teacher training and curriculum development. Since 2008, BEPA provided training for more than 23,000 teachers and lecturers. Further, 22 teacher-training centres have introduced mandatory internships for ongoing teachers. As a result, about 15,800 university students and 88,300 school students in Northern Afghanistan are currently benefiting from improved education. They now have access to specialised, age-appropriate and student-centred schooling.