A NEW PARADIGM



Advancing a new paradigm for peace & security in Afghanistan that is inclusive of women's perspectives

THE SECOND YEAR -2013

PROMOTING INCLUSION through evidence, capacity &

INCLUSION: National & Provincial Public Peace Hearings

To bring communities and women's groups into the peace process, RIWPS & partners initiated the concept of Public Peace Hearings that resulted in connecting civil society and community members with the Provincial Peace Councils. The Peace Hearings took place in Kabul with 7 central zone provinces including Wardak, Kapisa, Logar, Parwan, Kabul, Daikundi and Bamian. During the year, RIWPS launched 1 National Peace Hearing in Kabul 2 Provincial Peace Hearings in Kapisa and Bamian.

See the report on RIWPS website.



ADVOCATING WOMEN IN PEACE & SECURITY AGENDA

THE INSTITUTE FOR WOMEN, PEACE & **SECURITY (RIWPS)**

Conceptualized during the 2010 Peace Jirga and established in 2011 to focus on increasing women's inclusion and leadership in the effort to bring peace and security to Afghanistan. Building on the traditional and emerging roles of women, RIWPS seeks to strengthen women's inclusion in conflict resolution and conflict management to ensure that the peace building roles that women already play translate into their active participation in national and local peace process. RIWPS documents contributions of women leaders at the grassroots, empower them with community mobilization and advocacy skills, and connect them to negotiate space for themselves in the local and national governance structures.

RIWPS focuses on two important needs of women 1) Participation in the peace and security agenda and 2) Protection of women

RIWPS in 2014:

- Monitoring of women's security during elections
- Research on women's access to justice
- Parliamentary Watch
- Training of women's activist in Islamic Law
- Promoting Female Police



RIWPS Dialogues in 2013:

- **EVAW Law Analytical Seminar** with MPs, civil society & religious leaders
- Civil Society Exchange on Peace Roadmap with civil society & HPC & CSO recommendations
- **International Seminar on WPS** with Ministry of Foreign Affairs with civil society, government and WPS Experts

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CAPACITY BUILDING FOR INCLUSION:

Promoting Women's Meaningful participation in the local Peace Process

Started from its first year, RIWPS convened its Second Women Peace & Security Forum in Kabul with over 35 women from 30 Provincial Peace Councils. The women Leaders were able to receive conflict resolution and mediation skills and the senior leadership of the government and international community largely shared their concerns and perspectives during their advocacy meetings in Kabul. See the report online

PROTECTION: **EVAW Law Monitoring Report at the Prosecution Units**

Following 6 months of comprehensive data collection, RIWPS launched its first monitoring report on the status of EVAW Law implementation in 4 provinces, the study focused on the EVAW Special Prosecution Units. The study serves as a baseline for RIWPS upcoming research on the criminal justice system for women. See the report on RIWPS Website:

RIWPS APPROACH: Research & Evidence building, advocacy and Training



INCLUSION: The National Youth Debate on Peace & Reconciliation

RIWPS mobilized over 500 young men and women to participate in the country's first National Youth Debate, which was sponsored by the most watched news and television channels. The representatives got an opportunity to know more about the peace process from the key policy makers of the country and were able to share their concerns and perspectives - RIWPS is following up their recommendations with the **Ioint** Secretariat of the High Peace Council.

RESEARCH & MONITORING: Parliamentary Watch:

RIWPS initiated its monitoring of parliament responsiveness & transparency to educate public about parliament activities. See Annual Report on RIWPS Website: