



ZOA NAP 1325 Pledge Report

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1. Introduction

ZOA renewed its pledge to the NAP 1325, committing to undertake and report on the following activities by the end of 2020:

5. a) ZOA will continue to train staff and beneficiaries on GBV and the protection of women and girls (AFG).

b) ZOA will support GBV survivors and engage in prevention of GBV (DRC).

c) ZOA will continue to support women in social skills training, skills training, small business skills and empower women to be involved in local government (AFG).

d) ZOA will continue to address underlying harmful gender norms and values through Community Based Sociotherapy with men and women.

Next to the specific cases reported here, ZOA undertook similar activities in numerous other contexts and projects including in Burundi, Liberia and Uganda. The cases reported here are among the ones explicitly linked to the WPS agenda while much work is being done throughout the ZOA programmes without this explicit link. This also means that the indirect impact of the WPS agenda is likely to be underreported, as we can assume this is the case for many other organizations as well.

Generally, we observe very positive outcomes of the work to improve protection of women and girls, support GBV survivors and address harmful gender norms. However, this type of work is very challenging for staff and target groups and requires strong training components, sufficient time and resources. In the conflict affected contexts where ZOA works contextual changes frequently impact what is possible and how people engage with each other and certain topics. The data below shows that despite positive results there is much to learn and to improve. As an organization we strive to live up to our pledge to the NAP 1325 with the ambition to go beyond it.

2. Results 5a.

Findings from WASH project in Nangarhar, Uruzgan and Jawzjan AFG2005. Project ran from May 2020 to February 2021. Most awareness raising sessions were conducted in 2020.

ZOA and its partner SHPOUL conducted the Post-KAP survey among the 370 sampled HHs in 65 villages in 5 districts of three provinces in February 2021. Jawzjan, Nangarhar and Uruzgan province;

Overall, 370 households were interviewed for Post-KAP survey. Of these, 89% were male-headed and 11% were female-headed. Slightly more than half of households were composed of more than seven members (59%), a total of (33%) households were composed of five to seven members, and 8% were composed of two to four members. About 12% of households reported having an elderly head, whose age is 60 or above;

Knowledge about gender-based violence

Findings

- ⇒ A total of 90% beneficiaries revealed that they received additional training on gender-based violence, and 10% of the beneficiaries didn't participate in the training. Total 89% of these beneficiaries gave some examples of gender-based violence which are presented as below:
 - Beating and bad behaviour with wife
 - Early marriage of girls
 - Physical violence and discrimination against women
 - Deprive girls from education
 - Exchange marriage and force marriage of girls
 - Family Conflict
 - Impose the women to do hard works
 - Sexual abuse and harassment
- ⇒ Besides, 83% of the respondents gave the following examples about negative consequences of gender-based violence, and 17% of the respondents couldn't any example in this regard:
 - Women/ girls burn themselves or do suicide
 - GBV creates dissension and mistrust among the family members
 - Girls/women escape with boyfriend
 - GBV cause family conflict and depression
 - Girls/women find mental problems
 - Murder
 - Girls/Women take divorce or do suicide
- ⇒ more than half (53%) of the beneficiaries said the father can bring a positive in the family to reduce gender-based violence, because he is decision maker in the family, 24% of the beneficiaries said, Grandfather can bring a positive change, 8% of the beneficiaries said, I myself can bring a positive change in the family, and 15% of the beneficiaries mentioned that the mother can bring a positive change in the family to avoid gender-based violence;
- ⇒ Overall, the beneficiaries are satisfied regarding the training sessions. that 79% of the beneficiaries are satisfied, and 21% of the beneficiaries are mostly satisfied regarding the training sessions provided by the project trainers;

Findings on Protection in AFG2004. Post Distribution Monitoring Report Shelter Project AFG2005.

Project ran from May 2020 to February 2021. Most awareness raising sessions were conducted in 2020.

Sample Size and Coverage Area

Following the project agreement and the commitment to the donor, ZOA conducted the Post Distribution Monitoring among the 173 sampled HHs in 54 villages in 5 districts both Jawzjan and Uruzgan province as listed in the below table.

Knowledge About Protection

The collected information presents that 96% of the respondents reported receiving awareness about gender-based violence. Furthermore, they found a knowledge about gender-based violence. During the interview they provided examples of gender-based violence, however the examples may not be perfect examples of gender-based violence. The respondents gave the following examples of gender-based violence:

1. **Bad behaviour with wife:** About **26 (15%)** of the respondents said the bad behaviour of the husbands with their wife is a gender-based violence
2. **Beating women :** A total of **20 (12%)** respondents said, some of the men beat their wives when they see any mistake of their wives. This is not good and it is a gender-based violence
3. **Considering difference between daughter and son:** Some people believe that son is the person of the family, and the daughter will marry and go to other family, therefore they consider difference between son and daughter. They love sons more than the daughters. This behaviour is also gender-based violence, said by **17 (10%)** of the respondents
4. **Deprive girls from education:** In some families, the male members of the family do not give permission to the girls for going to school and to continue their education. About **11 (6%)** of the respondents gave this example as a gender-based violence.
5. **Discrimination against women:** Some of the men think that men are powerful than women, they want to keep their authority on the women in the family. This is also a kind of gender-based violence mentioned by **18 (10%)** of the respondents.
6. **Bullying and creating conflict at home:** **10 (6%)** Some of the men bully and create conflict at home by focussing on small mistakes.
7. **Beating and teasing children:** According to **15 (9%)** respondents, beating and teasing of the girls is also an example of gender-based violence.
8. **Force women to do hard works:** **13 (8%)** of the people said imposing the women to do hard work (e.g. taking care of livestock, working in agriculture etc) is gender based violence.
9. **Sexual abuse and harassment:** According to **16 (9%)** of the people, the sexual harassment of women is also a kind of gender-based violence.

In conclusion, 84% of the respondents gave some examples of the gender-based violence, while 16% of the respondent couldn't give any example in this regard.

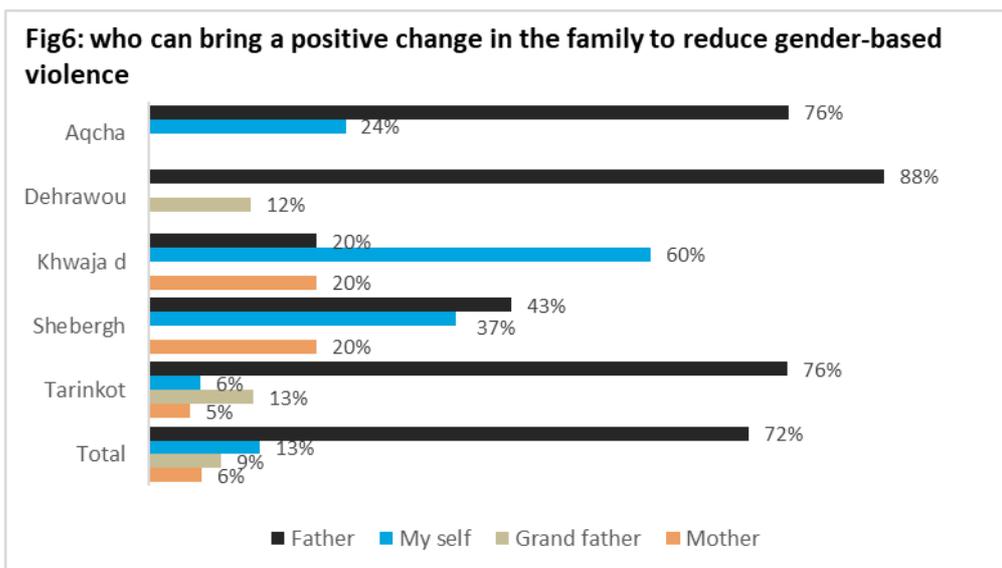
Besides, the beneficiaries gave some examples of the negative consequences of the gender-based violence. The detail of these examples are presented as follows:

- ⇒ Women/ girls burn themselves or commit suicide (**6%**)
- ⇒ GBV creates dissension and mistrust among the family members (**10%**)

- ⇒ Girls/women escape with boyfriend (11%). Escaping with boyfriend is forbidden in Afghan culture. If any girl do this action, her life falls in danger
- ⇒ GBV cause family conflict and depression (18%)
- ⇒ GBV creates physical violence in the family and increase tension in the family (4%)
- ⇒ Girls/women find mental problems (6%)
- ⇒ GBV pulls the society backwards (8%)
- ⇒ Girls/Women take divorce or commit suicide (10%)

In conclusion, 73% of the respondents gave an example about negative consequences of gender-based violence, and 27% of the respondents did not mention any example in this regard.

Moreover, the survey team asked the beneficiaries, who can bring a positive change in the family to avoid gender-based violence? In response to this question, majority (72%) of the beneficiaries said the father can bring a positive change in the family to reduce gender-based violence, because he is decision maker in the family, 13% of the beneficiaries said, "I myself can bring a positive change in the family", 9% said Grandmother, and 6% of the beneficiaries mentioned that the mother can bring a positive change in the family to avoid gender-based violence.



AFG2008. Winterization in Nuristan. November 2020 until February 2021. Half of the awareness raising sessions were done in 2021. Sample Size and Coverage Area: 71 sampled HHs in 32 communities in 2 districts in Nuristan province.

Knowledge About Protection issues.

The collected information presents that all 100% of the respondents reported receiving awareness about gender-based violence. Furthermore, they found a knowledge about gender-based violence. During the interview they provided examples of gender-based violence. The respondents gave the following examples of gender-based violence:

10. **Beating and bad behaviour with wife:** About **22 (31%)** of the respondents said, beating and bad behaviour of the husbands with their wife is a gender-based violence;
11. **Early and force marriage of girls :** A total of **12 (17%)** respondents said, some of the families do the marriage of their daughters before 18 years old which is a kind of gender-based violence;
12. **Physical violence and discrimination against women:** A total of **6 (8%)** of the respondents said, physical violence (beating, cutting body parts) and discrimination of women is also gender-based violence;
13. **Deprive girls from education:** In some families, the male members of the family do not give permission to the girls for going to school and to continuous their education. About **13 (18%)** of the respondents gave this example as a gender-based violence ;
14. **Discrimination of women:** According to **9 (13%)** respondents, discrimination of women by male member of the family is gender-based violence;
15. **Sexual abuse and harassment:** According to **9 (13%)** of the people, the sexual harassment of women is also a kind of gender-based violence;

In conclusion, all 100% of the respondents gave some examples of the gender-based violence, while 11% of the respondent couldn't give any example in this regard;

Besides, the beneficiaries gave some examples of the negative consequences of the gender-based violence. The detail of these examples are presented as follow:

- ⇒ Women/ girls burn themselves or do suicide **10 (14%);**
- ⇒ GBV creates dissension and mistrust among the family members **17 (24%);**
- ⇒ Girls/women escape with boyfriend **7 (10%)**. Escaping with boyfriend is forbidden in Afghan culture. If any girl do this action, her life falls in danger;
- ⇒ Girls/women find mental problems **15 (21%);**
- ⇒ Girls/Women take divorce or do suicide **9 (13%) ;**
- ⇒ GBV puts the society in backward **13 (18%);**

In conclusion, all 100% of the respondents gave an example about negative consequences of gender-based violence. Moreover, the survey team asked the beneficiaries, who can bring a positive change in the family to avoid gender-based violence? In response to this question, more than half (75%) of the beneficiaries said the father can bring a positive in the family to reduce gender-based violence, because he is decision maker in the family, 3% of the beneficiaries said, Grandfather can bring a positive change,

21% of the beneficiaries said, myself can bring a positive change in the family, and 1% of the beneficiaries mentioned that the mother can bring a positive change in the family to avoid gender-based violence.

3. Results 5b

DRC1830, PAMOJA TUJI INUWE (Getting Up Together)

Excerpt from final report

Overall Objective: **Improved human dignity, community participation and sustainable livelihoods for vulnerable women, including survivors of sexual violence.**

36% of men and young people say they have positively improved their attitude and behavior towards women and especially girl mothers. 99 % of the women believe that their social and economic standing within the family and the community has improved thanks to the project. It is important to emphasize here that this impact is not attributed only to the 2-years phase that has just ended, but also to the previous phases of the projects.

Outcome 1: Selected Vulnerable Women earn sustainable income from IGAs

The results of the final evaluation show that women's income (personal and household income) has improved significantly. The average amount of money mobilised per member during the last sharing cycle was 172,615 CDF (95.89 USD) with 88% return of savings. It is important to mention that other community members who were not beneficiaries of this project testify that the women accompanied by the project have succeeded in enhancing or boosting their household economy. This is one of the factors that have improved women's marital and social standing and reduced the extent of gender-based violence. With this financial autonomy, women have been able to acquire plots of land, buy animals (small livestock) to raise and start small businesses.

Outcome 2: Reduction of sexual violence against vulnerable women and girls

Under this outcome we should note that during the implementation of the project the activities carried out were more related to sensitization on self-referral of survivors of sexual violence. The final evaluation shows that thanks to these activities of raising awareness among local authorities, local leaders and young people about gender and the protection of women, most people have understood that women can play an important role in the development not only of their families but of the whole community.

“It is no longer time to limit women to housework and farm work only, they must do what they feel they can do according to their physical and intellectual capacities” (claimed one local leader from Rubanga during the final evaluation).

This final evaluation shows also that 99% of the women feel that their social and economic standing within the family and the community has improved.

During the last period of the project, there were no new cases of SGBV reported at the health Centres. This does not mean that there were no new cases of gender-based violence during this final period, but only that most of the raped women no longer went to the listening centres for fear of being seen by other members of the community when they entered the listening centres. They preferred to go directly to the health structures rather than to go through the counselling centres, which no longer guaranteed discretion. To this end, ZOA has focused on sensitization/information of women in relation to prevention of sexual violence and self-referral but accompanied by several other activities that have contributed to the reduction of SGBV, including training of young people on gender and SGBV, life skills and behaviour change and positive masculinity.

4. Results 5c.

Self Help Groups Afghanistan, Project AFG1915. Excerpts from endline report

Project ran from 01-08-2019 to 31-05-2020

The project was running for 8 months. The Self-Help-Group SHG members have gained much more insight in the importance of women rights (WR) child rights (CR) child protection (CP) and the negative consequences of gender based violence (SGBV or GBV) and domestic violence (DV). The project started a process of awareness raising, this process needs to continue which will happen through the ongoing review within the weekly SHG meetings.

Contextualised material such as posters and flyers was developed, this material will continue to be used by SHG members to assist them in the review of the topics.

Trainers of the WEP and facilitators of the SHGs worked together. The facilitators learned much from the trainers and will continue to review the topics.

Many SHG members gained much insight in the details to run an Income Generating Issue, however, it takes time to develop a business plan, to set up an IGA and to gain confidence, hence there is a need to have a business coach to support the SHG members during the start of their IGA.

Training name	Total Participants	Total number of Women	Total number of widows	Total number of girls	Participants from general community
Child Protection	1125	792	93	200	40
Community assessments (PLA)	1128	796	95	200	37
Gender Based Violence (GBV)	1128	796	95	200	37
Business Plan Development (BPD)	1110	796	95	200	9
Vender Linkages	1110	796	95	200	9

Table 1 Total Number of Participants attending trainings in Kabul:

Training name	Total Participants	Total number of Women	Total number of widows	Total number of girls	Participants from general community
Child Protection	1236	828	71	301	36
Community Assessments (PLA)	1232	820	71	301	32
Gender Based Violence (GBV)	1220	828	71	301	20
Business Plan Development (BPD)	1200	828	71	301	0
Vender Linkages	1200	828	71	301	0

Table 2 Total number of participants attending trainings in Jawzjan.

1. Results, Outcomes and Prospects:

The overall outcome planned was as follows:

1. Enhanced economic participation and self-reliance among all SHG members
2. Enhanced ability to encounter domestic gender based violence and enforcement of child protection.

The SHG members were very appreciative of the fact that they received additional training to strengthen their socio-economic development.

Lack of knowledge and lack of access to information keep the population and especially women in a vulnerable situation. For instance, the pre-test showed that 2% of women knew about existing child rights, the consequences of child abuses, the importance of child protection, and the negative consequences of Domestic violence and Gender based violence.

SHG members learned more about the necessity of doing a market analysis before the development of a business plan. They were taught how to keep a logbook to keep track of the time involved, the cost of the material in order to calculate the profit and to bargain for a good price. The Income Generating Activities did improve and generated more profit.

Targets achieved:

Overall objective	Women Self Help Groups in Shebarghan and Kabul district are economically mobilised as well as stable and resilience towards domestic and gender based violence and child protection violation at community level.		
Special objective	Actual indicator	Target	Achievement
Members of 130 SHGs start new businesses, establish market linkages and ensure child protection at community level	Overall economic and social development	25% of members have increased their income through new businesses.	See result indicators
	SHG members organise coordinated actions to address human rights violations on community level.	90% of SHG members are sensitized and equipped to effectively deal with GBV and Child protection violations at community level.	See result indicators
Result indicator: 2100 SHG members are trained to develop a business plan and how to start a business	The emergence of new businesses of SHGs, increased turnover and profit, utilization of savings.	25% of the SHG members do start their own new business.	Sample interview of 118 members in 5 villages in Jawzjan: 52 out of 118 = 44% Sample interview of 125 members in 7 communities in Kabul: 84 out of 125 = 67.2%
Result indicator: 2100 SHG members are aware of their rights and know the basics of how to	SHG members start discussing Domestic Violence and Gender Based Violence and Child Protection issues	10% decrease in DV incidents. 10% decrease in cases of child abuse.	The post test showed that 60% of the members had gained insight regarding child rights, child abuses, child protection, Domestic

<p>mitigate the negative consequences of GBV, DV, violation of CR and CP.</p> <p>The gained insights supports local advocacy efforts by SHG members to ensure child protection at community level.</p>	<p>within their SHGs and families.</p>		<p>violence and Gender based violence.</p> <p>30% of SHG members shared their lessons within their families and promised to not practice domestic violence or violate CR again.</p>
<p>Result indicator:</p> <p>Regular school attendance of 2500-3000 children of school age</p>	<p>More and more parents do see the benefit of education for their children.</p>	<p>At least 60% of the children of SHG members attend school.</p>	<p>75% of the children attend school</p>

5. Results 5d

Community Based Sociiotherapy (CBS) in Kalehe, South Kivu, Congo, excerpts from results paper on CBS in DRC, ZOA 2021

ZOA is implementing the Addressing Root Causes (ARC) project in Kalehe territory, Eastern Congo. For more than 20 years wars have been fought in Eastern Congo, leading to physical destruction but also to the destruction of social cohesion and to more conflicts and trauma. The overarching goal of this ARC project is to strengthen the democratic dialogue through civic participation so that the government and civil society actors can cooperate in addressing the root causes of conflict in Kalehe.

CBS has been introduced in Kalehe not only to restore trust and relations at the individual, family and community level, but also to encourage community dialogues and civic participation. Paix et Développement Durable (PDD) is the Congolese expert organisation on CBS and has been responsible for the training and supervision of the CBS facilitators. In total 72 facilitators have been trained, and 3174 community members (52% women and 48% men) have participated in CBS groups.

ZOA has commissioned a study in Congo in 2020 on the effect that the CBS sessions have on the life of the individual participant. Do participants experience less stress? Do they feel closer to their community members? Are they increasingly eager to participate in village level activities and/or local decision making? And do the CBS sessions have an impact on the (economic) wellbeing of families?

According to the research, CBS indeed has had a significant effect on the mental well-being of the participants. The SRQ-20, which is used to identify (potential) mental health disorders, showed a significant improvement: In the pre-intervention study 80% of the respondents had symptoms that indicated a potential mental health disorder before participating in CBS. The percentage was higher for women (85%) than for men (75%). After participating in CBS, a scientifically significant difference was observed: only 42% of women and 34% of men indicated symptoms relating to a mental health disorder (see table 2).

After participating in CBS groups the participants graded their everyday life much higher than before. Before the average grade was 4.4 (on a scale from 1 – 10), while after CBS the average grade increased to 6.9. Women initially scored lower, but after their participation in the CBS group they scored equal to men. Participants also indicate an increase in their hope for the future: the percentage of people with nearly no hope for the future decreased (from 20% to 4%) while those with high or very high hope increased (from 79% to 96%).

One hypothesis is that participation in CBS sessions can contribute to an improvement in family dynamics and gender relations. It was expected that CBS will contribute to a reduction of household violence. “Communication between spouses when there is a problem” was selected as one of the bottom-up indicators when capturing change in family dynamics. What has been observed from the pre-intervention study is that 43% of the respondents often share family problems with their spouses, which increased to 53% after CBS. Those indicating that they never shared family problems with their spouses reduced from 9% to 5%. “Peace in the family” was another bottom-up indicator. Before CBS, 60% of the respondents indicated “a good or very good” level of peace in the family, this increased to 86% after their participation. Women are less positive on both indicators, but the post-intervention improvement for women is higher than for men. According to the participants, faithfulness to their spouses has increased since the intervention (76% to 97%). Moreover, in the KIIs and FGDs with the neighbours, family and friends the reduction of domestic violence was regularly mentioned as a positive result of CBS.

On other indicators the change is more ambiguous. After CBS, women scored slightly lower on the “gender attitude scale” (from 13.2 to 12.8 points out of 18 points), indicating that they are less positive about gender relations. For male respondents there was no change reported. One explanation could be that respondents gave more socially desirable answers preceding CBS. Following CBS, however, respondents might have been more inclined to give realistic answers. Another explanation could be that during the sessions women especially became more aware of unequal gender relations.

“My neighbour who participated in the CBS group was a very complicated man, and very mean to his family and the community. He would never cultivate the land together with his wife and he rarely helped her with household chores. But now we see that he has changed completely. This is really astonishing. He is even washing dishes and sweeping the floor. So I really want to find out what has changed him” (FGD with neighbours and family members of participants).

CBS has also influenced the participants' leadership skills in general and attitudes towards gender equality in leadership in particular. Post-intervention more participants agree that women could be elected for leadership positions in the community (increase from 78% to 92%). According to the questionnaire, women's confidence to express their opinion in public has not significantly increased post-CBS, while men's confidence has increased slightly. However, during the FGD and interviews both men and women give examples of women now having more courage to participate and talk in meetings.

"Before it was very difficult for me to talk among men, and it was also not well-perceived in our community. But when I became a member of the CBS group we were together with men and we discussed our problems together. And that's where I started to feel confident and at ease discussing issues with men" (young female participant).