



ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT

2023



Organization for Afghan Women Capacity and Knowledge



+ 93 700644441 + 93 0782850050



www.oawck.org.af

Flow us:



director@oawck.org.af, info@oawck.org.af

Head Office: House @ 1, Bank Road Asad Abad , Kunar Afghanistan

Table of Content:

Executive Summary	3
Message From Muhammad Zaman Safi Director OAWCK	5
Message From Farida Akhonzada Deputy Director OAWCK.....	6
About OAWCK	7
2023 Year In Review.....	8
Projects & Programs Implemented in 2023 / Project-1 The Emergency Repair of Water & Sanitation Facilities and Hygiene Promotion Project in Balkh Province.....	9
Project 2: WASH Support for Vulnerable and Underserved Communities of Balkh Province	14
Project 3: Support for the Most Vulnerable Children and Their Families through Integrated, Age-Appropriate, and Gender-Transformative Child Protection Interventions in Nuristan Province	18
Project 4: Ending SGBV and Enhancing Women’s Rights in Targeted Communities1. Project Summary.....	22
Case Studies or Success Stories	27
Organizational Development and Capacity Building for OAWCK (2023)	28
Future Plans and Strategic Direction	31
Acknowledgments	33

Executive Summary

OAWCK has been a vital humanitarian actor in Afghanistan since 2010, having implemented over 60 projects nationwide with a special emphasis on women and child protection, water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), community resilience, health, women empowerment, and food security. Guided by a commitment to serve the most vulnerable and marginalized communities, particularly women, children, and displaced populations, OAWCK has collaborated closely with local authorities, international donors, and community stakeholders to deliver responsive and transformative programs across the country. This report captures the essence of OAWCK's recent interventions, illustrating its enduring impact in Afghanistan.

In recent years, OAWCK has focused on strengthening community resilience through improved access to clean drinking water, sanitation facilities, and comprehensive hygiene awareness programs. By rehabilitating critical water points, repairing community latrines, and upgrading WASH infrastructure in public locations, OAWCK has provided underserved communities with essential resources to support their health and well-being. These WASH efforts have been complemented by extensive hygiene promotion activities, which have empowered communities to adopt safer practices, reducing the prevalence of waterborne diseases and enhancing public health. In addition to water and sanitation, OAWCK's provision of emergency shelter has been pivotal, particularly for communities affected by displacement and conflict. Emergency shelter projects have provided vulnerable families with the immediate protection they need, ensuring their safety and dignity in the face of crisis.

OAWCK's commitment to protection services has also extended to addressing gender-based violence (GBV) and empowering women and girls. Through the establishment of GBV prevention committees and the promotion of gender-sensitive awareness initiatives, OAWCK has created safer environments for women, offering resources and support to address risks and safeguard rights. Public messaging campaigns have reached thousands of individuals, raising awareness about hygiene and GBV prevention while fostering behavior change that will have lasting positive effects within these communities.

In addition, OAWCK has expanded its child protection initiatives, particularly in remote regions with limited access to essential services. Through the establishment of Child-Friendly Spaces, training of local service providers, and creation of community-based child protection committees, OAWCK has strengthened safety nets for children and increased community involvement in child rights advocacy. By promoting positive parenting practices and building community awareness around child rights and protection issues, OAWCK has made strides in reducing exploitation, abuse, and neglect among vulnerable children.

Central to OAWCK's work is a commitment to sustainable impact. By incorporating a Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) system across its projects, OAWCK evaluates the quality and effectiveness of its services to ensure they meet community needs and expectations. This system also supports transparency and strengthens accountability, fostering community trust and enhancing the overall effectiveness of OAWCK's interventions.

OAWCK's approach to programming is rooted in local ownership and capacity building. By engaging community members and local authorities at every stage—from planning through implementation—OAWCK has nurtured a sense of ownership and sustainability in each intervention. Community members are empowered to take an active role in maintaining and expanding upon the progress made, ensuring that positive changes continue to benefit future generations.

In addition to direct service provision, OAWCK places significant emphasis on capacity building within communities and among local stakeholders. This approach fosters sustainable development by equipping communities with the skills and resources needed to maintain progress and respond to future challenges independently. For instance, OAWCK's projects often include training local committees, community health workers, and volunteers on specialized skills, such as water point maintenance, hygiene promotion, and child protection protocols. By strengthening local expertise, OAWCK helps create a resilient support network that remains active beyond the life of each project.

To address the diverse needs of Afghanistan's vulnerable populations, OAWCK has implemented a multi-sectoral approach that combines WASH, protection, and food security with psychosocial support and livelihood interventions. This integrated approach enhances the overall impact of each project, as beneficiaries receive comprehensive support that addresses their most pressing needs holistically. For example, in food-insecure regions, OAWCK's food distribution initiatives are complemented by hygiene and sanitation education, ensuring that improved nutrition is supported by safer living conditions. This strategy amplifies OAWCK's impact, as multiple aspects of community well-being are strengthened simultaneously.

OAWCK's emphasis on partnerships has been instrumental in the successful implementation of its programs. Collaborating with international organizations, such as UNICEF and UNOCHA, as well as local authorities like the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MoLSA), enables OAWCK to mobilize resources effectively, share expertise, and ensure that interventions are aligned with national priorities. These partnerships also allow OAWCK to reach more remote or high-risk areas, where local capacity may be limited, and where communities are often most vulnerable to the effects of poverty, conflict, and natural disasters. This collaborative approach has also contributed to enhancing the overall humanitarian response in Afghanistan.

In its child protection initiatives, OAWCK has developed targeted interventions that focus on safeguarding children from immediate and long-term harm. These interventions address critical issues such as child labor, early marriage, and recruitment into armed groups, which are prevalent risks in some of Afghanistan's conflict-affected regions. Through the creation of safe spaces, counseling services, and awareness-raising campaigns, OAWCK not only protects children but also builds community awareness and capacity to sustain these protective environments. This approach ensures that children can thrive in a safer, supportive setting while encouraging community members to advocate for and uphold child rights.

Looking ahead, OAWCK is dedicated to scaling up its interventions to meet the growing humanitarian needs across Afghanistan. The organization plans to deepen its commitment to high-impact sectors such as health, education, and food security, while continuing to refine its existing programs in WASH and protection. By leveraging its extensive field experience, OAWCK is well-positioned to adapt its strategies to the evolving needs of Afghan communities, ensuring that they receive timely, relevant, and impactful assistance. With a proven track record, strategic partnerships, and a steadfast commitment to empowering

the people it serves, OAWCK remains a pillar of resilience and hope in Afghanistan's ongoing journey toward stability and development.

Message From Mohammad Zaman Safi, Director OAWCK



Afghanistan continues to face profound challenges, with communities bearing the heavy toll of a prolonged crisis that has not only resulted in substantial human and material losses but has also curtailed opportunities for stability, growth, and progress. Amid these trials, OAWCK remains steadfast in our commitment to the Afghan people, dedicated to reaching those in greatest need and making a meaningful impact where it is most essential.

Since its inception in 2010, the Organization for Afghan Women Capacity and Knowledge (OAWCK) has remained at the forefront of humanitarian and development work across Afghanistan, dedicated to creating meaningful, lasting change. Our mission is rooted in an unwavering commitment to addressing the needs, priorities, and aspirations of the Afghan people, placing beneficiaries at the very heart of our programs. Guided by these principles, every project we undertake aims not only to deliver immediate assistance but also to empower individuals and communities, nurturing resilience, fostering hope, and unlocking new opportunities for sustainable development. By building capacity, promoting gender equality, and enhancing access to essential resources, OAWCK continues to shape pathways to a brighter, more self-sufficient future for Afghan communities. Our robust connections within Afghan society enable us to maintain the quality and relevance of our work. Through ongoing adaptation, innovation, and a focus on sustainable solutions, we are committed to delivering the essential assistance that the Afghan people rightfully deserve. Our experience and dedication have been instrumental in strengthening national capacities, fostering partnerships, and aligning with local authorities, coordination networks, and peer organizations to create a collaborative environment for Afghanistan's development.

In line with our commitment to expand reach and impact, OAWCK has grown from our main office in Kunar to establish sub-offices in Nuristan, Laghman, Nangarhar, Kabul, Balkh, Samangan, and Jawzjan provinces. Looking ahead, we are dedicated to extending our support and services to additional provinces, bringing vital assistance to communities that need it most. To date, OAWCK has successfully implemented over 60 projects across multiple sectors, each contributing to the resilience and progress of Afghan communities.

It is a profound honor to represent OAWCK and our team as we work together to create a brighter future for Afghanistan. With the unwavering support of our partners and stakeholders, we are confident that, together, we can make a lasting difference.

Thank you for standing with us on this journey. Together, we can bring hope and resilience to Afghanistan.

Best regards,

Mohammad Zaman Safi

Message From Farida Akhonzada, Deputy Director OAWCK



Afghanistan has endured decades of crises and violence, leaving deep scars on every aspect of society. Women, children, and youth have borne the brunt of these hardships, often facing disproportionate suffering. At OAWCK, we are steadfast in our belief that sustainable solutions to these challenges must be grounded in Afghanistan's rich cultural values, traditions, and beliefs. By understanding and respecting the Afghan context, we can create solutions that are not only effective but also truly inclusive and respectful of our shared heritage.

Our work is built upon the principles of peace, conflict resolution, and human rights. We raise awareness within communities about the roots and consequences of violence, providing individuals and families with the knowledge and tools they need to cope with crises. We foster unity, empathy, and mutual understanding, encouraging communities to come together to face challenges with a sense of responsibility and cooperation.

A key element of OAWCK's mission is ensuring that women are empowered and included at every level of decision-making. Women are essential pillars of peace and resilience in Afghanistan. Throughout history, Afghan women have played a crucial role in fostering stability, often serving as peace builders, educators, and advocates for nonviolence in their communities. Despite this, women remain underrepresented in formal peace negotiations and reconstruction efforts. At OAWCK, we firmly believe that peace and development cannot be achieved without the full and equal participation of women. We are committed to advocating for women's voices and perspectives, ensuring they are central to peace-building and conflict-resolution efforts from local dialogues to national policies.

Our focus on women's protection and empowerment is an integral part of our work. We strive to create spaces where women feel safe and supported, empowering them to take leadership roles within their families, communities, and beyond. OAWCK works to ensure that women have access to the resources and opportunities necessary for their personal and professional growth, fostering a sense of dignity, self-reliance, and agency. By promoting gender equality, we aim to break down the barriers that prevent women from contributing fully to society's progress.

We are proud to have established a strong presence across Afghanistan, with sub-offices in several provinces, and are committed to expanding our reach further to support more communities in need. To date, OAWCK has successfully implemented over 60 projects across diverse sectors, all contributing to the resilience, progress, and well-being of Afghan communities. Our efforts are constantly evolving to meet the ever-changing needs of the people we serve, driven by the unwavering commitment to making a tangible difference in their lives.

The road ahead is challenging, but we are inspired by the resilience and determination of the Afghan people. We remain committed to working hand in hand with our partners and stakeholders to create a brighter, more prosperous future for Afghanistan. Together, we believe that a more just, peaceful, and

resilient Afghanistan is not only possible, but within reach. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all those who stand by us in this journey.

Best wishes,

About OAWCK

Background and Mission Statement

OAWCK was established with the aim to empower Afghan women and promote their active participation in building a peaceful and prosperous Afghanistan. Founded in 2010, the organization has remained steadfast in its commitment to advancing the capacity and knowledge of Afghan women, addressing their most pressing needs, and fostering gender equality. Our mission is to enhance the socio-economic status of women and children, promote gender equality, and advocate for the rights of marginalized groups. OAWCK works on a grassroots level to implement programs that address the specific challenges faced by Afghan women, children, and vulnerable communities, enabling them to lead lives of dignity and hope.

Core Values and Guiding Principles

At OAWCK, our core values shape our approach to humanitarian aid, development, and advocacy:

- **Empowerment:** We believe in empowering individuals, especially women and children, to take control of their futures and contribute to the betterment of their communities.
- **Inclusivity:** We strive for inclusivity, ensuring that marginalized voices, particularly those of women, youth, and displaced populations, are heard and integrated into decision-making processes.
- **Sustainability:** We focus on long-term solutions that create lasting change, emphasizing capacity-building and community-led development.
- **Cultural Sensitivity:** Our work is deeply rooted in understanding and respecting Afghan traditions and values, ensuring that our interventions are contextually relevant and culturally appropriate.
- **Collaboration:** We value partnerships and recognize that effective change requires cooperation with local communities, national authorities, and international stakeholders.

Key Programs and Focus Areas

OAWCK's work is centered on four main pillars, each crucial to addressing the challenges faced by Afghan women and communities:

1. Women and Child Protection

OAWCK is dedicated to creating safe environments for women and children by addressing gender-based violence, child protection, and promoting the rights of women. We provide shelter, psychosocial support, and legal aid to survivors of violence, and work to reduce the risks of exploitation and abuse through awareness-raising and advocacy.

2. Women Empowerment and Economic Development

Our programs aim to empower Afghan women economically, helping them gain financial independence and leadership roles in their communities. Through vocational training, microfinance initiatives, and access to markets, we help women build sustainable livelihoods and achieve greater autonomy.

3. Health and Nutrition

OAWCK focuses on improving access to essential healthcare services for women and children, particularly in remote and underserved areas. We provide maternal and child health services, promote hygiene and sanitation, and engage in nutrition programs to combat malnutrition.

4. **Peace building and Social Cohesion**

We believe that lasting peace in Afghanistan can only be achieved through active involvement from all segments of society, especially women and youth. OAWCK promotes peacebuilding by facilitating dialogues, conflict resolution initiatives, and encouraging the active participation of women in peace processes at the local and national levels.

OAWCK is committed to creating a brighter future for Afghanistan, one in which women are at the forefront of the nation's social, economic, and political transformation. We aim to build resilient communities, foster unity, and contribute to the sustainable development of a peaceful Afghanistan.

2023 Year in Review

The 2023 Annual Report for OAWCK is a comprehensive reflection on the year's activities, outcomes, and challenges, highlighting our commitment to supporting Afghanistan's marginalized and underserved communities. Our efforts in 2023 focused on empowering women, youth, and rural populations who have been disproportionately impacted by decades of conflict. The report serves as both an accountability tool and a celebration of our achievements, as well as a guide to help refine our strategies moving forward.

1. **Inclusive and Collaborative Review Process**

This year's annual review process exemplified our commitment to transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement. Key departments within OAWCK collaborated closely to ensure a holistic analysis of our work. The involvement of our Board of Directors provided strategic oversight and helped to ensure our efforts align with the organization's mission and long-term vision. The Program Department evaluated the direct impact of our projects in communities, particularly in areas such as peacebuilding, economic empowerment, and conflict resolution, which have proven crucial in promoting stability and resilience. The Finance Department's diligence in overseeing resource allocation ensured that donor funds were used efficiently to maximize impact. Our Gender Department reinforced our focus on women, youth, and marginalized groups, ensuring gender-sensitive approaches in all our programs. The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Department conducted an exhaustive review of project outcomes, assessing both quantitative and qualitative results to optimize our future interventions. Their feedback highlighted opportunities for further refinement in our strategies and programs.

2. **Key Achievements and Lessons Learned**

OAWCK made significant strides in 2023, with notable achievements in human rights, peace building, and economic self-reliance. One of our key initiatives involved conducting peace building workshops, which brought together community leaders to discuss conflict resolution rooted in Afghan cultural values. These efforts were pivotal in fostering unity and understanding among divided communities. We also expanded our vocational training programs, with a focus on providing women and youth with the skills necessary to achieve economic independence. This year, women's participation in these programs was particularly strong, reinforcing the centrality of their involvement in driving positive change within their communities. Our work reaffirmed that empowering women is crucial to long-term community development, as their role in peace building and economic empowerment is indispensable.

3. **Addressing Challenges and Strengthening Accountability**

Despite the year's successes, OAWCK faced significant challenges, including economic instability, limited access to remote areas, and fluctuating community needs. The review process highlighted the need for adaptability and innovative approaches to overcoming these obstacles. By maintaining close engagement with local stakeholders, we were able to adjust our strategies to meet immediate needs while ensuring that our long-term development goals remained on track. The annual review also served as a critical self-assessment, providing an opportunity to pinpoint gaps in our programming and take corrective actions to enhance our effectiveness. This feedback-driven approach allows us to continuously improve our programs and align them with both community needs and international development standards.

4. **Looking Ahead: Building on a Strong Foundation**

The lessons learned in 2023 have laid a solid foundation for OAWCK's future efforts. As we look ahead to 2024, we are committed to deepening our impact in Afghanistan's most vulnerable communities. Our focus will be on strengthening internal capacities, expanding our geographical reach, and forging stronger partnerships with local, national, and international organizations. Our team remains dedicated to the mission of empowering Afghan communities, and we will continue to build on the progress made in 2023. With the continued support of our partners, we are confident that we will be able to tackle the challenges ahead and help build a more resilient, peaceful, and equitable Afghanistan.

5. **A Roadmap for the Future**

This report not only reflects on the successes of the past year but also serves as a blueprint for the future. Our work in 2023 has shown that with collective effort and collaboration, we can make tangible progress in building a more just and resilient Afghanistan. We remain committed to sustainable development, peace building, and empowerment, ensuring that every Afghan has the opportunity to thrive. The challenges of the past year have only strengthened our resolve, and as we move forward, we will continue to bring hope and practical solutions to the communities we serve. With the support of our stakeholders, we are determined to create a brighter, more prosperous future for Afghanistan.

Projects and Programs Implemented in 2023

Project 1: The Emergency Repair of Water & Sanitation Facilities and Hygiene Promotion Project in Balkh Province

Overall Project Objective:

To enhance the living conditions of vulnerable communities in Mazar-e-Sharif and Chamtal districts of Balkh province through improved access to clean drinking water, better sanitation facilities, and hygiene education to safeguard against waterborne diseases and reduce the risks of environmental contamination.



Photo Captured while Children were carrying Drinking Water from the Newly Constructed Stain Tap of the Abidan Solar Power Pipe Scheme project funded by AHF, in Zari District of Balkh Province.

Key Outcomes & Outputs

Outcome 1:

People in the targeted areas have sustainable access to clean drinking water and are protected against diseases caused by poor hygiene and a contaminated environment.

- **Output 1.1:** Rehabilitation and repair of 300 collective water points (including wells, boreholes, hand pumps, water tap stands, and networks/systems), improving water access for 52,500 people.
- **Output 1.2:** Rehabilitation of 70 communal latrines in public spaces, such as community hospitals, schools, and public parks, enhancing sanitation for 3,430 people.
- **Output 1.3:** Upgrade of WASH services in 60 public spaces (community hospitals, schools, masjids, public parks) to provide better hygiene facilities for 6,000 people.
- **Output 1.4:** Awareness raised in 220 hygiene promotion sessions targeting 5,500 individuals, along with education on open defecation-free communities, GBV prevention, and protection rights.
- **Output 1.5:** Distribution of 5,500 hygiene kits and 500 WASH kits to vulnerable households across the two districts.



Photo Shows the OAWCK and PRRD Joint Monitoring Team while monitoring from a Newly Constructed Stain Tap in the Zari District of Balkh Province.



Detailed Progress and Achievements

The **Emergency Repair of Water & Sanitation Facilities** project started on October 10, 2022, with a strong focus on the urgent needs of the local communities. Given the project's emergency nature, OAWCK initiated the process by hiring experienced staff, conducting orientation sessions, and setting up a Project Implementation Plan. The team also created reporting templates, beneficiary selection criteria, and materials for hygiene promotion and GBV prevention campaigns.

A key component of the project's success was its coordination with local authorities, including the Governor, PRRD, DoE, DoPH, Municipality, and District Governors. Meetings with these stakeholders ensured clear communication of the project's goals and helped avoid duplication of efforts. Additionally, the project team held regular consultations with the WASH Cluster and other relevant actors to align efforts and ensure effective collaboration. Beneficiaries were selected according to predefined criteria, with repairs for 200 wells (full repair) and 100 wells (partial repair) identified in Chemtal and Mazar-e-Sharif districts. Likewise, 70 sites for communal latrine repair and 60 sites for WASH service upgrades were selected, contributing significantly to the improved infrastructure and sanitation conditions.

By **January 2023**, contractors were awarded grants for various tasks such as water point repairs, latrine rehabilitations, and WASH service upgrades, and work began on multiple sites simultaneously. In parallel, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed with the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD), and a project opening ceremony took place, which was attended by key stakeholders, including the Director of PRRD, representatives from the Education and Economy sectors, Mazar Municipality, and community elders.

Key Results Achieved

The implementation of the project activities successfully reached the target populations:

1. **200 collective water points** were fully repaired, directly benefiting 35,000 people.

2. **100 collective water points** were partially repaired, providing access to clean water for 17,500 people.
3. **70 communal latrines** in public spaces were rehabilitated, benefiting 3,430 individuals.
4. **60 WASH services** were upgraded in schools, health facilities, and public spaces, improving sanitation for 6,000 individuals.
5. **220 hygiene promotion sessions** were conducted, reaching 5,500 individuals, fostering awareness on proper hygiene practices, and educating people about the importance of open defecation-free communities.
6. **44 GBV prevention committees**, including women's representation, were formed, empowering local communities in both prevention and response to gender-based violence (GBV), directly benefiting 220 people.
7. **5,000 hygiene kits** were distributed to households, benefiting 35,000 people, while **500 additional hygiene kits** were distributed to 500 families facing severe acute malnutrition (SAM) for a total of 3,500 people.
8. **FM radio broadcasts**: Produced and broadcast 200 radio messages on GBV prevention, hygiene promotion, and open defecation campaigns, reaching approximately 50,000 listeners across Balkh province.

Accountability to Affected Populations

OWCK placed a strong emphasis on ensuring accountability to affected populations throughout the project's lifecycle. This was achieved by:

1. **Beneficiary Participation and Feedback**: Beneficiaries were consulted during the selection of water points and latrines to ensure that the interventions met their needs. Feedback mechanisms were put in place, including community meetings and beneficiary surveys to allow for continuous input from the affected populations.
2. **Clear Communication**: Information about project activities, timelines, and expected outcomes was shared widely through community meetings, posters, and FM radio broadcasts, ensuring transparency in the process.
3. **Monitoring and Grievance Mechanisms**: A grievance redress system was implemented, allowing beneficiaries to raise concerns, ensuring that their issues were addressed promptly. This included feedback on the quality of services and items received, including hygiene kits and water points.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

The project's monitoring and evaluation activities were integral to its success. An M&E Officer was designated to oversee all data collection and reporting activities, ensuring that the project adhered to quality standards and timelines.

1. **Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM)**: A PDM survey was developed based on the WASH cluster's requirements, focusing on the quality and quantity of items distributed, transparency in the process, accessibility of distribution centers, and the adequacy of information provided to beneficiaries.
2. **Regular Monitoring Visits**: Field visits were conducted regularly by M&E staff to monitor progress, address issues promptly, and assess the quality of the work. This allowed for adjustments to be made if challenges arose, ensuring that the project stayed on track to meet its goals.

3. **Final Evaluation:** The final evaluation of the project highlighted the successful achievement of objectives, with feedback indicating high community satisfaction due to the timely completion of repairs, the effective hygiene promotion campaigns, and the inclusive approach to GBV prevention.

Quality Implementation & Achieving Targets

The successful implementation of this project was largely due to the high quality of the interventions and the thorough planning involved. Key aspects of quality implementation included:

1. **Timely and Effective Repairs:** All scheduled water point repairs and latrine rehabilitations were completed on time and within budget, meeting the specified technical standards.
2. **Community Engagement:** Active participation of local communities ensured that the project was tailored to their needs. The formation of WASH Technical Committees further supported the ongoing maintenance of facilities.
3. **Sustainability:** The project focused not only on immediate needs but also on long-term sustainability by training local technical committees and ensuring community involvement in maintaining facilities after the project's completion.

The project met or exceeded all set targets, as seen in the final achievements:

- Total beneficiaries reached: **53,670 people**, surpassing the planned number.
- Beneficiaries with disabilities: **2,862** people, exceeding the initial target by 9%.
- Key targets for water points, latrines, and hygiene kits were met with a focus on high-quality delivery.

The **Emergency Repair of Water & Sanitation Facilities and Hygiene Promotion Project in Balkh Province** was highly successful in improving living conditions for vulnerable communities. Through efficient and accountable project management, OAWCK was able to achieve substantial improvements in water and sanitation services while promoting health and hygiene education. The feedback received from the community, including multiple appreciation letters, indicates the project's positive impact on the local population.

Participation and Accountability of the Affected Population (AAP):

OAWCK is committed to ensuring transparency, accountability, and participation of the affected population (AAP) throughout the project cycle. To ensure that beneficiaries had a voice in the project, several measures were taken:

1. **Feedback Mechanisms:**
 - Face-to-face feedback sessions with beneficiaries and community elders facilitated immediate responses and resolution of concerns.
 - Two separate phone lines for complaints were set up, one managed by a female focal point to ensure women could voice concerns freely.
2. **Beneficiary Selection Process:**
 - Beneficiary selection was conducted transparently with the involvement of community elders and stakeholders. Women were selected by female staff, and men by male staff to ensure inclusivity.
3. **Zero Tolerance Policy:**

- OAWCK adheres to a strict zero-tolerance policy on PSEA (Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse), fraud, theft, and conflicts of interest, with all staff being oriented on these issues before field deployment.
4. **Complaint & Feedback Systems:**
 - Community members were informed on how to register complaints via the AWAAZ Afghanistan platform, and feedback mechanisms like suggestion boxes were installed in the target areas, ensuring continuous engagement with the community.
 5. **Community Engagement:**
 - Regular community meetings were held to ensure local participation and ensure the voices of all stakeholders were heard. This approach contributed to improved project implementation and accountability.

Coordination:

OAWCK prioritized effective coordination with stakeholders to ensure the timely and efficient implementation of the project:

1. **Government & Line Ministries:**
OAWCK worked closely with ministries like MoE and MRRD, as well as local authorities, to ensure that all activities were aligned with local needs and regulations.
2. **WASH Clusters:**
Regular coordination with national and regional WASH clusters ensured the project adhered to sector standards and that any challenges were promptly addressed.
3. **Community Elders & Religious Scholars:**
These groups were consulted regularly to ensure cultural alignment and smooth project delivery.
4. **Internal Coordination:**
The project team held regular meetings to keep the management updated and address any operational challenges swiftly.

Risk Management:

- **Local Context & Risk Mitigation:**
OAWCK worked closely with local authorities and community elders to mitigate social risks and ensure the smooth implementation of the project. Local staff, well-versed in the community's customs and sensitivities, played a key role in avoiding potential conflicts.
- **Social Conflict in Chemtal:**
Some villages in Chemtal initially resisted hygiene and GBV awareness sessions, fearing the introduction of "foreign" ideas. However, after clarifying that the sessions were aligned with Islamic principles and human rights, the community was convinced, and the sessions resumed successfully with the support of local religious leaders.

Exit Strategy and Sustainability:

To ensure the sustainability of project outcomes, OAWCK implemented several strategies:

1. **Community-Based Committees:**
 - 60 WASH Technical Committees were formed and trained to oversee the maintenance of water points and latrines, ensuring the continued functionality of the rehabilitated facilities.
2. **Capacity Building:**
 - Local capacity was strengthened through hygiene promotion and GBV prevention training, which will continue post-project.

3. Engagement with Local Authorities:

- OAWCK ensured local authorities were actively involved throughout the project to foster ownership and ensure continued support for WASH and hygiene services after project completion.

Lessons Learned:

1. Need for Geological Expertise:

Including a geologist in the project team would help in the proper assessment and selection of sites for water well repair and installation.

2. Community Engagement & Communication:

Continuous engagement with local administration, youth, and community leaders is crucial for the success of WASH projects.

3. High Demand for Clean Water:

The high demand for clean drinking water and hygiene awareness across Balkh province highlights the need for further WASH interventions in the region.

Project 2: WASH Support for Vulnerable and Underserved Communities of Balkh Province

Project Overview:

Project Main Objective: To improve the WASH situation and reduce the risk of Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) outbreaks in Keshendeh and Zari districts of Balkh province by providing sustainable access to clean drinking water, improving sanitation facilities, promoting hygiene practices, and raising awareness on AWD prevention.



Photo Shows a newly constructed Solar Panel Park via an AHF-funded project in Belhani Payeen Village of Zari District in Balkh Province.



Outcome 1:

Improved WASH situation and reduced risk of AWD outbreaks for people in Keshendeh and Zari districts of Balkh province.

Outputs:

- **Output 1:** Sustainable access to clean drinking water for 720 households (5,040 individuals).
- **Output 2:** Improved sanitation facilities and hygiene practices at the community level.
- **Output 3:** Raised awareness and knowledge on hygiene promotion and AWD prevention for 6,000 households (42,000 individuals).

Reporting on Achievements:

During the reporting period, the project successfully carried out the following activities:

1. Community Mobilization and Awareness Sessions:

- A total of **240 hygiene promotion, GBV, and AWD prevention awareness sessions** were conducted by community mobilizers across the two districts (Zari and Keshendeh). These sessions aimed at raising awareness on hygiene practices, the risks of open defecation, GBV, and AWD prevention.
- Each session consisted of **25 participants** (12 men and 13 women per session), conducted separately for men and women to ensure cultural appropriateness and increased participation. This resulted in **6,000 individuals** directly benefiting from the awareness sessions (covering **both adults and children**).
- The topics included **hygiene promotion, GBV awareness, and AWD prevention**. Gender-specific sessions were conducted to ensure the inclusion of women and girls, ensuring a culturally sensitive approach that respected local norms.

2. Water Access Improvements:

- The project provided **sustainable access to clean drinking water to 720 households**, benefiting approximately **5,040 individuals**. This involved the repair and maintenance of water infrastructure, such as wells and water systems, ensuring that the communities had reliable access to potable water, which is critical in preventing AWD outbreaks.

3. Sanitation and Hygiene Facilities:

- Improved sanitation facilities were installed or rehabilitated in the targeted communities. This included **latrine repairs, new sanitation facilities, and proper waste management solutions** to improve overall sanitation conditions. This directly contributed to reducing the environmental risks that could facilitate the spread of AWD and other waterborne diseases.
4. **Hygiene Kits Distribution:**
- The project distributed hygiene kits to **households in the target communities**, providing essential items such as soap, water purification tablets, and sanitary products. These kits supported the local communities in adopting better hygiene practices.

People Targeted and Reached:

Category	Women (>18)	Girls (<18)	Men (>18)	Boys (<18)	Total
Targeted	3,989	2,658	3,989	2,658	13,294
Achieved	4,049	2,723	3,946	2,805	13,523

Targeted Beneficiaries: The project aimed to target **50% women, 50% men**, and a significant portion of **children (40%)** within the community.

- **Achieved:** The project successfully reached **50% women, 51% men**, and **50% children** in the affected communities, ensuring a balanced participation of all groups in the project activities.

Additional Achievements and Key Metrics:

- **Community Engagement and Participation:**
 - **240 sessions** held with a total of **6,000 individuals** attending.
 - Specific focus was placed on empowering women and girls, providing a platform for them to engage and learn about hygiene practices and gender-based violence prevention.
- **Health and Hygiene Impact:**
 - By providing **clean drinking water** and raising awareness on hygiene and AWD prevention, the project contributed significantly to reducing the risk of waterborne diseases in the targeted areas, which have historically suffered from AWD outbreaks.
- **Sustainability and Capacity Building:**
 - Community-based hygiene promoters and local stakeholders were trained to continue supporting the local population, thereby ensuring long-term sustainability of the health outcomes achieved by the project.

Challenges and Mitigations:

- **Cultural Barriers to Women's Participation:**
In some rural areas, women initially faced restrictions in participating in community training sessions. To address this, the project ensured the engagement of **female mobilizers** to deliver sessions in culturally appropriate settings and involved **community elders and religious leaders** to gain support for women's participation.
- **Logistical Challenges:**

Some challenges arose in the transportation of materials due to the region's terrain. The project team adapted by leveraging local suppliers and transport options, ensuring timely delivery of materials.

Lessons Learned:

1. **Gender-sensitive Approach:** Implementing separate sessions for men and women, with dedicated female mobilizers, proved to be essential for ensuring effective participation, especially in more conservative communities.
2. **Community Involvement:** The project achieved better outcomes by ensuring active involvement of community leaders and elders in decision-making, which fostered greater ownership of the project by the local population.
3. **The Importance of Local Staff:** Hiring local staff who understood the community's cultural and logistical nuances was crucial for the project's success, particularly in remote or hard-to-reach areas.

Coordination with Stakeholders:

1. **Local Government and Authorities:**
Close coordination with local authorities, including district-level officials and community leaders, ensured that the project was implemented with full support from the local governance structures.
2. **WASH Cluster:**
Regular meetings with the regional and national WASH Cluster facilitated the sharing of information, lessons learned, and best practices. This allowed the project to stay aligned with national strategies and standards.
3. **Community Engagement:**
The project established strong ties with community leaders, and regular consultations ensured transparency and accountability, while also helping to resolve any concerns or disputes raised during project implementation.

Sustainability and Exit Strategy:

- **Capacity Building of Local Communities:**
The training of local community members, including hygiene promoters and GBV committees, ensures that the community will continue to implement hygiene promotion activities and maintain the WASH infrastructure even after the project concludes.
- **Community Ownership:**
The active participation of local stakeholders, especially the formation of hygiene promotion committees and WASH technical committees, ensures that the benefits of the project will be



sustained over time, with communities taking the lead in managing and maintaining the facilities. The **WASH support project** in Balkh province successfully achieved its goals of improving water access, sanitation, and hygiene in Keshendeh and Zari districts, reducing the risk of AWD outbreaks, and raising awareness of hygiene practices. Through community mobilization, training, and the provision of essential services, the project contributed to improving the health and well-being of over **13,500 individuals** in the target areas, with a special focus on ensuring gender equality and empowering local communities for sustained impact.

Project 3: Support for the Most Vulnerable Children and Their Families through Integrated, Age-Appropriate, and Gender-Transformative Child Protection Interventions in Nuristan Province.

Project Overall Objectives

The primary goal of this project is to enhance the protection and well-being of the most vulnerable children and their families in Nuristan province by providing integrated, age-appropriate, and gender-transformative child protection interventions. The project aims to strengthen local child protection systems, improve access to services, and promote child rights through community engagement and awareness-raising initiatives.



Specific objectives include:

1. **Strengthening Child Protection Systems:** Enhance the capacity of local service providers to deliver specialized child protection services to the most vulnerable children.
2. **Promoting Child Rights and Gender Equality:** Raise awareness about child rights and gender equality within the community, particularly focusing on girls and children in marginalized groups.
3. **Providing Immediate Life-Saving Interventions:** Ensure timely access to essential services such as healthcare, psychosocial support, and protection for children at risk of abuse, exploitation, and neglect.
4. **Raising Awareness and Empowering Communities:** Equip communities with the knowledge and skills to prevent and respond to harmful practices and violence against children.

Outcomes

1. **Improved Child Protection Systems:** Local child protection services and community structures are strengthened to effectively prevent and respond to child abuse, neglect, and exploitation.
2. **Increased Awareness and Advocacy for Child Rights:** Communities are more aware of child rights, child protection, and gender equality, leading to a reduction in harmful practices like child labor, child marriage, and recruitment into armed groups.
3. **Enhanced Well-Being of Vulnerable Children:** Vulnerable children receive targeted interventions that address their immediate needs, including healthcare, psychosocial support, and safe spaces for recovery and development.
4. **Strengthened Community-Based Mechanisms:** Community-based child protection networks and committees are established to monitor and support the ongoing protection and well-being of children in the community.

Outputs

1. **Local Service Providers Trained:** Over **200** local service providers, including teachers, social workers, and community leaders, trained on child protection, child rights, case management, and referral pathways.
2. **Child-Friendly Spaces (CFSs) Established:** **72 Child-Friendly Spaces (CFSs)** in local communities and **8 district-level CFSs** are created to provide safe spaces for children, offering recreational, educational, and psychosocial support.
3. **Community-Based Child Protection Networks (CBCPNs) Formed:** CBCPNs, DCPANs, and CPANs are established and strengthened to create a network of local actors capable of identifying and responding to child protection concerns.
4. **Awareness-Raising Campaigns Conducted:** **Awareness sessions** conducted in all **8 districts** of Nuristan, reaching over **6,000 households (42,000 individuals)**, focusing on child protection, gender-based violence prevention, and positive parenting.
5. **GBV Prevention and PSEA Training:** **PSEA focal points** trained, and GBV prevention sessions held to address and report cases of sexual exploitation and abuse.
6. **Life Skills Training for Adolescents:** **Adolescents engaged in hazardous work** receive life skills training and work kits to support them in acquiring safe and productive skills for sustainable livelihoods.

Achievements and Impact

The project has seen considerable progress since its launch in September 2023, contributing to the protection, well-being, and empowerment of vulnerable children in Nuristan. Key achievements include:

1. **Strengthened Child Protection Systems:**
 - Over **200 local service providers** trained on child protection, child rights, and case management.
 - Formation and strengthening of **CBCPNs, DCPANs, and CPANs**, enabling the communities to actively protect children.
2. **Child-Friendly Spaces (CFSs):**
 - **72 CFSs** established in communities, offering a safe space for children to engage in recreational, educational, and psychosocial activities.
3. **Awareness-Raising and Community Engagement:**
 - **Over 42,000 individuals** (6,000 households) reached through child protection awareness sessions.
 - **GBV prevention** and **PSEA** workshops trained both community leaders and project staff on safeguarding measures.
 - **Local radio spots** broadcast, reaching thousands with key messages on child protection and mental health.
4. **Emergency Interventions:**
 - **Emergency healthcare services** and **psychosocial support** provided to children and caregivers in need.
 - **Adolescents involved in hazardous work** received life skills training and work kits to support their development and well-being.
 -

Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

The project places a strong emphasis on accountability to affected populations (AAP) by ensuring the active participation of communities in planning, decision-making, and the implementation of activities. The following mechanisms have been implemented:

1. **Community Consultations:** Regular consultations with communities have been conducted to ensure that interventions are contextually appropriate and aligned with community needs.
2. **Feedback Mechanisms:** A feedback system has been established, where beneficiaries can voice concerns or suggestions regarding project activities.
3. **Transparency:** Regular updates and information sharing have been conducted with communities to inform them about the project's progress, challenges, and any changes in its implementation.
4. **Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM):** A clear and accessible grievance redress mechanism has been made available for affected populations to report concerns related to child protection, services, or project staff.

M&E Evaluation

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) is integral to assessing the project's effectiveness and ensuring the continuous improvement of activities. The M&E system focuses on:

1. **Ongoing Monitoring:** Regular monitoring visits by project staff and local partners to track the progress of activities and assess their quality.

2. **Impact Evaluation:** Periodic evaluations conducted to assess the outcomes of the project and identify areas for improvement. These evaluations are based on pre-defined indicators related to child protection, gender equality, and community engagement.
3. **Beneficiary Feedback:** Feedback from beneficiaries is collected through surveys and focus group discussions, ensuring that the voices of the most vulnerable are considered in project assessments.
4. **Data Management:** A robust data management system has been established to ensure accurate, timely, and transparent reporting of project results.

Coordination

Coordination has been a key factor in the success of the project. Strong collaboration has been established with:

1. **UNICEF:** OAWCK has worked closely with UNICEF-Afghanistan to align project activities with national child protection strategies and leverage UNICEF's technical expertise.
2. **Local Authorities:** Coordination with local authorities, including the Ministry of Education (MoEC) and the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MoLSA), ensured that the project adhered to national standards and reached the most vulnerable populations.
3. **Community Leaders:** Regular engagement with community leaders helped strengthen local ownership and ensure the project's activities were contextually appropriate and culturally sensitive.
4. **NGOs and Partners:** Collaboration with other NGOs and humanitarian agencies in the region to coordinate efforts, avoids duplication, and maximizes resource efficiency.

Sustainability

The project has incorporated several strategies to ensure long-term sustainability:

1. **Capacity Building:** Local service providers, community leaders, and child protection networks have been trained to take over the project's activities, ensuring that child protection efforts continue beyond the project's lifecycle.
2. **Community Ownership:** By engaging local communities in decision-making and implementation, the project fosters a sense of ownership, which is essential for long-term sustainability.
3. **Integration into Local Structures:** The project's activities have been designed to complement and strengthen existing local structures, such as schools, health facilities, and community networks.
4. **Ongoing Awareness:** Continued awareness-raising campaigns and community mobilization efforts will ensure that child protection remains a priority within communities.

Lessons Learned

The project has faced various challenges and has learned valuable lessons that can inform future interventions:

1. **Importance of Cultural Sensitivity:** Understanding the local context and cultural practices was essential for the successful implementation of child protection activities. Tailoring awareness

sessions to the cultural norms of the communities helped ensure better participation and acceptance.

2. **Flexibility in Implementation:** Due to the region's instability, some activities had to be adapted to the security situation. Flexibility in project design and planning allowed the project to continue delivering services even in the most challenging circumstances.
3. **Community Engagement is Key:** Early and consistent engagement with communities helped build trust and support for the project. It also ensured that interventions were more relevant and accepted by the target population.
4. **Capacity Building for Sustainability:** Investing in training and capacity building for local stakeholders ensured that the project's impact would be sustainable even after the project's end.
5. **Coordination is Crucial:** Close coordination with local authorities, other NGOs, and community leaders helped ensure the effective implementation of activities and avoided duplication of efforts.

Next Steps and Future Recommendations

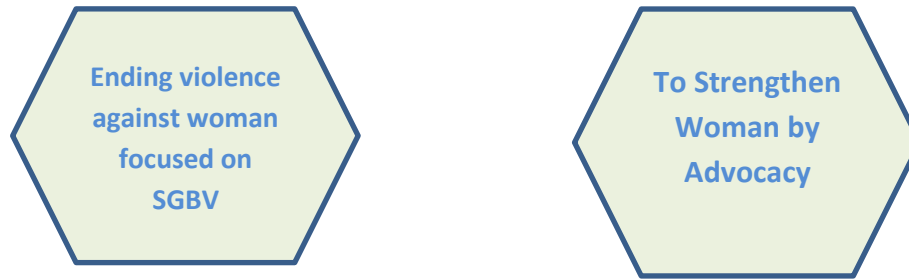
1. **Scaling Up:** Expand the reach of child protection interventions to additional areas in Nuristan and other underserved provinces.
2. **Strengthening Partnerships:** Foster stronger partnerships with local organizations and government agencies to enhance coordination and ensure the sustainability of child protection efforts.
3. **Advocacy for Policy Change:** Advocate for the integration of the project's outcomes and lessons learned into national child protection policies to ensure long-term, systemic change.

Project 4: Ending SGBV and Enhancing Women's Rights in Targeted Communities¹. Project Summary:

Project Objective

This project aims to address the deeply ingrained issues of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) in marginalized communities through a multifaceted approach. By strengthening the capacity of women's rights groups and local civil society organizations (CSOs), the project will advocate for gender equality, enhance women's protection and safety, and improve the mental health and well-being of women and girls. It will provide legal counseling, psychosocial support, and community-driven monitoring to ensure women's rights are upheld. Additionally, the project aims to establish sustainable community-based systems that will continue to provide support long after the project ends, ensuring ongoing progress toward ending violence against women and girls (VAWG).





Target Groups

- **Primary beneficiaries:**
 - Women and girls aged 0-17 and 18+ who are at risk of or have experienced SGBV, with a focus on marginalized groups, including internally displaced persons (IDPs), those living with disabilities, ethnic minorities, and rural populations.
 - Survivors of violence seeking access to legal and psychosocial support services.
 - Community members who will benefit from awareness-raising activities on women's rights, gender equality, and violence prevention.
- **Secondary beneficiaries:**
 - Civil society organizations (CSOs) engaged in community advocacy, monitoring, and response to SGBV.
 - Local leaders, law enforcement agencies, and health providers who will be trained and sensitized to better support women and girls in their communities.

Geographical Areas

The project will operate in several provinces characterized by high rates of gender-based violence and weak social and legal support systems for women. These areas are selected based on the high vulnerability of women and girls, geographical isolation, and the presence of a significant number of displaced persons. The selected provinces include:

- **Kabul:** As the capital, Kabul sees a mix of urban and rural challenges in terms of SGBV, where traditional gender roles are prevalent, but some areas have more progressive legal frameworks.
- **Nangarhar:** This province has a high incidence of violence against women, particularly in rural districts.
- **Kunar:** A border province that is highly impacted by ongoing conflict, resulting in displacement and rising rates of gender-based violence.
- **Nuristan:** A remote province with a lack of services and high rates of SGBV.

Key Results and Impact Areas

Impact Area 1: Effective Advocacy by CSOs

The goal of this impact area is to build the capacity of CSOs to effectively advocate for the elimination of SGBV, including early marriage, domestic violence, and sexual harassment. By strengthening the

coordination of local organizations, this project will amplify the voices of those advocating for gender equality and women's empowerment.

- **Expected Outcome:** Local CSOs will enhance their ability to advocate on behalf of women and girls, focusing on ending violence against women, ensuring access to justice, and promoting human rights.
- **Impact Measurement:** Tracking how many CSOs are actively involved in joint advocacy campaigns, the nature of their campaigns, and the degree of participation in policy dialogues or legal reforms related to SGBV.

Impact Area 2: Enhanced Protection and Safety for Women and Girls

The second impact area focuses on providing immediate and sustained protection for women and girls by increasing access to essential services such as legal aid, psychosocial support, and health services.

- **Expected Outcome:** Women and girls will be safer and more secure, with increased access to legal rights, psychological support, and appropriate referral mechanisms.
- **Impact Measurement:** The number of women and girls accessing legal and psychosocial support, the number of referrals made to other service providers, and the overall improvement in the safety and security of these women and girls.

Detailed Objectives

Objective 1: Strengthen the Capacity of CSOs to Respond to SGBV and Women's Rights Issues

This objective focuses on enhancing the operational capacity of local CSOs to handle, respond to, and prevent SGBV effectively. It includes strengthening their monitoring systems, improving advocacy skills, and ensuring that they can provide or facilitate legal counseling, psychosocial support, and referrals to health services.

- **Activities:**
 - **Training Workshops:** Deliver targeted workshops to CSOs on the basics of gender equality, women's rights, and specific SGBV issues, emphasizing practical skills for advocating, monitoring, and responding to cases of violence.
 - **Community-Based Monitoring:** Implement community-based monitoring systems where CSOs are responsible for identifying and reporting cases of SGBV to relevant authorities and service providers.
 - **Advocacy Campaigns:** Guide CSOs in developing local advocacy campaigns to raise awareness about gender-based violence, the legal rights of women and girls, and the available support services.
 - **Networking:** Facilitate partnerships and networking between CSOs, legal professionals, health workers, and local authorities to create a unified approach to responding to SGBV.
 -

Objective 2: Increase Access to Legal and Psychosocial Support Services for Women and Girls

This objective focuses on ensuring that women and girls affected by violence receive the support they need in a timely manner. By improving the capacity of legal aid providers, counselors, and health professionals, this project aims to make legal counseling and psychosocial support services more accessible.

- **Activities:**

- **Legal Counseling:** Establish legal counseling centers in targeted communities, with mobile services for remote areas. These centers will provide free legal advice, case management, and legal representation for survivors of SGBV.
- **Psychosocial Counseling:** Partner with mental health professionals to provide trauma-informed counseling and therapy to survivors of SGBV.
- **Referral Networks:** Strengthen and expand referral systems for survivors to access other critical services, including health care, shelter, and economic support. This will include partnerships with local clinics, hospitals, and shelters.
- **Community Outreach:** Conduct community outreach to raise awareness about the availability of legal and psychosocial support services.

Objective 3: Promote Community Awareness on Women's Rights and Prevention of Violence

Awareness-raising is key to changing attitudes and behaviors that perpetuate gender-based violence. This objective aims to engage both men and women in the targeted communities in a dialogue about women's rights, the causes and consequences of SGBV, and the importance of prevention.

- **Activities:**
 - **Door-to-Door Campaigns:** Conduct home visits to discuss women's rights, SGBV, and the importance of gender equality with families.
 - **Small Group Sessions:** Hold educational sessions with community groups (e.g., women's groups, youth groups, religious leaders) to discuss the harms of SGBV and promote gender equality.
 - **Mass Media Campaigns:** Develop and distribute informational posters, brochures, and pamphlets with key messages on women's rights and SGBV prevention.
 - **Public Awareness Events:** Host community-wide events, such as rallies or public forums, to discuss issues related to women's rights and SGBV, with an emphasis on community-based solutions.

Objective 4: Build Local Capacity for Long-Term Sustainability of Advocacy and Response Systems

The success of the project depends not only on the implementation of interventions but also on creating lasting systems that can function independently after the project ends. This objective focuses on sustainability by strengthening local structures and ensuring that services continue beyond the project lifecycle.

- **Activities:**
 - **Capacity Building of Local Leaders:** Conduct leadership development programs for local community leaders, including religious leaders, schoolteachers, and local government officials, to ensure they understand and support the fight against SGBV.
 - **Policy Advocacy:** Work with local and national governments to develop and institutionalize policies and legislation that promote gender equality and protect women and girls from violence.
 - **Resource Mobilization:** Assist local CSOs in identifying funding opportunities, including partnerships with local businesses, international donors, and government programs, to ensure the continuation of SGBV services.

Detailed Results Framework

Outcome	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Results Achieved	Variance
Increased access to strengthened SGBV response and protection services	Number of CSOs coordinating to advocate against SGBV	0	13 CSOs	13 CSOs	No variance
	Degree of social accountability in community-based monitoring of SGBV	0	Community monitoring via 13 CSOs	Community-based monitoring	No variance
Improved ability of CSOs to monitor and respond to SGBV and VAWG	Percentage increase in reported cases of SGBV	0	70% increase	100.45% increase	No variance
Improved access to legal and psychosocial support for women and girls	Number of women and girls receiving legal and psychosocial services	0	5,166 (Legal: 3,600, Psychosocial: 1,500)	5,166 (Legal: 3,666, Psychosocial: 1,500)	No variance

Key Achievements

1. Effective Legal and Psychosocial Counseling

- The project achieved a total of **5,166 women and girls** receiving legal and psychosocial services, including **3,666 women and girls** receiving legal counseling and **1,500 women and girls** accessing psychosocial support. This represents a substantial increase in the availability of services to marginalized women and girls who previously had no access to such resources.

2. CSO Capacity Strengthening

- Thirteen local CSOs were successfully trained and provided with advocacy, legal, and psychosocial tools. These CSOs are now well-equipped to monitor and respond to instances of SGBV and are actively engaged in community-level campaigns.

3. Awareness and Advocacy Campaigns

- Over **60,861 women and girls** have been reached through educational campaigns, with an emphasis on the prevention of early marriage, domestic violence, and sexual harassment.

4. Referrals to Support Services

- A total of **3,520 cases** were referred to legal, psychosocial, and medical services, demonstrating an efficient and effective referral system that connects survivors with the necessary support.

Challenges and Mitigation Strategies

1. Security Concerns

- In volatile regions, security issues may affect access to the target communities.
 - **Mitigation:** Ensuring the deployment of staff who are familiar with the area, working closely with local authorities for security arrangements, and scheduling outreach activities during times of relative calm.

2. Cultural Barriers

- Deep-seated patriarchal norms may create resistance to gender equality initiatives.
 - **Mitigation:** Work with male community leaders, religious leaders, and local influencers to promote positive masculinity and challenge traditional gender roles.

3. Resource Limitations

- Limited budgets can restrict the geographic scope and number of beneficiaries.
 - **Mitigation:** Collaborating with other NGOs and local government partners to leverage additional resources.

Sustainability and Exit Strategy

1. Strengthening Local Institutions

- Local women's rights organizations and CSOs will be provided with ongoing training and resources to ensure they remain effective in their advocacy and service provision roles after the project's completion.

2. Institutionalizing Referral Mechanisms

- Partnerships with local service providers will ensure that referral systems are institutionalized within health, legal, and education systems for continued operation.

3. Long-Term Advocacy and Policy Change

- Advocacy will continue at local and national levels to influence the creation of long-term policies that protect women from violence, ensure equal rights, and provide sustainable services.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

- **Tracking Progress:** The M&E system will track all activities, including the number of beneficiaries, services provided, and the effectiveness of training and advocacy initiatives.
- **Data Collection:** Data will be collected regularly through surveys, interviews, and case studies to assess the effectiveness of interventions.
- **Feedback Mechanisms:** Beneficiary feedback will be incorporated into program adjustments and improvements, ensuring that the program meets the evolving needs of women and girls.

The project aims to make a lasting impact on the safety, security, and empowerment of women and girls in targeted regions. By strengthening local organizations, enhancing access to legal and psychosocial services, and fostering community-driven solutions, it will contribute to ending SGBV and advancing women's rights in Afghanistan.

Case Studies or Success Stories

1. Success Story: Zainab's Journey to Access Clean Water and Improved Health

Background: Zainab is a 28-year-old mother of four living in a rural village in the Balkh Province of Afghanistan. The village, located in a mountainous area, had long faced challenges in accessing clean water. The community depended on a single, contaminated water source, which caused frequent waterborne

diseases and health issues, particularly among children and women. Zainab's children often suffered from diarrhea, stomach infections, and dehydration, leading to missed school days and general weakness.

Despite the community's urgent need for clean water, Zainab and other villagers had to walk long distances every day to fetch water from an open spring, often carrying heavy jugs back to their homes. The water was not only unsafe for drinking but was also used for cooking, washing, and bathing, further exposing the family to the risk of waterborne diseases.

Intervention: Through the WASH intervention project supported by the OAWCK, Zainab's village was selected for the construction of a water well and the installation of a water filtration system. The project also included hygiene awareness sessions, educating families on the importance of safe water storage, hand washing, and sanitation practices.

OAWCK worked closely with the community to design and implement the intervention. Local laborers were hired to help with the construction, ensuring the project was community-led and sustainable. The water well, located near the village, provided safe, clean drinking water for the first time in years. Additionally, the project provided household water filters to ensure that water used for cooking and drinking remained safe and clean.

Outcome: The impact of the intervention on Zainab and her family was immediate and transformative. For the first time, her children had access to clean drinking water at their doorstep, which significantly reduced their risk of waterborne diseases. Zainab reported that her children were healthier and no longer missed school due to frequent illnesses. The time previously spent walking long distances to fetch water was now used for other productive activities, such as tending to the family's garden and improving their home.

The hygiene awareness sessions also made a difference in Zainab's daily practices. She learned the importance of hand washing, especially before preparing food or eating, and began educating her children and neighbors about hygiene practices. Zainab's household hygiene practices improved, contributing to better overall health for the family.

Zainab stated that before the water well was built, my children were constantly sick. The days felt long, and I couldn't focus on anything else because I was always worried about their health. Now, my children are healthier, they go to school every day, and I feel like I have my life back. The water is so clean and close, and I no longer worry about walking miles to fetch it. I am grateful for this change, and I am teaching my neighbors the importance of clean water and hygiene." – Zainab, Mother and Beneficiary.

Community Impact: The water well and hygiene education provided to Zainab's village not only improved the health and well-being of individual families but also strengthened the entire community. With more families now having access to clean water, the incidence of waterborne diseases drastically reduced across the village. The community's overall health improved, and local children were able to attend school regularly. Additionally, the time saved from fetching water allowed women like Zainab to engage in other economic activities, including small-scale farming and handicrafts.

The success of this WASH intervention has become a model for surrounding villages, where other communities are now seeking support to implement similar solutions. Zainab's village now serves as an example of how access to clean water and proper hygiene practices can transform lives, improve health outcomes, and empower women.

Sustainability: The community has taken ownership of the water well, with a water management committee in place to oversee maintenance and ensure its long-term functionality. Local volunteers have been trained to conduct routine checks and minor repairs, ensuring that the water source remains

functional for years to come. Hygiene education continues through community meetings, ensuring that knowledge is passed on to future generations.

Success Story 2: Reviving Agriculture and Hope: OAWCK's Irrigation Canal Rehabilitation in Shultan District

Background:

In Shultan District of Kunar Province, agriculture forms the backbone of life for villages like Lar and Bar Kali. These villages, with a total of 625 households, rely on a single irrigation canal to water over 300 jeribs of agricultural land. Over 80% of the families in these communities earn their livelihood through farming and livestock. However, a devastating flood destroyed the canal, leaving the land parched and forcing farmers to labor intensively to irrigate their fields. This loss not only threatened their harvests and income but also led to water-related disputes among villagers.

Community Request and Intervention:

On January 18, 2024, during a community mobilization session led by OAWCK field staff, villagers expressed their urgent need for the canal's rehabilitation. Supported by the Low Value Grant Project (funded by UNDP/World Bank), OAWCK swiftly took action. A team, including engineers from the Directorate of Agriculture, conducted a physical survey to estimate costs and prepare a detailed site plan that would meet the community's needs.

Under the guidance of a skilled engineer, the rehabilitation project was completed in just 20 working days. The restored canal now efficiently supplies water to the agricultural lands of both Lar and Bar Kali villages, promising improved yields and reduced irrigation time.

Outcome:

The canal's rehabilitation has already transformed lives in these villages. Emran, a farmer from Lar Kali, shared how he previously struggled with water shortages, impacting his crop productivity and income. Today, with the canal fully operational, water reaches his fields consistently, and he anticipates a higher yield for major crops like wheat and corn. Emran expressed hope that this improved productivity will allow him to better support his children, and he has already noticed a positive impact on his farm.

Mr. Mirzaman Manond Malak, a member of the local GRC committee from Bar Kali village, remarked on the substantial change brought by the project: "The project has significantly improved our irrigation system, increased rural food security, and alleviated poverty. With reliable access to water, we expect higher crop yields and a reduction in water-related disputes."

Community

The rehabilitation of the canal has not only strengthened food security but also improved social harmony within the community. With more equitable access to water, farmers no longer face the conflicts that arose from shortages. The project has also empowered the villagers, giving them a sense of ownership and pride in their improved water management system.

Impact:

Sustainability and Monitoring:

OAWCK's ongoing project monitoring and evaluation reveal significant improvements in community satisfaction and crop yield. Thanks to the financial support from UNDP and the World Bank, the Low Value

Grant Project has achieved a quick and impactful outcome. The strengthened irrigation system has laid the groundwork for sustainable agricultural practices in Shultan District, and the community is now equipped to maintain and manage the canal, ensuring long-term benefits for future generations.

Success Story 3: Revitalizing Agriculture Through Irrigation Rehabilitation in Shultan District

Background:

In Shultan District, on January 18, 2024, OAWCK's field staff gathered with the local community for a mobilization session to discuss pressing needs. The community voiced a clear priority: rehabilitating the essential irrigation canal that had been destroyed by recent flooding. This canal once served Lar and Bar Kali villages, both of which rely heavily on agriculture and livestock as primary sources of income. However, without a functional canal, over 625 households and 300 jeribs of farmland had been left vulnerable. The community faced lower crop yields, strained finances, and growing tensions over water scarcity. This irrigation issue directly threatened the livelihoods of more than 80% of the families, whose primary income stems from farming and livestock.

Intervention:

In response to the community's urgent request, OAWCK mobilized support through the Low Value Grant Project funded by UNDP and the World Bank. A dedicated team, including engineers from local Directorate of Agriculture-related departments, surveyed the damaged canal. They assessed the needs, calculated costs, and mapped out a comprehensive rehabilitation plan. Under skilled engineering supervision, the canal rehabilitation began, and in just 20 working days, the canal was restored to operational condition.

Outcome:

The canal's rehabilitation has already started transforming the lives of local farmers. Emran, a farmer from Lar Kali village, shared his experience, explaining that prior to the project, he struggled with water shortages that hindered crop production. With the improved irrigation system now delivering water efficiently to his fields, he anticipates a significant boost in wheat and corn production. This improvement promises Emran and his fellow villagers increased income and stability to support their families.

Community Impact:

Mr. Mirzaman Manond Malak, a member of the GRC committee from Bar Kali village, highlighted the broader impact of the project: "The project has positively transformed our irrigation water system. The improvements are substantial—leading not only to better food security in our rural area but also to an alleviation of poverty." Community members have noted that, in addition to a noticeable increase in crop production, water-related disputes within the villages have decreased. The project has fostered a sense of equity and access, as farmers and water users can now depend on a stable water source to meet their needs.

Sustainability and Future Outlook:

OAWCK's ongoing monitoring and evaluation efforts confirm the success of the Low Value Grant Project in revitalizing Shultan District's irrigation. This targeted intervention, made possible by the financial support from UNDP and the World Bank, has strengthened the water management infrastructure and fostered satisfaction and hope within the community. By creating immediate, tangible improvements, OAWCK has laid a foundation for sustainable agricultural productivity and community resilience, ensuring that these villages can thrive despite past challenges.

Success Story 4: Khapirai's Journey to Justice and Safety

Case Details:

- **Name:** Khapirai
- **Father's Name:** Sultan
- **Age:** 25
- **Marital Status:** Married
- **Education:** Literate
- **Occupation:** Housewife
- **Possible Perpetrator:** Husband
- **Nature of the Case:** Forced isolation, physical violence, verbal abuse
- **Location:** Nangarhar, Jalalabad City
- **Registration Date:** 23/12/2023
- **Resolution Date:** 25/12/2023

Background and Situation:

Two years ago, Khapirai married Gull Wali, with whom she now has a child. Shortly after their marriage, her husband's behavior began to worsen. Initially, it manifested as verbal abuse, which escalated over time to physical violence and forced isolation from her family. Pregnant and increasingly fearful for her life, Khapirai was severely beaten and threatened with death by her husband. Desperate and without any options, she approached her family for help. Despite their efforts to mediate through discussions, her husband's behavior remained unchanged.

Intervention by OAWCK:

After connecting with a local women's civil society organization, Khapirai was introduced to the OAWCK office, where she received immediate support from the legal team. The legal officer promptly took the following steps:

- **Case Registration and Legal Counseling:** The legal officer interviewed Khapirai, registered her case, and provided essential legal advice aligned with Islamic Sharia.
- **Outreach to the Husband:** The team reached out to her husband, informing him about women's rights under Islam and advising him on his legal and moral obligations.
- **Engagement with Family and Community Leaders:** Meetings were held with the families of both parties, with legal guidance provided on women's rights and Sharia law.
- **Community Jirga Coordination:** In collaboration with local elders and religious leaders, the legal team organized a Jirga (community council) to mediate the conflict. The legal officer provided detailed information on Sharia law to guide the discussions.

Resolution and Outcome:

The Jirga, attended by representatives from both families, community elders, and Shura members, convened several times, and after thoughtful mediation, a resolution was reached. Gull Wali accepted his responsibility and committed to honoring Khapirai's rights, pledging to cease all forms of abuse and violence against her. Khapirai expressed deep appreciation for the support of the OAWCK legal team, which provided her with the advocacy and protection she needed to reclaim her rights and safety.

Impact and Results:

Through this intervention:

- Khapirai regained her rights and a renewed sense of safety.
- Her husband committed to upholding her rights and to end the cycle of abuse.
- The community gained greater awareness of women's rights and the importance of resolving conflicts within a framework of respect and Islamic principles.

Conclusion:

The support provided by OAWCK and the community collaboration through Jirga exemplifies a successful approach to addressing GBV cases with culturally sensitive solutions grounded in Islamic law. Khapirai's case stands as a testament to the effectiveness of OAWCK's legal and social support, bringing a positive resolution to an otherwise challenging situation.

Success Story 5: Empowering Resilience: Arzoo's Journey from Despair to Hope

Personal Details of the Patient:

- **Patient Name:** Arzoo
- **Father's Name:** Abdul Manan
- **Age:** 28
- **Marital Status:** Widow
- **Occupation:** Housewife
- **Location:** Mehterlam Qarargha Camp, Laghman Province
- **Registration Date:** 02-12-2023
- **Improvement Date:** 08-02-2024

Client Details and Description:

Arzoo, a 28-year-old widow, resides in the Mehterlam Qarargha Camp in Laghman province. After losing her husband due to the recent conflict, she became the sole breadwinner for her family of four. The pressure of providing for her children on a meager income weighed heavily on her, leading to intense feelings of stress and anxiety. Overwhelmed by the immense responsibility, Arzoo reached a point where she considered ending her life, feeling as though she could no longer cope with the burden.

Recognizing the urgency of her situation, Arzoo was referred to the OAWCK psychosocial counseling team through a Civil Society Organization (CSO). She sought support for her mental health concerns, and after meeting with the Psychosocial Support Officer, an assessment was conducted. It was determined that her distress was primarily due to the loss of her husband and the overwhelming responsibility of caring for her family alone.

The OAWCK psychosocial counselor provided a series of individual counseling sessions and regular follow-up support. In addition, the team referred Arzoo to a healthcare provider to receive necessary medication alongside her psychosocial counseling. With consistent support, Arzoo began to see significant improvements in her mental health. She learned coping strategies to manage stress more effectively.

Before her husband's death, Arzoo worked as a tailor. However, due to her mental health struggles, she had to stop her work. As her health improved, Arzoo regained her strength and was able to return to tailoring, which allowed her to fulfill the daily expenses for her children.

"I am healthier now, and I can take care of and financially support my family. I am grateful to the Mehterlam CSO for referring me to psychosocial counseling and to the OAWCK team for providing me with the healthcare services I needed," said Arzoo.

Result:

Thanks to the psychosocial counseling and medical support provided by OAWCK, Arzoo regained her confidence, improved her mental well-being, and resumed her work as a tailor, ensuring the well-being of her children and herself.

Organizational Development and Capacity Building for OAWCK (2023)

OAWCK has placed a strong emphasis on organizational development and capacity building throughout 2023, recognizing that these elements are critical for enhancing operational efficiency and expanding the impact of its programs. This year, significant progress was made in strengthening internal systems, professional development for staff, and the adoption of new technologies that align with OAWCK's mission of promoting women's rights and enhancing community resilience.

1. Staff Development and Capacity Building

In 2023, **OAWCK** dedicated significant resources to improving the skills and knowledge of its workforce, ensuring that the team remains well-equipped to address the complex needs of the communities it serves. The organization has been committed to providing ongoing professional development and creating a supportive work environment that nurtures growth.

- **Training and Professional Development Programs:**
 - **PSEA, Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Women's Rights:** Staff members were trained on the latest standards in PSEA, legal frameworks, and psychosocial support, enabling them to provide high-quality services to survivors of violence.
 - **WASH and Health Programs:** Specialized training in water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) was provided, ensuring that staff could address the urgent needs of women and girls in vulnerable communities, particularly in areas of health and safety.
 - **Project Management and Monitoring:** A series of workshops were held for staff on project management, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) techniques, and data-driven decision-making to increase the impact of interventions.
 - **Leadership Development:** Senior staff and mid-level managers participated in leadership development programs focused on strategic planning, team management, and fostering a culture of accountability and transparency.
- **Staff Retention:**
 - A robust **staff retention strategy** was implemented, which included career progression plans, recognition programs, and ensuring that compensation packages were competitive within the local context.
 -

2. Strengthening Organizational Systems

In line with its growth, OAWCK focused on upgrading its internal systems to enhance efficiency, improve data management, and increase overall effectiveness in service delivery.

- **New Technologies and Software:**
 - **Data Management Systems:** A new **database management system (MIS)** was implemented for more efficient storage and retrieval of beneficiary data. This system allows for real-time updates, better monitoring, and improved reporting.
 - **Mobile Technology:** The use of **mobile data collection** tools was introduced to streamline field data collection for monitoring and evaluation, reducing errors, and improving reporting accuracy. This is especially important for WASH interventions, where field data needs to be captured and acted upon quickly.
- **Improved Financial Management Systems:**
 - OAWCK upgraded its **financial management systems** by using the latest version of QuickBooks to ensure greater transparency and accountability in its operations. The new system allows for real-time tracking of expenditures and revenues, enabling better financial reporting and compliance with donor requirements.
 -
- **Internal Policies and Procedures:**
 - Several **internal policies** were reviewed and updated to align with best practices in humanitarian work and organizational governance. This included policies on safeguarding, conflict of interest, and anti-corruption, which were implemented across all levels of the organization.
 - **Security Protocols:** Given the challenging working environment in Afghanistan, new **security protocols** were put in place, and staff received regular briefings on safety procedures and emergency response.

3. Capacity Building of Partner Organizations

In 2023, OAWCK continued to strengthen its relationships with local partners by offering capacity-building support to ensure the sustainability and effectiveness of joint initiatives.

- **Partnership Training:**
 - OAWCK organized **capacity-building workshops** for local NGOs and community-based organizations on topics such as CPEN, gender equality, safeguarding, and effective community mobilization. These workshops enhanced the partners' ability to deliver high-quality services and programs on the ground.
- **Strengthening Community Resilience:**
 - OAWCK facilitated training for community leaders on issues such as **disaster preparedness, climate change adaptation, and community health**. This enhanced the community's ability to respond to emergencies and better support vulnerable populations.

4. Organizational Culture and Leadership

OAWCK places a strong emphasis on creating an inclusive and supportive work environment where staff feels valued and motivated to perform at their best.

- **Diversity and Inclusion:** OAWCK continued to focus on diversity, ensuring equal opportunities for women, men, and marginalized groups within the workforce. Training on **gender sensitivity** and **inclusive leadership** was provided to senior staff and board members.
- **Employee Engagement:** Regular **employee feedback surveys** were conducted to gather input on organizational processes, work culture, and areas for improvement. This feedback is used to inform internal policies and enhance employee satisfaction.

5. Long-Term Sustainability and Innovation

To ensure long-term sustainability, OAWCK has explored innovative approaches to maintain and expand its impact:

- **Social Impact Investments:** The organization explored new funding mechanisms, including **social enterprise models**, to diversify its funding base and ensure the sustainability of its programs.
- **Innovative Program Design:** OAWCK is committed to **innovative solutions** that address the changing needs of the communities it serves, particularly through the use of **digital tools** and **data-driven decision-making**.

2023 has been a year of significant growth for OAWCK, both in terms of internal development and its capacity to serve the Afghan community. The organization is well-positioned to continue delivering impactful programs and adapting to the dynamic challenges of the region. By investing in staff, systems, partnerships, and innovation, OAWCK has laid a strong foundation for the coming years, ensuring it remains at the forefront of advancing women's rights and community resilience in Afghanistan

Future Plans and Strategic Direction

As OAWCK continues its mission to empower Afghan women and girls and support other vulnerable and underserved communities in Afghanistan, the future strategy for the organization is shaped by both our past achievements and the evolving needs of the communities we serve. Moving forward, OAWCK aims to consolidate its impact through focused interventions, while also expanding our capacity to address emerging challenges. Our strategic direction will be guided by the following goals and priorities:

1. Upcoming Goals and New Programs

In 2024 and beyond, OAWCK is committed to scaling up and diversifying its initiatives. Key goals for the upcoming period include:

- **Expansion of Women's Rights Advocacy Programs:** We will increase our outreach efforts to advocate for women's rights in new regions, particularly focusing on areas with high levels of gender-based violence (GBV). This includes advocating for stronger legal protections for women and raising awareness at the grassroots level about women's rights and available support services.
- **Strengthening Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services:** We recognize the ongoing trauma experienced by many women and girls due to years of conflict. In response, OAWCK will scale up its psychosocial support programs, establishing more safe spaces for healing, counseling, and mental health care. We will also increase capacity-building efforts to train local mental health professionals.
- **WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) Initiatives:** As access to clean water and sanitation continues to be a critical issue, OAWCK will expand its WASH programs in vulnerable communities. This will include the construction of new water sources, distribution of hygiene kits, and comprehensive health education around sanitation practices.
- **Economic Empowerment Programs for Women and Youth:** OAWCK plans to launch vocational training and microfinance initiatives aimed at empowering women and girls economically. This will involve the establishment of job skills training centers and the creation of community-based small businesses to promote sustainable livelihoods.

2. Strategic Shifts and Priorities

To ensure that OAWCK remains agile and responsive to the needs of the Afghan population, we will prioritize the following strategic shifts:

- **Increasing Local Partnerships and Collaboration:** We recognize the importance of working with local community-based organizations (CBOs), other NGOs, and government agencies to increase the effectiveness of our programs. By building stronger partnerships, we aim to enhance the sustainability and reach of our interventions.
- **Emphasis on Data-Driven Program Design:** OAWCK is committed to integrating data-driven approaches into program design and monitoring. This will involve the use of more robust data collection systems, monitoring tools, and evaluation frameworks to measure impact and identify areas for improvement.
- **Enhancing Advocacy and Public Awareness Campaigns:** Our advocacy efforts will be expanded through strategic communications campaigns, policy dialogues, and international partnerships. This will include mobilizing local communities to demand better protection and resources for women and girls.

4. Vision for Long-Term Impact and Sustainability

5. As OAWCK looks to the future, our vision centers around creating a more resilient and empowered society in Afghanistan, where Afghan women, girls, and other marginalized groups have equitable access to education, healthcare services, economic opportunities, and protection from violence. Our long-term strategy is built upon the principles of sustainability, empowerment, and systemic change, and we are committed to creating lasting impact in the lives of those we serve. To achieve these objectives, our approach includes the following key areas of focus:

6. **Sustainability of Programs**

7. Sustainability is a cornerstone of OAWCK's strategy. We understand that for our interventions to have a lasting impact, they must be designed to endure beyond immediate funding cycles. We will focus on ensuring the sustainability of our programs by:
8. **Capacity-building for local organizations and communities:**
We will work closely with local partners to strengthen their ability to deliver essential services. By fostering community ownership of initiatives, we ensure that these efforts continue to thrive even in the absence of external support.
9. **Fostering community-led initiatives:**
Empowering local communities to lead and sustain initiatives is crucial for long-term success. We will work to build the skills and knowledge needed for community members to take charge of their own development, creating a sense of ownership and responsibility for the programs we implement.
10. **Securing multi-year funding commitments:**
To ensure continuity and the effective scaling of our efforts, we will engage with international donors to secure long-term funding commitments. This will provide the financial stability needed to sustain our programs and amplify their impact.
11. **Leadership Development for Women**
One of OAWCK's most vital objectives is the creation of a new generation of women leaders in Afghanistan. We recognize that empowering women to take on leadership roles is essential for creating a society in which gender equality is not just an aspiration, but a reality. Our leadership development strategy includes:
12. **Leadership training and mentorship:** We will provide young women with the tools and knowledge they need to become leaders in their communities. Through tailored training programs, mentorship opportunities, and leadership workshops, we will prepare women to take on leadership roles at all levels, from local community leadership to national governance.
13. **Engaging women in decision-making processes:** We aim to ensure that women have a seat at the table in all areas of decision-making—whether it's within their families, communities, or the broader national context. By creating opportunities for women to engage in governance, policy development, and community planning, we will help women shape the future of Afghanistan.
14. **Advocating for Policy Change**
15. Achieving systemic change in Afghanistan requires a concerted effort to influence policy and legislation that supports gender equality and the protection of women's rights. OAWCK will continue to advocate for:
16. **Stronger laws and policies protecting women and girls:** We will work to ensure that women's rights are enshrined in Afghan law, and that laws protecting women from violence, discrimination, and exploitation are effectively implemented and enforced. Our advocacy will focus on influencing national policy and working with local authorities to ensure that women and girls are safe and protected.
17. **Full participation of women in social, economic, and political life:** In addition to advocating for legal protections, we will push for the full inclusion of women in all aspects of Afghan life. This includes advocating for women's participation in the workforce, in education, in political life, and in decision-making processes at every level.
18. **The Path Forward: Resilience, Empowerment, and Equality**

19. OAWCK's vision for the future is one where women and girls are not just surviving, but thriving—where they have the opportunity to lead, contribute, and shape the future of Afghanistan. To achieve this vision, we are committed to:
20. **Strengthening our programs:** We will continue to build on the success of our current programs, expanding them where possible, and ensuring they remain relevant to the needs of women and girls in Afghanistan.
21. **Expanding partnerships:** We recognize that lasting change requires collaboration. OAWCK will continue to expand its partnerships with local organizations, government bodies, and international stakeholders to create a unified front for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.
22. **Advocating for lasting change:** Our advocacy efforts will remain focused on securing the rights and opportunities that Afghan women and girls deserve, ensuring that they are able to live free from violence, discrimination, and poverty.
23. Through these efforts, we believe that we can make a meaningful and lasting impact on the lives of Afghan women and girls. By focusing on sustainability, leadership development, and policy change, OAWCK will contribute to building a future where women and girls have the agency and the support they need to live fulfilling and empowered lives.



Acknowledgments:

As we reflect on the past year, we would like to extend our deepest gratitude to all those who have supported and contributed to the success of OAWCK's initiatives. The achievements of 2023 would not have been possible without the unwavering dedication and collaboration of many individuals and organizations.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to our **donors including UNICEF, AHF/OCHA, UNDP, UNWOMEN etc.**, whose generous support has enabled us to carry out our mission and reach vulnerable communities across Afghanistan. Their contributions have been vital in delivering essential services and programs that make a lasting impact on the lives of women, girls, and marginalized populations.

A special thank you to our **partners** whose collaboration has strengthened our efforts and expanded our reach. Together, we have worked to address critical issues such as gender-based violence, access to health and education, and the empowerment of women and girls.

Finally, we wish to acknowledge our **staff** whose tireless dedication, skill, and professionalism are the foundation of OAWCK's success. Their resilience and passion for our cause ensure that we continue to make meaningful progress in improving the lives of Afghan women and girls, particularly in times of crisis.

Together, with the continued support of all our stakeholders, we look forward to building on these accomplishments in the coming year.



1. OAWCK Management would like to express our DEEPEST GRATITUDE for All Donors for their valuable & use full contribution towards the resilience building program in Afghanistan for sustainable development.
2. Our honorable Donors contribution in reaching marginalize communities for wellbeing & awareness rising would also be appreciated by OAWCK





ORGANIZATION
FOR AFGHAN WOMEN
CAPACITY & KNOWLEDGE



**ORGANIZATION FOR AFGHAN
WOMEN CAPACITY AND
KNOWLEDGE**

THANKS



+ 93 700644441- + 93 0782850050



WWW.OAWCK.ORG.AF

Flow us:



DIRECTOR@OAWCK.ORG.AF,
INFO@OAWCK.ORG.AF



**MAIN OFFICE KUNAR, SUB OFFICES: KABUL
, NOORISTAN , NANGARHAR, LAGHMAN, BALKH,
SAMANGAN. JOZJAN,**

