Afghanistan Government Achievements on national review process and good practices in aligning the (BPA) with the (SDGs); and priorities or key drivers for accelerating gender equality and empowerment of women and girls, including in the context of the SDGs.
12 critical areas of concern defined by Beijing Platform for Action:

- Women and poverty
- Education and training of women
- Women and health
- Violence against women
- Women and armed conflict
- Women and the economy
- Women in power and decision-making
- Institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women
- Human rights of women
- Women and the media
- Women and the environment
- The girl-child
Women and poverty:

- Afghanistan government has introduced initiatives and programs. The Citizens’ Charter was launched by the Government on 25 September 2016.
- The project aims to reduce poverty and enhance living standards by improving the delivery of core infrastructure and social services to participating communities through strengthened (CDCs).
- The Citizens Charter is the first ever inter-ministerial, multi-sectorial national program, where Ministries will collaborate on a single program using a programmatic approach.
- (WEE-NPP) is on their priority of government for women empowerment.
Education and training of women:

- 1.4 million increase in girls’ enrollment since 2007;
- 1,375 new schools built for girls;
- 24.5% average female enrollment in public and private universities;
- 4 out of 5 survival rate in schools;
- 31.6% improvement for adult literacy rate;
- 41.6 increase in youth literacy rate;
- 28% female employees in Ministry of Education;
- 14% female employees in Ministry of Higher Education.
Women and health:

- Decline in MMR from 1,600 to 661/100,000 live births: 75% reduction;
- IMR declined from 66 in 2005 to 45 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2017;
- 53.4% increase in deliveries with Skilled Birth Attendants;
- Achieved (30) person completely according (NAPWA) indicator;
- 10% to 23% increase in Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (CPR).
Violence against women:

- EVAW- law proved in 2009;
- Anti harassment law in; 2017;
- Strategy and National Action Plan on the Elimination of Violence against Women (2016-2020) was launched by MoWA in 2016;
- increase women’s access to justice- special prosecution offices have been established and activated in all 34 provinces of the country.
Women and armed conflict:

- The NAP 1325 aims to address the challenges women faced in the aftermath of war and conflict in Afghanistan;
- Peace and Security (WPS) agenda. In addition, efforts have been made to include women in the security forces and peace processes. As a result:
  - Women recruits in police increased from 233 to 3355 in ten years;
  - Women recruits in national army increased from 259 to 1,689 in 10 years;
  - 26% of High Peace Council leadership positions are held by women;
  - 20% PPC members are women's.
Women and the economy:

• 5% of businesses are owned by women, and only 16% are recognized as economic contributors.
• Afghanistan is primarily an agriculture country with nearly 76 % of the population living in rural areas and 78 % of them employed in agriculture.
• About 55 % of the Afghan households are engaged in farming, and 68 % have some type of livestock.
• The National Priority Program on Women’s Economic Empowerment (WEE-NPP) was launched in 2017;
• established and activated Women’s Chamber of Commerce.
Women in power and decision-making:

Some key figures on women’s political participation are as below:

- 2 Ministers, 2 acting ministers, 11 DMs, 5 Ambassadors;
- 27% of the Parliament’s Lower House;
- 26% of the Upper House (Senate);
- 34% of Provincial Council representatives;
- 48% of community development councils;
- 4 Deputy Provincial, 2 local governor and 2 female mayors;
- 22.6% women in civil service;
- 10.7% women in leadership positions.
Institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women:

• Central Statistical Organization (CSO) for the first time has started generating and disseminating gender-disaggregated data since 2016;

• Gender responsive budgeting (GRB) has been launched in 12 pilot ministries in mid-2018. To institutionalize GRB-40 GRB specialists and officers have been recruited and trained and seconded to the pilot ministries.

• SDGs localization process has been completed and a national plan called Afghanistan SDGs (A-SDGs) has been prepared and will be endorsed soon. MoWA worked to ensure that A-SDGs indicators are engendered.
Human rights of women:

• women and girls of Afghanistan have made considerable gains in past 18 years, including in:
  ❖ education,
  ❖ political participation
  ❖ Health
  ❖ Legal protection
• their increasing economic role. As a result of women’s efforts and international support;
Women in media:

• Media Publication law;
• Information access law;
• Information and public relation strategy in (MOWA);
• publication policy.
Women and the environment:

Recently, gender-responsive policy related to disaster risk reduction and mitigation has been introduced to address women and girls’ vulnerability in disaster.
The girl-child:

• Continuing practice of child marriage in Afghanistan is an appalling violation of human rights that prevents children of their education, health and childhood;

• Despite securing hard-wining achievements for women and girls in Afghanistan, still there is long way to go and much more needs to be achieved. Afghan women and girls need your solidarity and support!
Thank you!