



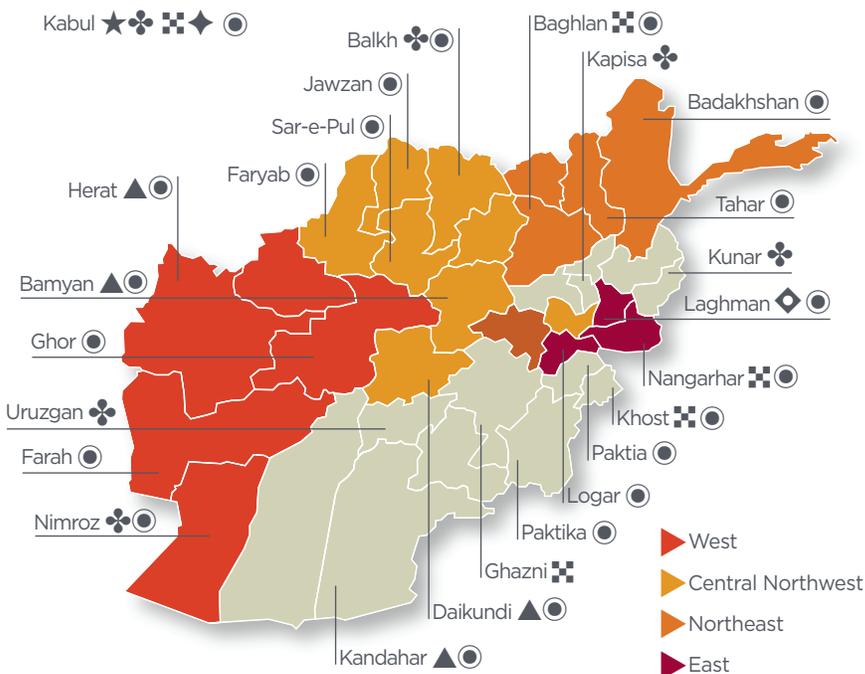
AFGHAN CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM (ACEP)

USAID | \$70 million Award | December 4, 2013 - December 3, 2018

Counterpart International in partnership with Internews Network, the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law and the Aga Khan Foundation, implements the ACEP program to enable citizens to influence policy, monitor government accountability and advocate for political reform. The program also promotes media engagement and improved access to news and public affairs information.

The ACEP program supports new **leaders**, builds the capacity of **organizations** and supports **networks** across Afghanistan to deliver civic education and improve the role of citizens in government policies that impact their lives.

FY16 — CIVIL SOCIETY NATIONWIDE PARTNERSHIPS



CSO CAPACITY BUILDING

Counterpart is committed to strengthening civil society organizations (CSOs) who advocate for the marginalized and increase civic participation. We administer sub-grants to improve CSO program implementation to advance the overall goals of ACEP. The grant award areas are listed at right, and where this is work is being implemented is indicated on the map above.

Counterpart International helps people build better lives and more durable futures, community by community.

GRANT AWARD AREAS

- ★ **GOVERNMENT MONITORING** supports the role of citizens and CSOs in holding state institutions accountable through research and anti-corruption activities.
- ✿ **YOUTH ACTIVISM** encourages 2015 ECSL graduates to develop and implement activities that promote a sense of responsibility, volunteerism, activism and public interest activities among youth.
- ▲ **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY** commemorates International Women's Day by highlighting the lives of women in Afghanistan through activities that promote women's empowerment.
- ✘ **RESEARCH AND POLICY ADVOCACY** supports the role of Afghan CSOs to influence policy development by implementing research-based policy advocacy initiatives.
- ◆ **WOMEN AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT** enables women-led CSOs to plan and implement needs-based community level initiatives. These initiatives empower and mobilize youth at the grassroots level to address community priority issues.
- ◆ **PARTNER POLICY & ADVOCACY** supports CSOs based in Kabul who engage with the national government, influence policies, monitor government accountability, and advocate for reforms.
- ✘ **INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY** encourages ECSLs to develop and implement activities in commemoration of International Youth Day under the theme of civic activism through volunteerism.
- ◎ **SUB-NATIONAL CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH** increases CSOs' engagement at the sub-national level in issues of national importance such as advancement of government accountability and transparency, improvement of public servant responsiveness, improving the workplace for women, and promoting enforcement of rule of law.
- ▶ **REGIONAL CIVIC ENGAGEMENT** provided to CSOs who will be responsible for building the technical and functional capacity of provincial CSO partners to establish and reinforce strong relationships with citizens, build networks, and raise the capacity of communities to advocate on issues that affect them.

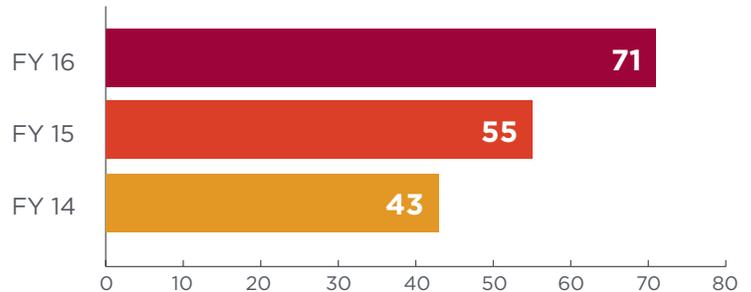
EMERGING CIVIL SOCIETY LEADERS (ECSL)

The ECSL program aims to identify, cultivate and support emerging leaders from all 34 provinces of Afghanistan. They are selected through a competitive process to participate in becoming better prepared to participate in policy reform, civic engagement and government monitoring. The program provides the opportunity for youth to increase their personal and professional skills, exchange their views and perceptions relative to the challenges in their communities and in the nation, and to identify opportunities and ways that youth can contribute to address them. To date 100 young men and women from 34 provinces have graduated from the program. An additional 34 individuals are currently part of 2016's cohort of ECSL.

AFGHAN CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM (ACEP)

Counterpart International provides subgrants in the following five technical areas: Women Empowerment and Youth Activism; Government Monitoring; Policy Research; Civic Education and Voter Education; Institutional Support.

TOTAL SUBGRANTS = \$6,669,514

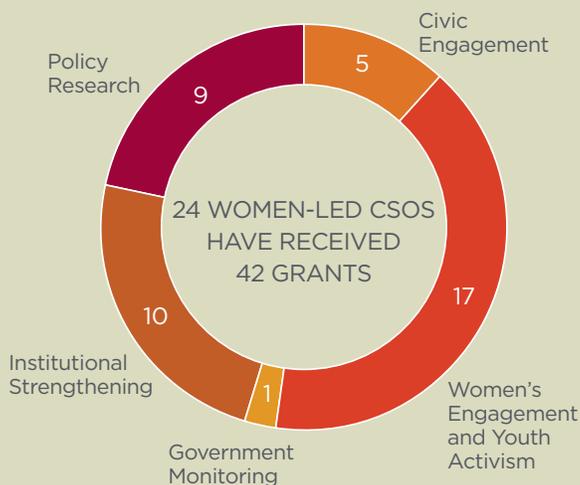


NETWORKS

Counterpart has provided capacity building support to the following networks, advocacy groups and Parliamentary Technical Working Groups.

- **FAMILY LAW PTWG** focuses on advocating for the approval of family law by the Parliament of Afghanistan. Family law focuses on rights and obligations of men, women, and children in a family; engagement, marriage, separation, and divorce; inheritance; family assets and alimony; among other rights and responsibilities of family members.
- **ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (EVAW) PTWG** focuses on advocating for the implementation and the revision of EVAW law that criminalizes acts of violence against women and harmful practices such as child marriage, forced marriage, forced self-immolation, *baad* (giving away females to settle a dispute), and other acts of violence.
- **CSO ADVOCACY GROUP ON NATIONAL BUDGET** utilizes the collective strengths of the CSOs to address the needs of underprivileged and marginalized groups by working with communities, government institutions, the National Assembly and other stakeholders to ensure the national budget is spent effectively and efficiently in consultation with communities.
- **ADVOCACY COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES** focuses on advocacy of the rights of persons with disabilities by working on amending the Law on Rights of Persons with Disabilities and in parallel with UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCPRD).
- **CIVIL SOCIETY JOINT WORKING GROUP** is comprised of 250 CSOs and CSO networks. It is mandated to mobilize Afghan civil society around key international community events with the government of Afghanistan. CSOs monitor government pledges made at the events, including the Bonn II and Tokyo inter-ministerial development conferences, the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) in July 2014 and the Joint Coordination Monitoring Board (JCMB) sessions in 2013 and 2014.

WOMEN-LED CSO



OUR WORK As of September 2016



1,068 TRAININGS



11,535 EVENTS



191,363 MALES REACHED



164,457 FEMALES REACHED

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