

Women for Peace and Participation



About Women for Peace and Participation

Making the voice of women heard at all levels of political decision-making in both formal and informal spaces and increasing their meaningful representative participation and leadership in policy and decision-making at community and national levels.

Women for Peace and Participation (WPP) promotes the inclusion of women and youth in decisions around peacebuilding and state building processes at the grassroots, national and global levels. We work with women and youth on peacebuilding, conflict resolution, economic development, and networking projects. WPP is also a platform for women mediators and peacebuilders in the Afghan diaspora and exile, enhancing opportunities for policy engagement and advocacy to ensure the inclusion of women community leaders on the move.

WPP's Mission

- **Empower woman and youth** by building their capacities and skill sets to engage in peacebuilding and peace-making processes.
- **Develop the leadership skills** of the next generation of young women and men.
- **Facilitate conflict resolution** at the community level.
- **Advocate for the inclusion of women and youth** in decision-making processes.
- **Develop partnerships with individuals, communities and organizations** working in development, peacebuilding and state-building to create a shared consensus on the policies needed to bring effective political, economic and social change in conflict affected societies.
- **Supporting the resettlement process of at-risk Afghan women**, coordinating a safe route and supporting them in resettlement.
- **Providing sessions addressing trauma** for Young Women Leaders, rights defenders and young women in exile.
- **Providing leadership in crisis trainings** to young Afghan women who remain in Afghanistan or who are in exile.

organize around the WPP "Women's Peace Group" initiative and "Women Peace Tables" to raise awareness about their basic human rights and to identify actions to attain these rights.

- **Youth empowerment.** WPP facilitates and supports the establishment of youth councils in Helmand, Kandahar, Kabul and Nangarhar that continues to engage with local communities to address the root causes of conflict and drivers of extremism.
- **Training in livelihood opportunities and initiatives.** Through the establishment of a platform for skilled craftswomen and girls, this initiative promotes the economic empowerment of women and families. This work is done at the grassroots level, where product design, marketing, networking dialogues, workshops and roundtables are held.
- **Addressing trauma and providing support to Afghans at risk.** WPP has established trauma response mechanisms, trauma counselling and trauma response training to assist women and men in overcoming their traumatic experiences and access resources. WPP is also actively supporting at-risk Afghans in need of resettlement and Afghan refugees who need support in the UK.

WPP's Activities in Afghanistan

WPP's work aims to promote peacebuilding, resilience and democracy within Afghan communities. This work has become ever more crucial to challenge the violence, insecurity and extremism currently prevailing in the country. WPP continues to work with communities in Afghanistan and in the diaspora on the following initiatives:

- **Women's empowerment.** WPP supports the organization of women's groups and facilitates community-level discussions around the challenges and opportunities for their inclusion in peace processes at grassroots and national level. Women continue to



- **Mediation and conflict resolution training.** WPP provides mediation and conflict resolution training for women in Kandahar, Helmand, Balkh, and Kabul. This training is essential to equip them with the necessary expertise and tools for resolving conflicts, mediating disputes, and tapping into community-initiated protective measures for women and girls. WPP also runs the Training of Trainers (TOT) programme. This advanced training enables mediators to teach others in advanced mediation and conflict resolution, enhancing local capacity and sustainability.
- **Working with the diaspora.** WPP works with Afghan and other diaspora groups in the UK, US and Europe to enhance their knowledge on indigenous methods of peacebuilding. The project bridges the gap between academia, policy and practice by investigating and assessing current approaches.
- **Networking and linkages.** This work improves the networking capabilities of Afghan women both within and outside Afghanistan to address protection concerns and offer practical assistance to women on the ground.

These networks foster cooperation and aid the Afghan community with essential needs such as healthcare, livelihood, trauma response and capacity building.

- **The United Women for Peace Initiative.** WPP has built a network of women peace-builders highlighting the importance of women in peace negotiations. This work also reviews international frameworks and their effectiveness at the grassroots level, as well as the impact on countering violent extremism at the community level.
- **Transformational Leadership.** WPP conducts transformational leadership and networking workshops for beneficiaries in Kabul, Balkh, Helmand, and Kandahar, focusing on strengthening their leadership skills and network-building.
- **Consolidation of the Mediators Network.** This network includes 50 trained mediators. This network, born out of initial leadership and networking workshops, supports collaboration and ongoing skill-sharing among mediators dedicated to peacebuilding and conflict resolution.

