

Exhibition on 66th International Human Rights Day

On December 10, 2014, an exhibition was held on International Human Rights Day in Afghan Center of Kabul University (ACKU) by the United Nations in cooperation with Kabul University. A number of high rank government officials, representatives from Kabul, Nangarhar, Herat and Balkh universities and journalists, working for national and international TVs and radios and around 2,500 members from various Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) participated in this social gathering.

More than 30 stands were set up for CSOs to present and publicize their products in the exhibition. Given that the National Solidarity Programme of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD/NSP) is the first largest community-driven development programme at country level and has so far executed thousands of infrastructure projects in a bid to facilitate socio-economic growth, the exhibition facilitators



allocated two stands to this programme; one in the main entrance of the hall with a big monitor on top of it and the other one in the middle of the hall for print products. From beginning until the end of the exhibition, the NSP/PCD representatives showcased various documentary films and TV spots and put on show around 2,500 NSP projects pictures slides on programme's activities and achievements in different provinces of Afghanistan on the stand, located in the main entrance of hall.

On the stand, placed in the middle of the hall, around 1,000 NSP information packages –Dari, Pashto and English- containing full information about the programme have been distributed to the participants. While distributing the information packages, the NSP/PCD representatives further briefed the participants on the programme's accomplishments and they suggested visiting MRRD/NSP Website and Social Media for further information.



Following recitation of the Holy Quran, the plenary session of exhibition formally started with welcome and opening remarks of H.E, Sayed Yousuf Halim, Acting Minister-Ministry of Justice. Afterwards, Professor Habibullah Habib chancellor of Kabul University, United Nations representative, Miss Khojista Fana Ibrahimikhil director of Human Rights and Women's International Affairs-MoFA, Sayed Ahmad Zia Langari commissioner of Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) and Dr. Sema Samr the director of Afghanistan

Independent Human Rights Commission took turns delivering tremendous speeches on Human Rights. Their talks emphasized the importance of attracting people to show great respect for human rights that can play a crucial role in the advancement of our war-torn country, Afghanistan. In the meantime, they also asked participants to widely disseminate the advantages of human rights to their family members and colleagues in the society.

The other topic of the debate discussed in this gathering was violation and affliction against women. They emphasized that in comparison with other countries, the rate of violation against women in Afghanistan is still on top and majority of them have been deprived of education opportunities. As women constitute half of the society, they should have full access to civil rights as well as should work in close proximity to men to construct and move their country forward.

After delivering of speeches on importance of human rights in Afghanistan, the exhibition in pragmatic manner opened and a large number of visitors had visits from every program's products. The exhibition indeed provided an opportunity for the state institutions including National Solidarity Programme of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD/NSP), Ministry of Justice, Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, and some international entities such as UN agencies and International Community to disseminate and display their print products and documentary films on the progress they've so far made in various spheres -e.g. human rights, reconstruction, development, education, agriculture, health, etc- to Kabul University students, Afghan public and international participants.



At the end of the exhibition, the representatives of the United Nations and Kabul University greatly appreciated the MRRD/NSP communication activities that contributed to the success of the exhibition and they pledged that they would invite the MRRD/NSP media to their all public gatherings and exhibitions in the future.

Regards,