



# German Cooperation with Afghanistan

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## 67 Law and Sharia Students Complete Legal Clinic in Badakhshan & Training for Civil Society Actors

**Feyzabad, Badakhshan & Mazar-e Sharif, Balkh, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2017** – Today, 67 students completed their courses at Badakhshan University's legal clinic in Feyzabad. The 22 female and 45 male graduates presented a criminal case when performing a moot court during today's ceremony. The Afghan-German Cooperation's project for the promotion of the rule of law (RoL) supports legal clinics at state universities in Badakhshan and further Northern provinces in Afghanistan.

A law student stated: "When we studied law for four years, we had not learnt any practical things about moot courts. I really didn't know duties and responsibilities of judges and prosecutors. Thanks to this programme, we now understand how to find criminal reasons, how to prove a crime or to properly defence accusations."

A legal clinic is an institution at law and sharia faculties that enables its students to gather practical experiences with the Afghan legal system. Students get the chance to do internships at governmental and judicial institutions, to perform moot courts and to provide legal aid for citizens. This does not only help students starting their professional career. It benefits all Afghan citizens having access to well-educated legal practitioners.

In addition to the ceremony in Badakhshan, the Afghan-German Cooperation provided training for civil society actors and family counselling centre staff in Mazar-e Sharif, Balkh. RoL organised a seminar on how to write correct proposals to partners and donors, as a lack of knowledge of this topic was identified in an assessment earlier this year.

Preparing successful proposals is essential for civil society actors and partner organisations to ensure the provision of high-quality services. Currently, many civil society organisations that are registered with the Ministry of Economy are inactive. The training shall help them to fulfil their activities, enhancing staff skills.

A project manager of the Organisation for Women Advocacy from Samangan highlighted: "Knowing how to write correct proposals enables non-governmental organisations to be financially stable."

*The programme Promotion of the Rule of Law in Afghanistan (RoL) is being implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The programme aims at ensuring that the Afghan state is based on the rule of law, has a properly functioning judicial system and provides legal security for all citizens. The programme implements various activities to achieve this objective, including the support of law and sharia faculties of state universities in the northern provinces to improve learning conditions and to strengthen capabilities of future lawyers. So far, RoL has provided more than 30,000 books to law and sharia faculties, organised more than 150 courses on legal topics for students and lecturers and awarded more than 60 students with scholarships.*