



## German Cooperation with Afghanistan

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### **Learner Centred Methodology and Primary Education Diploma National Conference- Better Training for More than 24,500 Future Teachers**

**Kabul, 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018** – Today, the two-day Learner Centred Methodology and Primary Education National Conference ended in Kabul. About 180 people participated, comprising high-ranking officials from the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Higher Education as well as academics and staff from selected universities, the Teacher Education Directorate (TED) and 49 Teacher Training Colleges (TTC). The Afghan-German Cooperation and the Swiss government supported the TED in conducting the event. More than 24,500 students at TTCs and at related branches on district level (sub-TTCs), including more than 14,000 women, shall benefit from improved training.

The Ministry of Education's Deputy Minister for Curriculum Affairs, Dr Asadullah Mohaqiq Jahani, commented: "To live prosperously in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we should be a nation with a literate, knowledgeable and strong population. This can only be built by developing and utilising quality curricula in accordance with international standards."

The conference served as a promotion and discussion platform for developments and initiatives in the Afghan education sector. It focused on promoting modern learner-centred teaching methods which shall ensure that students actively participate during lessons. Future teachers will not only receive high-quality education, but they will also be able to replicate learner-centred teaching methods in their own classrooms, benefitting Afghan schoolchildren.

Another highlight was the presentation of a newly developed diploma for primary education. In the past, TTCs only offered diplomas on different subject areas. In contrast, the new primary education diploma is the first specialised programme for early grade teachers. Enrolled future teachers acquire the required skills and capacities to teach children from first to sixth grade. This shall ensure age-appropriate teaching at primary schools.

The Teacher Education General Directorate's Director of Teaching Affairs, Mr Abdul Haq Rahmati, emphasised: "The new Diploma on Primary Education offered by TTCs is a revolutionary development in our education sector. It will ensure quality education from a very early stage."

*The Basic and Secondary Education Programme (BEPA) is implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH on behalf of the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). BEPA aims at improving teaching quality of basic and secondary education in Afghanistan by assisting the Afghan Ministry of Education (MoE) with teacher training and curriculum development. Since 2008, BEPA provided training for more than 22,000 teachers and lecturers. Further, 23 Teacher Training Centres (TTCs) have introduced mandatory internships for ongoing teachers. As a result, about 15,800 TTC students and 88,300 school students in Northern Afghanistan are currently benefiting from improved education. They now have access to specialised, age-appropriate and student-centred schooling.*