



## German Cooperation with Afghanistan

+++ Press Release +++

### Teaching Sports: More than 6,000 Future Teachers Benefit from Improved Training

**Kabul, 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019** – Yesterday, an eight-day training of trainers (ToT) workshop ended in Kabul. 14 female lecturers from seven pilot Teacher Training Colleges (TTCs) participated. They got familiar with a new teaching manual for sports included in the Primary Education Diploma that is currently under development. The lecturers shall pass on their newly acquired knowledge at TTCs, benefitting more than 6,000 female teacher students. The Teacher Education Directorate (TED) implemented the training, supported by the Afghan-German Cooperation.

A participant from a TTC in Badakhshan, Ms Malalai Fraidon, emphasised, 'In the past, there was no sports subject at TTCs. We did not know such practices before; we just knew the name of sport. We are thankful for such an opportunity for us women. Sports relax our spirit and mind. We will share what we have learnt at our respective TTCs in the provinces.'

The ToT focussed on the new diploma's sports subject specially designed for early grade schoolchildren. Lessons combine teaching activities with interesting games that promote children's physical, cognitive, social and personal development. Important aspects are self-confidence, overcoming fear, fair play, teamwork, and inclusiveness, engaging all children to participate.

A lecturer from a TTC in Bamiyan, Ms Mahboba Muradi, commented, 'We have so many schools in the provinces where there are no female sport teachers for girl students. Now, thanks to this sports subject as part of the new diploma, girls will also benefit from sports classes.'

The master trainers received training from international consultants before conducting the ToT on the new sports subject. They made sure that participants have the required skills and knowledge to teach sports in accordance with the diploma.

Currently, there is no official qualification for primary education teachers (grade one to six) in Afghanistan. Teachers are often underqualified or are missing qualifications for certain subjects. To tackle these problems, the TED and the Afghan-German Cooperation's Basic and Secondary Education Programme (BEPA) jointly develop a diploma programme for primary school teachers. This diploma shall be implemented to the benefit of all Afghan schoolchildren.

*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 the quality of basic 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 23,000 teachers and lecturers. Further, 22 teacher-training centres have introduced mandatory internships for ongoing teachers. As a result, about 15,800 university 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.*