



PRESS RELEASE

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MOWA and USAID Launched the Nationwide Campaign on Women's Land and Inheritance Rights in Afghanistan

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN | DECEMBER 15, 2012 – At today's ceremony in Kabul, the Ministry of Women's Affairs and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) launched the national public information and awareness campaign on Afghan women's rights to inherit and own land and property. The campaign aims to raise awareness about the extreme challenges women face when they are unable to own, access, and use the land and property that is rightfully theirs. The campaign also seeks to provide legal education to the general public, and convey that women's land rights are protected by law under the Constitution of Afghanistan.

During the 30-day campaign, some 50 billboards will be displayed around the city of Kabul, while radio dramas and radio and TV public service announcements will be broadcast on stations nationwide.

"The Afghan government strongly supports legitimate claims of Afghan women on inheritance and land rights," - said Minister Dr. Husn Banu Ghazanfar.

Members of Afghan civil society, educators, and members of Parliament, NGOs working in Afghanistan on behalf of women's rights, and other influential Afghan civil society leaders also attended the launching ceremony.

"The campaign we are launching today is of critical importance to the citizens of Afghanistan, men and women. Many Afghan citizens still struggle to secure their rights to land and property." – said USAID Director Dr. S. Ken Yamashita.

For many Afghan women, the struggle to inherit and retain rights to their family land and property after the death of their husband or father is a lifelong battle which makes them vulnerable to poverty and hunger.

The USAID LARA Project promotes access to management and legalization of property ownership, strengthens citizen's access to land rights, and supports economic development through transparent and applicable ownership rights. LARA also supports policy reform for all citizens while working on gender, training, public awareness and private sector development.

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The American people, through the U.S. Agency for International Development, have provided economic and humanitarian assistance worldwide for more than 50 years."



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