

Annex 2 - Specific results of implementation of national goals on gender equality until 2014

1. The goal on "Increasing the number of women holding leadership positions in order to gradually reduce the gender gap in politics"

In general, steady progress is made on the realization of different targets related to the goal on "Increasing the number of women holding leadership positions in order to gradually reduce the gender gap in politics" throughout the 2011-2016 period. In 2014, there were the following specific changes:

- 3 female vice ministers and equivalents were appointed Deputy Provincial Party Chief¹, making the number of women deputy provincial party secretaries 15 out of a total of 153, or 9.8%; 1 woman Vice Minister was appointed head of Vietnam's Mission at the United Nations.

- 2 woman Vice Ministers were newly appointed (updated as of 02/2015).

- 15 out of 30, or 50% of Ministries, ministerial agencies and Government agencies have women in key positions.

2. The goal on "Reducing the gender gap in economic and labor fields; Increasing access to economic resources and job market for poor women in rural areas, minority women"

- The Strategy sets out a target that each year, 40% of newly created jobs are distributed to each gender.

According to data compiled by the General Statistics Office in 2014, 1.6 million new jobs were created, including 768 thousand jobs for women or 48% of the total amount, thus meeting the target of the Strategy.

The overall unemployment rate were 2.17% while the unemployment rate for women were 2.11% (according to unemployment statistics compiled by the General Statistics Office up to the third quarter of 2014).

There are more appropriate channels to provide information on job opportunities to women, thus ensuring that they get abundant access to information.

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At many Ministries and agencies, the number of female new recruits tend to outweigh male, namely in the Vietnam Social Security (51.7%), the State Bank of Vietnam (51 to 63%, depending on different departments), and most notably the Ministry of Justice, in which woman new recruits consistently averaged over 80% of total.

- The Strategy targets a proportion of 30% women among business owners in 2015.

According to Report from the Ministry of Planning and Investment, the portion of woman business owners or directors is 24.8%. The ratio is 8.64% among farm owners. This number is based on data collected in 28 localities. 6 out of these localities have reached the target, including BinhDinh (30%), Kon Tum (30%), KhanhHoa (30.3%), Ho Chi Minh City (32.6%), Ha Tinh (36.57%) and Dong Nai (50.58%).

- The Strategy sets out a 30% target for the rate of trained and skilled women workers under 45 years of age in the rural areas in 2015.

In 2014, new enrollments in vocational training were approximately 2.023 million, reaching 113.7% of target. This number includes 220,593 new enrollments in associate college programs and vocational schools, or 78.8% of target, 1.802 million new enrollments in beginner-level vocational schools and 3-month vocational programs, or 120.2% of target. Woman recruits make up about 45 to 47% of this group.

Vocational training in the rural areas continues to improve, providing a favorable premise for the transformation of the rural economic and labor structure. It also helps promote rural development, labor productivity, cost savings and income. 30% of graduates from vocational training programs have found new jobs or established their own business or cooperatives.

Based on data compiled during the 4 years from 2010 to 2013, 1,615,034 rural workers received vocational training (in both agricultural and non-agricultural skills), among which 78,593, or 48.8%, were women. In 2014, the results for agricultural training were reported as follows: 164,803 people received training, among which 58,448 were women, standing at 35%. However, the collection of data based on age groups was not conducted. Therefore, conclusion on completion of the target has yet to be drawn.

- The Strategy sets out a target of 80% of credit approval for women applying for preferential loans through job incentives, poverty reduction and official credit channels in poor rural areas and ethnic minority areas in 2015.

The Party and State pay special attention to preferential credit policies for poor households. With regards to those headed by women, many concrete policies were implemented through multiple channels (including the Bank for Social Policies, the Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, foreign funded credit programs, the Fund for assisting poor women sponsored by state budget, etc.). Reports from various localities show a consistent increase in the portion of poor households applying and qualifying for loans throughout the years. Many localities display a rate of over 80% of households headed by women qualified and demonstrated borrowing needs.

In order to ensure high quality lending services, all localities have maintained frequent monitoring and supervision over the implementation of programs, projects and policies for poverty reduction and gender-based job creation initiatives. This process in turn helped them come up with appropriate solutions to existing problems with a view to fulfilling the predetermined target. Based on assessment of actual conditions, it can be concluded that until now, 100% of households headed by women that qualified and applied for loans have received funding from the Poverty reduction programs and other sources.

According to reports from the State Bank of Vietnam, the banking system has done well in providing loans for poor households, including those headed by women. The Bank for Social Policies have partly entrusted funds to 4 mass organizations so that they can lend out funds at preferential interest rate through the poverty reduction programs to poor households and policy beneficiaries, including members of the Vietnam Women's Union, Farmer Association, Association of the blinds, Veteran Association and the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union.

Besides loans from the Bank for Social Policies, poor households are also able to borrow from other sources, such as the Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, the Employment Assistance Fund, other banks, credit institutions and mass organizations. Among these poverty reduction channels, most notable are the Vietnam Women's Union and the Vietnam Farmers' Association. This leads to the conclusion that 100% women who are heads of households have received funding from the Bank for Social Policies for the purpose of poverty reduction.

In addition, Decision No. 1489/QD-TTg by the Prime Minister on adopting the National Strategy for Sustainable Poverty Reduction 2012-2015, which identifies women as a prioritized beneficiary group, creates an important basis to further expand credit access for poor women.

3. The goal on "Increasing the quality of female workers in order to gradually ensure equal participation of men and women in education and training".

- The Strategy sets a target literacy rate of 90% in 2015 for men and women from the age of 15 to 40 in remote, disadvantaged areas and ethnic minority neighborhoods.

According to the women illiteracy survey published by the Ministry of Education for the 2013-2014 school year across 63 provinces and cities, there were 43,113 illiterate women from the age of 15 to 25, including 30,829 ethnic minorities. For the 26-to-35 age group, the number was 103,871, including 57,000 ethnic minorities. The 36-60 group's statistic was 406,353, including 205,376 minorities.

During the 2013-2014 school year, the literacy program has brought 11,498 women to read and write, including 7,766 ethnic minorities. After illiterate conditions were overcome, continued education was provided for 7,119 women, including 4,460 from ethnic minorities. The literacy rate for ethnic minorities was 93.76% total, and 93.4% for minority women.

- The Strategy sets a education level target for women of 40% masters and 20% PhDs in 2015.

According to statistics of the Ministry of Education and Training on higher education, the ratio of female graduate degree holders continues to rise. At universities, there are 1,568 woman PHDs out of 8,286 total (19%) and 10,236 woman masters out of 27,175 overall (38%). In colleges, the portion of woman PHDs is 167/608 (or 27%), and that of woman masters is 3,858/8,787 (or 44%). At the high school level, the woman PHDs ratio is 97/193 (or 50%) and that of woman masters is 9,378/14,049 (or 60%). At junior high school level, there are 4 female PHDs out of 6 (67%) and 1,197 woman masters out of 1,934 (62%). For primary schools, there is 1/1 woman PHD (100%) and 275/344 woman masters (80%).

In order to increase the portion of female graduate degree holders, the Ministry of Education and Training expects to integrate this issue into concrete legal documents to ensure the due support is provided to women in master and doctorate programs².

4. The goal on "Ensuring gender equality in terms of access to health service and benefits"

- The Strategy set a target that by 2015, the sex at birth ratio does not exceed 113 males to 100 females

According to reports from the Ministry of Health and data compiled by the General Statistics Office, the sex at birth ratio in 2014 was 112.2/100, a 1.6% decline compared to the 2013 level of 113.8/100. This impressive figure exceeds the target set out to control the increase in the sex at birth ratio. Nonetheless, some localities still exhibited unusually high gender imbalance at birth, for instance, several coastal districts of Quang Ngai was reported to have a sex at birth ratio of 220/100, and that of Lao Cai and Hai Duong was 126/100 and 118/100 respectively.

- The Strategy sets the 2015 target for maternal mortality down to 58.3 deaths per 100,000 live births.

According to statistics provided by maternal mortality committees at provinces and cities, during the first 9 months of 2014, there were 148 maternal deaths, a decline by 24 deaths compared to 2013. Based on statistics compiled from different reports, the maternal mortality rate during the first 9 months of 2014 was 12.3/100,000 live births, which was lower than the figure reported from the same period of last year (14/100,000).

The rate of obstetric complications per 1000 childbirths in 2014 was 3.65, which marks an increase compared to the same period on 2013 (3.55/1,000). According to reported data, the regions with higher rates of obstetric complications compared to national average are the Southeast and the Central Highlands. The

² Resolution 57-NQ/CP dated 1 December 2009 on Government's Action Programme to realize the Politburo's Resolution 11-NQ/TW on women affairs in the phase of stepping up industrialization and modernization has assigned the Ministry of Education and Training to research and issue supporting policies to rapidly raise the number of women postgraduates.

most common complications are hemorrhage, amniotic fluid embolism and preeclampsia³.

- The strategy seeks to increase the ratio of pregnant women getting access to maternal care and prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission to 40% in 2015.

The National Strategy for Preventing and Combatting HIV/AIDS 2020, vision 2030 sets a target to reduce the rate of mother-to-child HIV transmission to below 5% in 2015 and below 2% by the end of 2020. As a result, professional guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health on Preventing mother-to-child HIV transmission are constantly updated with new recommendations of WHO while taking into consideration the circumstances in Vietnam. This allows pregnant women to get better access to HIV testing and treatments to prevent mother-to-child HIV transmission. The Ministry of Health also issued other instructions to ensure that pregnant women at remote and disadvantaged areas are given priorities in maternal care and prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission (stipulated in Decision 4126/QĐ-BYT issued on 17/10/2013 by the Minister of Health regarding a pilot model for preventing Mother-to-child HIV transmission using CD4-independent anti-retroviral therapy.

HIV-testing and consulting services for pregnant women are also given priority. In particular, consulting sessions provided for married or unmarried couples increased. The rate of HIV-testing coverage for pregnant women continued to rise throughout the years. Up until 30/9/2014, 397,501 pregnant women received HIV tests (accounting 79.6%). Among them, 175,712 were tested during maternity period, 138,924 during pre-labor. Across the board, 394 women were diagnosed with HIV (0.12%). The prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission was implemented in 63 provinces and cities. Preliminary results show that the HIV transmission rate from mother to child in the controlled group ranges from 2.3 to 4.5%.

Early diagnosis of HIV in infants of HIV-positive mothers has been expanded. In 2013, 1,985 babies were tested with HIV right after birth and were transferred to neonatal care. This result displays a significant increase in this service, from 26% in 2011 to 68% in 2013. During the 4 years from 2010 to 2013, across the country, there were 7171 infants from HIV-positive mothers received PCR test. Among this group, the average PCR-positive results were approximately 9% with a declining trend from 11% in 2011 to 8% in 2013. The report shows that

³ Statistic on the causes of maternity mortality is found in Annex IV

among the 3,536 2-month old or younger infants who received PCR test during the 3 years from 2010 to 2013, 180 were diagnosed with HIV.

- The Strategy aims to reduce the abortion rate to 27/100 live births in 2015.

In 2014, there were 227,601 abortions over a total of 1,202,114 live births (compare to the 2013 figure of 236,225 over 1,225,560 live births). The number of abortion cases declined across all regions, except for a slight increase in the Southeast. The 2014 estimate for the nationwide abortion rate stands at around 19/100, equivalent to the 2013 statistics. This ratio displays a decline in the Northern Midland and Mountainous Region and the Red River Delta.

392 cases of abortion complication occurred in 2014, compared to 514 in 2013. This is reflected in an abortion complication ratio of 0.17%, a decline from the 2013 level of 0.22%. This reduction, to a certain extent, shows that the safety and quality of abortion service was improved.

2014 is the 5th year since Vietnam started compiling statistics on teenage pregnancies over total pregnancies and the rate of teenage abortions/total abortions. The total number of teenage pregnancies reported was 50,731 over a total of 1,817,627 pregnancies (in 2013, this figure was 48,092 over 399,980). The nationwide rate of teenage pregnancy was 2.8%, a slight decline compared to 3.16% in 2013). However, this ratio was remarkably high for the Northwest, the Central Highlands and the Mekong River Delta (5.6%, 5.0% and 3.9% respectively).

The nationwide teenage abortion rate was 2.2%, equal to the 2013 level. The highest figures were reported from the Mekong River Delta and the Southeast, which were 3.3% and 2.8% respectively.

The Strategy aims to reduce 60% of gender-biased cultural products and online materials; increase the airtime for programs and features to promote communication on gender equality as well as the array of existing programs; develop gender equality features in 90% of national and local radio and television stations.

In recent years, the press was a significant contributor to communicating the Party and State's policies and laws to the people, including the Gender Equality Law, the Law Against Domestic Violence and guiding documents. Press agencies, radio and television stations developed many columns and features on family and

social issues with a focus on gender equality and anti-domestic violence. The Government instructed competent agencies to provide timing guidelines so that the press increased its coverage of gender-equality issues through various forms and angles, making it relevant to all types of audience. Through this effort, information and cultural materials on gender equality increased significantly in number while gender-biased ones declined.

The assessment and exclusion of gender-biased cultural and online materials were carried out by some localities in 2014. In particular, in Tien Giang province, an inter-agency team on Culture, Sports and Tourism conducted 60 campaigns with 1,600 assessments, thus identifying 122 violations. The confiscated materials included 10 tapes and disks with domestic-violence and gender-biased content. This shows that the authorities are making progress in implementing gender equality laws.

According to reports from 47 out of 67 radio and TV stations, they aired programs about women and gender equality with total airtime of 1,125 hours and 25 minutes. Central and local radio and TV stations conducted thousands of reports and news coverage on women and gender equality on a weekly, even daily basis. Many stations developed and aired separate programs on gender equality and women, such as The Daily Life Show, Health and Life, Family Hour, Late Night Story, Women and Development, Women's World, Women and Life, etc. These programs attracted a large amount of audience. Some local stations such as ThanhHoa, An Giang, Lai Chau and DakNong also produced radio and TV programs in minority languages to bring the topic of gender equality to the people. As a result, it can be concluded that the target on "increasing the airtime for programs and features to promote communication on gender equality and the array of existing programs ; developing gender equality features in 90% of national and local radio and television stations" will be achieved.

6. Goal on "Ensuring gender equality in family life, heading towards the elimination of gender-based violence"

The strategy sets out targets by 2015: halving the gap in the amount of time devoted to housework between men and women; 40% victims of domestic violence are offered with legal and health advice; supported and cared at centers for victims of domestic violence; 100% of trafficked victims return home by handover or rescue, returnees enjoy support and community reintegration services.

- Time devoted to housework: this indicator was included in the system of indicators in Decision No 56/2011/QĐ-TTg dated October 14th 2011 of the Prime Minister promulgating a set of statistical indicators on national gender development. However, it is hard to collect data. As reported by the Ministry of Planning and Investment, data under these indicators are statistically unavailable.

As reported by most of provinces, data of this indicator is hard to collect since it is difficult to estimate the amount of time devoted to housework. Since there is no original data, it is difficult to evaluate by how many percentages this indicator has been reduced. As a result, it is recommended in the reports that this indicator should be adjusted in the coming future. In 2014, the Ministry of Labour - Invalids and Social Affairs in collaboration with the Institute for Family and Gender conducted a survey on indicators "Reducing the gap in the amount of time devoted to housework by women and men". The survey was conducted in 03 provinces namely Hanoi, Nghe An and Hau Giang. Results showed that 64.33% respondents said men were now more involved in housework. These positive changes provided good basis for gender equality in the coming years.

Survey results in Ho Chi Minh City on "the amount of time spent on housework by women and men in 2013" conducted in District 3 and District 10 show that the amount of time devoted to housework by women is higher than men, the average working time by women was 1.17 times higher: 4.2 hours/day compared to 3.6 hours/day by men. Regarding domestic violence against women, according to data compiled in the first 6 months in 2014 in 61/63 provinces and cities nationwide, there were 16,750 case of domestic violence. 19,660 reported cases received support and care at grassroots healthcare, social welfare establishments and establishments to support victims of domestic violence or trustworthy centers at community for legal and healthcare advice. 8,944 offenders out of 16,750 cases received counseling.

On human trafficking: According to data by the Ministry of Public Security, in 2014, 410 cases were reported nationwide with 576 offenders and 903 victims. Offenders used increasingly sophisticated methods and tricks such as connecting with brokers to collect infants for sale abroad; Vietnamese offenders colluded with foreigners to cheat and send victims, especially women and children abroad for sale, or force them to become prostitutes or illegal wives. They also recruit and bring women from Vietnam to foreign countries for forced marriage; ICT is used such as the internet, facebook, email, chatting to bring women and girls to foreign countries to work as sex workers.

In 2014, the Ministry of Labour - Invalids and Social Affairs worked in collaboration with relevant departments and organizations to provide support for more than 668 trafficked victims to return home (including 353 returnees through bilateral arrangements, 158 returnees via rescue and 157 went back by themselves). Based on the needs of victims, over 90% received support including initial allowance, vocational training, employment, loans, medical care, psychological counseling and legal assistance with a total amount of nearly 800 million VND.

Several forms of assistance are implemented at local level, particularly:

- Support for the victims upon return: most returnees, including self-returnees or rescued ones received appropriate level of support. Support include temporary accommodation, psychosocial counseling, people with illness or poor health receiving initial treatment, transport and food expenses.

- Support in the community was provided in a synchronous manner such as the provision of psychos-social support, legal assistance (residential registration, issuance of identity cards, birth certificates), health care, vocational training, employment support, education and protection for victims who reported the offences.

- Support at centers and shelters for victims: projects are carried out in Lao Cai, Ho Chi Minh City, Can Tho and An Giang. In this model, victims with special difficulties are provided with accommodation, psycho-social counseling and access to services outside the centers; education, vocational training, or medical treatment in accordance with their needs and capabilities. Victims receiving these services had higher rates of community reintegration.

- Support through interventions on re-integrationat commune and ward-level such as vocational training for women and children of poor families, job creation for stable income; credit support, allocation of tuition and scholarships, communication and awareness raising programs on human trafficking prevention.

- Support for victims by applying self-help model. This model has successfully helped victims with difficulties by promoting the effective use of capital, stable income and access to community-based services for sustainable reintegration.

7. Goals "Improve the State management capacity on gender equality"

- The strategy outlines targets to 2015: gender equality is mainstreamed into 80% of draft legal documents containing issues relating to gender equality, gender inequality or gender discrimination; 100% members of the Drafting Groups are

trained and provided with knowledge on gender, gender analysis and gender mainstreaming.

In order to reach the above objectives, the mainstreaming of gender equality will be thoroughly implemented throughout the legal building process. As reported by the Ministry of Justice, gender equality has been mainstreamed into 100% legal documents promulgated by the Ministry of Justice and other ministries, agencies.

Special attention is given to the training for members of the Drafting Groups. As reported by ministries, central agencies, members of the Drafting Groups are basically trained and provided with knowledge about gender, gender analysis and gender mainstreaming.

- Strategy sets out targets to 2015: central-level provinces and cities allocate adequate staff in charge of gender equality; a team of collaborators and volunteers involved in gender equality and the advancement of women is formed; 100% public employees and officials working on gender equality and the advancement of women at all levels receive professional training at least once.

As reported by the Ministries and provinces, professional training programs on gender equality and the advancement of women are organized annually. All officials and civil servants working in gender equality and the advancement of women from the district level upwards and from all branches are basically provided with professional training at least once.

However, there remain differences between provinces with regard to the organization and personnel arrangement on gender equality. Currently only 13 provinces have established divisions of Gender Equality or appointed Head of the Gender Equality Division while in other provinces, there are only some personnels assigned at a certain department without specialized division in charge of this issue. As the result, it is difficult to train specialized staff to take charge of gender equality at the Provincial Department since the officers in charge may move to other posts.

In a number of provinces, groups of collaborators, communicators on gender equality at the communal level are formed following the implementation of the National Program on Gender Equality and other activities at grassroots levels or support of international organizations.