

Annexes

to the Report

National Review on

Women's Status in the Islamic Republic of Iran

(Beijing+20)

May, 2014

The process of preparing the national review

The General Directorate for International Affairs of the Vice Presidency for Women and Family Affairs to fulfill its mandate to prepare a national review on "Beijing+20" developed a working plan. After holding preparatory working sessions with the experts of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the first specialized meeting for formulation of the national report was held with the experts on international affairs and those responsible for the women's affairs in various agencies and departments in October 2013. The presence of the Vice President for Women and Family Affairs, as the highest national machinery on women's issues in this meeting and her emphasis on necessity of effective cooperation of different governmental agencies in the preparation process of the national review in line with her communication with the Ministers in order to achieve their cooperation and assistance in preparing the related reports proves the importance of the issue in the Vice Presidency for Women and Family Affairs.

The purpose of the meeting was to describe the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and to determine the necessity of formulation of a Comprehensive National Report on the taken measures and initiatives by the Islamic Republic of Iran. In this meeting, the UN Women suggested format for preparing the report was also introduced.

According to the decision taken in the meeting, the representatives of the Ministries and the related agencies were assigned to collect and prepare their own progress reports in the twelve critical areas of concern of the Platform for Action through holding meetings and inter-agency communications. In February 2014, to follow-up for collecting all the reports by the General Directorate for International Affairs of the Vice Presidency for Women and Family Affairs and subsequently after launching a data bank and reviewing of the received reports, the second specialized meeting to formulate the national review was held with an aim to establish specialized and scientific working groups and to divide the related activities among themselves. In this meeting, it was also decided to review the reports based on the twelve critical areas of concern within the next one month.

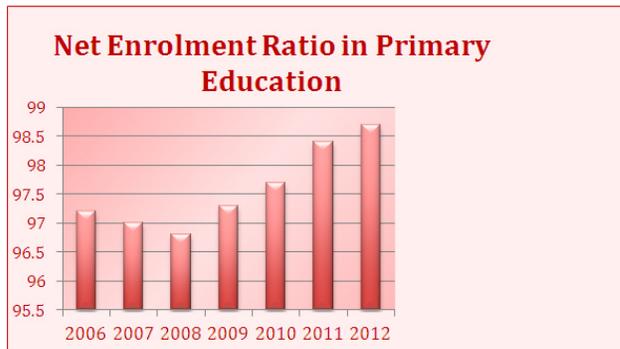
When the specialized working groups accomplished their reports, the General Directorate for International Affairs held the last specialized meeting with the presence of the members of the working groups in March 2014 in order to complete the section one on achievements and challenges since 1995 and finalize the whole review.

Considering the importance of the statistics in preparation of the Beijing+20 Report, the Vice Presidency met the head of the Statistics Center of Iran, aimed at having their advocacy support for an active and effective cooperation and assistance during the formulation process of the national review as well as explaining the need for the disaggregated statistical data based on gender indicators in various fields.

1. Some detailed statistical information

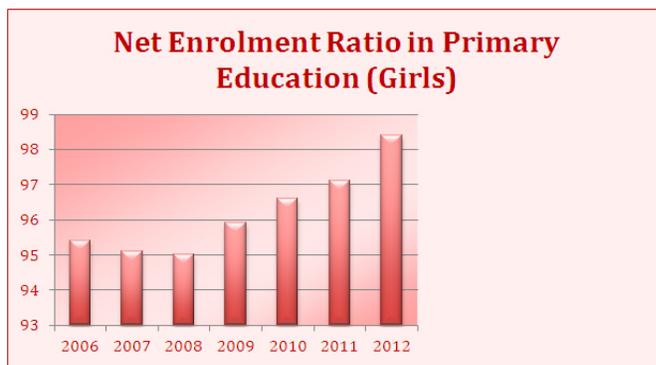
A. Education and training of women

Graph 1: Net Enrolment Ratio in Primary Education



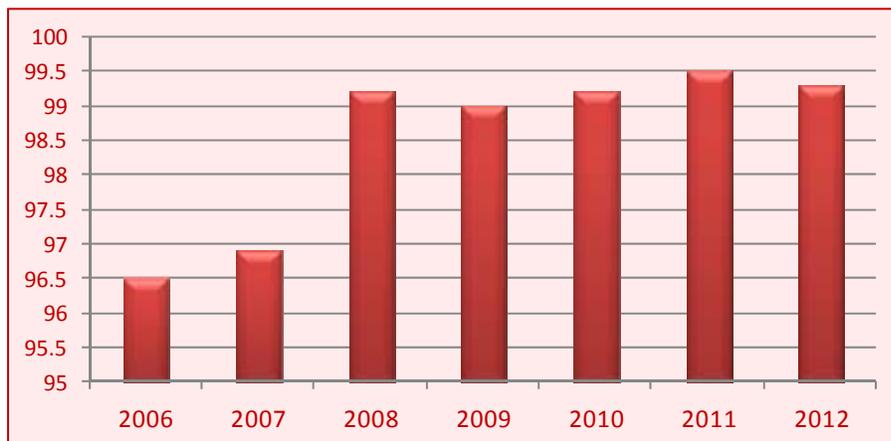
Source: Ministry of Education

Graph 2: Net Enrolment Ratio in Primary Education (Girls)



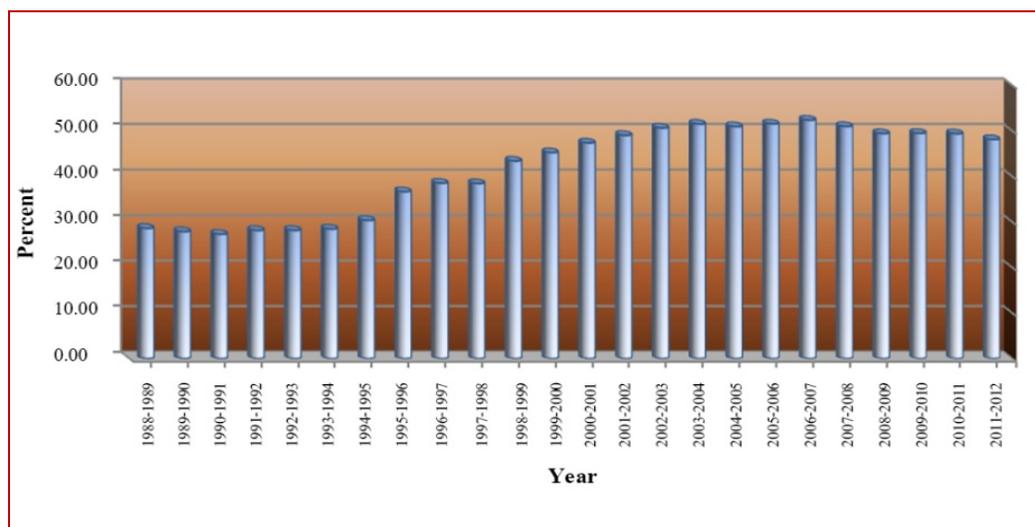
Source: Ministry of Education

Graph 3: Ratio of literate women to men between 15-24 years of age



Source: Ministry of Education

Graph 4: Share of women students out of the total during years 1988-2013



Source: Ministry of Science, Research, and Technology

Table 1: The rate of literacy among populations aging 6 years and over by sex

Man						
2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
88.7	88.7	88.8	88.8	88.8	88.9	88.9
Woman						
2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
80.3	80.4	80.5	80.7	80.8	80.9	81.1
Man and Woman						
2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
84.6	84.6	84.7	84.7	84.7	84.8	84.8

Source: Ministry of Education

Table 2: Rate of literacy among age groups of 15-24 years (%)

Index	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
men	98.1	98.1	98.2	98.2	98.2	98.2	98.2	98.3
women	96.7	97	97.5	97.5	97.1	97.4	97.7	97.7

Source: Literacy Campaign Organization of the Ministry of Education

Table 3: Ratio of girls to boys in primary, high school and higher education (%)

Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Primary education	93.64	93.95	94.18	94.27	94.3	94.40	94.46
Secondary education	95.49	94.16	91.56	90.22	90.3	92.70	90.88
Higher education	110.10	112.52	104.11	97.84	96.0	97.6	97.60

Source: Ministry of Education

Table 4: Number of primary school students in the 2013-2014 school year

Ratio of girls to boys			
Boys	Girls	Ratio of girls to boys	Total
3,599,585	3,402,581	94.5	7,002,166

Source: Ministry of Education

Table 5: Number of secondary school students in the 2013-2014 school year

Share of female students out of the total in the year	48%
Index of gender equality	92%
Real educational coverage 2013-2014	88.5% country average

Source: Ministry of Education

Table 6: Number of state and private university students (by sex and field of study)

Academic year		2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
Field of study								
Total	male	1346274	1930726	172.479	1917107	2.788718	22077.2	2299808
	female	1482237	1406126	1788223	1874722	2.37870	22.2780	2137.22
Medicine	male	38188	79837	44879	04814	07304	7.477	7.904
	female	1.3777	130.77	1.7.21	117.17	122811	133792	148377
Human Sciences	male	017601	799974	082088	777441	737747	794297	8.4119
	female	823727	710911	934438	1.0.4787	1113047	1193040	1124033
Natural Sciences	male	933.8	17.89.	9201.	83971	93781	97733	9.983
	female	2.9929	183727	2.8072	187081	21.004	2192.7	2.4240
Technology & Engineering	male	077007	7498.2	749324	927377	1.13200	11.9.87	1131721
	female	2.8.87	209848	20.749	322078	347321	384747	373410
Agriculture & Veterinary Medicine	male	80118	1.41.2	1.2400	114709	117437	123732	114793
	female	72287	89738	1.0.991	118108	122049	138347	137311
Arts	male	44402	41121	48723	79910	72340	71287	87488
	female	73722	71837	87072	1247.2	122.94	133.47	148142

Source: Statistical Year Books

B. Women and health

Table 1: Ratio of births attended by skilled health personnel (%)

2005	2006	2007	2008	2010
97.3	91.4	97.5	96.7	96.4

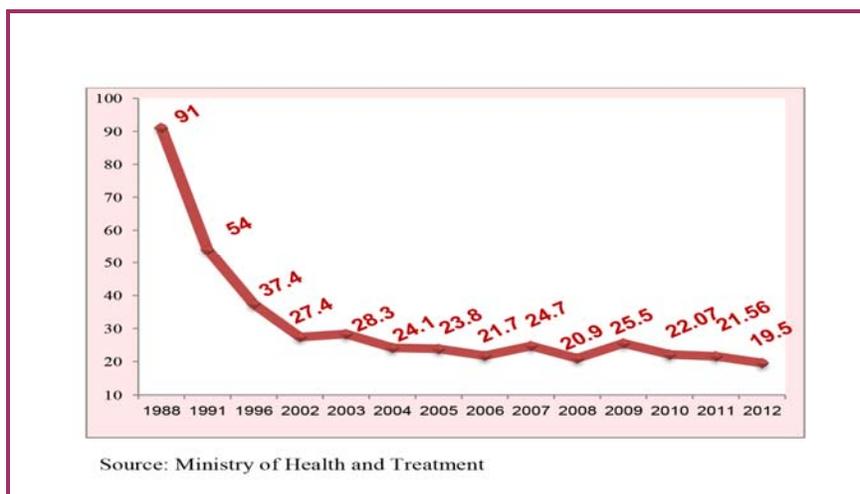
Source: Ministry of Health, Treatment, and Medical Education

Table 2: Other indexes associated with the status of maternal health (%)

Index	MIDHS 2010		
	Rural	Urban	Total
maternal health care service (minimum 6 times)	90.8	84.7	88.6
maternal health care service (at least once)	96.9	97.4	97.2
percentage of births attended by skilled health personnel	93.3	98.2	96.4

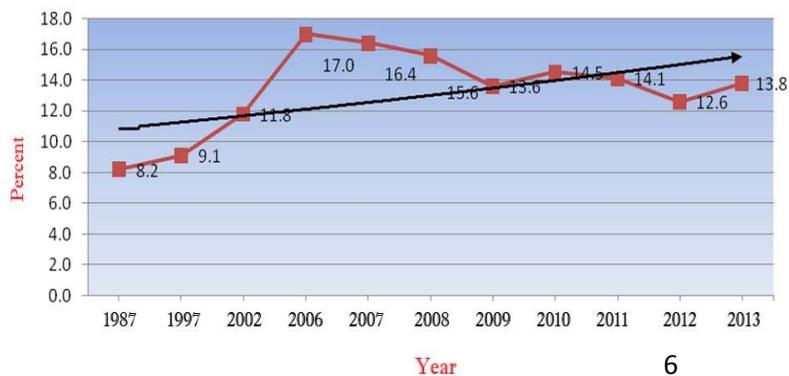
Source: Ministry of Health, Treatment, and Medical Education

Graph 1: Maternal mortality rate due to pregnancy and postnatal complications in every 100,000 live births (1988-2011)

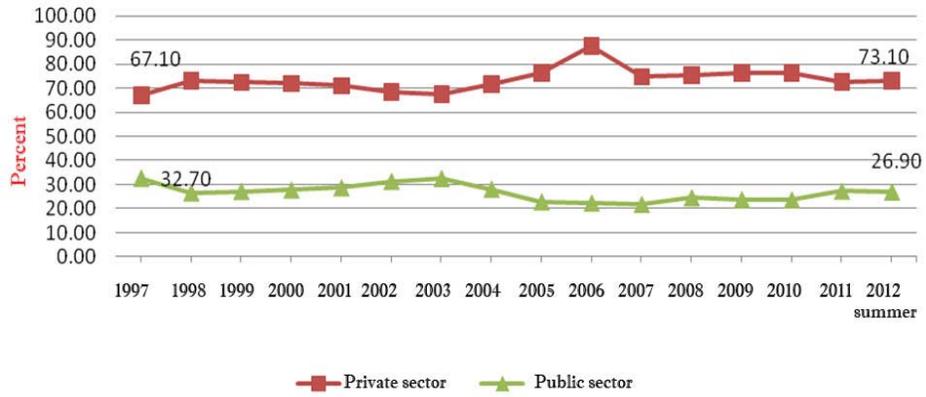


C. Women and the economy

Graph 1: The rate of women's economic participation (1987-2013)



Graph 2: Share of women's employment in the public and private sectors



Graph 3: Rate of women's occupation in service sector (2001-2011)

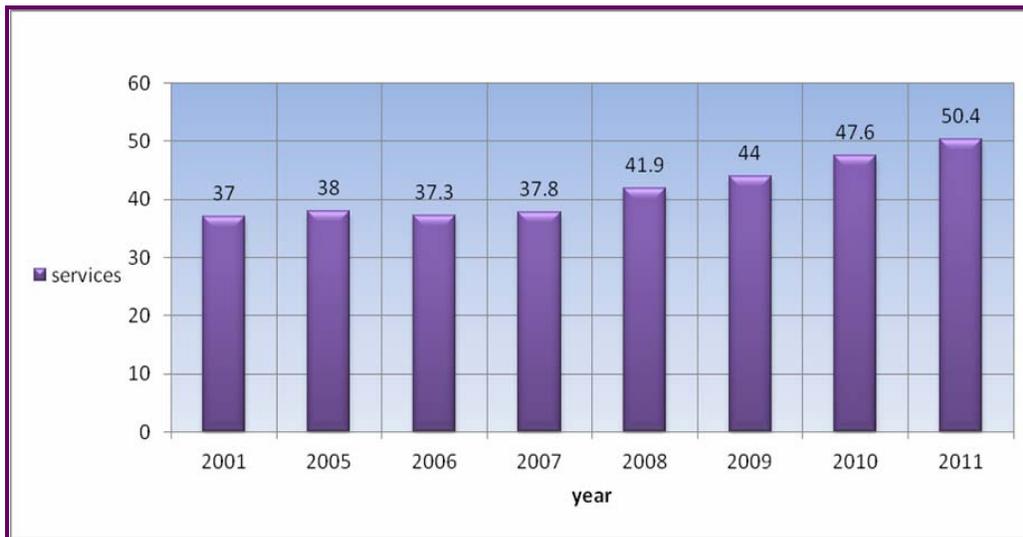
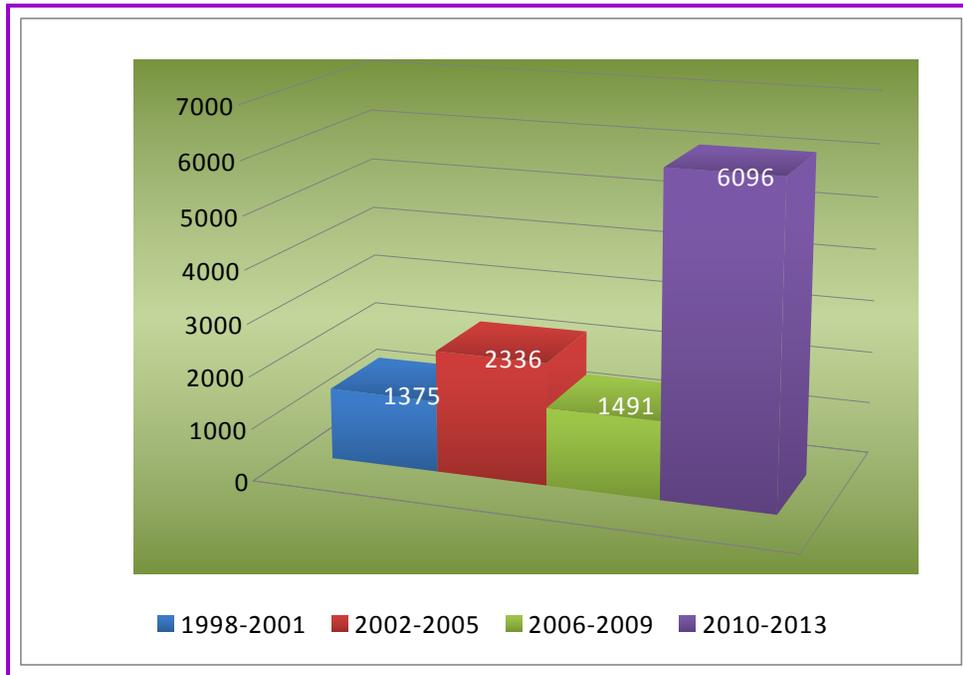


Table 1: Women's economic participation in different sectors (1995-2012)

Sector Year	Agriculture	Industry	Services	The public	The private	Women's economic participation rate
1995	16.66	34.5	48.84	39.55	14.6	9.10
1999	30.54	35.17	34.29	27.23	16.21	11.70
2000	26.26	38.23	35.51	27.71	14.62	11.91
2004	32.50	24.30	43.30	30.80	18.80	11.80
2006	30.90	31.70	37.30	22.00	87.60	16.40
2008	33.10	29.10	37.80	22.00	74.80	15.60
2009	30.60	27.30	41.90	25.00	75.50	13.60
2010	30.50	25.50	44.00	23.7	76.30	14.50
2011	28.00	24.40	47.60	23.6	76.40	14.10
2012	26.30	23.30	50.40	27.2	72.80	12.60

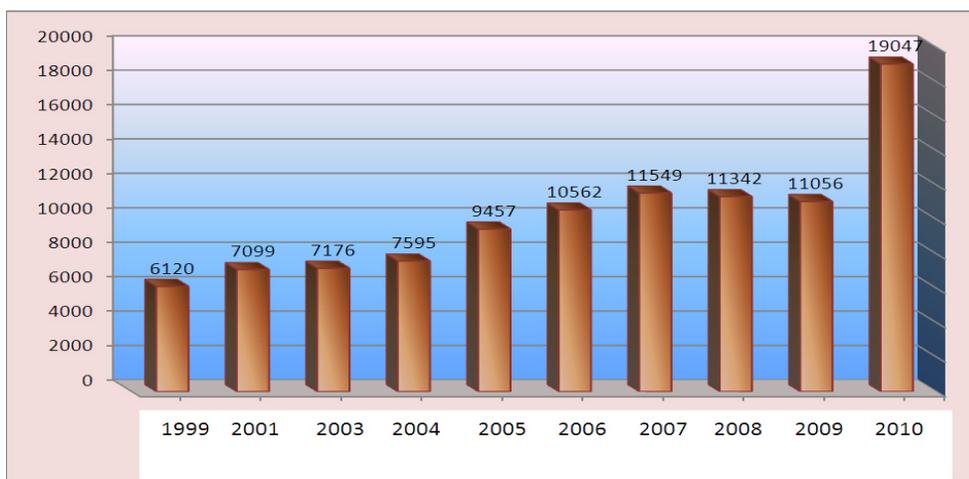
D. Women in power and decision-making

Graph 1: Number of female members of the Islamic urban and rural councils during the four elections



Source: The Statistical Center of Iran

Graph 2: Number of female employees in the Judiciary (1999-2010)



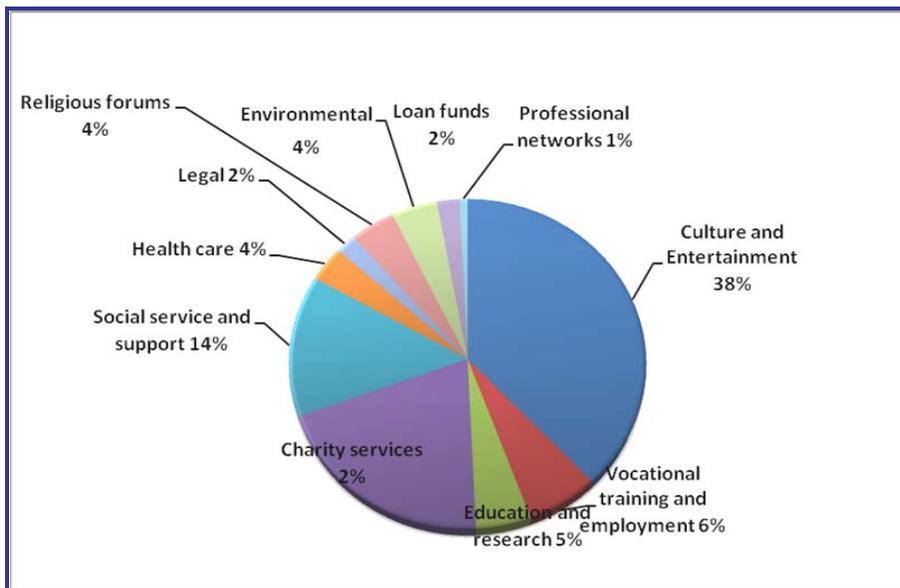
Source: The Statistical Center of Iran

E. Women and family NGOs

Graph 1: Frequency distribution of women and family NGOs in IRI (1996-2013)



Graph 2: NGOs distribution based on the field of activity (2005-2010)



F. Women and the media

Table 1: The IRIB produced and broadcasted programs on Beijing critical areas of concern during 2009-2013 (hours)

Subject	Radio	TV
Poverty	324	960
Education	517	1071
Health	1400	471
Economy	217	604
Decision-making	240	826
Human rights	220	73
Women and media	020	1420
Children	489	1320

The training activities and programs to economically empower women are listed below:

Titles of some of the implemented programmes to empower women headed households under the cover of the State Welfare Organization

- Establishment of the Self-Help Groups of the women headed households
- Social Security Insurance of the rural and nomadic girls and women
- Financial micro credit services
- Community-based empowerment for Poverty reduction
- Assisting women's physical and mental health in families in need
- Identifying the clients who are prone to rehabilitation and determining the degree of their skills and performance
- Monitoring the employment projects of the clients of the State Welfare Organization and controlling the quality of their productions
- Finding employment opportunities for the clients who are ready to work and preparing the grounds for involving the trained clients in labor market
- Payment of entrepreneurship loans, preparing the materials and equipment
- Creating the appropriate working opportunities for potential clients
- Preparing the grounds for the clients to have access to bank facilities
- Vocation and technical training in order to promote the scientific awareness of the clients

Titles of some of the implemented programs to empower women by the Imam Khomeini's Relief Foundation

- Identifying the clients who are prone to rehabilitation and determining the degree of their skills and performance
- Monitoring the employment projects of the clients and controlling the quality of their productions
- Finding employment opportunities for the clients who are ready to work and preparing the grounds for involving the trained clients in labor market
- Payment of entrepreneurship loans, preparing the materials and equipment
- Preparing the grounds for the clients to have access to bank facilities (using the credits for the small-sized enterprises with quick returns and other credit lines).
- Preparing the grounds for the loan allocation to rural women headed households through the credits of the Project of Hazrat Zeinab (pbuh)
- Preparing the grounds for the group or collective self-sufficiency through production or training workshops
- Technical or logistics support from the entrepreneur clients
- Assisting clients in marketing their productions
- Providing the space for their self-sufficiency activities
- Social Security Insurance of those involved in self-sufficiency projects

Titles of some of the empowerment training courses by the Imam Khomeini's Relief Foundation

- Providing clients with consultancy services in ethical, physical, mental, familial, employment, educational, legal and training issues.
- Providing clients with technical and vocational training in order to raise their skills and awareness.

Some of the activities by the Tehran Municipality Empowerment Center for Women Headed Households

- Providing women with sustainable livelihoods and creating suitable and secure vocational opportunities
- Facilitating the process of gaining technical and vocational permissions
- Facilitating the access to the counseling services and social work
- Creating the access to diverse vocational opportunities
- Creating *Kowsar* skill training centers in all 22 districts of Tehran municipality
- Launching, strengthening and developing self-employment markets
- Creating interaction between *Kowsar* skill training centers and self-employment markets
- Endeavour to expand a culture of futurism and facilitating the enjoyment of insurance coverage for the target group
- Establishing cooperatives and trade unions for women headed households
- Developing supportive and welfare programmes and services
- Advocating for support from various governmental bodies for empowerment of the target group
- Conducting applied research and actions for empowerment of women headed households

- Comprehensive and effective planning and for empowerment of women headed households and their families
- Helping to solve problems of women headed families in various fields of family or social issues
- Guiding and enriching the leisure time of women heads of households and their families
- Cooperation and exchange of information and experiences with relevant organizations and initiatives at national and international level

Titles of some of the empowerment training courses by the Tehran Municipality Empowerment Center

- Developing and conducting training and skill-upgrading courses
- Increasing vocational training levels and helping the clients to learn more vocational and marketing skills
- Introducing the target group with the Labor Law and the regulations of social security

2. Case studies and good practice examples

A. The project to increase the compulsory educational coverage of the students with an emphasis on attracting vulnerable or deprived children and girls of primary and secondary education

The project was implemented with an aim to attract and cover those students that have to be educated but have been deprived of primary and secondary education and in this way, provide them with various services such as preparing the list of deprived children to education, awareness raising, scholarships, purchase of stationery and clothing, development of boarding schools as well as schools with dormitories or schools in central villages, distance learning, and the establishment of additional classes. The goals of the project were to create equal educational opportunities, eliminate gender inequalities, increase the educational coverage, and decrease the obstacles in the way of providing education for children deprived of it.

In 2008, due to the implementation of the project, 25,964 students (14,830 girls and 11,134 boys) who had left primary schools and 31,092 (16,851 girls and 14,241 boys) students who had left secondary schools returned to the formal educational system.

It is worthwhile to add that a program of blocking the formal educational system to the illiterates (they are covered in other plans) has been carried out since the same time to guarantee a full educational coverage at primary level so that at least 10,575 people have been targeted to return to the educational system.

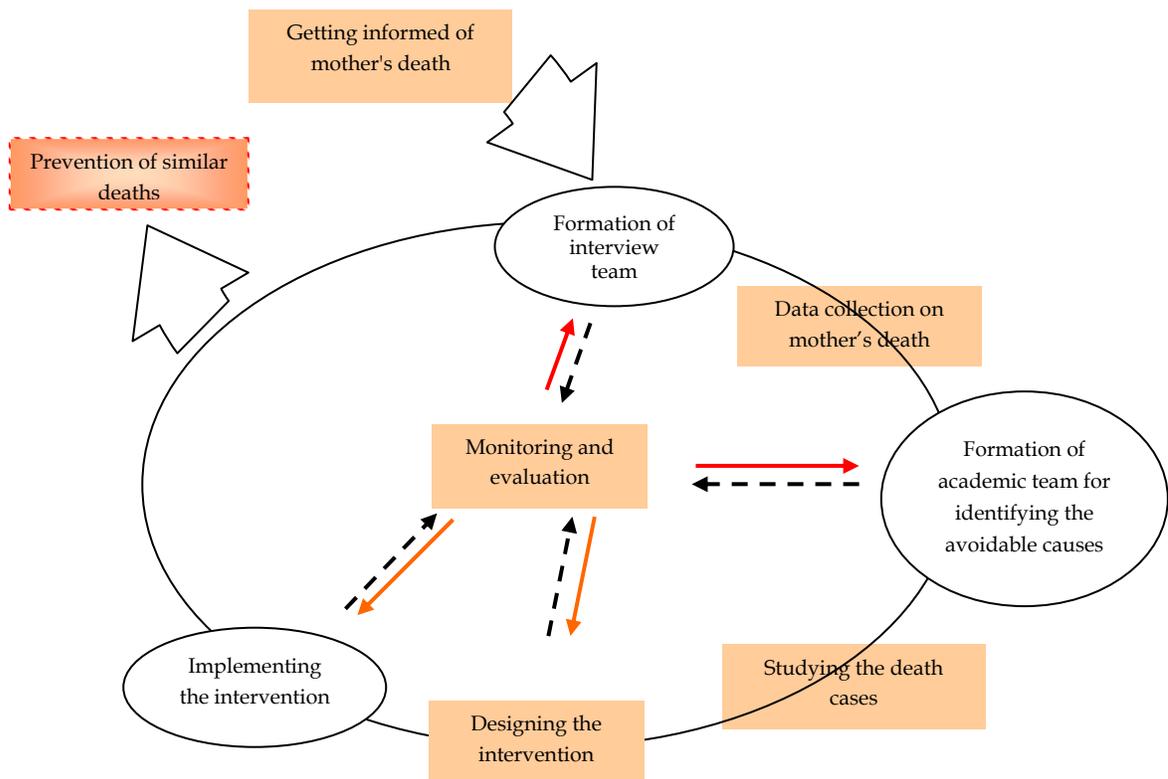
B. The project to decrease the maternal mortality through the National Maternal Mortality Surveillance System

During the recent years, a great deal of noteworthy programs have been designed and implemented to improve mothers' health in the Islamic Republic of Iran, including the National Maternal Mortality Surveillance System.

In this regard, the identification of the causes and effective determinants of maternal mortality would play a major role to recognize the status of development in the society and explain the existing situation of mothers' health in order to take appropriate measures to improve maternal health. Therefore, the National Maternal Mortality Surveillance System has been initiated in the country since 2001 with an aim to reduce maternal mortality rate due to the effects of pregnancy and childbirth and in line with the realization of national and international objectives and commitments. Implementation of this program aimed at identifying the factors contributed to maternal mortality during the pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum periods through discovering the process that each mother has followed until her death, identifying avoidable causes of death, designing appropriate interventions to solve the problems, and preventing the occurrence of similar deaths.

According to ICD-10 definition, maternal mortality means the death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and site of the pregnancy, from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management but not from accidental or incidental causes.

Since the Maternal Mortality Surveillance System is concerned about the exact registration of mortality data, the aforesaid definition has been announced to the whole covered units so that after immediate reporting of a mother's death, the details of her death would be documented through certain questionnaires filled by expert teams and considered in academic committees as well as the Maternal Mortality Reduction Committee and finally the essential intervention would be designed and implemented based on the findings of the investigation. Now, the program has been launched in the whole country and is being monitored and evaluated according to the predetermined indicators. The figure below presents the procedure and measures set out in implementation of the Surveillance System.



C. The Iran Banking Scheme

The Iran Banking Scheme was implemented in 2010 with an aim to expand vocational opportunities for women, help vulnerable people, reduce poverty among women, make familiar the rural and urban women with banking activities, and encourage them to start saving accounts. The scheme is consisted of four projects as follows:

❖ *Irاندokht*

All single girls above 18 years of age can join the *Irاندokht* scheme and open a current account without accessing to personal chequebooks. They can also use the electronic banking facilities of the Agriculture Bank and while receiving loans for purchasing goods of basic needs, can buy life and accidents insurance services as well.

❖ *Iranbanoo*

All housewives and women headed households in urban and rural areas can join the scheme and open a current account with accessing to personal chequebooks in various branches of the Agriculture Bank. They can enjoy electronic banking facilities such as opening a special account titled "future", receiving loans to buy goods of basic needs or livelihood facilities, purchasing production equipment or items for their houses, as well as benefitting from services of life and accidents insurance.

❖ *Mehr-e Iran*

All urban and rural women can open a current account without accessing to chequebooks and can enjoy electronic banking facilities for buying car or goods of basic needs, benefit from services of life and accidents insurance, or even get loans for purchasing production tools or house items.

❖ *Dokhtaran-e Aftab*

All girl students studying in an accredited university in Iran can join this scheme and open a current account without accessing to personal chequebooks in the Agriculture Bank. They can enjoy electronic banking and get loans for buying educational tools or goods of basic needs and be covered by the life and accidents insurance. The amount of the allocated loans for purchasing educational tools will be calculated on a scale of three times of their average deposit for the last six months up to a maximum of 10 million rials with a banking fee of 12 percent and a return period of 24 months. The amount of loans for buying goods of basic needs will be counted on a scale of three times of their average deposit for the last six months too and the return period will be 36 months.

The total number and amount of banking facilities paid to female addresses within the Iran Banking Scheme is summarized in the following table:

Year	2010	2011	2012
Number	346	117595	366260
Amount	7.9 (billion rials)	3122.1 (billion rials)	10911.9 (billion rials)

Source: The General Directorate of Planning and Data Analysis, Agriculture Bank