

- Canada worked to elicit a greater commitment to tackling SEA by UN peacekeepers and aid workers, and to provide support to victims.<sup>9</sup>
- Canada also began work in early 2018 to ensure that appropriate policies and procedures are in place across all of the Government of Canada's international assistance to prevent and reduce the risk of SEA in the delivery of international assistance.
- While there were no SEA allegations against Canadian peacekeepers or Canadian UN staff deployed by the Government of Canada during the reporting period, allegations involving a Canadian police peacekeeper that emerged in FY 2016-17 were substantiated by the UN and remain under investigation by Canadian authorities.
- In Canada, as in other countries that contribute personnel to peace operations, gaps in accountability frameworks have in some cases led to the inability to pursue disciplinary or legal action against offenders. This is an Action Plan area where further attention is required to address shortcomings and strengthen accountability frameworks for Canadian peacekeepers.



Police officers at the ceremony for the Women's Police Town in Kabul, April 9, 2018.

### Objective 3: Promote and protect women's and girls' human rights, gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in fragile, conflict and post-conflict settings

#### Rating: On track

Women's and girls' empowerment, the protection of their human rights and gender equality are at the core of Canada's Feminist Foreign Policy, including its Feminist International Assistance Policy. Results in the Action Plan's first year include the following:

- Canada contributed to an increased percentage of women serving in the Afghan National Police<sup>10</sup> and to the construction of the Women's Police Town in Kabul that will provide secure housing for policewomen and their families.
- Canadian efforts to achieve a more gender-responsive justice system in Guatemala saw outputs such as gender equality training for more than 220 staff in the justice sector.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>9</sup> One example is the G7 Whistler declaration on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in International Assistance adopted in June 2018. Others are Canada's support to the UN Trust Fund in Support of Victims of SEA; the Office of the Special Coordinator on improving the UN response to SEA; and the Prime Minister joining the UN Secretary-General's SEA Circle of Leadership.

<sup>10</sup> Women's representation in the Afghan National Police increased from 2% to 3% since 2016. Canada's goal is to reach the target set by the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces, which for the police is 5%.

<sup>11</sup> The training was given to 175 staff in the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala, which aims to strengthen the justice sector by improving capacities to investigate and prosecute organized crime, including gender-based crime, and 48 members of the public ministry's Anti-Impunity Unit.