Achievements of Algerian women

- Legal basis in terms of women's protection and promotion
  - The Constitution established the principles of gender equality and protection of women against all forms of discrimination. Articles 29, 31, 51 and 58 state that «the family enjoys the protection of the State and society.»
  - Law n°. 90-11 dated on 21 April 1990 on labor relations, as amended and supplemented, guarantees the right of everybody to work, and gender equality in employment and human rights.
  - Ordinance n°. 05-01 dated on 27 February 2005 amending and supplementing Law n°. 70-86 dated on 15 December 1970 on the Code of nationality, in particular Article 6 on the acquisition of Algerian nationality by affiliation,
  - Ordinance n°. 05-02 dated on 27 February 2005 amending and supplementing Law n°. 84-11 dated on 9 June 1984, establishing the Family Code, in particular Articles 7, 9, 11, 19, 36, 37, 40, 64, 67, 72 and 87, paragraph 3, related to the rights of women within the family.
  - Organic Law n°. 12-03 dated on 12 January 2012, setting the procedures increasing women's chances of access to representation in elected assemblies.
  - Organic Law n°. 12-04 dated on 12 January 2012 on political parties which requires, under penalty of refusal of approval, including a proportion of women in the various bodies of the parties as founders, participants to congresses and leaders (articles 11, 17, 24, 35, 41 and 58).
  - Law n°. 14-01 dated on 4 February 2014, amending and supplementing Ordinance n°. 66-156 dated on 8 June 1966 concerning the Penal Code, especially articles 295 bis 1 and 295 bis 2 on equality and non-discrimination.
  - Law n°. 15-01 dated on 4 January 2015 establishing an alimony fund.
  - Executive Decree n°. 14-26 dated on 1 February 2014 supplementing Executive Decree n°. 99-47 dated on 13 February 1999 relating to the compensation of victims of personal injury or damage endured following acts of terrorism or accidents occurring in the context of counterterrorism efforts, and their dependents.

- Mechanisms
  National Council of Family and Women
  Under the authority of the Minister of National Solidarity, Family and Status of Women, this advisory body was established by Decree n°. 06-421 dated on 22 November 2006.
  Composed of 48 members representing various agencies, this Council is responsible for issuing opinions, ensure consultation, dialog, coordination and evaluation of actions and activities related to the family and women. Its missions concern in particular:
  - The development of operational programs;
  - Conducting research work and studies;
  - Making recommendations on all legal, economic, social and cultural measures;
  - Issuing opinions on any draft legislative or regulatory text on family and women;
  - Studying all issues related to its missions.
  National Center of Studies, Information and Documentation on the Family, Women and Children
  Created by Decree n°. 10-155 dated on 20 June 2010, the center is responsible in particular for carrying out works of study, information and documentation on family, women and children. It is administered by an administration council (20 members), managed by a Director (01) and has a scientific council (18), whose tasks include:
  - Supporting specialized studies and using all research work;
  - Collecting relevant data, process it, update it and build a database;
  - Undertaking information and communication activities;
  - Publishing the work undertaken.
  The Centre has a listening service to inform, guide, accompany and support the family, women and children.
  These two mechanisms assist, through their work, the Ministry of National Solidarity, Family and status of women in the development of public policy in this area.
Women and economy

National Strategy for Integration and Promotion of Women (2008-2014)

The National Strategy for the Promotion and Integration of Women (2008-2014) has been developed to enhance the fairness and constitutional equality and to ensure women’s empowerment. This assumption implies capacity building and improved living conditions for (rural and urban) women.

Backed by a National Action Plan for the promotion and integration of women (2010-2014), it tends to promote the role of women in the political, economic and social spheres, reinforcing the principle of equal opportunities and reaffirming the involvement of women in the process of social and economic development, particularly through the establishment of a gender-disaggregated database and communication capacity building.

It has been conducted since 2013 by an intersectoral committee to identify priority actions, to ensure the implementation of the proposed activities, to monitor and to assess the proposed sectoral action plans.

Key achievements are related to deeper reflection on the conciliation of work and family life and the encouragement or diversification of measures to strengthen the work at home and part-time work, resulting in two priorities: the first in favor of the revitalization of receiving small children in institutions and centers designed for this purpose and the second related to the professions of home services.

The women’s empowerment program through employment, resulting from this strategy, was reinforced in February 2014 through the adoption of the Charter of working women, in order to:

- Facilitate the access of women to the labor market;
- Adopt a quota system for women’s access to positions of responsibility (corporate management bodies, trade unions);
- Promote conciliation between working life and family life.

Political participation

- Article 31a of the Constitution (Constitutional Review of 15 November 2008);
- Organic Law No. 12-03 dated on 12 January 2012 setting the procedures increasing women’s chances of access to representation in elected assemblies, adopted pursuant to Article 31a of the Constitution.

The reform in question resulted, during the parliamentary elections of 10 May 2012, in the increase of the number of women elected to the People’s National Assembly (APN), from 31 out of 389 (7.7 %) in 2007 to 146 women out of 462 (31.60 %).

With this achievement, Algeria joins the 30 countries having achieved the objectives of Beijing Action Platform and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It is on the 26th position globally, 9th position Africa-wide and the first in the MENA region with Tunisia since 2014.

For People’s Wilaya assemblies (APW), the rate increased from 6.89 % in 2007 to 29.69 % in 2012.

For People’s Municipal Assemblies (APC), the rate increased from 9 % in 2007 to 16.56 % in 2012, that is 4,120 women having obtained a seat, including 10 presidents, out of a total of 24,891.

- Organic Law No. 12-04 dated on 12 January 2012 related to political parties implements the principle of expanding political participation of women in elected assemblies, requesting from political parties, under penalty of refusal of approval, to integrate a proportion of women in various bodies of the party as founders, participants to congresses and in the governing bodies of the parties.

It also provides for financial assistance, entered in the State budget, dependent on the number of Parliamentary seats won by the party and on the number of women elected to Assemblies.
**Violence against women**

**National strategy for fighting violence against women** (SNLCLCVF)

The national strategy for fighting violence against women (SNLCLCVF), developed in 2007, has set as main objective the consolidation of efforts of various institutional stakeholders and of the civil society to handle the issue of fighting violence against women.

The implementation of this strategy is the subject of particular interest for all stakeholders through their effective contribution within the National Committee established for this purpose, and through the communication effort which related plan is undertaken in a regular and coordinated manner.

Legally, the penal Code provides for sanctions against acts of violence, according to the situation and taking into account the seriousness of the consequences of violence on the person, including sexual harassment punishable under article 341 bis of the Criminal Code amended in 2005.

The main amendments of the penal Code in 2014 aim in particular to handle forms of violence against women, including conjugal violence in its various forms and sexual violence perpetrated in public and private places.

On the ground, women victims of violence are provided with medical and psychological services, and legal coaching as well as professional training to ensure their social and economic reintegration.

In terms of support for women victims of violence, in residential area or through the network of stakeholders from listening system spread across the country, the main objective is the family and social reintegration of these women and their professional and economic integration, particularly through the various systems established by the State.

In order to improve the operation of these multi-disciplinary teams, a training cycle was organized for trainers among local stakeholders working with women having social problems. It aims at building the capacity of stakeholders to improve the support for women received.

**Literacy education**

**National literacy strategy**

Combating illiteracy is one of the major structural projects opened by the public authorities after the country's independence, given the very low level of education in terms of mastery of knowledge and access to knowledge.

The rebuilding of the country, the radical reform of its institutions, the revitalization of its population, the redeployment of its potential energies have gone through rapid investment in education, in teaching and in literacy, largely confirmed by the reform of education as early as the year 2000.

The Constitution has defined the cardinal principles of these expenses for the benefit of human potential, particularly through mass education, built around the mandatory and free education, so as to separate regular attendance of school from any material constraint.

The strategy that supported this requirement has erected adult literacy as a center of interest, with an enrollment rate of 98.21%, a net decline of ignorance at a rate of 18% in 2013 (85% in 1962), a massive adherence of women aged between 15 and 24, and the assurance of achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015.

The National Strategy adopted in 2007 was characterized by:

- The signing in 2013 of a framework agreement between the Ministry of National Solidarity, Family and the Status of Women and the National Office of Literacy and Education for Adults.

- The provision of infrastructure and coaching staff (2,241 teachers), together with the associations (228 associations) to increase the awareness campaigns across the 48 wilayas (provinces).

Currently, the government aims at strengthening the means at the disposal of the relevant competent authorities, including premises, teachers recruited through the system of insertion of young graduates, awareness campaigns on the subject, involving more the association movement and supporting illiterate beneficiaries of the systems developed by the National Microcredit Management Agency (ANGEM) and Social Development Agency (ADS) in literacy classes.
Rural women

Given the specificities of rural women and the non-recognition of their contribution to the creation of tangible and intangible wealth by the national accounting system, an intersectoral committee in charge of the promotion of rural women, deriving from the National Strategy for the integration and promotion of women, has been created in 2012.

The Program of Action of this Committee, which is part of the government program, focuses on a rural municipality per wilaya as a pilot operation in the context of consolidating an additional contribution of productivity through a fair recognition and encouragement of diversification of productive investments.

For the implementation of this program, local commissions in the have been established in the 48 wilayas (provinces).

Association movement

The association movement working for equality and promotion of human rights and women’s rights has been heavily involved in the promotion of women’s rights, thanks to the acquired experience and the role given by the government to develop the action of community outreach, to mobilize citizens around projects of general interest and complement the effort of the State. Its action has been reflected by:

1. Information and awareness raising work, in various forms, including the assertion of rights and the diversification of awareness campaigns.

2. A more focused work on subjects of women with specific needs or living in a particular situation.

3. Work on the improvement of knowledge related to the situation of women by the production of information materials, guides, manuals, databases and brainstorming workshops.

4. Work of hosting, listening, coaching and support for abused women and women in distress.

5. Awareness raising with “relay” organizations to ensure a neutral and professional broadcasting of messages and information about women’s rights and to improve the image of women.

6. Working towards collective mobilization of government and elected officials about laws and legislative provisions that require updating.

The associations, governed now by Law No. 12.06 dated on 12 January 2012 on associations, are very supportive of a partnership and take part in trainings organized by national associations, Maghreb associations, regional or international associations/NGOs.