

Digital equality in Afghanistan Higher Education

Bridging the digital gender divide in CS faculties



Agenda

- Cause for Digital Divide (specially in Afghanistan)
- Some solutions to close digital gap in Afghanistan
- Gender equality in higher education of Afghanistan

Reasons for Digital Divide

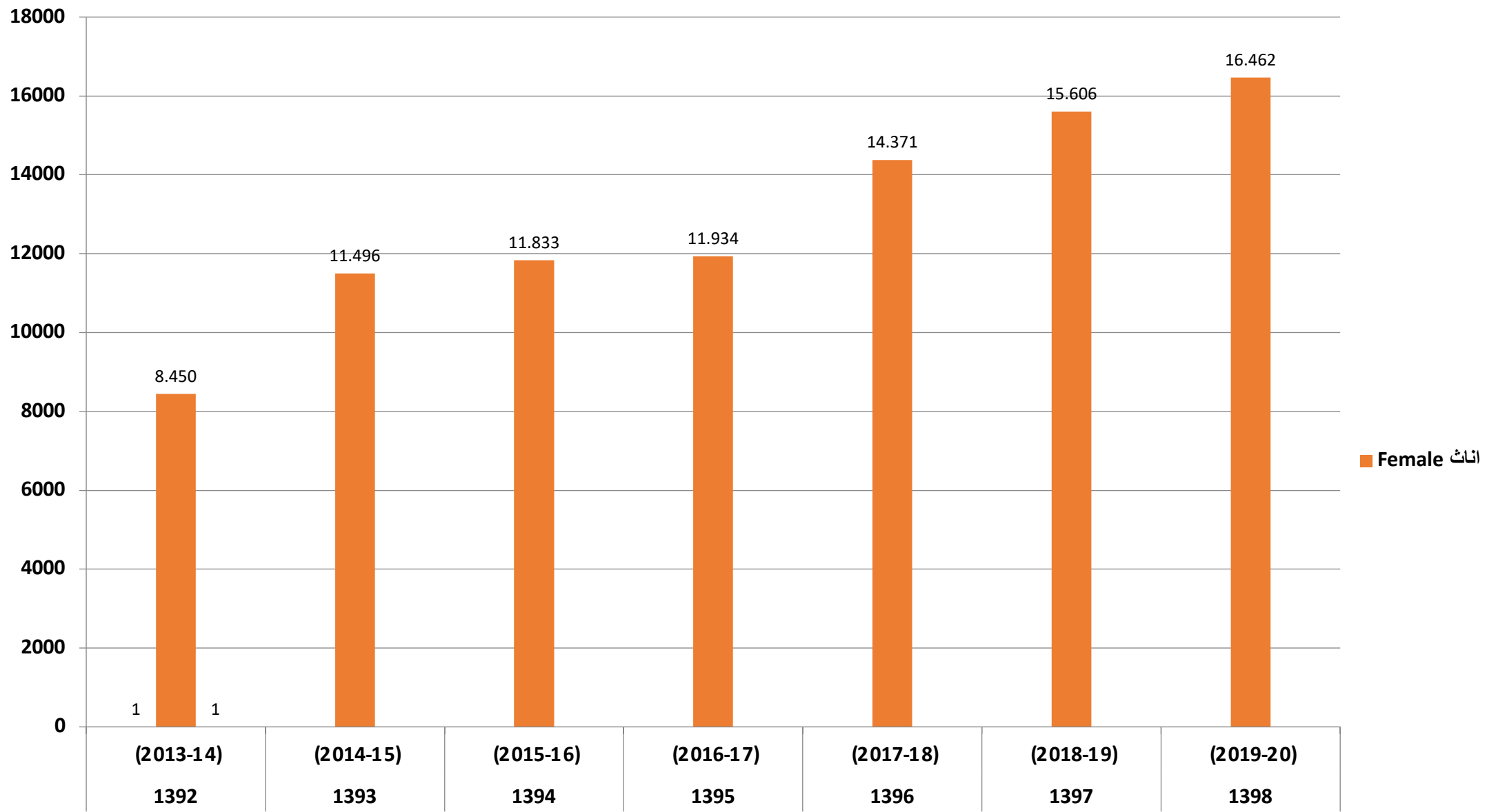
- Unavailability to digital recourses (lack of access to internet, hardware, software, ability, awareness)
- Social groups
- Culture barriers (gender inequality to access technology)
- Economical condition of a country (developed vs. least developed like Afghanistan)
- Lack of knowledge to use technology (literacy, not interested ...)
- Lack of sufficient ISPs (internet still is expensive in Afghanistan)
- Education/knowledge (curricula, equipment, facilities, qualified teachers at schools with tech skills)
- Urban vs. rural life
- Lack of security
- Literacy (38.2% in 2020 in Afghanistan)
- Family/personal income
- More

What we can do to close the gap?

- Encouraging girls by offering special internet packages for female
- Provide trainings, awareness programs
- Provide safe wi-fi zones for female (knowledge, experience)
- Provide education opportunities to empower girls/women
 - Online education
 - Job
 - Disable (most vulnerable people in Afghanistan)
 - Family problem and having child responsibility
 - Culture barriers

Gender equality in Higher Education of Afghanistan

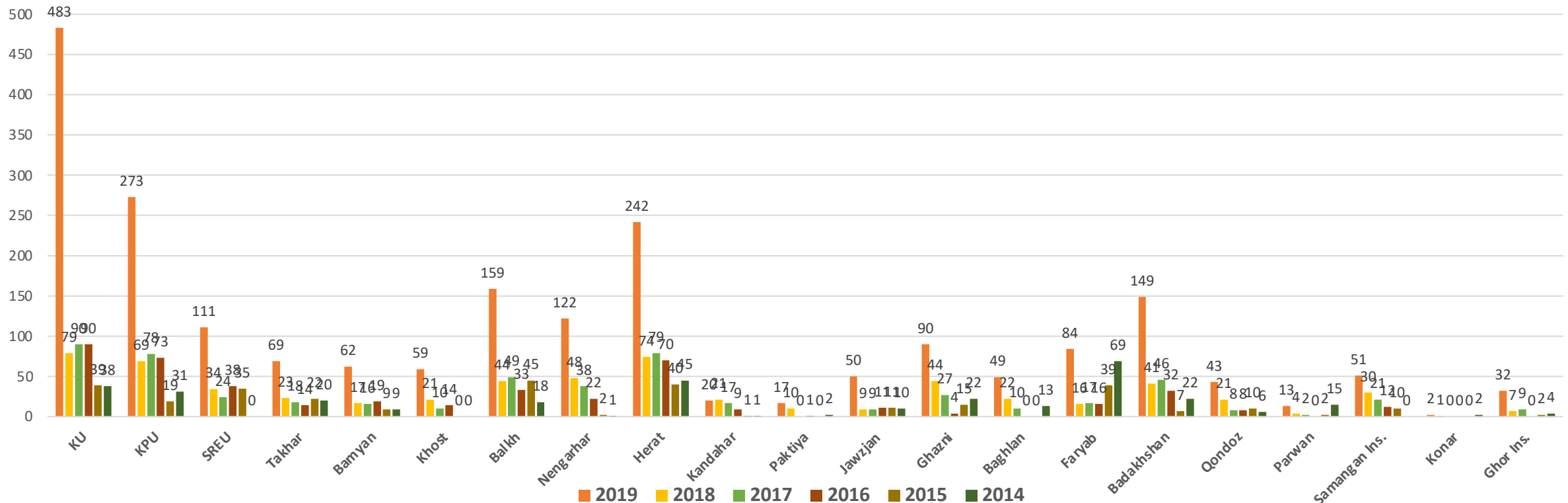
- Ministry of Higher Education created 10 special disciplines codes for girls in 20 universities since 2017 (CS included)
 - 2017-2018 Female enrollment: 9744
 - 2019 Female enrollment: 6850
- MoHE has a strategy for “Gender Strategy and Anti-harassment Policy” and highly supports women at universities and MOHE
- During last years number of women increased in academic section and leadership
- MOHE provided internet, established ICT centers/IT LABs for students in most of universities (Funded by ATRA, HEDP, USID)



Graph 1-1 Female enrollment into higher education

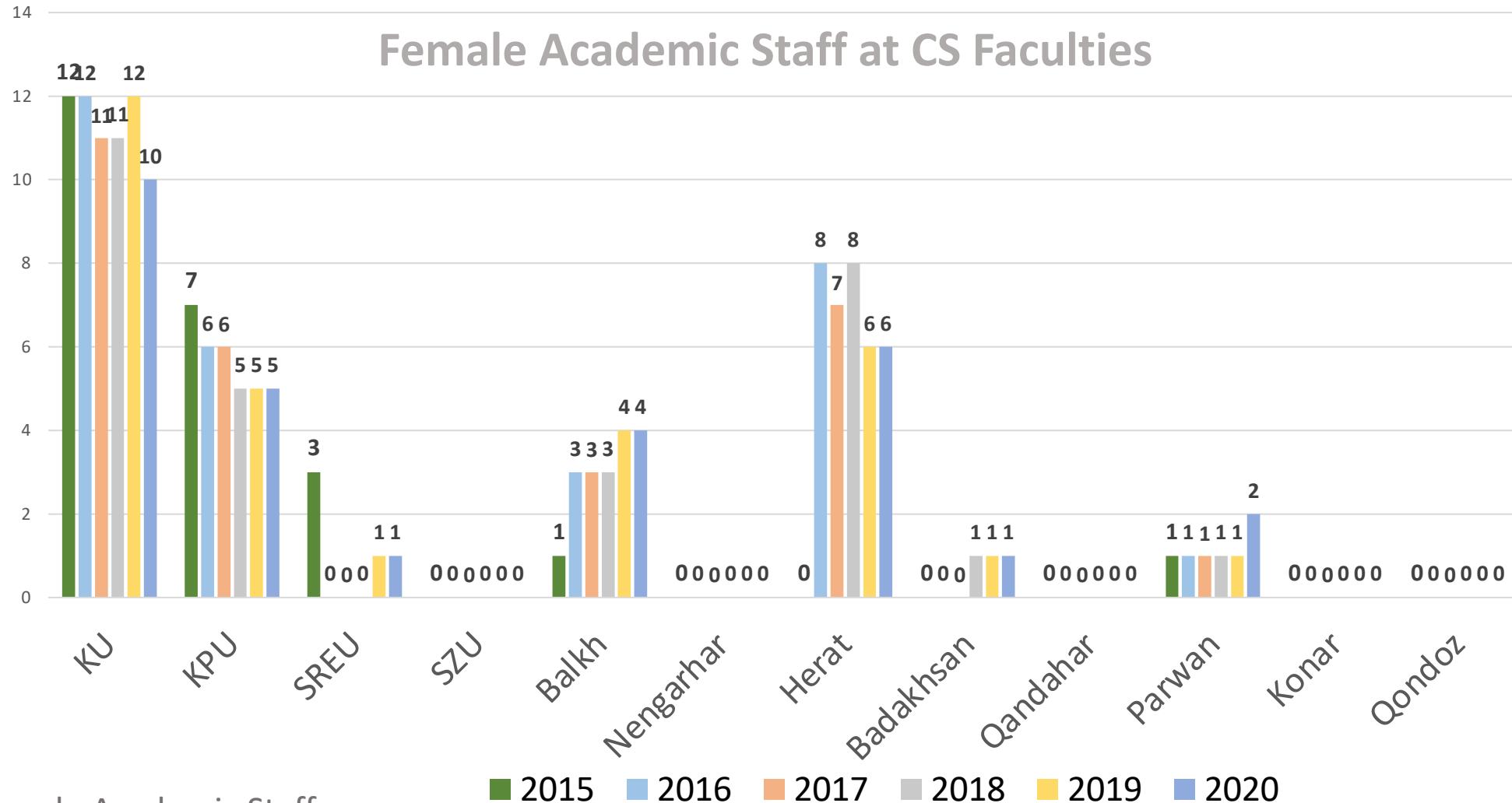
Gender equality in Higher Education of Afghanistan

Statistics of girls enrollment into CS faculties 2014-2019



Graph 1-2 Female enrollment into CS

Gender equality in Higher Education of Afghanistan



Graph 1-3 Female Academic Staff



Picture 1-1 Girls in ICT - SREU



Picture 1-1 Girls in ICT – Kabul University



Picture 1-3 Girls in ICT –Ghazni University

Thank you!