BACKGROUND

The project consists of two components: Component 1 - focusing on the duty bearer – comprises the thorough development of the NHRC’s organizational capacity through a Training Needs Assessment and a management review to identify the required areas of support for internal management. This includes business management, procedures, and financial management, as well as the core areas of performance of the NHRC monitoring, investigation, and outreach towards other constitutional commissions, civil society, media and the Government.

Through component 2, the ongoing activities of the NHRC are supported including an initiation of a pilot project, focusing on monitoring, investigation, outreach, and the promotion of rights for people with mental disabilities.

QUICK FACTS:

- **Duration:** 2016-2020
- **Focus:** Promoting inclusive and effective democratic governance
- **Source of Funding:** Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the Embassy of Denmark Nepal, UNDP
- **Implementing Agency:** NHRC, UNDP
- **Key Beneficiaries:** NHRC
- **Partner:** NHRC, National Women’s Commission, National Dalit Commission, other national institutions for Madhesi, Tharu, Muslim, and human rights-based CSOs
- **Other Stakeholders:** Government of Nepal/Ministry of Finance
- **Budget:** US$ 1.6 million
ACHIEVEMENTS SO FAR

» Created in-house team of “change makers”/peer support group of trainers at NHRC, designed comprehensive training modules and trained a total of 118 staff (67 Male, 51 Female) through basic, intermediate, advanced and master level trainings based on an analysis of available and required competencies for effective functioning of the NHRC.

» Conducted a review of the domestic legislations related to persons with disabilities, tabulated bills on the six new constitutional commissions, and fundamental rights, and submitted key recommendations to the Government of Nepal. Maximized the NHRC’s advocacy outreach on mental health and human rights issues and helped to protect the human rights of mentally disabled people through a series of policy dialogues and advocacy in collaboration with civil society organizations.

» Conducted international conference on identifying Challenges, Assessing Progress, Moving Forward: Addressing impunity and Realizing Human Rights in South Asia in Kathmandu bringing together: NHRC’s government bodies, civil society members, lawyers and human rights activists of 22 countries that subtly drew the attention to the need for states to ensure that National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) are given adequate resources and capacity to function independently and effectively in full conformity with the Paris Principles, and also released 29-point Kathmandu Declaration 2018.

» Developed a handbook on human rights to deliver training to Judicial Committee Members, and trained 260 Judicial Committee Members from four provinces and incorporated human rights-based approach and justice system while mediating local dispute.

» Perception survey on public relations and confidence in the NHRC provided the NHRC an opportunity to assess its position among a wide range of people and develop a concrete outreach strategy, especially to protect the rights of marginalized groups and also a study on NHRC in the federal context conducted.

» Greater awareness on human rights issues among people living with disability and/or mental illness through trainings and workshops and expanded outreach of NHRC into 46 districts to raise these issues. Awareness on human rights issues by advocacy programme through production of human rights tele serials and extended human rights film festival through strengthened coordination and cooperation with civil society organizations and media.

» A baseline survey on human rights situation of persons with mental disability conducted that set a baseline for promoting and protecting their human rights in Nepal in terms of their rights to respect, right to fulfill their basic needs and right to live a dignified life.

EXPECTED RESULTS

Strengthen the capacity of NHRC staff in selected areas (as defined by the training plan) through systematic training, follow up, and implementation.

Reinforce the NHRC’s capacity as a long-term credible institution to deliver its core function and increase its outreach.

Support the NHRC to strengthen coordination and cooperation with other human rights related constitutional commissions and the transitional justice mechanisms, CSOs and media.

Build capacity of NHRC commissioners and staff to protect and promote the rights of people with mental disabilities through newly-designed, planned and implemented interventions.

GENDER & SOCIAL INCLUSION

» Reviewed issues of non-discrimination and diversity in the NHRC and recommended measures to ensure inclusion and representation in staffing and management.

» Placed diversity policy to ensure gender and ethnicity balance in its activities.

Special attention has been given to the regional offices of the NHRC
to ensure that they are adequately staffed following the principles of workforce diversity and are strengthened in their capacity to fulfill...