

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

UNDP IN NEPAL

# Annual Report 2013

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                                   |    |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| Foreword .....                    | 01 |
| Introduction .....                | 02 |
| 2013 key results in numbers ..... | 03 |

### CHAPTER 1: Reducing Poverty & Promoting Sustainable Development..... 04

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Eliminating poverty, creating entrepreneurs.....                        | 06 |
| <i>UP CLOSE: Riverbed farming: using wasteland to aid the poor.....</i> | 08 |
| Supporting vulnerable communities rise out of poverty .....             | 09 |
| <i>UP CLOSE: No more “as poor as a Musahar” .....</i>                   | 10 |
| Power to the poor.....  | 11 |
| <i>UP CLOSE: Supporting farmers with lift irrigation .....</i>          | 12 |
| Supporting the development of policy and planning.....                  | 13 |
| <i>UP CLOSE: Nepal adopts MDGs acceleration framework.....</i>          | 14 |
| Supporting community-led conservation initiatives.....                  | 15 |

### CHAPTER 2: Inclusive and Effective Democratic Governance..... 16

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Promoting rule of law .....                                   | 17 |
| Improving protection of human rights.....                     | 18 |
| Supporting administrative reforms .....                       | 18 |
| Supporting local and community governance.....                | 19 |
| <i>UP CLOSE: Citizens decide development priorities .....</i> | 20 |
| Effective Aid Management .....                                | 21 |
| <i>UP CLOSE: A major leap towards aid transparency .....</i>  | 22 |

### CHAPTER 3: Support to Peace building and Transition ..... 24

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Reintegrating ex-combatants back into civilian society .....        | 25 |
| <i>UP CLOSE: A new incarnation for a former Maoist soldier.....</i> | 26 |
| Mitigating potential conflicts.....                                 | 27 |
| Towards reduction in instances of armed violence.....               | 28 |
| Support to constitution drafting .....                              | 29 |
| <i>UP CLOSE: A forum for reflection.....</i>                        | 30 |
| Supporting credible elections.....                                  | 31 |
| <i>UP CLOSE: Call centre.....</i>                                   | 33 |

### CHAPTER 4: Building Resilience ..... 34

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Improving resilience to disaster risks.....                             | 35 |
| <i>UP CLOSE: Integrating disaster preparedness in the academia.....</i> | 36 |
| Reducing risk from glacial lake outburst and other floods.....          | 37 |
| Promoting ecosystem based adaptation.....                               | 38 |
| Building climate resilient villages in mid and far western Nepal.....   | 39 |



^  
Cover photo: Pabitra Chaulagain, a micro-entrepreneur in Kartikswami, Jumla dries apple strips in the sun. © Chandra Shekhar Karki/UNDP Nepal

### CHAPTER 5: A More Equal and Inclusive Society..... 40

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Meaningful participation in the electoral process.....    | 41 |
| Inclusive justice sector.....                             | 42 |
| Participatory constitution.....                           | 42 |
| Inclusion in local bodies.....                            | 43 |
| Empowerment through entrepreneurship .....                | 43 |
| Towards a diverse civil service .....                     | 44 |
| Inclusion in disaster preparedness.....                   | 44 |
| Inclusive development policies .....                      | 45 |
| UN Traineeship provides hands-on experience .....         | 45 |
| Elimination of violence against women and girls.....      | 46 |
| Inclusion in adaptation and biodiversity initiatives..... | 47 |
| Peace champions .....                                     | 47 |

### Facilitating South-South Cooperation ..... 48

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Cooperation on conflict sensitivities ..... | 48 |
| Inspiring work on climate finance.....      | 49 |
| Learning from the neighbors.....            | 49 |

### United Nations Volunteers ..... 50

### Funding sources and partnerships..... 51

|                       |    |
|-----------------------|----|
| List of Annexes ..... | 53 |
| List of acronyms..... | 56 |

## FOREWORD

Following a year of uncertainty, signs of a political breakthrough appeared early in 2013 with the formation of an interim government, led by Chief Justice Khil Raj Regmi, to hold elections for the second Constituent Assembly. Despite uncertainty in the run up to the elections, election day saw a high voter turnout. A substantial electoral reform supported by UNDP contributed to making the elections successful. Political parties have committed to complete constitution writing within a year. Economic and development issues appear to be high on the parties' agenda. The completion of the integration and rehabilitation of the former Maoist combatants was also a major milestone towards stabilization. There are hopeful signs all around.

Nepal is on track to meet most of the Millennium Development Goals, except for those relating to full employment and climate change. In sanitation, where Nepal is lagging behind, UNDP and other UN agencies are working with the Government to expedite work through the MDG Acceleration Framework (MAF). The number of those living below the poverty line continues to fall and the Government aims to reduce poverty to below 18 per cent before the end of the current three year plan.

UNDP's partnerships with government and development partners achieved considerable success in 2013. UNDP also started several new initiatives in 2013. A new programme was launched with the Ministry of General Administration to help the civil service and other Government institutions prepare for administrative reforms in view of the impending state restructuring. Another new programme, on reducing the threat from Glacial Lake Outburst Floods, intends to lower the water level of the Imja Glacial Lake, ultimately benefitting nearly 100,000 people living downstream.



Year 2014 will be a crucial year in finalizing Nepal's new constitution and realizing Nepal's full potential through a total focus on the development agenda. We look forward to an exciting year ahead.

We thank our partners from the Government, development partners, civil society, communities, private sector and UN agencies for their cooperation and support. We remain committed to supporting efforts to ensure that the benefits of growth reach the poorest and most marginalized people across the country—supporting the Government in its priorities.

Finally, our accomplishments would not have been possible without hard work of our staff. We acknowledge and appreciate their dedication and commitment.



A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink.

**Shoko Noda**  
UNDP Country Director

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink.

**Jamie McGoldrick**  
UNDP Resident Representative

## INTRODUCTION

Since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2006, Nepal has undergone a complex transition that entailed rehabilitating former combatants, supporting a participatory constitution drafting process, holding credible elections and mitigating potential conflicts. UNDP has worked closely with national institutions and other development partners to support Nepal and the Nepalese people through this transitional phase in order to overcome the challenges.

Nepal's primary challenge over the last several years has been formulating a democratic and inclusive constitution that is acceptable to all sections of society. But, with the dissolution of the first Constituent Assembly (CA) in May 2012 without a constitution, it became imperative to re-rail the constitution drafting process through a second election for the Constituent Assembly. After much wrangling among the political parties, Nepal held successful elections for the second CA in November 2013 with a high voter turnout. UNDP's support to electoral reform contributed to making the 2013 elections inclusive, fair and peaceful.

The rehabilitation programme for ex-combatants discharged in 2010 for being verified minors or late recruits (VLMRs) formally concluded in 2013, providing support to 2,234 ex-combatants, including 838 women.

In 2013, UNDP worked with the Ministry of Home Affairs to establish a National Centre for Security Observation (NCSO). The collaboration also led to work on a National Strategy on Arms Control and assistance to the Government of Nepal to move towards signing the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT).

UNDP also supported systematic changes in national legislation, policies and institutional frameworks to strengthen justice sector coordination and effective implementation and enforcement of laws, and to improve access to justice for women and vulnerable groups.

To support evidence based planning processes, UNDP provided technical and financial support to the Central Bureau of Statistics to hold the Annual Household Surveys (AHS) so that



▲ A woman winnows grains at her house in Jumla.  
📷 Chandra Shekhar Karki/UNDP Nepal

the Government can produce key disaggregated data on labor and consumption more frequently. The first report is due in July 2014.

A major challenge for countries emerging from conflict is the absence of periodic elections. In Nepal, elections for local bodies have not been held since 2002. UNDP is working with the Government and other development partners to provide citizens forums to voice their opinions and participate in local development processes to help reduce the democratic deficits and spread 'peace dividends' in the absence of elected local bodies.

In partnership with the Government of Nepal and Australian Aid, UNDP's Microenterprise Development Programme (MEDEP) has created 9,464 new micro-entrepreneurs, 68 per cent of whom were women. Our partnership with the Government resulted in over 11,965 households gaining access to electricity through 37 Micro Hydropower Plants in 2013.

To protect development gains from natural disasters, UNDP has been working with government ministries to mainstream disaster preparedness in development planning. As a result, Nepal is now better prepared to deal with disasters than it was a few years ago. UNDP supported 68 VDCs to become disaster resilient in 2013. UNDP also supported the expansion of 20 Emergency Operation Centres (EOCs) that are designed to be nodal points for communication and coordination.

Much has been achieved in 2013, yet more remains to be done. In collaboration with the Government and development partners, In 2014, UNDP will continue to help reduce poverty by creating employment opportunities, improve standards of living by providing access to energy and promoting sustainable development, strengthen rule of law and improve governance and public service delivery by building state capacity, and reduce vulnerabilities induced by conflict, climate change and other disasters.

## UNDP'S DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP IN NEPAL 2013 KEY RESULTS IN NUMBERS\*



△ Theatre artists perform a street drama in Birgunj to raise awareness on prevention of gender-based violence. 📷 Shilpee Theatre/UNDP Nepal



△ A woman in Dhangadi, Kailali casts her vote in the constituent assembly (CA) elections in November. 📷 Laxmi Ngakhushi/UNDP Nepal



A micro-hydro plant is being built in Badki, Jumla to provide electricity to 350 households. 📷 Chandra Shekhar Karki/UNDP Nepal

- **1,570,197 million** were registered by Election Commission of Nepal with technical assistance from UNDP.
- **9,464 micro-entrepreneurs** were created. 68 per cent of them were women. A further **11,703 micro-entrepreneurs** received support to expand their enterprises.
- **Rs. 93,614,850 (US \$937,367)** worth of goods was exported by micro-entrepreneurs to countries like India, China, UK, Japan, America and Austria.
- **5,937 community members** received livelihood recovery assistance.
- **12,783 person-days** of short-term employment was created through the building of community infrastructure. 28 per cent of this work was for women.
- **915 infrastructures**, including toilets, culvert and community hand pumps, were built.
- **11,965 rural households** were connected to electricity generated by 37 community-based micro hydropower plants.

- **Over 1,000 improved cook stoves** were installed in Lalitpur and Sindhupalchok.
- **23.06 million liters** of ground water was recharged through the construction of 120 structures in Kathmandu valley.
- **Over 770,000 plants** (grass, fruit and fodder plants) were planted in over 480 hectares of sloping land in Makawanpur.
- **68 VDCs** (Village Development Committees) received support to become disaster resilient.
- **Over 2000 community volunteers** were trained on community disaster risk management.
- **525 VDC secretaries** were trained on mainstreaming poverty and environment into local development plans and budget.
- **150 lawyers** were trained on constitutional issues.
- **130 journalists** received fellowship to report on constitutional issues.
- Rehabilitation support for **2,234 ex-combatants** formally concluded in 2013.
- **Over 500 government officials** were trained on Conflict Sensitivity.

\* UNDP supports the Government and people of Nepal in collaboration with other development partners. All the numbers presented here are part of either government-led and UNDP supported projects or projects directly implemented by UNDP in collaboration with other development partners.




## Chapter 1

# Reducing Poverty & Promoting Sustainable Development

Nepal has been successful in steadily reducing poverty from 25.2 per cent in 2011 to 23.8 per cent in 2013. The remittances sent by Nepali migrant workers has played an instrumental role in slashing the poverty figures. But the numbers belie a harsh reality: they come at high social costs and are ultimately unsustainable if not managed properly.

Huge disparities and inequalities between regions and social groups exist. For example, access to sanitation is, according to Census 2011, approximately 21 per cent in Saptari and Siraha districts, compared to over 95 per cent in Kaski and Bhaktapur. Sanitation coverage in urban areas is 91 per cent, while the number drops to 55 per cent in rural areas, with less than 10 per cent coverage among the Madhesis and Dalits.

A micro-entrepreneur in Birendranagar, Surkhet weaves Dhaka (Nepali cloth).

<  Chandra Shekhar Karki / UNDP Nepal

Nepal has tremendous potential for development and subsequent job creation through sustainable use of natural resource based enterprises in the rural areas, where 80 per cent of Nepal's population lives. However, lack of awareness, education and skills to utilize existing resources continues to perpetuate underemployment and underdevelopment. Nepal also has vast hydro potential, yet 30 per cent of its population has no access to electricity. Even those with access suffer from frequent power outages. There is a strong link between access to energy such as electricity, income generating opportunities and improvement in living standards, including better results in health and education.

To help address challenges and tap opportunities, UNDP's work in Nepal on poverty and sustainable development has been designed around three broad pillars: employment creation, access to energy and policy support in pro-poor development planning and monitoring.

For the last 15 years, UNDP has supported creation of jobs through micro-enterprises. In 2013 UNDP-supported Micro-Enterprise Development Programme (MEDEP) created 12,144 jobs.

UNDP also contributed to improving living standards for the poor and vulnerable by increasing their access to renewable energy. In 2013, UNDP helped connect 11,965 rural households to electricity generated by 37 community-based micro hydropower plants.

On the policy front, UNDP provided technical support to conduct the Annual Household Survey (AHS) to collect key data on labor and consumption. The data will feed into annual planning and policy making on employment creation and poverty reduction. The report of the first AHS is being prepared, and data collection for the second AHS has already started. UNDP also contributed to finalize and roll out the National Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) guidelines to strengthen an M&E system to support evidence based planning and policy making.



^ A micro-entrepreneur in Patamara, Jumla harvests carrots in his farm. 📷 Chandra Shekhar Karki /UNDP Nepal



^ Principal of Mane Danda Higher Secondary School in Jhyanku, Dolakha uses a photocopier. The power supply in this school comes from a micro-hydro power plant. 📷 Chandra Shekhar Karki /UNDP Nepal

## ELIMINATING POVERTY, CREATING ENTREPRENEURS

Since 1998, Micro Enterprise Development Programme (MEDEP) has been the flagship programme of the UNDP and the Government of Nepal. It is, at present, largely funded by Australian Aid. MEDEP aims at creating meaningful employment opportunities for the rural poor, thereby contributing to the Government's overarching goal of poverty reduction, especially among the poorest and most marginalized groups.

MEDEP has proven, for 15 years, not only that the hard core poor can be lifted out of the poverty trap through entrepreneurship, but also that by targeting and empowering

the most vulnerable groups, income and social gaps can be significantly reduced.

2013 marked the successful completion of the third phase of MEDEP and the beginning of the fourth phase, which focuses on supporting the implementation of the Government-owned Micro-Enterprise Development for Poverty Alleviation (MEDPA) programme. A key achievement has been the Government's taking full ownership of this programme in 2013. The Government has already replicated the MEDEP model in 50 districts and is planning to reach all 75 districts with its own resources under MEDPA.

**Micro-entrepreneurs in Malakheta, Kailali make cane furniture.** 📷 Chandra Shekhar Karki / UNDP Nepal  
V

In 2013, MEDEP created 9,464 new micro-entrepreneurs, among whom 68 per cent were women, 36 per cent were from indigenous nationalities and 23 per cent were Dalits. As a result of hiring by the micro-entrepreneurs, a total of 12,144 jobs were created. Sixty-eight per cent of these jobs went to women. A further 11,703 micro-entrepreneurs received support to expand their enterprises. The support included labeling, packaging, exposure visits, market linkage, market network extension and product promotion.

In 2013, micro entrepreneurs exported products worth Rs. 93,614,850 (US \$937,367) to countries like India, China, UK, Japan, USA and Austria.



## Policy Support

Convinced by the success of MEDEP supported micro enterprises, the Government has formally incorporated micro-enterprise development into its next Three Year Plan Approach Paper as an integral part of its poverty reduction strategy.

MEDEP's support resulted in micro-enterprise development component featuring prominently in the draft of the Industrial Enterprise Act. The act has been submitted to the Ministerial Council for approval. The draft act has provisions to make the current regulations more micro-enterprise friendly.

MEDEP continued to work with Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB), the central bank of Nepal, to create a favorable environment for micro-entrepreneurs through the monetary policy of 2013/14. The bank's new "Rural Self Reliance Fund (RSRF) Operational Directive" calls for expansion of financial services in rural areas. The policy clearly states flow of credit to promote productive micro-enterprises and businesses in coordination with MEDEP. NRB and MEDEP have also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which relaxes criteria for MEDEP promoted cooperatives to be eligible for wholesale lending from the RSRF.

MEDEP supported the drafting of riverbed farming policy, strongly influencing and contributing to make this policy more gender and social inclusion responsive. The policy is awaiting approval from the Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MoFALD).

### PARTNERS

- Australian AID
- CIDA
- Central Queensland University
- Himlal Power Ltd



^ Micro-entrepreneurs display their products at a mini exhibition in Kavre. 📷 Indra Dhoj Khsetri/UNDP Nepal

## Institutional Support

The programme has supported the Government to prepare MEDPA's Five Year Strategic Plan. The Government has already allocated Rs. 350 million (US \$3.5 million) to replicate the MEDEP model in 50 districts.

To institutionalize the MEDEP model through local governance structures, MEDEP has been providing training to staff of local bodies. In 2013 MEDEP supported the drafting of ten District Enterprise Development Strategic Plans (DEDSPs) and trained staff of 63 Village Development Committees (VDCs). As a result, the District Development Committees (DDCs) and VDCs contributed Rs. 6,599,000 (US \$66,076) and Rs. 3,354,000 (US \$33,584) respectively to Micro Enterprise Development Fund (MEDF) from their own resources.

The programme also provided technical inputs in the development of MEDPA Operational Guidelines. This document is key to replicating the MEDEP model in MEDPA implemented districts.



^ Nepal's Minister for Finance and Industry Honorable Shankar Koirala interacts with Indra Man Tamang, a successful strawberry farmer in Okharpauwa, Nuwakot. 📷 Indra Dhoj Khsetri/UNDP Nepal



^ A miro-entrepreneur gives finishing touch to Lokta (Nepali paper) in Nangi, Myagdi. 📷 MEDEP/UNDP Nepal

# Riverbed Farming: Using wasteland to aid the poor

Nearly one thousand landless micro-entrepreneurs ardently toil in the dry sand of the Kamala riverbed to support their livelihoods. As a result, the riverbed, which is submerged in muddy waters for four months during rainy season, transforms into a lush, green farm for the rest of the year. People cultivate crops such as cucumber, watermelon, gourd and beans which are appropriate to the sandy soil.

Once mostly a wasteland, the Kamala riverbed has now turned into a blessing for the local communities. The average per capita income of the farmers has grown from Rs. 4,000 to over Rs. 30,865 in a few years.

Situated nearly 30 kilometers northwest of the district headquarters, the Bhokraha and Chiknaha Village Development Committees (VDCs) are home to some of the poorest people in Siraha district. Until a few years ago, these people were heavily dependent on seasonal jobs across the border in India to earn a living. When MEDEP entered the village in 2008 with the idea of growing agro-products on the abandoned Kamala riverbed, the prospect of farming with nearly no cost involved for land attracted 84 individuals from the locality. They started riverbed farming after receiving skills training and start-up support from MEDEP and local bodies.

## INTRODUCING LOW COST SOLUTIONS

In the beginning, diesel-operated water pumping sets were used for irrigation in the riverbed farms. The pumps cost approximately Rs. 50,000 (US \$ 501), which was 50 per cent of the total cost of irrigation, per household in a season (November-May). Now, manually operated, easy to use, low cost solutions have been introduced, reducing expenses by five times. In most cases Bamboo Treadle Pump, Rope and Washer Pump, Mobile Jumbo Treadle Pump and Pressure Hand Pump have replaced diesel-operated pumps. Since these pumps are operated manually, they are environment friendly and are not dependent on diesel or electricity. Seventy per cent of the riverbed farmers have now adopted these solutions.



▲ A micro-entrepreneur works at her riverbed farm. 📷 MEDEP/UNDP Nepal

MEDEP and its partners' start-up support contributed Rs. 1,200 per person. Profit from the agro-farming surpassed their expectations. Each of the new entrepreneurs earned approximately Rs. 12,000 in a very short time.

Inspired by this success, MEDEP trained many other landless farmers in riverbed technology in subsequent years. Currently, 945 farmers, 51 per cent of them women, of 9 VDCs and 2 wards in Siraha municipality have been trained and supported by MEDEP to start farming in the sandy riverbanks.

The word of the farmers' success has spread like wildfire and has drawn other entrepreneurs from the neighbouring VDCs of Kalyanpur, Kalabanjar and Gautari to try their hand at riverbed farming.

MEDEP has also introduced riverbed farming in other places - to the western bank of the Kamala River in Dhanusha and on a different riverbank in Bardiya district. In Dhanusha, over 400 families are now earning a living from riverbed farming.

## SUPPORTING VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES RISE OUT OF POVERTY

In 2013, UNDP, through its Livelihood Recovery for Peace (LRP) project, continued to expand economic opportunities – generating short term employment. It also increased the accessibility of improved sanitation and hygiene to marginalized groups in some of the poorest communities in Nepal.

The project works in three districts, Mahottari, Sarlahi and Rautahat, in the central Tarai region where a combined population of 1.7 million ranks among the lowest in HDI indicators in Nepal.

In 2013, a total of 893 families received support to construct toilets. Similarly, 18 community hand pumps were installed to give the families access to safe drinking water. In the targeted communities, the percentage of households with access to private toilet facilities has reached 18 per cent up from 3 per cent in 2012. Access to safe drinking water sources has also increased by 13 per cent, from 37 per cent in 2012 to 50 per cent in 2013.

In 2013, a total of 30 community groups graduated to become fully registered cooperatives carrying out agriculture based business. Their registration as cooperatives has enabled them access government resources, benefiting a total of 764 individuals. As a gesture of incentive from the Government, each of these 30 cooperatives received a seed support of Rs. 30,000 (US \$300).

### **Institutional Support**

A total of 138 VDC Secretaries received training in effective planning and allocation of VDC Block Grant for the poor and excluded communities.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- 5,937 community group members received livelihood recovery assistance, bringing the total number of grant recipients to 27,075.
- Community infrastructure work for disadvantaged groups created short-term employment of 12,783 person days, of which 28 per cent was for women.
- 915 infrastructures, including toilets, culverts and hand pumps, were built.
- 208 Women's Rights Forums continued to generate awareness on gender-based violence in 208 VDCs of Mahottari, Sarlahi and Rautahat.



▲ Fulmati Devi and her daughter in Mahottari clean their toilet. 📷 Devendra Dhungana/UNDP Nepal

# No more “as poor as a Musahar”

As the main road gave way to much narrower path in Mahottari village of Mahottari district in central Tarai, there were signs that a Dalit settlement was not far away. Sometimes, the national electricity grid ends right where a Dalit settlement begins.

As the saying ‘as poor as a Musahar’ implies, the community is among the poorest in Nepal. Mostly landless, the Dalit Musahar community members support themselves with farm labour, which has been their way of life for years.

Being landless in this part of Nepal has its own set of woes that go beyond the lack of a stable roof overhead, and involve a precarious livelihood that leads to taking up whatever work is available. The very poor rely on seasonal jobs or rush to village moneylenders to cover everyday expenses. The moneylenders charge exorbitant fees, further trapping them in a vicious cycle of poverty and indebtedness. Upendra Sada, his wife Chandrakala and their family suffered the same woes until a few years back. Today, they are looked up to as role models in their community.



Upendra Sada at his shop. © Devendra Dhungana /UNDP Nepal

Upendra and Chandrakala took a big step in 2011 when they decided to invest LRP’s micro capital grant of Rs. 9,000 (US \$90) in a snacks shop.

The couple rented a small shop in Mahottari Bazaar close to a high school. During the day, school children are the main customers of the snacks shop. The children buy biscuits, noodles, chips and local delicacies. The couple’s children go to the same school.

Business is brisk even in the evenings as daily wage earners stop by for snacks on their way home.



^ Women in Laukhat, Sarlahi gather under a peepal tree for their regular community group meeting. © Devendra Dhungana /UNDP Nepal

As of October 2013, Upendra and Chandrakala have become proud owners of a small plot of land, which they bought for Rs. 117,000 from their savings.

“We are still poor but have learned how to make a living and aren’t worried anymore,” says a confident Upendra.

The couple is among the 27,075 community members who have received micro capital grants from UNDP to enhance livelihood assets. In 2013 alone, 5,937 community group members were given micro capital grants.

A total of 60 per cent beneficiaries belong to the most excluded and disadvantaged Dalit households, along with other disadvantaged groups. Ninety five per cent of the beneficiaries are women from very poor households, who are otherwise deprived of livelihood improvement opportunities.

## POWER TO THE POOR

In 2013, UNDP, in partnership with Alternative Energy Promotion Centre (AEP), supported rural communities to install 37 Micro Hydropower Plants (MHP), benefitting over 11,965 households. In addition, ten toilet-attached domestic bio-gas plants were also installed. Access to community managed energy services has helped to change the face of many remote villages. Electric bulbs have replaced kerosene lamps and improved cooking stoves have replaced wood-stoves.

Access to renewable energy has helped reduce the time spent on collection of fuel wood and grain processing. Households have saved on their regular expenses: up to 96 per cent on kerosene and up to 30 per cent on dry cells. Many families have made use of the saved time and money to start additional income generating activities.

With better lighting, school children are able to study in the evenings and schools have added computer and Internet facilities. Studies have shown that the performance of children in school improves and drop-out rates decrease with better lighting at home. In general, enrollment of girls in schools also seems to have improved.

In 2013, almost 60 jobs related to the operation and management of micro-hydro plants have been created in rural areas. Access to electricity has spawned over 45 micro-enterprises—including several run by women—providing direct employment to at least 90 people. Villages with micro hydro plants also have registered increased agricultural production due to a reliable water supply flowing off the power house.

In 2013, UNDP's support led to rehabilitation of nine micro-hydro plants that were damaged by floods and landslides. Four more are under re-construction.

### Policy Support

To institutionalize rural renewable energy development activities at the district level, UNDP extended technical assistance to AEP and 75 District Development Committees (DDCs). The support focused on coordination of district level activities, as well as on assistance to strengthen the capacity of District Energy and Environment Sections.

UNDP provided technical support to AEP in drafting a Renewable Energy Policy, which is currently under review. The policy highlights renewable energy as a means for sustainable energy and development in both rural and urban areas. UNDP also contributed

to taking the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) initiative forward. A high level committee chaired by the National Planning Commission's vice chairperson has been formed and gap analysis on the energy sector was completed. The Government has included SE4ALL in the latest Three Year Plan Approach Paper.

UNDP also provided support to connect mini-grid to national grid. UNDP's feasibility study in Baglung shows that connection between mini-grid and national grid is technically and financially viable. As a result of UNDP and AEP's advocacy, a ministerial level meeting has decided to begin interconnection between mini and national grids in Baglung as a pilot project.

Local people in Gorpang, Dolakha enjoy a video in a parlour run by Pasang Sherpa using electricity from a micro-hydro plant.  Chandra Shekhar Karki/UNDP Nepal



# Supporting farmers with lift irrigation



Farmers irrigate their crops using a lift irrigation system.  
 RERL/UNDP Nepal

Forty-five year old Parbati Magar of Kalanga-1, Mahadevsthan of Dhading, a mother of three, had been worried about her children for some time. Her children had to make a dangerous river crossing everyday to go to school. As there was no prospect of a bridge being built immediately, all she wanted to do was build a new house on the side of the river where the school was. Poverty and meagre farm earning meant that her wish remained just that.

Since March 2013, however, the twenty-three households of this neighborhood, including the Magars, have been able to grow a significant amount of vegetables through lift irrigation. Magar was finally able to build a new house with her earning from vegetable sale.

UNDP-supported Renewable Energy for

Rural Livelihood (RERL), along with the District Energy and Environment Section (DEES), provided support to install a Micro Hydro Operated Lift Irrigation (MHOLI) system. The system provides water to irrigate 103 ropanis (around 5 hectares) of land. It also provides water for household consumption to the 23 households of Chepang, Magar and Dalit communities.

This system was installed through the 26 kilowatt Malekhu Khola I Micro Hydropower Plant that was built in 2009. Since then, besides lighting their houses, the people of Mahadevsthan have been using the electricity to operate a grinder, a huller, a tailoring shop, refrigerators, a computer institute and an internet café.

“Earlier the vegetables did not grow well due to lack of water. With the lift irrigation system, the vegetable yield has been very good

and we are making good money,” says Magar. Her earning for three months increased from a meager Rs. 10 to 20 thousand to Rs. 120,000. The family is now thinking of diversifying the crops and is making plans to start growing tomatoes, beans and bitter gourd this year.

Another resident of the village, Kamala Nepali says she is now able to earn as much as Rs. 40,000 every three months by selling vegetables.

A relatively small initiative has brought about a huge transformation in the village. Women no longer have to go back and forth to get water from a spring located downhill, since the water supply is now in their own homes. Some families have replaced their thatched roofs with tin sheets because of the increased earnings.

The success has encouraged more farmers to start vegetable cultivation in the village.



△ The then Prime minister Dr. Baburam Bhattarai at the MAF launch function. Also seen in the photo from left to right are former UNDP Resident Representative Mr. Robert Piper and UNICEF Representative Ms. Hanaa Singer. 📷 John Narayan Parajuli /UNDP Nepal

## SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF POLICY AND PLANNING

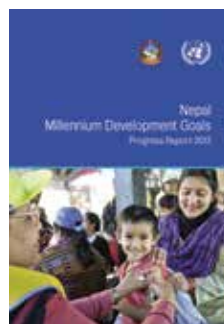
In any country, development planning is at the heart of effectively addressing causes of poverty and underdevelopment. A proper planning process requires both sound knowledge of policy and strong empirical basis for decision making. To appropriately address these, evidence-based planning, supported by results-based monitoring is crucial.

UNDP's joint project with the National Planning Commission (NPC), Strengthening National Planning and Monitoring Capacity (SNPMC), has been providing technical support on policy and planning in light of Nepal's decision to graduate from its Least Developed Country (LDC) status by 2022. In 2013, UNDP provided support to prepare a technical paper focusing on the assessment of Nepal's current LDC status and estimate of various scenarios based on the graduation criteria.



To support evidence based planning processes, UNDP provided technical and financial support to the Central Bureau of Statistics in 2013 to hold the Annual Household Survey (AHS) so that the Government can produce key disaggregated data on labor and consumption more frequently. The first report is due in July 2014. SNPMC has also been supporting the development of a National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) to bring about transformative changes in the way data is generated in Nepal.

The project also lent its support to make the planning process as participatory as possible, in the run up to the formulation of the Thirteenth Plan (2013/14-2016/17). This included organizing ten consultations with more than 500 people, including representatives of political parties, government line agencies, NGOs and other development actors of all five development regions.



In 2013, UNDP worked with the NPC to produce the MDG Progress Report 2013 to assess Nepal's MDG achievements so far, while outlining the prospects for meeting all the goals by 2015. In order to assist Nepal in expediting interventions in areas it is lagging behind, an MDG Acceleration Framework (MAF) to improve sanitation coverage was unveiled in 2013. The MAF report has been well integrated into the Government's operational policies and programmes; the annual budget for sanitation has increased and MAF is fully integrated into the recently approved Operational Guidelines of the Sanitation Master Plan.

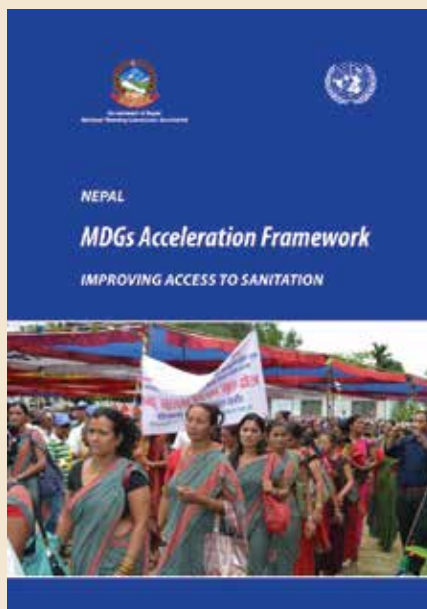
UNDP also provided support to produce follow-up reports on the environmental causes of displacement and climate budget code. The reports include a draft of green economy framework and a guidance paper to mainstream poverty and environment in the planning process.

On monitoring and evaluation, technical support was extended to NPC to hold orientations on the National Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Guideline for eleven ministries, and for government officials in one region. The project also gave technical support to assess Nepal's evaluation capacity to promote the culture of evaluation.

# Nepal adopts MDGs Acceleration Framework

At least 20 per cent of Nepal's community schools do not have toilets (MAF, 2013). This translates to a girl child studying in such a school missing 48 days of class in a year. Naturally, this is reflected in her poor performance. With patriarchy at play, she may be forced to leave school, marry early, become pregnant and lose her life or her child. If her child is lucky to see the light of the day, poor sanitation in the village will infect the child in his/her early days with diarrhea and this might result in the infant's death. 10,500 children in Nepal die of diarrhea every year.

Realizing the multiple negative impacts of poor sanitation on other MDGs, UNDP supported the Government of Nepal to prepare and adopt the Millennium Development Goals Acceleration Framework (MAF) on sanitation (MDG 7). In line with Sanitation and Hygiene Master Plan 2011, Nepal requires additional efforts to meet the 80 per cent target by 2015, and universal coverage by 2017. Adding to this is the wide disparity among regions and social groups: sanitation coverage ranges between 47 per cent and 73 per cent region-wise, between 5 per cent and 72 per cent ethnicity-wise, between 49 per cent and 75 per cent ecological belt-wise, between 55 per cent and 91 per cent rural-urban-setting-wise and between 4 per cent and 97 per cent economic status-wise.



To assist the Government in expediting universal sanitation coverage, UNDP provided technical and financial support to frame the MAF on sanitation. It took a year to finalize the document with a wide range of consultations from the national to the community levels.

Endorsed at the highest level, the MAF was launched by the then Prime Minister Baburam Bhattarai in January 2013. Following the launch, the document was disseminated at the village development committee (VDC) level

and now sanitation campaign is gaining momentum in the country. MAF has been integrated in the Master Plan Operational Guidelines on sanitation. The Government's total budget on sanitation for 2013-14 has increased significantly. MAF even features in the Approach Paper to the Thirteenth National Plan (2013/14-2016/17).

To ensure effective coordination among various ministries for smooth implementation of the MAF, the Government formed a high level advisory committee chaired by vice chairperson of the NPC. The committee comprises of the secretaries of five key ministries relevant to sanitation. The committee held its first meeting in December, and made several decisions to expedite progress at the local level.

The unveiling of Nepal's MAF on sanitation has contributed significantly in sensitizing government and other development partners to the sanitation movement in Nepal. The MAF was also reviewed by a meeting chaired by the UN Secretary General, and was hailed as an exemplary work of development cooperation.



^ Staff at Alka Hospital in Lalitpur receive orientation on a newly installed waste management system. 📷 CEPHEP/UNDP Nepal



^ Community members in Makawanpur prepare land for agro-forestry. 📷 NDRC/UNDP Nepal

## SUPPORTING COMMUNITY-LED CONSERVATION INITIATIVES

The Global Environment Facility - Small Grants Programme (GEF-SGP) supports community led initiatives to conserve the global environment while also promoting sustainable development.

In 2013, GEF-SGP supported the implementation of 47 community-led projects. Thirty seven of the interventions contributed to conserving biodiversity, mitigating climate change, preventing land degradation and eliminating persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and

chemicals. Another seven interventions, which are supported by Community Development and Knowledge Management for the Satoyama Initiative (COMDEKS), are being implemented to conserve socio-ecological landscape in west Makawanpur. The remaining three projects focus on water harvesting and conservation, and are supported by Every Drop Matters, a global collaboration between UNDP and Coca Cola.

In 2013, the project installed over 1,000 improved cook stoves in Lalitpur and Sindhupalchok by using modified stove making fiber dye, and continued the conservation work on significant wetlands with a total area of 250 hectares in Rupandehi, Dang and Arghakhachi. The

project constructed 73 ponds in Makawanpur to promote polyculture of Carp and small indigenous species and conserved significant forest block of Patana forest in Kapilvastu and Thada forest in Arghakhachi. In 2013, the project supported safe and environment-friendly medical waste management system in Alka Hospital in Lalitpur and two health posts in Chitwan, recharged 23.06 million liters of ground water through the construction of 120 structures in Kathmandu valley, and planted over 770,000 plants (grass, fruit and fodder) in over 480 hectares of sloping land in Makawanpur.



## *Chapter 2*

# Inclusive and Effective Democratic Governance

A well-functioning democracy requires institutions that are responsive, inclusive and accountable. In countries transitioning to full democracy, new institutions need to be established while the existing need to be strengthened. UNDP Nepal has been providing support to various national institutions on a wide range of issues in order for them to carry out their mandate and meet their responsibilities. The support covers rule of law and human rights, local governance, administrative reform and aid management, among others.

While existing programmes in support of human rights and aid management were continued in 2013, new programmes on rule of law, public administration reform and local governance were rolled out.

Audience cheer at a concert organized to mark the International Anti-Corruption Day in Basantapur, Kathmandu.

📷 Laxmi Ngakhushi / UNDP Nepal

<

## PROMOTING RULE OF LAW

Nepal's justice sector institutions need support for reform in order to help them become more responsive to public needs and aspirations.

The focus of the Strengthening the Rule of Law and Human Rights Protection System in Nepal (RoLHR) programme is to strengthen justice sector coordination among rule of law institutions to enhance access to justice for women and vulnerable groups, and to ensure compliance with international human rights standards throughout law making and law enforcement processes.

In 2013, the programme worked to strengthen access to justice for women and vulnerable groups through establishment and strengthening of legal institutions at the district level. Such institutions include socio-legal aid centers and case-referral networks, information and court orientation desks, and help desks for conflict-affected victims.

One of the major reform initiatives is 'in-camera hearing benches' of the district courts. This is intended to protect the right to dignity and confidentiality of victims, especially women, during judicial hearings. The support includes technical and logistic assistance to institutionalize 'in-camera hearing benches' in five districts of the mid and far-western regions.

UNDP's support has contributed to an increase in judgment execution by 7.8 per cent for criminal cases and 13.5 per cent for civil cases.



^ Hon'ble acting chief justice Damodar Prasad Sharma (centre) launches explanatory notes to the proposed penal code, criminal procedure code and sentencing bill during a launch event at the National Judicial Academy in December 2013. © Dila D Pant / UNDP Nepal

### Policy support

In 2013, the RoLHR programme assisted the National Judicial Academy in reviewing and drafting the Penal Code, the Criminal Procedure Code and the Sentencing Bill. This will eventually modernize the legal system and replace the existing codes in Nepal. This support has included the development of comprehensive 'Explanatory Notes' to all of these bills. The explanatory notes will be disseminated among lawmakers to increase their understanding of the proposed provisions of these comprehensive codes. In addition, the programme has supported the Ministry of Law, Justice, Constituent Assembly and Parliamentary Affairs to prepare an ambitious reform of the national legal aid framework.

### PARTNERS

- UN Peace Fund Nepal
- Norway



#### PARTNERS

- Finland
- Denmark
- UK aid
- Switzerland
- OHCHR

▲ NHRC special investigation team in Siraha gathers information from a victim's family 📷 Ganesh Chaudhary / UNDP Nepal

## IMPROVING PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

In 2013, the 'Strengthening the Capacity of the National Human Rights Commission' (SCNHRC) project continued to undertake initiatives aimed at strengthening the capacity of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to enable it to effectively fulfill its mandate of securing protection and promotion of human rights in Nepal.

The project's contribution to strengthening NHRC's capacity has resulted in substantial improvements in its functioning: a total of 25 investigation missions were undertaken and 300 pending cases were settled. Extensive human rights education at the local level has resulted in the registration of 219 new complaints with the Commission. As a result of strategic advocacy, ten new human rights cases have been filed with the Supreme Court. One of these petitions challenged parts of the National Human Rights Commission Act. This

led to the Supreme Court issuing a direct order to the Government of Nepal to amend the act in line with international human rights standards.

In order to support the implementation of the recommendations made as part of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), UNDP has supported the NHRC to conduct a number of advocacy meetings and interactions with the Government, and develop a monitoring tool to ensure appropriate follow-up of the UPR implementation. Based on this, a comprehensive assessment of the implementation status has been conducted. The assessment report has become a key tool for human rights defenders to lobby further with the relevant government agencies for the implementation of UPR recommendations.

The project has also supported the establishment of a Media Centre within the NHRC premises, recognizing media's role in influencing public opinion. The Media Centre aims to generate awareness about NHRC's mandate and programmes by disseminating accurate information related to NHRC's activities.

## SUPPORTING ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS

The Project to Prepare the Public Administration for State Reforms (PREPARE) was launched in 2013 under the leadership of the Ministry of General Administration and in conjunction with other relevant institutions including the Public Service Commission (PSC). The core focus of the project is to support the government institutions to undertake preparatory work, including transition plan, for federalizing the administration in the state reform process. The project also aims to provide support at policy and program levels to make the civil service inclusive.

The overall objectives of the project include strengthening the current systems, preparing the relevant government institutions for administrative reform in view of the impending state restructuring process, and contributing to better transition management of the civil service in the post-constitutional period.

In 2013, PREPARE has developed an option paper on reforming the civil service management in view of the impending federalization of Nepal. Several consultations were held engaging a total of 322 participants, including senior civil servants and civil society organizations. This option paper will be used as a basis for developing a civil service reform strategy. The option paper will also inform discussion among the



Constituent Assembly members, political leaders and bureaucrats for consensus building on the issues of civil services reform.

A Gender and Social Inclusion assessment of the Government's human resource laws and regulations has been conducted and follow up discussions on recommendations have been held with ministries.

PREPARE also supported the development of a new training module on inclusion, affirmative action and diversity management for civil servants.

To ensure greater accountability among public officials, the project extended support to the Commission for Investigation of Abuse of Authority (CIAA) in developing a strategic plan for enhancing its efficiency and effectiveness. This included development of three training manuals and subsequent training on areas of land administration, public procurement and financial management where corruption is rife. In total, 274 CIAA staff participated in these training programmes.

Additionally, the project supported the CIAA to strengthen its security system and communication facilities through the installation of close circuit televisions (CCTVs) at the central level and video conference facilities in five regional offices and headquarters.

**Mr. Dullu Raj Basnet, Chief District Officer of Nuwakot, facilitates a group work on Social Inclusion in Civil Service and Effectiveness in Public Service Delivery.**  UNDP Nepal



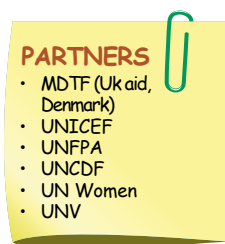
## SUPPORTING LOCAL AND COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE

The Local Governance and Community Development Programme (LGCDP) is a government-owned programme supported by about a dozen development partners, including UNDP. The programme was designed to provide 'peace dividends' and to reduce the democratic deficit at the local level, following the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2006. Upon the completion of the first phase of LGCDP in July 2013, the second phase was launched, building on the lessons learned from the first phase. UNDP's major role will be to provide technical support to the programme at local, regional and central levels. This support includes capacity building of Government institutions and officials, project evaluation and review, management of human resources, etc. UNCDF and UNV are the other UN agencies supporting the programme.

In 2013, UNDP's major support included transition management between two phases of the programme and capacity development of local bodies, Ward Citizen Forums (WCFs) and Citizen Awareness Centers (CACs)—grassroot organizations designed to provide citizens a platform to voice their opinion and aspirations.

WCFs involve all the inhabitants of a particular ward and CACs are designed to include those that have been traditionally left out of the mainstream because of poverty and marginalization. CACs bring together excluded groups to identify, analyze and take actions on the issues that directly affect them.

These grassroot organizations are showing promising signs as their members actively participate in the local level planning, civic



oversight and local governance processes. In 2013, a total of 390 members of CACs were trained and educated with UNDP's support.

UNDP also supported the Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MoFALD) to implement the Livelihood Improvement Plan (LIP) among disadvantaged groups in 170 VDCs covering the nine districts of the Far-western Development Region. Each VDC was provided Rs.100, 000 (US \$ 1001) to implement LIP to help disadvantaged groups in earning livelihoods. UNDP also supported the introduction of results based monitoring systems in local bodies to better capture progress at different levels and improve reporting systems. This will help to reinforce evidence based monitoring, planning and programming across different levels. Technical and financial support was also extended for updating the monitoring and evaluation framework of LGCDP.

Sixty-nine officials of DDCs and municipalities were trained on Global Positioning System for updating existing bio-physical Geographic Information System (GIS). The bio-physical database, which includes information on land use, road network, settlement pattern and administrative boundary, will be used for District Periodic Planning and District Transport Master Plan preparation.

A total of 525 VDC secretaries were also trained on mainstreaming poverty and environment into local development plans and budgets in 2013.

# Citizens decide development priorities

Fifty-five year old Indal Mandal of Gopalpur Village in Dhanusha District says “Development in Dhanusha saw setbacks mainly because the budget was frozen over reports that millions were embezzled. But today we are all conscious about the budget that comes to our village. The Ward Citizen Forums (WCFs), created through Local Governance and Community Development Programme, are meeting more regularly and discussing how to utilise the fund for the public good.”

Members of the WCFs meet on a voluntary basis to discuss socio-economic issues at the ward level, and prioritize development needs to make budgetary recommendations for submission at the village level Integrated Planning Committee.

“Earlier, an unelected political mechanism decided the budget, and most of the time it was siphoned off,” says Indal. Elections for local bodies have not been held in the last twelve years.

For several years, the local government in Dhanusha was flagged for poor performance and their development budget was frozen. This budget could have otherwise created hundreds of projects and thousands of short-term employment opportunities for the local people. The Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development in Kathmandu had to shuffle staff and take other tough measures to bring about reforms. Today, there are some promising signs that improvements are being made.

“We decide the funding priorities on the basis of recommendations made by the Ward

Citizen Forums and have planned to maintain a notice board at the village level to inform the public about the small projects implemented through the block grants,” says Ram Lakhan Yadav, VDC secretary of Gopalpur.

A VDC office building is under construction in Gopalpur as a result of a local decision making process where members of the WCF decided that it was a priority. Members of the Integrated Planning Committee also replaced a Treasurer of the User Committee for this infrastructure project because the former did not maintain the expenses properly.

The user committees are urged to be transparent with their account and to disseminate detail information about the expenses on a periodic basis so that community members will have increased trust in those who are in the decision making committee.

Priyanka Kumari Yadav, a WCF member, feels that the need to ensure meaningful participation of women in decision-making is being addressed. She says that historically, cultural bias has prevented women’s equal participation in the Tarai. “But, the provision of ensuring at least 33 per cent of women representation in the local decision-making committees has greatly encouraged women to come forward.”

Members of a Ward Citizens Forum (WCF) participate in their WCF meeting.  Devendra Dhungana / UNDP Nepal



## Policy support

UNDP supported a revision of local elections provision in the Local Self Governance Act (LSGA) 1999 to provide a legal basis for reforms linked to local elections. Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MoFALD) has forwarded the draft LSGA to the Office of the Prime Minister for further processing.

The Cabinet has endorsed the Environment Friendly Local Governance (EFLG) framework of MoFALD. The framework was drafted with support from UNDP. The EFLG will guide concerted efforts of different stakeholders to mainstream environment, climate change, disaster and other environmental issues into local development plan and programmes.

A 'pro-poor climate change and environment' study of local body's policies, programmes and budgets was carried out in 2013. This led to publication of an Environment Assessment Resource Book.

UNDP provided technical and financial support to MoFALD to revise the Municipality, DDC and VDC Annual Planning Guidelines to include poverty, environment and climate change considerations. The guidelines have been applied in the current fiscal year (2012/2013) across the country.



▲ Finance Secretary Mr. Shanta Ram Subedi launches the Aid Management Portal. 📷 John Narayan Parajuli /UNDP Nepal

### PARTNERS

- USAID
- DANIDA
- UK aid

## EFFECTIVE AID MANAGEMENT

UNDP has been providing support to the Ministry of Finance to facilitate smooth operation of Aid Management Platform, and strengthening the capacity of Government agencies in aid coordination and management. Under its Developing Capacities for Effective Aid Management and Coordination (DCEAMC) project, UNDP is also providing support to implement the Busan outcomes that call for transparency, accountability and effective use of aid, among others.

In 2013, government officials were trained on negotiation skills to improve capabilities of the Nepali negotiation team to undergo project negotiations. A series of trainings on aid effectiveness have widened the knowledge of government officials at the district and central levels on global aid dynamics, aid scenario in Nepal and challenges of aid effectiveness in the country.



The Development Cooperation Report based on the data generated by Aid Management Platform (AMP) was published in March 2013. The report gives a broad overview of foreign aid in Nepal, along with some analysis of aid fragmentation, the

use of technical assistance, and the alignment of programs with national policy. The tool makes information related to Development Partners' assistance in Nepal available, and helps various line ministries and agencies to coordinate foreign aid in various sectors, while promoting accountability. In addition, the analytical information available in the report has been instrumental in drafting the new Development Cooperation Policy that is under consultation.

# A major leap towards aid transparency

Nepal has been a major recipient of foreign aid for the last six decades and this has played a pivotal role in the country's development. Almost 25 per cent of the national budget is contributed by foreign aid. With over 40 donors and other international agencies, the volume of assistance has been gradually increasing, while aid has become more and more fragmented.

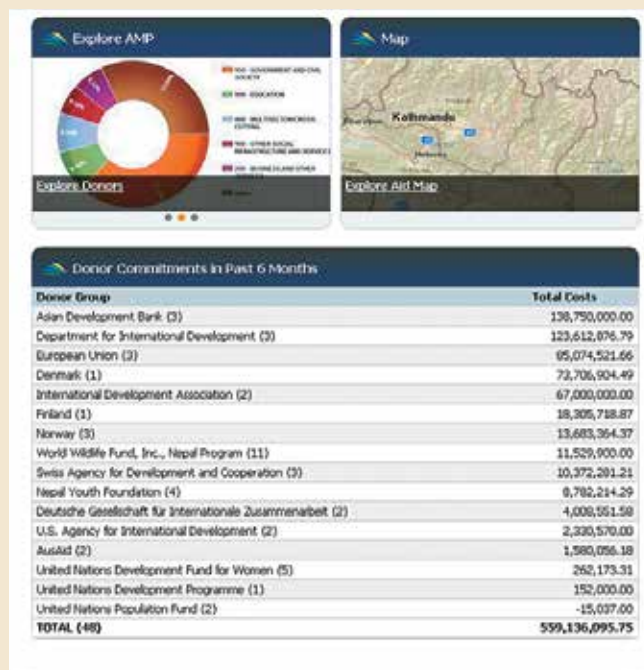
Needless to say, the fragmentation and increase in financial assistance calls for

transparency in how the money is being spent. In a major leap towards aid accountability, an online Aid Management Portal (AMP) was launched on June 21, 2013. The portal provides comprehensive information of funds from donors and its use in projects in various parts of the country. The portal, developed with technical support of UNDP, enables the Government to better manage and coordinate development assistance. It was initially designed to be used only by the Government and its development partners. This helped in improving the processes for planning,

monitoring, coordinating and reporting on international aid flows and activities. It was later made open to the public.

The Development Cooperation Report, which is based on AMP information, provides a detail of foreign aid, donors and the fields where the money has been used.

The AMP information has also been used to prepare Technical Assistance Book, as well as budget ceiling for planned disbursement.



< A screen shot of the Aid Management Platform.

The Aid Management Platform is a key component of aid transparency and coordination efforts in Nepal. It contributes to better development planning by providing up-to-date information on aid activities in the country. The database is used by the Government of Nepal for better management of aid in the national budgetary system.

At present, 34 resident donors, including India, China and other emerging donors, are involved in the AMP and contact has been established with non-resident donors. In addition, over 600 ongoing projects, including 496 off-budget ones, have been entered into the platform.

Members of Citizen Awareness Center (CAC) > in Narpani, Arghakhanchi share what they have learned. 📷 Tapa Dipti Sitaula /UNDP Nepal



विवाह भएको  
सुखला दर्ता

सम्बन्ध  
विच्छेद भएको  
सुखला दर्ता

बसोसराईको  
सुखला दर्ता

मृत्यु भएको  
सुखला दर्ता

ना

सिफरि




## Chapter 3

# Support to Peace building and Transition

Since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2006, Nepal has undergone a complex transition that has included rehabilitating former combatants, discussing the terms of a future constitution, holding crucial elections, and dealing with complex set of political, resource-related and identity-related tensions. UNDP has worked closely with national institutions and other development partners to support Nepal through this transition.

UNDP draws on its global expertise in peace-building and its neutral position as an impartial convener to bring parties and groups together for amicable resolution of political and other conflicts.

Holding credible elections are crucial for stability after a conflict. UNDP continues to provide support to the Election Commission of Nepal in modernizing voter registration and elections operations.

< An elderly man in Bhaktapur casts his vote in the Constituent Assembly (CA) elections in November 2013.  Shoko Noda/UNDP Nepal

## REINTEGRATING EX-COMBATANTS INTO CIVILIAN SOCIETY

In 2010, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA and ILO established the UN Interagency Rehabilitation Programme (UNIRP) to facilitate the transition of discharged Maoist Army combatants from military to civilian life.

The rehabilitation programme formally concluded in 2013, having provided support to 2,234 ex-combatants (838 of whom were females), who were discharged early for being verified minors or late recruits (VLMRs). In the four years of operation, the project worked with VLMRs offering them a range of assistance from educational and vocational skills and counselling to in-kind support to assist them in transitioning into sustainable civilian livelihoods. To date, 71.5 per cent of the graduates have secured employment or established their own businesses. The education component remains ongoing until August 2015 to provide the 380 participants who are still enrolled the opportunity to complete the provision of four years of education.



^ Former-combatants Kamala Dawarala and Laxmi Chaudhari practice their new found skills at their beauty parlor in Sandepani, Kailali. Chandra Shekhar Karki / UNDP Nepal

### PARTNERS

- UN Peace Fund Nepal (UNPFN)
- Norway
- UK aid

# A new incarnation for a former Maoist soldier

Agam Gharti Magar, 26, was in despair when he learned that his name was among those discharged early for being verified minors or late recruits. The six years he had served in the Maoist army were then all but forgotten. Magar said he received only a little support from the Maoist party and had to depend on others for help.

“It made me very frustrated and angry, and I realised that it was time to focus on my own life and not on politics,” says Magar.

In what was to be a turning point in his life, Magar enrolled in the UNIRP Light Vehicle Driver training in Butwal. During the training, it became evident

that his expectations from the programme were much higher than what he was offered. He often vented his disappointment and made unreasonable demands. To help him understand the provisions of the support, UNIRP provided him the assistance of a counsellor.

During the three and half months of his training, Magar first took a bridging literacy and numeracy course to obtain the skills necessary to complete his driving training. However, upon completion, he turned down a job offer and continued to ask UNIRP for lodging and food. UNIRP declined these requests and, through further psychosocial counselling, helped Magar realize that

his anger was misplaced. Bi-weekly telephone follow-ups persuaded Magar to look for a job. UNIRP offered a job placement workshop and linked him with a private sector employer who hired him as a jeep driver.

After two years of working in private transportation, Magar was confident and ready to take on new challenges. There was a distinctly positive change in his behaviour, and he was saving to buy his own vehicle. UNIRP offered him advice and support to apply for soft loan. With his savings and the loan, he bought a new vehicle suitable for carrying goods.

Magar now gets a steady flow of work and earns about Rs. 55,000 per month. He married last year and is now a proud father.



Agam Gharti Magar with his pick-up truck. © Badri Prasad Tiwari / UNDP Nepal

<

## MITIGATING POTENTIAL CONFLICTS

UNDP has carried out extensive work with a broad range of national and local leaders, building capacity on mediation and dialogue skills, and supporting the use of these skills to prevent the escalation of tensions and promote consensus-building on divisive issues. This has made a significant contribution to the improvement in inter-ethnic tensions in the far-western region, as well as to overcoming political hurdles that threatened to derail a major development initiative in the central region.

To help prevent electoral violence, UNDP's Conflict Prevention Programme (CPP) and its team of senior facilitators worked closely with the UN Resident Coordinator to persuade political groups boycotting the election to renounce violence.

Efforts included meeting with senior leaders of boycotting groups and district-level activists. The programme also reached out to the Government of Nepal and major political parties to explore options for bringing the boycotting parties into the electoral process.

CPP also conducted a series of district-level dialogues on preventing electoral violence in four high-risk districts: Banke, Dhanusa, Kailali and Chitwan. These dialogues involved the district heads of political parties and electoral authorities, and focused on identifying measures to address local drivers of electoral violence. Interestingly, local leaders of boycotting parties participated in some of these events.

UNDP also worked intensively with youth and student leaders, as these were some of

the major protagonists involved in violence in previous elections. It engaged with the Joint Youth and Student Platform (JYSP), an umbrella organization with close ties to the major political parties. The programme organized a dialogue among national leaders. This led to a joint call for peaceful elections that was filmed and transmitted as a public service announcement through television, radio and print media. District level leaders were supported to organize local cultural activities with anti-electoral violence messages. Dialogues were also organized among religious leaders, and this also resulted in a joint statement by the Inter-Religious Council of Nepal in favour of peaceful elections. The statement was disseminated widely through print media.

Religious leaders from different faiths come together to discuss ways to minimize conflict.  John Narayan Parajuli / UNDP Nepal



## Policy Support

UNDP provided technical inputs in the “Peace Sensitive Development Approach (PSDA)” developed by the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR). The policy envisions a Peace Focal Person (PFP) assigned by ministries and commissions to act as focal point to mainstream the PSDA, peace-sensitive policies, strategies and plans in their respective agencies.

## Conflict Sensitivity in Regular Trainings

The Nepal Administrative Staff College (NASC) has integrated conflict sensitivity in different regular training courses. In 2013, it trained more than 500 under secretaries and section officers of the Government on Conflict Sensitivity.

### PARTNERS

- UN Peace Fund Nepal (UNPFN)
- SIDA
- EU

## TOWARDS REDUCTION IN INSTANCES OF ARMED VIOLENCE

Launched in 2013, Armed Violence Reduction and Strengthening Community Security (AVRSCS) is a project jointly created by the Government of Nepal and UNDP to cause marked reduction in the incidences of armed violence and strengthen community security initiatives in the post-conflict situation.

The project builds on the lesson learned from several other post-conflict countries that societies under transition remain vulnerable to falling back into the cycle of violence. The AVRSCS project takes a two pronged approach of strengthening

government capacities to address armed violence and engaging with actors at the local level to strengthen community security. It has adopted a five-pillar gender responsive strategy: armed violence surveillance and monitoring, national and local government capacity development, government-led coordination on armed violence reduction, targeted armed violence reduction initiatives at the district level, and public awareness and education. Such an approach draws explicitly on international best practices, which emphasize comprehensive and multi-sector interventions.


✓ **Theatre artists perform a street drama in Birgunj to raise awareness on prevention of youth and gender-based violence.** 📷 *Shilpee Theatre/UNDP Nepal*



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Drafted a strategy and action plan to establish a National Centre for Security Observation (NCSO). The NCSO, to be established in the Nepal Police, will centralize and analyze crime and violence data, including those on GBV.
- Drafted a National Strategy and Action Plan on Arms Control in consultation with Ministry of Home Affairs and Nepal Police. The strategy and plan will help reduce armed violence, including crime and gender-based violence, and improve community security.
- Assisted the Government of Nepal to attend Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) negotiations at UN Headquarters in New-York. The Government of Nepal has already signalled its intention to adhere to the ATT.
- Launched research on masculinities and gender based violence to understand the linkages between gender identities and the use of violence.
- Began preparing a GBV prevention peer education manual for men and boys, to serve as the basis for the GBV prevention work in the 9 project districts.



Members of the second Constituent Assembly (CA) attend the first CA meeting.  Kiran Pandey/UNDP Nepal

## SUPPORT TO CONSTITUTION DRAFTING

UNDP's Support to Participatory Constitution Building in Nepal (SPCBN) project, started in May 2008 with the objective of supporting the participatory constitution making process by providing technical support to the Constituent Assembly (CA), its members, thematic committees and CA task force, and political party leaders and by facilitating informed public participation in the process.

After the dissolution of the CA on 27 May 2012, SPCBN continued to highlight the need to build on the successes of the previous four years and forge political consensus around major contentious issues of the constitution. It continued its work with different partners from across the social and political spectrum. Wherever possible, it engaged in advocacy work in pursuit of these objectives. The project encouraged and supported debate and discussions among political leaders, the legal community and civil society groups to break the political stalemate and elect a new CA.

The project continued its informed debate and civic education work throughout the country with various partners such as media, lawyers' forum, and organizations of Dalit, Madhesi, indigenous people and women on two

broad themes: consolidating the gains made by the former CA, and clarifying myths and misconceptions on important constitutional issues. Discussions on the successes and failures of the first CA enabled people to appreciate the need for accommodation and compromise.

This addressed some of the scepticism about the process of constitution making through an elected and inclusive process. As a result of informed debate, the political parties' manifestos for the 2013 CA elections reflected political parties' views on federalism more clearly than in 2008 election manifestos.

As part of its objective to consolidate the gains of the constitution making process, the project's initiative to produce three scholarly publications continued throughout the year and a publication with 25 papers was published before the first seating of the second CA in January 2014. Similarly, the project also launched a 'lessons learned' initiative to identify why the first CA failed to adopt a new constitution, and to make recommendations to ensure that the second CA process succeeds in producing a constitution that is consistent with the terms of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and acceptable to a broad cross section of Nepal's diverse population.

### PARTNERS

- Denmark
- UK aid
- Norway
- Japan
- Austria

# A forum for reflection

What was hailed as one of the most representative bodies, Nepal's first Constituent Assembly (CA), however added complications to the constitution drafting process. With different parties representing often seemingly competing constituencies, getting a consensus on the constitution became next to impossible. It became necessary to have moderation in party positions and avoid the mistakes that led to the dissolution of the first CA without drafting a constitution.


In order to assist leaders to review their mistakes and help them reach common understanding on contentious issues, UNDP brought key interlocutors together in informal sessions in keeping with the Chatham House Rule as part of its 'Lessons Learned' initiative. The Chatham House rules allow frank discussions on controversial issues without revealing the identity of the discussant to the outsiders in a bid to achieve greater understanding on disputed issues. The discussions helped Nepali leaders to explore common positions while offering space for reflection to CA members and leaders to avoid repeating the past mistakes.

Laxman Lal Karna, newly elected CA member and co-chair of Sadbhavana Party, who participated in the discussions says that even though federation was the bone of contention, it was among the least discussed issues on the CA floor. "There was inadequate debate on



federalism and the political parties also failed to educate the general public about federal systems of governance and state restructuring," says Karna. "The donor assisted civic education programmes were limited only to the district headquarters, preventing the rest of the population from being educated on the contentious issues. It resulted in misconceptions about federalism and led to the failure of the CA to produce a constitution."

Karna feels that a provision should be made in the CA Rules of Procedure not to re-open already resolved issues.

^ Former Chairman of the constitution Assembly Mr. Subash Nembang, Prof. Krishna Khanal and Laxman Lal Karna, Co-chairman Sadbhavana Party take part in a discussion forum (from right to left).  UNDP Nepal

A group of participants are also planning to provide a draft memo documenting their reflections to the CA Secretariat within the next two months. Participants of the UNDP's Chatham House style discussions are optimistic that the new CA members will not have to reinvent the wheel and will be able to build on the work and mistakes of the first CA.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Published five option papers on state restructuring, forms of government, judiciary, electoral system and inclusion and shared them with political party leaders to narrow the gaps on these contentious issues.
- Organised a regional seminar on Ethnicity, Representation and Democracy with political party leaders, civil society representatives and academics to inform and clarify the debate on the need to recognise and affirm ethnic aspirations and also transcend them at the same time.
- Trained 150 lawyers on constitutional issues and provided fellowship to 130 journalists to report on constitutional issues.
- Organised 37 events on gender and social inclusion which resulted in the analysis of political parties' election manifestos on the issues of Dalits, Women, Madhesis and other marginalised groups.



▲ Officials from ECN, Government and development partners attend the opening of the Media Centre. 📷 ECN /UNDP Nepal

## SUPPORTING CREDIBLE ELECTIONS

The year 2013 saw many electoral reforms that led to the successful election of the second Constituent Assembly (CA), held on 19 November. The CA election was conducted remarkably well with unprecedented participation of voters. Nepal achieved a high voter turnout, averaging 79.9 per cent.

UNDP's support to electoral reform contributed to making the 2013 elections inclusive, fair and peaceful. UNDP supported the Election Commission of Nepal (ECN) in conducting a nationwide multi-media voter education campaign. Public service announcements were broadcasted in 29 local languages on twelve national TV and 350 radio/FM channels. Seven hundred and twenty street dramas were performed in 240 constituencies to educate voters about voting procedures, and a call center was established to respond to public

queries on the electoral process. The impact of the voter education programme was validated by high voter turnout and a decrease in the percentage of invalid votes under the First-Past-The-Post electoral system from 5.15 per cent in 2008 CA elections to 4.96 per cent. Similarly, under the Proportional Representation electoral system, the percentage decreased from 3.66 to 3.2.

With the technical assistance of UNDP, the ECN successfully introduced voter rolls with photographs recording registration of 12.15 million voters (50.76 per cent female). Biometric voter registration is one of the major areas of reform in the electoral history of Nepal. It ensured that only those on the voter rolls could vote, avoiding proxy and multiple voting. In previous elections, the voters' lists were manual and had no room for re-verification of voters' information and weeding out of

duplicate lists. International observers and political parties acknowledged that the biometric voters' lists contributed to making the elections fair and peaceful. Further, UNDP assisted the Commission in printing and distributing voter ID cards with photographs.

The Media Center and Observers Resource Center supported by UNDP were critical during the elections—expediting accreditation of observers and flow of information through press conferences, media briefings, and announcement of results on the Election Day. UNDP also supported ECN in mapping polling locations with Geographic Information System (GIS), helping the Government to develop an integrated security plan that supported the deployment of security forces during the elections. Electoral trainings were also conducted on eight

thematic areas including security, media, polling and counting, voter education, logistics and management. Approximately 1,131 officials deployed during election were trained through UNDP. Technical assistance was also provided to ECN on election operations through twelve international and five national advisors based in ECN headquarters and each of the five regional offices. Among the twelve international advisors, two were funded by Australian Aid.

UNDP supported ECN in developing a Gender and Social Inclusion Policy. Sustained technical assistance of UNDP in this area contributed towards many positive changes.

## PARTNERS

- Norway
- Denmark
- UK aid
- EU
- Australian Aid

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Provided technical assistance in implementing voter rolls with photographs recording registration of 12.15 million eligible voters (50.76 per cent female)
- Supported in procuring electoral materials and equipment such as vehicles, ballot printing papers, cutting and numbering machines, plastic pouches and printing machines for voter ID cards.
- Supported in the establishment of the Media Centre, Observer Resource Centre, Call Centre and Joint Election Operation Centre.
- Assisted in broadcasting Public Service Announcements in 29 local languages on twelve national TV and 350 radio channels. 720 street dramas were performed in 240 constituencies for public outreach and voter education. Voter education materials targeting the disabled population were also developed.



▲ Officials coordinate election operation from the JEOC on the election day. 📷 Shoko Noda / UNDP Nepal

## Joint Electoral Operations Centre

In order to ensure smooth coordination among ECN, Ministry of Home Affairs and security agencies during the election, UNDP supported the ECN to establish Joint Electoral Operations Centre (JEOC) at ECN headquarters in Kathmandu.

The centre served a dual purpose of analysing sensitive information and managing potential crises. It also consolidated information collected from different sources across all five development regions of Nepal before, during and after elections giving ECN 24/7 situational awareness.

The JEOC was headed by the joint secretary (administration) of the Election Commission and a team comprising of senior officers from the Ministry of Home Affairs and all four security agencies. It became the nodal point for crisis management. The team assessed and analysed information received from all 75 districts and deterred possible threats. The centre, with the support from GIS unit, helped to solve problems in the districts.

# Call Centre

The anxiety was evident in her voice when Krishna Maya from Charpane, Jhapa called to speak with one of the officials at the Call Centre of the Election Commission of Nepal (ECN). She frantically explained that around 80 women of her community were not able to find their names on the ward's registered voters list, despite having enrolled. Mamata Shrestha, the official who received the call, took her details and asked for the numbers on the individual registration receipts. Maya gave her the numbers and soon the problem was resolved.

Tika Ram Oli of Pokhara phoned in with a similar concern. He gave his registration number and learnt that his name was among registered voters of another ward where his old house was situated.

UNDP helped the ECN in establishing the call centre at ECN headquarters to address voters' queries related to 2013 CA elections. The centre had a toll free number with five telephones for easy accessibility to the general public. During the peak election period, from November 14 to 24, the call centre took a total of 2,354 calls, 1,200 of which were related to voter registration and voter rolls. The ECN officials were trained on election laws and processes so that they could address the callers' concerns. When in doubt, officials handling the calls either referred to other colleagues or held a conference call with their immediate supervisors.



^ ECN official Mamta Shrestha attends a call in the call center. 📷 Rochan Kadariya / UNDP Nepal

Mr. Maheshwor Neupane, Joint Secretary of ECN says that the establishment of the call centre proved very useful during the CA Elections. Ms. Mamata Shrestha, official at ECN feels that they were able to address concerns of voters to a large extent.

The centre will continue to provide service even beyond elections.



## Chapter 4

# Building Resilience

Nepal is highly vulnerable to natural disasters. Globally, it is ranked fourth, eleventh and thirtieth in terms of vulnerability to climate change, earthquake and flood risks respectively. More than 27,000 deaths – an average of more than two every day – occurred, and approximately five million people were affected due to natural disasters during the period of 1971-2007. As climate change impacts increase, Nepal's vulnerability continues to grow. About 80 per cent of Nepal's population lives in rural areas, and improving the resilience of the villages is crucial. Around 70 per cent of Nepal's population depends upon agriculture and even slight changes in climatic conditions can have a major impact on their lives and livelihoods.

Nepal has a rich geography, with tall mountains spanning its northern border. But behind this beauty grave disaster risks lurk. Nepal has 20 of the 200 potentially dangerous glacial lakes (ICIMOD, 2010). Three of these lakes, the Tso Rolpa, Imja and Thulagi, are in critical condition and need immediate attention to reduce risk of outburst floods. The increased rate of glacial melting not only threatens mountain dwellers of Nepal but also affects the millions living along South Asian rivers and in the delta basin of Bangladesh. Such far reaching consequences of climatic changes can undermine development and reverse development gains. Addressing current and future risks requires a comprehensive preparedness programme, including integration of preparedness in development programming—as well as a solid repository of disaster knowledge and trained human resources.

Masons in Kirtipur,  
Kathmandu  
receive training on  
earthquake safe  
construction.   
Geeta Devi Pradhan /  
UNDP Nepal  


## IMPROVING RESILIENCE TO DISASTER RISKS

In line with the Government's goal to make 1,000 Village Development Committees (VDCs) disaster resilient by 2015, in 2013 UNDP's Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Programme (CDRMP) supported 68 VDCs to become disaster resilient. Thirty five of these VDCs have already met all the nine characteristics of disaster resilience. The remaining 33 VDCs are in the process of doing so.

UNDP has supported communities to develop more than 50 small mitigation measures to protect land and property from disaster. UNDP has also trained more than 2,000 community volunteers in community disaster risk management. These are pilot initiatives that will help Nepal to replicate Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) practices in different ecological regions.

In 2013, UNDP supported the expansion of 20 Emergency Operation Centres (EOCs). With this, the numbers of EOCs at the national, regional, district and municipal levels have reached 1, 5, 46 and 5 respectively. These EOCs will enable authorities to respond to disasters if and when they occur. SAHANA, a disaster information management system, has been customized to serve Nepal's requirements and is now being used in the EOCs. Similarly, simulation exercises for 16 district EOCs have successfully completed.

UNDP is also supporting Government at different levels to address immediate, mid- and long-term capacity gaps for disaster risk management. Two national training institutions, Nepal Administrative Staff College (NASC) and Local Development Training Academy (LDTA), have integrated Disaster Risk Management / Climate Risk Management (DRM/CRM) into their curricula. A uniform curriculum for fire-fighting training in the Nepal Police, Armed Police Force, Nepal Army and the municipalities has also been developed.

To expand the empirical research base in DRM/CRM and enhance scientific knowledge in this area, UNDP has partnered with Tribhuvan University, the largest university in the country. A portal that will serve as a one-stop resource for DRM related information on Nepal is also being developed and will be housed within the Ministry of Home Affairs.

To help enforce the National Building Code to ensure safe construction, UNDP has supported Kathmandu and Lalitpur municipalities in initiating the implementation of an automated Electronic Building Permit System (EBPS). This is a pilot e-governance system, and can be replicated in other municipalities. In addition, the archival of 5,000 building plans in Lalitpur is in progress.

The programme has also supported drafting of seismic retrofitting guidelines for existing buildings. Once endorsed, the guidelines will help to retrofit existing buildings to make them seismic resilient.

A report on urban growth trend, including the multi-hazard risk assessment of Kathmandu Valley, has been drafted. This report will serve as a guiding document for developing risk

### PARTNERS

- UK aid
- ECHO
- UNISDR
- World Bank

sensitive land use planning and formulating bylaws for the Kathmandu valley.

As part of its early recovery activities in line with 'Build Back Better', a global concept in early recovery from disasters, UNDP supported the re-construction, retrofitting and renovation of 101 school blocks in Ilam and Taplejung. These school blocks had been damaged by an earthquake in September 2011. The interventions also cover improving the resilience of local citizens through community based disaster risk reduction initiatives, including earthquake safety orientations in schools and communities.

✓ A community in Sindhupalchok district uses bioengineering techniques for landslide control. © CDECF / UNDP Nepal



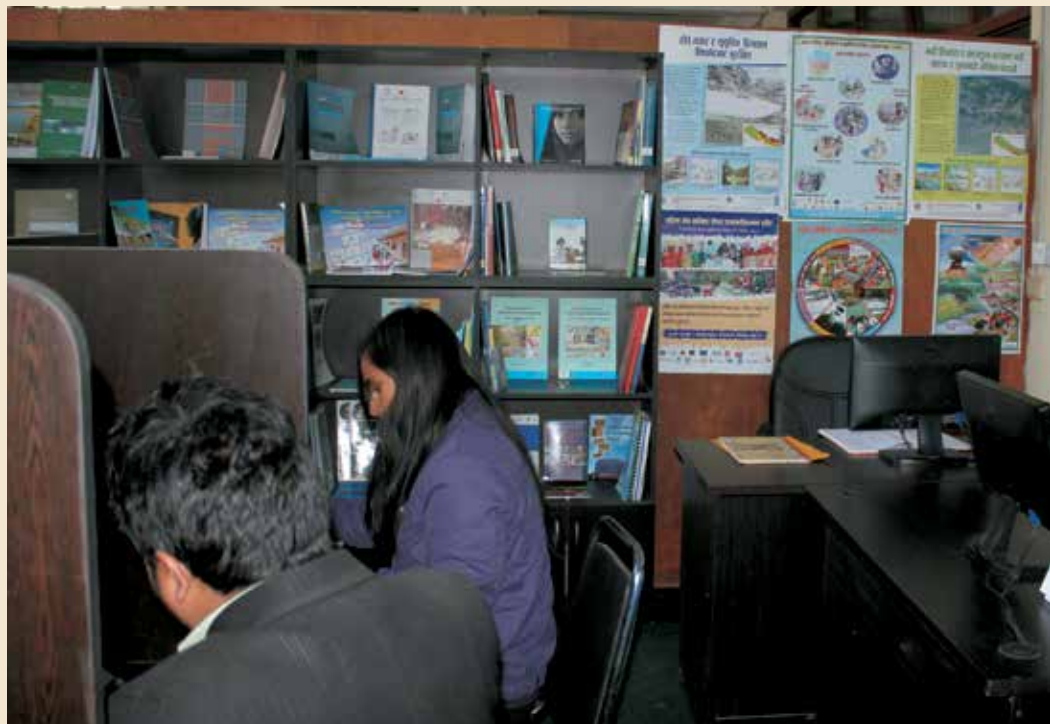
# Integrating disaster preparedness in the academia

On September 30, 2013, a Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Knowledge Management Center was established in the Central Library of Tribhuvan University (TU), the largest and oldest university of Nepal. This is the first time that major steps have been taken to strengthen and integrate disaster risk management (DRM) into academia in Nepal.

UNDP is supporting the TU Central Department of Environmental Science (TU-CDES) to strengthen DRM in the academia. The DRR centre is a major intervention under this partnership. The centre has begun to serve as a platform for coordinating and facilitating the management, exchange and dissemination of disaster related knowledge and resources in Nepal. The centre serves students as well as other people interested in accessing DRR related documents and resources.

2013 also saw the integration of DRM courses into the Master's level curriculum of TU-CDES. Faculty members have also received orientations on the new curriculum.

Additionally, UNDP is supporting TU-CDES in promoting research in the area of disaster and climate risk management (D/CRM). So far, ten students have received grants for their Master's level dissertation. Additionally, eleven students have received support for preparing case studies on DRM



▲ Visitors access resources at the DRR Knowledge Management Center at TU central library. 📷 Geeta Devi Pradhan/UNDP Nepal

in Nepal and twenty-nine students have received support to do community work on D/CRM issues.

With UNDP's support, TU-CDES has successfully established linkages with research institutions and universities from India. TU-CDES has also begun conducting an investigation on national priority DRR issues to enhance research

on the multi-dimensional issues of disasters. This research will help promote understanding of the nature of disasters and effective development of risk reduction approaches.

These initiatives of UNDP and TU will serve to prepare a crucial human and knowledge resource base for disaster preparedness in Nepal.

## Policy support

- Disaster and Climate Risk Management (D/CRM) has been integrated into the National Planning Commission's monitoring and evaluation guidelines and tools. The current three-year development plan includes a separate chapter on disaster risk management and identifies sector-wise priorities for D/CRM.
- DRM has been mainstreamed into regular planning, implementation and monitoring activities of all ministries.
- The cabinet endorsed a national Disaster Response Framework, which was drafted in 2012 with UNDP's support.
- National Early Recovery Framework has been developed and submitted for endorsement.
- Seismic retrofitting guidelines have been drafted.
- Two municipalities have started using Electronic Building Permit System.
- Kathmandu Valley Early Recovery Plan has been drafted.



## REDUCING RISK FROM GLACIAL LAKE OUTBURST AND OTHER FLOODS

UNDP has been working to reduce the risk of glacial lake outburst floods in the downstream communities of Tsho Rolpa and Imja lakes.

In Tsho Rolpa, UNDP, through CDRMP, has supported the installation of a community based Early Warning System (EWS) in close collaboration with the Government's Department of Hydrology and Meteorology.

Additionally, the Community Based Flood and Glacial Lake Outburst Risk Reduction Project (CFGORRP), a joint undertaking of the Government of Nepal, Global Environment Facility (GEF) and

UNDP, is working to reduce the risks from Glacial Lake Outburst Flooding (GLOF) of the Imja Lake in Solukhumbu district. Nearly 100,000 people living up to 120 kilometers downstream of the lake could face the direct or indirect consequences of the Imja Lake outburst if it is not addressed properly.

UNDP has also begun working to reduce human and material losses from recurrent flooding in four flood-prone districts in the Tarai: Mahottari, Siraha, Saptari and Udaypur. Through implementation of Early Warning System, awareness raising among local communities and support to local level Government institutions, the project will benefit about 65,000 people.

^  
Experts observe weather monitoring equipment set up in Tsho Rolpa.  UNDP Nepal

### PARTNER

- Global Environment Facility (GEF)



▲ Namche bazaar is among the places highly at risk from Imja GLOF. 📷 Bhoomika Dongol / UNDP Nepal

## PROMOTING ECOSYSTEM BASED ADAPTATION

Nepal is considered highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Given its mountainous terrain, ecosystem based adaptations, complemented by efficient use of resources, is essential to help the country manage risks.

UNDP is implementing a global pilot project to promote adaptation in three countries – Nepal, Peru and Uganda – to help these countries better prepare for the effects of climate change.

In 2013, the project on Ecosystem based Adaptation (EbA) began work in Nepal. The project focuses its interventions in the Panchase area that spans parts of Kaski, Parbat and Syangja districts.

The project has focused on enhancing the climate resilience of ecosystem services, which are the different benefits that humans derive

from ecosystems. It has supported the renovation and construction of 13 conservation ponds and an additional 13 water sources. The pond renovations have enhanced the ground water recharge process, and water sources renovations have led to improved accessibility to drinking water. The conservation of ponds has also contributed significantly to silt collection during the heavy monsoon months, in turn reducing soil erosion.

The project's activities in ecosystem restoration have included plantation in 80 hectares of open land, construction of walls to reduce overgrazing in two rangelands, and establishment of two nurseries to provide local communities

and user groups easy access to in-demand tree species, such as fodder and multiple-use tree species.

Under its land rehabilitation intervention, the project introduced three different activities - riverbank conservation, irrigation channel improvement and degraded land rehabilitation - in 28 sites. This will ensure protection of 15 hectares of land that includes rural roads, and agricultural and public land.

EbA has carried out capacity building programmes such as trainings, awareness raising campaigns and workshops on ecosystem based adaptation, ecosystem services and climate change, benefitting more than 500 individuals. This has led to bridging of knowledge gaps on ecosystem-based adaptation and climate change.

In order to reduce research gap in this area, the project has also joined hands with the Central Department of Environmental Science (CDES) and Institution of Forestry (IoF) of Tribhuvan University.

### PARTNERS

- GEF
- BMU



< Jumla is one of the 14 districts where NCCSP is working. A settlement in the district is seen here. 📷 Chandra Shekhar Karki / UNDP Nepal

A woman carries vegetables to sell them in Guranse, Dailekh. 📷 Chandra Shekhar Karki / UNDP Nepal



## BUILDING CLIMATE RESILIENT VILLAGES IN MID AND FAR WESTERN NEPAL

In order to help communities adapt to the effects of climate change, UNDP and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment (MoSTE) are working together to support vulnerable communities in mid and far western regions of Nepal through the Nepal Climate Change Support Programme (NCCSP). The ultimate objective of the programme is to enhance the capacity of government and non-government institutions to implement Nepal's Climate Change Policy (2011) and execute the most urgent and immediate adaptation actions to increase the resilience of climate vulnerable and poor people.

NCCSP will support the Government in implementing Local Adaptation Plans of Action (LAPA) in 69 VDCs and one

municipality of the 14 most climate vulnerable districts of Nepal. The fourteen districts are Achham, Bajura and Kailali in the far-western region, and Bardiya, Dolpa, Humla, Jumla, Mugu, Dailekh, Jajarkot, Kalikot, Dang, Rolpa and Rukum in the mid-western region. Nearly Rs 540 million (US \$5.4 million) has been allocated for the current fiscal year (2013/2014) for LAPA implementation in the 14 target districts. This will cater to 169,000 climate vulnerable people and create employment for approximately 21,000 people.

### PARTNERS

- Government of Nepal
- UK aid
- EU

## Policy Support

Work on preparing of operational guidelines of the Multi-stakeholder Climate Change Initiative Coordination Committee (MCCICC) has started. Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI) aspects of climate change policies and strategies are being reviewed at the national level. The Government has reviewed the fund flow mechanism for climate change adaptation, integrating LAPA actions and budget in the Government's annual planning system for the current fiscal year. The LAPA budget is now channelled through the Government treasury.

## Institutional Support

As a significant step in strengthening the district-level institutional capacity in climate resilience, the existing district level sections working on energy and environment have been expanded into District Energy, Environment and Climate Change Sections by integrating climate change component.



## Chapter 5

# A More Equal and Inclusive Society

Nepal is home to multicultural, multilingual, multi-ethnic and multi-religious communities. Despite this diversity, Nepal's traditional social and governance structure is not inclusive. After the political uprising of 2006, political leaders committed to reform the system and their commitment was reflected in the Interim Constitution of 2007. A general shift from a welfare-based to a rights-based approach in dealing with issues of exclusion has also contributed significantly towards gender equality, women's empowerment and inclusion of marginalized communities.

Nepal Millennium Development Goals Progress Report 2013 shows that the share of women in government and semi-government employment has increased and, currently, women comprise approximately 15 per cent of the workforce. However, the proportion of women in the core civil service is very low, comprising only 9.59 per cent and it is even lower at the decision-making level.

The promotion of gender equality, women's empowerment and inclusion of excluded groups is central to UNDP's development programming. It includes advocating for women's equal rights, combating discriminatory practices and challenging the stereotypes. UNDP has been working with the Government of Nepal to support gender mainstreaming and social inclusion of excluded groups in both policy-making and development processes. This chapter features key highlights from our interventions on mainstreaming gender and social inclusion in 2013 through various programmes

## MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS

Increasing participation and representation of women and marginalized groups in electoral process was one of the major focuses of UNDP for the year 2013. The endorsement of Gender and Social Inclusion policy by the Election Commission of Nepal (ECN), with the technical support of UNDP, was a landmark achievement. The policy will gradually strengthen the structure and mechanisms of the commission to address concerns on gender and social inclusion. It provides a broad framework and strategy for the commission to enhance its capacity as a gender and social inclusion sensitive institution. The policy serves as a guideline for future elections.

In addition, with technical assistance of UNDP, voter education, civic education and voter registration materials were designed considering the needs of women and members of marginalized groups. Specific voter educational materials such as stickers requesting women to be part of the process were developed. The result of these initiatives is validated by an increased participation of women in voter registration process — 50.7 per cent of the registered voters were women compared to only 48.5 per cent in 2008.

Working in partnership with the UN Women, special civic education programmes were organized for women at the grassroots level and for disadvantaged groups at the constituency level urging them to exercise their right to vote. They were encouraged to advocate with candidates on the agenda for women and marginalized groups, and to vote for candidates who were responsive to their concerns on exclusion.

Additional policies and guidelines prepared and adopted by ECN have addressed other



▲ A female staff deployed by the Election Commission counts votes on November 20, 2013 in Kathmandu. 📷 UNDP Nepal

concerns. The policies on voter education, recruitment of election officers, training and capacity building, and election observation called for increased participation of women and disadvantaged groups in the electoral processes and activities. Several provisions of the electoral code of conduct call for gender friendly election campaigning, and prohibit use of gender and social inclusion insensitive language and character assassination of candidates, among others. More importantly, the electoral law states that people convicted of rape or human trafficking are ineligible for candidacy. On election day, priority for voting was given to pregnant women, women with infants, elderly people and people with disabilities. In total, 120 polling centres were led by women officials.

ECN's report suggests that more than 50 per cent of election volunteers were women. Female officers from all the districts were included in district level election education coordination committees. Training and orientation provided by ECN to media and election observers incorporated sessions on gender and social inclusion.



^ Women leaders and media persons attend a workshop on women's representation in the CA. 📷 Sancharika Samuha / UNDP Nepal

## INCLUSIVE JUSTICE SECTOR

Women represent less than one per cent of the total workforce in the legal profession and justice sector. Against this backdrop, UNDP has launched an 'affirmative action' law internship programme for junior lawyers representing women and vulnerable communities of Nepal. In 2013, nine out of fifteen interns were women. The programme aims to empower these junior lawyers through comprehensive practical training on legal writing and drafting legal deeds, petitions, writ jurisdictions, and court procedures. As a follow up to the training, the lawyers are placed in renowned law firms or public justice institutions to gain hands-on experience. To effectively implement this programme, a special operational guideline has been developed in collaboration between Nepal Bar Association and the Ministry of Law, Justice, Constituent Assembly and Parliamentary Affairs.

The programme has also built partnership with the National Dalit Commission (NDC), which is one of the key national human rights institutions working to protect and promote the rights of Dalits in Nepal. In 2013, this partnership led to training and orientation for 428 anti-untouchability campaigners, including 102 women.

UNDP extended support to the National Human Rights Commission to produce a national situation report on human trafficking. People in the academia, media, and human rights communities have begun using the report as an important reference document.



## PARTICIPATORY CONSTITUTION

To support the inclusion agenda in constitutional issues, UNDP conducted a total of 37 interactions in 2013. These contributed towards political parties including gender and social inclusion issues in their manifestos. In these interactions, the participants were 36.22 per cent women, 12.18 per cent Hill Dalits, 6.74 per cent Madhesi Dalits, 28.85 per cent Hill Janajatis, 5.97 per cent Tarai Janajatis, and 1.47 per cent Muslims.

UNDP, through Women in Policy Advocacy Alliance (WIPAA), contributed to the development of the comprehensive Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Policy. The policy is being drafted by the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare with technical assistance of the UN Women. UNDP supported to conduct regional and national level consultations. The policy will provide guidelines for the Government of Nepal, the Constituent Assembly (CA) and the Parliament in drafting inclusive legislations.

UNDP also organized training and workshops to enhance the capacity of 87 women lawyers on constitutional issues.

## INCLUSION IN LOCAL BODIES

The Local Governance and Community Development Program (LGCDP) has been implemented by the Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MoFALD) since July 2008. It is supported by UNDP and multiple development partners. To address the issues of exclusion and inequality in local development processes, LGCDP has integrated gender and social inclusion (GESI) in all of its activities through a dedicated GESI section.

In 2013, 290 GESI trainings were organized in 75 districts. A total of 10,553 participants, including 4,348 women, were trained on GESI responsive budget and auditing.

As a result of hundreds of trainings, orientations, manuals, guidelines and publications, officials responsible for local bodies, both at central and local levels are now better equipped to respond to GESI related issues and prioritize projects and allocations for women, children and excluded groups more effectively. District Development Committees (DDCs), government line agencies and Village Development Committees (VDCs) are taking affirmative action to ensure women's participation (33 per cent) and budget allocation (10 per cent for women, 10 per cent for children and 15 per cent for socially excluded groups).

Overall, GESI interventions in local bodies have helped to create an enabling environment for women and excluded groups to participate in planning and programme implementation, and contribute to the decision making process of local bodies. This has enabled women and socially excluded groups to assert their rights and voice their opinion.

## EMPOWERMENT THROUGH ENTREPRENEURSHIP

UNDP, through the Micro-Enterprise Development Programme (MEDEP), continues to prioritize gender and social inclusion in its interventions. Out of 9,464 micro entrepreneurs created in 2013, 68 per cent were women, 36 per cent were indigenous nationalities, and 23 per cent were Dalits. And out of 12,144 additional jobs created as a result of micro-enterprises' hiring, 8,319 (69 per cent) went to women.

Women occupy 62 per cent of decision-making positions in District Micro Entrepreneur Groups Associations (DMEGAs) and 47 per cent in Business Development Service Providing Organizations (BDSPOs).

The programme supported women entrepreneurs to actively take part in community activities and meetings of local bodies, and some women have even made it to decision-making roles in political parties' local units. Women's economic empowerment and access to resources

has significantly helped to reduce violence against women that is widely prevalent among low-income families.

In 2013, MEDEP revised the Gender and Social Inclusive Participatory Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (GSIPPME) toolkit that has identified GESI as one of the outputs to ensure inclusion. Based on the revised toolkit, 2,000 sets of posters were printed and distributed to micro-entrepreneurs' groups (MEGs), MEG Associations (MEGAs) and DMEGAs. These posters helped members to regularly measure changes in terms of gender inclusion at their family, enterprise, group, cooperative and organizational levels.

MEDEP, in collaboration with the Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT), developed a 40-day fast track Enterprise Development Facilitator (EDF) course, and provided full scholarships to 49 women to take this course. The women are currently undergoing on-the-job training. Forty scholarships were provided to female students to undertake a 15 month Technical School Leaving Certificate (SLC) as EDFs. Out of 263 potential EDFs, 179 were women.



✓ A micro-entrepreneur Tulmati Pun of Garpa, Salyan grows tomatoes in her farm. 📷 Anju Sunar/UNDP Nepal

## TOWARDS A DIVERSE CIVIL SERVICE

UNDP partnered with the Ministry of General Administration (MoGA) to initiate a study to provide empirical evidence in making the civil service more inclusive and to promote affirmative action. The study reviewed the relevant policies and provisions from a gender and social inclusion perspective and provided recommendations on policies, legal provisions and programmes to make the civil service more inclusive. The study will also contribute recommendations for necessary amendments to civil service regulations.

According to MoGA's personnel records from December 2013, only 15.4 per cent of civil servants are women. The share drops to 7.88 per cent at the officers' level and to a mere 3.33 percent at senior officers' level.

In this light, a training module for civil servants has been prepared to enhance the affirmative action in civil services to make the office environment friendlier for a diverse workforce.

An assessment have been initiated to upgrade the computer-based recording system of the Department of Civil Personnel Records under MoGA. The assessment aims to improve production of gender and socially disaggregated data of the civil service, and to support policy formulation and progress monitoring. UNDP is also launching a civil service census with the support of the National Planning Commission and the Central Bureau of Statistics to create a detailed database of civil service personnel.

## INCLUSION IN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Given Nepal's extreme vulnerability to disasters, both climatic and seismic, and the relatively weak supporting mechanisms for women and vulnerable populations, UNDP has taken the lead to develop a national guideline and a training module on GESI mainstreaming in disaster and climate risk initiatives and programmes.

Overall, 49.6 per cent of direct beneficiaries of the disaster risk reduction programme were women in 2013, an increase of 2.8 per cent from 2012. Participation of women and socially excluded groups in field-based activities was over 50 per cent.

Micro capital grants were given to two women-led Community Based Disaster Risk Management Committees (CBDRMC) in Sindhupalchok district to reduce disaster and climate risks and vulnerabilities.

Three hundred and eight women participated in training on several aspects of disaster preparedness. These included soil conservation and water induced disaster control, management of local resources for improved livelihood, book keeping, and leadership and institutional development to promote women as change agents in disaster/climate risk management. One hundred and fifty nine women were directly involved in adopting bioengineering techniques including plantation of broom grass, cardamom, fruit and fodder plants to prevent landslides and soil erosion.

Two learning centers, or climate field schools, designed to increase the knowledge and capacity of farmers, especially women and disadvantaged groups, on climate change adaptation, conservation of indigenous varieties of seeds, and improved agricultural practices have been established in Sindupalchok. The climate field school holds classes on the first and third weeks of every month. So far, 68 women from 104 participating households have received training.

**A woman participates in search and rescue training in Sindhupalchok.**  UNDP Nepal



## INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

UNDP, through the Strengthening National Planning and Monitoring Capacity II project, has helped mainstream gender and social inclusion into the country's major policy documents.

The Approach Paper to the Thirteenth Plan (2013/14-2015/16) aims to address existing disparities and achieve inclusive growth. The project's contribution led to participatory consultations for formulating the Approach Paper.

The project also supported streamlining GESI responsive indicators into the National Monitoring and Evaluation Guidelines prepared by the National Planning Commission. Out of 65 indicators that measure the impact of development and social interventions, five indicators relate to GESI. They encompass empowerment index, gender development index, gender empowerment measure, women's representation in parliament, women's representation in various sectors and representation in civil service.

UNDP also supported the Central Bureau of Statistics to mainstream gender while conducting Annual Household Survey (AHS). The first report of AHS is due in July 2014.



## UN TRAINEESHIP PROVIDES HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE

Some of the UN trainees at UNDP work together on an assignment.  Tapa Dipti Sitaula/UNDP Nepal

In 2010, UN Country Team (UNCT) in Nepal signed a Declaration of Joint Principles of Workforce Diversity. As a result, UNCT jointly initiated a UN Traineeship Programme which provides opportunity to university graduates from socially excluded groups to develop their professional competencies and enhance their employment prospects. Selected candidates spend eleven months full-time in UN agencies. The 2013 cohort, which was inducted in August, is third since the programme started in April, 2011. A total of 8 trainees were placed in UNDP and five in UN Resident Coordinator's Office in 2013. Six of these trainees belong to disadvantaged Janajatis, five to Dalits and one each to Muslims and Madhesis. Many of the trainees from previous cohorts have found jobs with either UN or other organizations.

## ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

Research was conducted on gender based violence and masculinities with the aim to help better understand the linkages between gender identities and the use of gender-based violence, including underlying reasons for men's engagement in violence, resilience and opportunities to engage them as change agents.

A bi-lingual (English and Nepali) draft of the Gender Based Violence Prevention Peer Education Manual has been developed to engage men, women, youth and leaders as key advocates for change. Structured into six major thematic sections, the manual is expected to help deepen the understanding on issues of masculinity, patriarchy, established gendered roles and their interconnections with violence. The manual is intended for participants working to promote the constructive role men can play in challenging violence against

women and girls, men and boys, and trans-gender people. The manual has been field tested in the Tarai and is currently being finalized.

In addition, UNDP brought together government agencies, including law enforcement agencies, I/NGOs, media and UN Agencies (UNICEF and UNFPA) to prepare a consolidated action plan to work on GBV related issues. The idea was to share information and compliment each other's work at the district level.

UNDP undertook several activities to promote the rights of women in the three districts of its operation: Mahottari, Sarlahi and Rautahat. These activities included organizing 78 episodes of street drama to mark the '16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence', coordinating GBV related interactions at the district level, and organizing a review session of the district level Strategic Plan on GBV to strengthen the commitment of all district level agencies to develop a consolidated plan

of action. As a result of the increased coordination and collaboration amongst the UN agencies and national actors, a total of 146 out of 276 GBV cases in the three districts were settled in 2013.

As part of the international campaign, "16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence" roundtable discussions on "Masculinities, Gender Identities and the Role of Men in Prevention and Elimination of Gender Based Violence" were organized. The discussions were followed by an art event. The art event included live paintings by artists from Nepal Academy of Fine Arts, musical concerts by young bands and popular singers, and drama performance by One World Theatre, to communicate the messages in an accessible manner to the general public and younger generations.

✓ Artists from One World Theater enact a representative story on the theme of gender-based violence prevention. 📷 Prakash Timilsena / UNDP Nepal



▲ An artist from Nepal Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) renders her thoughts on the theme of gender-based violence prevention into the canvas during a live painting event. 📷 Prakash Timilsena / UNDP Nepal



## INCLUSION IN ADAPTATION AND BIODIVERSITY INITIATIVES

Women and excluded groups are often highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Hence the Ecosystem based Adaptation (EbA) project has placed a strong emphasis on gender and social inclusion while identifying participants of its initiatives. Fifteen hundred women benefitted from water source conservation and pond rehabilitation, 2,800 benefited from plantation and 800 from land rehabilitation in 2013. Similarly, four women were trained as EbA initiative trainers. Twelve female members in Panchase Protected Forest Council and its district chapters have received capacity building training and are regularly involved in monitoring of EbA interventions in their respective districts.

Similarly, gender and social inclusion are integral in all projects supported by the Global Environment Facility - Small Grants Programme (GEF-SGP). During project selection, priority is given to indigenous nationalities. Out of 47 grants, 23 were given to projects that directly worked with indigenous communities, which include Chepangs, Tamangs, Blacksmiths, Tharus, Sherpas, Gurungs and Magars among others. Other initiatives also include gender components: six biodiversity projects working with community forests follow GESI guidelines of the community forests; four projects related to renewable energy reduce the workloads of women; three projects related to hospital waste management directly benefit women, especially staff nurses and matrons, by reducing the exposure to hazardous hospital waste and mercury; and three projects which deal with conservation of water contribute to reduce stress of women by providing easy access to water for household consumption.

Furthermore, five projects in organic farming and projects related to Community Development and Knowledge Management for Satoyama initiatives (COMDEKS) engaged women members in organic farming and agro-forestry. These are less-labour intensive than traditional farming, and the additional income generated also contributes to empowerment. In 2013, two women-led NGOs have received planning grants for proposal development.

## PEACE CHAMPIONS

N-Peace (Engage for Peace, Equality, Access, Community and Empowerment) is a multi-country network of peace advocates in Asia seeking to advance Women, Peace and Security (WPS) issues. N-Peace initiative is regionally funded by Australian Aid. In 2013, five organizations in Nepal were supported to work on the WPS agenda through N-Peace champions, who are active members of the N-Peace network. This was done in collaboration between UNDP Nepal and UNDP Asia Pacific Regional Centre. The support will promote awareness raising and capacity building on WPS agenda at the grassroots level. Research is being conducted on gender-based violence in four Village Development Committees (VDCs) of Banke to identify the types of violence prevalent in the community.



**Women participate in a training programme on Gender and Gender Based Violence in Banke.**  *Binda Magar / UNDP Nepal*



**Ms. Sashi Kumari Adhikary (Raut) was awarded the N-Peace Role Model for Peace award in 2013.**

Each year, N-Peace Awards recognize women leaders and peace builders as well as male advocates of women's equality. Ms. Sashi Kumari Adhikary (Raut) from Nepal was awarded the N-Peace Role Model for Peace for 2013. Adhikary has been practicing law for over 20 years and is well-known for advocacy and for prosecuting crimes against women.



Nepal shares technical expertise on conflict sensitivity with Timor-Leste.  
 UNDP Timor-Leste

## COOPERATION ON CONFLICT SENSITIVITIES

In August 2013 a delegation headed by the Minister for Social Solidarity of Timor-Leste visited Nepal with the objective of exchanging experiences on conflict and peace-building initiatives. The delegation consisted of five members, including UNDP Timor-Leste staff. UNDP staff provided orientation to the delegates on conflict sensitivity and dialogue. The delegates met with secretary Dharnidhar Khatiwada and other officials from the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR) and Nepal Administrative Staff College (NASC) and discussed in detail the application of conflict sensitivity in the policy and programmes of the Government.

Impressed with the joint collaboration between UNDP and NASC, the Timor-Leste team thought of replicating the idea of Conflict Sensitivity and 'Do No Harm' by inviting a team comprised of NASC and UNDP officials to Timor-Leste to share knowledge and experiences and conduct training on the theory and application of Conflict Sensitivity and Do No Harm.

A team of seven members (five government officials and two staff from UNDP Nepal) visited Timor-Leste in September 2013 and explored the possibility of collaboration between NASC and a similar entity (locally known as National Institute of Public Administration-INAP) in Timor-Leste. The representatives of government training academies (NASC, Local Development Training Academy and National Center of Educational Development) and the UNDP Nepal team conducted a four day training program on Conflict Sensitivity and Do No Harm and shared experiences on its application with the government staff of Timor-Leste and UNDP Timor-Leste.

This collaboration between Nepal and Timor-Leste not only facilitated the exchange of global lessons and experiences between the two nations but also paved a way forward for further collaboration on mainstreaming Conflict Sensitivity in Timor-Leste's government programmes.

# Facilitating South-South Cooperation

Nepal has been a recipient of development assistance from countries both in the Global North and South. While Nepal has historically been a net recipient of assistance and knowledge, there are areas where Nepal has done pioneering work and continues to excel. Nepal's expertise in developing micro hydro has been sought after in countries like Afghanistan. The scope for knowledge exchange between countries in the South will only increase as countries continue to innovate to solve social problems. UNDP in Nepal is helping to facilitate exchanges between Nepal and other countries in the region.

## INSPIRING WORK ON CLIMATE FINANCE

Nepal has developed and introduced climate budget code as a tool to facilitate the tracking of public expenditure on climate adaption. The code, which has been shared with several countries in the South, has been worked into the budget for the fiscal year 2013/2014. As a result, it has allowed streamlining public finance for climate adaptation activities.

This analytical framework was the result of a recommendation by the Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review (CPEIR) conducted in 2011.

Consequently, the National Planning Commission (NPC) developed the coding criteria and procedure, and held a series of consultations with stakeholders to develop the code to finally introduce it into the budget.

For a country vulnerable to climate change, this is an important achievement. The UN system recognized this work and awarded Nepal this year's The Global South-South Development Expo Leadership Award for "exemplary and innovative work".

The CPEIR led to the introduction of the Climate Budget Code, and strong advocacy around it has made Nepal sensitive to possible climate induced disasters. The budget code application review showed that the climate budget increased significantly this year. Total climate change spending reached Rs. 53.48 billion, accounting for 10.3 per cent of the total budget and 3.1 per cent of the GDP. Several developing countries vulnerable to climate change have asked for copies of Nepal's Climate Budget Code to use as reference in their own process of CPEIR.

Nepal's CPEIR and the Climate Budget Code process was supported by UNDP.



**Mr. Gopi Nath Mainali, Joint Secretary of the National Planning Commission, receives the Annual Leadership Award for South-South Cooperation 2013 in Kenya.**  UNEP

## LEARNING FROM THE NEIGHBORS

UNDP facilitated learning from China's expertise in disaster preparedness, particularly Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) capacity development, for Nepalese government officials.

Though urban search and rescue teams are critical during the initial response in the aftermath of a disaster, Nepal does not have one on standby. In 2013, a learning visit was organized for seven government officials from the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development, Ministry of Finance and Nepal's three security agencies. This learning visit to China helped the government officials to observe the coordination and management structure of USAR team. This led to the government officials committing to replicate a similar response team in Nepal. Furthermore, under UNDP China's South-South Cooperation project, more activities, including experience-sharing workshops, learning and exposure visits, and focused technical trainings to Nepali government staff in the UK, are planned for 2014. These exchanges were funded by DFID in China.

# United Nations Volunteers

United Nations Volunteer (UNV) programme has been providing operational and programmatic support to UN agencies in Nepal since 1974. In 2013, UNV Nepal recruited 20 Nepali men and women to serve as international UN Volunteers in Sudan, South Sudan, Congo, Liberia, Laos, Tanzania, Somalia, Uganda, and Eritrea.

In 2013, 27 international UN Volunteers and 5 national UN Volunteers served for UNDP, UN Women, UNHCR, IOM, UNRCPD, UNRC, NRRC, WFP, UNICEF and UNESCO in Nepal. These volunteers supported the Government of Nepal in its efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). UN Volunteers also provided support in areas of governance, crisis prevention, gender mainstreaming, and environmentally-sustainable development.

## UN Youth Volunteers in Nepal

Over the past year, the UNV programme has been engaging with the UN Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development (IANYP), youth-led networks, international volunteer-sending organizations, national volunteering and civil society organizations (CSOs) and the private sector to develop and scale-up the youth volunteers programme. The overall aim of the programme is to empower youth and foster their participation and active citizenship through volunteering. This will positively impact young people as well as development and peace programmes.

In Nepal, five UN Youth Volunteers contributed in 2013 to the country's development by serving in UNDP, UNHCR, UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament (UNRCPD) and IOM.



## Volunteers in local governance

In 2012-2013, UNV Nepal funded and coordinated the deployment of 100 national volunteers who supported community empowerment activities, including capacity development training under the Local Governance and Community Development Programme (LGCDP). UNV also supported the establishment of a resource center and library at the National Development Volunteer Services' (NDVS) office.

The Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MoFALD) and UNV have also started a pilot initiative "University Youth IT Volunteers" with an aim to digitize the working procedure of the Government of Nepal and strengthen the IT infrastructure of local bodies. In 2014, 133 university volunteers will be placed in 75 districts and 58 municipalities for two years, and an additional eight national UN Volunteers will be deployed in MoFALD and six regional cluster units.

## Policy support

UNV was instrumental in establishing the "National Volunteerism Policy Formulation Task Force" and organizing meetings and workshops in this regard throughout 2013. Based on the outcomes of the policy formulation workshops and the work of the task force, a draft Volunteerism Policy proposal has been formulated by National Planning Commission to serve as the foundation of National Volunteerism Policy.

▲ Hiroshi Seto, a Japanese UN Volunteer, attends to a little boy from a slum area in Kathmandu during a medical camp organized by the Korean International Cooperation Agency. 📷 Jasmin Reitzig / UNV Nepal

## Post-MDG youth consultations

UNV, together with UNFPA and Restless Development Nepal, organized youth consultations on 'Post-2015' development agenda in Sunsari. The main objective of these consultations was to include Nepali youth in discussions and debates on post-MDG development issues.

In April, UNV and Youth Initiative jointly visited the K&K College of New Baneshwar in Kathmandu and facilitated weekly Smart Club meetings to conduct the MyWorld survey. The MyWorld survey is a global initiative which has mobilized over 570,000 participants in 190 countries to vote for their most important priorities. The data that the survey is generating yields important information not only on global priorities, but also on how these priorities differ by gender, age, education level, and location. More than 200 students from colleges and universities in Nepal participated in the survey.



▲ Dr. Sabina Alkire, Director of Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative in Oxford University, and a key architect of Multi-dimensional Poverty Index (MPI), presents latest MPI findings on Nepal at a dialogue event organised by UNDP as part of its 'Dialogue Series' initiative. Also seen in the picture from right to left are Ms. Shoko Noda, UNDP Country Director, Mr. Yuba Raj Bhusal, Secretary at National Planning Commission, Dr. Yubaraj Khatiwada, Governor of Nepal Rastra Bank, Mr. Uttam Narayan Malla, Director General of Central Bureau of Statistics and Dr. Bal Gopal Baidya, New Era. 📷 Chandra Shekhar Karki / UNDP Nepal

## Funding Sources and Partnerships

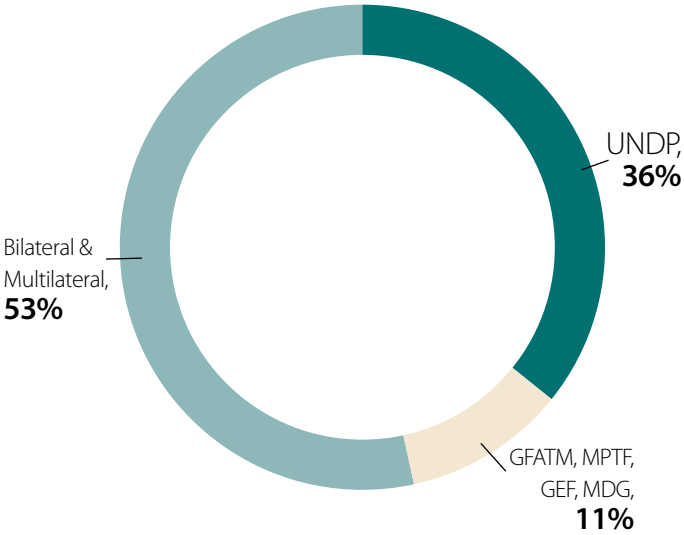
Of the US \$32.5 million spent in 2013, 36 per cent came from UNDP Core funding and UNDP's Bureau of Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR) while 53 per cent came from bilateral and multilateral agencies and 11 per cent came from the Peace Fund, Global Fund, the Global Environment Facility and other funds.

Several new funding partnerships were started in 2013 with DFID, Denmark, Australian Aid, Nepal, Norway, UN Peace Fund, USAID and Central Queensland University.

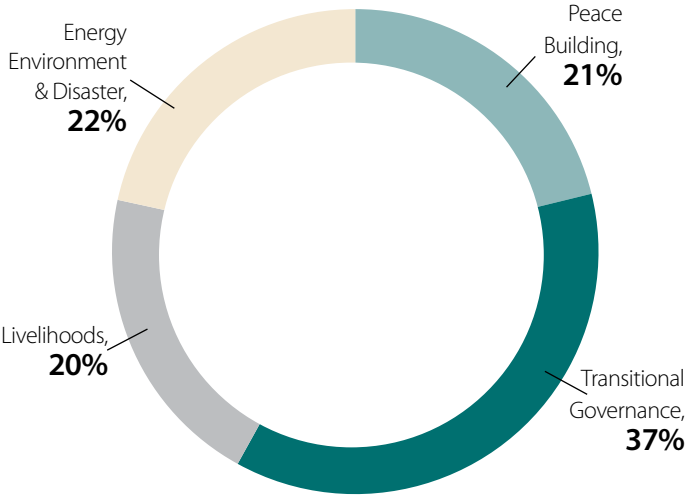
In 2013, the total expenditure of UNDP's projects and programmes was US \$32.5 million. Of the different programmes areas, the highest expenditure was in Transitional Governance, which amounted to 37 per cent of the total expenditure, followed by Energy, Environment and Disaster at 22 per cent, Peace Building at 21 per cent and Livelihoods at 20 per cent.

| Bilateral Funding Between 2010-2013 |             |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| DFID                                | 28.5        |
| Australian Aid                      | 19.8        |
| EU/ECHO                             | 7.7         |
| Norway (Norad)                      | 7.5         |
| Denmark (Danida)                    | 5.1         |
| British Embassy (UKM)               | 1.7         |
| Nepal                               | 1.5         |
| SDC                                 | 1.4         |
| Canada (CIDA)                       | 1.2         |
| World Bank                          | 0.6         |
| Finland                             | 0.6         |
| ADB                                 | 0.4         |
| Austria                             | 0.3         |
| Japan                               | 0.3         |
| Netherlands (NET/SNV)               | 0.1         |
| JICA                                | 0.1         |
| Sweden (SWI/SIDA)                   | 0.1         |
| USAID                               | 0.1         |
| Central Queensland University       | 0.1         |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b>77.2</b> |

### SOURCES OF PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE IN 2013



### PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE BY THEMATIC AREA, 2013



# Annex 1

## UNDP SUPPORTED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES, 2013

| S.No.              | Programme/project   | Implemented by | Duration       | Funding contributed |  |   | Estimated Expenditure |
|--------------------|---|----------------|----------------|---------------------|--|---|-----------------------|
|                    |   |                |                | Project-wise        | Donor(s)   | Donor (US\$)  | Total                 |
| Peace building (5) |   |                |                |                     |  |   |                       |
| 1                  | Conflict Prevention Programme (CPP)                             | UNDP           | Sept 10-Dec 15 | \$5,557,131         | UNDP<br>UNPFN<br>BCPR  | \$2,997,858<br>\$1,847,796<br>\$711,477   | 1,815,402             |
| 2                  | Crisis Prevention and Recovery Support to Nepal (CPRSN)         | UNDP           | May 08–Dec 13  | \$4,101,632         | BCPR<br>UNDP   | \$3,113,648<br>\$987,984  | 963,553               |
| 3                  | UN Inter-agency Rehabilitation Programme (UNIRP)                | UNDP           | Jun 10-June 14 | \$8,875,964         | UNPFN (only UNDP)<br>BCPR<br>UNDP  | \$8,134,885<br>\$692,761<br>\$48,318  | 867,566               |
| 4                  | Support to Participatory Constitution Building in Nepal (SPCBN) | UNDP           | May 08–Dec 14  | \$19,185,860        | UNDP<br>Denmark<br>DFID<br>British Emb.<br>Norway<br>BCPR<br>Japan<br>Austria    | \$8,428,961<br>\$2,600,000<br>\$3,552,843<br>\$1,005,748<br>\$2,485,955<br>\$580,413<br>\$253,000<br>\$278,940          | 1,613,596             |
| 5                  | Support to Nepal's transition through improved UN coherence     | UNDP/RCHO      | Nov 09-July 14 | \$8,208,571         | UNDP<br>BCPR<br>Swiss/SDC<br>DFID<br>UNPF<br>Norway<br>UNHCR<br>AusAid<br>Sweden | \$330,383<br>\$909,209<br>\$1,619,029<br>\$2,331,749<br>\$690,245<br>\$512,948<br>\$174,793<br>\$1,428,545<br>\$211,670 | 1,633,864             |

| S.No.                       | Programme/project   | Implemented by | Duration            | Funding contributed |   |  | Estimated Expenditure |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------|---------------------|---------------------|---|--|-----------------------|
|                             |   |                |                     | Project-wise        | Donor(s)  | Donor (US\$)   | Total                 |
| Transitional governance (7) |   |                |                     |                     |   |  |                       |
| 6                           | Strengthening Planning and Monitoring Capacity of NPC (SNPC)  | NPC            | Oct 09-June 13      | \$1,195,467         | UNDP<br>DFID  | \$889,656<br>\$305,811   | 181,259               |
|                             | Strengthening National Planning and Monitoring Capacity II  | NPC            | July 2013-June 2017 | \$8,670,000         | UNDP<br><br>DFID<br>UnFunded                        | \$2,000,000<br><br>\$200,000<br>\$6,470,000  | 353,000               |
| 7                           | Strengthening the Capacity of National Human Rights Commission (SCNHRC)                                     | NHRC           | Aug 09-June 14      | \$2,738,052         | Finland   | \$648,709  | 618,415               |
|                             |   |                |                     |                     | Danida<br>British Embassy<br>SDC<br>OHCHR<br>UNDP   | \$392,957<br>\$456,188<br>\$727,790<br>\$62,190<br>\$450,218                                     |                       |
| 8                           | UN Joint Programme for the Local Governance and Community Development Programme (LGCDP)                     | MoLD           | Apr 09-Dec 13       | \$5,459,134         | MDTF (DFID, Denmark)                                | \$2,064,323  | 1,170,712             |
|                             |   |                |                     |                     | UNDP<br>UNICEF<br>UNFPA<br>UNCDF<br>UN Women<br>UNV | \$3,394,811<br>Not thru UNDP<br>Not thru UNDP<br>Not thru UNDP<br>Not thru UNDP<br>Not thru UNDP |                       |
| 9                           | Developing Capacities for Effective Aid Management and Coordination (Aid)                                   | MoF            | Jan 09-July 13      | \$1,789,026         | UNDP  | \$1,121,058  | 339,667               |
|                             |   |                |                     |                     | USAID<br>DANIDA<br>DFID                             | \$70,000<br>\$357,968<br>\$240,000   |                       |
| 10                          | Institutional Strengthening and Professional Development Support for the Election Commission of Nepal (ESP) | UNDP           | Aug 08-Jan 16       | \$24,187,663        | Norway  | \$3,249,657  | 7,706,227             |
|                             |   |                |                     |                     | Denmark<br>DFID<br>UNDP<br>EU<br>AusAid<br>JICA     | \$3,070,000<br>\$10,463,982<br>\$2,801,086<br>\$3,400,073<br>\$1,108,652<br>\$94,213             |                       |

| S.No.  | Programme/project   | Implemented by    | Duration           | Funding contributed  |  |   | Estimated Expenditure |
|--|---|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--|---|-----------------------|
|  |   |                   |                    | Project-wise         | Donor(s)   | Donor (US\$)  | Total                 |
| 11   | Rule of Law and Human Rights                                    | The Supreme Court | Apr 2013-Dec 2017  | \$10,590,861         | UNDP<br>BCPR<br>UNPFN<br>Norwegian                 | \$2,500,000<br>\$2,500,000<br>\$1,567,455<br>\$4,023,406                        | 1,135,496             |
| 12   | Public Administration Reform in Nepal                           | MoGA              | Mar 2013-Feb 2015  | \$4,868,778          | UNDP<br>Unfunded                                   | \$1,587,531<br>\$3,281,247  | 499,006               |
| <b>Livelihoods (3)</b>   |   |                   |                    |                      |  |   |                       |
| 13   | Livelihood Recovery for Peace (LRP)                             | UNDP              | Aug 09-Dec 14      | \$10,108,654         | BCPR<br>UNDP                                       | \$4,221,042<br>\$5,887,612  | 1,357,313             |
| 14   | Enhancing Access to Financial Services (EAFS)                   | NRB               | Nov 08-Mar 13      | \$1,417,798          | UNDP<br>UNCDF                                      | \$1,417,798<br>Not thru UNDP  | 28,265                |
| 15   | Micro Enterprise Development Programme (MEDEP) Phase III        | MoICS             | 1998-July 13       | \$20,135,626         | UNDP<br>Himal Power Ltd<br>CIDA<br>AusAID          | \$7,970,587<br>\$300,000<br>\$1,235,840<br>\$10,629,199                         | 2,650,696             |
|  | Micro Enterprise Development Programme (MEDEP) Phase IV         | MoICS             | Aug 13-July 17     | \$34,270,429         | UNDP<br>CQU<br>AusAid                              | \$2,544,279<br>\$73,450<br>\$31,652,700   | 259,183               |
| <b>Energy, Environment, Climate and Disaster Risk Management (6)</b> |   |                   |                    |                      |  |   |                       |
| 16   | Conservation and Sustainable Use of Wetlands (CSUWN)            | MoFSC             | Mar 07-June 13     | \$2,516,642          | GEF<br>UNDP  | \$1,964,895<br>\$551,747  | 259,643               |
| 17   | Renewable Energy for Rural Livelihood Programme (RERL)          | MoEST/AEPC        | Apr 2011-Mar 2014  | \$2,496,710          | UNDP   | \$2,496,710   | 694,742               |
| 18   | National Climate Change Support Programme (NCCSP)               | MoSTE             | Jan 2013-Dec 2015  | \$4,732,144          | GON<br>UNDP<br>DFID                                | \$4,370,733<br>\$295,000<br>\$66,411  | 650,856               |
| 19   | Ecosystem based Adaptation in Mountain Ecosystem in Nepal (EbA) | MoFSC             | Aug 2012-Dec 2014  | \$1,881,728          | GEF<br>UNDP  | \$1,731,728<br>\$150,000  | 536,399               |
| 20   | Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Programme (CDRMP)        | UNDP              | Feb 2011-Dec 2015  | \$16,164,228         | UNDP<br>BCPR<br>DFID<br>EU<br>UNISDR<br>World Bank | \$3,190,768<br>\$2,901,600<br>\$8,433,362<br>\$979,345<br>\$29,853<br>\$629,300 | 4,569,797             |
| 21   | Community Based Flood & Glacial Lake Outburst Risk Reduction    | DHM/MOSTE         | July 2013-Dec 2017 | \$7,249,430          | GEF<br>UNDP  | \$6,300,000<br>\$949,430  | 315,880               |
| <b>Total</b>   |   |                   |                    | <b>\$206,401,528</b> |  | <b>\$206,401,528</b>  | <b>\$32,552,536</b>   |

## LIST OF ACRONYMS

|                |   |                 |  |
|----------------|---|-----------------|--|
| <b>AEPC</b>    | Alternative Energy Promotion Centre   | <b>MEDEP</b>    | Micro Enterprise Development Programme                                   |
| <b>AHS</b>     | Annual Household Surveys  | <b>MEG</b>      | Micro Entrepreneurs' Group   |
| <b>AMP</b>     | Aid Management Platform   | <b>MEGA</b>     | Micro Entrepreneurs' Group Association                                   |
| <b>ATT</b>     | Arms Trade Treaty   | <b>MHOLI</b>    | Micro Hydro Operated Lift Irrigation                                     |
| <b>AVRSCS</b>  | Armed Violence Reduction and Strengthening Community Security                 | <b>MHP</b>      | Micro Hydropower Plants  |
| <b>BDSPO</b>   | Business Development Service Providing Organizations                          | <b>MoFA</b>     | Ministry of Foreign Affairs  |
| <b>CA</b>      | Constituent Assembly  | <b>MoFALD</b>   | Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development                        |
| <b>CACs</b>    | Citizen Awareness Centers   | <b>MoGa</b>     | Ministry of General Administration                                       |
| <b>CBDRM</b>   | Community Based Disaster Risk Management                                      | <b>MoHA</b>     | Ministry of Home Affairs   |
| <b>CBDRMC</b>  | Community Based Disaster Risk Management Committees                           | <b>Mol</b>      | Ministry of Industry   |
| <b>CBO</b>     | Community Based Organization  | <b>MoLJCAPA</b> | Ministry of Law, Justice, Constituent Assembly and Parliamentary Affairs |
| <b>CDRMP</b>   | Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Programme                              | <b>MoPR</b>     | Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction                                     |
| <b>CFGORRP</b> | Community Based Flood and Glacial Lake Outburst Risk Reduction Project        | <b>MoSTE</b>    | Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment                          |
| <b>CIAA</b>    | Commission for Investigation of Abuse of Authority                            | <b>MoWCSW</b>   | Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare                           |
| <b>COMDEKS</b> | Community Development and Knowledge Management for the Satoyama Initiative    | <b>NAP</b>      | National Action Plan   |
| <b>CPIER</b>   | Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review                           | <b>NASC</b>     | National Administrative Staff College                                    |
| <b>CPP</b>     | Conflict Prevention Programme   | <b>NCCSP</b>    | National Climate Change Support Programme                                |
| <b>DCEAMC</b>  | Developing Capacity for Effective Aid Management and Coordination             | <b>NDC</b>      | National Dalit Commission  |
| <b>DDC</b>     | District Development Committees   | <b>NGO</b>      | Non-Governmental Organization  |
| <b>DEECCS</b>  | District Environment, Energy and Climate Change Section                       | <b>NHRC</b>     | National Human Rights Commission   |
| <b>DEES</b>    | District Environment, Energy Section  | <b>NMEFEN</b>   | National Micro Entrepreneurs' Federation Nepal                           |
| <b>DMEGA</b>   | District Micro Entrepreneurs Groups Associations                              | <b>NPC</b>      | National Planning Commission   |
| <b>DRM/CRM</b> | Disaster Risk Management/Climate Risk Management                              | <b>NRB</b>      | Nepal Rastra Bank  |
| <b>DRR</b>     | Disaster Risk Reduction   | <b>NRRC</b>     | Nepak Risk Reduction Consortium  |
| <b>EaA</b>     | Ecosystem based Adaptation  | <b>NCSO</b>     | National Center for Security Observation                                 |
| <b>ECN</b>     | Election Commission of Nepal  | <b>NSDS</b>     | National Strategy for the Development of Statistics                      |
| <b>EFLG</b>    | Environment Friendly Local Governance   | <b>PFP</b>      | Peace Focal Person   |
| <b>EOC</b>     | Emergency Operation Center  | <b>POPS</b>     | Persistent Organic Pollutants  |
| <b>EWS</b>     | Early Warning System  | <b>PREPARE</b>  | Project to Prepare the Public Administration for State Reforms           |
| <b>GBV</b>     | Gender Based Violence   | <b>RBAP</b>     | Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific                                 |
| <b>GEF-SGP</b> | Global Environment Facility – Small Grants Programme                          | <b>RoLHR</b>    | Rule of Law and Human Rights   |
| <b>GESI</b>    | Gender Equality and Social Inclusion  | <b>RSRF</b>     | Rural Self Reliance Fund   |
| <b>GIS</b>     | Geographic Information System   | <b>SCNHRC</b>   | Strengthening Capacity of National Human Rights Commission               |
| <b>GLOF</b>    | Glacial Lake Outburst Floods  | <b>SNPMC</b>    | Strengthening National Planning and Monitoring Capacity                  |
| <b>GoN</b>     | Government of Nepal   | <b>SOP</b>      | Standard Operating Procedures  |
| <b>GPS</b>     | Global Positioning System   | <b>SPCBN</b>    | Support to Participatory Constitution Building in Nepal                  |
| <b>GSIPPM</b>  | Gender and Social Inclusive Participatory Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation | <b>TCRC</b>     | Training Courses and Research Committee                                  |
| <b>GSSD</b>    | Global South-South Development Expo   | <b>UK</b>       | United Kingdom   |
| <b>HDI</b>     | Human Development Index   | <b>UN</b>       | United Nations   |
| <b>IGA</b>     | Income Generating Activity  | <b>UNDP</b>     | United Nations Development Programme                                     |
| <b>ILO</b>     | International Labor Organization  | <b>UNESCO</b>   | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization         |
| <b>INSEC</b>   | Informal Sector Service Center  | <b>UNFPA</b>    | United Nations Population Fund   |
| <b>IOM</b>     | International Organization for Migration                                      | <b>UNHCR</b>    | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees                            |
| <b>JEOC</b>    | Joint Electoral Operations Center   | <b>UNICEF</b>   | United Nations Children's Fund   |
| <b>LDC</b>     | Least Developed Country   | <b>UNIRP</b>    | UN Interagency Rehabilitation Programme                                  |
| <b>LDTA</b>    | Local Development Training Academy  | <b>UNRC</b>     | United Nations Resident Coordinator                                      |
| <b>LGCDP</b>   | Local Governance and Community Development Programme                          | <b>UNRCPD</b>   | United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament                 |
| <b>LRP</b>     | Livelihood Recovery for Peace   | <b>UNSCR</b>    | UN Security Council Resolution   |
| <b>LSGA</b>    | Local Self Governance Act   | <b>US / USA</b> | United States of America   |
| <b>M&amp;E</b> | Monitoring and Evaluation   | <b>VDC</b>      | Village Development Committee  |
| <b>MAF</b>     | MDG Acceleration Framework  | <b>VLMR</b>     | Verified Minors and Late Recruit   |
| <b>MDG</b>     | Millennium Development Goals  | <b>WCF</b>      | Ward Citizen Forum   |
| <b>MDTF</b>    | Multi Donor Trust Fund  | <b>WFP</b>      | World Food Programme   |

© United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

UN House, Pulchowk, Lalitpur

**G.P.O. Box:** 107, Kathmandu, Nepal

**Tel:** (977-1) 5523200

**Fax:** (977-1) 5523991, 5523986

Design & Processed by: **PrintCommunication**, Thapathali, Kathmandu

Printed by: **Quality Printers**, Ramshah Path, Kathmandu

#### EDITORIAL TEAM:

**Shoko Noda**, Country Director

**Lazima Onta-Bhatta**, Assistant Country Director (Strategic Planning and Development Effectiveness Unit)

**Binda Magar**, Gender and Social Inclusion Programme Specialist

**John Narayan Parajuli**, Head of Communications

**Tapa Dipti Sitaula**, Communications Analyst

**Bronwyn Russel**, Junior Professional Consultant

**Sushila Lama Moktan**, Communications Trainee

This report has been prepared with inputs from the Team Leaders, Programme Officers and Project Communication Officers.

All conversions between US \$ and Rs. are approximates based on the conversion rate on February 7, 2014.

✓ **Micro-entrepreneurs in Surkhet sell vegetables.** 📷 Chandra Shekhar Karki / UNDP Nepal



[www.np.undp.org](http://www.np.undp.org)



[www.facebook.com/undpnepal](https://www.facebook.com/undpnepal)



[www.twitter.com/undpnepal](https://www.twitter.com/undpnepal)



[www.youtube.com/undpnepal](https://www.youtube.com/undpnepal)