United Nations Peace Fund for Nepal

नेपालका लागि संयुक्त राष्ट्रसंघीय शान्ति कोष

Project Status Update
For the period of [ ]

1. Project Information	

Project Title:		Project Numbers:	
Reintegration and Rehabilitation of Children Affected by Armed Conflict		*UNPFN / PBF:*	PBF/NPL/D-2
		MPTF Office:	00085967

Name of PUNO(s):	PBF Result *(if applicable)*:
UNICEF	Outcome 1: Strengthened capacity of government and non-government agencies to provide holistic social reintegration support to children affected by conflict. Outcome 2: Strengthened capacity of government and non-government agencies, to respond to protection concerns of children affected by conflict, through the child protection system approach, providing dividends to the community as a whole.

Primary Project Contact Person:	UNPFN Funding Round Strategic Outcome(s):
Virginia Perez Chief, Child Protection Section UNICEF, Pulchowk UN Building Telephone 5523200 Ext 1131	Children affected by armed conflict are effectively rehabilitated and reintegrated into communities in line with the National Plan of Action on Children Affected by Armed Conflict
	UNPFN Cluster:
	A: Cantonments/Reintegration B: Election/Governance/Mediation C: Recovery/Quick Impact Projects **D: Security** E: Rights and Reconciliation

National Partners(s):		NPTF Cluster:	
Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction; Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare; Central Child Welfare Board; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Industry; Transcultural Psychosocial Organization Nepal (TPO-Nepal), Nepal Police,		1: Cantonments Management and I/R of Combatants 2: Conflict Affected Persons and Communities **3: Security and Transitional Justice** 4: CA/Peacebuilding Initiatives on National and Local Levels	
Total UNPFN Funding:	US$1,500,000	**Project Start Date:**	15/03/2013
		Original End Date:	15/03/2015
Funds spent to-date by the project:	US$ 759,599	**Revised End Date** *(if applicable)*:	
Funds spent as percentage of budget:	51 %	**Total Project Duration:**	24 months

2. Project Executive Summary

This project is intended to support government's implementation of the National Plan of Action – CAAC, with focus on capacity enhancement of relevant government and non-government actors. Overall the project is expected to contribute toward the strengthening of overall child protection systems, through building of structures, mechanisms and capacities established in a conflict/post-conflict context, to address issues of conflict children, including broader range of child protection issues.

The two major project outcomes include:
Outcome 1: Government and non-governmental agencies provide holistic socio-reintegration support to children affected by conflict.
Outcome 2: Government and non-government agencies respond to protection concerns of children affected by conflict through the child protection systems approach, providing dividends to the community as a whole.

Major activities during the reporting period involved, advocacy and negotiation with relevant government agencies for activities related NPA-CAAC implementation to be included in respective government agencies' annual plan (2071/71), advocacy with potential donors though field visits and continued technical assistance to government agencies to carry out ongoing activities related to alternative care; identification and deinstitutionalisation of CAAC. During the reporting period, UNICEF submitted a confidential report to CRC Committee on Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, based on which the CRC Committee has raised issues related to CAAC requesting government's response with March 2015. Some of the issued raise by the CRC committee includes, implementation of NPA-CAAC and participation of children in the TRC process.

3. Overview of project results, achievements and challenges during this quarter

Project Outcome(s)	Progress delivered and/or challenges during this quarter
1. 1. Government and non-government agencies provide holistic socio-reintegration support to children affected by conflict.	*Output 1.1*: *Relevant Government ministries and departments have endorsed the NPA implementation guideline and reintegration packages based on international standards and guidelines.* The inter-ministerial NPA-CAAC implementation plan was finalised and approved by the government in September 2013. UNICEF provide technical assistance to Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare(MoWCSW)/Central Child Welfare Board (CCWB) and Ministry of Industry (MoI) to develop project proposals for the implementation of NPA-CAAC. The proposals have been put on hold as NPTF is currently in the process of reviewing their strategy. UNICEF, with support from UNPFN team, organised a field visit for some members of NPTF in Mid-Western region to sensitize them on issues related to children affected by children (CAAC). During the visit, the mission team had opportunity to listen and interact with CAAC from four districts (Surkhet, Banke, Bardiya, Rolpa), their guardians, including members of Human rights organisations and civil society. *Output 1.2: Baseline information (at least 20 conflict affected districts)od CAAC available* MoPR, in consultation with MWCSW, CCWB and Department of Women and Children (DWC), have finalised list of 20 districts to collect baseline information on CAAC. District Women and Children Office and CROs from 10 districts were oriented on the data collection process and tools. Orientation to the other 10 districts is planned to be organised MoPR and CCWB during last week of October 2014. Funds to the 20 selected districts could only be disbursed in late September 2014 as the government's annual budget was not be approved by cabinet in time. Baseline survey is expected to be completed in all the 20 district within January 2015. During the reporting period, UNICEF compiled information of 5,879 CAAFAG/CAAC from CAAFAG Working Group partners identified in the selected 20 districts. UNCIEF is currently discussing process and confidentiality protocol with CCWB before sharing the information of 5,879 CAAFAG/CAAC to respective districts (District Child Welfare Board).

Output 1.3: Vocational training service providers deliver quality livelihood training and link CAAC to labor market.

UNICEF has initiated mapping exercise to identify financial and livelihoods institutions, including existing livelihood training programs in 15 districts and 9 municipalities. The outcome of the mapping is expected to ensure linkages with market opportunities and other related trainings to advance skills of CAAC. The mapping report is expected by Dec 2014. Once the report is produced it shall also be shared with other agencies, including IOM to maximize its use through relevant projects.

With UNICEF's support, MoI has identified resource person for the development of training packages on labour market analysis and for facilitating coordination with provide sector. UNICEF is arranging funding modality to support MoI training plan which was recently finalised.

1.4 Government and non-government agencies identify and respond to reintegration needs of children affected by armed conflict with special consideration to gender needs, using standardized tools and procedures.

Workflow and guidelines for process/procedures for identification and referral of cases (case management guideline), developed in 2013, was printed and disseminated in all 75 districts. UNICEF is supporting the piloting of the case management guideline in 8 UNICEF focused districts.

UNICEF is currently finalising process for signing of MoU with Tribhuvan University, who has agreed to lead the process to standardize curriculum of para-psychosocial counsellors and social workers. Actual activity to be completed within November -January. After the signing of MoU, a working team is expected to be constituted, in which relevant agencies working on psychosocial intervention, including IOM, I/NGOs and other UN agencies will be invited.

UNICEF is supporting partners on the use of gender assessment tools, developed in 2013. The NGOs used the tools for assessment gender specific issues of CAAFAG and have developed responses accordingly. The NGOs are currently in the process of implementing the gender response plan. Some cases of sexual abuse have been identified which are in the initial phase of validation. UNICEF can share experiences of gender mainstream and gender assessment/response with other projects.

Output 1.5: Young people are engaged in the enhancement of social and political harmony through the promotion of non-violent and conflict sensitive means (peace building and social activities).

The proposal developed by Nepal Police, to work with young people to facilitate and promote reconciliation, community dialogue and harmony has recently been review and approved by Ministry of Home for implementation. UNICEF is currently in dialogue with Ministry of Finance to facilitate disbursement of fund to Nepal Police. To ensure synergy and avoid duplication, project objective and activities shall be shared with UNDP.

Output 1.6: Child-sensitive processes and procedures for children's participation in Transitional Justice are implemented effectively.

UNICEF have developed and finalized project document with a national human rights agency to support activities related orientation of stakeholders on existing legal framework including documentation of cases of grave violations. The budget is under review. Agreement with the agency is expected to be signed within November for activities to be implemented within Nov-Feb 2014.

Output 1.7: School as Zones of Peace (SZOP) guideline for a secure, non-violent, non-discriminatory environment in schools is implemented effectively.

This activity was intensively implemented in 2013 prior to the national election for CA.

	UNICEF, is currently advocating with CA members to promote schools of peace in the new constitution.
2. 2. Strengthened capacity of government and non-government agencies, to respond to protection concerns of children affected by conflict, through the child protection system approach, providing dividends to the community as a whole.	*Output 2.1*: *Government and non-government agencies prevent and respond to the core violations against the rights of the children affected by armed conflict, through an integrated Child Protection systems approach.* MWCSW has now provided the lead role to CCWB to lead and coordinate activities related to the development of comprehensive database to CCWB. CCWB has drafted a concept note which is the process of being approved by the working team. Hiring of external agency and development of CP database is expected to be completed within Nov 2014-March 2015. *Output 2.2: CAAC in residential care (child care homes) are removed from the institutions and reunited with their family members or placed in other, non- institutional, alternative care arrangements (kinship, foster care, etc.) if they cannot be reunited with their biological parents, until a permanent solution has been found – adoption or independent living.* UNICEF is providing technical assistance to MWCSW to develop the Regulation on Alternative care for children without parental care. During the reporting period, UNICEF invited an international expert and organised 2 technical events to ensure compliance of the draft Alternative Care Regulation with international guideline. The first technical meeting was with the government led steering committee (26 August) during which technical feedback was provided on the draft Alternative Care Regulation. On 29 August, UNICEF supported MWCSW to organise a high level round table discussion with representatives from relevant government and non-government agencies, to share and get feedback on the draft Alternative Care Regulation. Feedback received during the process in currently being incorporated in the Alternative Care Regulation for finalisation. In the previous quarter, CCWB had carried a study of Child Care Homes in 47 district and identified a total of 746 (41% female) CAAC residing in Child Care Homes in 24 districts. During July-Sept 2014, Child Rights Officers were mobilised in all 24 districts to validate status of 746 identified CAAC and collect more information. An initial report has been produced by CCWB based on the information gathered. Based on the information compiled, UNICEF is working with CCWB to conduct detailed individual assessment of CAAC and plan their reunion and reintegration during Nov-March 2015. Among the 746 CAAC identified to be currently residing in Child Care Homes, 163 children were found to have both parents, 435 children have mothers only, 26 children have father only, while 122 children do not have both parents. This suggests that of the 746 children around 83% of the CAAC, currently residing the child care homes, have either one or both parents with possibility of reunion and reintegration with their family members.

Project Management: key activities and/or challenges during this quarter

- During the reporting period (Sept), UNICEF organised Do No Harm training for District Women's Officers and Child Rights Officers from 28 districts, with technical support (trainer) from Staff Administrative College. The same training was planned for the other districts in October 2014 but had to be postponed due to transfer of Secretary and Joint Secretary (focal person) at MoPR. UNCIEF is currently discussing possible of organising the orientation to other districts in later October or early November 2014.

- Since UNICEF channels fund to government agencies through the government red book, funds could not be disbursed to the government agencies in time because of delay in the approval of government annual budget by the cabinet.

- With the transfer of staffs in MoPR (secretary and Joint Secretary), UNICEF is currently in orienting the new officers on past and current collaboration, including commitments and activities related to conflict related to CAAC.

4. Progress against key indicators in the UNPFN Results Framework

PBF Level

UNPBF PMP Result(s) (if applicable):	Youth, women and other marginalized members of conflict- affected communities act as catalyst to promote the peace process and early economic recovery.		
UNPBF PMP Result Indicator(s) (if applicable):	**Baseline**	**Target**	**Current / Final Status**
3.2: Sustainable livelihood opportunities for conflict affected children in conflict affected communities.	*5000 CAAFAG/CAAC received support from CAAFAF WG in 2012 – 30 districts. (Total number of CAAC is yet to be determined in all 75 districts. Baseline data will be compiled by MWCSW/CCWB through NPTF funded project. UNICEF will provide technical assistance.)*	*50% of identified CAAC (not all identified CAAC may need reintegration support)*	

UNPFN Level

UNPFN Strategic Outcome:	*Outcome 8:* Children affected by armed conflict are effectively rehabilitated and reintegrated into communities in line with the National Plan of Action on Children Affected by Armed Conflict		
Project Peace-Building Impact:	Relevant government agencies provide reintegration services to children affected by conflict, through existing government mechanism, ensuring peace dividends to affected children.		
Impact Indicator(s)	**Baseline**	**Target**	**Current / Final Status**
a. Process, procedures and NPA-CAAC implementation guideline developed,approved and implemented by relevant ministries. b. Verified Minors, included as beneficiary group in the NPA-CAAC implementation guideline, to ensure their access to reintegration services through NPA-CAAC implementation. c. Children affected by armed conflict are reintegrated through the government established identification, reporting and reintegration mechanism.	a. Process, procedures and NPA implementation guideline not available. b. Verified minors are not recognized as beneficiaries in the NPA-CAAC c. District stakeholders are not trained/oriented on NPA-CAAC	a. Government have developed and approved NPA-implementation plan. b. Verified minors are eligible to request for reintegration support during the implementation of NPA-CAAC. c. District implementing agencies have clear implementation guideline and defined process to identify, refer and provide reintegration support to CAAC.	Implementation guideline developed approved by government in 2013. All CAAFAG, including verified minors, inclded in the NPA-CAAC definition. 20 districts for baseline selected and relevant staffs trained on baseline data collection process and tools.

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Project Level

OUTCOME 1:	Government and non-governmental agencies to provide holistic socio-reintegration support to children affected by conflict.		
Outcome Indicator(s)	**Baseline**	**Target**	**Current / Final Status**
a. NPA implementation guideline and reintegration packages endorsed by government meet international standards and guideline b. Relevant ministries and their district line agencies (MWCSW,CCWB, MoE, MoI, MoPR) have developed programmes and mobilised resources to ensure reintegration services to CAACs	a. NPA implementation guideline is in the process of being drafted. b. Programme and services for CAAC not developed by relevant agcies due to lack of guideline and resources mobilization plan.	a. NPA implementation guideline is finalized and endorsed b. Line agencies (MWCSW, CCWB, MoE, MoI,) develop reintegration packages (services) for CAAC as per approved implementation guideline and project document.	NPA implementation guideline was approved by government in September 2013. Line agencies (MWCSW,CCWB, MoE, MoI,) have developed reintegration packages (services) for CAAC as per approved implementation guideline and project document
1.1 Relevant government agencies mobiles resources for the implementation of NPA-CAAC	MWCSW, CCWB, MoE, MoI do not have project proposals to access NPTF	CCWB, MoE, MoI have developed and submitted project proposals to NPTF	Ministry of Education, Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare and Ministry of Industry have developed three project proposals from been submitted to NPTF.
1.2 Baseline information (at least 20 conflict affected districts)od CAAC available	No baseline available	# of CAAC in 20 districts known to government for referral to available services	20 districts, from the five development regions, identified by government for baseline data on CAAC. UNICEF has compiled information of 5,879 CAAFAG/CAAC from CAAFAG Working Group partners identified in the selected 20 districts. Process of sharing the information with respective districts in ongoing. District Women and Children Office and Child Right Officers from 10 districts oriented on the data collection process and tools. Orientation to other 10 districts planed for October 2014.
1.3 Vocational training service providers deliver quality livelihood trainings and link CAAC to labor market.	1.3.1 Government does not have project for delivery of skills training to CAACs	1.3.1 Types of vocational and skills training for CAACs and delivery mechanism specified in Government project document.	Livelihood training packages have been developed by Ministry of Industry and awaits resources for its implementation. Mapping exercise to identify financial and livelihoods institutions, including existing livelihood training

	1.3.2 Government officials haven't received labour market analysis training for NPA-CAAC implementation	1.3.2 Key government staffs, relevant to designing vocational skills training package, have received labour market analysis training	programs in 15 districts and 9 municipalities in process. Report expected by Dec 2014. MoI has identified resource person for the development of training packages on labour market analysis and for facilitating coordination with provide sector. UNICEF discussion funding modality for disbursement of fund to support MoI plan of action.
	1.3.3 Government has not started delivering vocational and skills training to CAAC .	1.3.3 40% of identified CAAC receive reintegration support.	Project proposals submitted by MoI, yet to be finalized by NPTF.
1.4 Government and non-government agencies respond to reintegration needs of children affected by armed conflict with special consideration to gender needs, using standardized tools and procedures.	1.3.1 Standardized process and tools for identification and referral of CAAC do not exist.	1.3.1 Tools and processes for identification and referral of CAAC are endorsed by relevant agencies	Workflow and guidelines for process/procedures for identification and referral of cases have been developed in 2013. Case management guideline, printed and disseminated in 75 districts by CCWB.
	1.3.2 Referral and coordination system at district level either not functioning or exist on ad-hoc basis.	1.3.2 Formal referral system exist for referral of gender issues for services, as part of case management guideline.	22 UNICEF supported districts, supported through CCWB, for enhancement of referral system.
	1.3.3 Various training curriculum/ modules exist for para psychosocial counsellors and social workers, which are not accredited At least 22 district have updated services providers directory.	1.3.3 Relevant government agency standardize curriculum for para-psychosocial counsellors and social workers bringing in Women Children Office/DCWB have referral system with services providers identified.	UNICEF is currently finalising process for signing of MoU with Tribhuvan University, for standardize of curriculum of para-psychosocial counsellors and social workers. Actual activity to be completed within November -January.
	1.3.4: Government and non-government officials not trained on gender assessment.	1.3.4. Government and non-government officials have skills and tools to identify gender needs among CAAC beneficiaries to be addressed by the programme. Information to facilitate access to services for victims of GBV, reviewed and disseminated to stakeholders.	To ensure gender responsive services, gender assessment tools, developed by UNICEF, and NGO staffs from the five regions were trained on the use of the tools in 2013. Trained NGOs used assessment have developed responses plan to address gender specific issues and are currently in the process of implementing the response plan.
	1.3.5 Government and non-government officials not trained on conflict sensitive tools.	1.3.5 Government and non-government officials use conflict sensitive tools to mitigate conflict during the implementation of NPA-CAAC	UNICEF organised training on context analysis (May 19-20) for relevant government and non-government actors. Training on Do No Harm was organised for District Women Officers and Child Right Officers from 28 districts in September 2014.

1.5 Young people including CAACs are engaged in the enhancement of social and political harmony through the promotion of non-violent and conflict sensitive means (peace building and social activities).	1.4.1 Structured training curriculum does not exist 1.4.2 Trainers on peace building not available among (conflict affected) young people 1.4.3: Social environment not conducive/ encouraging for CAACs engagement in children/youth clubs (systematically).	1.4.1 Training manual available for use by government and non-government stakeholders to engage young people in peace building activities. 1.4.2 #young people (% female, socially disadvantaged groups), government staffs trained-as-trainers (TOT) on mobilising children/youth groups for community based reconciliation activities 1.4.3 # of children/youth clubs promoting peace building activities with the engagement of CAAC.	Project proposal developed by Nepal Police, aimed at working with young people has recently been review and approved by Ministry of Home for implementation. Implementation expected between November-Feb 2014.
1.6 Child-sensitive processes and procedures for children's participation in Transitional Justice are implemented effectively.	1.5.1 TRC Bill not reviewed from child rights perspective. 1.5.2 Guidelines for children's participation in the TRC process not available. 1.5.3. Systematic documentation of cases not done. 1.5.4. children who have become victim to gross violations yet to be receive comprehensive support.	1.5.1 Guideline for children's participation in TRC process presented to TRC. 1.5.2 # of documented cases of gross violation cases (CAAFAG/CAAC) to be presented for TRC process 1.5.3 Government train relevant stakeholders on TRC process and children's from at least 30 (most conflict affected) districts. 1.5.4 # of children (victims of gross violations) provided with legal, health, psychosocial support)	Project document developed with national human rights agency finalised. Budget to support activities under review. Agreement with agency is expected to be signed within November for activities to be implemented within Dec-Feb 2014.

1.7 School as Zones of Peace (SZOP) guideline for a secure, non-violent, non-discriminatory environment in schools is implemented effectively.	1.6.1. SZOP guideline is endorsed by government with little or no compliance from political parties 1.6.2 System to regularly document and report misuse of schools/children does not exist.	1.6.1 Political parties are sensitized and compliance to provision in the SZOP guideline (misuse of schools and children) monitored and reported to pressurize violators of SZOP guideline. 1.6.2 Incidences of attack and closure of schools, including re-recruitment and misuse of children for violent political and armed activities documented and reported regularly.	This activity was intensively carried out in 2013, prior to the national election for CA. This activity was implemented in 2013. UNICEF supported CCWB to monitor misuse of children and school for political purposed prior and during election. The report based on information compiled from 75 districts was shared with policy makers and high level government officials for awareness raising. UNICEF, is also working with CA members to promote schools of peace in the new constitution.
OUTCOME 2:		Government and non-government agencies respond to protection concerns of children affected by conflict through the child protection systems approach, providing dividends to the community as a whole.	
Outcome Indicator(s)	**Baseline**	**Target**	**Current / Final Status**
a. Government developed and implemented standardized tools for identification, reporting, rescue and reintegration of CAAC through a standardized process/tools, establishing a common case management system for other forms of vulnerable children too.	a. Child rights agencies lack standardised process and procedures for identification, referral and rescue of vulnerable children and CAAC.	a. Case-management guideline developed and endorsed by government to standardize process and procedures for identification, referral and strengthening of vulnerable children and CAAC	CCWB and MWCSW finalised the case management guideline and trained 150 Child Welfare Officers and Child Rights Officers from 75 districts trained, including municipality officials and NGOs from 8 municipalities, on the case management in 2013. The case management guideline has been printed and disseminated in 75 districts.
2.1 Government and non-government agencies prevent and respond to the core violations against the rights of the children affected by armed conflict and other vulnerable children through an integrated Child Protection systems approach (using government standardized process, procedures and tools for identification, rescue, and reintegration and monitoring of children in risk)	2.1.1 CP databse and users guidelines not available 2.1.2 CAAC and CP database does not exist. 2.1.3 Government dose not have standardized case management system for identification and referral of CAAC and other vulnerable children.	2.1.1 Database and guidelines developed based on government documentation and reporting needs. 2.1.2 Database used in all districts with central level compilation and analysis. 2.1.3 Relevant government authorities in all 75 districts trained on cases management process/procedures and tools.	MWCSW has nominated CCWB to lead role and coordinate activities related to the development of comprehensive database. Draft concept developed by CCWB and under review by working group. Hiring and development of CP database, within Nov 2014-March 2015.

2.2 CAAC in residential care (child care homes) are removed from the institutions and reunited with their family members or placed in other, non- institutional, alternative care arrangements (kinship, foster care, etc.) if they cannot be reunited with their biological parents, until a permanent solution has been found – adoption or independent living.	2.2.1 # and status of CAAC in residential care facilities not available with government. 2.2.2 Government does not have guideline for deinstitutionalization and alternative care. 2.2.3 Unknown number of CAAC still residing in residential care centers run by government and non-government agencies.	2.2.1 All CAAC currently residing in institutions (residential care facilities) documented. 2.2.2 Procedures for alternative care meet international standards. 2.2.3 # of CAAC identified in residential care facilities are either united with parents (where possible) or placed under other alternative care forms	Draft Regulation on Alternative care for children without parental care in the process of being finalised. 2 technical events organised with steering committee and high level government and non-government officials to review and incorporated feedback on the draft Alternative Care Regulation in August 2014 Feedback received during the process in currently being incorporated in the Alternative Care Regulation for finalisation. During July-Sept 2014, CCWB mobilised CROs to visit 24 districts and gathered more information to validate status of 746 identified CAAC. Based on the information compiled, UNICEF will support CCWB to conduct detailed individual assessment of CAAC and plan their reunion and reintegration.