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Final Report on Activities Implemented under the United Nations Peace Fund for Nepal

for the Period 2007 to 2016

August 2016

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

AA	Administrative Agent
CAAC	Children Affected by Armed Conflict
CAAFAG	Children Associated with Armed Forces and Armed Groups
CBO	Community-Based Organization
CCWB	Central Children Welfare Board
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CLD	Collaborative Leadership and Dialogue
CPA	Comprehensive Peace Agreement
CPP	Conflict Prevention Programme
CRSV	Conflict related Sexual Violence
CS	Community security
CVC	Conflict Victims' Committee
CVCP	Conflict Victim Common Platform
DCC	District Coordination Committees
DFID	Department for International Development
EFSG	Education and Federalism Support Group
ExCom	Executive Committee
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GBVIMS	Gender Based Violence Information Management System
GoN	Government of Nepal
GRB	Gender Responsive Budgeting
HLSC	High-Level Steering Committee
IAWG	Interagency Working Group
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPWA	Inter Party Women Alliance
JP	Joint Programme
LPC	Local Peace Committee
MSLDF	Multi Stakeholder Land Dialogue Forum
MWCSW	Ministry of Women and Children Social Welfare
MoLRM	Ministry of Land Reform and Management
MPTF Office	Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office
MoFALD	Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development
MoPR	Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAP	National Action Plan

NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
NPTF	Nepal Peace Trust Fund
OSRSG	Office of the Special Representative to the Secretary General
PBF	United Nations Peacebuilding Fund
PBSO	Peacebuilding Support Office
PUNO	Partner United Nations Organisations
RC/HC	Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator
RITF	Rapid Intervention Task Force
RSG	Representative of the Secretary-General
SAA	Standard Administrative Arrangement
SGBV	Sexual- and Gender-Based Violence
SMCs	School Management Committees
SOLA	Solution for Open Land Administration
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
TJ	Transitional Justice
TRC	Truth and Reconciliation Commission
UN	United Nations
UN-HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNMIN	United Nations Mission in Nepal
UNPFN	United Nations Peace Fund for Nepal
UNSCRs	United Nations Security Council Resolutions
UNWOMEN	Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
VDC	Village Development Committee

Executive Summary

The United Nations Peace Fund for Nepal (UNPFN) was established in March 2007 to complement the Government's Nepal Peace Trust Fund (NPTF) and mobilize resources for activities of clear, short-term relevance to the peace process. The UNPFN was originally established under the UN Mission in Nepal (UNMIN), and was chaired by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG). In February 2009, the leadership of the UNPFN was transferred from the SRSG to the Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator (RCHC). This was done in response to the changing pace of the peace process. Throughout the life of the Fund, UNPFN has received a total of \$26.8 m from different bilateral donors.

The UNPFN evolved its focus to include building the capacity and expertise within the UN in supporting peace-building in Nepal during the volatile transitional process. It also increased funding from 4 Participating UN Organizations (PUNOs) in 2007 to 11 PUNOs in 2010 and funded a total of 13 joint programmes among UN agencies. The UNPFN portfolio has developed over time to meet contemporary peacebuilding priorities. It evolved from funding immediate, short-term peacebuilding priorities, to an increased focus on the peace and development nexus, as an instrument to advancing the UN reform agenda and government ownership.

Nepal's peace process has made significant progress since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2006. Accomplishments include the successful holding of Constituent Assembly (CA) elections in 2008 and 2013 and the integration and rehabilitation of the Maoist army (completed in April 2014). The conduct of free and fair elections to the Constituent Assembly (CA) in 2008 through improving key organisational and procedural aspects of the electoral process was possible due to the presence of a broad and coordinated deployment of 14,847 domestic and 783 international observers.

The UNPFN has ensured a strategic UN approach to support peace-building in Nepal. The UNPFN promoted joint programming amongst two or more agencies, as this was seen as enabling the UN to apply the diverse comparative advantages of multiple agencies to tackle the most difficult peacebuilding issues that often slip between various agency mandates. The Fund provided rapid, focused, time-limited support, and flexible responses sensitive to the needs of Nepal's transition. A good example of a rapid response to an urgent short-term requirement and gap was the provision of basic clothing and amenities (blankets, jacket, shoes, tracksuits, socks and woolen caps) to all 19,602 verified members of the Maoist Army in advance of their first winter in cantonments. A joint UNCT team with over 70 personnel from UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNMIN and OHCHR that undertook discharge operations for 2,973 Verified Minors and Late Recruits across seven main cantonments, is another example of joint and focused response. Around 71% VMLRs who had graduated from vocational, micro-enterprise, and health related training under rehabilitation programme were employed and/or had started their own businesses.

The monitoring, reporting and response to conflict related child rights violations project had further contributed in strengthening the peace process in 46 districts of Nepal. The programme was able to provide a holistic support for the reintegration of 4,281 informally and self-released CAAFAG/CAAC into their communities. Launching the National Action Plan (NAP) on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 in February 2011 as a collaborative effort, where 17 relevant Ministries had been brought together for implementation, further strengthened the peace process in Nepal. The UNPFN efforts to mainstream gender, social inclusion and conflict sensitivity into its strategies and projects had been rewarded with improved impact and identification of good practices. Through its efforts, UNPFN was able to ensure that projects were more 'women-friendly', through quota systems which were monitored and reported on, the participation of women in projects increased. As an example, special needs of women and girls were integrated into the field implementation manual (FIM), monitoring guideline and tools, MIS database, and outreach strategy for MoPR's programme for

psycho-social support and services (PSS). The trained psychosocial counselors provided counseling services to 87 survivors, and 169 were referred for other services such as police, legal, safe house or health care.

The UNPFN also evolved focus, built tools and guidelines, and built capacity to mainstream key cross-cutting issues as part of peacebuilding projects. A strong partnership with the inter-agency Conflict Sensitivity team ensured that rigorous conflict sensitivity and Do No Harm components were adopted within projects. A key strategy for UN peacebuilding initiatives has been to ensure a harmonised and comprehensive approach and messaging across UN agencies, including Development Partners, on key peacebuilding issues. This has been possible with leadership of the RC on multi-faceted issues such as transitional justice and conflict related sexual violence. An important component and contribution to this work has been achieved through accessing the capacities of the field offices of the UN Resident Coordinator's Office as well as the establishment and support of ad hoc UN inter-agency task forces, such as the CRSV Task Force that have worked on common messages and developed advocacy briefs in support of these areas.

While a new Constitution was promulgated in September 2015, which has been identified by many as 'a logical conclusion to the peace process', many of the issues that have been addressed through the UNPFN continue to remain relevant. For example, implementation of the Supreme Court rulings of 2013 and 2015 on the Truth, Reconciliation and Disappearance Act and providing comprehensive reparations is pending; land reform is yet to be addressed, etc. At the same time, the April 2015 earthquake, as well as the hundreds of after-shocks that have subsequently hit the country have increased vulnerabilities of many sectors of the populations.

Many of the issues addressed through the UNPFN perhaps continue to be relevant after the closure of the UNPFN. New contexts in which to address them, for example together with the Sustainable Development Goal number 16, will need to be considered for longer-term programming.

Introduction

The Final Report on activities implemented under the United Nations Peace Fund for Nepal (UNPFN) is submitted to the Government of Nepal (GoN) and contributing donors to the UNPFN, through the UNPFN Executive Committee, to fulfil the reporting provisions of the UNPFN Terms of Reference, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the Administrative Agent (AA) and the Participating Organizations (POs), and the Standard Administrative Arrangement (SAA) signed between the AA and contributing donors. The Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office) serves as the Administrative Agent of the UNPFN.

This Final Report covers the period from 2007 to June 2016, and builds on Consolidated Annual Progress Reports throughout the years. It provides information on key project results funded by the UNPFN, as well as common challenges and lessons learned. This report is consolidated based on information and data contained in the individual progress reports and evaluations, as well as financial statements submitted by Participating Organizations to the MPTF Office. It is neither an evaluation of the UNPFN nor an assessment of the performance of the Participating Organizations. However, it does provide the UNPFN Executive Committee with a comprehensive overview of achievements and challenges associated with projects funded through the UNPFN.

Report Structure

This report consists of four sections. The first section provides an overview of the strategic framework of the UNPFN. Section Two looks at the UNPFN's governance and fund-management arrangements followed by project's results, good practices, and lesson learned during the reporting period as well as highlights of key project-implementation progress in Section Three. Section Four elaborates on efforts made to ensure UNPFN transparency and accountability.

1. Strategic Framework

The UNPFN was established in March 2007, at the request of donors and the Government of Nepal (GoN), as a complement to the Government of Nepal's Peace Trust Fund (NPTF)¹. The UNPFN was established to mobilize resources for activities of clear, short-term relevance to the peace process which could not be funded or implemented through the NPTF or other existing mechanisms or programmes.

The UNPFN was originally established under the UN Mission in Nepal (UNMIN), and was chaired by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG). In February 2009, the leadership of the UNPFN was transferred from the SRSG to the Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator (RCHC). This was done in response to the changing pace of the peace process, which was also reflected in the management of the UNPFN.

Furthermore, it was established based on the commitment and funding of bilateral donors in Nepal. During its lifetime, the UNPFN received a total of \$26.8m from the Governments of Canada, Denmark, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. Apart from this, Nepal was also declared eligible for funding from the global Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) in December 2007, and UNPFN channelled an additional total of \$19.6m of PBF funds to Nepal.

The UNPFN was meant to channel resources for focused, time-limited activities critical to the peace process and subject to the strategic priorities for United Nations peace support, articulated by the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Nepal in close consultation with the Government of Nepal and Nepal's international development partners. From funding immediate, short-term peacebuilding priorities, the UNPFN increased its focus on:

- peace and development nexus;
- using UNPFN as an instrument for advancing the UN reform agenda;
- government ownership.

Project Funding

The UNPFN funded projects in two ways:

- Through a competitive funding round;
- Through a direct process to allocate funds.

The competitive funding round was run based on the availability of 'un-earmarked' funds committed in the pooled mechanism, against a number of pre-determined Strategic Outcomes.

In addition to the Funding Round, the UNPFN has accepted to fund requests from the government and/or earmarked contributions from donors in support of the implementation of urgent components of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. Additionally, the UNPFN could be activated to support wider peacebuilding analytical and coordination activities. Finally, in cases where an urgent priority intervention was identified by the UNPFN Executive Committee, it could approach specific UN agencies directly to develop a proposal in order to meet that need. Throughout the process, the Strategic Outcomes have remained the guiding principles and provided a framework within which all funding decisions were made. Therefore, the identification and definition of these Strategic Objectives in a participatory and transparent manner has been essential.

¹ For more information on the NPTF, please go to: <http://www.nptf.gov.np/>.

Development of Nepal's Second Priority Plan

The development of Nepal's second Priority Plan took 16 months to complete, and involved extensive analysis and multiple consultations with a large group of stakeholders.

In October 2011, as a first step, an internal analysis and discussion paper was produced by the RCO entitled 'UNPFN Priority Areas for consideration'. This discussion paper assessed the status of the peace process², and considered potential UN comparative advantages, areas of potential duplication with stakeholders and potential complementarities with the NPTF. This analysis was presented using the framework of the NPTF Cluster Areas and identified which ongoing or pipeline projects / initiatives by the NPTF, MoPR or other government bodies UNPFN support could complement. An additional consideration was given to noting specific priority areas / action points which could score a gender marker of '3' (i.e. activities that address women's and girls' specific needs, advance gender equality and/or empower women as their principle objective), emphasizing that 15% of UNPFN funding should go towards gender marker '3' projects.

Based upon the analysis of Priority Areas, potential UNPFN funding support for 2012-13 was categorized into two main groups:

- those priorities that could constitute outcome areas for a competitive funding round in 2012; and,
- those that were important priorities, but not suited for a competitive funding round. This judgement was made for example in the case where the priority was being addressed by more appropriate actors and funding mechanisms.

In November 2011, a "Joint NPTF/UNPFN Workshop to prepare for the 2010 work plan" brought together 44 participants representing MoPR, UN agencies, donors and some professionals from I/NGOs and civil society. The workshop reflected on peacebuilding needs in general and then looked at the roles that NPTF and UNPFN could potentially play in a complementary manner.

Consultations continued throughout the Priority Plan drafting process undertaken between February and March 2012. Finally, the ExCom agreed on 8 Strategic Outcomes for the Priority Plan. In April, the Priority Plan was approved in principle by the Peacebuilding Fund Support Office (PBSO).

Before launching the Funding round, the UNPFN Executive Committee revisited the specific wording of the Strategic Outcomes to reaffirm their relevance given the constantly changing peacebuilding context. A few minor modifications were made to bring the focus of the Strategic Outcomes up-to-date before applications for the funding round were opened to the UNCT on 24 August 2012.

² The Peace and Development Strategy was used as one of the frameworks for this analysis. The PDS is a UN and donor led exercise launched in January 2011 articulating how development partners could assist Nepal to realize the development agenda embedded in the CPA. The PDS priority areas/action points were used as the basis to determine the core current peace-building priorities in Nepal.

2. UNPFN Governance Structures

The UNPFN received guidance from higher-level national bodies with a role in overall coordination of support to the peace process in Nepal. Management and approval of UNPFN projects has been the role of a small Executive Committee chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator. Operational support was provided by a UNPFN Support Office functioning also as the Secretariat to the UNPFN Executive Committee.

Nepal Peace Trust Fund (NPTF) Board: provides strategic guidance to the NPTF and the UNPFN with an aim of ensuring coordination between the two Funds. The membership comprises the Minister for Peace and Reconstruction as Chair, the Finance Minister as Co-Chair, the Minister for Physical Planning and Works, the Vice-Chair from the National Planning Commission, the Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, the Secretary, Ministry of Finance, the Secretary, Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction, and representatives of the five largest political parties in the Constituent Assembly.

UNPFN Executive Committee: Under the overall policy direction of the NPTF Board, the management of the UNPFN and approval of projects was under the authority of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee was first chaired by the SRSG and chairmanship was handed over to the UN RC in 2009. Other Committee members include a donor representative (Danish Ambassador) and a government representative (MoPR- Director of the NPTF).

In order to ensure that the UNPFN fully engaged on women's participation and gender equity, the Executive Committee requested the Government of Nepal to designate a representative of the High Level Steering Committee for implementation of the NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 as an additional government representative on the Executive Committee. Consequently, in 2011 the Member-Secretary of the High-Level Steering Committee (HLSC) of the NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 was assigned as a second Government representative to the UNPFN Executive Committee.³

Technical Expert Groups: Originally, UNPFN would gather a group of technical experts to review project proposals, with invitees selected based on the topics of the proposals. However, later UNPFN adopted the Nepal Peace Trust Fund (NPTF) Sectoral Cluster Groups to do the detailed review of draft project proposals before their finalisation. The NPTF Sectoral Cluster Groups include technical experts from the government, development partners, UN agencies and civil society (INGOs), and also provide coordination support to peacebuilding initiatives in Nepal.

UNPFN Support Office: The UNPFN Support Office, based in the RC's Office since 2009, acts as the secretariat to the Executive Committee. In this role, the UNPFN Support Office looks after the administration of the UNPFN. This support office, funded by PBF, is expected to be closed in December 2016 with a four month no-cost extension.

³ Subsequently the Member-Secretary was also appointed the NPTF Director, whereby the two Government seats on the UNPFN Executive Committee were held by the same person. The Committee is now seeking other ways to expand Government membership.

3. Projects

a) Funding Overview

During the UNPFN lifetime, bi-lateral donors deposited \$26,792,413 in the Fund and \$454,912 were earned as interests, bringing the total sources of funds to \$27,247,325. The net transferred amount to the Participating Organizations was \$25,799,790, which went towards funding 18 projects implemented by 11 partner UN agencies. In addition, direct costs (support to secretariat) and bank charges for this fund amounted to \$980,644 and \$267,924 were deducted as AA fees. By 31 May 2017, the 2016 Annual Financial Report will be produced and published on <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/NPF00>. The Final Financial Report of the Fund will be produced once the PUNOs will have financially closed the Fund projects in their systems.

b) Cluster Overview

Table 3.1 below, provides an overview of projects approved to date under the four clusters of the UNPFN.

Table 3-1: Cluster Overview

UNPFN Cluster	Number of Projects Funded	Participating Organizations	Source of Funding	Net Funded Amount (USD)
Cantonments / Reintegration	7	UNOPS, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, ILO, OHCR	UNPFN	22,499,368
Elections / Governance / Mediation	4	UNDP, UNESCO	UNPFN	956,085
Recovery / Quick Impact Projects	1	FAO	UNPFN	49,529
Rights and Reconciliation	6	WFP, OCHA, UNESCO, UN WOMEN, IOM, UNFPA	UNPFN	2,294,808
TOTAL	18			25,799,790

c) Project Overview and Achievements

In terms of project implementation, a total of 18 projects funded through the Fund. All UNPFN projects, approved under the 2nd priority plan after completion of the 1st priority plan, completed their field level interventions by June 2016. While the fund was supposed to be closed by December 2015, a six month no-cost extension was granted based on the request made by the Executive Committee primarily to have strategic discussions with Donors and government on the future of the fund and peacebuilding activities, in addition to allowing some extra time to manage and close the fund more comprehensively.

The overall financial implementation rate of UNPFN-funded projects was approximately 100 percent of net funded amounts.

The sections below provide an overview of the main results achieved through the UNPFN, as reported by the respective Participating Organizations in their annual or final narrative reports, and/or as found by project evaluations. Projects are grouped by UNPFN clusters.

For detailed annual narrative reports, please refer to Annual UNPFN Progress Reports, available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mptf.undp.org>).

3.C.1 Cantonments/Reintegration

The purpose of interventions in this cluster was to: improve living conditions in the cantonments that hosted the Maoist army; register/verify, and discharge former Maoist army personnel; reintegrate late recruits and minors; and dispose of mines and other unexploded devices. The table below (Table 3-2) provides an overview of the projects including total net funded amount in US\$ under this cluster. All projects are operationally closed.

Table 3-2: Cantonments/Reintegration Cluster Overview of projects

Project Number and Title	Project Duration (Start-End)	Participating Organization(s)	Net Funded Amount US\$
00067441 UNPFN/A-1 Mine Action /IEDD /EOD Operations in Nepal	Apr 2007–Mar 2012	UNOPS	5,002,693
00067443 NPFN/A-2 Verification of the Maoist Army Combatants in the Cantonment Sites - Phase I	Jun 2007-Dec 2007	UNDP	618,559
00067447 UNPFN/A-2a Verification of the Maoist Army Combatants in the Cantonment Sites – Phase II	Nov 2007-Mar 2008	UNDP	513,640
00067451 UNPFN/A-3 Project to Support Discharge of Adult Maoist Army Personnel from the Cantonment Sites	Dec 2008-Dec 2010	UNDP	486,638
00071690 UNPFN/A-6 Discharge and Reintegration Assistance to Maoist Army	Mar 2009-Jan 2011	UNDP	3,381,980
00075366 NPFN/A-7 Support to the Rehabilitation of Verified Minors and Late Recruits	Jun 2010-Jan 2013	UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, ILO	11,341,564
00078539 UNPFN/A-8 Monitoring, Reporting and Response to Conflict-Related Child Rights Violations	May 2011-Jan 2012	UNICEF, OHCR	1,154,293
TOTAL			22,499,368

Achievements

As documented in the ‘Evaluation of UN Mine Action Programme’ evaluation report, Mine Actions/IEDD/EOD Operations programme made a number of useful contributions to broader peacebuilding efforts in Nepal, e.g. demining and the destruction of IED stockpiles removed significant hazards to civilians, including in areas that had supported the rebels. Total 53 mine fields and 98.5% IED fields were cleared respectively by June and December 2011 with support from the Government of Nepal, Nepal Army and Maoist Army. Around 100% of 58,000 registered ERW held at Maoist cantonment sites was safely removed and destroyed during this project period. This project was also instrumental to enhance the capacity of Nepal Army Mine Action Coordination Centre to international standards.

In accordance with the Agreement on the Monitoring of the Arms and Armies and under the direction of the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN), total 19,602 Maoist personnel (3,846 women), 2,973 verified minors, and 1,035 late recruits were verified and registered into the ‘DREAM’ (Disarmament, Demobilization, REintegration and Arms Management) database. These verified members were provided with basic clothing and amenities (warm blankets, jackets, shoes, track suit, socks and woolen cap) for their living. Besides, total 11,161 people received primary health services through 30 reproductive health clinics which resulted in improved reproductive health status of all female combatants and one-third of women from nearby communities to the cantonment.

The official release of the VMLRs from the Maoist cantonments that occurred during January and February 2010 was a preliminary step towards peace and reconciliation process in Nepal and also a critical element in implementation of AMMAA. A joint UNCT team with over 70 personnel from 5 UN Agencies undertook

discharge operations for 2,394 VMLRs across seven main cantonments. Besides, discharge of the 4,008 disqualified combatants helped ending the political deadlock and paved the way for fresh political discussion and confidence building. Out of 4,008, total 2234 VMLRs were eventually enrolled in the UN Interagency Rehabilitation Programme.

A set of four sectoral rehabilitation support packages including options for vocational skills training, Micro-Enterprises, and Non-Formal education were offered through UNDP, Formal Education and Psychosocial Counseling through UNICEF, Health related trainings through UNFPA while ILO enhanced the capacity of UNDP implementing partners for vocational skill training to deliver high quality vocational skills training and also to improve their labor market assessment skills. Through UNICEF's experience on working with CAAFAG, support to such other vulnerable groups was integrated in the programme to avoid further stigmatization of discharged minors and late recruits. The focus on socio-reintegration and rehabilitation of these VMLRs was ensured by making provision of psychosocial support, establishing response mechanism to address protection concerns and engaging VMLRs in the community based peace-building activities. A referral mechanism was established to refer cases require clinical and critical psychosocial interventions to specialized agencies.

Among the rehabilitated personnel, around 97% were found happy in the community including 72% respondents who had noticed positive changes in their families' economic situations since receiving the rehabilitation supports. Total 2,234 VMLRs (38% female) enrolled in one of the four rehabilitation packages. Off 1,802 VMLRs, around 71% graduates from vocational, micro-enterprise, and health related training were employed and/or had started their own businesses. Apart from these capacity building initiatives, maternity and paternity allowances to 73 persons, child care grants to the parents of 966 children, and nutritional support to 554 pregnant and lactating mothers were provided to strengthen their living standards. Around 34,392 community participants including VMLRs had participated into 151 peacebuilding activities and events which resulted in creating positive perception about local impact of rehabilitation process.

The monitoring, reporting and response to conflict related child rights violations project had further contributed in strengthening the peace process in 46 districts of Nepal. The UN national monitoring team (UNMT) and four UN regional monitoring teams monitored and verified compliance with the Action Plan mainly through interviews with verified minors and other reliable sources in various districts, including with Maoist army senior leaders and Maoist political senior leaders. In June 2012, the UCPN-M was delisted from the Secretary- General (SG) Annual Global report on CAAC for successful implementation of the Action Plan.

The programme was able to provide a holistic support for the reintegration of 4,281 informally and self-released CAAFAG/CAAC into their communities. Of this, 76% children received education support, while 23% benefited from vocational training or income generating support. Out of the total CAAFAG and CAAC who received livelihood skill training (vocational and micro-enterprise skill training), 49% were engaged in economic activities, mostly embarking in trades such as carpentry, driving vehicles, mobile repair, sewing & cutting, among others, while 248 female CAAFAG and CAAC participants were linked to micro-credit groups. Of these 38% constitute female participants. During the project period, around 311 psychosocial workers in 30 districts received psychosocial training, as a result of which around 1,453 CAAFAG/CAAC (48% Females) received psychosocial support. As a result of consistent advocacy at all levels, the NPA-CAAC was finally approved by the Cabinet in December 2010 and officially launched in March 2011.

Moreover, the programme also capacitated the government and non-governmental actors in areas of child protection. The referral mechanism was established in 30 programme districts, thereby enhancing the coordination among child rights agencies. The programme activities, therefore, played a crucial role in laying down the foundation for the establishment of a system for the protection of, not only conflict affected children, but all children who may be vulnerable to violence, abuse and exploitation. At the district and community levels, UNICEF and the CAAFAG Working Group supported awareness-raising and sensitization activities targeting political parties, child protection committees, and other community groups on child rights

issues and CAAFAG-specific issues. As a result, CAAFAG implementing partners were able to get commitments from district political leaders to exempt schools from the frequent “bandhs” or shutdowns. Besides, total 308 child and youth clubs were supported in the programme districts to conduct various peacebuilding and community based social activities.

3.C.2 Elections, Governance and Mediation

The purpose of interventions in this cluster is to provide technical advice and logistic support on elections/constitutional issues, assist restoration of government structures at the local level and directly aid the peace process. The table below (Table 3-3) provides an overview of the projects including net funded amount in US\$.

Table 3-3: Elections/Governance/Mediation Cluster Overview of projects

Project Number and Title	Project Duration (Start-End)	Participating Organization(s)	Net Funded Amount US\$
00067445 UNPFN/B-1 Electoral Observation Resource Centre	Sep 2007-Dec 2007	UNDP	138,356
00067448 UNPFN/B-2 Provision of Specialised Electoral Assistance to the Election Commission of Nepal	Nov 2007-Feb 2008	UNDP	156,771
00080268 UNPFN/B-3 Collaborative Leadership and Dialogue (CLD)	Nov 2011-June 2013	UNDP	299,800
00085974 UNPFN/B-4 Planning effective delivery of education	Mar 2013 – Mar 2015	UNESCO	361,158
TOTAL			956,085

Achievements

The conduct of free and fair elections to the Constituent Assembly (CA) in 2008 through improving key organisational and procedural aspects of the electoral process contributed significantly in the peacebuilding in Nepal. The legitimacy of the elected Constituent Assembly, and public confidence as well was enhanced due to a broad and coordinated deployment of 14,847 domestic and 783 international observers. Establishing an Electoral Observation Resource Centre served as a clearinghouse for all information related to election observation, and coordinated for 20,882 polling centres in 9,801 polling locations across the country.

Collaborative Leadership and Dialogue (CLD) project strengthened the national and local capacities and mechanisms for collaboration, dialogue, and conflict management. Total 648 leaders from political parties (33%), civil society (36%), and government (5%) including 5 Ministries developed their skills on collaborative leadership and dialogue at national and local levels by 62 Master Trainers. Involvement of capacitated local actors helped developing an agreement of mutual non-aggression (not to attack each other demonstration) and lessened tensions in May 2012 in context of localized tensions between Tharu and Pahadi communities in the Kailali district.

To foster informed and robust public discussion of Transitional Justice issues, CLD together with MoPR supported the Transitional Justice Resource Center (TJRC) run by the World Vision Advocacy Forum. Around 877 people were sensitised on transitional justice related issues through 14 fortnightly meetings. The publication of multiple opinion pieces by prominent journalists in support of collaborative leadership and dialogue acted as keys to overcoming the nation’s political difficulties. An intensive media campaign (24 episodes of radio talk programmes, 12 episodes of a radio magazine) also promoted positive messages related to collaborative leadership and dialogue to reduce tensions in the communities. During this project period, around 8 newsletters were published and 6,000 copies were distributed among different people.

UNESCO implemented the project ‘Planning effective delivery of education for fostering peace in a future federal state’ with an aim to contribute to Nepal’s peace and development process by generating understanding and dialogue on how to deliver inclusive, non-discriminatory and efficient public services within a future federal state. As delivery of quality education depends on the capacity of education officials, a total of 22 education officials (7 female) of Ministry of Education (MoE) were capacitated on different models for an inclusive and effective education system in Nepal. The project prepared a resource kit for education of journalists to improve debate on the education system in a future federal Nepal.

An Education and Federalism Support Desk was established at MOE. This was supported by the Education and Federalism Support Group (EFSG), along with reference groups to provide inputs for relevant themes of education and continuity of education services more effectively in the future restructuring process of the state in federalism. Till the end of the project, a total of eight research papers on relevant themes identified by the EFSG were developed by the education experts through wider consultation processes with key stakeholders, including parents, SMC members, government officials, teachers, local experts etc. These papers formed the basis of evidence-based discussions across the country at national and sub-national levels. In addition, around 40 people (6 female) were trained on planning and monitoring of effective delivery of education in decentralised environment. This project developed options for the restructuring of the education sector including options for resource transfers, teacher training, curriculum development, governance architecture, staffing and recruitment of qualified teachers, timing, oversight and accountability, and costing of education system.

3.C.3 Recovery/Quick Impact Project

The purpose of the different interventions in this cluster was to support the time sensitive and high impacts projects to address the absence of peace dividend particularly for vulnerable communities. The table below provides an overview of the UNPFN funded project under this cluster.

Table 3-4: Recovery/Quick Impact Project Cluster Overview of projects

Project Number and Title	Project Duration (Start-End)	Participating Organization(s)	Net Funded Amount US\$
UNPFN/C-2 Piloting Land Registration and Preliminary Land Management Intervention in Selected Parts of Achham District (FAO)	Jul 2010 –Jan 2011	FAO	49,529
TOTAL			49,529

Achievements

This pilot project was jointly implemented by FAO and MoLRM in close collaboration with local partners to recover/replace the land records destroyed in 2002 in the Achham district. Land tenure security and possibility of mortgage enhanced in the piloted villages through this project, ultimately reduced the possibilities of land related conflicts and risk of encroachment of public lands. During the project period, a total of 480 hectares of land of Vajjnath VDC of Achham district was surveyed using a mixed of tools. A total of 125 land titles destroyed during the conflict were recovered and issued to the original land owners at the end of the project. As a pilot of scientific land reform programme, this project ensured the participation of community people in land survey without any disputes among the land owners relate to issuance of new land certificates.

3.C.4 Rights and reconciliation

The purpose of interventions in this cluster is to assist initiatives related to Transitional Justice, and national monitoring mechanisms of the peace process and local reconciliation. The table below provides an overview of the projects as of 31 December 2015 under this cluster.

Table 3-5: Rights and Reconciliation Cluster Overview of projects

Project Number and Title	Project Duration (Start-End)	Participating Organization(s)	Net Funded Amount US\$
00067444 UNPFN/E-1 Surveillance and Programme Targeting for Post-Conflict Reconciliation	Jul 2007 – Dec 2007	WFP, OCHA	489,610
00067450 UNPFN/E-1a Surveillance and Programme Targeting for Post-Conflict Reconciliation – Phase II	Dec 2008 - Jun 2009	WFP	398,153
00072386 UNPFN/E-3 Training Women Journalists in the Terai	Sep 2009 - Dec 2009	UNESCO	19,666
00074663 UNPFN/E-6 Partnership for Equality and Capacity Enhancement (PEACE): Towards Implementation of UNSCRs 1325/1820	Mar 2010 - Mar 2012	UN WOMEN	525,000
00085973 UNPFN/E-7 Technical Assistance to the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction in the Implementation of Psychosocial Counselling and Support Services to Conflict Affected Persons	Mar 2013 – Jun 2014	IOM	461,741
00095796 UNPFN/E8 Building the Foundation for Access to Justice and Reparations for Conflict Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) survivors	Jun 2015 – Dec 2015	IOM, UNFPA	400,638
TOTAL			2,294,808

Achievements

Surveillance and Programme Targeting for Post-Conflict Reconciliation project enabled a common targeting mechanism by facilitating civil affairs monitoring and providing real-time data from 38 conflict affected districts. During the two phases of the project, a total of 5626 maps were prepared considering the security, cantonment, IED, logistics, CAFAAG, administrative boundaries, etc. including 345 thematic maps and 86 reference maps. Apart from that, a 2,558 households survey in 323 VDCs provided evidence based analysis on the poorest and conflict affected districts and facilitated the monitoring activities by UNMIN. This project also made possible the evidence and need based targeting for partner UN agencies due to a desk-top study and availability of primary information disaggregated by gender and social inclusion on food security, water and sanitation, migration, and conflict factors across 38 districts.

Basic journalism skill, and knowledge on conflict and gender based reporting and human rights were improved for 25 women journalists in the Terai districts including participants from Sarlahi, Siraha, Dhanusha, Mahottari, Bara, Parsa, Rauthat and Saptari districts. Confidence for doing fair and fact based journalism was also improved due to a personal security training and formation of a network of journalists. Before the training the situation of women journalists in Terai was very much challenging: the women often faced threats and violence, but did not receive support from their families or employees. The training did not only provide them with the basic security skills, but gave them a feeling that they are not alone as they have a women journalist platform to interact and share experiences and seek peer support in difficult situations. The project also prepared a handbook and a documentary film to support their learning.

The format of the training was also perceived as a good practice as it gave enough time for learning and practice, for example, three modules within a time period of 7 months combined with practical internships was successful to the extent that it could be replicated as a good practice. The collaboration between a relatively large number of project partners of heterogeneous background also turned out to be a good lesson as the UN agencies and INGOs brought to the table the expertise in media development and human rights, while the local media organizations provided the project with in-depth knowledge on media in Nepal.

One of the key achievements of the PEACE project is the approval and launching of the National Action Plan (NAP) on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 in February 2011 both in Nepal and abroad. The NAP is a collaborative effort where 17 relevant Ministries had been brought together for implementation, which was coordinated by the MoPR. The collaborative effort enabled the relevant ministries to incorporate policies favoring conflict affected women and girls in their own plans. Within two years after the endorsement of NAP, MoPR was able to establish a gender unit within the ministry, localizing the NAP and making provisions for ensuring that conflict affected women are reached by the interim relief packages for victims.

The PEACE project also enhanced the capacities of 300 stakeholders including government officials, political leaders, journalists and civil society members on NAP. With technical support from the project, six ministries had prepared project proposals which were approved by the NPTF and relevant ministries. The relevant ministries had received NPR 350 million from the NPTF in 2012 for these projects. In total, 28 DDCs were activated for the implementation of the NAP at the district level. On the other hand, the NAP Nepali booklet is the summary of the NAP document and serves as a quick reference that also contributed in sensitizing local people. The NAP Nepali booklet has been translated into six different local languages (Newari, Magar, Tamang, Maithili, Bhojpuri and Tharu). About 500 copies of booklets of each language had been distributed to the relevant stakeholders. The gender responsive operational guidelines on the economic empowerment of conflict affected women contributed to the implementation of the Relief and Recovery pillar of the NAP, which focuses on the economic empowerment of conflict affected women.

Technical Assistance (TA) project was instrumental in bringing the issue of psychosocial counselling and services into the mainstream transitional justice (TJ)/Reparations discourse in Nepal. Its victim-centric approach provided a clear opportunity to focus more on victims taking the restorative approach as TJ is fundamentally meant to do. Special needs of women and girls were integrated into the field implementation manual (FIM), monitoring guideline and tools, MIS database, and outreach strategy for MoPR's programme for psycho-social support and services (PSS). These guidelines and tools provided a strong foundation for future programming. In total, 552 participants (181 female) from various national and district level government and non-government organisations were consulted to prepare the implementation guideline. A total of 59 officials including 29% female were trained on gender sensitive programme planning and implementation. Significant progress had been made to accelerate the participation 4.1⁴, promotion 1.7⁵, 2.3⁶ and relief and recovery 1.6⁷ of NAP UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 components during the project period.

The project 'Building the Foundation for Access to Justice and Reparations for Conflict Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) survivors' jointly implemented by IOM and UNFPA addressed the needs of the survivors of CRSV. After implementation of the first phase with support from partner UN agencies, the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction initiated the process of extending NAP on UNSCR 1325 and 1820 –2nd Phase. This project developed a case management protocol related to referral of and service provision to victims of conflict related sexual violence during the implementation of the psychosocial counselling services. The trained psychosocial counselors provided counseling services to 87 survivors in the project period. 169 were referred for other services such as police, legal, safe house or health care. GBVIMS strengthened the case recording system: during June to December 2015, a total of 306 cases were reported, among which 7 rapes, 18 sexual assault and, 119 physical assault, 62 denial of resources and 100 psych/emotional abuse. In total, 22 Psychosocial counselors from 10 NGOs, 16 psychosocial counselors from 16 OCMCs and 9 government officials were trained

⁴ "Enhance advocacy skills of public servants, political activists, human rights defenders, journalists and organisations..."

⁵ "Disseminate information on relief and reparation in a transparent manner"

⁶ "Build the capacity of the members, especially women members, of the Local Peace Committees constituted in the district and the Municipality/ VDC level"

⁷ "Make necessary arrangements for the treatment and rehabilitation of women who are mentally disturbed due to conflict and whose families have not been identified"

on concepts of Conflict and Gender Sensitivity as well as Human Rights Based Approach. Moreover, a total of 232 health workers received orientation on clinical management of rape. Each district hospital that hosted training received post rape treatment kits along with proper orientation on how to use them.

d) Strategic results of the UNPFN

This section looks at the results of the UNPFN at the highest level of the Fund. In particular, it reflects on how the UNPFN has implemented some of the key components of the Fund TORs.

The UNPFN has been more than just a basket of projects. The Fund has been defined by a number of 'key features'.

- The Fund has delivered focused, time-limited support for urgent peace process tasks. Particularly when the Fund was managed under the UN Mission in Nepal (UNMIN), and chaired by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG), the Fund provided essential resources to complement monitoring and technical assistance with services and supplies. A concrete example of a rapid response to an urgent short-term requirement and gap was the provision of basic clothing and amenities (blankets, jacket, shoes, track suits, socks and woolen caps) to all 19,602 verified members of the Maoist Army in advance of their first winter in cantonments.
- The Fund has provided rapid, flexible responses sensitive to the needs of Nepal's transition. The UNPFN has been able to draw on the capacities of a range of UN agencies, also with the ability to bring in colleagues from other missions. For example, a joint UNCT team with over 70 personnel from UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNMIN and OHCHR undertook discharge operations for 2,973 Verified Minors and Late Recruits across seven main cantonments, commencing only 22 days after the discharge agreement. Over time, in response to the changing situation on the ground, the UNPFN has gone from funding immediate, short-term peacebuilding priorities to increasing its focus on the peace and development nexus.
- The UNPFN complements the NPTF and other existing mechanisms by focusing only on tasks that cannot be funded or implemented through existing mechanisms. Through the UNPFN, the UN has been able to implement its comparative advantages including being an impartial third party, in support of the peace process. Tasks such as the clearance of mine fields and the registration and verification of Maoist army personnel required for political reasons to be undertaken by an independent entity. Alignment and coordination with the NPTF has been ensured through various means. The NPTF Director has been a member of the UNPFN decision-making body, the Executive Committee. The UNPFN has provided the NPTF Board and NPTF-Donor Group meetings with presentations of progress on UNPFN projects and a financial overview; the NPTF Technical Sectoral Clusters were adopted as the body to review UNPFN project proposals before their completion; and alignment between UNPFN funded projects and NPTF pipeline and/or approved projects was documented.
- The UNPFN has ensured a strategic UN approach to support peace-building in Nepal. The UNPFN promoted joint programming amongst two or more agencies, as this was seen as enabling the UN to apply the diverse comparative advantages of multiple agencies to tackle the most difficult peacebuilding issues that often slip between various agency mandates. Joint programming was incentivised in budget allocations: single agency proposals had a budget ceiling of US\$1m, and joint programmes a ceiling of US\$3m. The UNPFN has also been successful in harnessing the different types of UN expertise required for peace-building, with a total of 11 different UN organisations having received funding through the UNPFN.

- The UNPFN has enhanced UN and donor coordination in the interest of more efficient, transparent support to Nepal. The processes to identify the UNPFN Strategic Objectives, and in particular to develop the second Priority Plan, included extensive desk-based exercises and multi-stakeholder consultations. The UNPFN served as the ‘one-stop gateway’ for UN support to the peace process, improving the UN’s engagements and partnerships with donors as well as the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR) and NPTF.
- The most ‘catalytic’ role of the UNPFN can be said to have been to promote, advocate and ensure that peace-building remains on the agenda during the long-grind of Nepal’s transition. Funding instruments such as the UNPFN are most catalytic during the unpredictable and volatile medium-term years of a peace transition, laying foundations for future progress on critical issues, but also important for protecting development gains and maintaining the flow of resources as they are drying up.

e) Assessment of Implementation of Cross-cutting issues

The UNPFN efforts to mainstream gender, social inclusion and conflict sensitivity into its strategies and projects have been rewarded with improved impact and identification of good practices. The mainstreaming of these issues was supported through the development of relevant guidelines and guidance notes, paired with regular capacity-building support and orientations.

Gender mainstreaming and social inclusion approaches were essential to ensuring that the intended target groups were able to participate and benefit from projects as intended. Through its efforts, UNPFN was able to ensure that projects were more ‘women-friendly’, through quota systems which were monitored and reported on, the participation of women in projects increased. In addition, UNPFN did see projects addressing special challenges to women’s participation, such as security concerns which restricted women’s movement or family and child care obligations which made women’s participation difficult.

From an inclusion point of view, the efforts to pay attention to and monitor participation of all groups in projects achieved successes as well. For example, one project realized that child support was not just needed by female-headed households, but by a few families where the father was a single-parent. In another case, monitoring of participants showed that intended beneficiaries were not participating in the project due to high levels of illnesses among the intended beneficiary group. After the introduction of additional health support, participation increased significantly.

Conflict sensitivity has been essential as an approach to all programming in Nepal throughout the peace and transition process. For the UNPFN, conflict sensitivity was in practice the implementation of conflict analysis and Do No Harm assessments. Projects themselves went on to adopt relevant mechanisms including feedback mechanisms and dispute settlement mechanisms. Conflict sensitivity was also applied in beneficiary selection. Where the inclusion of only children associated with armed forces and armed groups would have generated the wrong message and resentment at the community level, a proportionate opportunity for vulnerable community children to also participate in project activities, and inputs to support village schools for example, were adopted to lessen the resentment and tension.

f) Lessons learned and good practices

i. Realistic and results-based approach

Projects benefited from integrating international best practices and lessons learned from peacebuilding and development projects. However, successful UNPFN projects found that the project approach and

implementation ultimately had to be adapted to the local context and timeframe, adopting realistic targets and budgeting for the additional needs of vulnerable populations.

Preparing the ground well, pre-positioning supplies and being pre-emptive all facilitated project implementation and countered the challenges of long procurement processes. One project benefitted from being able to second UN staff from another country to bring in needed capacity on short-term notice. Programming that was able to remain opportunistic and flexible was also able to adapt to changes in political will, and to move quickly when circumstances allowed it. Projects benefitted from the identification of strategic entry points, which at times were relatively small, but that enabled opportunistic project expansion. In the politicised environment, some larger initiatives were made possible due to confidence built through smaller initial activities.

Earlier decisions to convene a Mine Risk Education Working Group were strategic, cost-effective and provided a firm foundation for a broader mine action programme when the opportunity for expansion emerged.

Overall, confidence- and trust-building activities, and their peacebuilding results was at times difficult to measure, making per capita costs of the project seem high. However, with respect to addressing the needs of vulnerable populations such as former combatants, it was recognised that availability of and access to services required exceptional measures, and only through assigning the required additional budget could the success of the project be ensured. One UNPFN project evaluation noted that peacebuilding programmes are “not pure development projects; rather, these are highly politically sensitive programmes with security implications and failure to undertake such programmes may have repercussions on the peace process.”⁸

ii. National Ownership

National ownership stemmed from genuine participation going beyond a superficial level of coordination and information-sharing. Achieving ownership of the expected results required the engagement of relevant national partners at the central and district levels, as relevant, from the planning phase and the definition of project goals and target areas. Building respect among stakeholders was a process at all levels, which took both time and effort. Coordination and consultation efforts also needed to be adequately budgeted for.

A comprehensive actor mapping and stakeholder analysis played an important role in ensuring that all the key stakeholders were consulted and engaged in the project, whether government officials, political party representatives, civil society and/or development partners.

Local level planning made it easier to become aware of and address any geographical and life-cycle challenges. Participatory planning ensured that projects were able to implement their activities with the support of local authorities and communities, thereby also building capacities and referral networks that supported the sustainability of projects. Some projects working on sensitive issues at the community level saw that community engagement in the planning processes made them more receptive overall to the project, including for example the inclusion of former combatants in the project.

It should be noted however, that the mechanisms for engagement will and should vary according to the project as well as the characteristics of the stakeholders. Some UNPFN projects noted the challenges of engaging with large stakeholder groups and found that more informal exchanges allowed them to generate interest and ownership effectively. Other projects made specific efforts to expand their coordination groups, experiencing that the engagement of all sides in the same forum promoted information sharing, dialogue, respect and trust.

⁸ UNPFN/A-7 Support to the Rehabilitation of Verified Minors and Late Recruits (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, ILO)

Where coordination was most successful, it was used not only as a project implementation mechanism, but as a way to bring together and enhance cooperation across lines of ethnicity, economic status and political ideology, or between the government bureaucrats and political parties, thereby contributing to peacebuilding in and of itself.

iii. Capacity-development

Projects that tried to pre-empt the negative effect of frequent transfer of officials, whether through adopting a more inclusive approach and training several tiers of officials, or by organising more frequent though less comprehensive trainings, saw more sustainable results. As one project evaluation stated, "Investments in orienting key staff should be balanced with the needs of the whole institution."⁹ With regards to the sustainability of trainings, overall, training programmes that delivered several modules over a longer period of time, with time to apply the skills during practical internships in between the modules, built much stronger capacities than one-off trainings. Sequencing the trainings allowed participants to build confidence to apply their skills at the end of the programme.

A different type of capacity-building success was met by projects that integrated capacity-building into project management. Such projects found positive results in the ability of local partners to expand their programming scope and become activated in specialised fields at the completion of the project or of national partners thereafter having enhanced capacity to implement their mandate.

Capacity-building efforts targeted at community based actors played a catalytic role in mobilising them as advocates and guardians of children's rights and protection. These capacity-building efforts have had wider and longer lasting effects as a majority of the partners have expanded their scope, engaging in other areas of rights and protection issues.

As the Election Commission had full ownership of the project, adequate transfer of skills and know-how took place to empower the Election Commission to implement similar future undertakings on its own.

Meeting a different challenge, which was ensuring that those trained would be able to use their skills, required working also with stakeholders on the demand side and in particular with the private sector. For example, with regards to vocational training, besides the beneficiaries of the training itself, it was important to support job identification by establishing networks with potential employers. Projects that worked and lobbied with scholarship providers, employers, business development services and even the beneficiaries' family members, significantly strengthened the opportunities of capacity-building activities leading to gainful employment. Support to promote the employability of training beneficiaries was particularly applicable in the case of vulnerable groups such as women and former combatants.

A project providing trainings to a group formerly associated with the Maoists mitigated the effect of an apparent lack of employment opportunities following the trainings and the negative perceptions of employers towards this group of beneficiaries by:

- *Creating collaborative networks with the private sector;*
- *Providing mentoring services by business professionals;*
- *Signing an MoU with the Government of Nepal Youth and Small Entrepreneurs Self-Employment Fund, to secure beneficiaries access to loans without collateral.*

iv. Sustainability and replicability

Sustainability and replicability were strongest in projects that had planned and considered the project handover and exit strategies already at the project design and inception phase. Identification of the project

⁹ PBF/NPL/E-1: Fairness and Efficiency in Reparations to Conflict-Affected Persons (IOM/OHCHR)

target area benefitted from a consideration of existing referral services or other programmes to which project components could be handed over to at the end of the project. Sustainability particularly of district level activities and/or mechanisms was to a large extent dependent on availability of resources after project closure. In one project this was addressed through capacitating networks established by the project to apply for funds at the local level, with which they were able to remain active after the project completion. In some projects, aligning referral mechanisms with national structures ensured sustainable support for project beneficiaries. Linking capacity-building activities with national certification programmes or to meet the needs of the national employment market similarly enhanced the potential for training beneficiaries to continue their studies or become gainfully employed at the end of the project. (Although these two were not always necessarily aligned: in some cases, there was a need for skilled workers in areas not met through the national certification systems, for example in the case of a new emerging field.) Ultimately, a context analysis which allowed the project to address a gap in needed capacities enhanced the value of capacity-building services particularly for groups such as ex-combatants who may otherwise have been disadvantaged.

Agencies that were able to create linkages between their ‘peacebuilding’ and ‘development’ projects and avoid operating these projects in silos were also more likely to ensure sustainability for project activities, and to link activities and beneficiaries across projects.

Projects related to child protection came close to achieving a systematic impact by leading to lasting adjustment in the state legislation with regards to child rights protection.

Active knowledge-sharing with relevant partners enhanced opportunities for project replicability. According to its TOR, the UNPFN provided funding for projects that were meant to be ‘catalytic’ or ‘pilot’ projects. Therefore, projects that actively shared their approaches and activities with partners advanced dialogue on how their activities could be built on or replicated. This required planning, as well as budgeting for the completion and dissemination of a thorough project evaluation.

One project redesigned a number of project components to converge with the interests of another development partner and the Ministry counterpart, enabling two projects to support each other with complementary components in a manner responsive to the contextual and environmental dynamics.

v. Comparative advantages

As an impartial actor, the UN agencies were recognized as valuable partners in peacebuilding with leverage to influence the parties to the conflict, but also wider public opinion. The UN agencies played an important role in advancing key global instruments or international standards such as UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1612, where the UN has specialised expertise and experience. In some projects, issues addressed were very political. When necessary, participating UN organisations turned to more senior UN officials, including the Resident Coordinator, or even resorted to high-level advocacy by Special Envoys of the UN Secretary-General to address sensitive issues.

The contribution of technical assistance and specialized expertise, drawing on international experience, seemed to be of particular value in the peacebuilding context. Some UN agencies had technical assistance as stand-by capacity available from other countries and could mobilise it as a means to respond to rapidly developing situations on the ground in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

In UNPFN programmes, sometimes the process was as important as the outcome. In discussing transitional justice issues, for example, emphasising experiences from other countries, which the UN could legitimately do due to its global presence, rather than obligations under international law, was crucial to allowing the negotiation process to move forward. The conclusions of this process were mostly compliant with international law.

The UNPFN was recognized as a valuable source of funding at the initial stages of the peace process, and also for being able to respond rapidly to emerging opportunities to provide strategic support. The process for selecting concept notes was seen as efficient and effective, and as a way to promote coherence amongst diverse stakeholders. The Fund created both an opportunity for resource mobilisation and a way to reduce overhead costs. The UNPFN has also been able to transform to meet the needs of the peace process from funding immediate peace agreement implementation to longer term peacebuilding needs. Additionally, the Fund mechanism has increased the number of UN agencies involved in peacebuilding activities, which in turn has resulted in the wider mainstreaming of peacebuilding into the agencies' programmes. Finally, the UNPFN has been recognised for increasingly emphasising the role of women in conflict resolution and peacebuilding through its policies, structures and programmes.

However, since an overall M&E framework to track the impact of UNPFN projects on peacebuilding has only been in place since 2014, it is not yet possible to fully assess to what extent the overall project portfolio has contributed to peacebuilding in Nepal.

vi. Management arrangements

The UN was recognised for being able to mobilise large-scale and big logistical operations when needed. For example, efforts to support the discharge process in 7 cantonment sites brought together 70 UN personnel from three different agencies and massive logistics; this was completed in thirty-eight days. The UN was praised for its professionalism, transparency, discretion, and cohesiveness, building on various agencies' comparative advantages and different technical capacities from protection and gender to monitoring and media communications. Collaboration among colleagues from various organisations and the pooling of technical expertise contributed to a deeper understanding of the issues by beneficiaries, partners as well as participating UN agencies.

UNMAT was able to readily draw upon specialized expertise and tools from within the international mine action community, obviating the need for significant investments in a comparatively small programme which cannot capture economies of scale.

The capacity of many agencies to call on technical support from their regional offices and/or headquarters was also recognised, although with the caveat that this required planning to ensure that it was done in a timely manner. Some agencies were also able to rely on their regional office or headquarters for human resources capacity during the project initiation stage. This indicated a good practice in taking interim measures to initiate relevant project activities even before the hiring of the project manager was completed. One UN agency implementing a project consulted UN colleagues in a different agency for technical assistance to enhance the project's gender and protection components.

It was also important, particularly for projects working on sensitive issues, to recognise the stress under which their staff was working, and provide support to alleviate the stress and enhance staff well-being.

One project organised a "Care for caregivers" workshop to address the well-being of staff and alleviate the trauma on service providers of providing counselling services to victims of various violence and abuse.

In joint projects, balancing was required to build on agencies' comparative advantages on the one hand, and adopt a systemic approach to project planning and implementation on the other. To find this balance, agencies had to take time to understand each other's expectations and assumptions with respect to the project as well as the team work, and to plan and implement activities jointly.

Having an agency (and/or individual) who played a strong leadership role enhanced the cohesiveness of the team effort. In one project, strong leadership that stemmed beyond the UN agencies to coordination with

key government counterparts positively impacted on project results. What was evident was that personal relationships do matter, and are worth investing in. Of course, the cyclical changeover in staff was a challenge, perhaps even more than in the case of development projects due to the shorter time-frame of peacebuilding projects.

Good practices in project administration revolved around ensuring that there was agreement on what the project would do and on the partners' roles and responsibilities. In many cases, jointly agreed and documented guidelines and MoUs advanced cooperation and project implementation. As one project report noted, a "multi-sectoral response works when sectors understand each other's roles."¹⁰ These ranged from camp guidelines for the administration of reproductive health camps to MoUs with government ministries, which established joint accountability for project activities. In one project, having a MoU with partner ministries also helped to counter the challenges of government changes and turnover, as it at least prevented new governments from fully withdrawing from the programme.

One project ensured central level clarity and written agreements on all technical issues, through their inclusive Steering Committee. This reduced the number and range of demands that could unilaterally be made of the project at the district level.

Furthermore, the nomination at the central level of focal points at each project implementation site to cooperate with the UN was crucial for successful project implementation.

vii. Partnerships

Peacebuilding is a multi-faceted process and therefore rarely something an agency can achieve on its own. Each agency has its own mandates and networks which accordingly allow them to work in different issue areas and with different spheres of influence. The decisions about partnerships in UNPFN projects were therefore strategic; they determined access to certain issue areas or beneficiary populations, as well as the potential geographical scope of the project.

Identification and recognition of each implementing partners' comparative advantage and expertise at the beginning of the project allowed some projects to programme and benefit accordingly. Similarly, identifying any weaknesses in the capacities of implementing partners and defining a mitigation strategy to address them prevented these from disrupting project implementation. For example, one project needed to work with local implementing partners for conflict sensitivity; however, to ensure project success, it became necessary to build these partners' capacities in programme reporting, record keeping and financial management.

Finally, partnerships had to be well managed. Information sharing and a division of labour between different implementing partners was important to avoid duplication and over-lap.

viii. Monitoring and evaluation

For most successful projects, monitoring and evaluation was located at the core of project implementation. Projects that had baselines and were able to establish targets were further able to monitor the inclusion of specific beneficiary groups in their projects. The monitoring systems based on gender and inclusion sensitive indicators and indicators that measured good practices and standards of one project were cost-effective and appropriate. If disaggregated data showed that certain stakeholder groups were not accessing services, the project could take additional steps to find out why this was and make necessary project modifications.

¹⁰ PBF/NPL/B-4: Ensuring recognition of sexual violence as a tool of conflict in the Nepal peace building process through documentation and provision of comprehensive services to women and girl victims/survivors (UNFPA/UNICEF)

One UN agency included results management duties in their service provider contracts to highlight the importance of monitoring activities. These performance based contracts were accompanied by relevant trainings to their partners.

It was necessary for projects to ensure adequate human resources for regular monitoring. Mechanisms to provide feedback based on the monitoring activities were important, and a way for the project to make needed changes to implementation. Several projects established effective information management tools that supported project monitoring. Documenting and disseminating lessons learned was valuable both for the participating UN organisation but also for others implementing similar projects.

For some projects, field missions were a way to engage in participatory planning with local level stakeholders. Joint monitoring missions garnered ownership and support from higher level stakeholders, and were a way to show support to the local level implementing partners.

Client-exit surveys as well as debriefing meetings with local stakeholders were effective ways to share achievements but also gather information on how to improve the quality of services. They also enabled a discussion on potential local support to project beneficiaries at the conclusion of the project.

ix. Reflection of cross-cutting issues

Some successful projects recognised that vulnerable groups needed particular support to be able to access and/or benefit from services. Particularly ex-combatants needed extensive individual support to ensure initial participation as well as low drop-out rates. It was important to recognise the experiences of conflict affected persons and adopt an approach which reflected respect for and sensitivity towards these experiences. One project working on rehabilitation found that it was important to identify the individual's personal coping mechanisms, and respect and build on them. Additionally, a safe space was to be created for all participants to discuss their needs and concerns in a confidential manner.

One project discreetly registered a number of beneficiaries with particular protection concerns including lack of acceptance by family, security risks in the community, and war trauma. Through implementing partners, these cases were provided with specific support such as accompaniment, mediation with family members, emergency shelter, and medical treatment.

Many projects had to address special challenges to women's participation, such as security concerns which restricted women's movement or family and child care obligations which made women's participation difficult. However, projects needed to consider vulnerabilities further to be successful. Each project needed to identify which of their project beneficiaries were the vulnerable ones. In some cases, for example, the mobility and/or child care restrictions did not only apply to women and girls, but also to single (male) parents and disabled. For some rural communities or the elderly there were language or literacy issues that prevented their access to services, or they were intimidated to undertake the associated, what they felt were complex, administrative procedures. In some projects, a community based approach was needed to address some restrictions to participation. For example, in rehabilitation projects, working with the family in the Nepal environment for the acceptance of former combatants back into society was the most efficient way to ensure that their communities would also accept them.

Some projects made commendable efforts through project monitoring and mid-term assessments to review any of their beneficiaries' vulnerabilities and to make modifications in their projects to address these. However, ensuring that this analysis was done already in the planning phase was more efficient, as it allowed for adequate budgeting for the additional support needs.

One project established child care grants and babysitting support during trainings to ensure that single

*parents and women were able to attend.
In addition, the project increased the transportation allowance to beneficiaries from remote areas.*

There is also a clear difference between ‘women-friendly projects’ and ‘gender-sensitive projects’. The former makes services available for women; the latter addresses masculinities and femininities and assists women to become agents for change. Gender-sensitive projects went beyond opening up participation to women, to taking specific measures to address the quality of services and women’s access to them. For example, providing female counsellors to counsel women is ‘women-friendly’; providing ‘gender-sensitive counselling’ means building the capacity of counsellors to promote women’s empowerment and provide counselling on gender-based violence. To ensure effective gender-mainstreaming within the projects, not only the project management had to be adequately trained, but implementing partners as well.

x. Conflict sensitivity

One project that successfully integrated conflict sensitivity into programme implementation noted that this success was built on senior management level support and commitment to conflict sensitivity, as well as resources and space to ensure that all project staff from the central to field levels was trained on conflict sensitivity.

A few UNPFN projects anticipated potential conflict in relation to their activities, and established feedback mechanisms and/or conflict-resolution mechanisms. As one project noted, awareness of potential divisions in society was important, but it was equally important not to take beneficiary groups (for example women) or communities as homogeneous in their priorities. Understanding underlying power dynamics supported projects in understanding the differing viewpoints.

Equally important to the conflict analysis was the ability to analyse and identify opportunities the project had to promote overall coordination and dialogue between various groups. Although the aim of the project could have been something generally non-controversial, bringing opposing groups together in project planning and implementation forums and thereby initiating relationships between them potentially gave way to the groups’ cooperation also on more contentious issues. One project took specific steps to ensure that its overall training methodologies and materials, even if on technical issues, communicated values of non-discrimination and social harmony.

One project identified an implementation modality that was not obtrusive, invasive or imposing to discuss sensitive topics. As a result, a candid process of mostly off-the record discussions, with various methods was deployed to ensure participants felt they were setting the agenda and never lost face with their questions or positions.

Communication is one of the key tools for conflict sensitivity. And particularly in a post-conflict, highly charged situation, everything the projects did contributed to that communication: who was included in project consultations, what pictures were used in project reports, and which implementing partners were recruited. Terminology is also extremely important and may convey different implicit messages in different contexts.

In Nepal, UNPFN projects chose not to give cash benefits to child soldiers so as to ensure that participation of minors in armed groups would not be perceived as beneficial.

In another instance, a rehabilitation project chose not to use the term ‘psycho-social support’ and offered instead ‘meetings with a social worker’, as the term psycho-social support generated discrimination in the society.

By taking a proactive approach to communication, projects ensured that correct information on the project, its goals and beneficiaries was disseminated. At its most basic level, an effective communication strategy ensured that all potential beneficiaries were aware of the services, thereby increasing the participation in the project and often its cost-effectiveness. It was important to ensure consistent messaging at the national and local levels. Naturally, forms of communication had to be relevant for the level at which they were intended. At the community level, harnessing community service providers to disseminate information was effective.

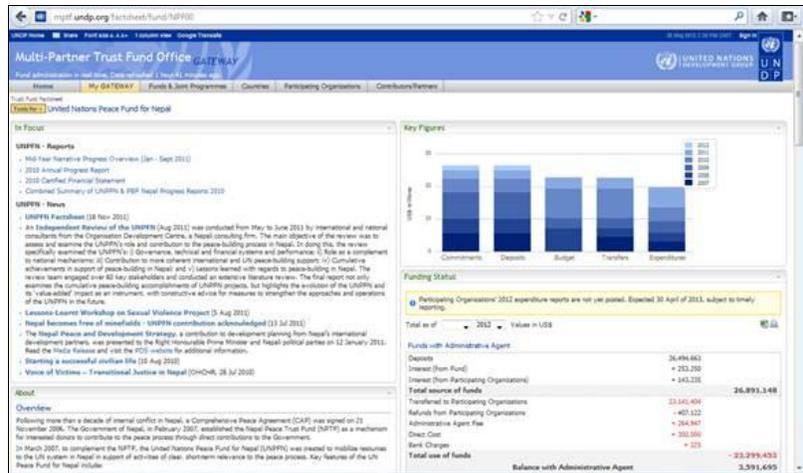
Communication was also essential to managing expectations related to the project and the scope of its services. What services are provided and to whom can fuel dividers in a society emerging from conflict. For one project providing more than one service package, it was important for all packages to appear to have an approximate parity of value.

As a result of community level information dissemination activities, the number of beneficiaries approaching the project service providers increased significantly. On the other hand, individual counselling and mentoring services had to be initiated with beneficiaries to control the expectations that others, such as peers and family members, were raising.

4. Transparency and Accountability of the UNPFN

The major vehicle for public transparency of operations under the UNPFN was the MPTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mptf.undp.org>), with a dedicated UNPFN website (<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/NPFO0>).

Launched in 2011, the MPTF Office GATEWAY continues to serve as a knowledge platform providing real-time data from the MPTF Office accounting system on financial information on donor contributions, programme budgets and transfers to Participating Organizations. It is designed to provide transparent, accountable fund-management services to the UN's system to enhance its coherence, effectiveness and efficiency.



Screenshot of the UNPFN website on the MPTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/NPFO0>)

Each MPTF and JP administered by the MPTF Office has its own website on the GATEWAY with extensive narrative and financial information on the MPTF/JP, including on its strategic framework, governance arrangements, eligibility and allocation criteria. Annual financial and narrative progress reports and quarterly/semi-annual updates on the results being achieved are also available. In addition, each programme has a Factsheet with specific facts, figures and updates on that programme.

The GATEWAY provides easy access to more than 9,000 reports and documents on MPTFs/JPs and individual programmes, with tools and tables displaying related financial data. By enabling users in the field with easy access to upload progress reports and related documents, it also facilitates knowledge-sharing and management among UN agencies. The MPTF Office GATEWAY, in only its second year of operations, is already being recognized as a 'standard setter' by peers and partners.

All UNPFN Participating Organizations' annual or end-of-project reports on individual projects are available on the GATEWAY.

ANNEX

UNPFN Monitoring and Evaluation Framework (Strategic Overview, all projects 2007-2016)

The following table provides a synopsis of the cumulative key results of UNPFN funded projects. Structured around the UNPFN priority clusters, it articulates how the projects, through achieving key outputs, contribute to achieve the UNPFN's strategic outcomes. This structure is used as the basis of the UNPFN Monitoring and Evaluation Framework.

UNPFN PRIORITY CLUSTER A. Cantonment/Reintegration	Improve living conditions in the cantonments that Maoist army personnel; register/verify and reintegrate former Maoist army personnel, late recruits and minors; and dispose of mines and other unexploded devices			
UNPFN Strategic Outcome	Contributing Outputs	UNPFN Projects	Status	Key Results
<p>The Government of Nepal and Maoist Army have the capacity to meet the CPA commitments to dispose of all explosive remnants of war (ERW) and mines planted during the conflict; and ensure the standalone national capacity to effectively deal with the remaining landmines, IEDs and other ERWs in Nepal and minimize the number of casualties</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Nepal Army has the capacity to undertake independent clearance operations of anti-personnel minefields to international standards. All anti-personnel minefields and IED fields in Nepal cleared to international standards (UN). Maoist Army ERW are safely stored and destroyed, as per the terms of the CPA. The safety, security and livelihoods of civilians is improved by minimizing the danger posed by landmines / ERW through their safe storage and destruction. A National Mine Action Strategy (NMA) is developed and implemented. MoPR is coordinating mine action activities including Quality Management 	<p>UNPFN/A-1 - Support to IEDD/EOD Operations in Nepal (UNOPS)</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nepal Army and Maoist army supported to fulfill CPA/AMMA requirements, with all 53 mine fields in Nepal cleared (Jun 2011) and 98.5%¹¹ IED fields cleared (Dec 2011) Nepal Army Mine Action Coordination Centre (NAMACC) has developed Mine Action and IED capacity to International standards 100% of 58,000 registered ERW held at Maoist cantonment sites safely stored and destroyed Increased MOPR coordination capacity with National Mine Action Section in place and operational National Technical Standard Guidelines in place and endorsed by inter-ministerial Technical committee¹² and NMA Strategy in place endorsed by inter-ministerial technical committee (Sept 2011) Significant decrease in casualties from IEDS and landmines
<p>The Government of Nepal and Maoist Army have the capacity to meet the CPA and AMMAA commitments for the cantonment, discharge, integration and rehabilitation of the Maoist army</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third-party UN registration and verification of all cantoned Maoist army personnel in accordance with the Agreement on the Monitoring of the Arms and Armies (AMMAA) Improved reproductive health status of cantonment 	<p>UNPFN/A-2 - Verification of the Maoist Army Combatants in the Cantonment Sites (UNDP)</p> <p>UNPFN/A-3 –</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maoist army personnel registered, verified and monitored as required by the CPA and AMMAA, including 19,602 verified personnel, 2,973 verified minors and 1,035 late recruits – records of Maoist army personnel, weapons and ammunitions filed into the “DREAM” Database Improved conditions for those Maoist army

¹¹ 100% to be cleared by mid-2012 by the Nepal Army

¹² Further approved by the Mine Action Technical Committee and the Steering Committee in March 2012

<p>inhabitants (particularly women) and immediate surrounding communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strategy immediately available to facilitate the Maoist army discharge and provide rehabilitation assistance • Orderly discharge of verified minors and late recruits (VMLRs) from Maoist army cantonments in line with the AMMAA • The UN is a strategic partner to the GoN that plays key role in providing rapid response to cantonment management, registration & verification, discharge & rehabilitation of Maoist army Personnel • VMLRs are supported in the socio-economic rehabilitation and reintegrated into civilian communities with suitable livelihood options and inline established global standards • Communities engaged in supporting the rehabilitation of VMLR participants 	<p>Support to the discharge of Adult Maoists army Personnel from the cantonment sites (UNDP)</p>		<p>personnel in cantonments, including basic clothing and amenities (blankets, jacket, shoes, track suits, socks and woolen caps) provided to all 19,602 verified members of the Maoist Army</p>
	<p>UNPFN/A-4 - Programme Support for Children and Adolescents Formerly Associated with the Maoist Army in Nepal (UNICEF)</p>	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint UN advocacy and technical advice secured the release of the 4,008 verified minors and late recruits, developing an operational plan to carry out the discharge and socio-economic rehabilitation for the 2,973 minors as per international practices
	<p>UNPFN/A-5 – Support to Female Members of the Maoist Army (UNFPA)</p>	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved reproductive health status of all female Maoist combatants and one-third of women from immediate surrounding communities – 11,161 people in total provided services through 30 RH clinics in cantonments
	<p>UNPFN/A-6 - Discharge and Reintegration Assistance to Maoist Army (UNDP)</p>	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint UNCT team with over 70 personnel from UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNMIN and OHCHR undertake discharge operations for 2,394 VMLRs across seven main cantonments, commencing only 22 days after the discharge agreement • The discharge process began on 8 Jan 2010 and completed on 23 Mar 2010
	<p>UNPFN/A-7- Support to the Rehabilitation of VMLRs (UNDP-UNICEF-UNFPA-ILO)</p>	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,234 VMLRs (62% male, 38% female) enrolled in one of the offered four rehabilitation packages • 1,802 VMLRs completed their training- 71% of graduates from VCT, ME and health-related training were employed or had started their own business • 1,363 VMLRs were assessed for psychosocial support; 480 received regular follow-up support • Provided cross-cutting services included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Nutritional support to 554 pregnant women, lactating mothers and spouses of male participants; ➤ Child care grants to the parents of 966

¹³ The remaining 1,614 VMLRs were officially discharged in *absentia* through a declaration signed by the UCPN-M in March 2010.

				<p>children;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Maternity/paternity allowances for 73 participants • 151 peacebuilding activities, events, and sensitizations were held in the communities of resettlement with around 34,392 VMLR and community participants: ➤ 72% of respondents have noticed changes in their family's economic situation since receiving rehabilitation support; ➤ 76% of participants were 'satisfied' with the programme option they chose; ➤ 97% of participants are 'happy' in their community; ➤ 70% of local communities had a positive perception of the local impact of the rehabilitation process.
<p><i>Children affected by armed conflict are effectively rehabilitated and reintegrated into communities in adherence with international law and guidelines</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthened capacity of UNSCR 1612 Task Force to monitor, document, verify and report on grave child rights violations and the compliance with the discharge Action Plan • Nepali child protection actors, including state entities, have strengthen capacity to monitor, document, verify and respond to grave child rights violations • Enhanced capacity of the government to implement the National Plan of Action for the Reintegration of Children Affected by Armed Conflict • Self and informally released CAAFAG and CAAC develop the skills and capacities that facilitate their effective reintegration into communities 	<p>UNPFN/A-8 - Monitoring, reporting and response to conflict related child rights violations (OHCHR - UNICEF)</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UCPN-M was delisted from the UN Secretary-General's Annual Global report on CAAC for successful implementation of the Action Plan for the discharge of verified minors and late recruits from the Maoist army (June 2012) • A referral mechanism in 30 districts established to support children at risk and to refer cases warranting emergency intervention • 4,281 informally and self released CAAFAG and other children affected by armed conflict (CAAC) provided reintegration support in 39 districts • 62% of the 4,281 supported CAAFAG/CAAC cases closed as a result of successful reintegration
<p>UNPFN PRIORITY CLUSTER B.</p>		<p>▪ Provide technical advice and logistic support on elections, constitutional issues; and provide assistance to restore government at local level</p>		

<i>Elections/Governance/Mediation</i> <i>UNPFN Strategic Outcome</i>	<i>Contributing Outputs</i>	<i>UNPFN Projects</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Key Results</i>
<i>Public confidence in the conduct of the Constituent Assembly election and overall legitimacy of the elected Constituent Assembly</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nepal Election Commission (NEC) capable of addressing challenges and in implementing the Constituent Assembly election an improves key organisational and procedural aspects of the electoral process to meet international electoral standards • A detailed assessment of the CA election process to provide the basis for the NEC to improve conduct of future elections and identifies strategic areas of support for future technical assistance by donors • The coordinated deployment of domestic and international observers during the election enabled independent mechanism to strengthen public confidence and legitimacy of the electoral process • The deployment of domestic and international observers coordinated ensure full national coverage of election observation • Electoral Observation Resource Centre as a coordination clearinghouse and repository of resource materials empowers election observers 	<p>UNPFN/B-1 - Electoral Observation Resource Center (UNDP)</p> <p>UNPFN/B-2 - Provision of Specialized electoral Assistance to the Election Commission of Nepal (UNDP)</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Observation Resource Centre Coordinated the deployment of observers during the election enabled an independent mechanism to strengthen public confidence and legitimacy of the electoral process, including hosting 14,847 domestic and 783 international observers • Coverage coordinated for 20,882 polling centres in 9,801 polling locations across the country • NEC addressed challenges in implementing the CA election and improved key organizational and procedural aspects of the electoral process to meet international electoral standards • A detailed assessment of the election provided the basis for NEC future planning and identified strategic areas of further technical assistance
<i>An inclusive and gender-representative culture of dialogue and conflict transformation is expanded and strengthened, contributing to conflict prevention and social cohesion during Nepal's transitional peace-building process</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable capacity on collaboration and dialogue developed for leaders at central and local levels • Better negotiated solutions on peace-building and development related issues • Strengthened national and local capacities and mechanisms for collaboration, dialogue and conflict management 	UNPFN/B-3 - Collaborative Leadership and Dialogue (UNDP)	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 648 leaders from political, civic and government exposed to and trained on CLD • 62 trainers and facilitators are able to apply skills to specific issues • Dialogue Support Facilities opened in Janakpur and Nepalgunj • In Banke, initiated dialogue processes in 4 VDCs and one in the district capital, and completed one public dialogue session • Supported the Transitional Justice Resource Center, together with MoPR, to conduct 14 fortnightly discussions with 877 participants; organize 20 interactions with 584 participants from NGOs and CS; hold four regional and one

				national dialogue on “Transitional Justice process in Nepal”; and publish and distribute 6,000 copies of 8 newsletters.
Constructive dialogue and planning leading to progress on constitution making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Education is prepared to develop and implement needed education sector reforms to ensure access to inclusive and quality education in a future federal state 	UNPFN/B-4 – Planning effective delivery of education for fostering peace in a future federal state (UNESCO)	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported the establishment of an Education and Federalism Support Desk at the Ministry of Education (MoE). Regularly supported by Education and Federalism Support Group (EFSG) including providing hands-on trainings for providing effective education services through micro-planning. A report on Federalism and Education in Nepal is available. Options and possible models for education service delivery submitted to MoE. Provided CA members with information and analysis to comprehensively debate related issues. Prepared a resource kit for education journalists to improve debate on the education system in a future federal Nepal. Local NGOs adopted the project’s materials to carry out discussions on Education in Federalism in local languages (Tharu and Maithili). The National Center for Educational Development (NCED), responsible for teacher training and human resource development, has adopted a project monograph as material for its regular training programmes for school supervisors, district education officers etc.

UNFPN PRIORITY CLUSTER C. Recovery/Quick Impact Projects				
UNFPN Strategic Outcome				
	Contributing Outputs	UNFPN Project(s)	Status	Key Results
Increased opportunities for productive employment and income generating activities for un(der)employed and marginalized poor youth as a contribution to national peace building and poverty reduction in 2 conflicted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20,000 work-days of employment generated through employment intensive infrastructure development At least 3,000 youth jobs created either in wage employment or self employment through skill 	UNFPN/C-1 – Jobs for Peace: 12,500 youth employed and empowered through an integrated approach (FAO-ILO)	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 37,108 paid work-days of employment were created for youth (at least 40% for socially excluded groups) and 2,905 jobs created through youth-led enterprises 1,285 trained youth whose savings increased or business expanded through credit/savings; 3,219 jobs created through skills enhancement

<i>affected districts</i>	<p>enhancement programmes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4,000 jobs created for young people through the establishment of 2,000 youth-led enterprises • 1,000 existing self-employed youth stabilized/ maintained/improved net business income through access to financial education training • 30 youth cooperatives strengthened/formed with linkages to private sector to support at least 3,500 youth cooperative members and their families for increased technical skills and income • 1,000 youth employed through trust fund for youth-led projects • At least 25 youth-led initiatives to empower youth and to promote sports, music and arts financed and running 		<p>training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3,826 trained youth engaged in employment through cooperatives reinforcement 14 • 972 youth employed and empowered through a trust fund for youth-led projects and 36 completed youth-led initiatives to empower youth and to promote sports, music and arts were financed and are currently operational
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UNPFN PRIORITY CLUSTER E. Rights and Reconciliation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assist initiatives related to transitional justice, national monitoring mechanisms of the peace process and local reconciliation 			
UNPFN Strategic Outcome	Contributing Outputs	UNPFN Project(s)	Status	Key Results
UNCT and UNMIN Civil Affairs have the capacity to make evidence-based decisions regarding food insecurity in highly conflict-affected districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis and reporting on food security and conflict issues through field monitors in 35 districts of Nepal. • Household data collected on how communities have been affected by the conflict and the peace process • Analysis of quick impact opportunities for the UNCT and UNMIN, including identification of priority targeting 	UNPFN/E-1 - Surveillance and Programme Targeting for Post Conflict Reconciliation (WFP-OCHA)	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38 districts in which field monitor provides essential support to UNMIN Civil Affairs (out of a total no of 75 districts in Nepal) – producing 48 targeting maps / intervention reports and 26 bulletins / field updates with information disaggregated by gender and social inclusion and other key variables

¹⁴ Note about this indicator: measurement of income generation and employment can only be conducted about 6 months after project completion. Hence the indicator is only limited to measure the prospective employment at the end of the project “engagement”

	<p>areas and of trends in support of peace process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis, reporting, mapping and monitoring of vulnerability factors 			
<p><i>The GoN has the capacity to meet CPA commitments to establish functioning transitional justice (TJ) mechanisms of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and Commission of Inquiry on Disappearance (COI-D) in line with international human rights standards</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislation adopted for the establishment of Col-D and TRC with wide consultation and in line with international human rights standards • Capacity on TJ issues increased amongst MoPR and other key government staff • Enhanced capacity of COI-D and TRC staff, commissioners and systems during the start-up phase • Report, dataset and reference archive prepared from a mapping exercise of the conflict related human rights and humanitarian law violations • Trainings and capacity building activities on TJ conducted by Civil society and I/NGOs at the local level and promotional materials on TJ produced / disseminated • Civil Society Organisations, Victims Groups and National Institutions enabled to support key activities of TRC and COI-D • Increased in understanding of and advocacy for Transitional Justice mechanisms at the local and national levels 	<p>UNPFN/E-2 – “Peace through Justice” - Support to Transitional Justice Institutions and Support to the society built on respect for the rule of law and human rights (OHCHR)</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical and administrative support and advisory services have been provided to MoPR to draft and review the TRC and COID bills under consideration by legislature parliament, including extensive national public consultations with the conflict affected • Draft dataset on alleged violations of IHL and HR law with reference archive of 25,000 digitized documents • Establishment of a Transitional Justice Resource Centre in collaboration with the MoPR. 500 visitors have been benefitted by resources. • 10,207 conflict victims have been organized in networks across 26 districts
<p><i>The GoN has the capacity to put in place effective and transparent structures / procedures for reparations to the victims of the armed conflict</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive GoN policy on reparations prepared • Capacity of the Relief and Rehabilitation Unit and three selected District Administration Offices enhanced to support reparation programs • Processes, guidelines SOPs, forms, procedures for various reparations benefits prepared and tested 	<p>UNPFN/E-4 - Fairness and Efficiency in Reparations to Conflict Affected Persons (OHCHR-IOM)</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping of existing / potential gaps and procedural challenges in the Interim Relief and Rehabilitation Program, including mapping of organizations working on transitional justice issues in Nepal • National public consultation with conflict affected peoples in 51 districts to feed into the drafting of

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a government Reparation Policy • Draft policy presented at PMC15 in October 2011 • Processes, guidelines, SOPs, forms, procedures for various reparations benefits and outreach strategy developed and shared with MOPR • Assisted World Bank EPSP/ESES programme design and test processes, guidelines, SOPs, forms (further using the systems designed for a proposed reparations process)
<p>Improved participation and protection of women, and the delivery of services to conflict affected women strengthen inclusive elements of the Nepal peace process in line with UNSCRs 1325, 1820 and 1612</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling institutional environments to promote and protect women’s human rights in line with UNSCRs 1325 and 1820, and other human rights instruments (especially CEDAW) created by state entities 	<p>UNPFN/E-6 - Partnership for Equality and Capacity Enhancement (PEACE): Towards Implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 (UN WOMEN – OHCHR)</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government endorsed and launched the National Action Plan (NAP) on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 (February 2011) • 300 stakeholders at national and local levels (including officials from key Government ministries, political leaders, civil society members and journalists) oriented on the NAP • Two key ministries supported with technical assistance to submit successful proposals for funding to the Nepal Peace Trust Fund for NAP implementation nationwide • 28 District Development Committees activated for the implementation of the NAP at the district level
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incidences of sexual violence against women and girls during the conflict and post-conflict in Nepal are identified/documented and victims gain access to justice through participation in transitional justice processes • Promote recognition of the incidence of sexual violence in Nepal peace process through access to justice for victims of sexual violence, including through participation in transitional justice processes • Reproductive health (RH) services and psycho-social and legal counselling provided to women and girls in conflict-affected 14 districts 	<p>UNPFN/E-5 - Ensuring recognition of sexual violence as a tool of conflict in the Nepal peace building process through documentation and provision of comprehensive services to women and girl victims/survivors. (UNFPA/UNICEF)</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36,471 women and girls received reproductive health services and 603 clients received surgery for uterine prolapse • 821 cases of SGBV from during and after the conflict documented; 70 cases were identified as conflict related and potentially eligible for consideration in a transitional justice process • 3,551 clients/survivors received psychosocial counseling, 375 were referred for further support • 3,581 women and girls were given general information on their legal rights, out of which 1,000 women/girls were provided specific legal counseling
<p>Accelerated implementation of</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive Psychosocial Counseling and Support 	<p>UNPFN/E-7 –</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated special needs of women and girls into

<p><i>the government's gender and/or social inclusion agendas in line with the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and national plans and policies</i></p>	<p>Services for conflict affected persons with components of NAP on UNSCR 1325 and 1820 successfully implemented and enhanced for national roll out</p>	<p>Technical assistance to the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction in the implementation of psycho-social counselling and support services to conflict affected persons (IOM)</p>		<p>the field draft implementation manual, M&E guidelines and tools, registration MIS database and outreach strategy for Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction's implementation of psycho-social support and services. Supported the Ministry to include access for conflict related sexual violence survivors in their consequent project proposal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced dialogue between government officials and conflict victims in 10 project districts on local needs. • Progress has been made to accelerate participation 4.1¹⁶, promotion 1.7¹⁷, 2.3¹⁸ and relief and recovery 1.6¹⁹ of NAP UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 components.
<p><i>As above</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflict and gender-sensitive services addressing post-conflict needs of victims are available and ready for scale-up 	<p>UNPFN/E8: Building the Foundation for Access to Justice and Reparations for Conflict Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) survivors (IOM, UNFPA)</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported MoPR to initiate implementation of the project 'Provision of Psychosocial Counselling and Support Services to Conflict Affected Persons in Nepal', to deliver psychosocial counselling and support services to conflict-affected persons (CAPs) in Nepal. • Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction initiated the process of extending NAP on UNSCR 1325 and 1820 –2nd Phase recently. • Developed a case management protocol related to referral of and service provision to victims of conflict related sexual violence during the implementation of the psychosocial counselling services. • The trained psychosocial counselors provided counseling services to 87 survivors in the project period. 169 were referred for other services such as police, legal, safe house or health care. • GBVIMS available data based on National Women Commission's agreement with 8 NGOs

¹⁶ "Enhance advocacy skills of public servants, political activists, human rights defenders, journalists and organisations..."

¹⁷ "Disseminate information on relief and reparation in a transparent manner"

¹⁸ "Build the capacity of the members, especially women members, of the Local Peace Committees constituted in the district and the Municipality/ VDC level"

¹⁹ "Make necessary arrangements for the treatment and rehabilitation of women who are mentally disturbed due to conflict and whose families have not been identified"

				<p>nation-wide (June to December 2015): 306 cases reported, among which 7 rapes, 18 sexual assault and, 119 physical assault, 62 denial of resources and 100 psych/emotional abuse.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22 Psychosocial counselors from 10 NGOs, 16 psychosocial counselors from 16 OCMCs and 9 government officials trained on concepts of Conflict and Gender Sensitivity as well as Human Rights Based Approach. • A total of 232 health workers received orientation on clinical management of rape. Each district hospital where training took place received post rape treatment kits along with proper orientation on its use.
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