

# United Nations Peace Fund for Nepal (UNPFN) Project Status Update

For the period of April – June 2011

## 1. Project Overview

<b>Participating UN Organization(s):</b>	UNICEF/OHCHR	<b>UNPFN Project number:</b>	UNPFN/A-8
		<b>UNPBF Project number (if applicable):</b>	UNPBF/NPL/E-2

<b>UNPFN Cluster area:</b>	Cantonment / Reintegration
<b>UNPFN Funding round Strategic Outcome:</b>	
<b>UNPBF Priority area (if applicable):</b>	Strengthening State Capacity for Sustaining Peace
<b>UNPBF PMP Result and indicator (if applicable):</b>	<b>Result 1:</b> Security sector reforms and judiciary systems put in place and providing services and goods at the national and local level that reinforce the Rule of Law (RoL)
	<b>Indicator 1.3 DDR:</b> # of PBF programmes that have successfully integrated ex-combatants into communities

<b>Project Title:</b>	Monitoring, reporting and response to conflict related child rights violations		
<b>National Partners:</b>	Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR), National and local international and national non-governmental organizations (I/NGOs).		
<b>Project start date:</b>	01 January 2010	<b>Original Project end date:</b>	31 December 2011
<b>Revised end date (if applicable):</b>	NA	<b>Anticipated total Project duration:</b>	

<b>Total approved project budget:</b>	USD 2,332,421		
<b>Funds committed and spent to-date by the project:</b>		<b>As % of approved budget:</b>	
<b>Funds spent to-date by the project:</b>	1,117,102.64	<b>Project delivery rate:</b>	48%

## 2. Description of project goal and strategy

The overall goal of the project is to ensure that child protection actors, including state entities, are taking decisive and appropriate actions to prevent and respond to violations of children's rights. Activities will support the stabilization of the peace process by monitoring and responding to violations against children, strengthening child protection systems and by identifying and mitigating factors that increase children's vulnerability to engagement in activities that threaten the peace process.

With the signing of the Action Plan by the Government, UCPN-M and UN regarding the discharge and rehabilitation of disqualified Maoist Army personnel verified as minors, Nepal has taken an important step to comply with the requirement under UN Security Council Resolution 1612 to abolish the use and recruitment of children as soldiers. Similarly, the successful discharge and rehabilitation of the disqualified Maoist Army personnel in line with the UN resolution 1612 will pave the way for the UCPN-M to be removed from the list of parties to conflict recruiting and using children, which is attached to the Annual Reports of the Secretary General on Children and Armed Conflict.

The following complementary components underpin the present project:

**Monitoring and reporting on the discharge and rehabilitation process** and ongoing violations of children's rights, as mandated by Security Council 1612 and 1882, to support evidence based advocacy to stop child rights violations, seek accountability for these violations and ensure that response interventions are effective and well-targeted through referral mechanisms.

Continued provision of appropriate **reintegration support for approximately 7,500 informally or self-released CAAFAG and around 3,000 other CAAC** already supported through UNICEF's CAAFAG

programme, in order to ensure that they are successfully reintegrated into their communities as well as to ensure parity with the reintegration support that the recently discharged minors and post-recruits are offered.

### 3. Overview of progress to-date against project outcomes

Project Outcome(s)	Progress: achievements/results/ outputs delivered to-date	% of planned
<b>OUTCOME 1:</b> Strengthened capacity of child protection actors, including state entities, to monitor, document, verify and respond to grave child violations		
<p>Number of verified and documented cases that have been responded to through established referral mechanisms.</p> <p>Number of child protection actors oriented on 1612 monitoring and reporting mechanism, including UN monitoring mechanism.</p> <p>UN monitoring mechanism established and operational.</p>	<p>The 1612 task force on monitoring and reporting mechanism documented 343 cases of violations involving children out of which 20% were referred to service providers. However, there were no cases of violations falling under the scope of UNSCR 1612.</p> <p>The activities were completed in the previous quarters.</p> <p>The activity was completed in the previous quarters.</p>	<p>Continuous activity</p> <p>100%</p> <p>100%</p>
<p>1.1.1 Provide orientation to the UN monitoring teams on discharge and rehabilitation process and training and technical guidance to 1612 Task Force members on monitoring, documenting, verifying and reporting on grave violations.</p>	<p>The activity was completed in the previous quarters.</p>	<p>100%</p>
<p>1.1.2 Report, document and verify the compliance with the Action Plan on discharge and rehabilitation of disqualified Maoist Army personnel, including through verification missions to different districts.</p> <p>1.1.3 Report, document and verify core child rights violations for submission to the UN Security Council 1612 Annual and Horizontal reports, including through fact finding missions on violations which</p>	<p>Information collected and verified by the UN monitoring team indicates that there are continuing links between some verified minors and the Maoist army, including monthly payments being made to the verified minors and accommodation, in the form of shared housing, being provided in different regions. A small number of verified minors have returned to the cantonment sites. However, there are also social-economic aspects to these continuing links, including difficulties faced by the verified minors in reintegrating into their communities and finding alternative employment. Despite concerns being raised with UCPN-M at the central level and with Maoist army commanders at the cantonment sites, few measures to redress these trends have been observed.</p> <p>The national monitoring team continued meeting with the UCPN-M at the central level to discuss and raise concerns with regard to compliance with the Action Plan.</p> <p>9 global horizontal notes (progress updates) prepared and submitted to the OSRSG-CAAC.</p>	<p>Continuous activity</p> <p>100%</p>

require in depth verification		
1.1.4 Identification of trends and patterns of child rights violations committed in the 58 districts covered by the 1612 Task Force including violations by armed groups in the Terai;	Same as reported in the previous quarter .	Continuous activity
1.1.5 Review the strategies of 1612 monitoring and reporting mechanism	A strategic review meeting on monitoring of the Action Plan was conducted to refine the implementing strategies according to the current country context.	100%
<b>OUTCOME 2:</b> Children are effectively rehabilitated and reintegrated back into their communities (reintegration component).		
<p>Number of CAAFAG (informally and self-released) and CAAC receiving reintegration support, (disaggregated by gender/caste/ethnic group and type of support).</p> <p>Number of informally and self-released CAAFAG and CAAC cases closed due to successful reintegration as per the criteria established in the monitoring sheet for assessment of individual cases.</p> <p>Number of child protection partners trained in reconciliation and peace building activities to support the social reintegration of CAAFAG.</p> <p>Number of CAAFAG/CAAC receiving psychosocial support.</p>	<p>UNICEF has continued providing reintegration support to over 5,776 of CAAFAG and CAAC these in 34 districts. During the reporting period, the UNPFN fund was utilized to support the reintegration of CAACAG and CAAC in nine districts (Makwanpur, Dhading, Ilam, Bhojpur ; Sankhuwasabha; Khotang ; Okaldhunga ; Magydi and Salyan), in which around 427 CAAFAG and 435 CAAC were supported.</p> <p>New agreements were signed with CAAFAG implementing partners for 2011-12 programme. Implementing partners are re-accessing individual cases to determine closure of cases or cases which may require further support in the new project cycle (May 2011-May 2012).</p> <p>Peace building activities were supported in all the CAAFAG programme districts through youth and child clubs. Achievements and challenges were reviewed in order to draw lessons. Accordingly new training plans have been developed and strategies to sustain the peace building activities were discussed. Enhancing life-skill component in the training package (HIV/AIDs; Reproductive Health Issues) have been discussed and agreed.</p> <p>UNICEF has initiated mapping of trained psychosocial workers available in the 75 districts. Initial discussion is underway to maintain updated roster of trained psychosocial workers in a website and allow access to all government and non-governmental actors if they should require their services. Through the CAAFAG reintegration programme, UNICEF and INGOs have trained around 300 psychosocial and para-psychosocial workers in almost 56 districts.</p> <p>UNICEF has been providing psychosocial support to around 1,150 CAAFAG in all programme districts through trained</p>	<p>100%</p> <p>Preparation works completed.</p> <p>Capacity building of partners ongoing.</p>

<p>Number of community stakeholders trained on issues related to children affected by armed conflict</p>	<p>community based social workers. The same network has been providing psychosocial support to over 600 verified minors and late recruits.</p> <p>UNICEF has been discussing strategies with implementing partners to ensure sustainability of child clubs and other community organizations, with little or no external support. As a strategy, implementing partners will be supported to link child clubs with the local governance processes, namely the Child Friendly Local Governance (CFLG), and to access block grants at VDC and district level.</p>	<p>In progress.</p>
<p>2.1.1 Technical assistance to MoPR and MWCSW for effective implementation and monitoring of the National Plan of Action for Children Affected by Armed Conflict</p>	<p>UNICEF supported the printing and launching of the National Plan of Action (approved by the government in December 2010), and is currently supporting the ministry to develop guidelines for its implementation. MoPR has recently requested UNICEF to hire a consultant to provide coordination and technical support.</p>	<p>50%</p>
<p>2.2.1 Training of psychosocial workers to support CAAFAG and CAAC.</p>	<p>A mapping exercise carried out by UNICEF have identified districts in need of more trained psychosocial personnel. Training curriculum is being developed for para-psychosocial with different level of training needs for the identified districts.</p>	<p>In progress.</p>
<p>2.2.2 Training of community stakeholders in 34 districts on issues relating to children affected by armed conflict.</p>	<p>This activity was completed in previous quarters.</p>	<p>100%</p>
<p>2.2.3 Technical support to child protection partners in 34 districts to integrate gender mainstreaming in reintegration support programme.</p>	<p>UNICEF partners in 13 districts conducted gender assessment of CAAFAG and VMLR using the assessment tool developed by UNICEF. Implementing partners are preparing reports and follow-up action plan, to address identified gender-specific needs, based on the assessment findings.</p> <p>Save the Children have requested for the assessment tool to be used in the CAAFAG and other programme districts .</p>	<p>70%</p>
<p>2.3.1 Provision of community based reintegration services, including access to formal and non-formal education, vocational training, income generating activities and social reintegration support to CAAFAG and CAAC</p>	<p>A total of 90% CAAFAG and 95% CAAC received education support. Rest received either advance vocational training or IGA support.</p>	<p>100%</p>
<p>2.4.1 Regular update and analysis of CAAFAG database and production of regular analytical reports</p>	<p>UNICEF has recently upgraded to 3.1 version of the Inter-agency Child Protection database with technical assistance from CAAFAG Interagency team from New York. Schedule for online training of UNICEF and CAAFAG implementing partners' staff is being discussed with UNICEF HQ.</p>	<p>100%</p>

2.4.2 Development and implementation of inter-agency advocacy strategies against misuse and recruitment of children by armed groups in Terai and eastern hill districts	Inter-agency position paper on misuse and recruitment of children by armed groups in Terai districts were discussed and presented during the visit of the Security Council WG on CAAC, in November 2010. A rapid assessment is being planned to further assess situation of Terai districts from the perspective of child rights violation, following which, a strategy paper will be proposed.	50%
2.5.1 Training of child protection partners in peace building and reconciliation activities, including key concepts of transitional justice, to support social reintegration of CAAFAG	UNICEF reviewed achievements and challenges related to peace building with related I/NGOs and district partners. Sustainability of peace building activities was also discussed. Further training to youth and child clubs, networking of youth clubs and linking them with national/regional programmes; promoting role models from among CAAFAG/VMLRs have been identified as way-ahead for 2011-12.	In progress
2.5.2 Dissemination of child friendly transitional justice toolbox and training of children and young people to raise awareness on transitional justice issues in child networks	UNICEF will be supporting the MoPR to develop guidelines and processes to ensure engagement of children in the transitional justice process, based on international standards. This guideline will be integrated within the overall NPA implementation guideline which can be used once the TRC is established. This activity is expected to begin in August/Sept 2011	0%
2.5.3 Support to child clubs in 34 districts to mobilise for social reintegration of CAAFAG/CAAC and implement peace building and transitional justice activities.	Children's participation in the transitional justice process features as one of the support component in the National Plan Of Action for children affected by armed conflict (NPA). MoPR has agreed to draft an implementation plan to facilitate children's participation in the Transitional Justice with technical support from UNICEF and CAAFAG Working group.	100%
2.5.4 Develop and support cooperation agreement between CAAC Working Group and TRC to ensure the protection and safe participation of children in transitional justice processes	UNICEF is engaging with ICTJ and other relevant I/NGOs to support safe participation of children in transitional justice processes. Major activities related to children's participation in transitional justice will be carried out after the approval of TRC Bill by cabinet. UNICEF and other implementing partners will support MoPR to develop a guideline.	25%

#### 4. Overview of project results, achievements and challenges in this quarter

##### UN monitoring mechanism and Monitoring of 6 core violations through the 1612 task force

###### Achievements

###### Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism:

The monitoring team has continued to refine methodologies and strategies with regard to implementation of the UN monitoring mechanism. Based on defined indicators, data has been collected and documented in the database for analysis of trends of the compliance with the Action Plan. This is done based on daily and weekly reports from the regional monitoring teams as well as the database.

One global horizontal note and periodic UN monitoring report on findings of the compliance with the Action Plan and information related to six core violations against children was submitted to the OSRSG - CAAC through in the reviewed quarter.

**Children are effectively rehabilitated and reintegrated back into their communities:**

The programme trained district implementing partners and community based workers in areas of child protection, thereby ensuring district and community level structures which can be mobilized to provide protection support to children in need.

Juvenile Justice Coordination committee (JJCC), a inter-agency government mechanism responsible for ensuring child-friendly justice system in the country, has requested UNICEF's support to link these (district/community) structures, especially trained community based para-psychosocial workers and social workers, with their district JJCC structures for psychosocial and social inquiry support. UNICEF is currently engaged in facilitating linkages between JJCC and CAAFAG Implementing Partners to provide psychosocial support and to carry out social-inquiry for both victims and children who come in conflict with law.

**Challenges**

**Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism:**

- To maintain a regular dialogue with the UCPN-M who are not always available due to the current political context;
- To monitor children used by Terai and Eastern Hills groups that have unclear agendas which appear to include a mix of political and criminal objectives;

**Children are effectively rehabilitated and reintegrated back into their communities:**

- Despite continuous advocacy and support to the government for the immediate implementation of National Plan of Action for reintegration of children affected by conflict, implementation has not happened at the desired speed due to frequent change of leadership in government and bureaucracy. Ensuring sustainability of support to CAAFAG/CAAC will be big challenge if the NPA is not implemented in time.
- UNICEF has supported the CAAFAG implementing partners to conduct gender assessment in 19 districts. Preliminary findings indicate that CAAFAG girls in particular, still face a range of social and economic problems in their community/family. In the absence of long-term strategic interventions and limited resources within the CAAFAG programme, addressing all the gender related issues can remain a challenge.

## 5. Progress against key indicators in the UNPFN Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

### UNPFN PRIORITY CLUSTER A. Cantonment/Reintegration

**Intermediate Objective:** The safe verification, discharge and reintegration of Maoist Combatants

**(if applicable) UNPBF PMP Result 1:** Security sector reforms and judiciary systems put in place and providing services and goods at the national and local level that reinforce the Rule of Law (RoL)

**Indicator 1.3 DDR:** # of PBF programmes that have successfully integrated ex-combatants into communities

Strategic Outcome	Contributing Outputs	Verifiable Indicators	Baseline (by year)	Milestones and Target (by year)	Current / Final Status
1. Children affected by armed conflict are effectively rehabilitated and reintegrated into communities in adherence with international law and guidelines	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	1.1 Grave child rights violations monitored, verified, reported and responded through Global Horizontal Notes and annual reports submitted to the UN Security Council WG on CAAC	3.1 2006-2009: 3 reports (1 report per year)	3.1 Two 1612 annual reports and 6 Horizontal notes	3.1 1 annual report on 1612 Action Plan monitoring and 9 Global horizontal notes submitted
	Nepali child protection actors, including state entities, have strengthen capacity to monitor, document, verify and respond to grave child rights violations	3.2 Number of functional referral mechanisms set up at district level and responding to child protection issues	3.2 No referral mechanisms in 34 targeted districts	3.2 Set up of referral mechanisms in 34 targeted districts (2012)	3.2 Referral mechanism piloted in 29 districts
	Enhanced capacity of the government to implement the National Plan of Action for the Reintegration of Children Affected by Armed Conflict	3.3 National Plan of Action on Children Affected by Armed Conflict approved and implemented	3.3 No NPA exists	3.3 NPA in line with international standards approved and implemented (2012)	3.3 NPA drafted by MoPR and approved by cabinet on 29 December 2010. Implementation to start once implementation guideline is developed and resources identified/mobilized.
	Self and informally released CAAFAG and CAAC develop the skills and capacities that facilitate their effective reintegration into communities	3.4 Number of self and informally released CAAFAG successfully reintegrated into their communities	3.4 0 out of 7,500 self and informally released CAAFAG; 0 out of 3,000 vulnerable children	3.4 5,500 CAAFAG; 3,000 vulnerable children (2012)	3.4 Continued providing reintegration support to over 5,776 CAAFAG and other children affected by conflict/vulnerable children in 34 districts (2,891 CAAFAG; 2885 CAAC) CAAFAG implementing partners have also been supporting reintegration of verified minors and late recruits (VMLR) who were discharged from the

					cantonment in Jan-Feb 2010 (education, psychosocial and other social reintegration support).
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