

United Nations Peace Fund for Nepal (UNPFN)

Project Status Update

For the period of *January to June 2011*

1. Project Overview

Participating UN Organization(s):	ILO FAO	UNPFN Project number:	UNPFN/C-1
		UNPBF Project number (if applicable):	PBF/NPL/D-1

UNPFN Cluster area:	C. Recovery / Quick impact projects
UNPFN Funding round Strategic Outcome:	
UNPBF Priority area (if applicable):	Community Recovery
UNPBF PMP Result and indicator (if applicable):	Result 3: Youth act as a catalyst to prompt the peace process
	Indicator 3.1: # of PBF country programmes generating sustainable livelihood opportunities that address the supply and demand of the labour market

Project Title:	Jobs for Peace: 12.500 Youth Employed Through an Integrated Approach		
National Partners:			
Project start date:	1 April 2009	Original Project end date:	31 March 2011
Revised end date (if applicable):	31 May 2011	Anticipated total Project duration:	26 months

2. Description of project goal and strategy

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to national peace building and poverty reduction through engaging youth in productive employment activities and empowerment.

*Note: This project ended on 31 May 2011, for the achievements made by the project in its final five months, please refer to the **UNPFN Monitoring and Evaluation Framework** below and its **Final Evaluation Report and end-of-project report**.*

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

UNPFN PRIORITY CLUSTER C. Recovery / Quick impact projects

Intermediate Objective: Strengthened recovery of conflict affected communities

(if applicable) UNPBF PMP Result 3: Youth act as a catalyst to prompt the peace process

Indicator 3.1: # of PBF country programmes generating sustainable livelihood opportunities that address the supply and demand of the labour market

Strategic Outcome	Contributing Outputs	Verifiable Indicators	Baseline (by year)	Milestones and Target (by year)	Current / Final Status
5. 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 affected districts	20,000 work-days of employment generated through employment intensive infrastructure development	3.1 # of work days generated for infrastructure development (cumulative)	5.1 0 (NA)	5.1 1000 (Apr 2010), 10,000 (Oct 2010), 20,000 (May,2011)	5.1 37,108 paid workdays (May 2011)
	At least 3,000 youth jobs created either in wage employment or self employment through skill enhancement programmes	3.2 # of jobs created through skills enhancement trainings	5.2 0 (NA)	5.2 3,000 youth jobs created (2011)	5.2 3,219 (May 2011)
	4,000 jobs created for young people through the establishment of 2,000 youth-led enterprises	3.3 # of jobs created through youth-led enterprises (cumulative)	5.3 0 (NA)	5.3 400 (Apr 2010), 2,400 (Oct 2010), 4,000 (May,2011)	5.3 2,905 (May 2011)
	1,000 existing self employed youth stabilized/ maintained/improved net business income through access to financial education training	3.4 # of trained youth whose savings increased or business expanded through credit/savings	5.4 0 (NA)	5.4 1,000 (2011)	5.4 1,285 (May 2011)
	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	3.5 # of trained youth engaged in employment through cooperatives reinforcement ¹	5.5 0 (NA)	5.5 3,500 (2011)	5.5 3,826 (May 2011)
		3.6 # of youth employed through youth-led	5.6 0 (NA)	5.6 1,000 (2011)	5.6 972 (May 2011)

¹ 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"

	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	projects			
		3.7 # of youth-led initiatives conducted for the youth led empowerment	5.7 0 (NA)	5.7 25 initiatives (2011)	5.7 36 youth led initiatives completed (May 2011)
		5.8 Perceived decrease in youth-led illegal/ destructive incidences in selected communities	5.8 Qualitative assessment	5.8 Qualitative drop in perceived incidences	5.8 It has been found that youths do not participate in socially disruptive activities as they are gainfully employed. No public agitations are taking place since youth are occupied with programs. Therefore, this project created peaceful environment in the districts by engaging youths in various employment and empowerment activities. (Ref: Project Final Evaluation Report; section 8.3 Contribution to peace building)

Qualitative Achievement in line with 5.8

8.3 CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE BUILDING (Copied from Project Final Evaluation Report)

This section draws from the feedback we received from different Programme participants and Implementing Partners. Many specific examples were reported for ways in which the Programme activities had contributed to peace. In the Employment Intensive Infrastructure Development Works visited by the Evaluation Team - wage employment created by the Programme during the construction of roads, irrigation canals, vegetable collection center and marketing shed engaged the youths on constructive activities. The leadership roles they took on in the committee enhanced their skills and experience in managing construction activities and working together for a common cause despite the differences in their ethnicity, economic status and political ideology. This has generated a sense of unity for a common cause among the youths from various backgrounds. Community members and youth reported that a new and positive self- image for

youth was created, transforming them from idle vagrants into contributing community members, whose capabilities for bringing development Programmes and resources to their villages had been enhanced.

In other Components, such as the skill building and business development – which were more oriented to individual development, participants also identified a peace dividend. A couple of short quotes illustrate their ideas:

“I didn’t have any work to do and often needed money to buy snacks and drinks (prior to the training on mobile phone repair). I loitered in the village, fought with others and took part in rallies, just killing time. Had to ask parents for expenses and felt ashamed. After the training, I established my own mobile repair shop, and now earn on average Rs 4000 a month. Previously would participate in rallies for just Rs 50 or snacks. Now even if offered Rs 200 won’t join as shutting my shop will mean losing customers. Now there is peace of mind, in the home and in the community also as we don’t go to rallies any more, and my friends also ask me to teach them how to earn money” (22 year old male, participant in mobile phone repair training in Birgunj Municipality)

“My life was transformed after the training, and I started my enterprise (collecting leaves for making disposable cups and plates in rural areas). Have been able to resume my education, and there is less anger and tension in the family. Similarly 22 other young women also received training from our community and they are also productively engaged. When there is no work people pass time by fighting and spreading terror. When I started my own business, I was saved from being manipulated into wrong ways” (19 year old female from Bagwana VDC).

Some illustrative quotes from Implementing Partners:

“Many youths who were unemployed and didn’t have skills needed for employment, were involved in underground and criminal gangs. Nowadays, this trend is on a decline” (Financial Service providers from both Parsa and Rautahat)

“Youths do not participate in socially disruptive activities when they are gainfully employed. Lack of peace originates from unemployment and the first fights start from home. We have not received any threatening telephone calls or extortion demands for the last one year” (Business Development Service providers, Parsa)

In addition to the income and employment oriented Components (1-6), the youth empowerment component 7 also showed desire of youths to organize themselves into activities that had constructive and unifying elements, and a desire to engage for the betterment of their communities. The common perception was that when such avenues were made available to them, they were welcomed as a way to channel their energies in a positive way. Some observations from the meeting with the multi-party youth organization – Rautahat Youth Development Center:

“We represent youths from different political parties, but are united on common issues. As the youths are not fighting among themselves anymore, the leaders have started to fight against each other. No public agitations are taking place in Rautahat these days, and party leaders are becoming unhappy with us. We are occupied with programs our center has launched, so who else would take on the agitations? Therefore the district is peaceful. For the last 6 months this is the situation” (Office bearer of the Rautahat Youth Development Center).

