

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

**For the period of January -March 2011**

### 1. Project Overview

<b>Participating UN Organization:</b>	UN Women	<b>Cluster area <sup>1</sup>:</b>	Priority/Cluster:Nepal PBF Priority area: 2.8 Strengthening State Capacity for Sustaining Peace
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<b>Project number:</b>	UNPFN/E-6	<b>Funding round Strategic Outcome:</b>	Strategic objective 4: capacity enhancement of national institutions to promote women's participation in peace process and protect the rights of women affected by conflict in line with UNSCRs 1325 and 1820
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<b>Project Title:</b>	Partnership for Equality and Capacity Enhancement (PEACE): Towards Implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820		
<b>Total approved project budget:</b>	US \$ 525,000		
<b>Funds committed and disbursed to-date:</b>	US\$ 159,826.00	<b>% of approved budget:</b>	30.44%
<b>Funds disbursed to-date:</b>	US\$ 159,826.00	<b>% of approved budget:</b>	30.44%
<b>Project start date:</b>	April 1, 2010	<b>Original end date:</b>	March 31, 2012
<b>Revised end date (if applicable):</b>	NA	<b>Anticipated total project duration:</b>	2 years

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

Outcome	Progress: achievements / results / outputs delivered to-date	% of planned
Outcome 1: State entities create 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	<p>The National Action Plan (NAP) on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 developed and endorsed by the government</p> <p>PEACE project team engaged in coordinating the activities of national and international level launch of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820</p> <p>Contracting out project activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Selection process of contractor to implement activities related to High Level Steering Committee (HLSC) which is formed for the development and implementation of National</li> </ul>	22%

	<p>Action Plan on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820, government agencies, civil society and the media underway. The HLSC is Chaired by the Foreign Minister and Co-chaired by the Minister of PEACE and Reconstruction (MoPR). The HLSC comprises of 25 members including the representative from different government agencies and civil society. As mentioned in the NAP, the HLSC may invite the Head of UN Women, the representative/s of the Peace Support Working Group (PSWG) on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820, Resident Representative of UNDP and other experts on related subjects, to attend the meeting. The UN Women has participated and contributed in all the meetings of the HLSC held so far.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Process is underway to sign agreement with the National Women’s Commission to strengthen their capacity to monitor the implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and CEDAW</li> <li>• Contract of partnership with the Women’s Caucus Secretariat is in the process of being finalized</li> </ul>	
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**3. Overview of project objectives, results and challenges in this quarter**

**1. Endorsement of NAP by the Government of Nepal (GoN)**

The major outcome achieved during this quarter was the endorsement of the NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 by the Government of Nepal (GoN). The NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 was endorsed by the government on February 1, 2011. It was launched at the national level on February 17, 2011. The launching programme was hosted by the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR). The programme was attended by the representatives from various government agencies (including the security sector) civil society, media, UN agencies, and other international development partners.

The Chief Guest of the national launch was Mr. Madhav Prasad Ghimire, Chief Secretary, Government of Nepal while Mr. Druba Prasad Sharma, Secretary of MOPR chaired the program. Mr. Sadharam Sapkota, Joint Secretary ,MOPR, Ms. Bandana Rana ,President, SAATHI (an NGO), Mr. Robert Piper, UN Resident Coordinator, UN System; Ms. Camilla Rossak, Norwegian Embassy and Chair of Peace Support Working Group on UNSCR 1325; Ms. Naina Kala Thapa, Chairperson, National Women’s Commission were the Special Guests of the program.



The NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 was also launched at the international level coinciding with the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York on February 23, 2011. The international launching event was hosted jointly by the Nepal Mission to the UN, Norwegian Mission to the UN, UN Women and UNFPA. The international launch was attended by representatives from member states including the members of Security Council, UN agencies, civil society and the development partners. The UN Women Programme team was thoroughly engaged in coordinating the activities of national and international level launch. This project also covered the travel cost of the six delegates to New York for the international launch. The names of the delegates are as follows:

1. Mr. Dal Bahadur K.C., Under Secretary, Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR)
2. Mr. Hari Prasad Chapagain, Section Officer, Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR)
3. Mr. Kamal Kumar Shrestha, Joint Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers
4. Mr. Gaja Bahadur Rana, Under Secretary, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MoWCSW)
5. Ms. Tulasa Lata Amatya, National Network Coordinator, Shantimalika
6. Ms. Chanda Shah, Member, Women's Alliance for Peace Power Democracy and Constituent Assembly (WAPPDCA)



The international launching of NAP provided an opportunity for Nepal to share NAP development experience to wider international community.

The international level launching of NAP was important to reinforce the commitment of the Government of Nepal to sustain the momentum on the Nepal's NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and garner support of international community and development partners towards its implementation. It also indicated that a more critical phase has begun which is the implementation of the NAP in consultation, collaboration and participatory engagement with all stakeholders as in the preparation of the NAP.

## **2. Contracting out project activities**

### **2.1 Civil Society**

To contract out the project activities, the Request for Proposal (RFP) was published in two daily newspapers. Twelve organisations (including the NGOs and consultancy firms) submitted the proposals. Initially, five organizations were shortlisted and out of them, three organizations were recommended for selection. The final process of selecting the organization is underway. The selected organization will implement the activities related to High Level Steering Committee (HLSC), government agencies, civil society and the media. The selected organization will also hold district level consultations for preparing and pilot testing the training packages on NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. As mentioned in the ToR, the activities to be implemented by the selected partner are as follows:

- Organize one day (two times) orientation for HLSC members on the elements of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820.
- Support HLSC to hold one day (1 time) workshop on the key elements of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 with decision making officials of sectoral ministries and the ministries' roles and responsibilities in its implementation.
- Support HLSC to hold one day (1 time) workshop on the key elements of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 with civil society and media and their roles and responsibilities in its implementation.
- Prepare training package integrating experience of the above activities for district level stakeholders to be involved in the implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820
- Pilot test the training package in 5 selected districts (two days in each district) and refine the training package for replication. The district will be finalized in consultation with UN WOMEN and OHCHR team
- Organise two-day trainings (two times) for the staff of MoPR, MoWCSW and MoFA on CEDAW, UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and mediation skills
- Provide one day (two times) orientation to peace and gender focal points of sectoral government ministries on the objectives and scope of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and their roles and responsibilities in its implementation.
- Organise training-cum-workshops (3 days) for planning focal points of sectoral government ministries on integrating the activities of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 in their regular programmes as per

their roles and responsibilities in its implementation

- Develop workshop model for district level line agencies of sectoral ministries for integrating the activities of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 in their regular programme. Pilot test the workshop model in 5 selected districts (3 days in each district) and refine the model for replication

The ToR also put a condition that the selected organization will consult UN Women while making decisions relating to contents, methodology and calendar of operation for the implementation of above-mentioned activities.

### **2.1 National Women's Commission (NWC)**

Similarly, as required in the project document, contracting out the activities to National Women's Commission (NWC) is in the final stages. As a National Women Machinery, NWC has the mandate to monitor the implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and CEDAW. Hence, the technical support to be provided to NWC through this project will help them to strengthen their monitoring capacity on the implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820.

### **2.2 Women's Caucus in Constituent Assembly (CA)**

As required by the project document, the partnership with the Women's Caucus Secretariat, to ensure the political commitment for implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 is in the process of finalization. This partnership process took nearly four months of discussion on the substance and content and finally coming to a consensus regarding the contractual arrangement. The possibility of impending change in the leadership of the Women Caucus, has largely affected the progress in the finalization of the partnership. However, as per the Women's Caucus, with the assumption of new leadership (recently there seems to be an agreement for a new leadership) the partnership should soon be formalized. The partnership with the Women's Caucus will be focused on ensuring political commitment to the implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820.

### **Challenges**

The project had envisaged to start its activities with the Women's Caucus since the middle of February, 2011, however, as stated above, the initiation of partnership has taken much more time than anticipated. The possibility of change in the leadership of the Women's Caucus affected the finalization of the partnership process. Currently, the situation is likely to become more conducive with the assumption of a new leadership at the Women's Caucus. In this context, the partnership process is expected to be finalised soon after the selection of the new leadership at the Women's Caucus. The selection of Coordinator to lead the Women's Caucus till now seems to be based on the understanding between the members of the caucus.

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

This project has contributed to the achievement of key indicator 10.1 of UNPFN--**the National Plan of Action on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 developed and endorsed by the government**

The endorsement of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 by the government of Nepal on February 1, 2011 is the major outcome achieved in this quarter. This outcome has one of the important contributions in achieving the project goal through consolidation of peace by facilitating the implementation of national commitments to gender equality and women's human rights. At present, the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR) is in the process of preparing sectoral plan in order to integrate NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 into the planning of sectoral ministries. In this context, UN Women is providing technical support to MoPR through an expert to finalise the sectoral plan.

The implementation of NAP will contribute to the protection and promotion of women's human rights and ensure the meaningful participation of women and girls in peacebuilding processes. This will lead to integration of needs and priorities of conflict affected women and girls in the laws, policies and programmes. All these together will contribute to achieving the project goal to "contribute to consolidation of peace in Nepal through facilitating the implementation of national commitments to gender equality and women's human rights."