

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

For the period of October – December 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>	Children and adolescents affected by armed conflict are effectively rehabilitated and reintegrated into communities in adherence with international law and guidelines
<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 (INGOs).		
<b>Project start date:</b>	01 January 2010	<b>Original Project end date:</b>	31 December 2011
<b>Revised end date (if applicable):</b>	31 May 2012	<b>Anticipated total Project duration:</b>	2 years 5 months

<b>Total approved project budget:</b>	USD 2,332,421+ USD 331,674 (Additional) = USD 2,664,095		
<b>Funds committed and spent to-date by the project:</b>	2,087,761.94	<b>As % of approved budget:</b>	78%
<b>Funds spent to-date by the project:</b>	1,890,607.59	<b>Project delivery rate:</b>	70%

### 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. Of the total CAAFAG supported up to the reporting period, UNPFN supports around 3,500, CAAFAG/CAAC in 30 districts.

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

Project Outcome(s)	Progress: achievements/results/ outputs delivered to-date	% of planned
<b>OUTCOME 1: Strengthened capacity of child protection actors, including state entities, to monitor, document, verify and respond to grave child violations</b>		
<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 488 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>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>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>The Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict reviewed an updated report by the UN Monitoring Team regarding Compliance by the Unified Communist Party of Nepal-Maoists (UCPM-M) with the Action Plan for the Discharge of Disqualified Maoist Personnel and Related UNSCR 1612 Provisions. The Working Group re-iterated that the UCPN-M should fully comply with the Action Plan and requested the Monitoring team to report further on the progress by mid-February.</p> <p>The Security Council Working Group requested the Office of the Special Representative to the Secretary General on Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG-CAAC) to undertake technical mission in coordination with the UN Monitoring Team in Nepal. The technical mission visited Nepal from 12 to 16 December. The purpose of the mission was to advocate for UCPN-M to fully comply with the Action Plan and assist the Country Task Force and UN monitoring team in this regard.</p> <p>The mission met with the UCPN-M Chairman "Prachanda", senior Maoist commanders, the deputy of the Maoist army, the members of the diplomatic community and members of the government.</p> <p>A Matrix of UCPN-M compliance with the</p>	<p>Continuous activity</p> <p>80%</p>

<p>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 require in depth verification</p>	<p>Action Plan was drafted and shared with the relevant Maoist leaders to help them address the remaining challenges towards full compliance.</p> <p>10 global horizontal notes (progress updates) prepared and submitted to the OSRSG-CAAC.</p>	<p>Continuous activity</p> <p>90%</p>
<p>. 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;</p>	<p>During the reporting period, an assessment was conducted with the primary objective to find out whether the situation of children in the Terai and Eastern Hills fall within the framework of UN Security Council Resolution 1612.</p> <p>The findings clearly indicated that the situation of children does not fall within the scope of UNSCR 1612 Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism.</p>	<p>100%</p>
<p>Review the strategies of 1612 monitoring and reporting mechanism</p>	<p>The activity was completed in the previous quarters.</p>	<p>100%</p>
<p><b>OUTCOME 2: Children are effectively rehabilitated and reintegrated back into their communities (reintegration component).</b></p>		
<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>UNICEF has continued providing reintegration support to over 5,776 CAAFAG and CAAC in 34 districts. During the reporting period, the UNPFN fund was utilized to support the reintegration of CAAFAG and CAAC in 5 districts in which 362 CAAFAG (Female 46%) and 189 (Female 51%) CAAC were supported. In total, UNPFN have supported around 3500 CAAFAG/CAAC in 30 districts.</p> <p>In the 5 supported districts, 12 cases were closed during the reporting period. Social workers are following up on individual cases on a continuous basis. In total, around 546 successfully reintegrated cases (CAAFAG/CAAC) have been closed. More cases are expected to be closed in the final quarter March-May 2012.</p> <p>During the reporting period, UNICEF and Search for Common Ground (CAAFAG member agency) organized a three-day 'Advance Youth Leadership for Peace building' training for youth leaders including CAAFAG and VMLRs. A total of 48 participants, including 12 females, participated in the training based on established guideline. The majority of the participants (38) were VMLRs and CAAFAG. The purpose of the</p>	<p>100%</p> <p>75%</p> <p>Capacity building of partners ongoing.</p>

<p>Number of CAAFAG/CAAC receiving psychosocial support.</p> <p>Number of community stakeholders trained on issues related to children affected by armed conflict</p>	<p>training was to build the capacity of these youth leaders so that they can define their role in peace building and can design and conduct peace building activities in their respective communities. During the training, participants learned how to work with different youth and community clubs and to design and sustain youth and peace building programmes at local and district levels. The training taught participants to integrate peace building components in reintegration programme, design peace building activities in different contexts to address root causes of conflict in long-term and multi-step processes.</p> <p>In the 5 districts supported by the UNPFN fund, about 71 CAAFAG and 19 CAAC received psychosocial support during the reporting period, of which 39% were female CAAFAG/CAAC. In total, around 284 CAAFG received regular psychosocial support.</p> <p>During the reporting period UNICEF organized one training for district implementing partners to capacitate their new staffs on basic psychosocial counseling skills. The districts were selected on the basis of capacity gap mapping conducted by UNICEF.</p> <p>The government led Juvenile Justice Coordination Committee requested UNICEF's support to link them up with CAAFAG IPs for services such as social inquiry report and psychosocial support for children who come in contact with the law. In order to facilitate the linkage, UNICEF supported the Juvenile Justice Coordination Committee for the organization of a 2-day training for 14 CAAFAG IPs from the central region. In the next quarter, an additional 28 IPs will be trained, following which IPs are expected to support the Juvenile Justice District Coordination Committees , including police and district courts, in preparing social inquiry report and providing psychosocial support for juveniles in 42 districts.</p>	<p>In progress.</p>
<p>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>Upon MoPR's request, UNICEF has hired an expert (consultant) to provide technical assistance and overall support to MoPR for the implementation of the NPA for Children Affected by Conflict. The consultant has been hired for 6 months until March 2012. The consultant has drafted a concept note for MoPR to access NOTF which is currently being reviewed by MoPR for finalization.</p> <p>With support from the consultant, MoPR has formed a central level, '<i>Implementation Committee</i>' chaired by the Secretary of MoPR, with participants from various ministries. The</p>	<p>50%</p>

	<p>role of the implementation committee is to ensure inter-ministerial coordination and to provide technical insights for the implementation of the NPA. In addition, relevant ministries have nominated focal persons to represent their respective ministries at technical level and to support the development of the NPA implementation guideline.</p>	
<p>2.2.1 Training of psychosocial workers to support CAAFAG and CAAC.</p>	<p>During the reporting period, TPO and CVICT, specialised agencies working on psychosocial interventions for CAAFAG and VMLRs, conducted supervision visits in 22 districts. The objective of the supervision visits was (i) to supervise the quality of psychosocial support provided to CAAFAG and other conflict affected children (ii) share/learn experiences and challenges faced by implementing partners (iii) provide additional skills necessary to psychosocial workers to address psychosocial problems at local level (iv) assess the level of client satisfaction.</p> <p>The supervision team found out that some CAAFAG/VMLRs were still being intimidated by armed groups (Jwala samuha, Tamu Mukti Morcha) to join them. (<i>Further information has been requested from IP for further verification</i>). Local level psychosocial support to some CAAFAG /VMLR was not producing desired results because of the complexity of the problem. In addition, regular monitoring remains a problem as clients (CAAFAG/VMLRs) are thinly scattered in remote places.</p> <p>The supervisors also witnessed some positive impact resulting from the psychosocial intervention. Many CAAFAG/VMLRs, who had lost hope in their lives and had suicidal thoughts, were found to be more positive towards life and were now continuing their studies. Some of them had even excelled in their studies, securing the highest position in school exams. The majority of the CAAFAG/VMLRs, who were initially found to lack self-esteem and to be indecisive, were often found to have become more assertive and were taking part in community activities with other peers.</p>	In progress.
<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 year.</p>	100%
<p>2.2.3 Technical support to child protection partners in 34 districts to integrate gender mainstreaming in reintegration support programme.</p>	<p>Based on gender assessment conducted by implementing partners CAAFAG/CAAC have been receiving gender specific support, to address identified gender-specific needs, based on assessment findings. In the 5 supported districts, gender specific support was provided to 2 CAAFAG during the reporting period.</p>	70%

	Altogether, 17 female participants received gender specific support. In addition, 162 female CAAFAG and CAAC were linked to micro-credit groups or community based cooperatives groups to support their economic reintegration	
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	Altogether around 3,041 have received education support. During the reporting period, a total of 128 CAAFAG (94%) and 180 CAAC (95%) received education support in the 5 supported districts. The rest received either advanced vocational training or Income Generating Activity (IGA) support.	100%
2.4.1 Regular update and analysis of CAAFAG database and production of regular analytical reports	UNICEF is currently reviewing the upgraded 3.1 version of the Inter-agency Child Protection database to further adapt and integrate other child protection indicators in the database. Once the database has been adapted, IPs are expected to be trained on its use. MoPR has also agreed to use the database to compile data on CAAC in all 75 districts and at central level too.	100%
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	The report of rapid assessment commissioned by UNICEF, to assess the risk of recruitment and the misuse of children in political and armed activities in the Terai and Eastern Hills districts, is currently being reviewed by the Office of SRSR for CAAC.	75%
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 is supporting 132 child and youth clubs through the CAAFAG district implementing partners. These child/youth clubs, having received peace building and leadership training, have submitted project proposals for community based peace building and reconciliation activities, to be implemented in 26 districts. Implementation of these activities has begun in the majority of the districts and has seen active participation of CAAFAG, VMLRs and other conflict affected children/young people. The major goal of these community based activities, is to facilitate social harmony and reintegration of CAAFAG/VMLR in the community.	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 activity is expected to begin in March/April 2012.	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 is featured as one of the component in the National Plan Of Action for children affected by armed conflict (NPA). MoPR has agreed to draft an implementation	100%

	plan to facilitate children's participation in the Transitional Justice with technical support from UNICEF and CAAFAG Working group.	
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 relevant I/NGOs to support safe participation of children in transitional justice processes. The major activities related to children's participation in transitional justice will be carried out after the approval of TRC Bill by the 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:

###### Achievements:

Clear message was given to the UCPN-M Chairman –“Prachanda” and other Maoist leaders that they need to take 3 main steps i.e. a. discontinue the payments made by Maoist commanders to verified minors b. sever the links between verified minors and Maoist army commanders which in some regions are maintained through the provision of accommodation and in other regions through regular contacts maintained between the verified minors and the UCPN-M Maoist army commander c. and to order the verified minors to leave the cantonments and encourage them to return into their communities. The Chairman has committed to issue a circular to the seven Division Commanders to request them to address the remaining elements of non-compliance with the action plan in some cantonments. He has also ensured the implementation of the circular.

Maoist technical focal point “Baldev” for 1612 action plan monitoring has committed to organize a meeting between the seven Division Commanders and the UN monitoring team to discuss and agree on steps forward for UCPN-M to reach full compliance according to the compliance matrix which will be shared with them.

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

Focus of rehabilitation and reintegration programme has been to consolidate the achievements and ensure successful reintegration and closure of CAAFAG/CAAC cases currently supported by the programme, address gender specific concerns among CAAFAG, ensure support to other conflict children through government led programme, and ensure smooth exit strategy by linking CAAFAG structure and trained human resources to support other children and women related government and non-government programmes so that they are effectively rehabilitated and reintegrated back into their communities:

###### Challenges

###### Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism:

###### Challenges:

- The stalemate of the peace process is a key element for the lack of recent positive changes or significant achievements regarding the UNSCR 1612 project.

###### 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 resource constraints including frequent change of leadership in government and bureaucracy. Ensuring sustainability of support to CAAFAG/CAAC will be a big challenge if the NPA is not implemented on time.

## 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 10 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. UNICEF and CAAFAG Working Group supporting MoPR to develop implementation guideline.
	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



					<p>(2,891 CAAFAG; 2885 CAAC). During the reporting period, the UNPFN fund was utilized to support reintegration of around 3563 CAAFAG/CAAC in 30 districts. During the reporting period, 362 CAAFAG (Female 46%) and 189 (Female 51%) CAAC were supported in 5 districts in which 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).</p>
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