

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

For the period of July – September 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 31 May 2012	<b>Anticipated total Project duration:</b>	29 months

<b>Total approved project budget:</b>	USD 2,332,421 + 331,613 = 2,664,034		
<b>Funds committed and spent to-date by the project:</b>	1358527.21	<b>As % of approved budget:</b>	50.9
<b>Funds spent to-date by the project:</b>	1201131.97	<b>Project delivery rate:</b>	45

## 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.

<b>3. Overview of progress to-date against project outcomes</b>		
<b>Project Outcome(s)</b>	<b>Progress: achievements/results/ outputs delivered to-date</b>	<b>% of planned</b>
<b>OUTCOME 1: Strengthened capacity of child protection actors, including state entities, to monitor, document, verify and respond to grave child violations</b>		
Number of verified and documented cases that have been responded to through established referral mechanisms.	Since the inception of the project the 1612 task force on monitoring and reporting mechanism documented 418 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.	Continuous activity
Number of child protection actors oriented on 1612 monitoring and reporting mechanism, including UN monitoring mechanism.	The activities were completed in the previous quarters.	100%
UN monitoring mechanism established and operational.	The activity was completed in the previous quarters.	100%
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.	The activity was completed in the previous quarters.	100%
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.	The UN Monitoring team has continued to document, verify and report on UCPN-M's compliance with the Action Plan on discharge and rehabilitation of disqualified Maoist Army personnel through missions across the country. The UN Monitoring team also collected relevant information from regular contact and interviews with disqualified Maoist Army Personnel verified as minors and discharged from the Maoist Army cantonments, as well as from UCPN-M District-in-charge and CAFAAG partners, Regular meetings were conducted with the United Nation's Interagency Rehabilitation Programme (UNIRP) field offices for information sharing and effective coordination. No major changes have been verified regarding the findings of UCPN-M compliance with the Action Plan (see the last quarterly update for the findings).	Continuous activity
1.1.3 Report, document and verify core child rights violations for submission to	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.	Continuous activity
	Since the inception of the project, 10 global horizontal notes (progress updates) prepared	Continuous activity

the UN Security Council 1612 Annual and Horizontal reports, including through fact finding missions on violations which require in depth verification	and submitted to the OSRSG-CAAC .	
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: Children are effectively rehabilitated and reintegrated back into their communities (reintegration component).</b>		
<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>Continued providing reintegration support to over 5,776 of CAAFAG and CAAC in 34 districts. During this quarter, UNPFN fund was utilized to support the reintegration of CAAFAG and CAAC in 24 districts in which around 822 CAAFAG (Female 45%) and 610 CAAC (Female 55%) were supported.</p> <p>New agreements were signed with CAAFAG implementing partners for 2011-12 programme in May 2011. After re-accessing individual cases a total of 632 cases (Female 32%) were closed in the 24 districts supported by the UNPFN fund during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.</p> <p>During the reporting period, two training were organized for NGO implement partners and youth leaders: (i) 'Trainings of Trainers on Outdoor and Experiential Learning in Peacebuilding' (ii) Youth Leadership for Peacebuilding' training. In total there were 78 participants from 23 NGO implementing partners. The objective of the training was to enable them to integrate peacebuilding in ongoing reintegration activities, design peacebuilding activities within different contexts and built the skills of youth leaders to engage their adversaries in dialogue and potential cooperation. The NGO implementing partners and youth leaders are expected to organize Peace Building activities in their respective districts based on what they have learnt from the training.</p> <p>Psychosocial support provided to around 1,150 CAAFAG in all (34) programme districts through trained community based social workers. In the 24 districts support by the UNPFN fund about 293 CAAFAG/CAAC received psychosocial support during the reporting period. This has not only resulted in</p>	<p>100%</p> <p>75%</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>enhancement of psychosocial wellbeing of participants but have also facilitated social relations with families, friends and families.</p> <p>Mapping of trained psychosocial worker, existing in the 75 districts completed. These are psychosocial workers who have been trained through CAAFAG programme and by other development agencies. The database with roster of trained psychosocial workers (around 350) have been compiled, which will be hosted in website and allow access to government and non-governmental agencies for emergency and non-emergency responses. Though the plan is make the the database available in the internet within May 2012, a lot will depend on the financial and technical requirement . TPO (<i>UNICEF's CAAFAG implementing partner</i>) will be designing the internet based database system and hosting it. The same network has been providing psychosocial support to over 600 verified minors and late recruits. During the reporting period three trainings to train staffs of implementing partners and regional psychosocial workers were organized, based on capacity gap mapping conducted.The training was meant for psychosocial workers who has received less than 27 days training and is expected to improve their counseling skills.</p> <p>As a strategy for sustainability of child clubs and other community-based organizations supported by UNICEF has been developed with implementing partners:i) implementing partners are 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 levels. ii) UNICEF is currently supporting CAAFAG implementing partners to finalize a proposal on peace building which were submitted by youth clubs. iii) UNICEF has also initiated the process to identify potential CAAFAG/VMLR supported by the programme to be promoted as youth leaders/models among the youth.</p>	<p>60%.</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>Upon MoPR's request, UNICEF is in the process of hiring an expert (consultant) to support the Ministry in developing guidelines for the implementation of the NPA. . The consultant will be hired for six months starting end October 2011 to provide coordination and other technical support. The consultant was hired as MoPR do not have any designated staff to ensure the implementation of the NPA.</p>	<p>50%</p>
<p>2.2.1 Training of psychosocial workers to support CAAFAG and CAAC.</p>	<p>During the reporting period UNICEF organized three trainings to train staffs of implementing</p>	<p>In progress.</p>

	partners and regional psychosocial workers, based on capacity gap mapping conducted by UNICEF. A total of 36 social workers participated in the three trainings (Male 14/ Female 22). NGO participants included those who had received less than 27 days of standardized psychosocial training meant for CAAFAG reintegration programme. The training for regional psychoaocial workers focused on group and peer counseling.	
2.2.2 Training of community stakeholders in 34 districts on issues relating to children affected by armed conflict.	This activity was completed in 2010.	100%
2.2.3 Technical support to child protection partners in 34 districts to integrate gender mainstreaming in reintegration support programme.	Implementing partners in 13 districts conducted gender assessment of CAAFAG and VMLR using the assessment tool developed by UNICEF. The report of the assessment will be key in preparing reports and follow-up action plan, to address identified gender-specific needs.	70%
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	A total of 90% CAAFAG and 96% CAAC received education support in the 24 districts out of the 34 districts supported by the UNPTF during the reporting period. Rest received either advance vocational training or IGA support.	100%
2.4.1 Regular update and analysis of CAAFAG database and production of regular analytical reports	UNICEF has recently upgraded to 3.1 version of the Inter-agency Child Protection (IACP) database with technical assistance from CAAFAG Interagency team from New York. Online training was provided to UNICEF and CAAFAG implementing partners' staff. UNICEF and selected CAAFAG IP have started entering CAAFAG/CAAC database in the IACP database system. The 3.1 version has new fields which allows documentation of additional information.	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	A rapid assessment has been conducted from the perspective of child rights violation, to assess situation of Terai districts where risk of recruitment of minors and their misuse in political and armed activities are high. The report has recently been shared with UNICEF for strategic discussion. The outcome and findings once the report is finalized by UNICEF	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	During the reporting period, two training were organized for NGO implement partners and youth leaders: (i) 'Trainings of Trainers on Outdoor and Experiential Learning in Peacebuilding' (ii) Youth Leadership for Peacebuilding' training. in which 78 NGO staffs and youth leaders participated from 23 NGOs. .... The trainings were conducted to	In progress

	<p>provide skills to to integrate peacebuilding component in ongoing reintegration activities, design peacebuilding activities within different contexts and built the skills of youth leaders to engage their adversaries in dialogue and potential cooperation. Guidelines have been developed to help implementing partners and youth groups to design peace building activities based on district specific context.</p> <p>In total there were 78 participants from 23 NGO implementing partners. The objective of the training was to enable them to integrate peacebuilding in ongoing reintegration activities, design peacebuilding activities within different contexts and built the skills of youth leaders to engage their adversaries in dialogue and potential cooperation. The NGO implementing partners and youth leaders are expected to organize Peace Building activities in their respective districts based on what they have learnt from the training.</p>	
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. There has not been any progress because of frequent change of Minister and lack of dedicated focal person to lead the process. 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.	This activity is still in the planning phase. Implementing partners in all the programme district are working with child clubs to develop a six monthly working plan, engaging child clubs and conflict affected children children. Proposal from the child clubs are expected to be finalized by the implementing partners within November 2011 after which child clubs will implement community based activities to facilitate harmony and social-reintegration of CAAFAG/CAAC.	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. <p>Children's participation in the transitional justice process is also featured as one of the major component in the National Plan of Action for children affected by armed conflict (NPA). MoPR has agreed to draft an</p>	25%

	<p>implementation plan to facilitate children's participation in the Transitional Justice process with technical support from UNICEF and CAAFAG Working group. This work will be initiated as soon as MoPR constitutes working teams to draft the guidelines.</p>	
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#### 4. Overview of project results, achievements and challenges in this quarter

##### Achievements

##### Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism:

The UN Monitoring team clarified with the SRSG office on CAAC the criteria for possible delisting of UCPN-M from the SG list of parties to conflict recruiting and using children.

This project continued strengthening dialogue with UCPN-M leadership through meetings with its Chairman, the Maoist army (MaoA) focal point for the UN monitoring team and deputy of the Maoist army, and the 3 division commanders from MCS 2, 4 and 7. The Secretary General annual report on children and armed conflict in May 2011 demanded that for the delisting, UCPN-M will have to prove that the distribution of payments by the Maoist army commanders, as well as the regular contacts between MaoA commanders and the verified minors have ceased and explain the means they used to stop it.

The findings of the compliance with the Action Plan and information related to six core violations against children are submitted to the OSRSG - CAAC through global horizontal notes and periodic UN monitoring reports.

##### 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.

The quarter focused on capacity assessment and enhancement of implementing partners. As a result several trainings were provided to implementing partners. In addition, strategic shifts were discussed and agreed with implementing partners to ensure sustainability, quality assurance and to maximize impact. Furthermore, investment was made to further enhance institutional capacity of youth and child clubs. Unlike the past, child and youth clubs were provided with mentoring and technical support to write six month proposals on peace building and reconciliation activities. In the next step, the implementation of these proposals will be supported, including their linkages with existing national and sub-national networks for sustainability.

UNICEF have advocated with MoPR on some key principles for the implementation of NPA. As a result, MoPR has agreed to the formation of a technical committee (with UNICEF's participation) to support the implementation of NPA; use of existing government structures, where possible and not create new-structures to implement NPA; and engaging other line ministries (as focal persons) to develop guidelines for the implementation of NPA.

##### Challenges

##### Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism:

- The main partners and interlocutors for the UN monitoring team are UCPN-M/MaoA leaders whose main agenda at the moment is the reintegration and rehabilitation of the Maoist army personnel and not the UCPN-M compliance with the Action Plan.
- 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 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 in time.
- UNICEF had supported CAAFAG implementing partners to conduct gender assessment in 19 districts. Though preliminary findings indicate stiff social and economic challenges for CAAFAG's reintegration (girl in particular), responses to address these challenges has been slow and partial. This is because of the absence of long-term strategic interventions, limited resources within the CAAFAG programme to address gender related issues, compounded by limited technical capacity of implementing partners.

## 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 Advocating with government for more ownership and commitment.
	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). During the reporting period, the UNPFN funds were utilized to support the reintegration of CAACAG and CAAC in

					<p>24 districts in which around 822 CAAFAG (Female 45%) and 610 (Female 55%) CAAC were supported. 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). This is part of another UNPFN project, Rehabilitation UNPFN/A-7 – which also uses the same CAAFAG structure/network.</p>
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