

# United Nations Peace Fund for Nepal (UNPFN)

## Project Status Update

For the period of January-June 2012

### 1. Project Overview

<b>Participating UN Organization(s):</b>	UNDP	<b>UNPFN Project number:</b>	UNPFN/B-3
		<b>UNPBF Project number (if applicable):</b>	NA

<b>UNPFN Cluster area:</b>	Elections/Governance/ mediations
<b>UNPFN Funding round Strategic Outcome:</b>	Political, civil society and governmental actors have helped prevent conflict and consolidate the peace through developing, applying and sustaining capacities of collaborative leadership, dialogue and conflict sensitivity
<b>UNPBF Priority area (if applicable):</b>	N/A
<b>UNPBF PMP Result and indicator (if applicable)</b>	N/A

<b>Project Title:</b>	<b>Collaborative Leadership and Dialogue (CLD)</b>		
<b>National Partners:</b>			
<b>Project start date:</b>	October 2010	<b>Original end date:</b>	October 2012
<b>Revised end date (if applicable):</b>		<b>Anticipated total project duration:</b>	2 years For UNDP it is a larger 5 year project

<b>Total approved project budget:</b>	<b>Total project budget: 4,000,000 (estimated for Phase 1-two years)</b> <b>UNPFN contribution: \$ 150,000 (Norway earmarked)</b>		
<b>Funds committed and spent to-date by the project:</b>	\$299,800	<b>% of approved budget:</b>	100%
<b>Funds spent to-date by the project:</b>	\$168,551	<b>% of approved budget:</b>	56.22%
<b>Delivery rate:</b>	56.22 %		

### 2. Description of project goal and strategy (5 lines):

**Goal:** Collaborative leadership at the local and national level supports and promotes a culture of dialogue that contributes to conflict prevention and social cohesion.

**Peacebuilding Impact:**

- Sustainable capacity on collaboration and dialogue developed for leaders at local and national levels;
- Better negotiated solutions on peacebuilding and development-related issues
- Strengthened local and national capacities and mechanisms for collaboration, dialogue and conflict management

CLD works with political, civil society, government, youth, women and ethnic leaders at both local and national levels to strengthen their capacities in constructive negotiation, mediation, facilitation of dialogue processes, consensus building, communications, leadership and trust building. This capacity will further be developed through accompaniment, mentoring and coaching as these strengthened skill-sets are applied to key contemporary issues. A network of experts will be formed to enable the application of the skills in the interim period while longer term peacebuilding institutional mechanisms will be created and/or supported through consultation with relevant stakeholders, to sustain the promotion and application of collaborative leadership and related skills.

3. Overview of progress to-date against project outcomes		
Project Output (s)	Progress: achievements/results/ outputs delivered to-date	% of planned
<p><b>Output 1:</b> Local level leaders (civil society, political and governmental) have prevented and mitigated conflict/tension and established/implemented joint socio-political and development visions, programmes and agendas through dialogue</p>	<p><b>Developing a network of leaders at the local level:</b>Capacity of a critical mass of local leaders built and key entry points developed and inserted in strategic spaces (youth, marginalized groups, political and government):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborative leadership and dialogue skills have been strengthened in 159 leaders from government, political parties, political parties’ youth wings, and civil society.25 % are female (42 of total) and nearly 30% (48 of total) are from marginalized communities including Madhesi, Janajati, Muslim and Dalits. Ongoing support and technical accompaniment is being provided the leaders in order to assist them in the application of their skills.</li> <li>• CLD training materials and accompanying workbook are being developed. Draft modules are being field-tested through application ongoing training efforts, and much of the focus is on making the content more attuned to the Nepal context.</li> </ul> <p><b>Developing local level training and facilitation capacities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 trainers/facilitators, primarily from civil society organizations, have been given provided training and follow-up technical advice.</li> </ul> <p><b>Application of skills:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the context of strong political tensions in the Far West during mid-May, and in the run-up to the 27 May deadline for Constituent Assembly, one of CLD’s graduates played a key facilitative role in crafting an informal agreement between Pahadi and Tharu leaders to avoid direct confrontation and violence in a series of protests being held in Dhangadi. This graduate was accompanied and advised by a member of the CLD team, who helped develop a strategy and terms for such an agreement.</li> <li>• As a result of engagements by Civil Society facilitators trained by CLD in 5 Banke district VDCs, the communities have formed informal dialogue groups - and given them names “Hatemalo” (“Holding Hands”) “Sambad Chautari” (“Shelter for Dialogue”). These groups have been primarily engaging with government officials and public service providers, and begun to achieve tangible results. In Indrapur VDC, for example, the VDC Secretary has reinstalled in the village after years of being absent due to security concerns. In Bankatuwa VDC, which has a long history of social tension, the dialogue committee opened the way for the formation of a community school management committee.</li> <li>• Four civil society organizations from Nepalganj, in partnership with CLD, have reached consensus to support and promote collaborative leadership and</li> </ul>	30%

	<p>dialogue skills at the local level. These organizations have provided technical assistance and supported dialogue around development and public security issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four dialogue workshops conducted in Banke by CLD's TOT graduates. These graduates are drawn from the district's civil society organizations, and the issues being addressed at the VDC level include good governance, domestic violence, public security and drug abuse.</li> <li>• Training conducted by CLD's TOT graduates for 25 staff, promoters and related partners from the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ). These trainings focused on how to use dialogue as a tool for conducting Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) on the issues of women's access to justice and engaging in policy level dialogue. This training was instrumental in providing space for the TOT graduates to apply their TOT skills and refine their training expertise.</li> <li>• Political parties in Dhanusa, following CLD training, have started convening to tackle local development and governance issues including absentee VDC secretaries, absentee public school teachers, unemployment, and health-related issues.</li> <li>• In all the above cases, as part of the project strategy, UNDP continues to track the application processes, provides technical assistance, coaching and mentoring. In some cases reflection sessions and refreshers have also been organized for leaders trained by the project.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Output 2:</b> National level leaders (civil society, political and governmental) have collaboratively established and implemented policies, programmes and shared agendas on critical issues to consolidate the peace and prevent conflict</p>	<p><b>Creating entry points/ legitimacy:</b> Political-will generated and entry points developed at the national level with political parties and government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Steering committee, which includes representatives from seven political parties and civil society organizations, continues to engage with the project as an advisory body.</li> <li>• Mid-level government officials from five government ministries/institutions have been trained on CLD and they along with designated focal points act as entry points within these ministries.(Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction, National Planning Commission, Ministry of Local Development and Nepal Administrative Staff College)</li> <li>• Senior political leadership of seven major political parties has received orientation about the CLD project through three-day workshop. This included discussions on longer-term support to build individual and institutional capacities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Developing a network of national level leaders:</b>Capacity of a critical mass of national leaders built and key entry points developed and inserted in strategic spaces (youth, marginalized groups, political and government):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborative leadership and dialogue skills have been strengthened in 103 national-level leaders from government, political parties, and civil society built on CLD skills. Out of the total participants 26% (27 participants) were women, and 19 % (20 participants) were from marginalized communities.</li> <li>• Working relations were established with women civil society networks and the Inter Party Women's Alliance (IPWA) women leaders through a series of introductory meetings.</li> </ul>	<p>25%</p>

	<p><b>Developing training and facilitation capacity at the national level:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15 trainers/facilitators from seven major parties’ training units received training on collaborative leadership and dialogue developed. Out of the 15 participants, 3 were female and 1 was from a marginalized community. The composition of this group was determined by the political parties, which nominated participants from their respective parties. CLD had requested that nominations be done with “diversity” as a key criterion for selection.</li> <li>• A three-member team of senior facilitator has been put into place, and CLD, in conjunction with this team, has begun a process of assessing issues for immediate, medium and longer-term engagement.</li> </ul> <p><b>Application of skills:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CLD held a workshop with national-level student and youth political leaders, and this group identified electoral violence as issue shared concern and about which they would be willing to engage in dialogue about in the coming months. These discussions identified an electoral code of conduct and accompanying monitoring mechanisms as a principal area of interest in this area.</li> <li>• Participants of the TOT for the political parties are now discussing avenues for creating a cross-party facilitation team.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Output 3:</b> Policies and programmes developed and implemented by national institutions to foster collaborative approaches to decision making</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A three-member team of senior facilitators has been put into place by the CLD. This team, in conjunction with CLD, has begun a process of identifying immediate, medium and longer-term issues for dialogue. As part of this process, the team has been engaging with senior member and mid-level members of government about the need for strengthened dialogue capacities and new spaces for cross-party collaboration.</li> <li>• To foster informed and robust public discussion of Transitional Justice issues, CLD is supporting the Transitional Justice Resource Center run by World Vision Advocacy Forum. This is being run in close coordination with the government, which will transfer many of the centre’s resources to the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction at the end of this year.</li> </ul>	<p>40%</p>
<p><b>Output 4:</b> Public culture of collaborative dialogue fostered through media</p>	<p>Pilot initiatives underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 24 episodes of radio talk programmes targeting eastern and western region currently being aired</li> <li>• 12 episodes of a radio magazine to promote dialogue is currently being aired</li> <li>• 2 five minutes documentaries on CLD is currently being developed</li> </ul> <p>Media strategy being developed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A longer term media strategy to foster a public culture of collaborative dialogue currently being developed</li> </ul>	<p>30%</p>

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

##### **Overview of achievements for Q2:**

- Development of national and local level facilitation capacity at multiple levels
- Application of skills further enhanced through technical accompaniment and coaching from the programme
- Entry points with women and civil society groups generated both at the national and local levels

##### **Overview of Challenges for Q2:**

- The principal operational challenge faced by CLD in Q2 was the period of multiple bandh in the run-up to the 27 May deadline for the Constituent Assembly to approve a new constitution. These bandh caused the cancellation of several important training and outreach activities.
- Moreover, the dissolution of the Constituent Assembly caused widespread confusion about the near and medium-term political future of the country. This has shifted the focus of political discussions away from implementation of an awaited new constitution and how to advance the development agenda, and towards more near-term power-sharing arrangements among political parties and possible avenues a return to a constitutional order.

##### **Building national and local capacities (output 1 and 2):**

- 3-day CLD workshop (13-15 June) conducted with chairpersons of political parties of Banke district and 2-day workshop (20-30 June) conducted with civil society of Banke.
- Entry points created with :
  - Civil Society women's groups
  - Media
  - Women leaders of political parties.
- Mini retreat for PBRU/PPP staff and senior facilitators on 8<sup>th</sup> May, to identify the issues that could be addressed through dialogue in short, medium and longer-term basis. The second round of retreat was organized on 22 June to plan for the changed context.
- The Steering Committee (SC) comprised of senior representatives of political parties and civil society continues to engage with the project in an advisory capacity.

##### **Technical support and application of skills to specific issues (output 1 and 2):**

- Follow-up consultations with political party and youth wings of Dhanusha.
- 5 TOT graduates from Nepalgunj have conducted 2-day media workshop with local media workers and are preparing for the bigger event on dialogue in Q3 and Q4.
- 5 TOT graduates from partner NGO are continually working closely with the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) to design and implement a dialogic approach to Focus Group Discussions (FGD) aimed at enhancing women's access to Justice. The graduates FGD, conduct refresher training to the staff and conduct district level meetings in dialogical format.

##### **Media related activities (Output 4):**

- 24 episodes of radio talk programmes targeting eastern and western region currently being aired
- 12 episodes of a radio magazine to promote dialogue is currently being aired
- 2 five minutes documentaries on CLD is currently being developed
- A longer term media strategy to foster a public culture of collaborative dialogue is currently being developed

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

### UNPFN PRIORITY CLUSTER : *Elections/Governance/Mediation*

**Intermediate Objective:** Assistance, where appropriate, to Government efforts to restore government in the countryside on an urgent basis, and specifically in those instances where UN support is seen by the parties as a direct aid to the peace process or local reconciliation, with efforts conducted in such a fashion as to contribute to strengthened long-term government capacity

**(if applicable) UNPBF PMP Result: NA**

**Indicator: NA**

Strategic Outcome	Contributing Outputs	Verifiable Indicators	Baseline (by year)	Milestones and Target 2011-2012	Current / Final Status (June 2012)
Political, civil society and governmental actors have helped prevent conflict and consolidate the peace through developing, applying and sustaining capacities of collaborative leadership, dialogue and conflict sensitivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local level leaders (civil society, political and governmental) have prevented and mitigated conflict/tension and established/implemented joint socio-political and developmental visions, programmes and agendas through dialogue</li> <li>National level leaders (civil society, political and governmental) have collaboratively established and implemented policies, programmes and shared agendas on critical issues to consolidate the peace and prevent conflict</li> <li>Policies and programmes developed and implemented by national institutions to foster collaborative approaches to decision making</li> <li>Public culture of collaborative dialogue fostered through media</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i># of leaders that operate with dialogue as a preferred leadership skill set (political, government and civil society)</i></li> <li><i># of trainers and facilitators developed at the national and local levels that are able to apply skills to specific issues</i></li> <li><i># systems/ mechanisms established and/or supported that links leaders and facilitators to key strategic issues to mitigate tensions and conflicts</i></li> <li><i># of institutions/ organizations supported to promote and apply CLD in specific thematic areas</i></li> </ol>	<i>Assessment and mapping of existing collaborative capacities at the local levels as a basis of an initial baseline; A more concrete baseline being developed.</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>300 leaders exposed to dialogue as a leadership skill set</i></li> <li><i>40 trainers/ facilitators developed on CLD</i></li> <li><i>2 local level institution supported to promote and apply CLD</i></li> <li><i>Capacity of key government institutions developed</i></li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>298 leaders from political, civic and government have been exposed to CLD and have been through 3 day workshops on dialogue</i></li> <li><i>32 of trainers and facilitators developed at the national and local levels that are able to apply skills to specific issues</i></li> <li><i>4 human rights organizations in Banke supported to apply CLD to issues related to service delivery, security and peace.</i></li> <li><i>7 political parties at the central level, 22 political parties at the local levels, 10 youth wings of political parties, 10</i></li> </ol>

		<p>5. # Media strategy developed and implemented to promote a culture of dialogue</p>		<p>5. Media strategy developed and implemented</p> <p>6. # of systems/mechanisms established and/or supported that links leaders and facilitators to key strategic issues to mitigate tensions and conflicts</p>	<p>student wings of political parties,</p> <p>5 government agencies have been through CLD workshops raising awareness and enhancing dialogue skills.</p> <p>5. Search for Common Ground hired to develop a media strategy; 24 episodes of radio talk shows and 12 episodes of radio magazine developed and currently being aired; 2 five minute documentaries being developed.</p> <p>6. Senior facilitation capacity built and on stand-by roster for engagement</p>
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