**RUNO END PF PROJECT REPORTING TEMPLATE 4.5**

 

**PEACEBUILDING FUND (PBF)**

**END OF PROJECT report**

**COUNTRY:** Nepal

**REPORTING PERIOD:** December 2014 - September 2016

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Programme Title & Project Number |  |
| Programme Title: Empowering Women 4 Women (W4W): Access to Land for Sustainable Peace in Nepal Programme Number *(if applicable)* MPTF Office Project Reference Number:[[1]](#footnote-1)PBF/ IRF-107 |  |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Recipient UN Organizations |  | Implementing Partners |
| List the organizations that have received direct funding from the MPTF Office under this programme:  - International Organization for Migration (IOM) - United Nations Development Program (UNDP) - United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN- Habitat)  | List the national counterparts (government, private, NGOs & others) and other International Organizations:  -Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR) - Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare (MoWCSW) - Ministry of Land Reform and Management (MoLRM) - Community Self Reliance Centre ( CSRC) - Saathi - Nepal Mahila Ekata Samak- DIstrict Land Rights Forum  |
| Programme/Project Budget (US$) |  | Programme Duration |
| PBF contribution (by RUNO) $ 1, 000,000.60UNDP= $ 248, 764.30UN Habitat= $ 251, 118. 30IOM= $ 500, 118.00  |  |  | Overall Duration *(months)* 21 months  |  |
|  | Start Date[[2]](#footnote-2) *(dd.mm.yyyy)* 19 / 12/ 2014 |  |
| Government Contribution*(if applicable)* |  |  | Original End Date*[[3]](#footnote-3)* *(dd.mm.yyyy)* | 9/ 06/ 2016 |
| Other Contributions (donors)*(if applicable)* |  |  | Final End date[[4]](#footnote-4)*(dd.mm.yyyy)* 18/ 09/ 2016 |  |
| TOTAL: |  1, 000,000.60 |  |  |  |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval. |  | Report Submitted By |
| Mid-Term Evaluation / Review - if applicable *please attach*[x]  Yes [ ]  No Date: March 2016End of project Evaluation*– if applicable please attach*[x]  Yes [ ]  No Date: September 2016 | Name: Paul I. Norton Title: Chief of Mission Participating Organization (Lead): International Organization for Migration Email address: pinorton@iom.int |

**PART 1 – RESULTS PROGRESS**

* 1. **Assessment of the project implementation status and results**

**For PRF projects, please identify Priority Plan outcome and indicators to which this project has contributed:**

|  |
| --- |
| ***Priority Plan Outcome to which the project has contributed.*** Nepal's leaders are prepared to develop a national transition plan for implementation of land reform and property return.  |
| ***Priority Plan Outcome indicator(s) to which project has contributed.*** Confidence of political leaders that the commitments to land reform outlined in the CPA can be implemented peacefully through a participatory, fair and inclusive process (national level).  |

**For both IRF and PRF projects, please rate this project’s overall achievement of results to date:**

**For both IRF and PRF projects, outline progress against each project outcome, using the format below. The space in the template allows for up to four project outcomes.**

**Outcome Statement 1:** Policy makers (males and females) at the national level feel confident and committed to implement gender responsive land reform policies.

**Rate the current status of the outcome:**

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| --- | --- |
| Indicator 1:% of policy makers who agree gender responsiveness is prioritised in the land reform policies. Indicator 2:% of policy makers with high confidence that gender responsiveness land reform policies can be implemented peacefully through a participatory, fair and inclusive process. Indicator 3:# of action taken by the policy makers to implement gender responsive land reform policies.  | Baseline: 20% (6 out of 30) policy makers agree Target: : 50% of policymakers that agree gender responsiveness isprioritised in the land reform policiesProgress:33% i.e 10 political parties agreed to produce declaration on gender responsive land reform policies. Baseline: High confidence 23 % (7out of 30) policy makers have high confidence Target: 75% of policy makers with high confidence. Progress:50% male policy makers at national level and 83% male land stakeholders including political parties have been trained on gender and land issues and that they can deal with the issues through a participatory, fair and inclusive process. Baseline: 2 major actions taken during the assessment periodTarget: 3 actions taken to implement gender responsive land reform policy. Progress:5 political parties took action in preparing a gender responsive land position paper of the respective parties. These position papers will be a foundation for preparing the parties' manifestos during future elections.  |

**Output progress at the end of project**

*List the key outputs achieved under this Outcome (1000 character limit).Outputs are the immediate deliverables for a project.*

- Training module on 'Negotiation, Advocacy and Leadership' was developed. Based on the training module, the project trained 249 (76% F and 24% M) community leaders and Multi Stakeholder Land Dialogue Forum (MSLDF) members to enable them to influence land policies.

- MSLDF was formed in five regions with 158 members (65% F and 35% M) representing major political parties, civil society organizations, Local Peace Committees (LPCs), government agencies, conflict affected women’s group working on land and women's issues.

-Capacity development workshop on gender responsive land governance and conflict sensitive dialogue was conducted for 158 (65% F and 35%M) MSLDF members in five regions.

- Enhanced capacity of 34 (50% F) policymakers on gender responsive land policy and conflict sensitive dialogue to promote inclusive and gender responsive approaches while developing land policies.

- Developed a report on "Legislative provisions regulating women's access and ownership over land".

**Outcome progress at the end of project**

*Describe progress made toward the achievement of this outcome. This analysis should reflect the above indicator progress and the output achievement. Is there evidence of the outcome contributing to peacebuilding and to the specific conflict triggers (3000 character limit)?*

During the implementation of the "Catalytic Support on Land Issues Project", it was realised that the issues related to women's access to and ownership of land is an agenda of high importance that is often neglected. Women are the ones who are not only far behind in relation to equal access and ownership over land and property but also in land related discussion, dialogue and policy making processes. Hence, the project was designed to bridge the gap between the affected communities, local women community leaders, political parties and government agencies including policy makers.

The project enhanced the capacity of 249 (76% F and 24% M) local women leaders and MSLDF members on "Advocacy, Leadership and Negotiation" skills. These MSLDF with 158 members (65% F and 35% M) were established in all five regions, which provided a platform and brought together a multitude of stakeholders who were able to voice their concerns on gender gap in relation to land and property ownership in the districts. Each regional MSLDF and Land Working Group at the centre was used to sensitize and join efforts and willingness of both male and female policy makers in ensuring a gender responsive land reform process and policies. The project provided technical support to policy makers to identify key gender gaps in land policies and prioritise measures to address these gaps. To complement the above mentioned activity, a study was conducted and a report on "Legislative Provisions Regulating Women's Access and Ownership of Land and Property in Nepal" was published out of the study. This study has identified a number of loopholes and gaps in the existing legal framework that have implications over women's access and ownership over land and property. The report also provides a set of recommendations to the Government of Nepal and policy makers to address the identified gaps. A series of district and national level events were organized to share the findings and raise awareness among stakeholders about the progressive provisions and existing gaps which was attended by 343 (65% F and 35%M) persons including policy makers,affected communities, political leaders, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and government agencies, among others. Besides this, regular dialogue programs,convened as a part of MSLDF, also provided an opportunity to various vulnerable groups including landless women and men, families of conflict victims including single women, Mushahar and Bote (landless fishing communities) to express their grievances and problems in a peaceful environment.

While addressing one of the root causes of conflict, this project has contributed to developing a common understanding among communities, government agencies, political parties and policy makers that women's inclusion and participation in land policy dialogue and debates is a must for sustainable peace in Nepal and that the policy makers are willing to implement gender responsive land policies and processes.

**Reasons for low achievement and rectifying measures**

*If sufficient progress was not made, what were the key reasons, bottlenecks and challenges? Were these foreseen in the risk matrix? How were they addressed (1500 character limit)?*

**Outcome Statement 2:** National and Regional Level Land Discussion Forum are inclusive and gender- responsive.

**Rate the current status of the outcome:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Indicator 1:# of gender responsive agenda topics. Indicator 2:# of actions taken to advocate gender responsive decisions. Indicator 3:# of case demonstarting consensus among land discussion forums.  | Baseline: 3 gender responsive agendas (Rights of women farmer, Joint Land ownership, meaningful participation of women in decision making process)Target: 18 gender responsiveagenda topics Progress:20 gender responsiveagenda topics have been prioritised. Baseline: NoneTarget: 2 action taken to advocate gender responsive decisionsProgress:Actions taken by the members of MSLDF in the regions have been documented in the report titled 'Good Practices and Initiations at Regional and District Level forGender-Responsive Land Governance, Women’s Ownership,Policy Negotiation and Tenure Rights. Baseline: None Target: 2 cases demonstrating consensus among land discussion forumsProgress:The political leaders along with land stakeholders have identified and acknowledged a number of women, land and property related issues during dialogue events on “Land Issues: Gender Perspective in Changing Context” and “Land Issues in Post Disaster Context and its Consequences to Women”. |

**Output progress at the end of project**

*List the key outputs achieved under this Outcome (1000 character limit).Outputs are the immediate deliverables for a project.*

-Through out the project period,18 dialogues were conducted by MSLDF in five regions on different land and gender themes.

-Policy makers and land stakeholders had constructive interactions to analyse land policy and identify gaps through gender lenses as well as to explore ways forward.

-The project organized two inter-regional land workshops to enable the exchange of experiences, fruitful discussions and to develop a set of strategic recommendations on land reform policies.

-Organized four consultative workshops with five major political parties, including Madhes-based parties and CPN-UML for developing their gender responsive land position papers.

-Convened four separate consultation meetings with the members of the parliament and political leaders for developing a draft declaration of commitment on gender responsive land policy to be endorsed by 10 major political parties. A framework of the declaration of commitment has been developed out of these consultative meetings.

**Outcome progress at the end of project**

*Describe progress made toward the achievement of this outcome. This analysis should reflect the above indicator progress and the output achievement. Is there evidence of the outcome contributing to peacebuilding and to the specific conflict triggers (3000 character limit)?*

This project ensured that special emphasis is given not only in sensitizing communities regarding the importance of securing women's rights to land and property but also to policy makers, both male and female, to be sensitive about the inclusion of women in the debates as well as in the design and promulgation of land policies. This is the first project to address the nexus of land, property and women through peacebuilding lenses. A series of dialogues and bilateral meetings combined with capacity enhancement trainings, sensitization and awareness programs contributed to keep the momemtum of the initiative going among the policy makers and political leaders. The project also supported to draft strategic recommendations to policy makers to develop gender responsive land policy and programmes, based on land and gender related issues identified in all five regions. Policy makers and political leaders have acknowledged that women's access to ownership and control over poverty is a matter of concern, and that addressing it is an intergral part of long term peace.

The political parties also showed interest in developing gender responsive land position paper and that the project provided techncial support to the political parties namely Madhesh-based parties (Terai Madhes Loktantrik Party, Sadbhawana Party and Federal Socialist Party), Nepali Congress, CPN (Maoist-Center) and Communist Party of Nepal- Unified Marxist Leninist (CPN-UML) to develop their position papers. The objective of these position papers is to reflect the ideology of the parties on land issues. The position paper will thus fursnish an important foundation for advocating for the resolution of identified land issues through gender lenses. In addition, it will also act as a foundation while drafting the parties’ manifestos in the future.

Besides, the project has made a significant contribution in getting the political leaders and policy makers in the same table initiating the discussion regarding the "Declaration of Commitment on Gender Responsive Land Policies". Recognizing its importance, the project conducted a series of bilateral meetings and discussions with the leaders of political parties and supported them draft a commitment paper. An event signing the 'Declaration of Commitment' was scheduled in the month of September. However, the event was postponed at the very last minute as one of the peasant wings of a major political party voiced reservation and requested for more time for further consultations. Even after the completion of the project period, the project is continuosly engaging with the political parties regarding the 'Declaration of Commitment' for fomulation of gender responsive land policies in the future.

**Reasons for low achievement and rectifying measures**

*If sufficient progress was not made, what were the key reasons, bottlenecks and challenges? Were these foreseen in the risk matrix? How were they addressed (1500 character limit)?*

As mentioned above, an event signing the "Declaration of Commitment on Gender Responsive Land Policies" was scheduled for the month of September. However, the event was postponed at the very last minute as one of the peasant wings of a major political party voiced reservation and requested more time for further consultations, which was not foreseen in the risk matrix. The project being conflict sensitive decided to defer the event as it was not considered pragmatic to conduct the event and leave out one of the major political parties. UNDP is continuosly engaging with the political leaders and policy makers even after the end of the project period and the parties have now mutually agreed to hold the event in the month of December to mark the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. This event will be a big achievement in relation to land issues and will act as a building block for future gender responsive land reform in Nepal.

**Outcome Statement 3:** Improved national process and mechanisms enhance access of vulnerable groups to land tenure and ownership.

**Rate the current status of the outcome:**

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| --- | --- |
| Indicator 1:# of institutions at central and district level took any actions to ensure access of vulnerable people to land ownership.Indicator 2:National process and mechanisms strengthened to enhance access of vulnerable groups to land tenure and ownership.Indicator 3:      | Baseline: Central level-none, District level: none Target: At least 3 institutions including central and district level took action Progress:A study on "Barriers to Women’s Land and Property Access and Ownership in Nepal" analyzing significant barriers that women in Nepal are facing in accessing land and property was developed. In addition, report also provides a set of recommendations to the Government as well as to the Community Based Organization to address the identified barriers.Besides this, Gender Evaluation Criteria (GEC) was used to conduct a study on land transaction service delivery and land registration process at the land offices and a set of recommendations has been provided to the government to ensure access to vulnerable people to land ownership. Baseline: No revision Target: Integration of SOLA with a new module and Land Tools in placeProgress:A new module ProGRess has been developed. Also, Social Tenure Domain Module (STDM) model was used to customize land tools for Identification, Verification and Registration of informal land tenure. The module was developed out of the consultations, training and validation workshops which was attended by 131F and 256M stakeholders.Baseline:      Target:      Progress:      |

**Output progress at the end of project**

*List the key outputs achieved under this Outcome (1000 character limit).Outputs are the immediate deliverables for a project.*

- A report on "Barriers to Women’s Land and Property Access and Ownership in Nepal" is developed out of the study conducted in the three project districts.

- The project trained 17F and 19M at national level and 30F and 72M at district level on Pro-poor Gender Responsive Land Governance & Gender Evaluation Criteria (GEC).

-Conducted orientation workshops of ProGResS & Social Tenure Domain Module (STDM) at project districts. 29F and 33M were trained.

-Conducted workshop meetings with high level executives on SOLA & ProGResS Module with GoN/MoLRM at the central level.

-Contucted a series of validation workshops on STDM & ProGResS and GEC land tools in the 3 districts.

-Organized workshop on "Security of Tenure & Access to Land for Housing & Resettlement of Vulnerable Families Post 2015 Gorkha Earthquake.

-Developed STDM and ProGResS user manual

- Developed reports with recommendations for reforming land transaction service delivery & customization of land registration processes.

**Outcome progress at the end of project**

*Describe progress made toward the achievement of this outcome. This analysis should reflect the above indicator progress and the output achievement. Is there evidence of the outcome contributing to peacebuilding and to the specific conflict triggers (3000 character limit)?*

Statistics show that only in 19.7 per cent of the total households, women have ownership over land and property in Nepal. In the absence of a certificate of ownership of land, women are perceived as homeworkers by the Government of Nepal and not as farmers, underscoring their contribution to the national economy. Insecurity and difficult access to land ownership have proven to fuel a viscous circle of pervasive poverty and local level conflicts in many situations in Nepal. Therefore, given the importance of securing women's rights to land, the project documented various sociocultural, structural, legal and administrative and institutional barriers that women are facing in accessing and owning land in the project districts, along with identifying the knowledge gaps among women. A report on "Barriers to Women's Land and Property Access and Ownership in Nepal" was developed out of the study. Findings of the study could support in formulation of appropriate policy aimed at overcoming those barriers faced by women in accessing, using and controlling land in Nepal.

Till date, no assessments were conducted to analyze if the Government processes being followed at the land offices are gender responsive. This project used Gender Evaluation Criteria (GEC) to conduct a study on land transaction service delivery and land registration process. The study includes recommendations which if implemented would support gender responsive land governance in Nepal. Besides this, ProGResS module caters for acquiring and recording gender disintegrated land related data of single women, vulnerable women, conflict affected women, among others. Likewise, STDM Model was used to design and customize land tool for Identification, Verification and Recordation (IVR) of informal land tenure to support pro poor and gender responsive land governance. Trainings were conducted on developed software and GLTN/GEC tools to support propoor and gender-responsive land administrataion at national and district level as well as to sensitize multi-stakeholders that included representatives from Land Administration Offices, NGOs, CBOs, and social leaders at community level. The final reports with recommendations to improve land governance was handed over to the government agencies. Thus by addressing the root cause of conflict, the project contributed towards peacebuilding and mitigating potential causes of future conflict around land issues.

**Reasons for low achievement and rectifying measures**

*If sufficient progress was not made, what were the key reasons, bottlenecks and challenges? Were these foreseen in the risk matrix? How were they addressed (1500 character limit)?*

**Outcome Statement 4:**

**Rate the current status of the outcome:**

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| --- | --- |
| Indicator 1:     Indicator 2:     Indicator 3:      | Baseline:      Target:      Progress:     Baseline:      Target:      Progress:     Baseline:      Target:      Progress:      |

**Output progress at the end of project**

*List the key outputs achieved under this Outcome (1000 character limit).Outputs are the immediate deliverables for a project.*

**Outcome progress at the end of project**

*Describe progress made toward the achievement of this outcome. This analysis should reflect the above indicator progress and the output achievement. Is there evidence of the outcome contributing to peacebuilding and to the specific conflict triggers (3000 character limit)?*

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**Reasons for low achievement and rectifying measures**

*If sufficient progress was not made, what were the key reasons, bottlenecks and challenges? Were these foreseen in the risk matrix? How were they addressed (1500 character limit)?*

* 1. **Assessment of project evidence base, risk, catalytic effects, gender at the end of the project**

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| --- | --- |
| Evidence base: What was the evidence base for this report and for project progress? What consultation/validation process has taken place on this report *(1000 character limit)?* | The project worked in close coordination with the affected communities in the districts, political parties, policy makers, district level agencies and the Ministries. It was ensured that the project documents are developed out of consultative and participatory processes. After the development of project deliverables including ProGResS software & user manual, STDM & user manual, customization of land registration process and reforming land transaction service delivery document and study reports, among others, validations workshops were conducted both at central and district level. In addition, a series of consultation programs were conducted in the project districts for the development of infographics and Public Service Announcement for promotion of women's rights to land and property. The project also conducted regular field visits to the project districts. Besides this, monthly, semi- annual and annual reports were developed and shared with donors and the Ministries. |
| Funding gaps: Did the project fill critical funding gaps in peacebuilding in the country? Briefly describe. *(1500 character limit)* | This project has successfully set an example of joint partnership of UN agencies. The three agencies with different expertise came together to address the issue of land, women and peacebuilding in a holistic manner. There have been very few efforts in the past to deal with the nexus of land, women and peacebuilding, one that looks into gender responsive land policies to barriers that women are facing to access ownership and control over property despite the progressive policies. In addition, there was no participation of women in debates and policy formulation in relation to land reform and there was a lack of tools to assess if the developed policies are gender responsive and pro-poor. This project has been successful in minimizing this gap and helped to promote women's land and property rights in Nepal while addressing one of the root causes of conflict with sensitivity and neutrality. |
| Catalytic effects: Did the project achieve any catalytic effects, either through attracting additional funding commitments or creating immediate conditions to unblock/ accelerate peace relevant processes? Briefly describe. *(1500 character limit)* | The project was successful in sensitizing the members of the MSLDF in all five development regions to the extent that they initiated their own activities for the promotion of women's land and property rights. These members of MSLDF have been exerting pressure on local service providers for gender responsive services; conducting advocacy on joint land ownership programme and resolving land related disputes in their communities. The MSLDF of each region participated in the exit workshops organized by project and they have developed strategies to continue the momentum initiated by the project. Besides this, the pro-poor gender responsive GLTN tools adopted during the project namely STDM and Continuum principles have the potential to prevent encroachment and resolve informal settlement issues. In addition, MoLRM and NRA have shown interest to apply Fit for Purpose Land Administration and other GLTN tools to address land provisions of the Constitution 2015 and post earthquake recovery and reconstruction.  |
| Risk taking/ innovation: Did the project support any innovative or risky activities to achieve peacebuilding results? What were they and what was the result? *(1500 character limit)* | Land issues are multifaceted and have been identified as a prime source of micro level conflict in Nepal. The 2015 Earthquake in Nepal has further complicated the situation and amplified the already existing land issues in the country. The project supported GoN and Nepal Reconstruction Authority (NRA) in considering Identification Verification and Registration (IVR) of pro-poor and gender-responsive land tenure based on Continuum of Land Rights principles in post-Earthquake recovery/ reconstruction, which were reflected in different NRA guidelines. |
| Gender marker: How have gender considerations been mainstreamed in the project to the extent possible? Is the original gender marker for the project still the right one? Briefly justify. *(1500 character limit)* | Since W4W is a gender marker 3 project, gender equality is the principle objective of the project. In relation to the members of the MSLDF, the project ensured that at least 60 per cent of the members are female. From a peacebuilding perspective, this is the first project to ensure systematic inclusion of women in decision making and political processes in relation to land and property. The project was successful in bringing the neglected agenda of women’s rights to land and property on the table and ensuring that it is taken seriously by political parties, policy makers, government agencies, communities and NGOs, among others. Besides this, the project also extended support to two political parties namely CPN-UML and Madhesh based parties to develop their gender responsive land position paper.  In addition, the project has developed ProGResS software which helps in generating gender disaggregated data which is lacking in land administrative record in Nepal. Similarly, two land tools more specifically, land registration process and land transaction service delivery were reviewed using GEC methods. The training on GEC was also provided to multi-stakeholders including government staff to enhance capacity of the government staff to analyze existing land tools from gender lenses.  |
| Other issues: Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that should be shared with PBSO? This can include any cross-cutting issues or other issues which have not been included in the report so far. *(1500 character limit)* | The project lobbied for GLTN country level engagement in Nepal. This country level engagement is to ensure continuity of land discourses even after the project period and support the implementation of pro- poor and gender responsive land governance.The project has also published a report analyzing the microdynamics of local level land conflicts in the three project districts. The report classifies local level land conflicts into different categories, namely political, socioeconomic, and legal or administrative. In addition to an overview of land dispute resolution mechanisms available in Nepal, the report also identifies limitations of these mechanisms in resolving these conflicts. The report is available at: https://publications.iom.int/books/barriers-womens-land-and-property-access-and-ownership-nepal In addition, the project also finalised and published Land Terminology, a glossary of techncial terms related to land issues. Development of this land glossary was initiated through the previous Catalytic Support on Land Issues Project.  |

**PART 2: LESSONS LEARNED AND SUCCESS STORY**

**2.1 Lessons learned**

*Provide at least three key lessons learned from the implementation of the project. These can include lessons on the themes supported by the project or the project processes and management.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Lesson 1 *(1000 character limit)* | Stakeholders are facing multiple problems in the field of land governance. Lack of land tools and adequate knowledge is hidering smooth resolution of these problems. In addition to advocacy and capacity building trainings, the project customized and introduced land tools to address the problems of land governance. This approach worked effectively as the project not only limited itself in identifying the problems but also developed tools to resolve them. Some of the tools developed by the project are being used by stakeholders namely Lumanti, a NGO. It is using Gender Evaluation Ceriteria tool, developed by the project to ensure its activities are pro-poor and gender responsive. Similarly, Nawalparasi District Forest Office found STDM tools appropriate to deal with the situation where they have no information and necessary methodology for Identification, Verification and Registration of informal settler, who have been living in the forest areas for more than a decade.  |
| Lesson 2 *(1000 character limit)* | Engaging with a wide range of stakeholders helps a project to have a significant result. The project not only engaged with the local organizations working on land rights but also with organizations working on women's rights issues. Land is usually considered a technical issue and not many organizations working on women's rights realize that gender inequality when it comes to land and property is intimately related to women's poverty and exclusion. These organizations used to frame land and property related issues in a separate box. But this project was able to generate a level of awareness that women's rights to land and property are universal human rights and that there is a positive correlation between ensuring women's rights to land and property and improved household welfare, better access to financial resources and civil and political rights. Now days, these organizations also incorporate the agenda of women's land and property rights while advocating for equal rights of women.  |
| Lesson 3 *(1000 character limit)*  | The project realized that there is no one size-fits-all solution for promotion of women's land and property rights in Nepal. Continued efforts are needed for amendment of gender discriminatory policies and laws and effective implementation of existing legislation. In addition, there has to be a continuous outreach to ensure people are aware of their entitlements. Usually, there is no or minimum outreach by the Government of Nepal to promote tenure security of women and other vulnerable group on land and property, hence, these provisions are accessed only by a small group of people. Realizing this gap, the project developed a range an outreach materials including audio and video PSA, infographics highlighting the existing situation of women's ownership of land and property, brochure including the progressive provisions of the government. These materials have been distributed to other organizations to ensure continuity of momentum and sustainability of knowledge created by the project.  |
| Lesson 4 *(1000 character limit)* |       |
| Lesson 5 *(1000 character limit)* |       |

**2.2 Success story (OPTIONAL)**

*Provide one success story from the project implementation which can be shared on the PBSO website and Newsletter as well as the Annual Report on Fund performance. Please include key facts and figures and any citations (3000 character limit).*

During one of the trainings on ‘Negotiation, Advocacy and Leadership’ for women community leaders in the district of Surkhet, the project team met with Shital Singh Rathore, as she was one of the participants. Shital is a single woman and has been advocating for single women’s issues, including bringing a change in traditional stereotypes and mindsets that keep single women from participating in decision-making process and accessing resources. The aim of the training was to enhance the skills of women community leaders to engage in land related discussions and enable them to influence law and policy decisions to guarantee women’s equal rights and access to land.

On that day, Shital was coincidentally in the process of buying a plot of land. On the second day of the training, she requested if she could leave early to wrap up her pending work at the District Revenue Office (DRO) in Surkhet. Just when she was about to leave for the DRO, she was informed about the various provisions under the current legislation, more specifically the ‘Financial Bill 2015/16’. She was given information regarding the provision of 35 per cent tax exemption on land registration for single women, which she had never heard of earlier.

She then later visited the Land Revenue Office to register the plot of land. There, she was told that since she is a woman she would get 25 per cent tax exemption and not 35 per cent. She challenged the officer and asked him to go through the Financial Bill 2015/16, which clearly stated the 35 per cent tax exemption for single women. When asked for a supporting document to prove that she is a single woman, she submitted a copy of the card with records of social security allowance that she has been receiving from the Government as a single woman. Because she knew about her rights, she was successful in negotiating her entitlements with the officer and became the first single woman of the district of Surkhet to receive 35 per cent tax exemption on land registration.

Shital beamed with pride for being successful in negotiating her rights and applying the techniques that she just learnt in the training. “ If it’s not because of the training, I may not have been successful in my negotiation and gone through all the processes in buying the land. On the one hand, I strongly believe that the training also helped in enhancing my leadership skills and equipped us with tools and techniques to conduct effective advocacy. It also raised awareness about women’s rights to land, and the benefits that we are entitled to. I will ensure that all women in the district are also made aware of such provisions from the Nepal’s government. I will do my very best to promote women’s rights to land in Surkhet”, said Shital.

Shital’s story shows that even when there’s a law that protects women’s land rights, without a proper outreach strategy, many of the women in Nepal are not aware of their rights.

**PART 3 *–* FINANCIAL PROGRESS AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

* 1. **Comments on the overall state of financial expenditure**

*Please rate whether project financial expenditures were on track, slightly delayed, or off track:*

If expenditure was delayed or off track, please provide a brief explanation (500 characters maximum):

Please provide an overview of project expensed budget by outcome and output as per the table below.[[5]](#footnote-5)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Output number | Output name | RUNOs | Approved budget | Expensed budget | Any remarks on expenditure |
| Outcome 1: Policy-makers (males and females) at national level feel confident and committed to implement gender-responsive land reform policies. |
| Output 1.1 | Enhanced skills of women leaders at the district level to advocate on land issues. | UNDPIOM  | 43,500.0093, 697 | 43,450.0095,907.45 |       |
| Output 1.2 | Enhanced understanding of male policy-makers national and regional level for gender-responsive land reform policies | UNDPIOM  | 28,500.0069, 980 | 29,400.0050,299.05 |       |
| Output 1.3 |       |       |       |       |       |
| Outcome 2: National and Regional level land discussion forums are inclusive and gender-responsive |
| Output 2.1 | Revision of key policies and procedures initiated for gender perspectives.  | UNDPIOM  | 162,11973,766 | 159,369.0071,124.73 |       |
| Output 2.2 | Political Parties agreed on a Declaration of Good-Will on gender-responsive land reform.  | UNDPIOM  | 14, 64578, 096 | 16,54561,272.15 |       |
| Output 2.3 |       |       |       |       |       |
| Outcome 3: Improved national process and mechanisms enhance access of vulnerable groups to land tenure and ownership.  |
| Output 3.1 | Obstacles faced by women in accessing land tenure and ownership identified through a participatory assessment and recommendation provided to the GoN. | IOM | 184, 579 |  209, 928.59  |       |
| Output 3.2 | Solution for Open Land Administration (SOLA) system piloted with new module on gender and vulnerable groups | UN Habitat  | 140,550 | 117,018 |       |
| Output 3.3 | Land tools to reinforce rights of women and vulnerable groups developed and handed over to the GoN | UN Habitat  | 110, 568 | 95,743 |       |
| Outcome 4:       |
| Output 4.1 |       |       |       |       |       |
| Output 4.2 |       |       |       |       |       |
| Output 4.3 |       |       |       |       |       |
| Total |  |  | 1,000,000 | 950,056.97 |       |

* 1. **Comments on management and implementation arrangements**

*Please comment on the management and implementation arrangements for the project, such as: the effectiveness of the implementation partnerships, coordination/coherence with other projects, any South-South cooperation, the modalities of support, any capacity building aspect, the use of partner country systems if any, the support by the PBF Secretariat and oversight by the Joint Steering Committee (for PRF only). Please also mention if there have been any changes to the project (what kind and when)* (2000 character maximum):

As highlighted in the mid-term assessment and final evaluation report, one of the strengths of the project is that it was implemented by three different UN agencies with varied expertise. This provided a unique and strong edge to the project to bring meaningful change in the land policies from a gender perspective. The project was also able to develop a strong relationship with the three ministries namely the Ministry of Land Reform and Management, Peace and Reconstruction and Women, Children and Social Welfare at the local level and local government institutions in the project districts including Land Reform Offices, Land Revenue, Survey Offices, Women and Children Offices and Local Peace Committees, among others. Besides this, the project successfully bridged the gap between communities, government agencies and political parties and policy makers. The project also made an effort to collect land related issues of all five regions that needs to be addressed through gender lenses. The project also worked closely with the Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) working on land and women related issues to develop common positions, grow synergies between agencies to have a repercussion effect in relation to women's access to ownership and control over land and property in Nepal.

1. The MPTF Office Project Reference Number is the same number as the one on the Notification message. It is also referred to “Project ID” on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](http://mdtf.undp.org) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The start date is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the MPTF Office as Administrative Agent. Transfer date is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](http://mdtf.undp.org/) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. As per approval of the original project document by the relevant decision-making body/Steering Committee. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. If there has been an extension, then the revised, approved end date should be reflected here. If there has been no extension approved, then the current end date is the same as the original end date. The end date is the same as the operational closure date which is when all activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved MPTF / JP have been completed. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Please note that financial information is preliminary pending submission of annual financial report to the Administrative Agent. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)