



## Project Status Update For the period of January-June, 2014

### 1. Project Information

<b>Project Title:</b>		<b>Project Numbers:</b>	
Support to the Rehabilitation of Verified Minors and Late Recruits (United Nations Interagency Rehabilitation Programme (UNIRP))		<b>UNPFN / PBF:</b>	UNPFN/A7
		<b>MPTF Office:</b>	UNPFN/A-7
<b>Name of PUNO(s):</b>		<b>PBF Result (if applicable):</b>	
UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, ILO (ILO component ended in May 2012, and UNFPA in Jan 2013)		N/A	
<b>Primary Project Contact Person:</b>		<b>UNPFN Funding Round Strategic Outcome(s):</b>	
Name and Designation: <b>Abdul Hameed Omar</b> <b>Programme Manager, UNIRP</b> Agency and Address: UNDP Nepal, Hariharbhawan Pulchowk, Lalitpur Telephone:01-5523200, ext: 1520 Email:hameed.omar@undp.org		The Government of Nepal and Maoist Army have the capacity to meet the CPA and AMMAA commitments for the cantonment, discharge, integration and rehabilitation of the Maoist army.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR)</li> </ul>		<b>UNPFN Cluster:</b>	
		A: Cantonments/Reintegration	
<b>National Partners(s):</b>		<b>NPTF Cluster:</b>	
		1: Cantonments Management and I/R of Combatants 2:	
<b>Total UNPFN Funding:</b>	US\$ 11,851,717.00	<b>Project Start Date:</b>	01/06/2010
<b>BCPR UNDP:</b>	693,000.00	<b>Original End Date:</b>	31/05/2012
<b>Funds spent to-date by the project:</b>	US\$ 11,270,418.00	<b>Revised End Date (if applicable):</b>	31/08/ 2015
<b>Funds spent as percentage of budget:</b>	95 percent	<b>Total Project Duration:</b>	55months

### 2. Project Executive Summary

Following a decade of violent conflict in Nepal that ended in 2006 and cost an estimated 17,000 lives, through collaborative interagency efforts, a context-specific UN Interagency Rehabilitation Programme (UNIRP) was launched in June 2010, to assist in the socio-economic rehabilitation of the 4008 discharged Verified Minors and Late Recruits (VMLR) from the Maoist cantonments. The programme aimed to contribute to Nepal's peacebuilding process in accordance with the Comprehensive Peace Accord (CPA) and Agreement on Monitoring of the Management of Arms and Armies (AMMAA). To advance the AMMAA, the PLA and their weapons were cantoned at seven main sites and 21 satellite camps across the country. An Action Plan was finalized on December 16, 2009 by the Government of Nepal (GoN) and the United Communist Party Nepal-Maoist (UCPN-M), which allowed the official discharge of the VMLR and the socio-economic rehabilitation process to proceed through the UNIRP.

To facilitate these efforts, UNIRP provided four sectoral rehabilitation options to the VMLR: vocational skills training (VST), micro-enterprise development (ME), education (ED), and health-related training. The programme was complemented with cross-cutting services, such as gender-specific, health, and psychosocial support as well as individual career counselling, business mentoring, community-based peace building activities, job placement support, and life-skills training.

Originally scheduled to end in January 2013, UNIRP was extended until August 31, 2013 in order to provide follow-up services to 151 'late applicants' who had enrolled in the programme in September 2012. The education component under UNICEF will continue to support participants until Dec 2014.

At the request of the Government, in collaboration with Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR), and other stakeholders, UNIRP will now conduct a study on the Socio-economic Impact of the Return of Voluntary Retirees (VR) to Communities. While this is an independent study, the GoN is leading the initiative by supporting UNIRP. The findings will contribute to the best practices and lessons learned from Nepal's peace process and assist in the development of policy for similar initiatives in Nepal and other parts of the world.

The operational closure of the VMLR component of UNIRP concluded in 2013. The closing of the regional offices took place at the end of July 2013. However, some of the staff was retained to update personal profiles of the VMLR in the online system and carry out the closure of individual cases. They were also engaged in supporting the development of the VR study, which will conclude by August, 2014.

### 3. Overview of project results, achievements and challenges during this quarter

Project Outcome(s)	Progress delivered and/or challenges during the reporting period
1. VMLR were supported in their socio-economic rehabilitation.	The main programme activities under outcome 1 had concluded by mid-2013. UNIPR shifted its efforts on follow-ups which included telephonic conversations, mentoring training graduates and developing effective linkages with potential local and national level initiatives that would assist the VMLR for their smooth socio-economic rehabilitation. It also focused on developing linkages with other parallel programmes of the GoN, the Emergency Peace Support Program, Care International, EVENT, Helvetas Nepal, etc. who provide trainings to youth and conflict affected people
2. Communities were engaged in supporting the rehabilitation of VMLR participants.	Major programme activities under outcome 2 were concluded in 2013.

UNIRP published and disseminated four knowledge management documents (i.e. Gender Specific Support, Psychosocial Support, Towards a One UN and Conflict Sensitivity) and a newsletter in January 2014 and shared among key stakeholders.

The programme conducted a preparatory phase of the study on the Socio-economic Impact of the Return of Voluntary Retirees (VR) to Communities in the reporting period, which included a series of consultation meetings with the MoPR, Royal Norwegian Embassy, GIZ and UNDP senior management to agree on the study design, study methodology, study instruments and the study modality including a thorough risk assessment of the VR study. Further, an initial draft copy the concept note – including study design-conceptual framework of the study, study methodology, study instruments (questionnaire both in English and Nepali), timeline of the study was prepared and presented to the MoPR, Royal Norwegian Embassy and GIZ. Among others, trainings kits was developed and training workshop for the enumerators was also conducted.

#### Project Management: key activities and/or challenges during this reporting period

The following are the key activities of this reporting period:

- Publication and dissemination of four Knowledge Management of Documents on: Gender Specific Support, Psychosocial Support, Towards a One UN, and Conflict Sensitivity;
- Publication and dissemination of UNIRP's final newsletter;
  - Preparation and submission of quarterly and annual reports to UNDP and UNPFN;
  - Preparation of all aspects of the study on the Socio-economic Impact of the Return of Voluntary Retirees to Communities – which included a series of consultation meetings with the key stakeholders to agree and clarify the focus and content on the design and development of the VR study -- preparation and presentation of a draft concept note, research methodology, study instruments (questionnaires both in English and Nepali), enumerators training package, etc. to key stakeholders;
- Successful follow ups, coordination and linkages with YSESEF and its member cooperatives for access to micro-credit services to the UNIRP graduates;
- Preparation for financial closure which included following up with UNDP headquarters regarding funds to be released from the closing of the unused purchase orders;
- Processing of the hand-over of civilian clothes to three NGOs;
- Data review and cleaning (case closure information) in DDR-IMS and website migration from UNIRP website: [www.unirp.org.np](http://www.unirp.org.np) to UNDP website: [www.np.undp.org/unirp](http://www.np.undp.org/unirp);
- Database server installation and set up for hand-over to MoPR; and
- Finalization of DDR-IMS technical document and user manual guideline.

## 4. Progress against key indicators in the UNPFN Results Framework

<b>PBF Level</b>			
<b>UNPBF PMP Result(s) (if applicable):</b>	N/A		
<b>UNPBF PMP Result Indicator(s) (if applicable):</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Current / Final Status</b>
...	...	...	...
<b>UNPFN Level</b>			
<b>UNPFN Strategic Outcome:</b>	The Government of Nepal and Maoist Army have the capacity to meet the CPA and AMMAA commitments for the cantonment, discharge, integration and rehabilitation of the Maoist army		
<b>Project Peace-Building Impact:</b>	The safe verification, discharge and reintegration of Maoist Combatants		
<b>Impact Indicator(s)</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Current / Final Status</b>
# of registered personnel verified as qualifying for cantonment in accordance with agreed criteria	0 out of 32,250 registered (Dec 2006)	19,602 legitimate personnel verified (Dec 2007)	Registration accomplished during Jan-Feb 2007
# of registered personnel verified as not qualifying for cantonment in accordance with agreed criteria	0 out of 32,250 registered (Dec 2006)	4008 verified as minors and late recruits (Dec 2007)	Verification accomplished during Jun-Dec 2010
Rapid commencement of discharge and rehabilitation activities further to final agreement on discharge	Agreement on discharge is signed on 16 Dec 2007	Timely start of the discharge process	A team of almost 60 UN personnel was deployed to Sindhuli cantonment on Jan 06, 2010.
% former combatants (VMLR) successfully discharged with UN support.	4,008 registered VMLR in Dec 2007	4008 of VMLR registered and discharged by 23 March 2010	The discharge process began on 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2010 and completed on 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2010
A timely offer and start of the rehabilitation assistance to discharged combatants	No rehabilitation programme (Dec 07)	Effective start date of the rehabilitation prog. (08 Jan 2010)	A toll-free line as first line of contact for VMLR & five regional offices were opened on 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2010 & closed in Aug 2011.
% of VMLR participating in the rehabilitation programmes offered by the UN (disaggregated by gender)	0% (2008) *100% of VMLR need rehabilitation support 40% of the 4,008 were absent during the discharge ceremony (discharge database 2011) *60% of the VMLR who were	50% of 4008 VMLR received rehabilitation support (June 2013) VMLR received rehabilitation support (May 2012)	2,234 <sup>1</sup> VMLR enrolled and supported for rehabilitation by end of June 2013

<sup>1</sup> It was previously reported 2231 had enrolled at UNIRP; however, this figure did not include 3 participants who had dropped out of the programme.

	absent during the discharge ceremony had gone for foreign employment. Therefore, the number of UNIRP caseloads in the country was 3,040. *30% of the VMLR participants are women & girls (2011)		
% of VMLR participants enrolled in rehabilitation	70% of VMLR participants come with psychosocial needs	50% of 4,008 VMLR with psychological needs benefited from psychosocial support	1,363 or 55 % of those counselled (2,477) were assessed by June 2013.
% of VMLR engaged in constructive livelihoods six months after the completion of the rehabilitation training (disaggregated by gender)	0% (2008)	70% <sup>2</sup> of 1759 VMLR who are employed after completion of training (June 2013)	1,280 or 73% out of 1,759 VMLR completed their training by the end of June 2013.
Communities perception of the local impact of the rehabilitation process	N/A	2.1 70% of communities positive (June 2013)	Peace-building activities ended in January 2013.
% of VMLR participants who report being rehabilitated in their families & communities without stigmatization	0% (2008)	50% of VMLR participants (June 2013)	3% living with friends, 30% living with parents, 27% living with spouse, 4% living with siblings/other relatives, 4% living alone and 32% unknown.
The UN provides and deploys quick and strategic assistance and support to the GoN	The UN is seen by the parties as a neutral and strategic partner to support the CPA and AMMAA commitments for the cantonment, discharge, and rehabilitation of the Maoist army (2007)	Provision by the UN Agencies of quick, neutral and technical assistance along the different steps of the cantonment, discharge, integration and rehabilitation of the Maoist army	Rapid deployment of UN registration team Upon request from Government of Nepal, winter clothing was procured and delivered to cantonment over a period of three months. It involved procurement of goods in China and their shipment to Nepal.  A UN Technical and Logistics Team of 60 staff hired, trained and deployed in less than two weeks to conduct the discharge of 4,008 Verified Minors and Late Recruits.  Regular coordination meeting with Special Committees (SC), MoPR and partner agencies. Provided technical assistance to MoPR and SC on integration and rehabilitation.
<b><u>Project Level</u></b>			

<sup>2</sup> This figure excludes 28 students enrolled in the education component of the program, which runs for a maximum of four years.

<b>OUTCOME 1: VMLR were supported in their socio-economic rehabilitation.</b> <u>Indicator</u> VMLR who have availed themselves of the individual rehabilitation packages, the % engaged constructively in the community six-months after the completion of the process.	<u>Baseline</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Current / Final Status</u>
<b>Output 1.1</b> - Individual rehabilitation option packages are prepared and made available to participants  # of packages ready to commence with Service Providers # of packages in each classification are sufficient to meet the agreed chosen option of participants after appropriate counselling # of training sessions for staff and service providers for analysis of regional labour/market conditions to ensure that training is tailored to meet local demand % of participants whose surveys are completed and analysed			No further development after 2013 report.
<b>Output 1.2</b> - Access to employment and livelihood opportunities promoted  # of opportunities listed in database disseminated to participants # of micro-loans offered to participants by MFIs # of participants find employment/ apprenticeship offers as result of referral # of national stakeholders, public & private consulted # of agreements regarding collaboration with national and international stakeholders # of consultations with donors on this issue # of opportunities identified through parallel projects # of opportunities created in the process and taken up by the VMLR Record of relevant data shared with parallel programs and initiatives # of meeting held at the local level to map opportunities # of referrals to Youth and Small Entrepreneurs Self Employment Fund and other opportunities to access credit schemes # of monitoring field missions conducted # of programme graduates who were tracked through field visits and face to face monitoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survey conducted</li> </ul> % participants being monitored			No further development after 2013 report.

<p><b>Output 1.3</b> - Project participants have received career and psychosocial counselling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Field-based counsellors provide advice to participants in tailoring the options available to their individual aspirations (existing UN field offices will be used wherever possible). (UNDP)</li> <li>• Provide career counselling and business mentoring</li> <li>• Provide psychosocial counselling</li> <li>• Community social workers, teachers and health workers are trained and provide psychosocial counselling to participants who request such support.</li> <li>• Address participant special needs within scope of the programme through identification and needs analysis</li> </ul>			<p>In Jan-June 2014, 7 (5F, 2M) participants have received specialized psychosocial support.</p>
<p><b>Output 1.4</b> - Special gender considerations regarding VMLR are prioritized</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing gender specific special needs as identified in consultation with individual discharges, through child care facilities and proactive, innovative and participative package design</li> <li>• Awareness building activities on reproductive health, women's rights, civic responsibility are linked with rehabilitation programme for women and girls</li> <li>• Informal women's networks of VMLR women and girls are supported through women's organisations, Paralegal Committees and women's federations</li> <li>• Monitoring and mentoring on case basis, ensuring that delivery is gender sensitive and that women have control of their own benefits</li> </ul>			<p>No further development after 2013 report.</p>
<p><b>Output 1.5</b> - Individual rehabilitation option packages are implemented</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education support: provide non-formal (i.e. bridging courses) and formal education opportunities</li> <li>• Continue support to education participants</li> <li>• Continue support to participants with special needs</li> <li>• Micro and Small-Enterprise Development: provide technical and business training for individuals who would like to start their own small business</li> <li>• Provide business promotional support to the micro-enterprise graduates</li> <li>• Assessment of the feasibility and risks of popular business ideas to enhance idea selection process</li> <li>• Vocational skills training: provide training in a range of vocational skills for individuals who seek self and wage employment opportunities</li> <li>• Provide enhanced livelihood training/ support for VST graduates</li> </ul>			<p>No further development after 2013 report.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health services training: provide training for individuals who wish to enter health-related vocational options</li> </ul>			
<p><b>OUTCOME 2: Communities were engaged in supporting the rehabilitation of VMLR participants.</b></p> <p><b>Indicator:</b> Communities perception of the local impact of the rehabilitation process and % of participants who report being rehabilitated with their families and communities without stigmatization</p>	<u>Baseline</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Current / Final Status</u>
<p><b>Output 2.1</b> - Public sensitization and information campaign designed and implemented</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of messages, mediums and IPs and implementation of a coherent and coordinated national campaign of dissemination</li> </ul>			No further development after 2013 report.
<p><b>Output 2.2</b> - Communities assisted in addressing socio-economic rehabilitation of VMLR through engagement in related capacity building projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sensitization programmes at regional, district and community levels to raise awareness and seek support to identify, protect and facilitate the rehabilitation of VMLR including CAAFAG.</li> <li>IPs brief participant family and community members, to explain the programme and emphasize the importance of supporting the reintegration of CAAFAG.</li> <li>Collaborative and participative community projects implemented by the community to support the rehabilitation process and community reconciliation (multi-agency, GoN, local government and civil society)</li> </ul>			No further development after 2013 report.
<p><b>Output 2.3</b> - Capacity strengthened for vocational training service providers to facilitate sustainable services to the broader community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capacity development in quality and labour market assessment skills of service providers for VT</li> <li>Survey with potential employers for establishing post training options for placing trainees into jobs</li> <li>Training on quality assurance and managing training institutions</li> <li>Specific skill upgrading training for trainers of VT providers in selected trades</li> <li>Institutional and programme capacity of vocational training service providers assessed and needs addressed to improve capacity to provide community</li> </ul>			No further development after 2013 report.



services within the scope of the rehabilitation programme			
<p><b>Output 2.4</b> - Specific gender considerations regarding the VMLR and the broader community are prioritized.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration of gender specific special needs as regards child care and appropriate package design</li> <li>• Network of women’s organisations are trained to support women’s and girls’ rehabilitation and to minimise stigmatisation upon entry to communities.</li> <li>• Awareness activities on gender responsive rehabilitation programme to media networks</li> <li>• Monitoring and mentoring on case basis, ensuring that delivery is gender sensitive and that women have control of their own benefits</li> <li>• Orientation of PSP/SPs district implementing partners and project staff on USCR 1325 and 1820</li> </ul>			No further development after 2013 report.