

# United Nations Peace Fund for Nepal (UNPFN)

## Project Status Update

For the period of *July-September, 2011*

### 1. Project Overview

Participating UN Organization(s):	UN WOMEN, OHCHR	UNPFN Project number:	UNPFN/E-6
		UNPBF Project number (if applicable):	NA

UNPFN Cluster area:	E. Rights and Reconciliation
UNPFN Funding round Strategic Outcome:	Capacity enhancement of national institutions to promote women's participation in peace process and protect the rights of women affected by conflict in line with UNSCRs 1325 and 1820
UNPBF Priority area (if applicable):	NA
UNPBF PMP Result and indicator (if applicable):	NA

Project Title:	Partnership for Equality and Capacity Enhancement (PEACE): Towards Implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820		
National Partners:	MoPR and relevant government ministries, High Level Steering Committee on NAP 1325 & 1820, National Women's Commission, Women's Caucus and Shantimalika		
Project start date:	April 1, 2010	Original Project end date:	March 31, 2012
Revised end date (if applicable):	NA	Anticipated total Project duration:	2 years

Total approved project budget:	US \$ 525,000		
Funds committed and spent to-date by the project:	US\$ 292,735.00	Original Project end date:	56%
Funds spent to-date by the project:	US\$ 292,735.00	Anticipated total Project duration:	56%

### 2. Description of project goal and strategy

Partnership for Equality and Capacity Enhancement (PEACE): Towards implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 is a joint project of UN WOMEN and OHCHR Nepal. The focus of the project is to support the adoption of a NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and strengthen the capacity of High Level Steering Committee (HLSC), government agencies and civil society for the implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. The goal of the project is to contribute to consolidation of peace in Nepal through facilitating the implementation of national commitments to gender equality and women's human rights.

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

Project Outcome(s)	Progress: achievements/results/ outputs delivered to-date	% of planned
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<p>Outcome: State entities create enabling institutional environments to promote and protect women’s human rights in line with UNSCRs 1325 and 1820, and other human rights instruments especially CEDAW.</p>	<p>The project has been able to make profound progress during this quarter. As envisaged in the project document, the partnership process has been finalized with the Women’s Caucus, National Women’s Commission and Shantimalika in July, 2011. As per the agreement, the role of Shantimalika is to enhance the capacity of the HLSC, officials of the relevant government agencies, civil society and media on NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. Shantimalika will also be involved in implementation of activities at district levels. Similarly, the role of Women’s Caucus, as mentioned in the document, is focused on ensuring the political commitment of the CA members for the implementation of NAP, whereas the role of the NWC is to monitor the implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. As mentioned in the project document, the ultimate goal of all these three partners are to protect women’s human rights in line with UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 as defined in the project outcome.</p>	<p>50%</p>
<p>Output 1.1: The National Plan of Action on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 developed and endorsed by the government</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following the national endorsement of the NAP, the PEACE project team was engaged in coordinating the activities of national and international level launches of National Action Plan on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 respectively on February 17, 2011 and February 22, 2011. The PEACE project supported in holding the district level consultations with the stakeholders during the preparation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820.</li> <li>• The PEACE project introduction workshop, was organized in December 2010. The participants representing government agencies, civil society, media and international agencies participated in the workshop. The workshop was focused on women, peace and security situation in Nepal and the scope of the PEACE project and its contribution towards the implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820.</li> <li>• <b>Contracting out project activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Shantimalika, a local civil society network on women, peace and security issue, has been selected on July 20, 2011 (through</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>100%</p>
<p>Output 1.2: Enhanced capacity of High Level</p>		<p>50%</p>



<p>Output 1.3: Enhanced understanding of concerned government authorities on UNSCRs 1325, 1820 and CEDAW from mainstreaming of women's rights in government programmes and policies</p>	<p>The two-day consultation held in Rupandehi and Kapilbastu was, therefore, a part of their district level activities. The consultation was a platform to the local level stakeholders to share their challenges at the districts for the implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. The issues raised by them were related to their limited capacity in understanding and implementing the NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 at the district levels.</p> <p>b) The Agreement with the National Women's Commission (NWC) was signed on August 22, 2011. The objective of this partnership is to strengthen NWC's capacity to monitor the implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and CEDAW.</p> <p>c) Similarly, the partnership Agreement with Constituent Assembly, Women's Caucus Secretariat was signed on August 28, 2011 with an objective of increasing the political commitment of CA members for the implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. As a result, the Women's Caucus organized a consultation with CA members on September 11, 2011 to ensure the political commitment for the implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. The major output achieved in the interaction was that the CA members jointly expressed their commitment for the effective implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820.</p> <p>• UN WOMEN provided technical support to the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR) through recruitment of a consultant to support the Ministry for design, preparation and implementation of the Sectoral Plan Workshop which was held on July 7-8, 2011. The Sectoral Plan Workshop helped developing plans on how to integrate the NAP activities into the regular programme of the 10 sectoral ministries of the GoN including Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare, Ministry of Law and Justice, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and Population, Ministry of Local Development, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives and Ministry of Labour and</p>	<p>50%</p> <p>50%</p> <p>50%</p>
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	<p>Transport Management. This support led to the finalization of the 10 sectoral plans for each participating Ministry. The OHCHR played an advisory and coordinating role for the successful implementation of this event. The Sectoral Plan workshop was a key step in terms of bringing all the key ministries in one place and finalizing their plan for the implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. As a result of finalization of Sectoral Plan, the MoPR is now preparing a project document to be submitted at the Nepal Peace Trust Fund (NPTF) for the implementation of NAP in 75 districts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under this project, UN WOMEN also supported the MoPR to conduct one NGO consultation with NGOs actively working on women, peace and security issues. The objective of NGO consultation was to find out the activities of each NGO towards NAP implementation and avoid duplication so that the initiatives can be consolidated and the resources for NAP implementation can be properly utilized. The NGO consultation was beneficial in terms of avoiding the duplication of implementation activities between the NGOs who are actively implementing NAP related activities at the district levels. The consultation also provided an opportunity to NGOs to discuss about the Information, Education, Communication (IEC) materials that contains the information related to NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and avoid duplication in preparing for the same. The consultation also gave a platform to NGOs to think and decide about the utilization of resources properly for the implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820</li> </ul>	20%
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#### 4. Overview of project results, achievements and challenges in this quarter

The majority of the activities implemented in this quarter focused on the project's output 1.2: "Enhanced understanding of concerned government authorities on UNSCRs 1325, 1820 and CEDAW from mainstreaming of women's rights in government programmes and policies"

##### 1. Contracting out project activities

##### 1.1 National Women's Commission (NWC)

As indicated in the project document, the Agreement with the National Women Commission (NWC) has been signed on August 22, 2011.

The partnership with NWC is focused on the monitoring the implementation of the NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. As a National Women Machinery, this partnership concurs with

NWC's mandate to monitor the implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and CEDAW. Hence, the technical support provided to NWC through this project will help them to strengthen their monitoring capacity on the implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and better accomplish their function.

To carry on the monitoring task, a MIS and M & E consultant has been recruited by UN WOMEN for three months who will set up the monitoring system at NWC which will support the NWC in monitoring of the implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. The consultant stationed at NWC joined from September 15, 2011. During his tenure, the consultant will set up the M & E system at the NWC and train the relevant staff members of NWC on operating the monitoring system so that the staff members can be well versed on the monitoring system and carry on the task effectively in future.

### **1.2 Consultation with the CA members**

As provisioned by the project document, the Agreement with the Women's Caucus has been signed on August 28, 2011.

The Women Caucus conducted an interaction programme with the CA members on September 11, 2011. There were almost 100 CA members who attended the programme. The objective of the interaction programme was to provide orientation to the CA members on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820, share the implementation status of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and the role of CA members for the implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. The major output achieved during the interaction was that the CA members jointly expressed their commitment for the effective implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. Some of the CA members also expressed their concerns that women CA members were not represented in the HLSC. They expressed that they are interested to be a part of HLSC. This clearly reveals their utmost interest and commitment on NAP implementation process.

### **1.3 Consultation with the local stakeholders**

As an implementing partner, Shantimalika organized district level consultations in Rupandehi and Kapilbastu on September 6-7, 2011, which is a part of the consultation activities to be implemented by Shantimalika. The objective of the district level consultation was to enhance the capacity of the local stakeholders on NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and monitor the implementation status of NAP at the district level. As the Member Secretary of HLSC and the Chair of Project Coordination Committee (PCC), the Joint Secretary of MoPR, Mr. Sadharam Sapkota also participated in the consultation. The Joint Secretary played a role of the resource person during the consultation both in Rupandehi and Kapilbastu. The consultation took place with the District Coordination Committee (DCC), Local Peace Committee (LPC), local peace builders and other relevant stakeholders and was Chaired by the Chief District Officer (CDO).

The DCC is the responsible committee for the implementation of NAP at the district level. The DCC is Chaired by the Chief District Officer (CDO) and Co-Chaired by the Local Development Officer (LDO). The other members in DCC include Local Peace Committee (LPC), Women and Children Office and other relevant government line agencies.

The DCC also has a provision of inviting the representative of the donor agencies based in the districts who are providing support for the implementation of the NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 as observers. The DCC can also invite the representatives of other offices in the district as and when necessary.

During the consultation, the need to activate DCC in the districts for the implementation of NAP came as an important point. The discussion also revealed that there is a need to develop the capacity of DCC on coordinating the implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. This was the first meeting conducted by the DCC towards the implementation of NAP on

UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. This kind of consultation conducted by the PEACE Project has been instrumental in activating the DCC in initiating their meeting. This kind of meetings may be important to activate the DCC in other districts as well.

## **2. Management Actions**

As mentioned above, the project has recruited a MIS and M&E Consultant to develop and strengthen the M & E system at NWC. The Consultant is housed at NWC for three months.

UN WOMEN is looking forward to terminating the lease agreement of the building where the PEACE project is housed. This is done against the backdrop of the fact that UN WOMEN Nepal is moving into larger office that can accommodate PEACE project under one roof. This is also expected to maximise coordination and linkages between the other units and programmes of UN WOMEN.

## **3. Challenges**

The project was envisaged to start from April, 2010, however, the preparatory phase such as hiring of project staff and renting of the office building took longer time than anticipated. Project Manager, Project Assistant and Admin and Finance Assistant joined the Office from November, 2010. Though UN Women core staff members carried out few project activities before the Project personnel were on board, the full fledged activities started only from November, 2010. Therefore, this may have some implications on the timeline for the implementation and completion of project activities.

Similarly, the project had planned to hold the meeting with the High Level Steering Committee (HLSC), Chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) and Co-chaired by the Minister of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR), in June, however, due to the change in the government and ministers the meeting could not take place as scheduled. The meeting with the HLSC was postponed four times after it was planned in consultation with the MoPR. With the leadership of the new Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, it is expected that the interaction with the HLSC will move ahead hopefully after the Tihar Holidays in the second week of November, 2011.

The other challenge faced during this quarter was the limited capacity of the DCC to function at the district level for the implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. During the field visits in Rupandehi and Kapilbastu, it was found that there is a need to activate DCC at the district level as they are the main responsible coordinating body for the implementation of NAP at district levels. Hence, enhancing the implementation capacity for DCC on NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 has been found as most essential at this stage. This was the first DCC meeting conducted in Rupandehi and Kapilbastu. The meeting of DCC is also expected to take place in other districts as DCC has major role to play towards implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820.

As Shantimalika is implementing the project activities in the five districts of five development regions, it is expected that the consultation on NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 will be helpful for enhancing the understanding of the district level stakeholders on NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820.

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

### UNPFN PRIORITY CLUSTER E. Rights and Reconciliation

Intermediate Objective: Supported effective and inclusive transitional justice, information and services to the conflict affected

Strategic Outcome	Contributing Outputs	Verifiable Indicators	Baseline (by year)	Milestones and Target (by year)	Current / Final Status
9. Improved participation and protection of women, and the delivery of services to conflict affected women strengthen inclusive elements of the Nepal peace process in line with UNSCRs 1325, 1820 and 1612.	Enabling institutional environments to promote and protect women's human rights in line with UNSCRs 1325 and 1820, and other human rights instruments (especially CEDAW) created by state entities	9.1 The National Plan of Action on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 developed and endorsed by the government	9.1 No NAP	9.1 NAP launched by end of 2010	9.1 NAP was endorsed by the GoN on February 1, 2011. The national and international launch of NAP have taken place in Nepal (February 17, 2011) and New York (February 22, 2011) respectively
		9.2 Enhanced capacity of HLSC to successfully implement its mandate	9.2 No capacity development activities organized	9.2 The capacity need of HLSC was planned to be assessed by mid August 2011, however, due to frequent change in the government the HLSC meeting was cancelled four times. The new date for HLSC has been scheduled on the second week of November, 2011.	9.2 ,The capacity need of HLSC assessed by mid August, 2011.,however, due to change in the government, the meeting could not take place as scheduled in Mid August. The coordination with the MoPR is ongoing. The new date for the HLSC meeting has been scheduled for second week of November.
		9.3 Enhanced understanding of government authorities on UNSCRs 1325/1820 and CEDAW	9.3 Poor understanding of the government of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and CEDAW	9.3 The understanding of the concerned government authorities to implement NPA on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and CEDAW will be enhanced (2011)	The selection of NGO for implementing this activity is finalised. The first consultation with the key government officials in enhancing their capacity on NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 is planned on October 24, 2011 The capacity of CA members on

					<p>NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 enhanced through a training conducted on August 28 by the Women's Caucus. During the training, the CA members expressed their political commitment for the implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820</p>
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