



Project Status Update
For the period of [April-June, 2013]

1. Project Information			
Project Title:		Project Numbers:	
Rule of Law and Human Rights Programme		UNPFN / PBF:	PBF/NPL/A-2
		MPTF Office:	00085964
Name of PUNO(s):		PBF Result (if applicable):	
UNDP, UN Women		Result-1.1: Security sector reform and judiciary system put in place and providing services that reinforce rule of law	
Primary Project Contact Person:		UNPFN Funding Round Strategic Outcome(s):	
<p>Laura Nelson, Programme Officer UNDP, UN House Kathmandu Phone: +977-1-5523200 Ext. 1011 Email: laura.nelson@undp.org</p> <p>Sama Shrestha, Unit Manager, Peace and Security UN Women, Thapathali Phone: +977-1-4255110/4254899 Ext: 106 Email: sama.shrestha@unwomen.org</p>		<p>SO2: Citizen confidence in the judiciary and criminal system has increased as a result of these institutions becoming more capable, accountable and responsive to Nepal diverse society.</p>	
		UNPFN Cluster:	
		D: Security	
National Partners(s):		NPTF Cluster:	
<p>Mr. Lohit Chandra Shah Registrar, Supreme Court of Nepal Ramshah Path, Nepal Telephone: 977-1-4262845</p> <p>Mr. Dilli Raj Ghimire Joint Secretary Ministry of Law and Justice, Constituent Assembly and Parliamentary Affairs (MOLJACAPA) Telephone: 977-1-4211987</p> <p>Mr. Sadhu Ram Sapkota Joint Secretary, Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction Singh Durbar, Nepal Telephone: 977-1-4211178</p>		3: Security and Transitional Justice	
Total UNPFN Funding:		Project Start Date:	15 March 2013
	US\$ 2,200,000	Original End Date:	14 March 2015
Funds spent to-date by the project:	US\$	Revised End Date (if applicable):	30 Sept. 2013

	112,532.21		
Funds spent as percentage of budget:	5.1%	Total Project Duration:	24 Months

2. Project Executive Summary

This project contributes to the implementation of the 'Strengthening the Rule of Law and Human Rights Protection System in Nepal' Programme (ROLHR). The project mirrors UNDAF outcome 4 (to propagate the principle of the rule of law, justice and human rights as the essential foundation for sustainable peace, human rights, and human development) and UNDAF outcome 8 (to work with national institutions to address the post conflict needs of victims). The overall focus of the ROLHR programme is to consolidate sustainable peace by creating the conditions for systemic changes in the justice sector, by way of increasing citizenry's confidence in the justice sector as a whole. UNDP and UN Women will accomplish this by supporting sector-wide strategic planning and coordination; developing a 'single door' policy and implementation mechanisms for a free and comprehensive legal aid system; and enhancing mechanisms of accountability, in part by supporting the Nation Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and transitional justice issues, strengthening the criminal justice systems' capacity to address the needs of conflict victims, including women victims of GBV. The specific components of the ROLHR project strengthens the capacity and service delivery of the justice sector to better address society's needs and build confidence and trust in institutions; ensure participatory access to justice for women and other vulnerable groups and conflict victims; increase their participation in the legal profession to build more responsive and representative institutions; implement the National Action Plan (NAP) on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 (specifically, the parts on protection and prevention); develop linkages between formal and informal justice system; and, ensure that informal justice mechanisms are operating in conformity with international human rights standards.

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

Project Outcome(s)	Progress delivered and/or challenges during this quarter
1. Improved efficiency of courts and increased delivery of judicial services to the women and vulnerable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A draft report on the methodology for the perception survey regarding justice sector service provisions completed and submitted by the survey consultant to the Programme Team. The report will be used to inform the design of the survey in the coming quarter. • The design and refurbishment plan of Justice Sector Coordination Committee ('JSCC') Secretariat finalized and refurbishment initiated and the needs assessment of JSCC initiated; both activities being important steps towards improving justice sector coordination through the establishment of the JSCC Secretariat at the central level to. • Two trainings/workshops on case management conducted for 57 senior officials of Supreme Court in Dhulikel and Biratnagar. • Two orientation workshops on case calendar/timeline management conducted for 62 court officials in Tanahu and Nawalparasi. • Recruitment of a consultant to develop a communication strategy for the judiciary. • Needs assessment of in-camera hearing procedure initiated and on-going. • Needs assessment for establishment of Information- and Client Orientation Desk in 6 districts (Kailali, Kanchanpur, Dhadeldhura, Doti, Surkhet and Dailekh)

	<p>on-going.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One training session and two dialogue events on judgment execution conducted for 20 court officials in Kailali and Bardiya districts. • Mapping/review of status of court referred mediation on-going. • ToR outlining the terms for a LoA with Nepal Judiciary Academy regarding capacity building of justice/law enforcement officials on in-camera hearing guidelines and 'standard operating procedures' finalized. Local project appraisal scheduled for 4 October 2013 and LOA to be signed by the second week of October.
<p>2. Women and vulnerable groups have better access to legal aid services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping of Socio-Legal Aid Centers in Surkhet, Dailekh, Dhadeldhura, Kailali and Dang districts completed. Main findings included identification of gap in capability to deliver quality legal aid services and poor coordination between legal aid providers and relevant justice/law enforcement institutions. • Inception report regarding legal aid research completed by external expert/consultant, identifying existing legal and normative frameworks for legal aid in Nepal in order to inform upcoming legal aid policy reform. • Half-day interaction on socio-legal aid concept conducted to initiate legal aid policy reform dialogue. • UN Guidelines on Legal Aid translated, published and disseminated to legal aid services providers to improve service delivery aligned with international standards. • MoU with National Judicial Academy regarding development of resource materials and training manual for paid lawyers (Baitarnik Wakil) signed. • Procurement process for Socio-Legal Aid Centers initiated. • Concept notes on Law Scholarship, Clinical Legal Education and Legal Internship completed, outlining the set-up, fundamental requirements and modus operandi for the three initiatives. • ToR drafted to undertake LoA with Nepal Law Faculty regarding establishment of Law Scholarship and Internship Scheme for greater professional inclusion of women and vulnerable groups. • Engagements with law faculties and MoLJCAPA in Kathmandu regarding implementation modalities of law scholarships and clinical legal education; law scholarship implementation initiated (clinical legal education will be initiated in coming quarter).
<p>3. Criminal justice system is more responsive to conflict victims, and female victim/survivors of GBV</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant proposal from World Vision Advocacy Forum regarding capacity building and support to victims groups/organizations in five districts (Daleldhura, Kailali Dang, Surkhet and Dailkeh) finalized and submitted to UNDP Micro-Grant Selection/Steering Committee for approval. • Series of informal consultations regarding support to victims groups conducted with relevant stakeholders. • TOR regarding strengthening of the institutional capacity of Judiciary, Police, victim support forums, civil society organization to increase conflict affected women's access to justice in project districts completed and currently under review by UN Women HQ. A call for proposal to select a civil society

	organisation to implement activities under this component will be advertised in October.
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Project Management: key activities and/or challenges during this quarter

Meetings between UNDP and UN Women

A series of meetings have taken place between UNDP and UN Women to discuss and finalise the implementation modality for the project. Weekly meetings are being held to enhance coordination and synergy, collaboration in design and implementation of activities.

Recruitment of Project Staff

- National Programme Manager – recruitment is completed and candidate has taken up position
- Communications Officer – recruitment is completed and candidate has taken up position
- Field Support Officer – recruitment is completed and candidate has taken up position
- Chief Technical Advisor (International) – recruitment is completed; candidate will take up position in November 2013
- Access to Justice Specialist – recruitment is completed, pending HQ approval
- Gender and Social Inclusion Officer – recruitment is on-going
- Rule of Law and Access to Justice Analyst (UN Women) – recruitment is on-going

Conflict Sensitivity Training

UNDP, UN Women and Programme Staff participated in the three day Training of Trainers on Conflict Sensitivity and Do No Harm approaches which was held from 02-04 September 2013. The objective of the training was to familiarize participants with different tools, including participative context analysis; the theory and application of the DNH instrument in project design; and various methods to prepare and implement the context analysis and DNH in project implementation. Once the district components of the Programme are operational – incl. socio-legal aid centres, JSCC district centres and court-client information desks – the trained Programme staff will share their new skills and knowledge with district staff and officials.

4. Progress against key indicators in the UNPFN Results Framework

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PBF Level

UNPBF PMP Result(s) (if applicable):	<i>Result:1: Security sector reform and judiciary systems put in place and providing services that reinforce rule of law</i>		
UNPBF PMP Result Indicator(s) (if applicable):	<u>Baseline</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Current/Final Status</u>
Indicator: 1 Communities use justice systems to resolve conflicts without recourse to violence ensuring human rights of human rights of women and girls in particular	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1400 (2012) • 800 (2012) • 11% prison sentences enforced and 8% increase in the civil decisions enforces • % of court users from women and vulnerable groups in 5 districts (To be decided by the baseline survey) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3000 disputes resolved in five districts • 1500 victims of GBV received legal aid in districts • 25 % increased • % of court users from women and vulnerable groups in 5 districts increased 	Project still in initial implementation phase, no measurable progress yet.
<u>UNPFN Level</u>			
UNPFN Strategic Outcome:	SO.2: Citizens confidence in the judiciary and criminal system has increased as a result of these institutions becoming more capable, accountable and responsive to Nepal's diverse society.		
Project Peace-Building Impact:	Nepal's peace making process is facilitated by enhancing legal services and access to justice of women, vulnerable and poor.		
Impact Indicator(s)	<u>Baseline</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Current/Final Status</u>

a. % of women, vulnerable and poor increased who have received legal and judicial services in the courts	a. TBD by the assessment	a. % of legal aid and court services	Project still in initial implementation phase, no measurable progress yet.
<i>Project Level</i>			
OUTCOME 1:	Improved efficiency of courts and increased delivery of judicial services to the women and vulnerable		
<u>Outcome Indicator(s)</u>	<u>Baseline</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Current/Final Status</u>
a. # of backlog cases decreased in selected district courts b. % increase in gender responsive decisions that are aligned to human rights standards in select district courts	a. Number to be determined by a baseline survey b. Number to be determined by a baseline survey	a. 30% b. % of quality decisions	Project still in initial implementation phase, no measurable progress yet.
OUTCOME 2:	Women and vulnerable groups have better access to legal aid services		
<u>Outcome Indicator(s)</u>	<u>Baseline</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Current/Final Status</u>
<i># of women and vulnerable groups received legal aid services from the legal aid centers in selected districts</i>	a. 700 women and vulnerable received legal aid services (2012)	a. 2000	Project still in initial implementation phase, no measurable progress yet.
OUTCOME 3:	<i>Criminal Justice System is more responsive to conflict victims, and female victim/survivors of GBV</i>		
<u>Outcome Indicator(s)</u>	<u>Baseline</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Current / Final Status</u>
a.# of conflict affected victims benefited from relevant information regarding redress through the victim support dialogues	a. TBD	a. 3000 conflict victims	Project still in initial implementation phase, no measurable progress yet.