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| **United Nations Peace Fund for Nepal (UNPFN)**  **Project Status Update**  **For the period of April –May 2012** |

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| 1. **Project Overview** | | | |
| **Participating UN Organization(s):** | UNICEF/OHCHR | **UNPFN Project number:** | UNPFN/A-8 |
| **UNPBF Project number (if applicable):** | UNPBF/NPL/E-2 |

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| **UNPFN Cluster area:** | Cantonment / Reintegration |
| **UNPFN Funding round Strategic Outcome:** | Children and adolescents affected by armed conflict are effectively rehabilitated and reintegrated into communities in adherence with international law and guidelines |
| **UNPBF Priority area (if applicable):** | Strengthening State Capacity for Sustaining Peace |
| **UNPBF PMP Result and indicator (if applicable):** | **Result 1:** Security sector reforms and judiciary systems put in place and providing services and goods at the national and local level that reinforce the Rule of Law (RoL) |
| **Indicator 1.3 DDR**: # of PBF programmes that have successfully integrated ex-combatants into communities |

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| **Project Title:** | Monitoring, reporting and response to conflict related child rights violations | | |
| **National Partners:** | Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR), National and local international and national non-governmental organizations (I/NGOs). | | |
| **Project start date:** | 01 January 2010 | **Original Project end date:** | 31 December 2011 |
| **Revised end date**  **(if applicable):** | 31 May 2012 | **Project duration:** | 2 years 5 months |

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| **Total approved project budget:** | USD 2,332,421+ USD 331,674 (Additional) = USD 2,664,095 | | |
| **Funds committed and spent to-date by the project:** | 2,663,181.29  (PBF - $1,379,004) | **As % of approved budget:** | 99.96% |
| **Funds spent**  **to-date by the project:** | 2,660,221 | **Project delivery rate:** | 99% |

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| 1. **Description of project goal and strategy** |
| The overall goal of the project is to ensure that child protection actors, including state entities, are taking decisive and appropriate actions to prevent and respond to violations of children’s rights. Activities will support the stabilization of the peace process by monitoring and responding to violations against children, strengthening child protection systems and by identifying and mitigating factors that increase children’s vulnerability to engagement in activities that threaten the peace process.  With the signing of the Action Plan by the Government, UCPN-M and UN regarding the discharge and rehabilitation of disqualified Maoist Army personnel verified as minors, Nepal has taken an important step to comply with the requirement under UN Security Council Resolution 1612 to abolish the use and recruitment of children as soldiers. Similarly, the successful discharge and rehabilitation of the disqualified Maoist Army personnel in line with the UN resolution 1612 will pave the way for the UCPN-M to be removed from the list of parties to conflict recruiting and using children, which is attached to the Annual Reports of the Secretary General on Children and Armed Conflict.  The following complementary components underpin the present project:   * **Monitoring and reporting** **on the discharge and rehabilitation process** and ongoing violations of children’s rights, as mandated by Security Council 1612 and 1882, to support evidence based advocacy to stop child rights violations, seek accountability for these violations and ensure that response interventions are effective and well-targeted through referral mechanisms. * Continued provision of appropriate **reintegration support for approximately 7,500 informally or self-released CAAFAG and around 3,000 other CAAC** already supported through UNICEF’s CAAFAG programme, in order to ensure that they are successfully reintegrated into their communities as well as to ensure parity with the reintegration support that the recently discharged minors and post-recruits are offered. Of the total CAAFAG/CAAC (6,036) supported in 2011/12 by the CAAFAG Working Group, 3,5634,CAAFAG/CAAC were supported in 30 districts, through UNPFN. As the programme agreement was only until May 2012, no new cases were supported during the reporting period. Implementing partners focused more on providing continued follow-up support to existing cases and on documenting programme activities and outcomes. |

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| 1. **Overview of progress to-date against project outcomes** | | |
| **Project Outcome(s)** | **Progress: achievements/results/ outputs delivered to-date** | **% of planned** |
| **OUTCOME 1: Strengthened capacity of child protection actors, including state entities, to monitor, document, verify and respond to grave child violations** | | |
| 1.1.1 Number of verified and documented cases that have been responded to through established referral mechanisms.  Number of child protection actors oriented on 1612 monitoring and reporting mechanism, including UN monitoring mechanism.  UN monitoring mechanism established and operational. | The 1612 task force on monitoring and reporting mechanism documented 493 cases of violations involving children out of which 20% were referred to service providers. However, there were no cases of violations falling under the scope of UNSCR 1612.  The activities were completed in the previous quarters.  The activity was completed in the previous quarters. | Continuous activity  100%  100% |
| 1.1.2 Provide orientation to the UN monitoring teams on discharge and rehabilitation process and training and technical guidance to 1612 Task Force members on monitoring, documenting, verifying and reporting on grave violations. | The activity was completed in the previous quarters. | 100% |
| * + 1. Report, document and verify   the compliance with the Action Plan on discharge and rehabilitation of disqualified Maoist Army personnel, including through verification missions to different districts.  1.1.4. Report, document and verify core child rights violations for submission to the UN Security Council 1612 Annual and Horizontal reports, including through fact finding missions on violations which require in depth verification | The Secretary- General (SG) issued his annual report on Children and Armed Conflict which gives an overview of the situation of children in conflict areas and measures taken for their protection. The report includes a list of parties who recruit and use children, kill and maim, commit sexual violence or attack schools and hospitals. The Unified Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist (UCPN-M) has been delisted from the report after its successful completion of the Action Plan signed on 16 December 2009 for discharge and rehabilitation of disqualified Maoist army personnel signed between the UCPN-M, the Government of Nepal and the United Nations.  10 global horizontal notes (progress updates) prepared and submitted to the OSRSG-CAAC. | 100%  100% |
| 1.1.5. Identification of trends and patterns of child rights violations committed in the 58 districts covered by the 1612 Task Force including violations by armed groups in the Terai; | The activity was completed in the previous quarters. | 100% |
| 1.1.6 Review the strategies of 1612 monitoring and reporting mechanism | The activity was completed in the previous quarters. | 100% |
| **OUTCOME 2: Children are effectively rehabilitated and reintegrated back into their communities (reintegration component).** | | |
| 2.1.1. Number of CAAFAG (informally and self-released) and CAAC receiving reintegration support, (disaggregated by gender/caste/ethnic group and type of support).  2.1.2. Number of informally and self-released CAAFAG and CAAC cases closed due to successful reintegration as per the criteria established in the monitoring sheet for assessment of individual cases.  2.1.3. Number of child protection partners trained in reconciliation and peace building activities to support the social reintegration of CAAFAG.  2.1.4. Number of CAAFAG/CAAC receiving psychosocial support.  2.1.5. Number of community stakeholders trained on issues related to children affected by armed conflict | In 2011/12, UNICEF and CAAFAG Working Group continued providing reintegration support to over 6,036 CAAFAG and CAAC in 40 districts, out of which UNPFN supported 3,563 CAAFAG/CAAC in 30 districts. During the reporting period (April-May 2012), UNPFN fund supported the reintegration of 465 CAAFAG/CAAC in 21 districts.  During the reporting period (April-May 2012) around 63 CAAFAG (42 M, 21 F) and 37 (25 M, 12 F) CAAC cases were closed. Detailed assessment of individual cases (CAAFAG/CAAC) has been initiated to determine if the cases require continued support beyond May 2012 (through other sources).  Completed in the previous quarters.  During the reporting period, about 44 CAAFAG/CAAC (25 F, 19 M) received psychosocial support, of which 57% were female. In 2011/12 a total of 280 CAAFG (54% female) had received regular psychosocial support. CAAFAG Working Group will continue to provide psychosocial support to CAAFAG/CAAC who may be in need of the support, utilizing fund from other source/s.  CAAFAG implementing partner has been liaising with Juvenile Justice Coordination Committee, to provide special services to children who come in conflict with law. As a result of this partnership, the CAAFAG implementing partners are expected to carry out social inquiry and provide psychosocial support to the child in conflict with law. As a result of the training provided in the previous quarter, CAAFAG IPs in 4 districts supported the District Juvenile Justice Coordination Committees, including police and district courts, to prepare social inquiry report for 6 juveniles who had come into conflict with law. The collaboration between CAAFAG implementing partner and District Juvenile Justice Coordination Committee has been expended to 40 districts. | 100%  85%  100%  90%  Completed |
| 2.1.6. Technical assistance to MoPR and MWCSW for effective implementation and monitoring of the National Plan of Action for Children Affected by Armed Conflict | During the previous quarter UNICEF and CAAFAG Working Group had provided technical assistance to Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction to prepare the first draft of the NPA implementation guideline. Further input was provided in the month of April to revise the draft implementation guideline. Another workshop has been planned, during the 4th week of July 2012, to finalize the guideline with input from relevant government ministries and CAAFAG Working Group. Once the implementation guideline is finalized, regional consultations will be organized in August/September 2012 to get input from regional and district stakeholders.  In the previous quarter, UNICEF had provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction to draft a concept note for the implementation of NPA. The concept note was approved by NPTF in May 2012.  UNICFE and CAAFAG Working Group is currently supporting 5 different ministries and four related departments (*Ministry of Education*; *Ministry of Health*; *Ministry of Agriculture*/ *Dept. of Small and Cottage Industry*); *Ministry of*  *Women Children & Social Welfare/ Central Child Welfare Board; Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction)* to develop program document (proposal) to be submitted to NPTF for the implementation of NPA on CAAC.  The National Implementation Committee took a strategic decision to implement the NPA through inter-ministerial mechanism engaging five different ministries and four departments. The delay in the implementation can, therefore, be attributed towards the lack of commitment and the lack of technical capacity within the participating government agencies. In order to address this, UNICEF has intensified advocacy efforts with the relevant ministries and mobilized CAAFAG Working Group member agencies to (voluntarily) provide technical assistance to the concerned ministries in conceptualizing project strategies and in developing project documents. | 75% |
| 2.2.1 Training of psychosocial workers to support CAAFAG and CAAC. | During the reporting quarter (April/May 2012) no new training were conducted at national or regional level as the programme duration ends in May 2012. However, psychosocial supervisors from TPO and CVICT, conducted re-refreshers training for district psychosocial counselors and social workers in two districts (Sindhuli and Dhading) as part of their supervision visit.  In addition, supervisors from TPO and CVICT, specialised agencies working on psychosocial interventions for CAAFAG and VMLRs, conducted supervision visits in 4 districts (Salyan, Dang, Banke, Dhading). In the four district the supervisors provided technical assistance to the implementing partner from the respective districts to conduct detailed psychosocial assessment of 19 CAAFAG (11 F, 8 M). | Completed. |
| 2.2.2 Training of community stakeholders in 34 districts on issues relating to children affected by armed conflict. | This activity was completed in the previous year. | 100% |
| 2.2.3 Technical support to child protection partners in 34 districts to integrate gender mainstreaming in reintegration support programme. | Implementing partner in all the CAAFAG programme districts, continued to assist participation of female CAAFAG in youth/child clubs and community based activities to facilitate their social-reintegration. No new cases were identified for special gender specific support. | 90% |
| 2.3.1 Provision of community based reintegration services, including access to formal and non-formal education, vocational training, income generating activities and social reintegration support to CAAFAG and CAAC | During the reporting period, around 465 CAAFAG/CAAC were supported by UNPFN in 21 districts out of which 463(47% Female) received education support. In addition, 2 CAAFAG/CAAC (100% Female) received Income-generating support (IGA). | 100% |
| 2.4.1 Regular update and analysis of CAAFAG database and production of regular analytical reports | UNICEF trained database officers from 21 implementing partners on the use the upgraded 3.1 version of the Inter-agency Child Protection database. Following the training, information related to reintegration of CAAFAG, supported by the programme since 2007, is currently being entered into the database. Data entry is expected to be completed in August 2012. CAAFAG Working Group, us discussing with relevant ministries (Ministry of Women and Children; Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction) on the official handover of the data to the government and the need to develop database protocol to ensure confidentiality of information. Information related to CAAFAG needs to be regularly updates until all cases are closed. Since the CAAFAG working group is still providing reintegration support to CAAFAG/CAAC in some selected districts (through other funding source/s), updating of the information will continue. | 85% |
| 2.4.2 Development and implementation of inter-agency advocacy strategies against misuse and recruitment of children by armed groups in Terai and eastern hill districts | The report of rapid assessment commissioned by UNICEF, to assess the risk of recruitment and the misuse of children in political and armed activities in the Terai and Eastern Hills districts, is shared with Office of SRSG for CAAC. | 100% |
| 2.5.1 Training of child protection partners in peace building and reconciliation activities, including key concepts of transitional justice, to support social reintegration of CAAFAG | In order to enhance the technical capacity of implementing partners, Search for Common Ground, member of CAAFAG Working Group specializing in conflict transformation and peace building activities, has adapted resource materials, related to working with young people for peace building. These included, documentaries (short videos/DVDs) on best global practices, training manuals and reference documents relevant to peace building and youths. These materials were disseminated to all implementing partners to be used as resource materials while working with child/youth clubs. | 100% |
| 2.5.2 Dissemination of child friendly transitional justice toolbox and training of children and young people to raise awareness on transitional justice issues in child networks | As part of the NPA implementation guideline, MoPR is developing a guideline on Peace Building and reconciliation, with technical assistance from CAAFAG working Group. The working group, responsible for drafting the guideline, has developed a framework on Peace Building and reconciliation with transitional justice (for children affected by conflict) as one of the key element. The draft guideline emphasis on documentation of gross child rights violation and developing of child-friendly process and procedures for the participation of children in the TRC process.  Activities related to children’s participation in the transitional justice process has been delayed because the TRC bill is yet to be endorsed by the government. | 50% |
| 2.5.3 Support to child clubs in 34 districts to mobilise for social reintegration of CAAFAG/CAAC and implement peace building and transitional justice activities. | During the two months (April-May), 4 Child/youth clubs were supported to organize peace building activities with participation of 49 CAAFAG (43% Female) and 42 CAAC. | 100% |
| 2.5.4 Develop and support cooperation agreement between CAAC Working Group and TRC to ensure the protection and safe participation of children in transitional justice processes | In the NPA for CAAC, MoPR has included the provision of developing child friendly processes and procedures to ensure participation of children in the TRC process once the committee has been constituted. UNICEF is currently discussing with MoPR and relevant stakeholder, to include the guideline for children’s participation in the TRC process within the broader NPA implementation guideline. | 50% |
| 1. **Overview of project results, achievements and challenges in this quarter** | | |
| **UN monitoring mechanism and Monitoring of 6 core violations through the 1612 task force**  **Achievements**  **Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism:**  **Achievements:**  The Unified Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist (UCPN-M) has been delisted from the group of parties who recruit and use children by the Security Council concerning Children and Armed Conflict after its successful completion of the Action Plan signed on 16 December 2009 for discharge and rehabilitation of disqualified Maoist army personnel signed between the UCPN-M, the Government of Nepal and the United Nations. Latest report (Annual report of the Secretary-General) can be downloaded from [*http://www.un.org/children/conflict*](http://www.un.org/children/conflict))  **Challenges**  The political situation had significant influence on UCPN-M compliance with the Action Plan and at times it was difficult to capture the attention of UCPN-M leadership and advocate on 1612 related issues due to other UCPN-M political priorities/agenda.  **Children are effectively rehabilitated and reintegrated back into their communities:**  UNICEF is currently supporting fiver ministries and four departments (*Ministry of Education/Dept of Education*; *Ministry of Health/Dept of Health*; *Ministry of Agriculture*/ *Dept. of Small and Cottage Industry*; *Ministry of*  *Women Children & Social Welfare/ Dept of Women and Children/Central Child Welfare Board; Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction)*to develop program document (proposal) to be submitted to NPTF for the implementation of NPA on CAAC . The five ministries and their respective departments have nominated focal persons to coordinate the overall process of developing the proposal. The proposals are expected to be submitted to the NPTF board for their review in October 2012.  **Challenges**  As leading agency for implementation of NPA on CAAC, MoPR lacks the technical capacity and human resources to lead the process effectively (Upon MoPR’s request, UNICEF has hired a consultant to provide technical assistance and overall coordination support to MoPR.)  The National Plan of Action on CAAC has identified district Women and Children’s Office, as the lead coordinating agency for the implementation of NPA in the district. Likewise, according to the draft guideline basic reintegration services (eg. education, health, vocational training) needs to be provisioned through relevant government line ministry mechanism (eg. MoE, MoH etc)[[1]](#footnote-1). Effective implementation of NPA, therefore, depends on inter-ministerial commitment. Ownership of the NPA by other ministries remains as a challenge.  This project has been completed in end of May 2012. Final narrative Report and project evaluation exercises are underway. Evaluation of the (reintegration programme) is expected to complete by October 2012. | | |

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| 1. **Progress against key indicators in the UNPFN Monitoring and Evaluation Framework** | | | | | |
| **UNPFN PRIORITY CLUSTER** **A. Cantonment/Reintegration**  **Intermediate Objective:** The safe verification, discharge and reintegration of Maoist Combatants | | | | | |
| **(if applicable) UNPBF PMP Result 1:** Security sector reforms and judiciary systems put in place and providing services and goods at the national and local level that reinforce the Rule of Law (RoL)  **Indicator 1.3 DDR**: # of PBF programmes that have successfully integrated ex-combatants into communities | | | | | |
| **Strategic Outcome** | **Contributing Outputs** | **Verifiable Indicators** | **Baseline (by year)** | **Milestones and Target (by year)** | **Current / Final Status** |
| 1. Children affected by armed conflict are effectively rehabilitated and reintegrated into communities in adherence with international law and guidelines | Strengthened capacity of UNSCR 1612 Task Force to monitor, document, verify and report on grave child rights violations and the compliance with the discharge Action Plan  Nepali child protection actors, including state entities, have strengthen capacity to monitor, document, verify and respond to grave child rights violations  Enhanced capacity of the government to implement the National Plan of Action for the Reintegration of Children Affected by Armed Conflict  Self and informally released CAAFAG and CAAC develop the skills and capacities that facilitate their effective reintegration into communities | * 1. Grave child rights violations monitored, verified, reported and responded through Global Horizontal Notes and annual reports submitted to the UN Security Council WG on CAAC | * 1. 2006-2009: 3 reports (1 report per year) | * 1. Two 1612 annual reports and 6 Horizontal notes | * 1. 1 annual report on 1612 Action Plan monitoring and 10 Global horizontal notes submitted |
| * 1. Number of functional referral mechanisms set up at district level and responding to child protection issues | * 1. No referral mechanisms in 34 targeted districts | * 1. Set up of referral mechanisms in 34 targeted districts (2012) | * 1. Referral mechanism has been established in 29 districts. However, effectiveness of the referral mechanism largely dependent on the role of the WCO. Districts, with proactive WCOs, have a well-functioning referral mechanism through which children with protection concerns have been referred and received appropriate support.   However, in the absence of a comprehensive (government) social welfare systems at the district level, the referral system is heavily dependent on services provided by the non-government sector, which are mostly project based with external funding. UNICEF is currently advocating and providing Ministry of Women and Children, including Central Child Welfare Board, for the establishment of a comprehensive child welfare system to prevent and respond to protection needs of vulnerable children. |
| * 1. National Plan of Action on Children Affected by Armed Conflict approved and implemented | * 1. No NPA exists | * 1. NPA in line with international standards approved and implemented (2012) | * 1. NPA drafted by MoPR and approved by cabinet on 29 December 2010.   UNICEF and CAAFAG Working Group supporting MoPR to develop implementation guideline. Concept not for NPTF has been approval. UNCIEF and CAAFG WG currently supporting 5 ministries and 4 departments to develop program document (proposal) to be submitted to NPTF for funding. |
| * 1. Number of self and informally released CAAFAG successfully reintegrated into their communities | * 1. 0 out of 7,500 self and informally released CAAFAG; 0 out of 3,000 vulnerable children | * 1. 5,500 CAAFAG; 3,000 vulnerable children (2012) | * 1. In 2011/12 provided reintegration support to over 3,563 CAAFAG and other children affected by conflict children in 30 districts |

1. *MoE = Ministry of Education; MoH = Ministry of Health* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)