 

**PEACEBUILDING FUND (PBF)**

**Final PROGRAMME-Narrative report**

**REPORTING PERIOD: from 04/2010 to 05/2012**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Programme Title & Project Number |  | Country, Locality(s), Thematic Area(s) |
| * Programme Title: Monitoring, reporting and response to conflict related child rights violations. * Programme Number (if applicable): UNPFN/A-8 PBF/NPL/E-2 * MPTF Office Project Reference Number:00078539 | *(if applicable)*  *Country/Region:* Nepal |
| *Thematic/Priority:* PBF Nepal Priority Area 1:-Strengthening State Capacity for Sustaining Peace.  UNPBF PMP Result 1 / Indicator 1.3  UNPFN Thematic/Priority: Cantonment and Reintegration  UNPFN Strategic Outcome: ‘Children and adolescents affected by armed conflict are effectively rehabilitated and reintegrated into communities in adherence with international law and guidelines’ |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Participating Organization(s) |  | Implementing Partners |
| * UNICEF and OHCHR | * National counterparts: Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR), International and national non-governmental organizations (I/NGOs). |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Programme/Project Cost (US$) | |  | Programme Duration (months) | |
| UNPFN/PBF Contribution:-  USD--2,664,095  UNICEF USD 1,911,960  OHCHR USD 752,135  (UNPFN: USD 1,285,091)  (PBF: USD 1,379,004) |  |  | Overall Duration *(months)* | 25 |
| Agency Contribution   * *by Agency (if applicable)* |  |  | Start Date | 08/04/2010 |
| Government Contribution - NA  *(if applicable)* |  |  | End Date (or Revised End Date) | 31/05/2012 |
| Other Contributions (donors)  *French Government US$-* | $ 586,786.00 |  | Operational Closure Date: | 31/05/12 |
| TOTAL: $ 3,250,881 |  |  | Expected Financial Closure Date: | 1/07/12 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Final Programme/ Project Evaluation |  | Submitted By |
| Evaluation Completed-  -- Yes--x No--Date: To be commissioned in first quarter 2013  Evaluation Report –The evaluation will be conducted through different funding source.  ---Yes-----No | * Name:-Brigitte Sonnois * Title: Chief, Child Protection * Participating Organization (Lead): UNICEF * Contact information: bsonnois@unicef.org |

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Programme was conceived with the overall goal to ensure that child protection actors, including state entities, take decisive and appropriate actions to prevent and respond to violations of children’s rights.

The overall objective was to monitor and report on the discharge and rehabilitation (DR) process and ongoing violations of children’s rights, as mandated by UNSCRs 1612 and 1882, as well as provide appropriate services for informally or self-released children associated with armed forces and armed groups (CAAFAG) and other children affected by armed conflict (CAAC) to ensure their successful reintegration into their communities.

In-line with the overarching goal of the strategic results framework of the UN Peace Fund for Nepal, the project activities supported the Nepal government and other stakeholders to catalyse actions on the transformative agenda of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, while supporting the fragile political process. In particular, the project supported the achievement of a critical benchmark in the peace process by monitoring compliance with the Action Plan signed by UCPN-M for the release of verified minors and late recruits and by directly supporting the successful social and economic reintegration of children affected by the decade long armed conflict.

Major project outcomes included monitoring of six grave child rights violations and the compliance with the Action Plan for the discharge of Verified Minors and Late Recruits. UNICEF supported the implementation of the monitoring and reporting mechanism (MRM) in 46 out of Nepal’s 75 districts through its implementing partners. The Country Task Force (CTF) documented 493 cases of six grave child rights violations involving children, out of which approximately 20% were referred to service providers or services. Regular reports on grave child rights violations were submitted to the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Children and Armed Conflict-(OSRSG-CAAC) by the CTF through ten global horizontal notes (progress updates). Based on the findings from the reports regular political dialogues were held with the UCPN-M leadership to advocate to stop violations against children.

The UN national monitoring team (UNMT) and four UN regional monitoring teams monitored and verified compliance with the Action Plan mainly through interviews with verified minors and other reliable sources in various districts, including with Maoist army senior leaders and Maoist political senior leaders. In June 2012, the UCPN-M was delisted from the Secretary- General (SG) Annual Global report on CAAC for successful implementation of the Action Plan.

The programme was able to provide a holistic support for the reintegration of 4,281 informally and self-released CAAFAG/CAAC into their communities. Of this, 76% children received education support, while 23% benefited from vocational training or income generating support. Out of the total CAAFAG and CAAC who received livelihood skill training (vocational and micro-enterprise skill training), 49% are engaged in economic activities, mostly embarking in trades such as carpentry, driving vehicles, mobile repair, sewing & cutting, among others, while 248 female CAAFAG and CAAC participants are linked to micro-credit groups. Of these 38% constitute female participants. During the project period, around 311 psychosocial workers in 30 districts received psychosocial training, as a result of which around 1,453-CAAFAG/CAAC (48% Females) received psychosocial support.

As part of the programme’s support, issues related to conflict affected children have found a place in the government’s agenda. In order to meet this strategic goal, technical assistance was provided to the MoPR and MoWCSW to draft the NPA-CAAC. As a result of consistent advocacy at all levels, the NPA-CAAC was finally approved by the Cabinet in December 2010 and officially launched in March 2011.

Moreover, the programme has been able to capacitate government and non-governmental actors in areas of child protection. Referral mechanisms have been established in programme districts, thereby enhancing coordination among child rights agencies. In addition, capacity building efforts targeting community based actors, such as child protection committees, child and youth clubs, have played a catalytic role in mobilizing them as advocates and guardians of children’s rights and protection. The programme activities have, therefore, played a crucial role in laying down the foundation for the establishment of a system for the protection of, not only conflict affected children, but all children who may be vulnerable to violence, abuse and exploitation. At national level, interventions focused on the formulation of policies and implementation guidelines (including mobilisation of resources). At the district level, the project focused on enhancing the technical skills of child rights actors to deal with the protection and reintegration of children affected by conflict. As a result of this effort, CAAFAG implementing partners (district based-NGOs) are now able to provide technical assistance to District Child Welfare Boards and District Women’s and Children’s Office and other agencies as trainers and resource persons and are also supporting District Juvenile Justice Coordination Committees (JJCC) to complete social inquiry reports for all children who come into conflict with the law, as provisioned in the Juvenile Justice Procedure Rule 2063 (2006).

At the district and community levels, UNICEF and the CAAFAG Working Group supported awareness-raising and sensitization activities targeting political parties, child protection committees, and other community groups on child rights issues and CAAFAG-specific issues. As a result, CAAFAG implementing partners were able to get commitments from district political leaders to exempt schools from the frequent “bandhs” or shutdowns.

UNICEF and the CAAFAG Working Group worked with adolescents and young people to support their participation in peacebuilding and to facilitate the social reintegration of CAAFAG into their communities. Altogether, 308 child and youth clubs were supported in the programme districts to conduct various peacebuilding and community based social activities (community dialogue, social activities engaging youths and community, various games to enforce team spirit and reconciliation etc.), stimulating a sense of positive participation among adolescents and young people in the community

In 2010, UNICEF submitted recommendations on the TRC Bill to the government, as a result of which children’s participation in the transitional justice process was featured in the draft TRC Bill. However, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Bill, is still awaiting Cabinet approval. Due to the delay in the approval of the TRC Bill and the formation of the commission, activities related to ensuring children’s participation in the transitional justice process could not be carried out as planned. UNICEF and CAAFAG Working Group members have agreed to start documenting cases of gross violations to be used for TJ process when the commission is formed by the government.

Looking at the longer-term aspects of successful community reintegration of children affected by the armed conflict and children formerly associated with armed groups or armed forces, the programme was able to restore social cohesion between former CAAFAG and other children in the community. The programme was, therefore, able to foster reconciliation amongst these different groups, not only through focused ‘peacebuilding and reconciliation activities’, but also by introducing elements of reconciliation in all components of the reintegration programmes, such as structural support to schools, collaboration with community based organisation, youth groups, etc.

Though the NPA-CAAC was approved in 2011, it is yet to be implemented due to the lack of government commitment and technical capacity within the participating government agencies for its implementation. UNICEF and the CAAFAG Working Group are currently supporting the government to develop a guideline for the implementation of the NPA-CAAC, while helping relevant ministries to develop project documents to access the Nepal Peace Trust Fund.

**11. PURPOSE**

The programme *“Monitoring, reporting and response to Conflict related Child Rights Violations”* was jointly managed by UNICEF Nepal and OHCHR from April 2010 to May 2012. The programme targeted children who suffered in many ways in the midst of armed conflict and in its aftermath.

The children and young people of Nepal have, in many respects, lost their childhood to the war. This is a generation that has not experienced much else but conflict in their lives. Nepal’s peace and future security will ultimately depend on the degree to which this generation of children and youth is given an opportunity to find their productive roles in society, to assume the onus of reconciling deep-rooted divisions, and to establish a more equitable society. The underlying purpose of this programme was to strengthen and support efforts to create an environment in which the rights of Nepal’s children and their families, many of whom have been so adversely affected by the conflict, are respected, protected, and fulfilled.

The programme comprised two complementary components with explicit outcomes and outputs for each.

**(i) Monitoring and reporting on the discharge and rehabilitation process** of former Maoist combatants (verified minors and late recruits who were discharged from the PLA[[1]](#footnote-1) cantonments) and ongoing violations of children’s rights, as mandated by UN Security Council Resolutions (UNSCRs) 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. This component was addressed with the following outcome and outputs.

*Outcome 1:* Strengthened capacity of child protection actors, including state entities, to monitor, document, verify and respond to grave child rights violations.

*Outputs:*

* 1. Strengthened capacity of 1612 Task Force to monitor, document, verify and report on grave child rights violations and compliance with the Action Plan;
  2. Strengthened capacity of child protection actors, including the Government, to respond to documented cases;
  3. Frameworks for capturing patterns of killing and maiming and sexual violence developed and implemented by the 1612 Task Force.

**(ii)** Continued provision of appropriate **reintegration support to informally or self-released CAAFAG**[[2]](#footnote-2) **and other children affected by conflict**, with the following outcome and outputs:

*Outcome 2:* Children are effectively rehabilitated and reintegrated back into their communities.

*Outputs:*

2.1 Enhanced capacity of the government to implement the National Plan of Action for reintegration of Children Affected by Armed Conflict;

2.2 Strengthened capacity of child protection partners to respond to documented cases;

2.3 Informally or self-released CAAFAG and CAAC have gained knowledge and skills that will contribute to their socio-economic reintegration;

2.4 Sustained and coordinated inter-agency advocacy against recruitment and misuse of children by political parties carried out by the CAAC Working Group;

2.5 Child clubs have mobilized to develop understanding and awareness of children and young people to transitional justice processes and peacebuilding.

In line with the overarching goal of the strategic results framework of the UN Peace Fund for Nepal and the Nepal Priority Plan, project activities supported the Nepal government and other stakeholders to catalyse actions on the transformative agenda of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, while supporting the fragile political process.

**Primary implementing partners and stakeholders including key beneficiaries**

***Monitoring of the six core violations as mandated by UNSCR 1612:*** The Country Task Force for Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR) was established in 2005 to monitor, verify and document cases related to grave child rights violations[[3]](#footnote-3). The CTFMR comprised five UN organizations: UNICEF and OHCHR as co-chairs, UNHCR and UNMIN[[4]](#footnote-4) (members), OCHA (observer). Other members included Save the Children in Nepal and NGOs, namely Advocacy Forum (AF), Child Workers in Nepal (CWIN), Partnerships for Protecting Children in Armed Conflict (PPCC), Himalayan Human Rights Monitor (HimRights) and Informal Service Sector Centre (INSEC). The key beneficiaries were the children and their families affected by the conflict.-

***Monitoring compliance with the Action Plan under the UNSCR 1612:***Under the framework of UNSCR 1612 (Children and armed conflict) the Government of Nepal, the Unified Communist Party of Nepal – Maoist (UCPN-M) and the United Nations (UN) signed an Action Plan for the discharge and rehabilitation of the verified minors and late recruits (VMLRs) on 16 December 2009. The Action Plan established a UN monitoring mechanism which comprised UNICEF and OHCHR to monitor the UCPN-M’s compliance with the Action Plan. Strong coordination and collaboration between the UN rehabilitation and monitoring teams at the national and field levels facilitated carrying out the monitoring activities effectively and efficiently.

***Reintegration support to informally or self-released CAAFAG and other children affected by conflict:*** In order to achieve outcomes related to the reintegration of informally or self-released CAAFAG[[5]](#footnote-5) and other children affected by conflict, UNICEF established partnerships with both government and non-government agencies at national and sub-national levels. At the national level, technical and coordination support was provided to the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR), Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MoWCSW) and other ministries, for the drafting and implementation of the National Plan of Action for Reintegration and Rehabilitation of Children Affected by Conflict (NPA-CAAC). In addition, UNICEF, as coordinator of the CAAFAG Working Group, pulled together expertise and resources from 17 I/NGOs (CAAFAG Working Group members) to support the government in developing the NPA-CAAC and to provide reintegration support to CAAFAG and other conflict-affected children in 41 districts. Out of the 41 districts, the UNPFN funded support to 39 districts in 2010, which was reduced to 30 districts in 2011/12.

At the sub-national level, the project was implemented in partnership with relevant government mechanisms working for children such as the District Child Welfare Board, Women and Children’s Office, as well as civil society, non-government agencies and community based organisations including child/youth clubs, village child protection committees, etc.

***Beneficiaries:***

The project was primarily intended to support children associated with armed forces and armed groups (CAAFAG), including all children associated with national Security Forces, (such as the Armed Police Force and the Nepal Army), the Maoist army, and other armed and fighting groups.

To avoid divisions in the community and prevent further stigmatization of CAAFAG through exclusively targeted support, the reintegration components of the project also included other conflict affected children and at risk community children as secondary beneficiaries. Conflict affected children broadly covered any children maimed, orphaned, separated, psychosocially harmed or sexually abused during conflict. At risk children incorporated children and youth who have been part of political indoctrination (through abductions, mass campaigns, cultural programmes), abducted, and/or whose families/relatives have close relations with armed groups/forces/fighting groups, as well as out-of-school children or children from economically marginalized families.

Both government and non-government actors, especially those with child protection mandates, benefited from capacity enhancement initiatives. These included MoPR, MoWCSW, Department of Women and Children, Central Child Welfare Board and district non-government child rights agencies and other community based organisation such as child/youth clubs, village child protection committees etc.

**III. ASSESSMENT OF PROGRAMME/ PROJECT RESULTS**

**Key outputs and variance achieved versus planned results**

**Outcome 1: Strengthened capacity of child protection actors, including state entities, to monitor, document, verify and respond to grave child rights violations:**

***Monitoring of the six core violations as mandated by the UNSCR 1612:***UNICEF supported the implementation of the monitoring and reporting mechanism (MRM) in 46 out of Nepal’s 75 districts through its implementing partners (Advocacy Forum (AF), Informal Sector Service Center (INSEC), and Partnership for Protecting Children in Armed Conflict Working Group (PPCC)) who are also members of the CTFMR. CTFMR had a strong field based monitoring network across all five regions of the country, covering 68 of the total 75 districts in Nepal. Most of the monitoring was carried out by Nepalese human rights NGOs and their community-based partners through the agreed standardized monitoring guidelines. Regular review meetings were conducted to identify challenges and discuss strategic directions to implement the monitoring mechanism.

The Country Task Force (CTF) documented 493 cases of six grave child rights violations involving children, out of which approximately 20% were referred to service providers or services (such as medical and legal aid) provided directly by the CTFMR. Regular reports on grave child rights violations were submitted to the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG-CAAC) by the CTF through ten global horizontal notes (progress updates). Based on the findings from the reports regular political dialogues were held with the UCPN-M leadership to advocate for stopping violations against children. Due to frequent advocacy with the UCPN-M, there was a significant decrease in the six grave child rights violations.

After the Constituent Assembly elections in April 2008, the number of conflict-related rights violations against children falling within the scope of UNSCR 1612 was insignificant. However, the emergence of armed groups operating with political and often criminal motives primarily in the Terai districts (southern belt of Nepal) and Eastern Hills, gave rise to general insecurity and instability. Public demonstrations, strikes and blockades sometimes involving children, were common means of protest. Such acts of violence created new risks for children and increased their vulnerability to violations, including abduction for ransom. However, no consistent pattern of violations could be established and perpetrators were often unidentified, as the situation in the Terai was fluid with rapid formation, splitting and disappearing of new armed groups. In this regard, the CTFMR (in coordination with the OSRSG-CAAC and UNICEF Headquarters) commissioned an independent assessment to better analyze the situation of the Terai and Eastern Hills. The findings of the assessment indicated that the violations against children in the Terai and Eastern Hills did not fall within the scope of UNSCR 1612. However, it recommended continued monitoring and reporting of violations through other potential mechanisms.

***Monitoring compliance with the Action Plan under the UNSCR 1612:***On 16 December 2009, the Action Plan for the discharge of verified minors and late recruits was signed by the Government of Nepal, the Unified Communist Party of Nepal – Maoist (UCPN-M) and the United Nations. The Action Plan established a Monitoring Mechanism to monitor UCPN-M’s compliance with the commitments laid out in the Action Plan regarding the Maoist army personnel who were verified as minors. Information on compliance of UCPN-M with the terms and conditions of the Action Plan was provided to the OSRSG-CAAC. The UCPN-M’s compliance with the Action Plan was a requirement for the delisting[[6]](#footnote-6) of UCPN-M from the Secretary General’s Annual Global report on CAAC.

Four UN regional monitoring teams were deployed in four regions of the country (Far-Western, Mid-Western, Central/Western and Eastern regions) under the supervision of the UNMT. The national monitoring team comprised of OHCHR and UNICEF with UNMIN playing an advisory role. The teams monitored and verified compliance with the Action Plan mainly through interviews with verified minors and other reliable sources in various districts, including with Maoist army senior leaders and Maoist political senior leaders. Information collected during interviews was recorded and analysed according to key indicators specified in the Action Plan.

Throughout the project period, several meetings were conducted between the UNMT and the UCPN-M at the central level to discuss and raise concerns with regard to compliance with the Action Plan. The regional monitoring teams also held several meetings with the seven division commanders (or acting division commanders) from each of the Maoist army cantonment sites to advocate with UCPN-M for full compliance with the Action Plan. The impact of the meetings was the delisting of the UCPN-M from the Secretary- General (SG) Annual Global report on children and armed conflict (CAAC).

Regular meetings were also conducted with the United Nations’ Interagency Rehabilitation Programme (UNIRP) central and field offices for effective and coordinated implementation of the programme. Information on individual cases of verified minors at risk of being coerced or otherwise involved in activities of military, paramilitary or violent nature and in contravention to the spirit of the Action Plan was shared regularly with the monitoring team for action. Alleged cases/trends where the party had obstructed the verified minors’ transition to civilian life, including by preventing or discouraging them from seeking or taking part in rehabilitation support (e.g. verified minors not accessing the rehabilitation packages as they consider themselves ‘on leave from the party and awaiting party instructions or party members saying that the packages are not useful’) were shared with the UNIRP for appropriate action.

A technical mission from the OSRSG-CAAC was undertaken in coordination with the UNMT in Nepal. The visit helped to advocate for final compliance of the UCPN-M with the Action Plan in collaboration with the UN team in Nepal. In addition, it assisted the Country Task Force and UN monitoring team to plan for full compliance with the Action Plan and successive planning for the MRM and action plan monitoring work in Nepal.

Ultimately, all the above mentioned initiatives led to delisting of the UCP-M from the Secretary- General (SG) Annual Global report on CAAC for successful implementation of the Action Plan.

**Output 2.1: Enhanced capacity of the government to implement the National Plan of Action for reintegration of Children Affected by Armed Conflict**

One major strategic goal of the project was to support relevant government institutions to take the lead in ensuring reintegration support to children affected by the decade-long armed conflict. In order to meet this strategic goal, technical assistance was provided to the MoPR and MoWCSW to draft the NPA-CAAC. As a result of consistent advocacy at all levels, the NPA-CAAC was finally approved by the Cabinet in December 2010 and officially launched in March 2011. The objective of the National Plan of Action is to support the overall peace process by implementing the Comprehensive Peace Agreement 2007 by ensuring rehabilitation and reintegration of all children affected by armed conflict through an integrated programme.

Following the approval of the NPA-CAAC, the Government established a technical committee, with UNICEF’s participation, to support the implementation of the NPA-CAAC. In addition, MoPR constituted a central level inter-ministerial implementation committee, coordinated by the Secretary of MoPR, to provide coordination and policy guidance for the implementation of the NPA-CAAC. In parallel, UNICEF supported MoPR to develop a concept note and a project document to access financial resources from the Nepal Peace Trust Fund (NPTF) for the overall implementation of the NPA-CAAC. The Project concept note, submitted by MoPR, was approved by NPTF in May 2012.

The national implementation committee took a strategic decision in mid-2012, to implement the NPA-CAAC through an inter-ministerial mechanism engaging five different ministries and four departments. Apart from the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare and Ministry of Education, none of the other ministries or departments expected to implement the NPA, had experience in working with children affected by conflict, or had a specific budget allocated for the implementation of the NPA. The delay in the implementation of the NPA can therefore be attributed to a lack of commitment, limited technical capacity within the participating government agencies and frequent changes of government officials.

In order to address this, UNICEF has intensified advocacy efforts with the relevant ministries in order to include the implementation of the NPA the respective ministries’ plans. In addition, UNICEF has been supporting the ministries to develop project documents to mobilise their internal resources and access NPTF. UNICEF has also been able to mobilize CAAFAG Working Group member agencies to (voluntarily) provide technical assistance to the concerned ministries for the conceptualization of project strategies and the development of project documents and designing of reintegration programmes based on national and international practices

Subject to mobilization of funds by the government, the implementation of the NPA-CAAC is expected to begin in all 75 districts in 2013.

**Output 2.2: Strengthened capacity of child protection partners to respond to documented cases**

One of the project outputs was to strengthen and support government and civil society efforts to create an environment in which the rights of Nepal’s children and their families (many of whom have been so adversely affected by the conflict) are respected, protected, and fulfilled. In order to strengthen mechanisms for a protective and responsive environment, the project supported capacity enhancement interventions at the national, district and community levels. National level interventions focused on the formulation of policies and implementation guidelines (including mobilisation of resources), while sub-national interventions focused on capacity building of relevant stakeholders (with enhanced coordination among government and non-government service providers). As a result, at national level, the NPA-CAAC was endorsed by the government, and relevant ministries are preparing project documents to access funds for implementation.

***District level:*** At the district level, the project focused on enhancing the technical skills of child rights actors to deal with the protection and reintegration of children affected by conflict. Since a majority of the districts did not have organisations specializing on child protection and reintegration interventions, the project focused on building the capacity of implementing partners in 30 districts in a range of child protection areas. In a majority of the programme districts, CAAFAG implementing agencies have been providing technical assistance to District Child Welfare Board and District Women’s and Children Office and other agencies as trainers and resource persons. The partnership between district CAAFAG implementing partners and District Juvenile Justice Coordination Committees (JJCC) can be considered as a good example. The Juvenile Justice Procedure Rule 2063 (2006) provides for the preparation of a social inquiry report for all children who come into conflict with the law. However, District JJCCs, police and district courts had not been able to provide these services due to lack of trained social workers available in the districts. Since the beginning of 2012, the capacity gap has been met through CAAFAG implementing partners who are currently supporting district JJCC, including police and district courts, to prepare social inquiry reports for children who come into conflict with law, as well as providing them with psychosocial support as needed. The collaboration between CAAFAG implementing partners and District JJCCs has been expanded to all 40 districts with Juvenile Benches.

Enhancing coordination among child protection actors and bringing them together into one forum has remained a major strategic approach. Leveraging the CAAFAG Working Group’s strength, UNICEF has been able to establish a district referral mechanism to support children at risk and to refer cases warranting emergency intervention*.* To make the referral mechanism more effective, CAAFAG implementing partners in 26 districts provided support to District WCOs to conduct a mapping of relevant service providers in the district. Reports from 10 districts showed that 153 children who were in need of protection had been referred and received support from government and non-government child protection agencies. Types of services received ranged from family tracking and reunion, rescue and reintegration of child labour and victims of sexual abuse, psychosocial support including prevention of early marriage, dialogue with schools and teachers against corporal punishment etc.

***Community level:*** In the near absence of government child protection mechanisms at the community level, the project worked with existing community based organisations (village child protection committees (VCPCs), child/youth clubs, school management committees women’s groups, etc.) for prevention and protection of children affected by conflict, including other vulnerable children. In the 30 supported districts, the project provided capacity building support to 209 VCPCs, 308 child clubs and 140 school management committees. The community based organisations have played a deterrent role to prevent and respond to various child protection issues. Many of them have started accessing local resources to carry out further activities for identified children. Between 2010 and 2012, child clubs and child protection committees in 17 districts were able to access funds from Village Development Committee (VDC) grants to carry out activities for children in the VDC.

***Psychosocial support:***Studies undertaken in the framework of the CAAFAG programme revealed that a significant percentage of former CAAFAG (45% M; 64% F) showed symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) as a result of their involvement in the conflict, as opposed to much lower levels among civilian children (17.4% M; 21.9% F). The study provided valuable insights into the psychosocial issues faced by CAAFAG and their coping mechanism.

The project took initiatives to make provisions for psychosocial support at district and community level by training community-based psychosocial counselors through tailor-made trainings. During the project period (2010-2012) around 311 psychosocial workers in 30 districts were provided with various levels of psychosocial trainings. As a result, around 1,453-CAAFAG/CAAC (48% Females), received psychosocial support in 39 districts during the project duration. Of the total number of cases, around 65 cases required regular psychosocial counseling (2 or more visits per month) based on the severity of the cases.

UNICEF has mapped existing psychosocial workers trained through the CAAFAG programme implemented by UNICEF and CAAFAG WG. Details of individual psychosocial workers, types of training received, agencies/organisations they are associated with and their contact details were last updated in mid-2012. Based on the collected information, a draft website containing the list of trained psychosocial workers has been developed and is expected to be finalized in 2013. The website is expected to be hosted by the MoWCSW and Central Child Welfare Board website, once the software, to centrally compile CAAC and CAAFAG database is developed. The roster, once hosted in the database, is intended to provide district and community level information of existing psychosocial workers, for emergency and non-emergency programmes and responses.

**Output 2.3: Informally or self-released CAAFAG and CAAC have gained knowledge and skills that will contribute to their socio-economic reintegration**

The community based reintegration programme provides a holistic approach towards the reintegration of CAAFAG and CAAC. The programme ensures access to services such as formal and non-formal education, skill training, income-generating activities, and psychosocial support to CAAFAG and CAAC.

Altogether, 4,281 (45% female) informally and self-released CAAFAG and other children affected by armed conflict were identified and received reintegration support during the project duration. Of this, 76% children received education support, while 23% benefited from vocational training or income generating support.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Number of CAAFAG Supported** | | | |
| CAAFAG | Male | Female | Total |
| -Education support | 1150 (62%) | 709 (38%) | 1859 |
| Vocational training | 140  (59%) | 96 (41%) | 236 |
| Income Generating Activities | 231 (63%) | 135-(37%) | 366 |
| **Total** | **1521 (62%)** | **940** (38%) | **2461** |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Number of CAAC Supported** | | | |
|  | Male | Female | Total |
| Education support | 738 (47%) | 823-(53%) | 1,561 |
| Vocational training | 8  (11%) | 63 (89%) | 71 |
| Income Generating Activities | 95  (51%) | 93 (49%) | 188 |
| **Total** | **841 (46%)** | **979** (54%) | **1,820** |

Based on the Paris Principles for the reintegration of CAAFAG, the assistance given to individual CAAFAG was always coupled with support to the community structure in order to create a sense of community involvement and participation towards the reintegration of CAAFAG. During the project duration, 140 schools received structural support which contributed to the improvement of school facilities (e.g. drinking water, toilets, library, including other teaching, learning and sports equipment) based on their needs.

As indicated in the table above, 307 CAAFAG and CAAC (51% female), received vocational training, while an additional 554 (41% female) received income generating support. Out of the total CAAFAG and CAAC who received livelihood skill training, 49% are engaged in economic activities, mostly embarking in trades in non-formal sectors such as carpentry, driving vehicles, mobile phone repair, sewing & cutting, among others. One major factor which contributed towards the linking of CAAFAG/CAAC to the labour market was the proactive role of implementing partners who identified and coordinated with potential employers for job placement. The programme further supported 782 CAAFAG and CAAC with small grants (income generating support) as means to start their own business, such as cosmetics shops, grocery stores or engage in agro-based activities. In addition, 157 of the poorest and most marginalized families of CAAFAG or CAAC received IGA (income generating activities) support to help them generate sufficient income to be able to keep their children enrolled in school. A total of 248 female CAAFAG and CAAC participants were linked to micro-credit groups, established by the Department of Women and Children, allowing access to financial support to sustain or expand their business.

Types of support provided to CAAFAG participants varied, depending on the types of social reintegration challenges encountered by them. During the project period, 47 male and 399 female CAAFAG/CAAC received gender specific support based on individual needs assessments. Forms of support included medical support, nutritional diets for pregnant and lactating mothers, family and community mediation to facilitate social acceptance, income-generating support to CAAFAG and their family members and linking them with community support groups such as women’s saving groups, youth clubs among others.

**Output 2.4: Sustained and coordinated inter-agency advocacy against recruitment and misuse of children by political parties carried out by CAAFAG Working Group**

In collaboration with the Save the Children Alliance and World Education, UNICEF maintains an interagency database on CAAFAG, bringing together inputs from the three lead organizations and their community-based partners. The database maintains individual records of CAAFAG/CAAC who have been registered and supported by the programme. UNICEF Nepal and CAAFAG Working group migrated to the upgraded version of the interagency database on CAAFAG (Inter-Agency Child Protection –Information Management System) for documentation of CAAFAG and CAAC information. The database was adapted to Nepal’s context to add in additional features allowing documentation of more information, especially related to different services provided to CAAFAG following their registration. The CAAFAG Working Group (together with other child-focused agencies) meets regularly at national, regional and district levels, and discusses case management and referral.

Schools were used by security forces and armed groups as training centres and security bases both during and after the conflict. Schools have also been used by political parties for meetings, political orientation programmes and protest activities. Moreover, schools are disrupted by frequent ‘bandhs’ (‘shutdowns’) enforced by various political parties. Furthermore, students and young children are used by political parties in demonstrations and mass rallies, often exposing them to protection risks.

As a result of UNICEF’s constant advocacy against the misuse of children, a number of key new instruments were introduced in Nepal. Firstly, 32 political parties signed a declaration in 2008 and pledged their commitment to promote children’s rights In the commitment, the political parties have pledged to safeguard interests of children in the new constitution and to ensure children’s rights to basic health and education services and social protection and to refrain from recruiting children by armed forces or armed groups. Furthermore, the Government of Nepal passed a directive declaring all schools (including school buses) as Zones of Peace in May 2011.

Despite the commitments made by political parties at various levels, schools and children remain victims of violence and political interference. According to information documented by 1612 MRM from 33 districts, a total of 124 days of ‘bandhs’ (both national and local) were observed in 2011, affecting school operations (closure of schools) adversely. Children are still used by various political parties during political demonstrations or to enforce bandhs. Much, therefore, remains to be done to enforce the government’s directive to declare all Schools as Zone of Peace and to reinforce the commitments by political parties to make schools violence free and to stop misusing children for political activities.

**Output 2.5: Child clubs have mobilized to develop understanding and awareness of children and young people to transitional justice processes and peace building**

UNICEF and the CAAFAG Working Group worked with adolescents and young people to support their participation in peace building and other social activities. The objective to engage with adolescents and young people was to facilitate the social reintegration of CAAFAG into their communities and to enhance social harmony through the promotion of positive roles among adolescents and young people.

Within the project duration, 308 child and youth clubs were supported in the programme districts. As part of capacity building efforts, trainings were provided in areas of peace building, negotiation and leadership skills. As a result, the clubs were able to conduct various peace building and community-based social activities (community dialogue, social activities engaging youths and community, various games to foster team spirit and reconciliation, etc.), stimulating a sense of positive participation among adolescents and young people in the community. In addition, the clubs promoted the participation of CAAFAG in their activities, offering them a platform to utilise the leadership skills they had acquired during their association with the armed groups.

As a signatory to the CRC, the Government of Nepal is obliged to ensure justice to children who may have suffered during the conflict. In the absence of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Bill, which is still awaiting Cabinet approval, the fate of the envisaged Truth and Reconciliation Commission and other transitional justice processes is not clear. Given that the concerned government institutions lack adequate technical capacity to ensure safe and meaningful participation of children in the Transitional Justice process, UNICEF has been providing technical assistance to the government of Nepal (MoPR and MoWCSW) to enhance government officials’ capacity to work with children’s issues in the Transitional Justice process. In 2010, UNICEF submitted recommendations on the TRC Bill to the government, as a result of which children’s participation in the transitional justice process is featured in the draft TRC Bill as well as in the National Plan of Action for children affected by armed conflict. Though the MoPR has agreed to draft an implementation plan to facilitate children’s participation in the Transitional Justice process, work to this effect was not initiated as the TRC Bill remains unapproved.

**Outputs contribution to the achievement of the outcomes and variance in actual versus planned contributions to the outcomes**

The reintegration support has brought about direct impact in the lives of 4,281 children who were formerly associated with armed groups or were affected by armed conflict, by facilitating their return to their families, providing access to development opportunities, and by restoring their hopes and dignity.

Looking at the longer-term aspects of successful community reintegration of children affected by the armed conflict and children formerly associated with armed groups or armed forces, the programme was able to restore social cohesion between former CAAFAG and other children in the community. Reconciliation amongst all these groups is perhaps the most fragile and also the most important element of a national peace building process. The programme was, therefore, able to foster reconciliation amongst these different groups, not only through focused ‘peace building and reconciliation activities’, but also by introducing elements of reconciliation in all components of the reintegration programmes, such as structural support to schools, collaboration with community based organisation, youth groups, etc.

As a result of advocacy effort and technical assistance, the government has approved the National Plan of Action for the reintegration of children affected by armed conflict (NPA-CAAC). In the process of developing the NPA-CAAC, the relevant ministries have been sensitized on the special needs of conflict-affected children and the need to mainstream them in the government-implemented programmes. As a result, five sectorial ministries and three departments have started developing project documents for the implementation of the NPA-CAAC.

The verified minors and late recruits discharged from the Maoist cantonments in 2010/11, were offered reintegration packages whose value exceeds the value of support offered to the informally and self-released CAAFAG (those who did not register in the Maoist cantonments). The additional two-year support provided to the informally and self-released CAAFAG, contributed to mitigating the dissatisfaction and possible tension among the informally and self-released despite the discrepancy between the reintegration support offered to them and to the verified minors and late recruits. None of the informally released and self-released CAAFAG is known to have joined the ‘former Maoist army struggle committee’.

Development of child-friendly process and procedures for children’s participation in the Transitional Justice process had to be deferred as the government endorsement of the TRC Bill and the formation of TRC was delayed.

**Overall contribution of the programme to the Strategy Planning Framework and other strategic documents**

For Nepal, the consolidation of the peace, including the implementation of Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), lies at the heart of the UNDAF 2008-12 strategic framework (UNDAF Outcome A). The programme, in particular, was able to support the implementation of the CPA, which among other commitments, assures rehabilitation and reintegration support to children affected by conflict. In addition to the drafting of the NPA-CAAC, technical assistance offered to government and non-government child rights agencies have resulted in the establishment of a nationwide network capable of offering critical services (such as tracing, psychosocial support, and other forms of reintegration and protection services) to children affected by conflict at the district and community levels. The network of child rights agencies and service providers will be instrumental in supporting the government’s implementation of the NPA-CAAC.

The UNDAF framework emphasises the promotion and protection of human rights of children, women and socially excluded groups and the creation of an enabling child-friendly environment for holistic development. Through various awareness and capacity building initiatives, the programme was able to raise the profile of issues related to children affected by conflict in particular and in vulnerable situations in general. Moreover, out of the total number of registered CAAFAG supported through the programme, a significant number belonged to socially excluded groups: 45% were female participants while 64% belonged to Janjati, Dalit and other marginalised communities. The majority had joined the armed group because of economic reasons, as they belonged to economically disadvantaged families[[7]](#footnote-7).

Furthermore, the foundation for establishing functional protective systems has been laid in the project districts, through the strengthening of community based stakeholders, such as Village Child Protection Committees, which have become advocates of child rights at community level. At district level, child rights reporting and response has become effective in 18 districts, supported directly by UNICEF, through the establishment of a referral system, led by the Women and Children Office, though the results are not consistently remarkable in all the working districts.

**Contribution of the programme to cross-cutting issues**

CAAFAG, particularly females, had to face numerous challenges in the course of their reintegration into the society. Female CAAFAGs were not readily accepted by their family and community members. Having stayed away from home during their association with the armed groups, their moral ‘character’ was questioned. Due to the social stigma attached to female CAAFAGs, many of them were pressured by their family members to marry early. In addition, CAAFAG who had married without the consent of their family members or with a person from another caste faced additional challenges as they were not readily accepted by their families, since inter-caste marriage is not widely accepted in Nepalese society.

In order to address these issues, the programme supported the capacity building of district implementing partners focusing on mainstreaming gender and including gender equality objectives in the programming. The programme focused on two aspects in order to address gender issues. A major focus of the pilot project was ensuring that formerly associated girls were registered with government agencies and thereby eligible for existing forms of support, particularly economic programmes. For instance, around 248 formerly associated girls have been incorporated into the credit and savings groups established at the district level by the Department of Women, Children and Social Welfare. By linking them with social services, specifically micro-credit projects, the pilot project laid the groundwork for the girls’ continued economic reintegration. In addition, around 47 male and 399 female CAAFAG/CAAC received gender specific support based on individual needs assessment, which includes services such as nutritional diets for pregnant and lactating mothers, family and community mediation to facilitate social acceptance and income-generating support to their family members. By working with children and youths, the programme was also able to promote social cohesion, and community acceptance and participation of female participants. For example, many girls, formerly associated with armed groups, are now active participants and leaders of local children’s clubs. They are now seen as legitimate representatives of all children and not just as CAAFAG.

**UNPFN/PBF funding catalytic in attracting funding or other resources**

UNICEF and the CAAFAG Working Group supported the reintegration programme in 39 districts in 2010 and 30 districts in 2011/12. UNICEF was able to pull together expertise and resources of CAAFAG WG members to support the government in developing the NPA-CAAC and to provide reintegration support to CAAFAG and other conflict affected children in these districts. In addition to UNPFN, UNICEF received funding from the French government to support the programme. UNICEF also received funding from AusAID to support the reintegration of CAAFAG and CAAC and the strengthening of child protection systems in the post-conflict situation. In addition, other members of the CAAFAG Working Group (Save the Children, CWIN) were able to mobilize additional resources from other donors to support the reintegration of CAAFAG and CAAC.

**Assessment of the programme/ project based on performance indicators.**

Major project outcomes included monitoring of child rights violations and compliance with the Action Plan for the discharge of Verified Minors and Late Recruits. The 1612 Task Force was able to submit 2 annual reports and ten Horizontal Notes to the Office of the Special Representative to the Secretary General on Children Affected by Armed Conflict. Altogether 493 cases of violations involving children were documented out of which approximately 20% were referred for services such as medical and legal aid. Compliance with the Action Plan ultimately led to the delisting of UCPN-M from the Secretary General’s Annual Global Report on CAAC in June 2012.

The programme was able to provide holistic support for the reintegration of 4,281 informally and self-released CAAFAG/CAAC into their communities. Among these, 76% of the children received education support, while 23% benefited from vocational training or income generating support. The support provided through the programme contributed in mitigating the dissatisfaction and possible tension among the informally and self-released despite the discrepancy between the reintegration support offered to them and to the Verified Minors and Late Recruits.

As a result of the programme’s support, issues related to conflict-affected children have found a place in the government’s agenda. The NPA-CAAC has been approved and an implementation guideline is being developed.

Moreover, the programme has been able to capacitate government and non-governmental actors in areas of child protection. In addition, capacity building efforts targeting community-based actors, such as child protection committees, child and youth clubs have played a catalytic role in mobilizing them as advocates and guardians of children’s rights and protection. The programme activities have, therefore, played a crucial role in laying down the foundation for the establishment of a system for the protection of, not only conflict-affected children, but of all children who may be vulnerable to violence, abuse and exploitation.

**1V. EVALUATION & LESSONS LEARNED**

***Assessments, evaluations or studies undertaken relating to the programme***

UNICEF is in the process of conducting the evaluation of the programme. The Terms of Reference have been finalised, with inputs from programme and evaluation specialists. The Evaluation working team has recommended an external consultant for the evaluation, which is expected to be completed during the first half of 2013. Since a national consultant with adequate evaluation skills on the subject matter could not be identified, an international consultant had to be sought, which delayed the process. Moreover, once the international consultant was identified, it was not possible to find a mutually suitable time for both the organisation and the consultant to conduct the evaluation in 2012.

***Challenges in programme implementation***

Though the NPA-CAAC was approved in 2011, it is yet to be implemented. The delay in the implementation can be attributed to the lack of commitment and technical capacity within the participating government agencies, as well as frequent changes of government officials, and lack of financial and human resources. For example, some ministries (Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction, Ministry of Health) who were given a role in the implementation of the NPA, have very little experience in working with children affected by conflict, and do not have a budget allocated for the implementation of the NPA.

In order to address this, UNICEF has intensified advocacy efforts with the relevant ministries in order to include the implementation of the NPA in the respective ministries’ plans. In addition, UNICEF has been supporting the relevant ministries to develop project documents for mobilization of internal resources and access NPTF for the implementation of NPA.

There is a major political debate on the form of TRC which the government should adopt. Some political parties want the TRC Bill to include impunity as a means to reconciliation, while others, including national and international human rights agencies are against impunity for grave human rights violators. In the absence of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Bill, which is still awaiting Cabinet approval, the fate of the envisaged Truth and Reconciliation Commission and other transitional justice processes is not clear. Due to the delay in the approval of the TRC Bill and the subsequent formation of the commission, activities related to ensuring children’s participation in the transitional justice process could not be carried out as planned.

***Lessons learned***

**Monitoring of the six core violations as mandated by the UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1612:**

Though there was a significant decrease in the 6 grave violations committed against children, new protection challenges emerged. The emergence of groups using force for political and often for criminal motives and the growing ‘culture’ of strikes and disturbances as a method of protest have increased children’s vulnerability to violations. It was learnt that a different mechanism was required to address the issue since it did not fall within the scope of the UNSCR 1612.

Operating the 1612 monitoring and reporting mechanism in the post-conflict situation was extremely challenging due to the frequent changes in the political scenarios. It was a challenge to maintain regular dialogue with UCPN-M senior leaders and Maoist army commanders as they were not always available to discuss the issues related to compliance with the Action Plan.

The political situation had significant influence on UCPN-M’s 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 competing political priorities that dominated the agenda of UCPN-M’s leadership.

**Reintegration support to informally or self-released CAAFAG/CAAC**:

In order to support the reintegration of CAAFAG and CAAC, UNICEF worked with district-based local partners, while the role of national level I/NGOs was limited to coordination and technical support. Capacity building efforts targeting the district-based partners have had wider and longer lasting effects, as a majority of the partners have expanded their scope, engaging in other areas of child rights and protection issues.

It is important to note the importance of community participation and engagement for the success of the programme. The reintegration programme had strategically embedded community engagement in the design phase which allowed the community’s participation at various phases of the programme. This also included capacity building of community based voluntary organisations. This has had a positive impact on the outcome of the programme. The community’s participation not only facilitated the social acceptance and reintegration of CAAFAG/CAAC but also contributed to their economic reintegration as the community based credit groups willingly accepted their participation.

**A Specific Story**

# Beauty Parlour changed Ritu’s life

In 1989, Ritu (name changed) was in Rupandehi district. Her father died when she was young. She had associated with an armed group of the then Maoists when she was studying in grade IX following persuasion from her friends and in order to earn money.

She had to serve as a cook and washed dishes for months as a volunteer. She had no option but to listen to stories of arms, bombs and attacks, and narrations of death. During that time some organizations were releasing children like her. Some were even running away to their families and relatives. One day, Ritu got the opportunity to run away from the camp. She escaped and reached her village. The community was skeptical about her return. This troubled her. She started to get panic attacks and nightmares. Her family had no means of income so every day became a struggle.

Ritu was struggling mentally. One day she met a social worker. She got an opportunity to share openly about her past with her. The social worker talked with her and promised to support her. The psychosocial worker, who was with the social worker, counselled her after understanding her feelings. Ritu expressed her interest in becoming a beautician, so the organization arranged for her to be trained in this field. She managed to collect some money with which she opened a beauty parlour close to her village. She named it Kumkum Beauty Parlour. She also became a member of a child club and began to participate actively in the club activities.

Her business started to expand day by day because of her contacts and networks. She started by earning one hundred Rupees per day through the beauty parlour. Now, she is earning as much as one thousand per month. She has been able to manage her family expenses comfortably with that amount and to support her younger sister to get a Bachelor's Degree. She no longer has mental health problems. She is also active in the club activities. She considers herself lucky and openly credits the reintegration programme for the transformation which has come to her life.

**V. INDICATOR BASED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **PRIORITY CLUSTER A. Cantonment/Reintegration** | | | | | | |
| **Strategic Outcome** | **Contributing Outputs** | **Verifiable Indicators** | **Baseline (by year)** | **Milestones and Target (by year)** | **Current / Final Status** | **UNPFN Project(s)** |
| ***Children and adolescents 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. 2 annual report on 1612 Action Plan monitoring and 10 Global horizontal notes submitted to UN SC Working Group on CAAC | * Monitoring, reporting and response to conflict related child rights violations (UNPFN/A-8) * (PBF/NPL/E-2) * (UNICEF-OHCHR) |
| 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 piloted in 29 districts. Advocating with government for more ownership and commitment. |
| 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 guidelines. |
| 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. Altogether, 4,281-(45% Female) informally and self released CAAFAG and other children affected by armed conflict (CAAC) were identified and received reintegration support during the project duration. |

|  | **Performance Indicators** | | **Indicator Baselines** | **Planned Indicator Targets** | **Achieved Indicator Targets** | **Reasons for Variance**  **(if any)** | | **Source of Verification** | | **Comments**  **(if any)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Outcome 1: Strengthened capacity of child protection actors, including state entities, to monitor, document, verify and respond to grave child rights violations (monitoring component)** | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Output 1.1**  1.1 Strengthened capacity of 1612 Task Force to monitor, document, verify and report on grave child rights violations and the compliance with the discharge Action Plan | | Indicator-1.1.1 Number of trainings/orientation programs on monitoring and reporting mechanism conducted | NA | 10 | 10 |  | Progress reports | | |  |
| Indicator 1.1.2 Num  ber of national and international trained monitors deployed | NA |  | 4 international UNVs, 1 international consultant, 3 staff, 8 national consultants | - | Progress reports | | |  |
| Indicator 1.1.3 Number of cases where links between UCPN-M military command structure and discharged minors have been verified | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | | | Only the trend could be determined |
| Indicator 1.1.4 Timely submission of two annual reports and appr. ten Horizontal Notes to the SC Working Group on CAAFAG and to the Security Council | NA | 2 annual reports and 10 global horizontal notes | 2 annual reports and 10 global horizontal notes | NA | The SG’s global annual report on Children and armed conflict | | | The reports cannot be shared because of confidential information however the consolidated findings are provided in the SG’s global annual report on Children and armed conflict |
| Indicator 1.1.5 Number of cases on six grave violations monitored, verified and reported | NA | NA | 493 | NA | Global horizontal notes | | |  |
| Indicator 1.1.6 Number of Global Horizontal Notes and annual reports submitted to the Security Council Working Group  1612 Database is regularly updated | NA | 2 annual reports and 10 global horizontal notes | 2 annual reports and 10 global horizontal notes | NA | The SG’s global annual report on Children and armed conflict | | | The reports cannot be shared because of confidential information however the consolidated findings is provided in the SG’s global annual report on Children and armed conflict |
| Indicator 1.1.7 Number of Global Horizontal Notes and annual reports submitted to the Security Council Working Group | - | - | - | - | - | | | Same as above |
| Indicator 1.1.8 Strategies discussed and reviewed in 1612 TF meetings | NA | 2 strategic review meetings | 2 strategic review meetings | - | - | | |  |
| **Output 1.2**  1.2 Strengthened capacity of child protection actors, including Government to respond to documented cases. | | Indicator-1.2.1-Number of referral mechanisms established and implemented in the project districts  Number of referrals made to the concerned service providers. | NA | 18 districts | 18 districts;  98 cases of referrals | - | - | | |  |
| Indicator 1.2.2 Percentage of approx. 2,000 children identified by the 1612 Task Force whose immediate protection needs are responded to through the WDO-led referral mechanism. | - | - | - | - | - | | | Very few cases were referred to the WDO led referral mechanism since the WDO could not cater to all referred cases due to lack of financial capacity and appropriate services |
| **Output 1.3**  Frameworks for capturing patterns of killing and maiming and sexual violence are developed and implemented by the 1612 Task Force; | | Indicator-1.3.1 Number of cases of killing, maiming and sexual violence documented | NA | NA | Killing/Maiming- 61 cases (F-26 and M-35) documented-  In Sexual Violence- 235 cases (F-229 and M-6) documented |  | 1612 Database system | | |  |
| **Outcome 2: Children are effective rehabilitated and reintegrated back into their communities (reintegration component)** | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Output 2.1**  Enhanced capacity of the government to implement-the National Plan of Action for reintegration of-Children Affected by Armed Conflict | Indicator-2.1.1  NPA-CAAC developed and approved by government.  Comprehensive inter-ministerial NPA-CAAC implementation plan developed by concerned ministries (MWCSW, MoPR, MoE) | | No NPA-CAAC | National Plan of Action for Children Affected by Armed Conflict (NPA-CAAC) approved and implemented | NPA-CAAC drafted and-approved by cabinet on 29 Dec 2010. Implementation guideline exist in-draft form. | Frequent changes in the govt. Engagement of multi-sectoral (14) government ministries/ departments with limited capacity. | | | Various Reports – MoPR, MoWC&SW |  |
| Indicator-2.1.2 Number of CAAC attending regular schools or engaged in economic activities after receiving-reintegration support as per NPA-CAAC | | No baseline data -number of CAAC | Approximately 200 CAAC per district (15,000). | None | Lack of financial resources because government implementing agencies (5 different ministries) were unable to submit project proposals to NPTF in time -2011 | | | Various Reports – MoPR, MoWC & SW | UNICEF and CAAFAG Working Group are still providing technical assistance to MoPR and other 4 ministries to develop project proposal to be submitted to the NPTF. |
| **Output 2.2**  Strengthened capacity of child protection partners to respond to documented cases | Indicator-2.2.1:  Number of psychosocial workers trained to support CAAFAG and CAAC | | Approximately 150 psychosocial workers in 19 districts. | At least 4-5 psychosocial workers in all 40 CAAFAG programme districts. | * 138 (62M/ 78F) psychosocial workers trained on less than 27 days psychosocial training. * 52 (32M/20 F) Psychosocial workers trained 27 days psychosocial training. * 21 (15M/5 F) Psychosocial workers trained on more than 27 days psychosocial training. |  | | | UNICEF Reports |  |
| Indicator-2.2.2 Regional and district level referral systems for psychosocial interventions established and functional | | No referral mechanism | Set up of referral mechanism in 30 targeted districts. | Referral mechanism established in 30 districts, however the mechanism is more effective in 18 districts because of good partnership between government and non-government actors |  | | | UNICEF Report |  |
| Indicator-2.2.3 Number of community based organisations (women groups, child/youth clubs, child protection committees, SMC) actively engaged in activities supporting-the reintegration process | | None | In 30 districts | 657 number of community based activities organized for supporting the reintegration process |  | | | UNICEF and government (CCWB) report |  |
| **Output 2.3**  Informally or self-released CAAFAG and CAAC have gained knowledge and skills that will contribute to their socio-economic reintegration | Indicator-2.3.1: Number of children receiving education support | | 0 of 7,500 self and informally released CAAFAG  0 of 3,000 vulnerable children | 5,500 CAAFAG;  3,000 CAAC/ vulnerable children | 80% , 3420 out of 4282 children received education support  (CAAFAG-1859 and CAAC 1561) | Other CAAFAG WG partners supported additional number of CAAFAG/CAAC in their respective districts through their own resources. | | | UNICEF –and CAAFAG implementing partners report |  |
| Indicator-2.3.2: Number of children engaged in economic activities as a result of provided training | | None | 20% of total CAAFAG/CAAC | * 7%, 307 received vocational and post training support; 554 CAAFAG/CAAC received IGA support. * 293 children (218 CAAFAG+75 CAAC) are engaged in economic activities as a result of training. | Majority of CAAFAG/CAAC preferred Educaiton support | | | UNICEF –and CAAFAG implementing partners report |  |
| Indicator-2.3.3: Number of children receiving gender specific reintegration support | | No baseline | Based on individual assessment | * 198 children (47 Male and 151 Female) have received gender specific reintegration support. * 162 CAAFAG (47 Male and 115 Female) * 36 Female CAAC |  | | | UNICEF –and CAAFAG implementing partners |  |
| Indicator-2.3.4. Number of schools receiving support per CAAFAG receiving education support | | No Baseline | 30 districts | * 138-School in 30 districts |  | | | UNICEF –and CAAFAG implementing partners |  |
| Indicator-2.3.5. Number of successfully reintegrated cases closed | | No Baseline | 50% | * 36% are successfully reintegrated | Through individual assessment, it was identified that 36% if the CAAFAG/CAAC cases could be closed. | | | UNICEF –and CAAFAG implementing partners | Majority of the cases who where closed had adequate support from their family members. |
| **Output 2.4**  Sustained and coordinated inter-agency advocacy against recruitment and misuse of children by political parties carried out by CAAC Working Group | Indicator-2.4.1. Bi-annual production of analytical reports- | | Bi-annual | Bi-annual report | Bi-annual |  | | | UNICEF reports |  |
| Indicator-2.4.2. Endorsement of inter-agency strategy against misuse and recruitment of children by armed groups by CAAC Working Group | | None | Strategy Paper exists | Strategy paper endorsed |  | | | UNICEF reports |  |
| Indicator-2.4.3. Number of campaigns carried out in cooperation with Schools as Zones of Peace (SZOP) and Children as Zones of Peace (CZOP) networks | | None | 30 districts | Campaigns in 30 program districts |  | | | UNICEF and CAAFAG IP reports | As a result, CAAFAG implementing partners were able to get commitments from district political leaders to exempt schools from the frequent “bandhs” or shutdowns. |
| **Output 2.5**  Child clubs have mobilized to develop understanding and awareness of children and young people to transitional justice processes and peacebuilding | Indicator-2.5.1. Number of child protection partners and young people trained | | None | None | 101 |  | | | Monitoring reporting tools |  |
| Indicator-2.5.2.  Toolbox developed and disseminated to child clubs | | NA | NA | Orientation packages |  | | | CAAFAG IP reports |  |
| Indicator-2.5.3. Number of children and young people trained | | NA | NA | 127 children and young people are trained |  | | | Monitoring reporting tools and SFCG report |  |
| Indicator-2.5.4. Number and type of activities carried out by child clubs | | NA | NA | 308 child clubs carried out series of peacebuilding and community based activities in 30 porgramme districts |  | | |  |  |
| Indicator-2.5.5 Cooperation agreement developed and supported | |  |  | Agreement with 17 CAAFAG Implementing partners and joint annual work-plan with MoPR, MWCSW |  | | | UNICEF and Implementing partner reports  MWCSW report |  |

1. People’s Liberation Army [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Children Associated with Armed Forces and Armed Groups [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Grave child rights violations are - killing or maiming of children, recruitment and use of children in armed forces and groups, attacks against schools or hospitals, rape or other grave sexual violence , abduction of children and denial of humanitarian access for children. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. UN Mission in Nepal [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Children Associated with Armed Forces and Armed Groups [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. If there is UN verified evidence against a party to a conflict that it is recruiting or using children, demonstrating a pattern of killing and maiming of children, demonstrating a pattern of rape and sexual violence against children, and/or demonstrating a pattern of attacks on schools and hospitals (or associated personnel), then this party will be named (or “listed”) in the Annexes to the Secretary-General’s Annual Global report on CAAC. Delisting means removal of any party named in the Annexes to the Secretary-General’s Annual Global report on Children and Armed Conflict after successful completion of the action plan. The UCPN-M was included in the list for recruiting and using children. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. CAAFAG Working Group [↑](#footnote-ref-7)