

PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET

Technical Assistance to the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction to ensure Effective Access of Conflict Affected Persons to Victims Assistance Processes in Nepal



Context

The decade long armed conflict in Nepal left a large number of conflict affected persons (CAPs) with severe human security needs. As a response, the Government of Nepal (GoN) introduced the Interim Relief Program (IRP) consisting of both monetary and non-monetary benefits, namely skills training, to provide immediate assistance to the CAPs.

However, the GoN has not been able to implement a comprehensive reparations program that incorporates important aspects of transitional justice such as satisfaction, truth- seeking, restitution, accountability reform, and guarantee for non- repetition.

Due to the shortcomings of the IRP such as excessive focus on compensation and exclusion of victims and certain victim categories, UN agencies and several other non-government organizations have and are still providing different services or assistance to CAPs throughout the country.

The Government through the Nepal Peace Trust Fund (NPTF), which is a joint government and donor fund established

to address issues related to the conflict and peace process, has pipe line funds earmarked for several relief programs for victims including the continuation of vocational training and employment placement, support to the disabled and psychosocial support to conflict affected persons and their families.

This dynamic is leading to the following problem stratification. First, an organization centric approach has resulted in a fragmented and disjointed service pattern leaving CAPs with inadequate provision for long term benefits.

Second, the services that were/ are being provided are designed with minimal or no consultation with the victim groups and hence, do not adequately reflect the human security needs of the target population.

Third, the effectiveness across all agencies and organizations to create and implement relevant future projects for the target group has been severely compromised by a lack of transparency and accessibility to data. And finally, this has caused frustration among CAPs, influ-

enced labor migration dynamic, discouraged CAPs to participate in relief and reparations processes, resulted in duplication and wastage of resources, and created divisions in communities.

Further, the human security needs of CAPs have most likely changed since the commencement of various support programs and hence needs to be considered by giving CAPs a voice to shape future programs. The absence of national baseline makes it extremely difficult for all involved agencies and organization to design effective projects.

In this context, IOM's ongoing and past experience of working in collaboration with MoPR in post conflict peace building activities makes the organization ideal in implementing the "Technical assistance to the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction to ensure Effective access of Conflict Affected Persons to Victims Assistance Programs in Nepal" project. Since 2010, IOM Nepal has been working on post conflict peace building activities and is providing technical assistance to the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction in strengthening mechanisms in relations to relief and reparations services for CAPs.

Donor	IOM Development Fund (IDF)
Implementing Agency	International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Partner Institutions	UN Agencies, International/National Non-Government Organizations (I/NGOs), Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and Victim Association Group
Geographic Coverage	Central and Ten Districts (Kailali, Kanchanpur, Rukum, Rolpa, Kaski, Chitwan, Makwanpur, Gorkha, Morang, Jhapa)
Target Groups	Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR), Local Peace Committee (LPC) and District Coordination Committee (DCC)
Duration	01/11/2014 - 31/10/2015 (12 months)
Overall Objective	National actors have collaborated to implement inclusive Transitional Justice mechanisms to meet post conflict needs of Conflict Affected Persons (CAPs).
Specific Objective	Technical assistance to the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction to ensure effective access of CAPs to victim assistance programs in Nepal through established centralized database for CAPs assistance in congruence with UNDAF Outcome 8 agenda as well as to build capacity of key government institutions to provide effective access of existing services to CAPs.

Planned Intervention

In order to support the project's outcome of enhancing the "Technical Assistance to the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction to ensure Effective access of Conflict Affected Persons to Victims Assistance Programs in Nepal", the project will

(1) Establish a "Centralized Database for Conflict Affected Persons Assistance (CD-CAP)" on past and ongoing victim assistance programs conducted by agencies and organizations in Nepal:

A central database for CAPs (CD-CAP) will be established that collects project and agency specific data on past and ongoing victim assistance program which lays a foundation for conducting Reparation quality needs assessment for CAPs. It will be informative in investing immediate capacity building measures for the implementing government agencies.

The CD-CAP, established by the project, will have detailed information on types of services provided to the victims. This would help agencies to avoid duplication of activities and to create appropriate programs that address long term benefits for CAPs through effective mobilization of financial resources, and would provide a baseline to meet the UNDAF 8 outcome goals. Such mainstreaming effort will also influence CAPs, who potentially are forced into labor migration due to a lack of service provisions, in making second consideration.

(2) Develop Reparations Quality Assessment Report

Quality delivery of services for CAPs in post conflict period is a crucial component of reparation and rehabilitation. Under this output, an assessment of quality past interim relief services provided to CAPs in post conflict period is surveyed.

The objective of the survey is to assess the past experiences of delivery prerequisites of quality services to CAPs. It will mainly study the process and mechanism used to deliver the relief services. Both qualitative and quantitative data would be collected through Focus Group Discussions (FGD), Key Informant Interviews (KII) and structured questionnaires respectively.

Findings of the study will serve as a basis for developing training modules to enhance capacity of Government bodies to deliver any future reparation services to CAPs in quality efficient manner.

(3) Enhance Government staff members' capacity to effectively facilitate CAPs access to services:

The capacity building and enhancement activities will be conducted both on an

individual and institutional level for MoPR, LPCs and DCCs in the form of Training of Trainers (ToTs) on training modules, trainings to GoN staff on mediation, general psychosocial counseling and conflict negotiation skills. The training modules developed by IOM and utilized by the GoN will focus on CAP's dependency reduction by increasing their communication skills, conflict negotiation capacity, community outreach, and entrepreneur planning tools to increase awareness of their rights and entitlements to ongoing/ future relief and reparations initiatives.

The training modules will be designed in a victim centric participatory approach involving government, NGOs and CAPs themselves which will also be based on the outcome of the needs assessment report.

The outcome and outputs are supported by various activities such as networking with various organizations to obtain access of existing data, developing CD-CAP with an appropriate interphase module to make the information usable, capacity building and enhancement activities both on an individual and institutional level for MoPR, LPCs and DCCs in the form of ToTs on training modules, trainings to GoN staff on mediation, general psychosocial counseling and conflict negotiation skills.

This project, therefore, is a cross agency baseline project that utilizes the information of past projects and the input from CAPs to establish a human security and victim centric CD-CAP hence facilitating a collective solution for CAPs in Nepal and abroad in congruence with the UNDAF outcome 8 agenda as well as building capacity of key government institutions for providing effective access to existing services.

**For further information,
please contact:**

IOM Nepal Psychosocial Project Team

768/12, Thirbam Sadak, Baluwatar,
Kathmandu, Nepal.

Tel: +977 1 4426250

or visit:

www.nepal.iom.int

facebook.com/iom.oim.nepal

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