

CARTA

Citizen Action for Results,
Transparency, and Accountability



Emergency Peace Support Project (EPSP)

PROJECT DETAILS

PARTNERS

Partnership for Transparency Fund
HELVETAS Swiss Inter-cooperation
Samuhik Abhiyan (SA)

TOTAL COST

US\$ 120,549

DURATION

April 2013 - May 2014

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

8 districts

SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY TOOLS

Citizen Report Card (CRC), media
mobilization, public hearings

CONTEXT

The Government of Nepal and the Nepal Communist Party signed a comprehensive peace accord on November 21, 2006 that concluded a decade-long conflict. To facilitate the peace process and to provide the rehabilitation support to conflict affected persons (CAPs), the Ministry of Peace and Rehabilitation (MoPR) was formed in April 2007. MoPR formed peace committees at the district as well as at the village development committee (VDC) level to carry out the peace process.

Since May 2008, the World Bank has provided financial support for the implementation of cash transfer and employment/self-employment services (EPSP) in 73 districts of Nepal to contribute to the ongoing peace process.

The support included:

- Rehabilitation support to conflict-affected families and individuals,
- Cash benefits to families and widows of those killed as a result of the conflict,
- Capacity-building of key institutional structures in support of the peace process and project management support

The total number of planned recipients of cash transfers was approximately 18,000 families and 9,000 widows of those killed in the conflict. Rehabilitation targeted widows, orphans, those injured and disabled in the conflict, families of those killed in the conflict, families of the disappeared, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and those abducted during the conflict.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The overall objective of the sub-project was to provide information to improve the service provision under EPSP. The specific objectives were to:

- Assess the extent to which service providers were delivering the rehabilitation support to CAPs.
- Increase the level of understanding on benefits and support among beneficiaries, and to increase the familiarity of citizens with peace support packages.
- Revitalize the grievance mechanism at local level.
- Promote accountability among service providers by identifying the key areas for improvements.

Samihik Abhiyan implemented the project in close coordination with 8 other CSOs, one in each district.

RESULTS

Before CARTA, service providers had neither monitoring nor grievance mechanisms in place, and a large number of CAPs (74%) did not have access to information about the EPSP program. After the CARTA intervention, service providers became more transparent and accountable and the beneficiaries had a better understanding of EPSP, including the eligibility criteria, application process, payment disbursement mechanism, the types of service providers and their services, the formation process of LPCs and grievance mechanisms. The sub-project capacity building activities contributed to those improvements.

The sub-project successfully met its objectives and produced the following positive results:

- The end line survey showed that 80% of entitled CAPs received rehabilitation services support, compared to 21% in the baseline
- The end survey showed that 96% of the beneficiaries knew about EPSP, compared to 56% in the base line survey.
- 16 VDC level grievance mechanisms were established.
- The end line survey indicated that the responsiveness of SPs and their quality of service increased from 0% in the base line survey to 60%.
- By the end of the sub-project, 89% of the service providers knew their roles and delivered rehabilitation support to entitled CAPs.

CARTA

The objective of Citizen Action for Results, Transparency and Accountability (CARTA) is to enhance the development impact, sustainability and ownership of pro-poor projects in Bangladesh and Nepal financed by the World Bank (WB), by promoting civil society organization engagement and experience and capacity to demand better governance. The program was funded by US\$1.9 million grant from the Japanese Social Development Fund (JSDF) and administered by the WB.

IMPACT

The expectation is that the sub-project activities will be sustained by the local civil society organizations that have been involved in the peace process and that the LPCs will continue to serve as the basis for citizen action platforms (forums). An important factor for sustainability is that MoPR is providing financial support to the LPCs for their institutional development. Grievance mechanisms should continue to function as local stakeholders are ready to continue the district level joint monitoring processes.