

CECI Nepal



Annual Report 2014-2015



Strategy

CECI focuses on building the development capacity of local and disadvantaged communities. Our programs and projects support communities in becoming their own drivers for change by focusing on local ownership, empowerment and partnership with local non-government organizations and community-based organizations. Gender equity, social inclusion, transparency and good governance are at the core of our capacity building activities.

Mission

CECI's mission is to combat poverty and exclusion through the strengthening of the development capacity of disadvantaged communities; as well as supporting initiatives for peace, human rights and equity by mobilizing resources and promoting knowledge exchange and transfer.

Vision

Through sharing and respect, we work for equality between men and women, both within our own organization and in society at large. We help to combat poverty and exclusion by building bridges within our international network of partners through intercultural interaction and international cooperation.

Focus Areas

- To enhance the quality of lives, CECI Nepal concentrates its actions in five areas of expertise:
- Economic development & livelihoods
- Agriculture and food security
- Local governance and accountability
- Human safety and emergency response
- Gender equality and social inclusion
- Disaster Risk Reduction

Acronyms

ADB	Asian Development Bank	IDS	Integrated Development Society
AGM	Annual General Meeting	IEDI	Industrial Enterprise Development Institute
ANSAB	Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bio-resources	IEC	Information Education and Communication
AVID	Australian Volunteers for International Development	LGCDP	Local Governance and Community Development Program
CAD	Canadian Dollar	PDRC	Professional Development and Research Centre
CECI	Centre for International Studies and Cooperation	PDNA	Post Disaster Need Assessment
CFUG	Community Forest Users' Group	PRAN	Program for Accountability in Nepal
CiCan	Colleges and Institutes Canada	MDTF-PFM	Multi Donor Trust Fund for Public Financial Management Reform in Nepal
CSC	Community Score Card	MSFP	Multi Stakeholder Forestry Program
CMA	Canadian Medical Association	MOI	Memorandum of Interest
CTEVT	Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training	MOE	Ministry of Education
DDC	District Development Committee	MOFSC	Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	MoHP	Ministry of Health and Population
DFATD	Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development	MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
DFID	Department for International Development	NTC	Nepal Tuberculosis Centre
DMPCU	District Milk Producers' Cooperative Union	NTFP	Non-timber Forest Product
DPNET	Disaster Preparedness network	PRAD	Policy Research and Development
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction	PETs	Public Expenditure Tracking Survey
DWO	Dalit Welfare Organization	SAC	Social Accountability
DWSS	Department of Water Supply and Sewerage	SDC	Swiss Development Cooperation
FECOFUN	Federation of Community Forest Users' Nepal	SPBF	The State and Peace-building Fund
FINNIDA	Finnish International Development Agency	SWOT	Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Threats
FTG	Fair Trade Group	TPO	Transcultural Psychosocial Organization
FY	Fiscal Year	TSDU	TVET Sector Development Unit
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion	TVET	Technical and Vocational Education Training
GON	Government of Nepal	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
HBTL	Himalayan Bio Trade Private Limited	USGS	United States Geological Survey
HOs	Host Organizations	UNICEF	United Nation Children's Fund
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank	VDC	Village Development Committee
		WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
		WB	World Bank
		WUSC	World University Service of Canada

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About Centre for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI)

The Centre for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI) is a non-profit organization founded in 1958 and registered in 1968 in Montreal, Canada. Since its registration CECI has been implementing poverty alleviation projects/programs in developing countries. CECI's mission is to combat poverty and exclusion through strengthening the development capacity of disadvantaged communities; as well as supporting initiatives for peace, human rights and equity by mobilizing resources and promoting knowledge exchange and transfer.

CECI's core competencies include providing diverse consulting and project management services to address the multiple facets of poverty reduction. With an annual operating budget of approximately US\$30M, CECI manages dozens of contracts in 15 Countries of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, focusing on services related to social and economic development, sustainable natural resource management, humanitarian assistance and disaster preparedness and mitigation. These projects are financed by DFATD, ADB, IDB, USAID, World Bank, UN agencies and DFID.

In Nepal, CECI has been active since 1987 implementing a diverse assortment of projects covering the areas of agriculture, livelihood, microenterprise, business development, governance, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and climate change. Over the past 28 years, CECI has implemented more than 50 development projects in Nepal. It has delivered technical assistance to ADB, World Bank, DFATD, DFAT as well other developmental donors. As a result CECI has fostered a solid project management capacity team and an extensive network of consultants and local service providers.

CECI's strategy is to implement development projects to enhance the technical and managerial skills of Nepali NGOs and CBOs. It also mobilizes international and national volunteers to support these initiatives through the financial contribution of DFATD, and Scope Global /DFAT. The Volunteers are placed in government agencies and NGOs to support their institutional capacity building and their planning and programming functions. CECI works in Nepal under the auspices of an MOU initially signed with the Social Welfare Council in 1989 and renewed subsequently.

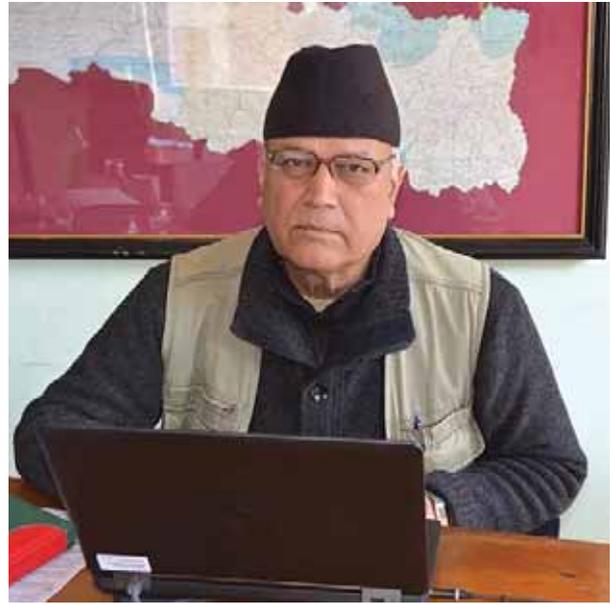
Message from the Country Representative

We are pleased to present CECI's Annual Progress Report for the Fiscal Year 2071-72 B.S. (2014-2015). During this year CECI implemented 7 development projects covering 30 districts. The projects were focused on governance, earthquake emergency response, livelihoods improvement, economic development, institutional development of partner NGOs and gender and social inclusion.

Two new projects were initiated this year: Public Expenditure Tracking Survey (PETs) and Earthquake Response Program. PETs is jointly managed by CECI and Policy Research and Development (PRAD) under the Sajhedari Bikaas Project funded by USAID. The study covers 58 VDCs of six districts (Banke, Bardiya, Dang, Surkhet, Kailali and Kanchanpur) of Nepal with the ambition to track the expenditure of block grants at the DDC and VDC level. The duration of the study is 10 months i.e. from July 2015 to March 2016.

After the devastating earthquake of April 25, 2015, CECI started an emergency response program in the three most affected districts: Sindhupalchowk, Kavre and Lalitpur. After three months of emergency support, CECI started its' second phase of recovery involving WASH and livelihoods support.

CECI in the consortium led by World University Service of Canada (WUSC) and involving the Colleges and Institutes of Canada and Industrial Enterprise Development Institute (IEDI) is managing the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Nepal government funded Skills Development Project (SDP) and providing technical assistance to the Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT) and the Ministry of Education



Keshava Koirala

Country Representative
CECI Nepal

(MoE). The five year project will have impact of increased employability of the Nepalese workforce. Its outcome will be the establishment of a market-responsive and social and gender-inclusive TVET system.

The second phase of Uniterra Volunteer Cooperation Program (U2) funded by DFATD was successfully completed in March 2015. The third phase began on April 2015 for five years. U2 contributed to strengthening 22 partners' capacities in improving the economic and social wellbeing of the populations they serve whilst fostering sustainable development towards reducing poverty. Uniterra 3 (U3) has a focus on increasing the production and marketing of high value agriculture

and NTFP products through a comprehensive market system development approach.

Similarly, the Program for Accountability in Nepal (PRAN) was completed in September, 2014, and its second phase MDTF/PRAN2 initiated in July 2015. PRAN is a World Bank program which has aimed at improving demand for good governance in Nepal through the promotion of accountable, honest, transparent and responsive delivery of government services.

The Multi Stakeholder Forestry Project (MSFP) Lot VI, managed by a consortium involving CECI ended in February 2015. Funded by DFID/SDC/FINNIDA, MSFP was successful in creating local level job opportunities through forest based enterprise development.

CECI also manages Australian Volunteers for International Development (AVID), an Australian Government program implemented by Scope Global in Nepal. Volunteers are placed in various

government and non-government organizations within the country.

CECI has a strong focus on gender and social inclusion and works closely with partners in developing approaches and strategies for improving the participation and representation of women and disadvantaged communities in development initiatives. CECI's projects are financially supported by DFATD, World Bank, DFAT, DFID, SDC and FINNIDA. The details for each project and program for this fiscal year can be found in their respective sections below.

I would like to take this opportunity to express sincere gratitude to our donors for their support. Sincere thanks go to our implementing partners both GoN and NGOs in successfully accomplishing these activities. Finally, I would like to appreciate the leadership role of Communications Officer Ms. Mallika Bhattarai in preparing this report. Thanks are also due to all staff and volunteers for their assistance.

CECI's Program Coverage in Nepal (2014-2015)





Earthquake on May 12 in Sindhupalchowk

Earthquake Response: Emergency and Early Recovery Support Program

On April 25, a massive 7.8 magnitude (USGS) earthquake struck Nepal, with Gorkha District being the epicentre. 39 out of 75 districts were affected by the earthquake and 2.8 million people were displaced.

The Government of Nepal (GoN) declared 14 districts as the most affected districts: Gorkha, Kavre, Dhading, Nuwakot, Rasuwa, Sindhupalchowk, Dolakha, Ramechhap, Okhaldhunga, Makwanpur, Sindhuli, Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, and Lalitpur. Immediately after the earthquake, CECI Nepal set up an Emergency Response Team to support the earthquake survivors in 3 severely affected districts; Sindhupalchowk, Kavre, and Lalitpur.

During the emergency phase CECI supported the distribution of tarpaulins, food packets, hygiene

kits, kitchen utensils, water filters, solar lanterns and basic medical packages.

At the end of June 2015, CECI Nepal wrapped up its first phase of emergency response and started its recovery phase, which will end in December 2015. The earthquake has affected the housing and human settlement sectors the most. Recovery of housing sector is proposed to be based on principles of equity, inclusion and participation of communities through an owner driven reconstruction approach while ensuring 'build back better' considerations. However, knowing that only 19.7% of women own land and house, recovery efforts will take into account the needs of female headed households, senior citizens and other vulnerable social groups who may not have land ownership. The affected families will be supported to reconstruct, repair

and retrofit their houses depending on the extent of the damage with financial support, technical guidance, social mobilization and skill upgradation (PDNA, June 2015, page 6). Based on PDNA and CECI Nepal's own post-relief situation assessment, CECI Nepal decided to work in the 7 VDCs of Sindhupalchowk and Lalitpur district.

CECI Nepal's Recovery Phase aims to promote sound agricultural recovery practices including farming of short duration vegetables and crops in Sindhupalchowk, and replaces livestock breeds (buffalo) in Lalitpur. CECI Nepal is also supporting farmers of Lalitpur to repair and maintain cattle sheds and rebuild dairy enterprises.

In the Sindhupalchowk district alone, following the earthquake and its several aftershocks, about 80% of the toilets have collapsed. CECI Nepal is carrying out WASH intervention by coordinating with village WASH coordination committees and local partners. This includes supplying toilet pans and supporting the repair and reconstruction of toilets of the entire household of 3 target VDCs in Sindhupalchowk and 1 VDC in Lalitpur. CECI Nepal plans to reach approximately 1,350 households with these toilet facilities.

Similarly, in 3 target VDCs of Sindhupalchowk, CECI Nepal is supporting the communities to repair and reconstruct drinking water facilities for safe drinking water. CECI Nepal plans to install 54 intakes for drinking water. CECI Nepal is also providing hygiene kits to the households of the target VDCs of Sindhupalchowk and Lalitpur district.

All these activities are funded by DFATD, CECI's own fund raising sources, and Canadian Medical Association (CMA). In addition, "Rebuild Micro Enterprise Nepal (ReMEN), an initiative of Australian Volunteers, provided funding to support the recovery of women led dairy and microenterprises destroyed by the devastating earthquake.



Demonstration of toilet construction during the mason training



Distribution of dairy utensils

7.8 magnitude earthquake of April 25, 2015 followed by several aftershocks including a 7.3 magnitude on May 12 are Nepal's worst earthquakes in more than 80 years.

2.8 million people displaced and are in need of humanitarian assistance

864,000 people in hard to reach areas need immediate assistance

9,000+ people killed

17,000+ people injured

700,000+ houses destroyed or damaged

Source: PDNA

CECI Nepal and Partners' Response

- Total tarpaulin distributed: 5,055 in Sindhupalchowk and Kavre districts
- Hygiene Kits distributed: 5,179 kits
- Food Packets distributed: 2,875 packets in Sindhupalchowk
- Non-Food-Item (kitchen utensils) distributed: 2,875 households in Sindhupalchowk
- Water filters distributed: 1,134 pieces in Sindhupalchowk
- Solar lantern distributed: 659 pieces in Sindhupalchowk
- Basic medicine packets for health post and Female Community Health Volunteers distributed: 40 packets in Kavre
- Psycho-social sessions delivered: 26
- Agriculture support: 2,297 households
- WASH facilities: 3,250 households
- Livestock: 185 heads in Lalitpur
- Support to dairy and micro-enterprises
- Total number of beneficiaries: about 11,000 households and up to 50,000 people



Distribution of food packets



Distribution of kitchen utensils



Tarpaulin distribution in Kavre



Skills Development Project (SDP)

CECI in consortium led by WUSC including IEDI and Colleges and Institutes Canada has been managing Technical Consulting Support to the Skills Development Project (SDP) funded by the Asian Development Bank and the Nepal Government. The project began in March 2014 and is expected to be completed in August 2016, at a total budget of US \$659,539 for consulting services.

The project provides technical assistance to both the Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT) and the Ministry of Education (MoE). It is executed by the MoE through the TVET Sector Development Unit (TSDU) and implemented by a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) under the CTEVT.

This five-year SDP project is supporting the Government of Nepal in applying key aspects of the TVET Policy 2012 and helping the government to initiate strategic sector reforms that is aimed to improve overall sector management, performance,

Four outputs of SDP project:

1. Expanded inclusive market-oriented training
2. Improved quality and relevance-TVET provision
3. Instituted reforms at operational, institutional and policy levels
4. Effective project management and monitoring and evaluation of resource use and achievement

quality assurance and relevance of public training. This project increases the private sector engagement in training delivery and job placement. Each intervention has been designed to increase the efficiency and result-orientation of the TVET system, making it more market-driven. The impact of the project will be increased employability of

the Nepalese workforce. Its outcome will be the establishment of a market-responsive and social and gender-inclusive TVET system.

The project has the coverage of almost all the districts of five development regions of Nepal and the target beneficiaries are 4500,00 (40% female and 30% excluded groups)

Over a one year period, SDP with the technical support from the consulting services, has awarded 5 training packages for a total of 440 places in all five development regions benefitting more than 8000 beneficiaries. In addition to that, the program has been successful in:

- Developing Quality Standard Indicators incorporating Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI);
- Selecting 10 model schools (CTEVT constituent) through a rapid assessment and SWOT analysis;
- Preparing a draft action plan for Quality Improvement Plan (QIP);

- Finalizing 15 new programs and screening 25 new programs;
- Conducting trainings on occupational skills and human resource development;
- Conducting workshops on GESI sensitization;
- Organizing Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) orientation to model schools and CTEVT staff;
- Completing data collections for training need analysis of CTEVT and its constituent schools;
- Establishing TSDU within MoE;
- Carrying out TVET data survey in 38 districts of Nepal;
- Establishing five regional monitoring offices ,
- Developing monitoring tools for GESI to ensure gender and excluded group disaggregated data;
- Establishing a GESI task force;
- Forming a social marketing committee;
- Developing a database structure, and guidelines for training and employment service, monitoring and evaluation framework and tools.



Electrician training



Interaction with local people in Banke

Good Governance

Public Expenditure Tracking Survey (PETs)

CECI in association with PRAD has been awarded to conduct a public expenditure tracking survey (PETs) under the Sajhedari Bikaas Project funded by USAID and implemented by PACT. Sajhedari Bikaas (SB) project is a five-year project that has aimed at empowering communities to direct their own development and is specifically designed to offer sustainable, locally appropriate development solutions while maintaining the programmatic flexibility necessary to quickly respond to a dynamic operating environment and has key focus engaging communities and marginalized groups to participate in the 14-step DDC/VDC planning process in order to promote district development plans (DDPs) and village development plans (VDPs) that reflect local priorities, as well as to facilitate constructive citizen-state engagement at the district and local level.

The PETs covers 58 VDCs of six districts (Banke, Bardiya, Dang, Surkhet, Kailali and Kanchanpur). The duration of the study is 10 months i.e. from July 2015 to March 2016.



Participants of TOT discussing with VDC Authority



Interviewing local woman

The overall objective of this survey is to track the expenditure of block grants at the DDC and VDC level; CA Fund (constituent area development fund and constituent area infrastructure specific fund). However the specific objectives of this survey are: to develop a robust and accurate understanding of how and why selected funds (i.e. DDC/VDC block grants and Constituent Assembly development funds) flow from their point-of-origin to final expenditure; and to build the capacity of the SB's district NGO (DNGO) partners to independently conduct PETs activities at the VDC and district level.

To meet the above objectives the survey has four primary areas of responsibility:

1. Collaborate with SB staff, their district-based partner NGOs (DNGOs), and other stakeholders to develop a set of user-friendly instruments aimed at mapping out fund flows, as well as understanding why funds flow as they do;
2. Carry out PETs activities in order to track and understand the political economy of fund flows from the central government to the district level;
3. Provide training and follow up support to DNGOs to carry out PETs activities at the district and VDC level. This will include building the capacity of DNGOs to carry out basic analysis of VDC and DDC-wide results, and
4. Conduct a combined analysis of VDC, DDC and central level data.

So far, the survey team has conducted consultative meetings with relevant government ministries, district NGOs and local government agencies including DDCs, VDCs and DTCOs. An inception report, a detail PETs methodology and instruments and capacity building training materials have been developed. Field level activities are scheduled to start from the mid of September 2015.



CECI Nepal
Country
Representative
Keshava Koirala
addressing the
Orientation
Workshop



Budget literacy program

Multi Donor Trust Fund/Program for Accountability in Nepal (MDTF/PRAN)

This year CECI successfully completed the first phase of the World Bank's project: Program for Accountability in Nepal (PRAN) and started the second phase - MDTF/PRAN2. It aims to improve institutional performance of government agencies in the delivery of their services by promoting more accountable, honest, transparent and responsive action. Using social accountability approaches and tools, PRAN supports to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations for constructive engagement with the government. The present phase of the program is financed by the Multi-Donor Trust Fund.

Since the initial phase of PRAN, CECI has been working as a Grant Management Agency and

providing grants to the local CSOs to implement social accountability tools at local level. In the initial phase PRAN made sub-grants through two windows; large grants up to USD 50,000 and small grants up to USD 15,000. In this context, altogether 43 sub-grants (3 large and 40 small) were provided under MDTF/PRAN, the small grants were focused particularly in 10 districts of the West, Mid West and Far West districts.

All the grantees successfully completed their projects in June, 2014. Altogether 1,34,233 citizens across the districts have directly benefitted from the project.

PRAN achievements in the initial phase:

Engaging and empowering citizens:

- Citizens engagement drastically increased (in some cases 50-75 percent) in village council and ward assembly.
- Citizens are more aware of budget formulation processes.
- Demand increased for the allocation of 35% VDC budget for target group development.
- Able to get updated information on Social Security Allowances (SSA).
- Citizens are more comfortable raising their concerns in VDC meetings.

Transparency and accountability:

- Increased the trend of VDCs in displaying their annual budgets through notice board and booklets.
- Increased trend in updated social security allowance distribution records.
- Monitoring committees formed in the VDCs are actively involved in the monitoring of VDC activities.



Public hearing

- Increased the trend in VDC financial audit report dissemination.

Efficiency:

- VDCs are now following the 14 steps of program and budget planning.
- VDC Secretaries are now punctual and responsive.
- Improvement in SSA distribution system and formation of SSA coordination committees for the proper documentation of SSA distribution at local level.
- 35% of total budget is being spent for target group as per the guideline.

Inclusiveness:

- Started to follow the mandate of guidelines for the promotion of Dalit, women and disadvantage groups' participation in projects.
- Increased meaningful participation of target group's representatives in budgeting and planning process of VDCs from settlement level to village council.
- Women group networks are formed and starting to monitor the effective implementation of target group budget.
- Capacity of Social Mobilizer of Local Governance and Community Development Program (LGCDP) is enhanced through their involvement in various orientation and training conducted under PRAN, which helped in effective implementation of local resource mobilization.

MDTF/PRAN2



MDTF/PRAN2 contract signing with World Bank

PRAN2 is financed by the Multi Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) at the World Bank for a period of July, 2015 to December, 2016. This Phase PRAN2 has 5 components: CSOs' capacity building, grant management, knowledge management, media support, program management/coordination unit. CECI manages grants to the Civil Society Organization (CSOs) to implement Social Accountability (SAC) tools.

The main purpose of PRAN2 is to strengthen the transparency, accountability, efficiency and inclusiveness of public financial management (PFM) in Nepal through fostering the use of Social Accountability Tools (SAC tools). To this end, the PRAN aims to strengthen the capacity of citizens, civil society organizations and other non-state organizations for constructive engagement with the government agencies for good governance through the effective use of social accountability (SAC) approaches and tools.

CECI has selected local NGOs on the basis of competitive process conducted by the grant management committee (GMC) of PRAN. GMC

has short listed the CSOs on the basis of merit after rating the proposals submitted by the CSOs. CECI selected the CSOs from the roster. The consideration was also given for inclusiveness using the criteria such as women led CSOs, member of disadvantage and marginalized groups in CSO Board.

MDTF/PRAN2 will have impact

Improved Public Financial Management (PFM) through the promotion of accountability at demand side

Expected outcomes

1. Communities in the program areas (especially marginalized people) are empowered to hold local governments accountable for participatory, pro-poor/gender inclusive budgeting and accurate budget execution
2. Citizens access to individual Social Security Entitlements (specifically, senior citizen and single women's entitlements) and basic education service is improved.
3. National enabling environment for transparent, inclusive and accountable PFM is improved.

PRAN2 SAC tools/initiatives to be practiced:

- Budget Process
- Gender and Pro-Poor Budgeting
- Right to Information
- Public Procurement Monitoring
- Public Hearing and Public Audit

Multi Stakeholder Forestry Program (MSFP)



Community involvement in adaptation plan

MSFP Lot VI was completed in February 2015. The project started in March 2013. This two year project was implemented to improve the resilience of poor and disadvantaged people of the far and mid-west region. MSFP is jointly funded by DFID, SDC and Embassy of Finland and was implemented in 23 districts under the leadership of MOFSC in various lots. A consortium led by IDS Nepal involving CECI, HIMWANTI and ASMITA managed the Lot VI in five districts (Bajhang, Achham, Kalikot, Dailekh and Jajarkot) in the mid and far west hills of Nepal with a total budget of CAD \$2,416,582.

The main objectives of MSFP were to improve livelihoods through forest based enterprises, increase the climate resilience capacity of poor and disadvantaged people and to secure the future of our forests via community management with a focus to support enterprise development and to establish market linkages for their products. The main role of CECI in MSFP was to provide technical support in project management, especially in the area of livelihood development. CECI also assisted IDS in the preparation of progress reports, designing and

organizing technical trainings and formulating capacity building plans.

Over the two year period MSFP successfully created local level job opportunities through the forest based enterprise development. As a result of this project, over 17,000 households including 50% of disadvantaged groups have benefitted in enterprise development for various products such as allo, honey, paper making, bamboo and others; four new forestry groups have been groomed under community management, 500 additional households have access to forest management, 350 local forest groups have improved governance (about 60% have carried out Public Audits compared to negligible numbers before), 134 vulnerability mapping exercises were conducted covering 1,521 households, 134 community level adaptation plans were prepared; 8 VDC level adaptation plans were endorsed in VDC Councils and 2,500 families were trained and supported to establish forest based enterprises.



Allo thread



Volunteer Cooperation

Volunteer cooperation program is CECI's main focus. CECI Nepal manages Canadian, Australian and Nepali volunteers in Nepal. More than 550 volunteers have served in Nepal since the program started in 1987. The focus of the volunteer program is to build the capacity of partner organizations through the transfer of skills and knowledge. Volunteers provide technical expertise on a wide range of areas, supporting numerous CECI partners in their projects and programs. Subsequently, when volunteers return to their respective countries, they take part in public engagement and educate the general public about the development issues.



UNITERRA Volunteer Cooperation Program

The two leading Canadian NGOs involved in international development - the Centre for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI) and World University Service of Canada (WUSC) are jointly implementing the UNITERRA Volunteer Cooperation Program. Over the past 10 years, Uniterra has worked in various sectors in 13 countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. It works to build the capacities of program partners working to reduce poverty through mobilizing both Canadian and national volunteers whilst facilitating partnerships and exchanging expertise between Canadian and developing country partners.



Uniterra volunteer

Uniterra2 (U2)

The second phase of Uniterra (U2) was started in 2009 and was successfully completed in March 2015. The number of volunteers mobilized in Nepal during the FY 2014-15 is shown in the below table.

U2 established partnerships with 22 organizations representing NGOs, membership organizations and their federations, Associations and Private sectors and community hospitals. It contributed to strengthening the partners' capacities in improving the economic and social wellbeing of the populations they serve whilst fostering sustainable development towards reducing poverty. During the entire period of U2, a total of 147 Canadian and 15 national volunteers were mobilized to support technical and institutional capacity building of partners, reaching 30,057 beneficiaries who improved their production and productivity and diversified their products, and

accessed both domestic and international markets. Among these 30,057 beneficiaries 15,661 were women.

U2 focused on three major subsectors: Sustainable Forest Management, Agro-Food and Private Sector Development. In the last six years volunteers provided technical assistance in organizational management, marketing, promotion, communication, food safety/quality, international market linkage, policy analysis, database management, proposal writing and gender equality and Social Inclusion.

U2 Volunteers		
Type of volunteers	FY 2014-2015	FY 2009-2015
Long Term (6 months-2 years)	13	39
Leave for Change (2 - 4 weeks)	9	55
Interns (3 months)	4	23
Interns (8 months)	13	30
National volunteers	2	15
Total	41	162

Highlights of outcomes achieved during 2009-2015

Agro Food

A total of 4,133 men and 3,821 women were trained and 215 tools were developed over a 6 year period in improving production and productivity, animal health and management, marketing, business plans and cooperative management. It also built up the capacities of the organizations in policy dialogue, organizational management, program implementation and knowledge sharing, database management of cooperative members, business plan templates. Most of the partners now have functional tools and methodologies for operational communication and documentation.

Since 2009, many transformations have taken place in the Agro Food sub-sector. Cooperatives providing very limited services in Integrated Pest Management (IPM), organic farming, market studies and linkage have acquired new skills and succeeded in introducing three new products and offer 31 new services to their members such as for GESI, commercial livestock and milk production, animal feed and fodder, machines and infrastructure, education, accounting, finance and insurance.

NACCFL, Uniterra partners with the support from Uniterra has grown over the past years with a total of 6, 15,000 (33% are women) beneficiaries, affiliated through 715 cooperatives in 68 districts of Nepal. It was successful in running a variety of projects in synergy with other stakeholders. NACCFL has a three-year business plan, with a communication system and a database development plan.

The LDMPCU is finally able to develop a functional strategic plan, as well as operationalize its communications, documentation and database management systems. Uniterra supported achievements include animal health and milk quality production trainings and workshops, fodder seed distribution to five cooperatives, and distributing posters to all cooperatives on quality milk production in the Lalitpur district. LDMPCU, with its plastic free dairy sector movement has been successful in tapping the resources of various organizations to distribute 281 aluminum milk cans to the cooperatives.



Maude conducting practical training for dairy farmers in Sankhu



Sustainable Forest Management

4,719 men and 4,991 women members of CFUGs have received training on enterprise and business development, certification and marketing. One major target of Uniterra2 is to certify 10 new CFUGs with 1,500 people trained in forest management. It enabled 13 CFUGs to acquire FSC certification benefitting 7,916 men and 7,821 women. Their revenues have increased while ensuring sustainable forest management practices. There are total 35 FSC certified forests in the country. A total 785 tools were developed or updated during Uniterra2 and staff and members are trained on these.

Partners have introduced more than 29 new projects (services) and products on NTFP based enterprise development, climate resilience economic development, expansion of FSC certification, REDD +, and production of essential oils. All partners have improved their abilities for policy dialogue. More than 70 consultations were conducted by the partners on different issues through the creation

of new networks and forums. The production and sales of forest based enterprises have increased. Production of hand-made paper increased by 43%, essential oils 33%, handicrafts and bio-briquettes 45.7%. Similarly, sales of essential oils increased by 33% and bio-briquette by 97.8%. However the sale of handmade paper decreased by 33%.

Uniterra 2 contributed to partner organizations' management, marketing and communications skills. Three out of 4 SFM partner organizations (ANSAB, HBTL, IDS) have functional strategic plans in place, whereas 2 partners (ANSAB, IDS) have functional tools and methodologies in place for operational communications and documentation. A community run handmade paper enterprise started with the technical and linkage support of Uniterra volunteers and the financial support of various stakeholders is running smoothly in Bajhang district. Five women and three men are employed in the enterprise.



Nathalie teaching new techniques to increase the quality of product in JWDC

Private Sector Development (PSD)

A total 3,347 men and 4,527 women members of cooperatives, CBOs or MFIs received training on enterprise/business development, marketing, and leadership development trainings. 578 tools were developed on market research and database of potential buyers; proposal development; new product development; product catalogue; business development; needs assessments; market surveys; micro-enterprise creation; market access; skills training for micro-entrepreneurs; price and cost determination; marketing techniques; and design improvement techniques. Volunteers supported strengthening the networking capacity of partners by offering support in developing membership databases, research, organizing joint meetings, workshops/seminars with stakeholders, development and dissemination of communication materials.

An innovative activity to 'enhance employability of Dalit youth' was conducted in partnership with

PDRC. Seven Dalit interns (4 female and 3 male) were provided two months training and 4 months placement within a Uniterra partner organization. The project was a huge success and all participating interns succeeded to receive employment with an I/NGO immediately.

Uniterra strengthened its partners' capacities to mobilize sector stakeholders on policy issues and to integrate GESI into policy dialogue through useful tools and through their participation in several national and international seminars. PSD partners held 32 consultations with various stakeholders on joint planning and resource sharing. 850 individuals from across the micro-finance industry, institutions and cooperatives participated. These individuals were made up of specialists, regulators, academics, experts, researchers and micro-finance, promoters and supporters.



GESI training

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

Substantial efforts have been made to incorporate equality between women and men and social inclusion into all sub-sectors. GESI action plans, monitoring/evaluation framework, leadership development training for female cooperative members and staff of other partner organizations are initiative actions of Uniterra in improving women's and marginalized groups' participation and benefit sharing in this sub-sector. Today, most of the partner organizations have incorporated EWM and Social inclusion into their strategies, policies, bylaws, and services. 1,512 men and 2,649 women were trained and or involved in Gender and Social Inclusion specific trainings and measures.. 37% of the total sector fund was spent on equality between women and men. LDMPCU and DWO are some of the examples of partners who developed GESI strategy during the implementation of Uniterra2.

Uniterra3 (U3)

The third phase of the Uniterra Program (U3) started on 20th of April 2015. U3 will identify and focus on the development of key economic subsectors within Nepal's economy and will employ an inclusive market systems approach. Uniterra believes that a market system is inclusive when it extends choices and opportunities to the poor and other excluded groups, such as women and youth. In Nepal, U3 has prioritized the sub-sector dairy and high value cash crops, Non-Timber Forest Products and handicrafts for promotion, using inclusive market system development approach. Uniterra's unique contribution to each sub-sector will depend on needs and opportunities identified in local market systems, opportunities to achieve change at scale and the capacities of key local partners. Interventions will include technical and capacity building support to vocational training providers, facilitation of investment in agriculture production, support to cooperatives, developing information sharing platforms that bridge private sector interests with local government and civil society. This is an interesting and valuable opportunity to help build Uniterra's knowledge in Nepal for the success of the next phase of the program, which will unfold over the next 5 years. In five years time, 270 Canadian and some national volunteers will be supporting 20 partners technically and institutionally to reach around 400,000 ultimate beneficiaries.

Welcoming U3





AVID volunteers

AVID

CECI manages the Australian Volunteers in Development (AVID) in Nepal through a sub-contract with Scope Global. It is financed by the DFAT of Australia. A total of 31 volunteers supported during the 2014-2015 year. The program mobilized volunteers in six new host organizations (HOs) (two in education and four in the health sector). Out of these six HOs, four are government agencies and two are NGOs.

AVID Volunteers managed during 2014-2015

Sectors	No. of HOs	No. of Assignments
Education	4	6
Health	7	12
WASH	1	5
Livelihood	3	4
Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)	1	4
Total	16	31

Some of the achievements of AVID during 2014-2015 are as follows:

Health

- Prepared an assessment of the Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) in the Health Sector in Nepal and international SWAp by reviewing literature, project plan, and ethics application.
- Developed a strategy to strengthen State non- State partnerships between the District Hospitals and INGOs/NGOs to improve quality and resources in the delivery of health services.
- Supported the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) in a Joint Annual Review and the development of the 2013 Health Policy of Nepal to replace 1991 Policy.
- Helped improve the capacity of Transcultural Psychosocial Organisations (TPO) to provide

psychosocial counselling support to people in need by providing training and coaching to the counselors and psychosocial workers who deal with traumatic cases

- Together with the Team at Nepal Tuberculosis Centre (NTC), helped develop a diverse and innovative operational research plan for the NTC which has been included in the National Strategic Plan 2015-2020.

WASH

- Helped design water treatment plants and supply networks, which include the design and construction of sedimentation tanks, chemical dosing systems, slow sand filters, and pump stations.
- Developed plans and actions for appropriate climate change resilience programs for the water supply sector of Nepal using Rain Water Harvesting System (RWHS) and developed climate change resilience policy and guidelines in consultation with RWHS stakeholders and reviews.

Education

As a member of the Committee for the preparation of the Annual Strategic Implementation Plan (ASIP) 2014-15 of the Department of Education (DoE), AVID contributed to the design of ASIP.

AVID contributed to improve overall teaching content of social work education through the review of current methods, making updates and reviews where necessary by sharing social work methods, techniques, tools and best practices from Australia;

Economic development-Livelihood

- Organized marketing training for micro-entrepreneurs and a product exhibition to increase sales and income of micro-entrepreneurs associated with the National

Federation of Micro Entrepreneurs of Nepal (NMEFEN).

- Provided coaching of staff to enhance their capacity in supporting the district based association of micro-entrepreneurs.

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

Helped improve the coordination of external communication activities across NSET divisions, through the development of a style guide and templates for different forms of communication to improve the quality and consistency of external communication and training of staff in communication skills.

Post-Earthquake Support

After the devastating earthquake, five AVID volunteers who were previously working in health, WASH and DRR sectors provided the following support:

- Post-earthquake risk assessment of public and private buildings.
- Rapid assessment, outbreak surveillance and data management in co-ordination with NTC and MoHP and WHO.
- Health/sanitation assessments of displaced persons camps and assisting with health interventions
- Supported UNICEF in their disaster response activities
- As a member of the WASH cluster formed by the Department of Water, Sewerage and Sanitation and UNICEF managed all information and communication related to the WASH Cluster.
- As a member of the Foreign Medical Team Coordination Committee formed by the Ministry of Health, managed all health related information and coordinated the work of 150 national and international medical teams.

PRAN partners	Districts
Malika Development Organisation of Nepal (MDO Nepal)	Achham
Sashakta Mahila Bipannata Biruddhako Karyayatra Sahabagita Nepal (SAMABIKAS)	Achham
Pahunch ra Srijanaka Lagi Sahakarya, Nepal (WAC Nepal)	Achham
Youths in Empowerment Sector (YES) Nepal	Achham
Dalit Empowerment Center (DEC)	Bajura
Human Society for Poor Upheaval Sacrifice (PUSH)	Bajura
Chetana Club	Dang
Forum for Human Rights and Disable (FHRD)	Dang
Society for Environment Education Development (SEED)	Dang
Social Institution for Skill Employment and Awareness (SISEA Nepal)	Dang
Society Welfare Action Nepal (SWAN)	Dang
Dalit Mahila Ekata Kendra (DMEK)	Dang
Awareness Group of Oppressed Women, Nepal (AGOW Nepal)	Gorkha
System Development Service Centre (SDSC)	Gorkha
Unification Nepal (UN-Nepal)	Gorkha
Sustainable Community Development Centre (SCDC)	Gorkha
Panch Tara Yuba Samrakshak Manch (PTYSM)	Jajarkot
Gramin Samaj Nepal (GSN)	Jajarkot
Gramin Ekikrit Bikas Kendra (RIDC)	Jajarkot
Rastriya Dalit Network Nepal (RDN)	Kailali
Community Forestry Coordination Committee Mohana (CFCC)	Kailali
Rural Development and Research Center (RDRC)	Kailali
Kamaiya Pratha Unmulan Samaj (KPUS)	Kailali
Siswa Community Development Centre (SCDC-Nepal)	Kapilvastu
Rural Self Reliance Development Center (RSDC)	Kapilvastu
Siddhartha Social Development Center (SSDC)	Kapilvastu
Lumbini Integrated Development Organization (LIDO)	Kapilvastu
Jana Adarsha Samajik Kendra (JASK)	Kapilvastu
Indreni Rural Development Center (IRDC) Nepal	Kapilvastu
Adharbhut Gramin Bikas Sewa (AGBS)	Kapilvastu
Kalika Self-reliance Social Center (KSSC)	Kapilvastu
Kapilvastu Institutional Development Committee (KIDC)	Kapilvastu
Himalayan Community Resource Development Center (HCRDC)	Kalikot
Dalit Utthan Samaj (DUS)	Kalikot
Social Awareness and Development Academy (SAADA) Nepal	Kalikot
Rural Welfare Council (RWC)	Kalikot
Liberation of Oppressed Development Centre (LODC)	Palpa

Social Resource Development Centre (SRDC-Nepal)	Palpa
Peoples' Oriented Service Center (POSC)	Rolpa
Human Rights Awareness Centre (HURAC)	Rolpa
PETs partners	Districts
Policy Research and Government	Kathmandu
UNITERRA3 partners	Districts
Integrated Development Society (IDS)	Kathmandu
Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB)	Kathmandu
Federation of Community Forestry Users, Nepal (FECOFUN)	Bhaktapur
Himalayan Bio Trade Private Limited (HBTL)	Kathmandu
Environment Development Society (EDS)	Surkhet
Natural Resource Development Centre (NRDC)	Lalitpur
Nepal Agriculture Co-operative Central Federation Ltd. NACCFL	Lalitpur
Rupandehi District Milk Producers Cooperation Union	Rupandehi
Makwanpur District Milk Producer's Cooperative Union Lt. (MDMPCU)	Makawanpur
Lalitpur District Milk Producer Cooperative Union Ltd. (LDMPCU)	Lalitpur
Aadharbhat Prasuti Sewa (APS)	Kathmandu
Siddi Memorial Hospital (SMH)	Bhaktapur
Centre for Micro-finance (CMF)	Kathmandu
Dalit Welfare Organization (DWO)	Kathmandu
PRERANA	Lalitpur
Professional Development and Research Centre (PDRC)	Kathmandu
Fair Trade Group Nepal (FTG-Nepal) and 19 affiliated member organizations	Lalitpur
AVID partners	Districts
National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET) Nepal	Kathmandu
Nepal School of Social Work (NSSW) at Sutra Centre for Development Education and Research	Kathmandu
Department of Water Supply and Sewerage (DWSS).	Kathmandu
Nepali Technical Assistance Group (NTAG)	Lalitpur
Nepal Tuberculosis Center	Bhaktapur
Public Health Concern Trust- Nepal (Phect-Nepal)	Kathmandu
Rato Bangala Foundation (RBF)	Lalitpur
Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP)	Kathmandu
National Micro Entrepreneurs Federation Nepal (NMEFEN)	Kathmandu
Transcultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO) Nepal	Kathmandu
Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP)	Kathmandu
Nepal School of Social Work (NSSW)	Kathmandu
Cottage and Small Industry Development Board (CSIDB),	Kathmandu
Nepal Health Research Council (NHRC)	Kathmandu

Council for Technical Education & Vocational Training (CTEVT)	Bhaktapur
Nepali Technical Assistance Group	Kathmandu
Ministry of Urban Development (MOUD)	Kathmandu
SDP partners	Districts
Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT)	Kathmandu
TSDU	Kathmandu
Ministry of Education (MoE)	Kathmandu
Industrial Enterprise Development Institute (IEDI)	Kapilvastu
World University of Canada (WUSC)	Kapilvastu
Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCA)	Kapilvastu
TVET Sector Development Unit (TSDU)	Kapilvastu
Balaju School of Engineering and Technology	Kathmandu
The Nepal Polytechnic Institute	Kavre
The School of Health Sciences	Chitawan
Lahan Technical School	Siraha
Seti Technical School	Doti
Bheri Technical School	Banke
Rapti Technical School	Dang
Rural Training Centre,	Tanahu
Uttarpani Technical School	Dhankuta
Tikapur Polytechnic Institute	Kailali
Earthquake Response Program Partners	Districts
Tuki Association	Sindhupalchowk
Lalitpur District Milk Production Cooperative Union (L DMPCU)	Lalitpur
SAGUN	Kavre

Our donors:

Asian Development Bank (ADB)
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(FINNIDA)
Ordino Inc.
PA International
Rebuild Micro Enterprise Nepal (ReMen)
Solidarite International
Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC)
World Bank



Center for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI) Nepal

135 Naya Basti Marg

G.P.O. Box 2959

Baluwatar, Kathmandu, Nepal

Tel: +977 1 4414430/4426791

Email: ceci@ceci.org.np

www.ceci.ca