



Secretary Punjali visits PFS

Khum Raj Punjali, Acting Secretary at the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR) attended a briefing at the Peace Fund Secretariat (PFS) on August 22. The secretary was briefed by Sadhuram Sapkota, director of the Nepal Peace

Trust Fund (NPTF) on past and on-going activities being supported by the Fund. The secretary was briefed on projects in the pipeline and the strategy for NPTF. The strategy was discussed at a Board meeting on 2 July and is now being prepared for adoption. The secretary was also informed on the process for drafting a document for Joint



Khum Raj Punjali, Acting Secretary, MoPR during his visit to PFS/ NPTF.

Financing of the Fund and other mechanism within NPTF such as the Technical Cooperation Pool, the technical assistance provided by the German Cooperation Agency (GIZ) that would be replaced by support from the European Union (EU-TA).

PFS staff at the farewell of Sadhuram Sapkota, former Director at NPTF.

New Responsibility

The NPTF Director Sadhuram Sapkota has been transferred to the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation. Mr. Sapkota had served as



Director of the NPTF from February 2013. The PFS organized a farewell meeting for Mr. Sapkota on 4 September at NPTF.

INTERNAL MEETINGS

Technical Committee

The 37th meeting of the NPTF Technical Committee held on August 29 and chaired by Khum Raj Punjali, secretary MoPR, granted endorsement of no-cost extension to projects being implemented by the Nepal Police, Election Commission Nepal and the MoPR. The projects that were granted no-cost extension are

‘Reconstruction of Police Units Phase II, Capacity Enhancement of NP to Contribute to Peace Process Effectively, Support to Elections Project (STEP), Strengthening Local Peace Committees – Peace from bottom-up and Peace Campaign for Solidarity and Unity. The meeting also discussed and amended names of districts where the new Nepal Police project, “Police Unit Reconstruction Project for Effective Service Delivery and Improve Capabilities of the Police-Phase I” would be implemented.

TC Pool

The 25th meeting of the Steering Committee of the TC Pool for supporting capacity development of MoPR/NPTF held on 12 August discussed options for TC Pool fund as the support of two donors Denmark and Germany is no more available. The meeting also discussed the external review of NAP 1325/1820 projects supported by NPTF. The meeting also discussed the scope of work of the Gender and Social Inclusion Advisor and the continuation of the contract up to 31 Oct 2015. The meeting decided to propose a tripartite meeting Nepal Police, PFS and DFID to discuss the details of the TA and to develop a ToR for review and endorsement by the TCSC.

Draft Progress Report

The draft 21st Progress Report of the NPTF (Annual Progress Report for 2013/14) has been prepared and shared with donors. The report will be posted



Sadhuram Sapkota, formerly Director NPTF, briefing the new secretary of MoPR at PFS.

on the NPTF website after incorporating comments from the Donor Group. This annual report includes reportage on progress with program implementation and financial management for fiscal year 2013/14. The report will be edited and also published for wider dissemination.

IMPLEMENTATION AGENCY ACTIVITIES

Survey of Radio Nepal audiences

Radio Nepal has conducted its annual listener's survey for fiscal year 2070/071. The National Institute for Development and Research carried out the survey. The survey was an activity under the Peace Promotion through Radio (Phase II) project supported by NPTF. The objective of the survey was to assess the impact of the peace related programming on Radio Nepal and also to generate data for monitoring. The survey covered urban and rural areas in 10 districts.

The survey found that radio was a main source of information for 53.2 percent, which for television was 18.6 percent. It was 3.3 percent for newspapers and 1.4 percent for the Internet. Across geographical regions, more than 80 percent respondents said that they received information from radio.

The survey also found that there were very few listeners among the respondents who listened to Radio Nepal regularly (11.7%). This information was not much different from the survey carried out in 2013 (12%). Roughly 34 percent respondents listened to Radio Nepal sometimes, whereas around 13 percent listened to it at fixed times. The survey found that about 60 percent of the 1000 respondents listened to Radio Nepal cumulatively. Of the 588 respondents who listened to Radio Nepal, a majority (54.6%) said they listened because the station was 'trustable', 21.1 percent listened because it was a government broadcaster, and 10.9 percent listened because of the clarity in signal. The listeners of Radio Nepal also said its news was more credible.

So far Radio Nepal has broadcast 60 of 104 episodes of *Shanti Bahas*, 61 of 104 episodes of *Shantika Lagi Radio*, 60 of 104 parts of the peace drama series *Khane Mukhlai Junghale Chekdaina*, and 52 of 104 programs under the talk show *Shanti Sambad*. Radio Nepal has also organized five workshops and trainings on Peace Journalism in Kathmandu, Dipayal, Surkhet, Dhankuta and Pokhara.

National Disabled Fund

The National Disabled Fund (NDF) organised meetings with partners in three districts in the Far-western region between 31 August and 9 September to brief them on changes in the project that had been approved by the NPTF Board in July. The NDF is implementing the 'Physical Rehabilitation Services for Conflict Affected Disabled Persons in Nepal' project. The partner meeting was also used for discussing NDF's new strategy.

The chair of the NDF Nitesh Kumar Gupta and the Project Coordinator also concluded several agreements with partners – Community Based Rehabilitation, Biratnagar; Nepalgunj Medical College, Kohalpur and the Nepal National Social Welfare Association, Kanchanpur. The NDF officials also interacted with physical rehabilitation teams, management teams at its partner agencies and local stakeholders. The centers operated by NDF partners provide physiotherapy services, artificial

A helping hand

Khagendra Bishwakarma from Agrakhachi had lost his left limb at an explosion on the road at Tinghare of Arghakhachi District in February 2005. He was in Kathmandu recently for an artificial leg. Prior to this he had to move around using crutches but can now walk without support. A community worker of NDF had met Bishwakarma and told him about the support that was available to conflict victims after which he travelled to Kathmandu for support. The NDF provided him with the transportation costs and as well as the expenses for obtaining the artificial limb. Bishwakarma wants to start a new business in his village and says he looks forward to getting started with support from the government.

Source: National Disabled Fund

Artificial limb eases the difficulties faced by a conflict victim.



limbs, orthopedic shoes, back support and mobility aids to people who were injured and disabled during the conflict. These centers also provide assistive devices to conflict victims all over the country. The NDF aims to screen 5,000 conflict victims and provide assistive devices to 1750 people during the project period.

Training on NAP on UN SCR 1325 and 1820

National Women Commission (NWC) organized a training program on the UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 and the National Action Plan (NAP) for government officials on 9-10



Participants at a training program organised by NWC in Hetauda, Makawanpur.

September at Hetauda, Makawanpur District. The training was a part of the implementation of the “Promoting Equal Participation of Women in Decision Making Position and Peace Building Process” project that began implementation on 16 July 2014. The project aims to ensure increased participation of women and girls as decision makers in state institutions, political parties and peace building processes.

The three intended outputs of the project are:

Output 1: Increase awareness among political parties and state bodies about the UN resolutions related to women, peace and security.

Output 2: Political parties and state bodies are committed to increase representation of women in decision making positions, and participation in peace building process.

Output 3: Increase capacity of the NWC to monitor the implementation of NAP on UNSCR 1325 and 1820.

The project involves training to 800 persons including political party and government officials, Local Peace Committee (LPC) and District Coordination Committee (DCC) members, and members of civil society organization on women, peace and security. So far NWC has organized five training program for political parties, two for government officials and held one interaction with DCC, LPC and civil society members.

Source: National Women Commission

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