

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*



# Annual Report 2017

**UNDP IN NEPAL**



↑ *COVER: Voters in the process of casting their ballots in the House of Representatives and Provincial Assemblies elections in Pokhara.*  
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UNDP, with funding from the Government of the People's Republic of China, launched a US \$4 million recovery project aimed to directly assist over 31,000 flood-affected families following the 2017 floods in the Terai.

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## FOREWORD



**2017** was a landmark year for Nepal as it conducted the first elections since the adoption of its new constitution and the first at local level in more than 17 years.

The elections were a tremendous success, both in terms of quality and mobilization, demonstrating the strong attachment of the Nepali people to democracy. It was also a success for women and citizens from vulnerable communities with 42 percent of newly elected local officials being women and one third of Provincial assemblies and of Federal Parliament seats reserved for women. It was especially rewarding for UNDP to see hundreds of women and youth beneficiaries of our socio-economic empowerment projects chosen to represent their communities in executive or legislative functions.

It is this kind of representation that will ensure voices from all segments of the Nepali society are heard, and the needs of those excluded will be considered and included in the development efforts of the country.

2017 was also the last year of the Programming Cycle 2013-2017 for UNDP Nepal. A lot of efforts were put and consultations held for the formulation of a new Country Programme, as well as contributing to the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2018-2022, building on lessons learned, Nepal development priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of Agenda 2030. The new Country Programme was approved by the Executive Board of UNDP mid-September 2017, following the signing of the UNDAF by the Government of Nepal on 1 September 2017. Despite being the last year of the cycle, many results were achieved in partnership with Government, civil society and other development partners and are presented in this Annual Report.

2017 was also a big year for UNDP globally. The former Administrator Helen Clark finished her tenure at the helm of the organization, making way for Achim Steiner, UNDP's new Administrator. Under his guidance a new Corporate Strategy for UNDP was released end of 2017, highlighting six signature solutions, all very relevant to the

development challenges of Nepal, and thereby ensuring a strong alignment between corporate UNDP priorities and the work of UNDP Nepal.

Since the adoption of the SDGs, Nepal has been at the forefront of the international community to adopt and localize the Goals, integrate them in the 14th 3-year development plan, work on an SDG-based national budget and establish a Steering Committee chaired by the Prime Minister to ensure coordinated efforts for the achievement of the SDGs. Furthermore, and to complement these efforts, UNDP supports a Youth Alliance for the SDGs, a CSO Forum on SDGs and initiated an SDG Business Coalition, underlining the need for all development stakeholders of Nepal to rally for the SDGs.

As Nepal continues implementing the new Constitution and pursues a federalization process which translates in the devolution of powers and responsibilities among 7 provinces and 753 local Governments, UNDP needs to adapt to the new political and administrative context. We will start in 2018 a new 5-year Programme and reposition our staff and assets closer to the newly elected decision-makers, strengthening our field presence across Nepal.

We thank all our national and international partners for their support in delivering key results in 2017, accompanying Nepal as it transforms itself into a federal state and supporting its efforts to achieving the SDGs. For 2018, we look forward to demonstrating the added value of UNDP and the relevance of its development expertise and experience to the needs of Nepal, partnering with many to fulfill the rights and aspirations of Nepali men and women for a better life.

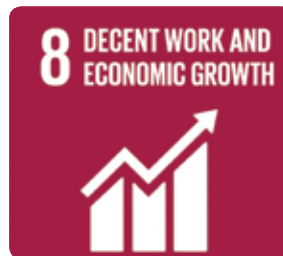
**RENAUD MEYER**  
UNDP Country Director

**VALERIE JULIAND**  
UN Resident Coordinator and  
UNDP Resident Representative





# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



# SDGs & UNDP

Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) requires active participation and collaboration between state and non-state actors at all levels, and at all stages of the programmatic cycle— consultations, planning, implementation, monitoring and reviews. Successful implementation of the SDGs relies on a country's own sustainable development policies, and the Government has the primary responsibility of monitoring progress. The private sector and civil society have an equally important role to play. Citizens also contribute significantly to watching and supporting their governments' actions.

In 2017, UNDP continued to work closely with the Government of Nepal, the private sector, civil society and the media to advance the SDGs. With UNDP support, the Government prepared an SDG baseline report and SDG implementation strategy that also includes a financing strategy. Nepal has mainstreamed the 2030 Agenda into its national plans and policies, national budget, and other sectoral plans with country-specific SDG-related targets to be achieved by 2030. UNDP supported the National Planning Commission to align its national monitoring and evaluation framework with the SDGs and targets.

Nepal was one of the first countries to present its preliminary national report on the SDGs at the UN Headquarters. Giving continuity to its active engagement at the global forum, Nepal also participated in the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) with a Voluntary National Review (2017), which shows significant progress in poverty reduction and human development since the 1990s.

UNDP continued to provide needed technical support by leading the UN SDG working group, comprised of all UN agencies working in Nepal.

*In 2017, UNDP continued to work closely with the Government of Nepal, the private sector, civil society and the media to advance the SDGs.*

Under UNDP's facilitation, the private sector in Nepal came together and launched the Business Coalition for SDGs, an informal alliance facilitated by businesses committed to achieving the SDGs. The coalition is a voluntary group of likeminded enterprises that understand the need to align their business operations with the SDGs and work with other actors in Nepal to achieve sustainable development. The businesses under the coalition have started integrating SDGs into their business plans and policies. Most significantly, Yeti Airlines partnered with the UN in launching an awareness raising campaign on the SDGs and undertook a voluntary carbon footprint audit exercise with UNDP to start the process to become a climate neutral company. The airline aims to become carbon neutral through emission reduction and offsetting.

UNDP also extended its partnership with the CSO Forum for the SDGs and Youth Alliance for the SDGs. Since the adoption of the SDGs, UNDP has conducted over 40 public lectures focusing on the Goals and a wide range of topics, including the role of youth in advancing the SDGs, climate change and adaptation, gender equality, youth and volunteerism, innovation, technology and development. In partnership with the Society of Economic Journalists Nepal (SEJON), UNDP trained over 200 journalists across the country on the SDGs and development reporting. And to highlight how gender and disability are integrated in all the Global Goals, UNDP, through the UN Gender Theme Group and the UN Country Team, also developed two comprehensive posters—"Gender in the Era of SDGs" and "Disability in the Era of SDGs"—in partnership with different stakeholders.

These actions taken by UNDP have helped the Government of Nepal build its capacity to localize, execute and monitor the SDGs that directly decide the course of the future of Nepali people and their country.

# DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE



Reached over

**200,000**

voters through voter education initiatives and trained over 6,000 Election Commission staff and stakeholders to ensure credibility and inclusiveness in the electoral process



Assisted equipping over

**750**

field offices of Election Commission with 900 communication sets, including computers and communications equipment



Over

**52,000**

local women, including from Dalit and other marginalized communities, trained on leadership and participation, which encouraged over 4,000 of them to file their candidacy, out of which over 1,000 got elected to local governments

# RESULTS

## POVERTY REDUCTION



Over

**16,000**

people, most of them rural women representing highly vulnerable groups, became successful micro-entrepreneurs



**134**

community infrastructures, such as irrigation canals, market centres, drinking water schemes and agricultural roads constructed / rehabilitated benefitting 10,788 households in earthquake-hit districts



Engaged over

**1,000**

stakeholders, including representatives of newly-elected local governments and line ministries, to review and recommend reforms in Nepal's TVET policies and programmes





In partnership with The Kathmandu Post, launched a gender role swap video series that engaged over

**2 million**

people in a live discussion around gender equality



Over

**1,000**

youths were engaged in designing and testing innovative technologies, including robotics and remote sensing, that have the potential to help accelerate efforts to achieve SDGs



**34 laws**

and bills relating to the rights of women, Dalits, minorities, disaster risk management, medical education and civil code were reviewed to ensure they were aligned with international human rights standards and Nepal's international treaty obligations

# BY NUMBER\*

## BUILDING RESILIENCE

**600**

masons and carpenters and 25,000 people (40 percent women) were trained and oriented on resilient and affordable housing models

Implemented

**248**

local adaptation actions, such as construction of irrigation canals, ponds, rainwater-harvesting tanks and drip irrigation systems, benefitting over 65,000 people from climate-vulnerable districts

More than

**6,000**

house-owners helped to tackle construction-related problems and queries through toll free helpline launched in partnership with the National Reconstruction Authority

**25**

micro-hydro plants with a total capacity of 1,229kW were installed, benefitting 9,695 households in rural Nepal

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## SECTION 1

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# Promoting Sustainable Economic Growth

The key to poverty reduction is a healthy economic landscape. While Nepal began seeing steady increases to its GDP, its gains were halted by the 2015 earthquakes. To help those most vulnerable to the shocks of economic fragility, UNDP further invested in micro-enterprises, particularly for women, building skills and vocational training for youth, and restoring the damaged infrastructure so vital to the economic growth of Nepal.



*Promotion of small and micro-enterprises, reconstruction and rehabilitation of community infrastructure, and improved technical education are the cornerstones of UNDP's approach to poverty reduction and livelihood recovery in Nepal.*

© KAMAL RAJ SIGDEL / UNDP NEPAL







## INSTITUTIONALIZING THE POWER OF MICRO-ENTERPRISES

Establishing and fostering micro and small enterprises in Nepal is a tremendously successful model for lifting people out of poverty, particularly for women and vulnerable people. UNDP Nepal's flagship programme, the Micro-Enterprise Development Programme (MEDEP), funded by Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), has proven vital to poverty reduction, so much so that the Government has embedded this programme into its planning and operations, and in 2018, will assume full ownership of MEDEP.

The Government's own Micro-Enterprise Development for Poverty Alleviation (MEDPA) programme, started in 2008/2009, has incorporated the Micro-Enterprise Development (MED) model in

↑ *Bimsara BK of Charkhune in Surkhet readying to take her vegetables to the city to sell on her bicycle, provided to her by UNDP in conjunction with a training in entrepreneurship.*

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Now in its fourth and final phase, MEDEP has created over

**131,000**

micro-entrepreneurs in its lifetime

the 13th National Three-Year Interim Plan, continuing into the 14th National Three-Year Plan (valid until 2019). The Plan mandates the Ministry of Industry (MoI) to establish 73,000 new micro-entrepreneurs (MEs) and support the graduation of 60,000 existing MEs across Nepal. These interventions are expected to generate a total of 127,000 jobs. The MED model has been replicated in all 77 districts in the form of MEDPA.

Now in its fourth and final phase, MEDEP has created over 131,000 MEs in its lifetime. In 2017, the programme further supported 16,796 MEs. Women constitute a vast majority of these entrepreneurs—around 79 percent—and a significant number of them are from Dalit and indigenous communities. In view of Nepal's ongoing decentralization, MEDEP's technical support and advocacy efforts have also enabled the MoI to develop a concept paper on



MEDPA's strategy in the new administrative structure, as well as to revise existing guidelines. MEDEP also assisted the Ministry in orienting more than 11,600 newly-elected representatives across 550 local government units on the MED model. As a result of this, several Enterprise Development Funds and Enterprise Development Committees have materialized, and a significant portion of local government budgets, amounting to NRs. 398 million, has been allocated to MED activities. Additionally, to offer entrepreneurs easier access to loans to inject into their enterprises, MEDEP has also helped Micro-Enterprise Associations link up with 35 different banks and financial institutions giving vulnerable and excluded people access to valuable capital to grow their enterprises. In 2017 alone, a total of 10,239 micro-entrepreneurs received loans worth NRs. 195 million.

## SUPPORTING QUALITY TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

A large number of organizations in Nepal, including government agencies, NGOs, private firms, as well as projects supported by different donor agencies, are engaged in providing technical and vocational education and training (TVET) programmes. It was precisely to strengthen coordination among these providers, eliminate inconsistencies in provisions, and generally improve the quality and scale of TVET programmes in line with SDG 4, that the Support to Knowledge and Lifelong Learning Skills (SKILLS) programme was designed—implemented by UNDP, the Ministry of Education (MoE) and the Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT). In 2017, SKILLS conducted extensive policy discussions nationwide, soliciting public, private



↑ *UNDP has been working to strengthen coordination among TVET providers so as to promote gainful employment and entrepreneurship in Nepal, in particular to retain the country's youth.*  
UNDP NEPAL

*In 2017, SKILLS conducted policy discussions nationwide, soliciting public, private and development partner inputs for a reform of the national TVET policy*

and development partner inputs for a reform of the national TVET policy, to render programmes more relevant to the federal context and better suited to the needs of the economy and local job market.

In addition to its efforts to collect feedback for a revision of the TVET policy, SKILLS has also been working to develop an integrated monitoring and evaluation system for quality assurance and knowledge management related to TVET programmes. This robust web-based TVET Management Information System (MIS), which incorporates data of all TVET-related programmes and projects running under the MoE, holds great value in terms of strengthening the tracking and assessment of TVET activities, and SKILLS has already commenced institutionalizing the system.

SKILLS published a comprehensive National TVET Annual Report, which consolidates information on TVET programmes from all around the country, and is expected to prove a useful resource for policymakers in formulating policies, assisting planners and providers in analyzing needs, and extending necessary support to researchers.



## FOSTERING RURAL LIVELIHOOD RECOVERY

When the 2015 earthquakes hit, Nepalis suffered not only a tremendous loss of life, but also saw vital community infrastructure destroyed. To revive livelihood opportunities, UNDP has rebuilt/repared 134 community infrastructures such as irrigation canals, collection/market centres, drinking water schemes and agricultural roads, among others, benefitting 10,788 households in six earthquake-hit districts: Dhading, Dolakha, Gorkha, Nuwakot, Rasuwa and Sindhupalchowk.

The Community Infrastructure and Liveilhood Recovery Programme (CILRP), funded by the

↑ *An irrigation canal built with UNDP support, which has helped an earthquake-hit community in Sindhupalchowk resume farming and other economic activities.*

📷 LAMBERT COLEMAN / UNDP NEPAL

Government of Mauritius, International Medical Corps and Bridgehead Limited, was implemented in close partnership with district-level line agencies and locally-elected bodies. These partnerships have resulted in the securing of at least 50 percent contribution to the programme costs from local governments.

Over 10,000 people received temporary employment through a cash-for-work scheme, out of which 22 percent were women. And to further expedite income recovery, CILRP also implemented 45 livelihood initiatives for communities in the six project districts, including skills development and production enhancement through improved technology, directly benefitting a total of 3,139 households.

## HELPING NEPAL ASSESS DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

Nepal has committed to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. The SDGs are a set of economic, social and environmental goals agreed by the world in 2015 and Nepal needs a great deal of finance to achieve them. UNDP, in partnership with ADB and DFID, supported Nepal's Ministry of Finance to carry out a study to map the financing landscape. The study recommends that given Nepal's strong commitment to the SDGs, and aspiration to graduate from LDC status by 2022 and emerge as a middle-income country by 2030, the Government needs new strategies to improve efficiency, increase levels of finance and strengthen the enabling environment for private sector investment and growth.



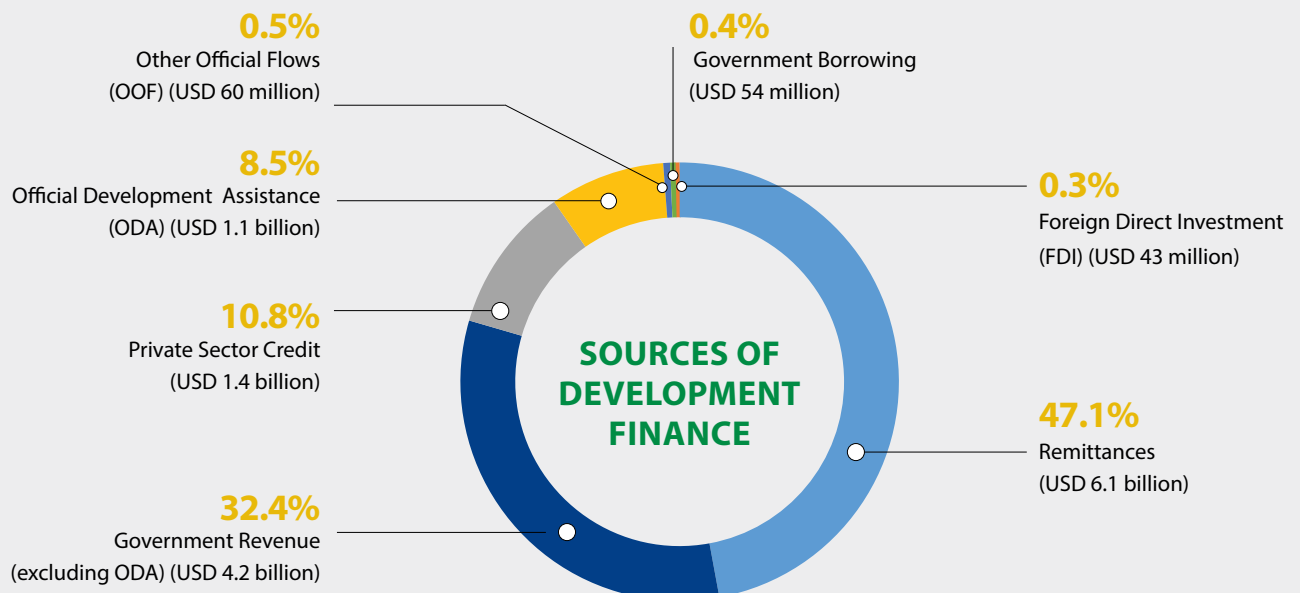
UNDP's restoration of community infrastructures such as irrigation canals, collection/market centres, drinking water schemes and agricultural roads, has benefited

# 10,788

households in six earthquake-hit districts.

The DFA identified opportunities for Nepal to mobilize finance to reduce the SDG financing gap. For example, Nepal is yet to fully utilize opportunities for mobilizing foreign aid, including from global concessional funds, which could be raised by as much as 70 percent if using the average of LDCs as the benchmark. Similarly, Nepal has potential to increase level of foreign direct investment (FDI) given the average FDI levels of LDCs are almost 20 times higher than that of Nepal.

While raising more finance is required to achieving the SDGs, using what is available is also equally important. For example, in FY 2014/15, only 76 percent of the capital budget was spent. Nepal's challenges with spending available resources have been limiting its chances to absorb additional





finance, including the available official development assistance. Based on the findings, the study recommends that Nepal explore opportunities to attract additional finance while also strengthening its capacity to utilize existing finance, including through public sector reform measures, and/or through wider engagement with non-state partners in delivery of services and public investments.

↓ *In line with local government's effort to promote eco-tourism around the Phewa lake, a tourist hotspot, local people in Pokhara have found an innovative way to turn invasive water hyacinth into handicraft and compost fertilizer.*

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## FEATURE

# PROSPERITY: ONE CLAY POT AT A TIME

**IN A COUNTRY WHERE 1500+ YOUTH LEAVE FOR WORK ABROAD EACH DAY, BINDESHWOR AND HIS TEAM IN SUNSARI SHOW HOW THEY COULD MAKE A GOOD INCOME STAYING HOME WITH THEIR FAMILY.**

Bindeshwor Pandit is an icon of success for many in this small village of Sunsari slowly rising out of poverty in the south of Nepal.

It is with him and his team that the traditional pottery enterprise meets modernity. Pottery has been a profession for Bindeshwor and his fellow villagers for generations.

"We have been in this business for as long as our memory serves," he says, as his hands form a clay pot on a spinning electric wheel. "However, until a few years ago, it was barely supporting our livelihoods. We used to have the manual hand-held potter's wheel which was not helping us produce as much to scale up our business."

Things, however, changed when he and other potters formed a group, introduced modern machines, including an electric spinner and a mud mixer, learned some enterprise and marketing skills, and built a common facility centre to house the factory. They were able to achieve this through the Micro Enterprise Development Programme

(MEDEP), a joint anti-poverty programme of the Government of Nepal and UNDP, funded by Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

Now, they are producing five times more, they say. They are better organized and have a better marketing strategy. The average monthly income for each of their nine-member team is over US\$300. In the last Dipawali (festival of lights) alone, Bindeshwor says he sold over 500,000 clay lamps totalling \$10,000.

"The demand for clay pots is growing, and we are thinking of scaling this up further," Bindeshwor says. "There is a huge market out there. I have been thinking of making new designs, including things for interior decoration."

For a country like Nepal witnessing a huge outflow of its youth workforce—1,500 young people leave the country every day for jobs mainly in the Middle East—the revival of such traditional businesses have slowly inspired some to stay put.



"Inspired by the success of our business, many youth here have started up their own pottery enterprise. Nobody likes to leave the country and work in the blistering heat of the Gulf if you have business opportunity to work on your own land and stay together with your family," Bindeshwor said.

Currently, an estimated five million Nepalis are working in the Gulf and South East Asian countries and each year more than 450,000 youth enter the labour market. Only one in 10 Nepali migrant workers is skilled and only three in 10 are semi-skilled.

Given this large outflow of largely unskilled young workforce, the entrepreneurship development

programme has proven effective not just in skilling the youth for better employment prospects, but also in keeping them productive in Nepal. MEDEP has been training people from rural and marginalized communities to start up enterprises of their choice in groups in areas ranging from pottery, weaving and beauty parlours to handicrafts, carpets and jewellery.

"What is interesting is besides creating income opportunities for the poor, these micro enterprises are also enhancing social relations and reducing disparities within and between communities," says Binda Acharya, Under Secretary at the Ministry of Industry, Government of Nepal, who is also the National Programme Director of MEDEP.

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## SECTION 2

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# Fostering Democratic Governance and Rule of Law

As Nepal makes the shift to a new federal administrative structure, as envisioned by the 2015 Constitution, the transition represents a significant learning curve and a chance to review and reform institutions and processes so as to strengthen democratic governance and rule of law in the country. UNDP has remained a key partner to the Government of Nepal in this regard, with programmes designed to boost the quality of participation and representation in political, social and economic decision-making processes; setting up transparent, accountable institutions; and improved service delivery; culminating in the creation of a peaceful, stable and resilient society.



*The Election Commission of Nepal, with help from UNDP's Election Support Project, ran an intensive campaign in the run up to the 2017 elections in Nepal to encourage women's participation, both as voters and candidates.*

© LAXMI PRASAD NGAKHUSI / UNDP NEPAL



## IN SUPPORT OF INCLUSIVE, CREDIBLE AND PARTICIPATORY ELECTIONS

In 2017, Nepal held its first national, provincial and local elections since the armed conflict (1996-2006) and the first under its new Constitution. It was a largely peaceful and transparent process. The Election Commission of Nepal (ECN) was commended for its capacity to oversee the polls for 15 million eligible voters. UNDP was alongside the ECN in this endeavor.

Since its inception in 2008, UNDP's Electoral Support Project (ESP) has been committed to the institutional strengthening and professional development of the ECN, and to ensuring meaningful and increased participation in democratic processes. In this regard, in 2017, the project—with funding from Denmark, the EU, Norway and the UK—continued to provide technical and operational support to the ECN in implementing several electoral processes, followed by post-electoral activities.

*UNDP provided necessary support to the ECN in overseeing the polls for 15 million eligible voters in 2017.*

↓ *Schoolchildren learn about electoral rights and processes in a voter education exercise held by the ECN and UNDP.*  
© ESP/UNDP NEPAL

Throughout 2017, ESP supported the ECN in conducting inclusive, credible and participatory elections, with a focus on technical and advisory assistance in the areas of election planning and operations, electoral training, voter education, promoting peaceful elections, electoral dispute resolution, and gender equality and social inclusion.

The project lent a hand to ECN in organizing orientations for potential women candidates with a focus on marginalized communities, equipping offices of the Chief and Returning Officers with necessary materials and equipment, as well as supporting various electoral trainings from headquarters level to grass-root level, among others. To raise voter awareness of rights and voting procedures, ESP also supported ECN to produce and broadcast radio and television programmes, public service announcements and jingles. The project additionally provided continuous IT assistance for voter registration, voter roll updates and voter card design.

In this way, ESP's contribution to enhancing the capacity of ECN to successfully conduct local,





provincial and federal level elections in 2017 was notable—concluding a cycle of elections as envisioned by the new Constitution of Nepal with minimal international assistance. Completion of these various levels of elections has opened up the opportunity for the nation to focus on agendas of socio-economic development.

## IMPROVED LOCAL GOVERNANCE

The Local Governance and Community Development Programme Phase II (LGCDP-II) has remained steadfast in its objective to reduce poverty through improved local governance and community development. The programme—implemented



### 1.2 million

people were mobilized in local level planning processes to further empower citizens and community organizations.

Local government representatives of the Kedarsyun Rural Municipality in Bajhang discuss steps of local development planning in a meeting.

LGCDP/ UNDP NEPAL



by the Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development with technical and financial assistance from ADB, Denmark, DFID, Norway, SDC, UN Women, UNCDF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UNV—has been extended until July 2018 in the form of the Transition to Sub-National Governance Programme (TSNGP) and a new Sub-National Governance Programme (SNGP) is expected to take over from there.

In 2017, 1.2 million people were mobilized in the local-level planning process to further empower citizens and community organizations, and above 40 percent of newly elected municipal members were among the direct beneficiaries of the programme. Downward accountability was enhanced via the establishment of a grievance-handling mechanism and compliance monitoring conducted in 100 percent and 76 percent of districts respectively. And as an indication of a gradual rise in the institutionalization of gender equality and social inclusion principles in local-level planning, the number of local government units (LGs) practicing gender-responsive budgeting increased to 18 percent in 2017 from 7 percent the previous year.

Various forms of capacity-building support were also provided to the 753 new LGs. A total of 733 Chief Administrative Officers, 73 Local Development Officers, and 1,072 elected Mayors, Deputy Mayors, Chairs and Vice-Chairs were trained on basic operational issues, and the institutional capacity of the LGs was also strengthened through developing legislative frameworks on transitional operations, management of staff, assets and finance, and continuity of services, among other activities.

Other notable achievements include the enactment of the Local Government Operation Act 2074 and Acts on six Constitutional Commissions, alongside development of more than 30 model local laws.



Efforts were also expended on establishing an IT-based working culture, by developing and making use of innovative tools like interactive maps, accounting software, mobile apps and LG websites.

## ACCESS TO JUSTICE THROUGH LEGAL REFORM AND FREE LEGAL AID SERVICES

Interventions geared at improving policy and institutional frameworks in the country to benefit vulnerable and marginalized groups continued to form part of UNDP's work in 2017. Strengthening the Rule of Law and Human Rights Protection System in Nepal (RoLHR), a joint initiative of UNDP, the Supreme Court and Ministry of Law and Justice, funded by the Governments of Denmark, Finland

↑ *The district court in Sindhupalchowk is among several around the country where UNDP has installed information desks for the benefit of court-users.*

© LAXMI PRASAD NGAKHUSI / UNDP NEPAL



Around

**75,000**

people, mostly women, received free legal-aid services, counseling and information through SLACs and information desks installed at district-level courts across the country.

and Norway, continued to expand the Socio-legal Aid Centers (SLACs) in the districts.

In 2017, the programme established 10 additional SLACs, conducting awareness programmes and providing free legal aid to thousands of people. Around 75,000 people—most of them women—received free legal-aid services, counseling and information through SLACs and information desks set up at district-level courts across the country. Over the last four years, more than 150,000 people have benefited from this programme.

The SLACs have also had an impact on the confidence of victims of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) to seek legal aid—69.3 percent of people surveyed by the programme said they were now more willing to pursue legal services, an increase of 22.9 percent from 2015 (UN Perception Survey, 2015).

RoLHR has also contributed significantly to policy-level changes in national legislative and institutional frameworks: it helped to finalize the Integrated Legal Aid Policy, the Common Justice Sector Strategy, the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Strategy (Judiciary), as well as initiating the review of 23 draft bills from a human-rights perspective. The programme developed a training-of-trainers curriculum on civil and criminal codes for court officials/prosecutors, a users' manual for the Judicial Committees, and a GESI training manual, all of which will strengthen the implementation of revised laws in 2018. Additionally, RoLHR has commissioned a comprehensive five-year costed action plan for the implementation of new civil and penal legislation in 2017.

In a further push for gender equality and social inclusion in the legal sector, RoLHR continued its support to the affirmative legal education programme, providing internship opportunities to 98 young

lawyers—over 60 percent of whom were women—complete with mentoring and scholarships. The programme also provided financial and technical support for the organizational needs assessment of the National Dalit Commission and National Women Commission.

## AMPLIFYING VICTIMS' VOICES IN TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE PROCESSES

The transitional justice process started in Nepal in 2007 following the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement between the Government and the then-armed opposition. In order to ensure that the voices of conflict victims are not lost along the way, UNDP has been supporting the Conflict Victims Common Platform (CVCP) to enhance the capacity and leadership of its members, and enable them to articulate their demands, particularly in policy-level discussions.

In 2017, UNDP's Transitional Justice Project (TJP) organized a series of workshops and trainings for conflict survivors across the country. A total of 278 conflict survivors' leaders—including 145 women—were trained on different aspects of transitional justice and the processes involved. Leadership trainings were carried out to raise self and social awareness among CVCP members, improve their analytical ability around key issues such as gender, patriarchy, power and leadership, and equip them with the skills to communicate their views and experiences in a compelling manner.

Another facet of TJP's support to CVCP was extended to the development of the platform's three-year



↑ Conflict-affected participants in a workshop held in Surkhet to solicit inputs for the CVCP's three-year strategy.  
 © UNDP NEPAL



In 2017, UNDP's Transitional Justice Project organized a series of workshops and trainings on aspects and processes of transitional justice, benefiting

**278**

conflict survivors' leaders.

strategy (2018–2020) via a participatory process—including workshops in various districts of Nepal geared at soliciting the input of conflict-affected women, survivors of conflict-related sexual violence and marginalized groups, to ensure the protection and promotion of their rights in the strategy.

## BOOSTING PARLIAMENTARY CAPACITIES

Following the promulgation of the Constitution of Nepal in 2015, the Parliament Support Project (PSP) has been dedicated to bolstering parliamentary capacities in areas of institutional reform, lawmaking, oversight and outreach, as well as creating opportunities for women and marginalized groups to participate in parliamentary affairs. With elections of all three tiers of the federal structure taking place in 2017, there has never been greater expectation of delivery attached to the new parliaments.



To address this need, in 2017, PSP channelled its support to strengthen the lawmaking capacities of parliamentary committees, facilitating expert reviews of 11 bills—including some related to Constitutional Commissions—and helping to hold public consultations at the national and subnational levels. Inputs provided by stakeholders helped committees enrich their deliberations and take better-informed decisions. Likewise, the project also played a role in envisioning a strategic plan for the establishment of provincial assemblies and in preparing induction materials for new members.

Improving the oversight capabilities of parliamentary committees on the Government's activities and accountability was another important aspect of PSP's work in 2017. Major interventions to this end were the development of a range of knowledge products—a climate change finance toolkit, SDG and parliamentary oversight, public expenditure oversight tool, and a bill review tool, among others—and oversight of prison management, environment protection, customs reform and legislative openness.

PSP also worked on promoting the SDGs in parliament, as a result of which the Informal SDG Forum of MPs carried out consensual advocacy for establishing a new oversight mechanism. Similarly, the project also undertook initiatives to push for

legislative openness, including a discussion on Open Government Partnership and educating hundreds of youths across Nepal on parliamentary processes through mock-youth parliament sessions. Other accomplishments in this area included support to revamping the parliament's website and enabling live broadcast of proceedings on YouTube, as well as promoting direct dialogues between people and MPs through over 200 FM channels. PSP has also continued to assist the operation of the parliament's internal broadcasting system, resulting in the compilation of a digital archive of the entire proceedings of the parliament, including the Constituent Assemblies.

## TOWARDS COHESIVE COMMUNITIES AND VIOLENCE-FREE ELECTIONS

In a bid to facilitate the country's smooth transition to a federal structure by identifying and mitigating conflict risks and fostering a culture of dialogue and collaboration—particularly given the impending elections—the Social Cohesion and Democratic Participation (SCDP) Programme of UNDP worked in improving social cohesion, community security and democratic engagement in conflict “hotspots” around Nepal in 2017. Through its Electoral Violence Prevention Initiative, SCDP worked to create a peaceful environment for the three tiers of the elections: to the local bodies, and the provincial and federal parliaments.

The effort involved engaging in dialogues with district and local level actors to mitigate violence and promote peaceful elections in 10 districts of Nepal. A series of interactions and consultations were conducted by SCDP's existing and newly formed

← *Parliamentarians discuss the implementation of recommendations issued by the National Human Rights Commission to strengthen human rights protection in the country at a programme organized with UNDP support.*

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mechanisms on the ground with multi-stakeholder groups and youths to identify risks and agree on mitigation measures.

Forty mechanisms, 14 youth volunteer groups/networks, 30 information centers and Right to Information networks formed in 2017 by the project were instrumental in ushering community cohesion, security and participation forward through a total of 573 initiatives, directly involving over 53,000 people.

SCDP also provided 27 micro-capital grants to local NGOs and community-based organizations, targeted at enhancing livelihoods and income-generating skills, access to services and accountability of public institutions, and effective risk identification and risk mitigation systems, for the benefit of women, youth and marginalized communities.

## STRENGTHENING HUMAN RESOURCES IN HUMAN RIGHTS

The Strategic Plan Support Project (SPSP), funded by the governments of Denmark and Switzerland, focuses on strengthening the institutional and human capacities of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to enable it to fulfil its constitutional mandate.

Based on a training needs assessment, SPSP conducted a number of capacity-building activities in 2017 including: a training of trainers on protecting the rights of people with mental health issues; a basic human rights training; a series of theme-based intermediate-level trainings on pedagogy, report writing, accounting and administrative management; and advanced-level trainings on administration and management, along with a

High-Level Dialogue of commissioners, altogether benefitting 118 staff members, 51 of whom were women. The qualitative changes reported in the performance of the trained staff thereafter is an indication of the positive impact of SPSP's capacity-building inputs.

The project also conducted a perception survey on public relations and citizens' confidence in the NHRC. Based on the results, SPSP helped the Commission to develop strategies to expand and strengthen NHRC's outreach and partnerships.

The project further commissioned a study to explore the possibilities related to restructuring the NHRC with the federal context in mind, recommendations which were taken into account by the Commission in the process of drafting their new organogram. In addition, SPSP also supported the human rights body to review its policy on diversity and non-discrimination, as a result of which a number of women officers were promoted to managerial positions.

↓ *Participants of a workshop organized by UNDP to promote peaceful polls in Bara discuss means of preempting and preventing potential electoral conflict and violence.*

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Rights of persons with mental health issues has been another of SPSP's focus areas. In 2017, the project, in collaboration with KOSHISH, an NGO, and the NHRC in Biratnagar, Pokhara, Dhangadi, Nepalgunj and Janakpur, conducted trainings on promoting human rights in mental health sector. These trainings helped enhance the capacity of over 130 human rights defenders, doctors, and health workers from 48 districts across the country to understand, defend, advocate and lobby for human rights of persons

with mental health issues. They also served to strengthen networking and collaboration among NHRC, civil society and concerned stakeholders; extend the outreach of the commission and civil society at the local level; develop a pool of trainers; create a baseline set for a formulation of a separate policy on the issue; and galvanize new interventions on mental health and human rights in collaboration with civil society.

## MAINSTREAMING YOUTH FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

There is a groundswell of energy coming from Nepal's youth in development. They are poised to take the Sustainable Development Goals forward and advancing Agenda 2030 requires not only their input, but their leadership and ownership of the SDGs. In 2017, UNDP continued to engage youth in advancing sustainable development through exclusive programs and events while also integrating youth components into its regular interventions around economic empowerment, civic engagement and resilience—the three key areas of focus identified by UNDP's Youth Strategy.

An important aspect of UNDP Nepal's engagement with youth in 2017 has been with regards to localization of the SDGs at the federal and local levels. In August 2017, UNDP collaborated with Nepal Youth Council for the "SDGs Festival" aiming to localize SDGs in all provinces and their local government units. So far, the event has reached three provinces—directly benefitting 250 young people (40 percent of whom were women), with plans to cover the remaining four provinces by the end of 2018.

Mock-youth parliament sessions have comprised another facet of UNDP's efforts to augment youth engagement in democratic processes

and advocacy for Agenda 2030. As a continuous effort from 2016 to 2017, the Parliament Support Project under UNDP has been partnering with the Association of Youth Organizations Nepal (AYON) to hold 11 such events, covering all seven provinces, and directly involving over 1,000 youths—comprising around 20 percent women, 5 percent Dalits, 17 percent Janajati, 19 percent Madhesis, 10 percent from the LGBTI community and 20 percent youth with disabilities. Several of the participants went on to run in local elections. A young man from Dadeldhura who participated in one of the mock parliaments was elected a member of his municipality.





FEATURE

# RIGHTING HISTORICAL WRONGS

**THE NATIONAL DALIT COMMISSION'S JOINT MONITORING GROUP HAS HELPED OVER 30 FAMILIES FROM DISCRIMINATED COMMUNITIES TO ACCESS JUSTICE.**

When local authorities were called to the home of Jhuma BK in Taplejung, they quickly concluded she had taken her own life. Coming from a Dalit background, her family felt their suspicions were overlooked. They believed Jhuma was killed and that police needed to investigate more, but it wasn't until the family appealed for help from the National Dalit Commission (NDC) that their voices were heard.

Investigators from the NDC's Joint Monitoring Group (JMG) were dispatched and soon gathered evidence that the woman had been assaulted and murdered by two of her neighbors. The accused were subsequently apprehended and jailed.

The Dalit community in Nepal often faces a greater level of exclusion in everything from education to employment. But it is through UNDP's support to the NDC's JMG, comprising other national human rights institutions, that people from the

Dalit community are increasingly accessing justice.

"The consolidated efforts through JMG has been an important means of promoting the human rights of poor and vulnerable people, in particular those from socially-excluded groups in Nepal," said Sarita Gyawali from the National Human Rights Commission, one of the members of the JMG. "Legal awareness and legal aid services are crucial forms of support to build people's confidence in and access to legal recourse."

Part of the country's response to its obligations as per the human rights treaties it is signatory to and the Universal Periodic Review recommendations it had recently received related to caste-based discrimination, the JMG undertook the task of providing free legal support to survivors of 31 emblematic cases of human rights abuse and caste-based discriminations. This was achieved by raising awareness among thousands of people belonging to



discriminated communities on existing anti-discrimination laws, constitutional rights and measures for legal recourse and free legal aid and representation.

When complaints are brought to the JMG, some of them make their way to the High Court of Nepal, as was the case with that of Ajit Mijar of Kavre. When he was found dead, his family claimed that he was killed at the hands of his wife's family. He was from the Dalit community, and she from a so-called higher-caste. Mijar's body was buried without an autopsy, but when the JMG got involved, they exhumed the body and found

evidence of murder. High-level meetings were held, an investigation committee pushed the case to the High Court, and the judge sided with Mijar's family, awarding them 1 million rupees and ordering the arrest of the accused.

The JMG also takes on cases of exploitation. Bhim Bahadur Pariyar had been deployed to Khotang district to teach at a high-school there, but he was stopped from taking up his job for being from the Dalit community. Interventions by the JMG in this case helped Bhim Bahadur to resume his service.

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## SECTION 3

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# Building Resilience

Nepal's rich geography and vast natural resources belie a harsh reality: the country is among the most vulnerable in the world to the effects of climate change and hazards such as earthquakes. Addressing climate and disaster risks calls for a comprehensive preparedness programme, one that builds resilience of communities—particularly the rural poor—both in terms of raising their capacity to mitigate and reduce the impact of threats, as well as adapt to a changing environment. A key part of UNDP's support in these areas has been in the promotion of community-level disaster risk reduction and management, uptake and expansion of renewable energy mechanisms, and improved climate change adaptation actions at the national and local levels. Supporting Nepal's ongoing post-2015 earthquake recovery and reconstruction remained another major priority in 2017.

*Padmi Maya Shrestha smiles as she looks out from her newly built house in Dolakha. Low-cost housing models introduced by UNDP have been gaining popularity in the quake-affected areas of Nepal. © UNDP NEPAL*







## INSTITUTIONALIZING DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

In 2017, in what was a major milestone in promoting resilience, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), with technical support from UNDP, formulated the National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and Strategic Action Plan 2017-2030 in line with the Sendai Framework of Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. The plan institutionalizes Nepal's disaster response and lays out a long-term plan on preparedness and capacity building. UNDP's Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Programme (CDRMP) also helped the Government prepare the Nepal Disaster Report—a biennial progress report—covering the period 2015-2017, which gives insight into disaster-induced losses and draws lessons for future planning. In partnership with the National Planning Commission, UNDP helped roll out the Disaster Risk Reduction-Climate

↑ *Locals of an earthquake-hit village in Dolakha working to reconstruct their damaged homes, aided by the installment of Technology Demonstration Houses by UNDP in the area, intended to showcase resilient building technology and raise awareness about safer reconstruction.*

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Change Adaptation Mainstreaming Guideline, which is expected to guide all ministries in integrating climate change into their plans and programmes.

With support from the Humanitarian Aid Department of the European Commission (ECHO), UNDP continued to focus on the promotion of safer construction, particularly in earthquake-affected areas. In 2017, three municipalities—Chautara and Melamchi in Sindhupalchowk, and Panchkhal in Kavre—made it mandatory to check planned structures against the National Building Code before issuing building permits. Sixty municipal engineers/sub-engineers have been trained and 1,000 local people have also been oriented on safer construction techniques. Free drawing preparation campaigns have also been organized in Melamchi and Chautara, bringing in students of engineering to help 300 poor households prepare and finalize drawings for their homes.

Chautara has also formulated a Risk-Sensitive Land-Use Plan (RSLUP) and revised its by-laws to safeguard future development.

UNDP supported the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) in its efforts to build back better in 10 local governments in Dolakha and Sindhupalchowk districts. Reconstruction Action Plans (RAPs) have been prepared for each of the 10 local governments. Over 600 masons and carpenters were trained and 25,000 people (40 percent women) oriented on resilient and affordable housing models through construction of 65 technology demonstration houses and organization of mobile technological clinics in earthquake-affected districts. Similarly, UNDP supported the NRA in launching a toll-free phone service, helping to address more than 6,000 house-owners' construction-related problems and queries.

UNDP, in partnership with Deutsche Post DHL, supported Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu and the Nepalgunj Airport to assess and strengthen their post-disaster preparedness arrangements. The 2015 earthquakes have shown that adequate level of infrastructure, preparedness and effective logistical operations would not only save lives but help reduce economic loss.

## ENGAGING COMMUNITIES IN CONSERVATION

In its bid to support communities in improving their livelihoods through environmental conservation efforts, the Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme (GEF SGP) in Nepal awarded grants to 11 new projects in 2017, ranging from those related to biodiversity conservation, climate change and land

*GEF-SGP in Nepal awarded grants to 11 new projects in 2017, ranging from those related to biodiversity conservation, climate change and land degradation, to chemical waste management and capacity development.*

degradation, to chemical waste management and capacity development.

Three of the projects relate to engagement of local communities in the conservation of three wetlands in Salyan, Kapilvastu and Palpa. In addition to preserving these natural assets, the communities are also enhancing their own economic prospects through eco-tourism and fish-farming. In Solukhumbu, another GEF funded project helped to institutionalize the existing Nawa system, referring to the indigenous management traditions of forests and pastures practiced by Sherpa communities, as part of efforts to promote indigenous and community-conserved areas.

Another grantee, focused on land degradation, has been working to promote organic farming and public and private agroforestry, as well as initiating climate smart agriculture and agriculture land technology in sloping terraces. Local farmers are not just contributing to protecting the soil, but also earning a decent income through sale of organic products. In the same vein, SGP also supported the Smritibrikchhya initiative—involving the development of urban parks by planting trees in the memory of loved ones—in three parks in Kathmandu, Udaypur and Dang. More than 1,291 trees were planted across an area of over 0.6 hectares.

2017 also saw several SGP grantees triumph at national and international awards for their outstanding work in conservation: the National Disaster Risk Reduction Centre Nepal and Save the Banganga, both SGP grantees, won the Solution Search: Farming for Biodiversity Judges' Choice Award worth US\$ 30,000; while the Women, Children and Environment Development Centre took first prize at the Environment Conservation Award 2017.



the beneficiaries belong to vulnerable and highly-vulnerable groups, and 45 percent of them are women. In addition to this, 14 district and 96 village/ municipality-level coordination committees have been institutionalized and capacitated to lead and facilitate the implementation of climate change interventions, including advocating for the mainstreaming of climate change in local planning processes.

At the grassroots level, over 37,400 people were oriented through 2,250 events to recognize the urgency of the threat of climate change and the need to address these. The participation of government officials at the Conference of the Parties Climate Change Conference and other UN Convention on Climate Change events have enhanced their leadership and advocacy skills, as well as the project's profile in the international arena.

## MAKING COMMUNITIES MORE RESILIENT TO CLIMATE CHANGE

To help vulnerable communities adapt to the impacts of a changing climate, the Nepal Climate Change Support Programme (NCCSP)—financially supported by DFID, European Union and technically supported by UNDP Nepal—has successfully implemented 100 Local Adaptation Plans for Actions in 14 districts of province 5, 6 and 7 in the last four years. The plans of actions are part of the government-led initiative to help climate-vulnerable communities adapt to a changing climate.

In 2017, 248 local adaptation actions, such as construction of irrigation canals, ponds, rainwater-harvesting tanks and drip irrigation systems, were implemented, benefitting over 65,000 people from 14 climate-vulnerable districts.. Around two-thirds of

↑ UNDP supported the AEPC to power three Snake-Bite Treatment Centers in the southern plains of Nepal with a 1.5 kWp Solar PV back-up system each.

📍 UNDP NEPAL



In 2017,

**248**

adaptation actions were implemented related to climate-resilient infrastructure, agriculture, livestock and food security through the Nepal Climate Change Support Programme.

## SCALING UP RENEWABLE ENERGY IN RURAL NEPAL

Although over three-quarters of the Nepali population now enjoy access to electricity, the distribution is anything but equal, with the figure dropping to around 60 percent in rural areas. Most households receive electricity from the national grid, while 15 percent obtain it from off-grid renewable sources.

In order to increase access to renewable sources, UNDP's Renewable Energy for Rural Livelihood (RERL) project is supporting the Alternative Energy Promotion Centre (AEPC)—the nodal agency mandated for the promotion of clean energy in Nepal—to upscale mini-hydro, micro-hydro, interconnected mini-grid and larger solar photovoltaic (PV) systems. In 2017, RERL supported AEPC in defining local governments' roles and



responsibilities to develop renewable energy projects within the constitutional decentralized structure, as further clarified in the recently promulgated Local Government Operations Act.

RERL is also working closely with newly-elected municipalities to prepare integrated Municipal Energy Plans with a focus on clean lighting and cooking solutions in collaboration with GIZ's Renewable Energy for Rural Areas programme. The methodology for preparing such plans was drafted and tested in one urban and one rural municipality in 2017.

Another milestone of the year was the grid inter-connection of the 23kW Syaurebhumu micro-hydro plant in Nuwakot, and the 1 MWp captive solar plant in Nawalparasi, activities in which RERL contributed technical support. The success of these efforts paves the way for the interconnection of other small-scale renewable energy projects with the national grid, to the mutual benefit of the Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) and the developers.

Larger renewable energy systems are proving financially sustainable, which can be scaled up and replicated across the country, safeguarding initial investments. RERL, in collaboration with the ADB's South Asia Sub-regional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) programme, has helped develop 13 mini-hydro plants. Two of these projects in Rukum and Jumla districts have received equity investment, subsidy and credit from commercial banks.

RERL's primary focus in 2017 was to complete all activities related to 2015 earthquake relief and rehabilitation. So far, the project has provided 230 institutional solar PV systems, and supported the rehabilitation of 56 micro-hydro plants, benefitting 180,486 households.

*One particular milestone of 2017 was the grid inter-connection of the 23kW Syaurebhumu MHP in Nuwakot and the 1MWp captive solar plant in Nawalparasi, activities in which RERL contributed technical support.*

Other activities in 2017 include solar PV backup systems at three Snake Bite Treatment Centers located in the Nepal Army Barracks in Eastern Nepal. Together, these centers treat about 4,500 snake bite cases every year. AEPC is now planning to extend support to 25 similar centers in 2018.

RERL also aided AEPC in formulating its productive energy use promotion modality, geared to help women and marginalized communities benefit from access to electricity by providing them additional financial assistance in income-generating activities and enterprises. Over 1,100 enterprises have been established providing employment to 2,900 people, mostly women.

## ADVANCING RECONSTRUCTION AND RECOVERY IN NEPAL

Nepal suffered greatly in the 2015 earthquakes, and again in the 2017 floods. Recovering from these disasters require, among other things, a coordinated response to help those affected with a multi-million-dollar reconstruction effort, which is supported by UNDP's Building Back Better for Inclusive and Resilient Recovery (BBB). The project has contributed to advancing policy and institutional aspects of disaster recovery and reconstruction led by the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) for earthquake recovery and by the National Planning Commission (NPC) for flood recovery, both at the national and sub-national levels.

The Government of Nepal instituted a three-tranche financing system for house-owners affected by the earthquake reconstructing their homes. To ensure these homes are rebuilt to withstand future

earthquakes, engineers are required to inspect reconstruction under the supervision of the NRA. UNDP has subsequently provided technical and operational support, which has helped to accelerate reconstruction. Guidance offered by 27 district-support engineers (DSEs) based in the 14 most-affected districts to the Department of Urban Development and Building Construction, NRA engineers and house owners on safer reconstruction has resulted in a substantial increase in the number of households receiving the second and third tranches of the housing grants: rising from 11,236 (2 percent) and 982 (0.2 percent) to 95,420 (16.2 percent) and 17,092 (3 percent) respectively within a span of six months since the DSEs were deployed.

To respond to the Tarai flooding of 2017, UNDP's Early Recovery and Emergency Response was activated in six flood-affected districts. Implemented by NGO partners 4,000 households received free animal health services for livestock, 16,500 households received

30 critical community infrastructures were reconstructed following the 2017 floods in the Tarai, providing 50,000 flood-affected people with cash for work.

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seeds, and 9,000 households benefitted from the reconstruction of 30 critical community infrastructure, such as bridges and agricultural roads, all of which provided 50,000 flood-affected people with cash for work. A total of 43 women groups were also mobilized in the affected communities to ensure gender-responsive implementation.

Additionally, the project has been supporting both the NRA and NPC in preparing policy documents related to recovery and reconstruction. This includes revision of the guidance note on integrating Recovery, Resilience, Gender Equality and Social Inclusion and Disaster Risk Reduction/Climate Change Adaptation into the Annual Municipal Development Plans of municipalities in the earthquake-affected districts as per the new federal structure of Nepal; the NRA Human Resource Gap Analysis; and publication and launching of the Post-Flood Recovery Needs Assessment report in collaboration with the World Bank.

## HELPING NEPAL ACCESS GREEN CLIMATE FUND

In 2017, UNDP, with funding from the German Government, helped strengthen capacities of the Ministry of Finance and other national stakeholders to effectively and efficiently access, manage and monitor climate finance from the Green Climate Fund (GCF). In this process, the Ministry of Finance, with UNDP's support, has published a GCF Handbook for Nepal, trained a core group of its staff and put in place a system within the ministry to take the lead in accessing and managing resources from the GCF. So far, Nepal has identified and agreed four projects, including on climate change adaptation and mitigation, for submission to the GCF and received a separate \$0.8 million GCF grant to help further strengthen the capacity of national institutions.



FEATURE

# HOUSING INNOVATION FOR RESILIENT RECONSTRUCTION

**A NEW HOUSING MODEL INTRODUCED BY UNDP IN NEPAL IS NOT ONLY PROVIDING HOMES TO THOSE WHO HAD LOST THEIRS IN THE EARTHQUAKE, BUT ALSO HELPING RAISE AWARENESS REGARDING SAFER RECONSTRUCTION PRACTICES.**

Introduced by UNDP and the Government of Nepal in 2017, a low-cost housing model, which uses a GI-wire containment technology is gaining popularity in the villages of Nepal. The model resolved two major issues that had left many house owners anxious: the high cost of building a quake-resilient house and the difficulty in transporting expensive and heavy construction materials in remote mountain areas not connected by motorable roads.

The new housing model, introduced by UNDP with funding assistance from the Humanitarian Aid Department of the European Commission (ECHO), and approved by the Government, does not require iron rods, cement or pebbles. One can build a quake-resilient house for as low as US\$4,000 using local construction materials such as stone, mud and wood.

Winning the trust of homeowners as far as disaster-

resilient building models are concerned has also proven to be a challenge. However, "Awas Nirman Sathis", locally-known masons trained in these new techniques overseeing the reconstruction, have eased doubts and led to increased trust.

"I found out that there were some flaws in the houses they built earlier and that's why most of these structures collapsed," says Tej Bahadur Tamang, an Awas Nirman Sathi, a UNDP-trained mason who guides house owners on safer reconstruction, in Dolakha. "Now we teach local masons how to build stronger and yet affordable houses utilizing locally available construction materials. I visit these remote villages and guide the house owners and masons in the process. This model is gaining popularity in this area."

Awas Nirman Sathis, according to Prakash GC, a Dolakha-based engineer who oversees the programme, have proven vital



in promoting safe construction practices. "He or she is a friend for the house owners to provide guidance on safer reconstruction, on whom they can rely for appropriate advice," says GC. Over 65 demonstration houses have been built in Dolakha and Sindhupalchowk districts.

Data shows that in Dolakha, the earthquakes destroyed around 80,000 houses and so far only 30 percent have been rebuilt. Bharat Prasad Dulal, elected Chair of Sailung Rural Municipality, Dolakha, says the Government provides housing grants of US\$3,000 per household but

that it is "too little to reconstruct a quake-resilient house." People who have built their houses say it costs at least one million rupees (US\$10,000) to build a small house.

Dulal says this new housing model has had very good impact in the area. "It has provided the people in the village with an alternative that requires minimum construction materials, is safe and still very affordable. I am hopeful that with the ongoing training of masons and engineers while building these model houses we will also address the current crisis of human resources in the construction sector."



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## SECTION 4

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# Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

Nepal made significant inroads in women's empowerment and social inclusion in 2017 with an historic election, an inclusive federalization process underway, and the Government enacting several key Acts in line with the Constitution that protect the human rights of marginalized groups, rights of those discriminated, and facilitate improved access to justice and democratic inclusion.

The 2017 elections in Nepal were not just historic in that they were the first held under the 2015 Constitution, but women stormed to the fore in politics more than ever before. At the local level, 41 percent of elected officials were women, to which UNDP had contributed through its support to the Election Commission of Nepal in placing strong emphasis on women's empowerment and political participation. Among those elected at the local level were 398 women micro-entrepreneurs under UNDP's Micro-Enterprise Development Programme, demonstrating the cross-cutting benefits of confidence and economic empowerment.

To ensure laws and policies are gender-responsive, UNDP assisted the Government of Nepal to amend, draft and review several key laws from gender and inclusion perspectives. More than 12 laws were reviewed, including the civil code, the criminal code, and bills related to elections, disability rights and local governance. Bills related to constitutional bodies including the National Women's, Dalit, Tharu, Inclusion and Madhesi Commissions were reviewed. UNDP also facilitated other UN agencies through the UN Gender Theme Group in reviewing the draft bills and brought those consolidated recommendations to Legislature Parliament members to improve the drafts from a gender and inclusion perspective.

*Women candidates in the 2017 elections came to occupy 41 percent of local seats and 34 percent of provincial seats, a historic number of women representing their communities in decision-making positions.*

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UNDP further strengthened its support to people with disabilities in Nepal. In 2017, UNDP came together with other stakeholders to explore ways to align development programmes with the needs, challenges and opportunities of people with disabilities in Nepal. Through this partnership, the National Federation of the Disabled Nepal (NFDN) produced a position paper on disability-inclusive SDG processes, which is expected to provide critical pathways and policy recommendations for mainstreaming disability issues, and accelerating achievements throughout the SDG process.

UNDP supported the Supreme Court to publish booklets on court and judicial procedures in Braille with the intention of imparting basic information about court procedures and other related activities to court users in a simple, accessible language. Ahead of the elections in 2017, UNDP, through its Electoral Support Project, organized mock polls to orient persons with hearing impairment with the electoral process.

In 2017, UNDP placed more emphasis on research studies, continuing two studies in partnership with the Kathmandu University, and the Disability Research Centre and the Forum for Women, Law and Development—Exploring Management Information System and Service Delivery for Persons with Disabilities, and Women’s Property Ownership and its Impact in Nepal, respectively. Both studies have highlighted policy and practical aspects for the effective implementation of laws. It is expected that the findings of both studies will guide the Government in addressing women’s rights and issues facing people with disabilities.

All of UNDP’s projects, highlighted throughout this report, were strengthened with gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) elements. From UNDP’s assistance to formulating GESI strategies for institutions from the civil service to the judiciary, this

*All of UNDP’s projects, highlighted throughout this report, were strengthened with gender equality and social inclusion elements.*

support will lead to workplace diversity, strengthened systems for eliminating sexual harassment and increased accessibility. Various GESI products have enhanced the knowledge and skills of judges, public prosecutors, police, personnel from judicial services, and court officers. Furthermore, GESI was incorporated into the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Policy review process, and data disaggregation based on gender, ethnicity, disability, etc. are integrated into the Management Information System under the Ministry of Education.

Keeping in mind the fact that disasters affect individuals differently—with disproportionate impact on women, including single women, marginalized groups, persons with disabilities, sexual and gender minorities, and the elderly—UNDP trained 28 government representatives and UN agencies on integrating gender in climate risk assessment and adaptation planning at the local level. This was to help them conduct gender analyses and assess the specific needs of women and other vulnerable groups. Gender analysis methods and tools in risk and vulnerability assessment, and adaptation planning in the agricultural sector are expected to contribute to a broader process of mainstreaming gender in government adaptation interventions.

Women and vulnerable people particularly in rural areas have improved access to legal information. With information centres in 23 district courts, 18,770 women benefited from better access. To increase the confidence of marginalized groups in the judiciary, legal internship and scholarship programmes for poor and vulnerable communities were provided and continued in 2017. More than 100 lawyers and law students received internship and scholarships in 2017. Furthermore, socio-legal aid centers are serving as important platforms in reaching out to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence. About 158 cases were registered in 2017, a 13.7 percent increase over the previous year.



## FEATURE

# NEW ROLES, NEW POSSIBILITIES

After the final vote was cast, and the last ballot counted, women in Nepal had skyrocketed to new historic heights. Women candidates came to occupy 41 percent of local seats and 34 percent of provincial seats. This is an outstanding increase in the number of women representing their communities in decision-making positions.

One such woman is Bindu Pariyar, a newly-elected Dalit woman ward committee member of Pyuthan Municipality. "I was not aware that I had a leader inside me," she says. "It was only after attending an orientation session organized by the ECN and ESP that I really came to understand and embrace my own potential."

The ECN, or Election Commission of Nepal, held public awareness campaigns to encourage citizens to run in the elections with help from UNDP's Elections Support Project (ESP). There was special attention paid to encouraging women to run in all three levels of elections. Over 52,000 women, particularly from marginalized communities, received training in leadership and civic participation. This resulted in nearly 4,000 women filing to run in local

elections; 1,000 of them were elected.

UNDP, as co-chair of the UN Gender Theme Group, also played a crucial role in organizing a joint National Conference under the leadership of the ECN: Towards Planet 50:50: Enabling Women's Leadership and Representation in Local Governance, with 500 women participating.

Such targeted campaigns complemented new constitutional and legal provisions that introduced representation requirements for women in different posts. Never before had such a large number of women run for and won political positions. A lack of knowledge about legal provisions, rights, electoral procedures, among other aspects, have long hampered women's political participation.

Self-confidence plays a part in running for public office, and it was a skill that many people in UNDP's Micro-Enterprise Development Programme (MEDEP), say gave them an added motivational boost.



Laxmi Pariyar, a newly-elected official in Kavre, knows this push first-hand. With MEDEP's help, Pariyar set up a tailoring shop, and grew it into a thriving business. She saw her potential to lead in her community as well as she did in her business.

"I saw that if I could change my life with a little push, I could change the lives of the people in need in my community," she said.

MEDEP participants were very successful in the elections with 389 elected to local government units, 75 percent of whom are women and 40 percent from the Dalit community. Twenty women were elected Deputy Mayor, and 36 were elected Ward Chairs.

The elections were also a demonstration of inclusion. People with disabilities were ensured

access to the voting booth and encouraged to vote.

"The motto of the Sustainable Development Goals is to ensure no one is left behind," said Renaud Meyer, UNDP's Country Director. "That includes people with disabilities who need a little extra help when they cast their votes and with a small adjustment, they can engage in their civic duty at the ballot boxes."

With UNDP's support, hearing and visually impaired voters were specifically targeted with elections knowledge, a mock-election so they could experience the voting exercise, removing the anxieties and belief that they physically couldn't vote, and allowances made for easier access to the electoral process.

# UNDP NEPAL'S INNOVATION IN 2017

Promoting innovation and innovative solutions forms one of UNDP's core principles. In 2017, UNDP prototyped and implemented some very successful innovative solutions, including in the areas of post-disaster recovery, climate change, renewable energy, livelihoods, reconstruction, and climate and disaster risk reduction.



## BIG DATA

The iData project aims to show how blending data and behavioral science can encourage urban planners and communities to invest in earthquake-resilient settlement plans and homes. The project analyzes complex data collected on 1 million houses damaged in the 2015 earthquakes across 31 districts to gain insights into damage patterns as well as people's socio-cultural behaviours—a useful resource for policy-makers in advocating for resilient reconstruction.



## SWAPPING GENDER ROLES

In partnership with The Kathmandu Post, UNDP launched a gender role swap video series that engaged over 2 million people in a live discussion around gender equality. The series drew 1500+ comments, 6000+ shares and over 2 million views.



## LIVE HOUSE

With UNDP's support, Nepal's House of Representatives launched an online livecast system to air in real time the parliamentary discussions, bringing the people's representatives closer to citizens and promoting transparency in governance.



## HYDRAM

Zero-energy hydro dams installed by the Global Environment Facility's Small Grants Programme and the Center for Rural Technology Nepal have enabled irrigation for the benefit of vegetable farmers in rural Kavre.



Participants at the Yantra 6.0 Robotics Competition organized by Robotics Association Nepal with UNDP support in an attempt to unlock the exciting, innovative power of technology.  
© LAXMI PRASAD NGAKHUSI / UNDP NEPAL



## EQ-TECH

UNDP introduced two innovative low-cost housing models, which were approved and adopted by the Government. The model resolved two major issues that had left many house owners anxious: the high cost of building a quake-resilient house and the difficulty in transporting expensive and heavy construction materials in remote mountain areas that are not vehicle accessible.



## eBPS

Three municipalities in the Kathmandu Valley have made an official shift towards improved governance in building practices and compliance with the National Building Code with the adoption of the Electronic Building Permit (eBPS) System, initiated by UNDP.



## YANTRA4SDGs

Organized by the Robotics Association of Nepal in collaboration with UNDP Nepal and Nepal Engineers' Association, Yantra4SDGs sought to explore how technological innovation could contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.



## AUTOMATIC WEATHER STATIONS

UNDP has collaborated with the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology to set up full-fledged new automatic weather stations (AWS) in three districts. These stations measure weather parameters, such as precipitation, temperature, humidity, solar radiation, wind speed/direction and soil temperature, among others, and disseminate the data in real time, enabling more comprehensive climate study.



# UNDP's FIELD OFFICES

AS OF DECEMBER 2017



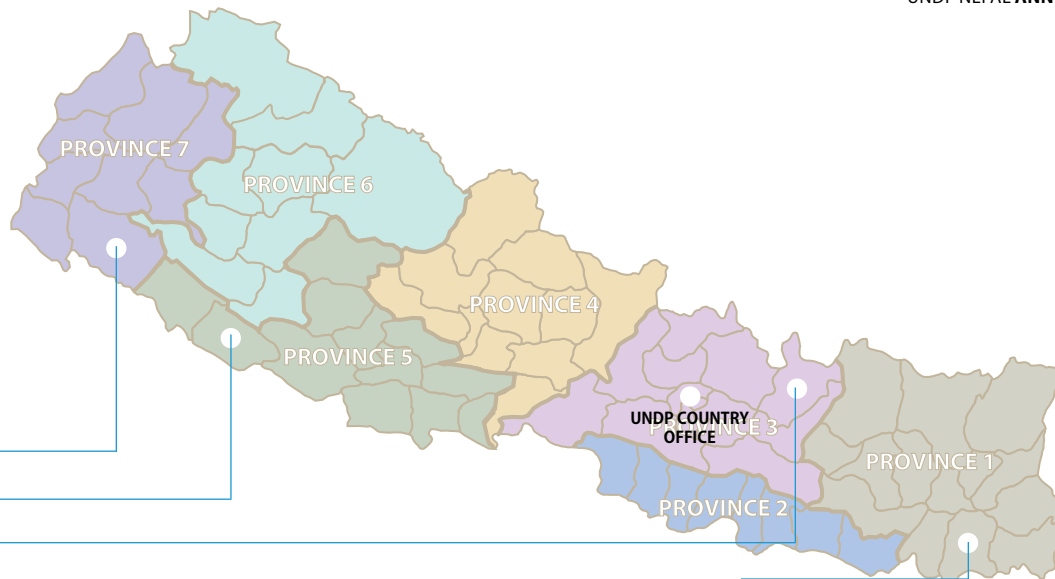
## DHANGADI

In a bid to help promote women's participation in the local, provincial and federal elections, UNDP's field office in Dhangadi, in coordination with local offices of the Election Commission and under the leadership of UNDP's Electoral Support Project (ESP), conducted a voter education campaign and women leadership trainings in Baitadi, Dadeldhura and Kailali districts. Close to 8,000 women were reached through these activities. Besides monitoring UNDP-implemented projects in Provinces 6 and 7, the office also helped 155 people from marginalized social groups become successful entrepreneurs.



## NEPALGUNJ\*

In 2017, the Nepalgunj field office focused mainly on monitoring projects in the field while also helping to bring synergy within them by facilitating, where possible, integration of their activities and sharing of expertise. Over 60 local staff of two major projects--Nepal Climate Change Support Programme (NCCSP) and Micro Enterprise Development Programme (MEDEP)--were provided hands on training and orientation on M&E and gender equality and social inclusion. UNDP's Rule of Law and Human Rights (RoLHR) project was also engaged in training MEDEP staff and beneficiaries on gender-based violence.



## CHAUTARA\*

Located in one of the districts hardest-hit by the 2015 earthquakes, the Chautara Field Office in Sindhupalchowk supported the local governments and the district offices of the National Reconstruction Authority in the quake-hit areas in the coordination and implementation of recovery works. The office facilitated the provision of much-needed technical and financial support to the local governments and affected people through a number of projects, including on community infrastructure and livelihoods recovery, disaster risk management, micro-enterprise development and resilient reconstruction. In 2017, the office team also carried out 23 monitoring visits covering half a dozen UNDP projects implemented in the nine most-affected districts.



## BIRATNAGAR\*

In 2017, the Biratnagar field office played a key role in coordinating post-flood relief and recovery efforts in the lowlands of Provinces 2 and 3. The office coordinated with the UNDP Country Office in Kathmandu and local governments--including at the district, municipal and ward levels--in identifying and responding to the immediate and medium term-needs of flood-affected communities. Under the coordination of this field office, UNDP was able to deliver crucial recovery assistance to over 31,000 families in seven flood-affected districts of Tarai.

\* These field offices have been/will be relocated as part of UNDP's plan to realign its field presence with the new federal structures.

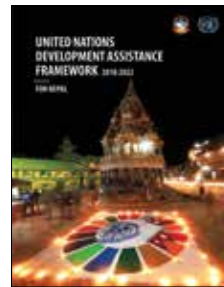
# RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS 2017

The list presented here is not exhaustive. Please visit “Research and Publications” page in our website [www.np.undp.org](http://www.np.undp.org) to access our knowledge products.



## Country Programme Document for Nepal (2018-2022)

This new programming framework for the period 2018-2022 was formulated on the basis of extensive country-wide consultations with the Government of Nepal and other national and international development partners and stakeholders. The CPD outlines UNDP contributions to Nepal's development in three main areas of work: 1) inclusive economic growth; 2) strengthened governance systems including rule of law and transitional justice; and 3) increased climate adaptation and environmental resilience.



## United Nations Development Assistance Framework for Nepal (2018-2022)

The United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022 sets out the UN partnership support for Nepal as it carves out its development agenda over the next five years to address the country's larger economic, social, and environmental objectives. At the core of this new UNDAF are the SDGs, the Government of Nepal's Fourteenth Plan, and international commitments and norms to which Nepal is a party.



## Information booklet on court and judicial procedures in Braille

Prepared with the intention of imparting basic information to readers about court procedures and other related activities to court users in a simple, accessible language, this booklet seeks to answer frequently asked questions regarding the court system in Nepal. It has also been made available in Braille by UNDP's Strengthening the Rule of Law and Human Rights Protection System in Nepal (RoLHR) project and the Access to Justice Commission.



## Sustainable Development Goals Status and Roadmap: 2016 - 2030

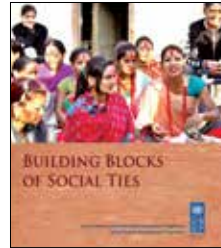
With the landmark elections of 2017, Nepal has begun implementing its new constitution in earnest. This new era in Nepal also coincides with the ambition of the global community to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This report, published by the National Planning Commission (NPC) with UNDP support, takes stock of Nepal's development status and projects a roadmap to 2030. It highlights major issues and challenges that the country needs to address to achieve the SDGs.





### Nepal's Citizen Climate Budget Booklet

This booklet offers an overview of the budget allocated to address climate change and its effects in Nepal since 2013/14, and is intended as a resource for the public to learn about the nature of Nepal's vulnerability to climate change and responses by the Government.



### Building Blocks of Social Ties

A compilation of short stories highlighting some of the exemplary social cohesion initiatives in the communities, this publication draws upon experiences and lessons from micro grants support from UNDP's Social Cohesion and Democratic Participation (SCDP) Programme to civil society organizations at the local level.



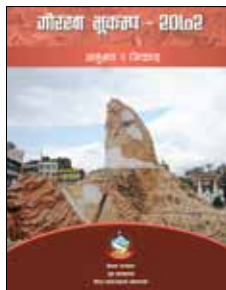
### Breaking New Ground

This Kathmandu city review of HIV and rights-based programmes for men who have sex with men and transgender people was undertaken in a partnership between the Government of Nepal and UNDP. The review aims to inform and strengthen Kathmandu's municipal HIV and rights responses for these vulnerable key populations.



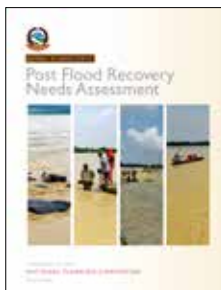
### Parliament's Role in Implementing the SDGs (in Nepali)

This handbook, produced by the Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption, UNDP and the Islamic Development Bank, is designed to be an easy-to-use resource that can help parliamentarians and parliamentary staff members play an effective role in implementing the SDGs. UNDP Nepal translated the book into Nepali.



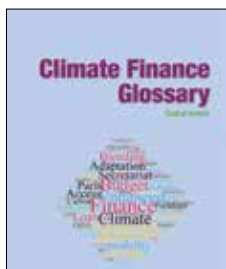
### Lessons and Learning from 2015 Earthquake Response

This report, prepared by the Ministry of Home Affairs with technical support from UNDP is a comprehensive analysis of various dimensions of the disaster, examining how overall governance, institutional mechanisms, resource mobilization, capacities, coordination, participation and preparedness for disaster risk reduction/management can be improved.



### Post-Flood Recovery Needs Assessment

The 2017 floods wrecked havoc in Nepal's plains. The impact was severe in 18 districts. The Post Flood Recovery Needs Assessment, prepared by National Planning Commission with the support from UNDP and World Bank, presents a roadmap through which the Government of Nepal aims to undertake the ambitious task of recovery in coordination with all stakeholders.



### Climate Finance Glossary

The Ministry of Finance published this glossary—with financial support from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) and technical support from UNDP and the UNEP—to provide clarity on commonly-used terms and terminologies in the realm of climate finance.



### Gender, Disability in the SDG Era

What are the ways in which the SDGs contrive to accelerate the achievement of gender equality and women's empowerment? In what ways do SDGs protect and promote the human rights of all persons with disabilities? These posters illustrate how truly cross-cutting the issue of gender equality and disability is and how it is embedded in each of the SDGs.



# THE UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS



*Together with a large team of volunteer sending agencies, UN Volunteers celebrated this year's International Volunteer Day with a conference on the significance and future volunteerism in Kathmandu. @ UNV NEPAL*

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme has been contributing to peace and development through volunteerism in Nepal since 1974. In 2017, UNV Nepal mobilized over 70 UN Volunteers working in partnership with UNDP and other UN agencies including IOM, UN Women, UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNHCR, WFP and the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO).

In 2017, UNV's partnership with UNDP focused its efforts on post-earthquake reconstruction particularly on connecting youth with the large-scale recovery and reconstruction processes. UNVs were also instrumental in UNDP's sub-national governance support, blending expertise in information and communications technology with administration.

### **YOUTH SUPPORT DURING THE DECENTRALIZATION OF GOVERNMENT PROCESSES**

As part of the UN Joint Programme (UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women and UNICEF) in the Sub-National Governance Project, UNV continued its support through 11 UN Volunteers across all 7 provinces in Nepal to digitize a wide range of Government procedures, and strengthen and maintain the ICT infrastructure of local governments as part of the transition to federalism. The support entails the digitization of governance processes to support more effective service delivery and bring government bodies closer to communities.

### **VOLUNTEERISM IN RECONSTRUCTION**

The collaboration of UNDP and the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) has led to the recruitment of UNVs to support the recovery of districts affected by natural disasters.

After the floods in the south in July 2017, seven UNVs were deployed to support the coordination of the recovery in the seven hardest-hit districts.

As reconstruction continues in earthquake-affected districts, the NRA has established an HR facility for which 8 UNVs provide

technical support on recovery to local government offices and the central office in Kathmandu, focusing on effective liaison between stakeholders to drive reconstruction and recovery.

### **UN VOLUNTEER VOICE: SUDARSHAN GHIMIRE, UNDP, DEBRIS MANAGEMENT PROJECT**



*"The true meaning of volunteerism isn't just about giving people in need what you have, but also about learning and receiving what you can from them—not material things, but in the form of valuable experiences, life lessons, the goodwill and affection of those you touch. I worked in a community where each individual played a role in rebuilding the lives of other individuals. I have felt and seen the power of volunteerism—the rewards might be difficult to quantify, but they cannot be denied.*

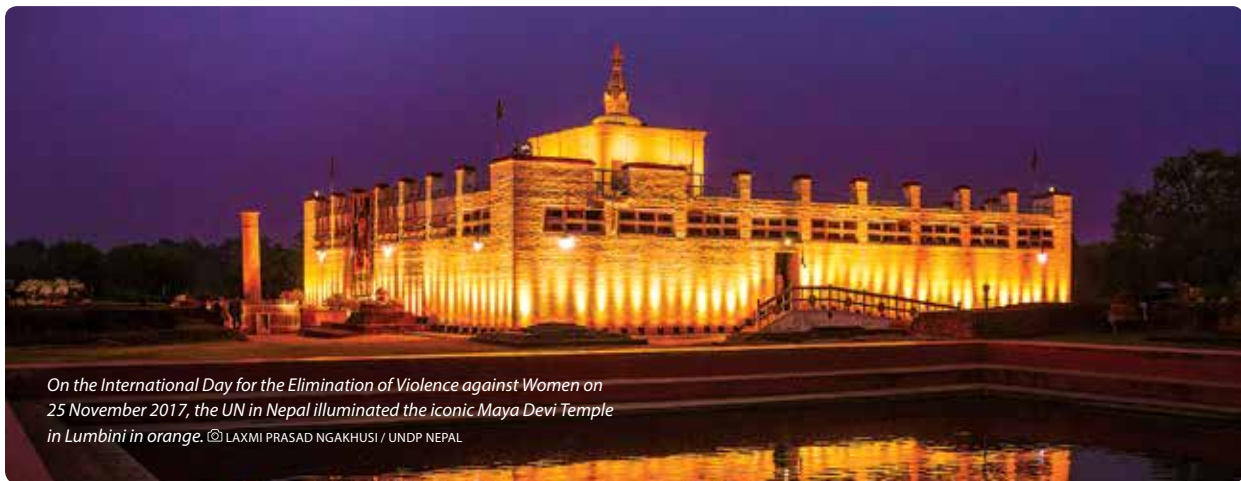
*Natural disasters are inevitable, especially in a climate-vulnerable country like Nepal. But, while we can't stop these disasters, we can still lend our hands to those who are affected and struggling to pull themselves up. A small exertion on our part can make a huge difference in the lives of others. Together, we can make this world a better place."*





Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

# UNDP NEPAL & THE UN SYSTEM



On the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on 25 November 2017, the UN in Nepal illuminated the iconic Maya Devi Temple in Lumbini in orange. © LAXMI PRASAD NGAKHUSI / UNDP NEPAL



This past year, UNDP said farewell to its former Administrator Helen Clark and welcomed Achim Steiner as its new leader. This change in leadership also brought about a change in direction with the New UNDP. This strategy has strengthened the agency as the UN's sustainable development arm.



In Nepal, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF 2013-2017), a five-year strategic agreement that guides all UN agencies, came to a close. In creating the new UNDAF (2018-2022) in 2017, UNDP led the technical groups for two priority areas (Rule of Law & Justice, and Resilience, DRR & Climate Change).

For UNDP, its five-year country programme also came to an end, while a new one was developed and approved by the Government of Nepal and UNDP's Executive Board. This 2018-2022 country programme is in line with national priorities and meets the expectations of key stakeholders. The programme contributes to specific outcome areas identified in the UNDAF 2018-2022 and is also aligned with Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals.

UNDP played a strong role in the UN system over the course of 2017 from its role as a co-chair of SDG, Communications and Gender Working Groups, to coordinating and participating in several key campaigns like the 16 Days to



End Violence Against Women, and UN Day with a clean-up of a local park in Kathmandu.

Special events were also organized to advance the SDGs in partnership with other UN agencies. UNDP took the lead in coordinating with the Kathmandu Marathon to include SDGs as its theme. Along with other UN agencies, including UNHCR and ILO, the event highlighted the role sport plays in promoting the SDGs. Over 500 people, including men and women, boys and girls, and people with disabilities participated in the marathon, which included a race for wheelchair athletes.

UNDP and the UN Country Team jointly published a weekly article series on SDGs in The Kathmandu Post and Kantipur. Authored by a wide range of personalities, including movie star Manisha Koirala and fashion designer Prabal Gurung, the articles unpacked each of the 17 Goals in the Nepali context.



# FUNDING SOURCES & PARTNERSHIPS

In 2017, UNDP implemented a wide range of projects in Nepal with total expenditure of \$30.15 million, which came from its core fund, and from development partners, bilateral and multilateral agencies, and thematic and vertical trust funds. The expenditure was over 95 percent of the total approved budget for 2017.

While UNDP's core fund contributed to 24 percent of the total expenditure, the remaining 76 percent was mobilized from bilateral and multilateral agencies.

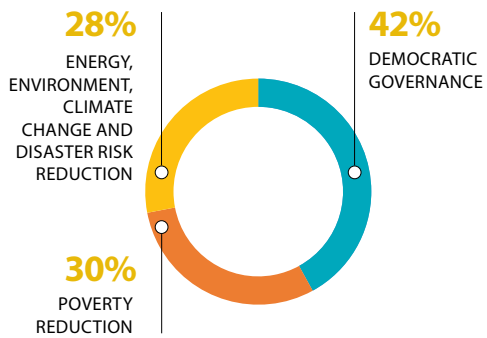
When considering UNDP's 2017 expenditure by thematic area, 42 percent of the program investment was in governance and rule of law; followed by poverty reduction and job creation at 30 percent; and energy, environment, climate change and disaster risk reduction at 28 percent. Over 80 percent of UNDP's total expenditure in 2017 directly or in some ways contributed to promote gender equality and social inclusion.

In 2017, the Government of Nepal contributed US\$ 1.3 million of domestic resources to its partnership with UNDP.

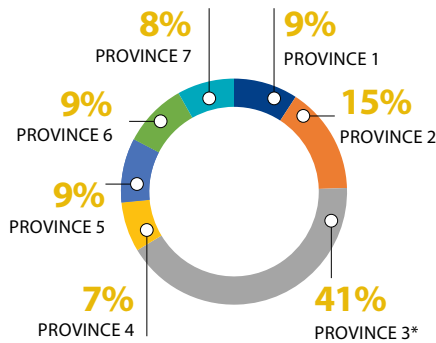
## EXPENDITURES IN 2017

| DONORS            | IN USD            | PERCENT     |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| UNDP CORE FUND    | 7,113,125         | 24%         |
| AUSTRALIA         | 4,870,471         | 16%         |
| FINLAND           | 3,083,051         | 10%         |
| NORWAY            | 2,879,144         | 10%         |
| EUROPEAN UNION    | 2,343,517         | 8%          |
| UNITED KINGDOM    | 1,922,406         | 6%          |
| CHINA             | 1,632,980         | 5%          |
| DENMARK           | 1,448,062         | 5%          |
| NEPAL             | 1,271,546         | 4%          |
| GEF               | 853,260           | 3%          |
| SWITZERLAND       | 633,309           | 2%          |
| UNEP              | 525,403           | 2%          |
| UNOCHA            | 446,323           | 1%          |
| OTHER DONORS      | 269,557           | 1%          |
| IMC               | 244,801           | 1%          |
| MPTF              | 225,341           | 1%          |
| UNICEF            | 224,773           | 1%          |
| REPUBLIC OF KOREA | 103,659           | 0%          |
| JAPAN             | 63,136            | 0%          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>      | <b>30,153,864</b> | <b>100%</b> |



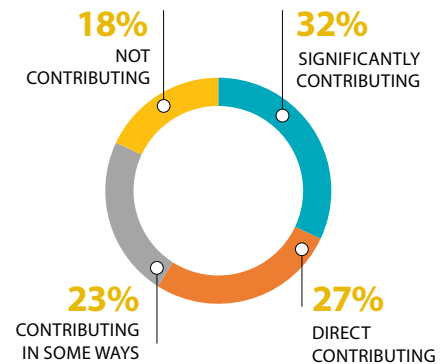


**EXPENDITURE BY THEMATIC AREAS**



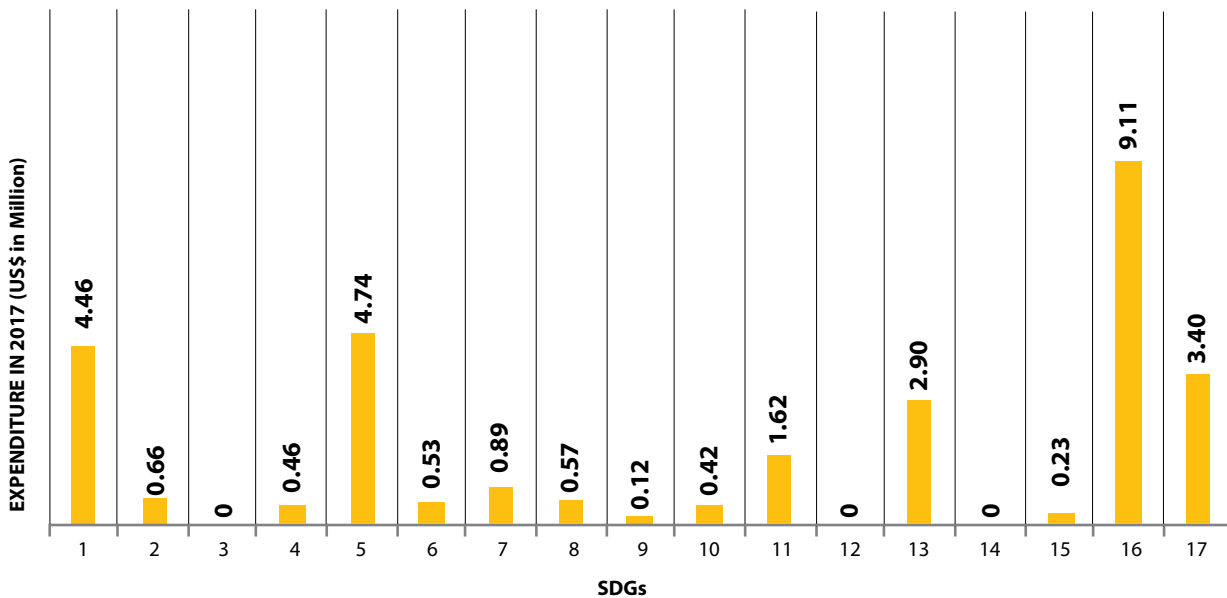
**EXPENDITURE BY PROVINCE**

*\*Expenditure in Province 3 also includes projects implemented across Nepal.*



**EXPENDITURE CONTRIBUTING TO GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION**

**EXPENDITURE BY SDGs**



**LEGEND**

- |                             |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|
| 1. No Poverty               | 6. Clean Water & Sanitation              | 10. Reduced Inequalities                 | 14. Life Below Water                     |
| 2. Zero Hunger              | 7. Affordable & Clean Energy             | 11. Sustainable Cities & Communities     | 15. Life on Land                         |
| 3. Good Health & Well Being | 8. Decent Work & Economic Growth         | 12. Sustainable Consumption & Production | 16. Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions |
| 4. Quality Education        | 9. Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure | 13. Climate Action                       | 17. Partnerships for the Goals           |
| 5. Gender Equality          |  |  |  |

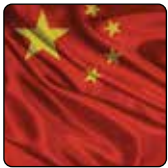
UNDP

# CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS



AUSTRALIA

Note: This list includes bilateral and multilateral donors only.  
Please refer to "Funding Sources and Partnerships" for a full list of donors.



CHINA



DENMARK



EUROPEAN UNION



FINLAND



GERMANY



JAPAN



NEPAL



NORWAY



REPUBLIC OF KOREA



SWEDEN



SWITZERLAND

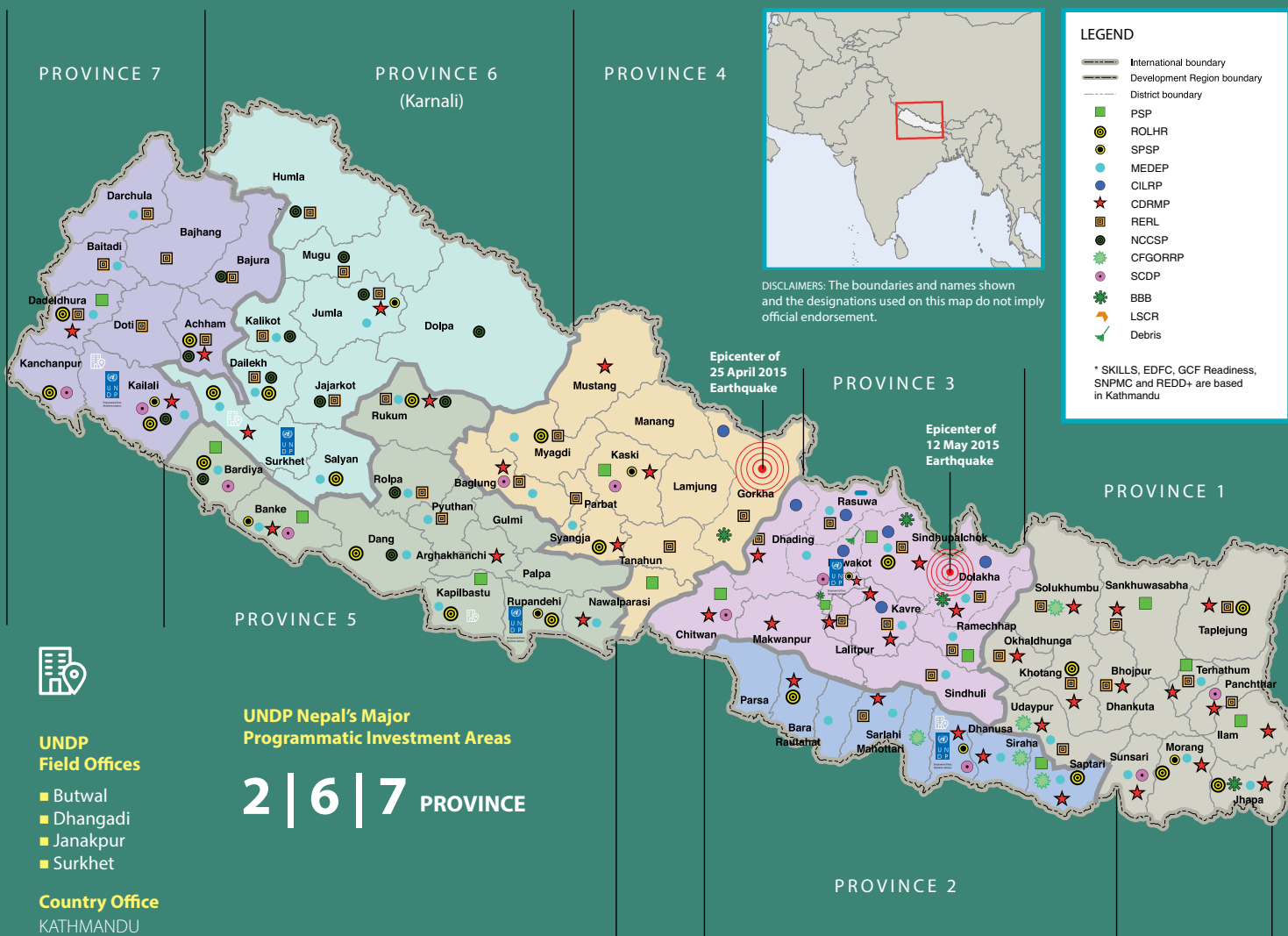


UNITED KINGDOM

# UNDP NEPAL

# FIELD LEVEL PRESENCE

AS OF JANUARY 2018



**LEGEND**

- International boundary
- Development Region boundary
- District boundary
- PSP
- ROLHR
- SPSP
- MEDEP
- CILRP
- CDRMP
- RERL
- NCCSP
- CFGORRP
- SCDP
- BBB
- LSCR
- Debris

\* SKILLS, EDFC, GCF Readiness, SNPMC and REDD+ are based in Kathmandu



**UNDP Field Offices**

- Butwal
- Dhangadi
- Janakpur
- Surkhet

**Country Office**  
KATHMANDU

**UNDP Nepal's Major Programmatic Investment Areas**

**2 | 6 | 7 PROVINCE**



## LIST OF ACRONYMS

|                |  |                 |  |
|----------------|--|-----------------|--|
| <b>ADB</b>     | Asian Development Bank   | <b>MoF</b>      | Ministry of Finance  |
| <b>AEPC</b>    | Alternative Energy Promotion Center                                    | <b>MoFALD</b>   | Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development                      |
| <b>BBB</b>     | Building Back Better for Inclusive and Resilient Recovery              | <b>MoHA</b>     | Ministry of Home Affairs   |
| <b>CDRMP</b>   | Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Programme                       | <b>MoI</b>      | Ministry of Industry   |
| <b>CFGORRP</b> | Community Based Flood and Glacial Lake Outburst Risk Reduction Project | <b>MPTF</b>     | Multi-Partner Trust Fund   |
| <b>CILRP</b>   | Community Infrastructure and Livelihoods Recovery Programme            | <b>NCCSP</b>    | Nepal Climate Change Support Programme                                 |
| <b>CPA</b>     | Comprehensive Peace Agreement  | <b>NDC</b>      | National Dalit Commission  |
| <b>CSO</b>     | Civil Society Organization   | <b>NHRC</b>     | National Human Rights Commission                                       |
| <b>CTEVT</b>   | Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training                | <b>NPC</b>      | National Planning Commission   |
| <b>CVCP</b>    | Conflict Victims Common Platform                                       | <b>NRA</b>      | National Reconstruction Authority                                      |
| <b>DFA</b>     | Development Finance Assessment   | <b>NWC</b>      | National Women Commission  |
| <b>DFAT</b>    | Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Australia)                    | <b>PDNA</b>     | Post Disaster Needs Assessment   |
| <b>DFID</b>    | Department for International Development                               | <b>PDRF</b>     | Post Disaster Recovery Framework                                       |
| <b>DRR-CCA</b> | Disaster Risk Reduction-Climate Change Adaptation                      | <b>PREPARE</b>  | Project to Prepare the Public Administration for State Reforms         |
| <b>DSE</b>     | District Support Engineer  | <b>PSP</b>      | Parliament Support Project   |
| <b>eBPS</b>    | Electronic Building Permit System                                      | <b>RAPs</b>     | Reconstruction Action Plans  |
| <b>ECN</b>     | Election Commission of Nepal   | <b>RERL</b>     | Renewable Energy for Rural Livelihood                                  |
| <b>EDFC</b>    | Effective Development Financing and Cooperation                        | <b>RoLHR</b>    | Rule of Law and Human Rights   |
| <b>ECHO</b>    | Humanitarian Aid Department of the European Commission                 | <b>SDC</b>      | Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation                           |
| <b>ESP</b>     | Electoral Support Project  | <b>SCDP</b>     | Social Cohesion and Democratic Participation                           |
| <b>FDI</b>     | Foreign Direct Investment  | <b>SDGs</b>     | Sustainable Development Goals  |
| <b>GCF</b>     | Green Climate Fund   | <b>SKILLS</b>   | Support to Knowledge and Lifelong Learning Skills                      |
| <b>GEF</b>     | Global Environment Facility  | <b>SLAC</b>     | Socio Legal Aid Centre   |
| <b>GESI</b>    | Gender Equality and Social Inclusion                                   | <b>SNGP</b>     | Sub-National Governance Programme                                      |
| <b>GIZ</b>     | Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit                | <b>SNMPC</b>    | Strengthening National Planning and Monitoring Capacity                |
| <b>GoN</b>     | Government of Nepal  | <b>TJP</b>      | Transitional Justice Project   |
| <b>HDI</b>     | Human Development Index  | <b>TSNGP</b>    | Transition to Sub-National Governance Programme                        |
| <b>HLPF</b>    | High Level Political Forum   | <b>TVET</b>     | Technical and Vocational Education and Training                        |
| <b>IMC</b>     | International Medical Corps  | <b>UN</b>       | United Nations   |
| <b>JICA</b>    | Japan International Cooperation Agency                                 | <b>UNICEF</b>   | United Nations International Children's Fund                           |
| <b>KOICA</b>   | Korea International Cooperation Agency                                 | <b>UNCDF</b>    | United Nations Capital Development Fund                                |
| <b>KMC</b>     | Kathmandu Metropolitan City  | <b>UNCT</b>     | United Nations Country Team  |
| <b>LAPA</b>    | Local Adaptation Plan of Action  | <b>UNDAF</b>    | United Nations Development Assistance Framework                        |
| <b>LDC</b>     | Least Developed Country  | <b>UNDP</b>     | United Nations Development Programme                                   |
| <b>LGCDP</b>   | Local Governance and Community Development Programme                   | <b>UNEP</b>     | United Nations Environment Programme                                   |
| <b>MEs</b>     | Micro Entrepreneurs  | <b>UNFPA</b>    | United Nations Population Fund   |
| <b>MDG</b>     | Millennium Development Goals   | <b>UNV</b>      | United Nations Volunteers  |
| <b>MEDEP</b>   | Micro Enterprise Development Programme                                 | <b>UN Women</b> | United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women |
| <b>MEDPA</b>   | Micro Enterprise Development for Poverty Alleviation                   | <b>VDC</b>      | Village Development Committee  |
| <b>MIS</b>     | Management Information System  | <b>VNR</b>      | Voluntary National Review  |
| <b>MoE</b>     | Ministry of Education  | <b>WCF</b>      | Ward Citizen Forum   |



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**Renaud Meyer** Country Director

**Sophie Kemkhadze** Deputy Country Director

**Krishna Raj Adhikari** Head of Operations

**Kamal Raj Sigdel** Head of Communications

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DESIGN & PRINT PROCESS: **TheSquare Design Communication Pvt. Ltd.**

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**PRINTED IN NEPAL**

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