

ENABLING STATE PROGRAMME



...towards 'pro-poor' governance in Nepal

ESP FIFTH REPORT

1 February to 31 July 2003



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NOTE:

In early April 2003 the ESP Manager suffered a heart attack and subsequently was flown to Bangkok, Thailand, for treatment which included a double bypass operation. He is currently recuperating and is expected to return to Nepal in September 2003. In June the ESP Deputy Programme Manager was appointed ESP Acting Manager and this report has been prepared by him and the other members of the ESP team.

ESP REFORMULATION

1. ESP completed two years formal operations on 11 January 2003. As planned in the original project document, DFIDN conducted an Output to Purpose Review (OPR) between 3 and 17 February 2003. Prior to the OPR, ESP organised a retreat of its staff in preparation for the review. The ESP team came up with a number of key issues that needed to be addressed by the review (these were outlined in ESP Report IV January 2003).

2. The main recommendation from the OPR was the reformulation of ESP taking account of the changing political and social environment since its original inception. A timeline of July 2003 was set for the reformulation. Other practical and administrative recommendations have already been implemented and others are in the process of implementation. Improving communication with DFID Nepal and preparing lessons learnt from ESP for wider dissemination are being undertaken. ESP is also in the process of preparing the following three documents as background papers for ESP reformulation:

- Formation of Advisory Body
- Lesson Learning from ESP
- Embryonic network from ESP activities

3. During the past few months the ESP team has contributed significantly towards reshaping ESP. Several rounds of meetings within ESP and also between ESP and DFID Nepal Senior Governance Advisers were conducted. The reformulated ESP will focus more narrowly on the DFID Country Assistance Plan (CAP) priority areas. Since a number of pro-poor governance related activities need to respond to the ever changing situation in Nepal, some flexibility will be incorporated in the ESP mandate. Although it was expected that the reformulation exercise would be completed by 31 July, it has taken longer because of the need to incorporate the finally agreed priorities of DFID Nepal's CAP.

ESP MAJOR ACTIVITIES

Approval of ESP Satellite Projects

4. During the reporting period, DFIDN has approved four major satellite projects amounting to £3,153,743. Of these, the Nepal Police Development Project (£887,310) and Dalit Empowerment and Integration Project (£1,212,685) will start

from 1 September 2003. The FNCCI Anti-Corruption Project (£196,204) is in the process of recruiting the implementing agency. The Department of Prison Management Project (£857,544) will be implemented later in the year after getting endorsement from the government. Apart from the design process of these projects, ESP team was extensively involved in the selection of implementing agencies.

5. Two potential satellite projects were not taken forward on the advice of DFID Nepal. The first was related to establishing a research and information centre for Nepal's Parliament. Because of prevailing political uncertainties, it was thought inappropriate to implement this project at this time. The second project not taken forward related to establishing an independent think tank. This was rejected because proposed project failed to meet long term sustainability criteria.

6. It was agreed with DFID Nepal that ESP should explore the possibility of working with political parties to improve their policy-making capability.

ON-GOING ESP SATELLITE PROJECTS

Self-reliance Development of the Poor by the Poor Project (SDPPP)

Started : January 2002
Coverage : 60 VDCs, 5 dist.
Project period : 6 years
Total budget : £2,800,000
Household coverage : 8600 (96%)
Women participation : 60%
Expenditure to date : £280,180 (10%)

7. The main purpose of the project is to develop sustainable self-reliant cooperatives focusing on economic and social improvement. This will contribute to establish, institutionalise and recognise cooperatives as a means of effective 'pro-poor' self-governance. The project has raised women's self-confidence against traditional values limiting their activities within their households. It has also contributed to developing social harmony by creating community forums. Local fund generated through savings and credit has reduced not only poor people's dependency on local money-lenders but also their exploitation of the poor. The fund has been utilised mostly on rearing livestock followed by petty trade.

8. During the reporting period, monitoring visits were carried out in Saralahi and Makawanpur districts by ESP team. Similarly, the annual RSDC review was also attended by ESP and DFID Nepal. ESP also participated in the meeting of Project Advisory Committee. Feedback was also provided to SDPPP on annual progress report of the project. Two spot checks at SDPPP office for financial record and progress were conducted. The financial expenditure has increased by more than three fold in the last six months due to the ceasefire and area expansion of the project.

NGO Federation Project (NFP):

Started : January 2002
Duration : 3 years
Budget : £732,000 (incl. OU course)
Coverage : Nationwide NGO network
Expenditure to date : £186,896 (25%)

9. The purpose of the NGO Federation Project (NFP) is to assist non-government organisations to be better managed, more accountable, and to improve their abilities to network, and to advocate for pro-poor reform.

10. A number of training programmes for NGO personnel are progressing, 30 NGO personnel are studying the management course with OU, London. In order to learn lessons on NGOs movement in Bangladesh, an observation tour was organised as a project activity. During the tour, the team visited key NGOs of Bangladesh and acquired knowledge regarding networking, policy advocacy, sustainable strategy and institutional strengthening of NGOs.

11. The project also conducted a series of advocacy programmes including peace and conflict resolution. An NGO code of conduct has been approved from the NFN National Convention. A Resource Centre at Kathmandu has been operational. Website is developed for sharing and dissemination of its achievements. The overall achievement has been excellent. Monitoring visits were carried out in January and May to provide support to the project. The ESP project officer also attended two advisory committee meetings during the reporting period.

Strengthening the Prime Minister's Office Project (PMOP)

<i>Started</i>	: <i>January 2002</i>
<i>Coverage</i>	: <i>Kathmandu.</i>
<i>Project period</i>	: <i>2 years</i>
<i>Total budget</i>	: <i>£698,000</i>

12. The project on strengthening the PMO started in January 2003. The project office is located at the PMO. A Project Coordinator, appointed with effect from 1 January 2003, leads the office. He is supported by a project assistant in administrative and financial matters. One of the initial activities of the project is to see the merger of the PMO and the Cabinet Office. Accordingly, the Project commissioned Management Association of Nepal (MAN) to undertake a rapid study on different aspects of the proposed merger in terms of organization and management. MAN submitted their report in June 2003. However, the merger is yet to happen. One of the main reasons is the change of government in June 2003. The new Prime Minister has been briefed on the project with specific focus on the merger. He is not against the idea, but has taken no decision as yet. The Chief Secretary has been frequently saying (also to the press) that these offices would be merged "soon".

13. The project also foresees IT support and improvement in physical facilities at the PMO. These activities have started, albeit moderately. Most of them are associated with the merger. Other activities implemented under the project include workshops on anti-corruption strategy and innovation management in the public sector. HMGN secretaries and other high-level officials participated in these workshops. In the meantime, HMGN have finalized the anticorruption strategy, which was intensively discussed in one of these workshops.

14. While it is appropriate to pursue the merger issue further, a number of other activities could be started even before it takes place. ESP would have to reach an understanding with the PMO on what could be done immediately.

Community Mediation Project (CMP)

<i>Started</i>	: March 2001
<i>Coverage</i>	: 45 VDCs, 3 dist.
<i>Project period</i>	: 3 years
<i>Total budget</i>	: £340,000
<i>Coverage</i>	: 450 Human Rights and Mediation Committees
	: 45 Women Committees:
<i>Expenditure to date</i>	: £249,349 (73%)

15. Community Mediation Project (CMP) has completed its two years of implementation and is running in the third year. CMP has been able to form 450 Human rights and Mediation Committees and 45 women committees in each of 15 VDCs in Saptari, Jhapa, and Illam districts. An output to purpose review (OPR) was conducted in April comprising various experts to assess progress towards the project's overall purpose and the effectiveness of the adopted approach. The overall outcome of the OPR was positive. However, some issues demanding more attention/discussion by the project team have been identified with appropriate recommendations on them.

16. Two monitoring visits were conducted in February and June respectively. The objective of the first visit was to be updated about the progress and to discuss the future plan with the partner NGOs, whereas the second visit was focused on discussing issues identified by the OPR team. Both of the monitoring visits were fruitful in terms of achieving more clarity among the team members (including the field staff) about the future direction of the project. The ESP project officer also attended two Project Advisory Committee meetings during this reporting period.

17. A video documentary of the Community Mediation project has been completed recently. The main purpose of the documentary is to influence the larger audiences, particularly the donor community and government institutions on the approach and achievements of CMP with an eye on future replication. This can also be used as a training video if CMP is expanded in other districts.

KEY ESP EXPLORATORY ACTIVITIES

Conference on Inclusion in Nepali Democracy

18. It is recognised that one of the main causes of the Maoist insurgency is that the majority of Nepalese people are excluded from influencing how Nepal is governed. It is the Dalits, Janajatis, women, and the communities living in the Terai and the remote hills and mountains who suffer most from this exclusion. ESP therefore decided to support the Social Science Baha to run a conference on 'The Agenda of Transformation: Inclusion in Nepali Democracy'. It ran for three days from 24 to 26 April 2003 at Birendra International Convention Centre, Kathmandu.

19. The conference attracted a prestigious group of leading academics and commentators from both South Asia and the West. Altogether thirty-eight papers were presented. The conference began with Harka Gurung delivering the inaugural Mahesh Chandra Regmi lecture on *Culture Dynamics in Nepal*. Following this, regional perspectives were given in brief papers on Kathmandu-centism, and the exclusion of the Far West, the high Himalayas and the Terai.

20. The 32 papers delivered during the main working sessions were categorised under the themes of (i) social, cultural and economic exclusion; (ii) structures and visions; (iii) institutional exclusion; (iv) theoretical perspectives; (v) inclusion at the grassroots; and (vi) politics of language. Most of the sessions were followed by vigorous discussions involving the 300 conference participants. Amongst the many high quality papers the ones by Neera Chandhoke, Tom Carrothers, David Gellner, Anup Pahari, and Mahendra Lawoti were particularly thought provoking. The conference was widely reported in national newspapers.

Conference on the Role of Political Parties in Transitional Societies

21. ESP is facilitating discussions among political actors on Nepal's major political issues. The idea is to provide a common platform for political parties to engage in meaningful dialogues. Civil society organisations are encouraged to organise such forums. Depending upon the agenda for discussion, they can also use international expertise on such occasions. For example, ESP supported the Foundation for Parliamentary Studies and Development (FPSD) to organise an interaction programme on 'Development of Political Parties in Transitional Societies'. Thomas Carothers, Vice President for Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Washington DC was invited to give a talk on that theme (26 April 2003). Carothers has carried out research and studies on the development of political parties in many transitional democracies around the world and has authored books on related themes. The main objective of the programme was to promote better understanding of the role of political parties in building and strengthening democracy in Nepal. It offered a comparative learning opportunity.

22. In his presentation, Carothers said that politics was imperative for the distribution of power. However, he noted that in many transitional societies political parties were unpopular. Major reasons included over-politicisation, influence of money in politics, lack of vision in political leaders, and corruption. The programme was chaired by former Speaker, Daman Nath Dhungana, and participated in by senior political leaders of different political parties and prominent academics. They included Chakra Banstola, former minister (NC), Narayan Khadka, former NPC vice-chairman (NC-D), Minendra Rijal former NPC member (NC-D), Kamal Thapa (RPP), Prakash Chandra Lohani (RPP), Jagannath Khatiwada, former MP (UML), and Lok Raj Baral, Professor with Tribhuvan University.

23. In course of his visit to Nepal, Carothers also presented an assessment of how DFIDN/ESP could provide support to political parties meaningfully. He identifies the core indicators for possible party assistance in Nepal. Given the combination of acute issues arising from the current political crisis and long-term issues relating to the broader situation of the parties, a two-part strategy for party aid would be appropriate: some short-term, well-targeted interventions to provide much-needed comparative expertise on key issues in the political negotiation process such as proportional representation, minority inclusion, and constituent assemblies; combined with sustained aid on issues of party organization, offered on a cross-party basis.

24. Given increasing interest among Nepali stakeholders to benefit from international expertise, ESP and DFIDN Senior Governance Adviser have identified four topical issues for conducting intensive debates together with international experts in the related field. The themes include electoral reform, decentralization and diversity, democratic structures, and affirmative action. TORs on them have already been finalized. ESP is now identifying the experts together with its partners.

National Peace Dialogue on Maoist Insurgency through Civil Society

25. ESP also supported Foundation of Parliamentary Studies and Development in mounting a 'National Peace Dialogue on Maoist Insurgency through Civil Society' (December 2002 to February 2003). The dialogue aimed at bringing the conflict parties to the negotiating table. Programme activities included interaction forums, peace rallies, networking with like-minded groups and individuals, and publication of a peace bulletin. They were carried out across the country. Major events took place in Butwal, Kathmandu, Ilam, Nepalgunj, Birgunj, Jhapa, Dhangadhi, Mahendranagar, Chitwan, Kaski, and Biratnagar. Former Speaker Daman Nath Dhungana and many other prominent politicians were behind this campaign. Attendance at each of these forums was impressive.

Book: 'A Kingdom Under Siege'

26. Deepak Thapa is one of the leading writers and well-informed commentators on Nepal's Maoist insurgency. ESP therefore supported Mr Thapa to research and write a book on this theme to increase understanding about the causes and the course of the insurgency. *A Kingdom Under Siege: Nepal's Maoist Insurgency 1996 to 2003* was published on 25 August 2003 just as this progress report was being finalised. As such, there have not been any reactions to the book yet. It is expected that it will be well received and widely read.

27. It is the first overall account of the Maoist Insurgency written by a single author. Mr Thapa researched the subject in considerable depth and hunted down a great number of reliable and authoritative sources of information. He has included a number of case studies of events and victims' predicaments to complement the overall description and analysis.

Report: 'Land Rights Advocacy'

28. Community Self Reliance Centre has completed a study on the situation of land rights in 10 different districts of Nepal with the support of ESP. This study has recommended certain measures on improving the condition of landless people and the tenant farmers. Most of the proposed interventions are targeted to the government institutions, and a few are to be taken forward by the non governmental actors. One of the significant achievements of this exploratory work has been an establishment of a network (e.g., national action group) at national level comprising people from various institutions (journalist, activist, donors, government etc). The main function of this network is to provide momentum to the identified issues through campaign or the advocacy initiatives at national and the regional level. In order to conduct these activities, the network is in need of some financial resources. Hence, the CSRC as a coordinator of the movement has approached ESP for some financial support where other donors will join hands together. Action Aid and Care Nepal are interested in supporting this initiative in a collaborative manner.

OTHER ESP INITIATIVES

Dalit Commission

29. ESP supported the Dalit Commission to conduct two different exploratory activities (i.e., task force to monitor the human rights violations of the Dalit people in highly Maoist affected areas and finalizing the draft bill on Dalit Commission). As a continuation of the same exploratory work, the Commission has been requesting

ESP for support to an exposure visit to the South Asian region for enhancing their understanding about Dalit movement and the role of the Commission. The Commission is in view of adding value to the draft bill with this visit by bringing more clarity on their roles/responsibility and the likely procedures influencing the policy makers for the betterment of Dalits.

Community Enabling Centres (CECs)

Started : December 2002
Duration : 1 year
Coverage : 28 VDCs, 5 dist
Direct beneficiaries : 8000
Volunteers mobilized : 1100
Women participation : 56%
Local NGOs involved : 5

30. ESP has been supporting an action research on improving service delivery through Community Enabling Centres (CECs) at the local level. CECs have been set up as an interface between citizens and service delivery agencies.

31. The action research is related to achieving a better practical understanding of governance. Basically, it will cover two governance areas: (a) provision of basic services, and (b) honest and accountable government. The programme has focused on government line agencies and local bodies, both considered very difficult to access by the poor and other disadvantaged communities. There are some indications to show that they are contributing towards reducing petty corruption and better recognition of the right of citizens. The CEC concept and its achievements have been shared with DFID advisors to obtain their feedback. Upon successful completion of the action research, CEC activities may be expanded. A project document will be worked out by the early 2004.

ESP RELATIONSHIP WITH DFID Nepal

32. One of the recommendations of the OPR team was to improve the rapport between ESP and DFID Nepal. In this reporting period, there has been significant improvement in this aspect. Initiatives for this were taken by DFIDN Senior Governance Advisor and ESP Deputy Manager. ESP is seeking involvement of DFIDN from the early stage of ESP's activities, which includes inputs on exploratory activities, project design, publication of books, etc. Similarly, DFIDN and ESP jointly attended meetings with key stakeholders, including Public Service Commission, National Democratic Institutions, Institute of Human Rights and Communication (IHIRICON), Ministry of Law and Justice, Pro Public, and Media Services International. Similarly, ESP is working in close consultation with the Conflict Adviser in conflict related activities. One of the ESP's exploratory activities was undertaken in consultation with the conflict Adviser. ESP has also received significant support from DFID Nepal in the selection of implementing agency for Dalit Empowerment and Integration Project and Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FNCCI) Anti-corruption Project. With a view to promote better understanding about its activities, ESP also organised a briefing session for newly recruited advisers of DFID Nepal.

ESP MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

33. The present staffing arrangement needs to be re-examined in the context of the revised programme. The roles and reporting relationships of ESP professional staff, including ESP editor, will be reviewed after the approval of ESP addendum to the programme document. It is expected that, a significant proportion of ESP professional staff's time will be spent on monitoring of satellite projects. Following the ESP reformulation, a revised job description will be prepared for each professional staff member.

34. With the increase in the number of satellite projects, the ESP Administrator needs to give more time to the administration of these projects. Therefore, it would be appropriate to re-assign ESP finance and inventory responsibilities from the ESP Administrator. A new position of ESP Office Manager will be created to handle day-to-day ESP administration.

35. As agreed in the Performance Development Plans, staff development activities are being planned. One of the programme coordinators will be attending a course on good governance in Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok. The possibility of sending other professional staff members on other courses is being explored.

ESP FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

36. As of 31 July, ESP has committed £8,030,395 out of £13 million of satellite projects. Following ESP reformulation, there may be a need to reallocate the resources from ESP core budget to satellite projects. Following the approval of four major satellite projects and full-scale implementation of ongoing satellite projects, there will be a significant increase in spending during the financial year 2003/04. Compared to FY 2002/03, ESP will see a four-fold increase in spending from £477,994 in 2002/03 to £1,559,438 in 2003/04.

EXPERIENCE SHARING

37. In order to share ESP's experience and also learn from similar initiatives elsewhere, ESP is organising an exchange programme with Mansher Jonno Programme of Bangladesh. Since both programmes are working in the areas of pro-poor governance, it was thought appropriate to have interactions to learn from each other's experiences. A team of two professionals is coming from Bangladesh in the first week of September to learn about the ESP and other rights-based programmes in Nepal. Similarly, an ESP team will visit Bangladesh in the third week of September.

FUTURE PRIORITIES

Further linkages between DFIDN and ESP to avoid duplication

38. The significant improvement in coordination with DFID Nepal sectoral advisers needs to be maintained in the future. There have been a considerable number of people who failed to see ESP as part of DFID Nepal programme. This has created some confusion. The tendency to approach DFIDN and ESP separately with

the identical proposals is still going on. This needs to be rectified. Early meetings between DFIDN advisers and ESP would help in this regard. This is already happening with the Conflict Adviser. This needs to be institutionalised with other sectoral advisers.

Implementing reformulated ESP

39. The reformulation, with sharp focus on key governance areas, will have implications on ESP's programme management. First, unlike in the past, ESP will not be involved in massive publicity to invite ideas. Instead, it will adopt a proactive approach in key governance areas by encouraging key partners to come up with project ideas. Second, since ESP's work overlap with DFIDN sectoral advisers as outlined in the Country Assistance Plan, it will require early consultation with them. Third, ESP's experience so far underlines the need to reduce the time of project design phase which has been rather lengthy. To ensure this, ESP needs to play a more active role in the design process without undermining the role of prime stakeholders.

Increasing the number of satellite projects and exploratory activities

40. As indicated, after the completion of OPR, ESP's attention has been focused on reformulation. Therefore, only a few exploratory activities were undertaken. During this period, ESP supported few one-off exploratory activities. ESP was more concerned with completing exploratory activities of previous reporting period and management of ongoing satellite projects. The direct consequence of this is the drying up of the number of exploratory activities which lead to the design of projects. It is hoped that with the reformulation in early September, ESP will be in a position to initiate a number of new exploratory activities in the next reporting period. One particular problem area is a clear distinction between exploratory activities and satellite projects. In the reformulated ESP, this distinction needs to be explicitly clear.

41. Depending upon the security situation, ESP needs to increase its presence at the local/community level. Appropriate initiatives will have to be designed in this regard.

SHAIENDRA D. SIGDEL
Acting ESP Manager

31 July 2003

ANNEX I: STATUS OF ESP AS OF 31 JULY 2003

	COMPLETED PROJECTS	AGENCY	STATUS	REMARKS
1	Governance (Public Administration) Bill Project [Spent: £ 36,500/6 months]	MOGA and CSDG	Completed Oct 2001	Bill has been prepared and awaits action by Parliament
2	District Periodic Planning Project [Spent: £ 161,000/10 months]	ADDCN and 17 DDCs	Terminated Sep 2002 because of HMGN decision not to extend term of local elected representatives and negating DPP process	Project completed 10 of the 19 planned months and spent around 60% of the budget allocation for 9 of the 17 planned districts; could be revived once elected local bodies are restored
	ON-GOING PROJECTS	AGENCY	STATUS	REMARKS
3	Community Mediation Project started March 2001 [Actual: £ 340,000/3 years]	CVICT and Ilam, Jhapa and Saptari Districts	Operational - in 45 VDCs of the three districts; 32 women advocacy committees have been formed; all community level training has been completed according to schedule; refresher training for mediators and TOT for women are currently ongoing at the field level	73% (£249,349) of project budget released; OPR completed in April 2003. Discussing going on with other donors/parties for expanding community mediation project to other districts. Second annual report submitted.
4	Self Reliant Development of the Poor by the Poor Project started January 2002 [Actual: £ 2,800,000/6 years]	RSDC and 5 Districts	Operational in 60 VDCs of Makwanpur Sarlahi; Dhanusa, Kapilbastu and Mahottari (12 VDCs in each district)	10% (£280,180) of project budget has been released.
5	NGO Federation Project started October 2002 [Actual: £ 732,000/3 years]	NGOFed	Various management trainings to NGO executives have been conducted. Establishment of resource centre in Kathmandu is on progress. Code of conduct for NGO is established.	25% (£186,896) including £68,039, for OU course) of project budget spent.
6	Strengthening Prime Minister's Office Project started January 2003 [Actual: £ 698,000/2 years]	PMO	Operational	The PMO and CS are initiating action through the Cabinet to formally merge the Cabinet Secretariat with the PMO.
7	FNCCI Anti-Corruption Project [Actual: £196,000/2 years]	FNCCI	Project approved by DFIDN on 23 Jan.	Selection of Implementing agency underway. Starting date Oct 03
8	Dalit Empowerment and Integration Project [Estimate: £1,212,685/3 years]	Dalit NGO Federation	Project approved by DFIDN 7 May 2003	Selection of implementing agency completed. Starting date Sep 03
9	Nepal Police Development Project [£ 837,310/1 year]	Nepal Police	Project approved by DFIDN 15 July 2003	Initiating operations

	ON-GOING PROJECTS	AGENCY	STATUS	REMARKS
10	Department of Prison Management Project [£ 857,544/2 years]	DOPM	Project approved by DFIDN 15 August 03	Waiting for formal endorsement from HMGN. Expected to start in late 2003
	DEVELOPING PROJECTS	AGENCY	STATUS	REMARKS
11	Janajati Empowerment Project [£2,000,000/3 years]	NEFEN	Draft Project document received. Comments on draft document is received from DFIDN	Final project document ready by 1 October 03
12	Community Enabling Project (CEP)	Yet to be identified	First pilot in Syangja assessed as very successful, additional pilots are being replicated in three other regions through local NGOs. In total 28 CECs are established in five districts.	The pilot phase due to be completed in November 03 . Draft project document being prepared for submission to DFIDN
13	Support to media	Yet to be identified	Draft outputs in key areas submitted to DFID . The outcome of the study has been presented to the Governance Advisor.	Project scoping will be undertaken after identifying key support areas
	COMPLETED EXPLORATORY ACTIVITIES/MINI PROJECTS	AGENCY	STATUS	REMARKS
14	Development of master plan for Karnali Zone [Spent: £13,700/10 months]	NPC and KIRDARC	Completed Jul 2002; video and Nepali book on video published; English book also published in Nov 02 and distributed; masterplan completed	KIRDAC has held national workshop to present plan, video and books; KIRDAC has also submitted the masterplan to NPC, the PMO and other agencies for consideration.
15	Supporting national voter education poster campaign [Spent: £32,000/2 months]	Election Commission with NDI	Completed Oct 2002	Posters have been printed and are safely stored with NDI;
16	Human Rights Protection April 2003 [Actual: £23,000]	CHRHL	Handbook on human rights has been widely disseminated, including armed police and 12 of their district centres, all civil police district HQs, and all District Administration offices; the twelfth episode of the radio programme "Shanti Abhayan" has been broadcast.	
17	National Peace Dialogue through Civil Society Completed in March 2003 [Actual: £20,000]	Peace Forum of FPSD (Daman Nath Dhangana)	Aim is to create public pressure on both the government and Maoists to work towards peaceful solution of conflict	Both draft bill nad study on violation of human rights of Dalit s completed in June 2003

	COMPLETED EXPLORATORY ACTIVITIES/Mini Projects	AGENCY	STATUS	REMARKS
18	Support to Dalit Commission Completed in June 2003 [Actual: £22,000]	National Dalit Commission	Survey and study on Dalit human rights violations in Maoist affected areas covering 13 districts; finalisation of a Bill legalising the National Dalit Commission	The findings of the task force was shared with government institutions and relevant stakeholders at various levels for the adaptation of appropriate measures safeguarding the rights of Dalit people.
	PROJECTS ON HOLD	AGENCY	STATUS	REMARKS
19	Public Accounts Committee Project	PAC	Dissolution of Parliament has prevented discussions on preliminary project document with PAC	This will be revived once new Parliament is in place
20	Strengthening the State Affairs Committee	SAC	On hold following dissolution of parliament	Discussions due with Parliament Secretariat on how to assist all working parliamentary committees
21	Increasing women's participation in the major political parties	NC, UML, RPP, NSP (through IHRICON)	On hold following establishment of government without political party representation	Will be part of discussions with political party representatives
22	Parliament Research and Information Centre (PRINCE) Project	Parliament Secretariat	On hold because of uncertainty in political situations	
	ONGOING EXPLORATORY ACTIVITIES	AGENCY	STATUS	REMARKS
23	Support to Political Parties in key political issues	Yet to be identified	TORs prepared and shared.	Aims to run a series of discussion with political parties, civil society, media by inviting international experts
24	Dialogue for Constitution [£ 3000/3 months]	Integrated Organisation System	Online discussion on dialogue for constitution: Framework of a democratic constitution	Aims to produce a report highlighting key findings of discussion on framework of a democratic constitution.
25	Public Hearing on Corruption Reduction [£ 18,000/6 months]	Nepal Society Development Centre	A televised public hearing programme on corruption reduction	Sept 03-Mar 04
26	Research study on Alternative Dispute Resolution practices in six districts of eastern and western region	CIVICT with the support of independent consultants	Findings will be disseminated in a book form to the wider audience. People will be aware of the prevailing practices of dispute resolution in different communities in Nepal	Draft report submitted
	OTHER ACTIVITIES (COMPLETED)	AGENCY	DETAILS	REMARKS
27	Inclusion in Nepali Democracy	Social Science Baha	International Conference attended by 200 participants	Final conference report due by August 2003

	OTHER ACTIVITIES (COMPLETED)	AGENCY	DETAILS	REMARKS
28	Developing an IT master plan for local government	MLD	Final report received	Results will be fed into other DFIDN work on local government when it resumes
29	Assessment study on VDC capacity in relation to sectoral devolution	NAVIN	Final report received	Report will be disseminated in Aug 03
30	Identifying key media issues relating to women	ASMITA	Survey has identified several potential issues impacting women's reach in the media.	Final report completed. Waiting for final publication to disseminate at wider level.
31	Analysing the methodology of corruption	ESP with freelance journalist	English version published in Oct 02 A second updated Nepali edition published in Mar 03	The book 'Anatomy of Corruption' has received high praise (both language versions) in the press.
32	Detailed research studies on the current conflict and the Maoist movement	Deepak Thapa	Book published in August 03	Book will be distributed to a wider audience
33	Video documentary on violence issues confronting women	Sancharika Samuha	The video documentary has been successful in highlighting the underlying causes (including religious values/norms) exploiting women in Nepalese society.	Dissemination workshop completed. Final report submitted in August. The documentary has received high praise in the press.
34	Promotion of local level investigative journalism	Helpline	Number of cases from 6 districts were reported through five national broadsheets	A report covering issues on corruption in line agencies, local government and conflict, have been published
35	Research study on land rights advocacy	Community Self Reliance Centre	A national level action group has been formed in joint collaboration with various stakeholders for providing opportunity to the land rights movement.	Final report published and disseminated in July 2003. CARE and Action Aid are positive on supporting the network. ESP may also join in this collaborative effort
36	Seminar on Role of Political Parties in transitional society	Foundation of Parliamentary Studies and Development	A talk programme by Tom Carothers organised for leaders of political parties, political scientists and media.	
37	Seminar on value based governance	Cabinet Secretariat	Seminar completed	
38	Situational analysis in Maoist affected areas	Ms Sarita Aryal	A freelance women journalist travel to Maoist heartland (Kalikot district)	Provided better understanding of situation in one of the highly Maoist affected areas. Report submitted to ESP
39	Role of Facilitators in the Peace Process	Foundation for Parliamentary Studies and Development	A talk given by Liz Phillipson to facilitators of peace process, academic, political leaders and media.	

	OTHER ACTIVITIES (COMPLETED)	AGENCY	DETAILS	REMARKS
40	Video documentary on community mediation process and its achievement	CVICT	Video documentary on Community Mediation Programme	Aims to share CMP learning to a wider audience. Can also be used as a resource materials if CMP is expanded in other districts.
41	Support to NAVIN for preparing Strategic Plan	NAVIN	Strategic Plan completed	NORAD is providing support to NAVIN for implementing its strategic plan
	DFIDN REJECTED PROJECTS	AGENCY	STATUS	REMARKS
42	Strengthening Auditor Generals Office	OAG	Draft document highlights key reform areas	Rejected on the ground of impracticality
43	Establishing an independent institute for policy studies	IfDS and Consortium		Rejected on the ground of impracticality.