

**The Asia Foundation
Combating Trafficking of Women and Children
CA No. 367-A-00-01-00130-00**

**PROGRESS REPORT
January - March 2003**

Summary of Program Activities in Current Reporting Period:

- **Second year subagreements**
- **Partners' work status**
- **Ministry meeting**
- **Monitoring**
- **ASMITA film**
- **Constraints**

Second year subagreements

The Foundation signed second-year subagreements with NNAGT and Maiti Nepal in January. It also submitted a proposal to USAID for extension of the project to Makwanpur and Kabre Districts. The agreement modification based on the proposal is pending with USAID, with new subagreements planned for April.

Partners' work status

During this reporting period, ABC Nepal prepared training materials, conducted one cross-sectoral meeting, and provided orientation on trafficking to task forces in five VDCs. It also conducted a school awareness program, a training workshop on rights-based community education for adolescents, and street dramas at the VDC level.

CeLRRd conducted 14 one-day orientation programs to define roles and responsibilities of VDC task forces in coordination with the District Task Force in Chitwan. As a result, VDC task forces have since been conducting regular meetings. CeLRRd also deepened the NGO/CBO program in Chitwan by conducting eight conceptual training sessions for their representatives. CeLRRD and the District Task Force jointly organized a coordination meeting, which led to greater interaction and regular communication between the District and VDC task forces. The District Task Force has agreed to allocate part of its budget to VDC task forces based on performance. CeLRRd published and disseminated "An Analysis of Laws and Policies of Labor Migration and Trafficking" (copy attached).

Maiti Nepal conducted informal discussions with stakeholders, including the Nepal Police, District Education Office, and the Women's Development Office. It also developed a training manual and conducted training for students and teachers from seven schools and adolescent girls.

The NGO Federation conducted two training workshops on trafficking and network strengthening in Dhanusha and Nepalganj, followed by a cross-sectoral workshop in Dhading. It also conducted a conceptual clarity workshop for NGOs, CBOs and youth groups of ten VDC's. In addition, it completed a needs assessment and field for a youth resource guide for Dhading District, which is currently under production.

WOREC facilitated the formation and orientation of one new VDC Task Force. It conducted five five-day workshops for 125 adolescent girls belonging to 90 youth groups from 10 VDCs of Dhanusha. It also conducted two five-day training workshops for 42 adolescent girls from the districts of other partner organizations—Maiti Nepal, WOREC, CeLRRd and the NGO Federation—covering basic advocacy skills to deal with trafficking and other relevant issues in the community. The workshops were held in Kathmandu and Chitwan. WOREC also developed draft versions of a booklet containing information on labor laws and safe migration, and a handbook on migration-counseling. Other ongoing activities include development of a youth resource guide and research study on livelihood and coping strategies for trafficked girls and female migrants.

The National Network Against Girl Trafficking (NNAGT) organized an interaction program on "Women in Development in the Tenth Plan – Its Conceptual Strategies and Commitments" in Hotel Orchid on February 13. On the occasion they also released their latest publication on "Women's Rights: Challenges and Sensitivity" in English and Nepali through the chief guest, Dr. Shankar Sharma, Vice-Chairman of the National Planning Commission.

Ministry meeting

A meeting was held on January 15 at the Ministry of Women, Children, and Social Welfare to discuss the mobilization of district and VDC-level anti-trafficking task forces and activities planned to strengthen their capacity. Participants included the Assistant Minister, Secretary, Joint Secretary and Under Secretaries of the Ministry for Women, Children, and Social Welfare; representatives from USAID and The Asia Foundation; and representatives from partner NGOs. The meeting ended with a commitment to coordination and clear communication among all parties.

Monitoring

The Foundation hosted a partners meeting on February 28 to discuss inter-district coordination for workshops and training. Foundation staff conducted a monitoring visit of the Maiti Nepal office in Banke in January, and of ABC Nepal in Nawalparasi and CeLRRd in Chitwan in February. In addition, staff made two field visits to Dhading, first in January with USAID and second in March to view a street drama and presentations on trafficking in Naubise.

ASMITA film

The Foundation is finalizing negotiations with ASMITA for a short film on trafficking to be distributed in cinema halls throughout the country

Constraints

NGOs are facing problems related to the transfer of government officials, such as the CDOs, LDOs, and Women Development Officers. Thus, those who participated in the orientations and workshops conducted by subgrantees are no longer in the districts. This has especially proven a challenge in Chitwan and Nawalparasi.