

**INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE  
NEPAL**



**Integrated Assistance to IDPs, Returnees and Conflict Affected in Western Nepal  
DFD-G-00-07-00068-00**

**FINAL REPORT  
March 15, 2007 – May 31, 2008**

*September, 2008*

## List of Abbreviations

CECI	Canadian Center for International Studied and Cooperation
CDO	Chief District Officer
CPN (UML)	Communist Party of Nepal - United Marxist and Leninist
CPN-M	Communist Party of Nepal - Maoist
CRA	Conflict Resolution Activity
CWG	Community Working Group
DAHO	District Animal Health Office
DAO	District Administration Office
DDC	District Development Committee
DEO	District Education Office
DFID	Department for International Development
DFO	District Forest Office
DPHO	District Public Health Office
DPO	District Police Office
FIF	Family Information Form
FORWARD	Forum for Rural Welfare and Agriculture Development
GTZ	German Technical Cooperation
IDP	Internally Displaced People
INF	International Nepal Fellowship
INSEC	Informal Sector Service Center
IRC	International Rescue Committee
JN	Janamorcha Nepal
LINI-Helvetas	Local Infrastructure for Livelihood Improvement
LINK-Helvetas	Linking Local Initiative to New Know-how
NC	Nepali Congress
NFI	Non Food Item
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
NMKP	Nepal Majdur Kishan Party
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
NRCS	Nepal Red Cross Society
RPP	Rastriya Prajatantra Party
RRA	Rapid Rural Appraisal
RRN	Rural Reconstruction Nepal
USAID	United States Aid for International Development
VAF	Village Assessment Form
VDC	Village Development Committee
WDO	Women Development Office

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) is an international humanitarian organization working in Nepal since late 2005 with a focus on assisting in the re-establishment of a peaceful, just, safe and secure environment for all. Since 2007, with the support of USAID OFDA, IRC has been implementing an integrated assistance project targeting IDPs/returnees and other conflict-affected people in six districts of Nepal's Mid-West region, namely: Bardiya, Surkhet, Dailekh, Jajarkot, Jumla and Mugu. The first phase of this ongoing program was implemented in partnership with the Forum for Rural Welfare and Agriculture Development (FORWARD) and Informal Sector Service Center (INSEC).

The project has promoted a secure environment for return through Conflict Resolution Activities (CRA) in the areas of high return in order to foster relationships between IDPs/returnees and communities. The project also assisted the international community, Nepalese authorities and other stakeholders in addressing the IDP return and reintegration challenge in a more coherent and comprehensive manner, through support for the development of common policies and action plans. The project also included cross cutting themes such as protection mainstreaming, gender relations and capacity building of the stakeholders in the operational areas.

### **Program Goal:**

To support safe and durable return in six districts of the Mid-West region of Nepal, through integrated assistance that strengthens protection services and improves quality of life for IDPs, returnees and other conflict-affected households.

**Total Number of Individuals Affected in the Target Area: 271,001**

**Total Number of Beneficiaries Targeted (Individuals): 61,002**

**Total Number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Targeted (Individuals): 19,403**

<sup>1</sup> This is 25% of the total population in the six proposed districts. Source: GON Census 2001. IRC will be working directly in 4 VDCs per district and will also conduct outreach work into additional VDCs. IRC estimates that approximately 25% of the entire population in the six districts will be affected by this project.

<sup>2</sup> Based on 50% the population in 4 Village District Committees (VDCs) per District x 6 districts, totalling 24 VDCs. There is an average population of 5,080 people/VDC. Source: 2001 GON Census.

<sup>3</sup> Based on IDP registration numbers in the six targeted districts registered to date (ongoing registration conducted by INSEC).

## **MAJOR OUTPUTS**

- 2,063 Family Information forms collated;
- 237 Individuals assisted in return;
- 735 NFI kits distributed;
- 24 Community Working Groups (CWG) in 6 districts trained and CRA activities carried out;
- Awareness of IDP rights and human rights training delivered to over 1,500 individuals.

## **PROJECT OUTCOMES**

- Active and motivated Community Working Groups trained and functioning;
- CWGs acting as leaders and mediators in their communities;
- IRC recognized by community as an agency that provides immediate relief and long term support for protection;
- IDPs, returnees and conflict-affected given information about their rights and the mechanisms by which to claim them;
- Information on IDP status gathered and database set-up.

The project has yielded positive results in improving the conditions of communities through community-driven development activities, including provision of electricity to schools, development of foot-trails, telephone access, community centers and micro-enterprises. These activities will have long-term benefits through income generation that will be used for community and livelihoods development for and by the communities.

The project has strengthened communities and brought groups together at a time when the peace-dividend can be claimed through social cohesion and collective action. Disenfranchised groups such as ex-Kamaiyas are actively involved in re-shaping the lives of their communities, providing leadership and looking ahead to reclaiming their lives.

There have been significant steps taken in the collection of data on IDPs which can be used to fill the lacuna in information regarding these individuals. As Nepal's government changes there is a new opportunity to engage with the central government on the issue of IDPs and returnees. IRC has built a solid foundation for this kind of intervention through information gathering for advocacy purposes.

Information on Rights and Entitlements for IDPs and conflict-affected people has been widely disseminated to the target population through information campaigns, training and Community Information Centers.

IRC has referred vulnerable individuals to other agencies and has been actively involved in inter-agency collaboration to ensure that target populations receive the assistance they need, whether it be legal advice, access to relief assistance, or to obtain documentation such as birth, death and marriage certificates. Through inter-agency cooperation, IRC has assisted in the return of 251 IDPs to their homes.

735 tailored NFI packs have been provided to assist vulnerable families to find some degree of normalcy in their daily lives. Items such as clothes, blankets, cooking pots and other basic items have been utilized by families assessed as among the most vulnerable the most neglected and the most disenfranchised.

## **CONSTRAINTS**

- Geographical location is extensive, rugged and sometimes inaccessible;
- Political disruptions such as bandeh and strikes;
- Short time frame for a large number of activities;
- Budget constraints limiting capacity to provide good quality NFIs to meet needs;
- Budget constraints impacting human resource capacity.

## **LESSONS LEARNED**

- Geographical area is expansive and often difficult to access;
- Other commitments and priorities of beneficiaries need to be taken into consideration when planning training schedules. Household duties of women and the time it takes to travel to and from trainings – often on foot – need to be considered and factored into planning;
- Seasonal factors need to be considered at the point of project design to ensure that the timeframe is realistic;
- Vulnerability is difficult to assess among beneficiaries in the West; it is often easy for vulnerable individuals to fall through the gaps for various reasons, including cross-border migration patterns and non-registration of IDP status;
- Training needs to be tailored to the level of education of beneficiaries.

## **FUTURE PLANS**

IRC is currently implementing the second, follow-on phase of this project. In phase two, a more developed livelihoods component has been introduced. IRC is also working towards greater capacity building within the community and within local government frameworks to respond to the needs of the community to claim their rights and to respond to disasters, which are all too prevalent in Western Nepal. Assisting communities to find solutions to improve and take control of their lives through an integrated and holistic approach will remain a primary focus.

IRC plans to continue to work closely with existing beneficiaries to strengthen their capacity and to ensure that they are prepared and enabled to undertake robust and comprehensive community driven development initiatives and to take a lead role in re-forming and strengthening their own communities.

Meeting immediate needs in terms of security and safety of vulnerable individuals remains a priority for this project. Working towards facilitating strengthened governance and advocating for the realization of the governmental obligation to vulnerable communities will be given more emphasis, as Nepal hopefully continues its transition from conflict to peace and development.

## DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES

### SECTOR 1 - PROTECTION

**Objective: To strengthen protection services for IDPs and other vulnerable groups, and promote safe and durable return through information, advice, advocacy, and conflict resolution activities.**

At the outset, a project launch workshop was organized for IRC and partner staff to review project goals and objectives, key methodologies, core performance monitoring targets, and reporting requirements. It also included a basic training in program management, reporting skills, conducting basic needs assessments of households, IDP / returnee guidelines, relevant national laws, general rights protection, and counseling/advisory techniques. The workshop gave an emphasis to ensuring that protection principles were mainstreamed into all project activities.

#### Conflict Resolution Activities



The project engaged in 24 Conflict Resolution Activities (CRAs) across six districts : Jumla, Mugu, Jajarkot, Dailkeh, Surkhet and Bardiya. Where possible, IRC worked with existing groups. Where there were no such groups, new Community Working Groups (CWGs) were formed in each Village Development Committee (VDC). The CWGs each had 20-22 community members, ensuring the equal inclusion of women, IDPs/returnees and conflict-affected people. All of the caste groups in each VDC were included in the composition of the CWGs. IRC's CRA Specialist, Protection Officers and partner staff facilitated the process of formation of

conflict resolution committee members. The design of the CRAs provided a forum for bringing diverse groups together to plan for and manage small scale improvements to community infrastructure and livelihoods development.

The groups were given training on project design, proposal writing, project implementation, human rights, conflict resolution, leadership and participatory management. IRC and partners then facilitated a process whereby CWGs mapped and prioritized community needs. For existing groups, the IRC training complemented training received from other agencies, while newly formed groups were given the core skills they needed to begin the process of community driven development and a foundation on which to build stronger capacity in the future through ongoing engagement, monitoring and training.

**An example of preference ranking exercise in Srikot, Mugu district for the selection of conflict resolution activity:**

<b>Name of Project</b>	School Hostel	Medicine for Health Post	Teacher support	School Ground	Electricity for school	Higher secondary (10+2)	Vegetable Seeds
School Hostel	×	School Hostel					
Medicine for Health Post	×	×	Medicine for Health Post				
Teacher support	×	×	×	Teacher support	Teacher support	Teacher support	Teacher support
School Ground	×	×	×	×	School Ground	School Ground	School Ground
Electricity for school	×	×	×	×	×	Electricity for school	Vegetable Seeds
Higher secondary (10+2)	×	×	×	×	×	×	Vegetable Seeds
Vegetable Seeds	×	×	×	×	×	×	×
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Rank</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>II</b>	<b>III</b>	<b>IV</b>	<b>VI</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>V</b>

*The above exercise was conducted on August 8, 2007 at the Kalika Ma. Vi. Srikot, Mugu. 24 people, including 10 females, participated. It showed that the Srikot people preferred to construct a School Hostel at the Kalika Ma. Vi. Srikot VDC in collaboration with the KIRDARC and mobilization of local resources.*

CWGs were asked to submit proposals to IRC based on the activity they opted to undertake. Each proposal included a commitment to share the cost either financially or in-kind. The core criteria were that the activity needed to have some kind of benefit, or meet a need of the community as a whole. Additionally, the intervention was to address a priority issue for that community. Once grants were provided, CWGs managed the funds and project implementation with ongoing monitoring and support from IRC and partners.



**Meeting of Sallari CWG, Dailekh**

Local community resource mobilization was primarily seen in terms of sand, wood and concrete works and semi-skilled labor. Community members also sought and succeeded in raising funds from other sources after being trained in project proposal development and writing. This methodology heightened the sense of achievement and self-confidence that these communities have in their capacity as change agents and leaders.

The CRAs have shown the community that they have the capacity to change negative situations and solve problems using their own skills and through mobilizing themselves to find resources to achieve results. As evidenced by the projects listed below, they have improved health services, established a range of income generating activities, provided toilets to schools among many other initiatives. All of the CWGs have used project development and proposal writing skills to try to raise funds for future initiatives.

The table below highlights some examples of the community contributions:

S.N	Type Of Project	VDC	Total Budget	Community Contribution	Other
1.	Support for the construction of classroom	Ghumkhahare	Rs.162407	Rs.66431 in terms of stone work, sand collection, and semi-skilled labour works	
2.	Fresh Vegetable production and Sprayer tank support	Hahiharpur	Rs.88712	Rs.6300 in terms of local transportation and Nursery bed preparation	
3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment of Agro-collection Center</li> <li>• Community Health Program (Support for Stretchers and Furniture)</li> </ul>	Babiyachaur	Rs.102000	Rs.2000 in terms of local transportation of equipments	
4.	Construction of school toilets	Kunathari	240850	74975 in terms of stone work, sand collection and semi-skilled labour works.	Rs. 30000 cash support from SAC

Groups have come together linked by a common purpose despite considerable differences in backgrounds. This cohesion has sent positive messages to the broader community by showing diverse groups working together and achieving positive outcomes. The community looks to the CWGs for advice and to help solve problems such as issues in the home and conflicts between neighbors. Community Working Groups have embraced this role, not only because they were able to support the community to overcome challenges and issues, but because of the sense of purpose and respect that this gave them – respect from others as well as self-respect.

### **Total Beneficiaries (Direct/Indirect) for Conflict Resolution Activities**

S.N	VDCs	HHs	Population	Male	Female	Students	Boys	Girls
1.	Birat	630	4200	2050	2150			
2.	Kanakasundari	421	3000	1400	1600			
3.	Tatopani					417	129	288
4.	Hanku	357	1999	1034	965			
5.	Khamale	266	8720	3720	4100			
6.	Srikot					356	267	99
7.	Gamtha	391	2737	1334	1403			
8.	Seri	360	2190	1090	1100			
9.	Salleri	675	5002	2435	2567			
10.	Kalika	422	2786	1404	1382			
11.	Naumule	300	1900	912	988			
12.	Kashikandh	732	5198	2565	2633			
13.	Khalanga	1842	9804	4893	4911			
14.	Punma	1133	5665	2314	3351			
15.	Laha					162	92	70
16.	Jhapra					660	368	292
17.	Hariharpur	810	4271	2171	2100			
18.	Babiyachaur	1459	7173	3479	3694			
19.	Kunathari					1250	692	558
20.	Ghumkahare					590	318	272
21.	Khairichandanpur	1330	6744	3454	3290			
22.	Manau	1452	8599	4310	4289			
23.	Manpur Tapra	1249	9519	4809	4710			
24.	Suryapatwa					1216	595	621
	<b>Total</b>	<b>13829</b>	<b>89507</b>	<b>43374</b>	<b>45233</b>	<b>4742</b>	<b>2457</b>	<b>2285</b>

### Composition of Community Working Groups

S. N.	District	VDCs	Total Member	Gender		Ethnicity			
				Male	Female	Brahman/ Chhetri	Chhetri	Dalit	Janajati
1.	Surkhet	Ghumkhahare	22	13	9	11		5	6
		Hariharpur	25	12	13	10		5	10
		Kunathari	20	10	10	8		7	5
		Babiyachaur	24	12	12	16		3	5
2.	Dailekh	Kalika	21	12	9	7			14
		Naumule	21	12	9			2	19
		Salleri	22	11	11	12		2	8
		Kashikandha	17	9	8	11		2	4
3.	Jajarkot	Khalanga	28	14	14	15		8	5
		Punma	28	14	14	15		8	5
		Jhapra	31	15	16	11		12	8
		Laha	25	12	13	12		9	4
4.	Jumla	Birat	19	10	9	15		4	-
		Kanakasundari	21	12	9	17		4	-
		Hanku	19	11	8	16		3	
		Tatopani	25	11	14	20		5	
5.	Mugu	Seri	21	12	9	16		5	
		Srikot	24	14	10				
		Khamale	19	10	9	16		1	
		Gamtha	19	10	9	16		3	
6.	Bardiya	Suryapatuwa	20	10	10	9		0	11
		Manpur Tapara	24	17	7	4		1	19
		Rajapur	21	11	10	0		3	18
		Manau	29	22	7	13		1	15
		Khairichandanpur	20	13	7	7		1	12
		Nayagaon	21	12	9	1		1	19
		<b>Total</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>256</b>				

## Conflict Resolution Training

Conflict resolution trainings included topics such as life skills and conflict resolution, in addition to practical training to support the implementation of the Conflict Resolution Activities. This training included vegetable production, apple processing, and use and management of sprayers, among other topics. These were organized for the members of CWGs in the working VDCs of project districts.

### Practical Trainings for CWGs

S.N	District	No. of training	M	F	B/C	Dalit	JJ	Total	Increased Knowledge*
1.	Jumla	4	84	53	115	20	0	137	
2.	Jajarakot	4	51	76	65	38	24	127	57 %
3.	Mugu	8	161	49		34		210	44.51%
4.	Dailekh	10	79	96				175	22%
5.	Surkhet	4	43	49				92	23%
6.	Bardiya	11	223	94	98	11	208	317	46%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>641</b>	<b>417</b>				<b>1058</b>	

\* Based on pre and post testing of participants

The district-based project implementation team organized community-level trainings about proposal writing, management of conflict resolution projects, monitoring and evaluation, human rights and protection, conflict resolution etc.

### Other Trainings for Communities

S.N	District	No. of training	M	F	B/C	Dalit	JJ	Total	Increased Knowledge*
1.	Jumla	14	333	135				468	
2.	Jajarakot	30	490	374	480	255	129	864	
3.	Mugu	22	275	89		42		364	
4.	Dailekh	9	113	57	79	11	53	170	
5.	Surkhet	28	383	279				662	
6.	Bardiya	38	617	270				887	
		<b>141</b>	<b>2211</b>	<b>1204</b>				<b>3415</b>	

## Information Gathering and Dissemination

There has been and remains a major gap in protection mechanisms available for IDPs and returnees. There are no provisions for people who for whatever reason cannot return to their place of origin. The assistance provided for registered returns by NGOs and the Government has been inadequate and inconsistent. Unregistered IDPs are not entitled to Government assistance packages. Many IDPs cannot register due to lack of documentation or lack of awareness on the registration process.

IRC proposed to work towards filling these protection gaps by implementing an IDP/returnee protection project to identify, document, and address the needs of IDPs and by creating an enabling environment with host communities in areas of return through Conflict Resolution Activities (CRAs). In addition, IRC is a member of the IDP Working

Group, led by UNHCR and OHCHR. As a member, IRC was able to share IDP and returnee information with the national working group and contribute to the national implementation plan for an integrated approach to IDP return.

Family information forms were compiled by IRC protection officers on families who had been displaced during the conflict, those who returned to their original places or were severely affected by the conflict. The family information forms were designed to obtain key data on IDP/returnee and other conflict affected people's status, including family composition, address, assistance required, assistance received, extent of shelter damage, injuries, caste, employment status, adult to child ratio.

Village assessment forms were designed to gather information regarding access for vulnerable communities to services such as communication, sanitation, safe drinking water, local government bodies, health, irrigation and other facilities which should ideally be available at the VDC level.

From this information, IRC developed a database located at IRC Office, Surkhet. IRC uses this information to track the status of vulnerable individuals and shares it with other agencies in cases where this can lead to relief and/or assistance for the individuals or communities involved. In addition to this, every two months protection officers provide an update of the security and human rights status in each district. Informally, data is shared between agencies, particularly through contact group meetings and through the multi-agency referral system described previously. This process, established during the project period, is ongoing.

**CASE STUDY: Janki Chaoudhary registers the birth of her daughter**

**Ram Janki Chaoudhary, Rajapur-4, is a single woman whose husband was killed by the security forces and was displaced by the conflict. She returned home after the peace agreement, but didn't have her daughter's birth certificate which meant she couldn't enroll her in school. After participating in a session related to birth and citizenship, she went to the VDC office and registered her daughter, who has now started school.**

## Protection and Human Rights Training

Protection and human rights trainings were organized for the members of community working groups (CWGs) in the working VDCs of project districts, as displayed by the tables below.

### Human Rights and Protection Trainings for CWGs

S.N	District	No. of training	M	F	B/C	Dalit	JJ	Total	Increased Knowledge (average)*
1.	Jumla	4	52	35	72	15	0	87	60%
2.	Jajarakot	5	79	73	71	53	28	152	58.14 %
3.	Mugu	12	157	135	-	24	-	292	42.48%
4.	Dailekh	5	78	41	-	-	-	119	23%
5.	Surkhet	4	47	40				87	28.34%
6.	Bardiya	22	400	218	202	31	399	629	46%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>813</b>	<b>542</b>				<b>1386</b>	

District level human rights and protection trainings were organized in six project districts targeting government officers and non-governmental organizations.

### Human Rights and Protection Trainings for Government

S.N	District	M	F	B/C	Dalit	JJ	Total	Increased Knowledge*
1.	Jumla	17	4	16	2	3	21	16%
2.	Jajarakot	32	4	26	1	9	36	66.7 %
3.	Mugu	21	9	-	2	-	92	46.66%
4.	Dailekh	16	4				20	20 %
5.	Surkhet	11	5				16	30%
6.	Bardiya	22	3	15	4	6	25	66%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>29</b>				<b>210</b>	

## Referrals

IRC has referred beneficiaries to relevant agencies for legal support, citizenship certificate, birth certificates, relief support, livelihood opportunities and skills development trainings. Families have been referred to various organizations such as the District Administration Office, Bar Association, Norwegian Refugee Council, INSEC, Nepal Red Cross Society etc.

The tables below indicate numbers of referrals and informational material dissemination.

### Referrals

S.N.	Districts	No. of Referrals	Referred to	Purpose of Referral
1.	Surkhet	32	NRC, INSEC	legal, relief, rehabilitation, livelihood opportunities, skills development trainings
2.	Jajarkot	30	District Bar Association, VDC, CDO, DEO	Legal support, education support, NFI support, citizenships and birth certificate,
3.	Jumla	17	NRCS, WFP and ADO	food, rehabilitation and house maintenance
4.	Mugu	None		
5.	Dailekh	15	NRCS	house maintenances, 4 families received supports from NRCS
6.	Bardiya	29	Area Administration Office, NRC and NHRC	Citizenship-12, birth certificate-13, 2 torture case- NHRC, 2 legal remedy case- NRC
	<b>Total</b>	<b>123</b>		

### Number of Public Information (PI) Materials Distributed

S.N.	Districts	No. of Public Information	Types of information materials
1.	Jajarkot	1278	community information books-77, IRC calendar 15 and leaflets-1186
2.	Mugu	2128	CIC leaflets-175, leaflets-1902, training materials-30, IRC calendars.
3.	Dailekh	678	IRC booklets-75, leaflets-150, CRA training materials- 175 and human rights training materials-278
4.	Jumla:	933	Leaflets-563, booklets-100, training materials-270
5.	Surkhet	2820	community information booklets-1300, program leaflets-1100, IRC calendar-10, and others
6.	Bardiya	1115	CIC Booklets with protection and human rights information and 654 training handouts
	<b>Total</b>	<b>34,332</b>	

IRC facilitated the return process of families who expressed a willingness and were able to return to their former homes. IRC provided transportation support to Jumla IDPs (17 families, 56 persons) as a part of its collaboration with the network formed between IRC, PIN-Nepal, Caritas Nepal and Bee-Group in August 2007. Similarly IRC provided transportation support to Jumla, Kalikot, Dailekh and Jajarkot Districts for the second time with the network formed with seven organizations (Rehabilitation Network) in September 2007. IRC also assisted the network in verifying the families using UNOCHA guidelines to avoid fake return. Farewell programs on the departure dates were organized where representatives from major political parties, CDO, DFID, CARITAS, NGO Federation, INSEC, Press Federation and other stakeholders were present. Local and national level media including Radio Nepal, Nepal 1 News Channel, Kantipur Daily

Newspaper, Nepal Samachar Patra, etc covered the return. Data on the number of returnee families assisted is provided in the table below.

#### **List of Returnee Families**

<b>S.N.</b>	<b>Districts</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>No. of families</b>	<b>Number of returnees</b>
1	Dailekh	12 September 2007	26	143
2	Jajarkot	12 September 2007	3	11
3	Jumla	12 September 2007	1	3
4	Kalikot	12 September 2007	2	9
5	Surkhet (Gadhi, Hariharpur & Jarbuta VDCs)	12 September 2007	3	15
6	Jumla	August 2007	17	56
<b>Total</b>			<b>52</b>	<b>237</b>

## **SECTOR 2 – LOGISTICS RELIEF AND COMMODITIES**

**Objective 2: To support durable return through ensuring that returnees have access to vital Non-Food Items for the purpose of re-establishing themselves in their pre-conflict communities.**

IRC and partners conducted a vulnerability assessment to determine the priority needs of the IDPs in the target areas in coordination with various agencies. Through this process IRC contributed to the development of common, inter-agency policy and guidelines on provision of standard assistance (based on SPHERE Standards) to returnees, ensuring that the final individual assistance package adopted by the inter-agency working group is fully informed by field practice and experience. In addition, IRC conducted an assessment to identify the types of NFIs used locally and NFIs where possible were purchased locally.

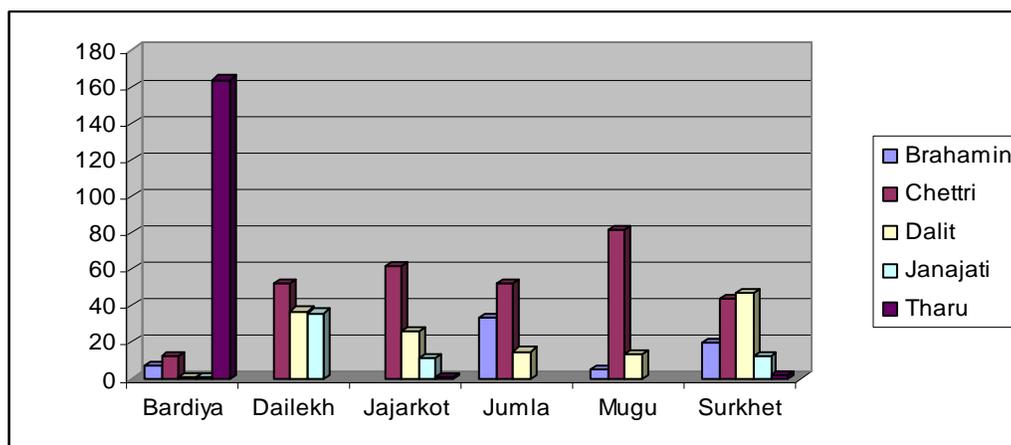
The vulnerability assessment informed the kind of NFIs to be distributed, and other reintegration assistance required up to a total of \$120per family. Based on experience from a previous NFI distribution exercise conducted by IRC with the ex-Kamaiya in Rajapur, Bardiya in January 2006, IRC developed a basic NFI package that included the kitchen sets, jerry cans, plastic sheeting, soap, and clothing material. NFI distribution information is contained within the tables and chart below.

#### **NFI Distribution**

<b>S.N</b>	<b>Districts</b>	<b>Filled the family assessment form</b>	<b>NFI kits distributed</b>	<b>No. of vulnerable families</b>	<b>No of NFI monitoring form filled</b>
1.	Surkhet	356	125	166	125
2.	Bardiya	300	185	275	185
3.	Mugu	425	100	176	100
4.	Jajarkot	386	100	188	100
5.	Jumla	210	100	210	100
6.	Dailekh	293	125	160	125
<b>Total</b>		<b>1970</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>1175</b>	<b>735</b>

### Ethnicity/Caste-Wise Distribution of NFI Package

	District	Brahamin	Chettri	Dalit	Janajati	Tharu	Total
1.	Bardiya	7	12	1	1	164	<b>185</b>
2.	Dailekh		52	37	36		<b>125</b>
3.	Jajarkot		62	26	11	1	<b>100</b>
4.	Jumla	33	52	15			<b>100</b>
5.	Mugu	5	82	13			<b>100</b>
6.	Surkhet	20	44	47	12	2	<b>125</b>



The NFI distribution was carried out based on the vulnerability guidelines developed by IRC and partners and validity was cross-checked in the community before distribution of the relief items. Though IRC was not in a position to provide support to all or even the majority of those in need, some of the most vulnerable, including female-headed households and unaccompanied minors, were given support which has helped them to go about daily life with a greater degree of dignity and normalcy; they were provided with clothes, blankets, and cooking equipment. For those who were returning to their homes after a long period of displacement, this support was an important way to begin rebuilding a life. For those who could not or will not return and who have faced severe, long-term obstacles, deprivation and vulnerability in their host communities, the tailored NFI support met a need which they would otherwise have no means of attaining.

The below tables provide data on the number of IDPs, returnees, conflict-affected persons, and families receiving NFIs per district, as well as relevant details of those families – such as number of male and female dependents.

#### Number of IDP/ Returnee and Conflict-Affected People Receiving NFIs Per District

District	Conflict Affected (CA)	IDP CA	IDP Not CA	Returnee CA	Returnee Not CA	Total
Bardiya	141	1		28	15	185
Dailekh	16		1	100	8	125

Jajarkot	7		3	52	38	100
Jumla	29			21	50	100
Mugu	47		4	10	39	100
Surkhet	27	9	13	72	4	125

### NFI Distribution

Districts	VDCs	No. of Families
Banke	Tihitiya	1
Surkhet	Agrigaun	1
	Babiyachaur	3
	Birendranagar	21
	Chamunda(Dailekh)	1
	Chapre	1
	Chhidipusakot	1
	Chhitikot(Dailekh)	1
	Chinchu	4
	Daiekh(Sallerai)	1
	Dashrathpur	5
	Deulkanda	1
	Dewalkanda(Dailekh)	1
	Gadi	6
	Ghumkhare	9
	Hariharpur	12
	Jarbuta	2
	Kalikakhetu (Jumla)	1
	Kotwada(Kalikot)	1
	Kunathari	7
	Latikoili	3
	Lekhgaun	2
	Maintada	3
	Paduka(Dailekh)	1
	Rakam	12
	Ramghat	7
	Sahare	3
	Satakhani	10
Taranga	1	
Uttarganga	3	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>
Jumla	Birat	21
	Garjajankot	30
	Hanku	12
	Kalikakhetu	9
	Kanakasundari	1
	Kartik Shawami	1

	Kudari	7
	Mahabaipatarkhola	1
	Pandab Gupha	1
	Raralihi	1
	Tatopani	16
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

<b>Districts</b>	<b>VDCs</b>	<b>No. of Families</b>
Dailekh	Kalika	4
	Kansikandh	23
	Naumule	29
	Piplakot	2
	Salleri	59
	Sigaudi	4
	Toli	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>
Bardiya	Badalpur	18
	Bhimmapur	9
	Dashrathpur	3
	Daulatpur	19
	Gola	27
	Khairichandanpur	11
	Manau	24
	Manpur Tapara	27
	Nayagaun	16
	Pashupatinagar	1
	Patabhar	23
	Rajapur	7
	<b>Total</b>	<b>185</b>
Mugu	Gamtha	3
	Hanglu	3
	Katidada	1
	Khamale	20
	Kotdada	7
	Natharpu	1
	Rara	6
	Rowa	2
	Ruga	1
	Seri	18
	Shreekot	17
	Shreenagar	14
	Sukadhik	7
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>
Jajarkot	Dandagaun	1
	Khalanga	84
	Laha	12
	Pajaru	1
	Punma	2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

## Details of Families Who Received NFI/District

District	Total Number of HH that Received NFI	Number of Dependents in Family		
		Male	Female	Total
Bardiya	185	754	802	1556
Dailekh	125	371	396	767
Jajarkot	100	276	304	580
Jumla	100	450	489	939
Mugu	100	420	357	777
Surkhet	125	337	390	727
<b>Total</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>2608</b>	<b>2738</b>	<b>5346</b>

## CROSS CUTTING THEMES

### Conflict

IRC addressed conflict in two major ways. The first was by promoting social cohesion through activity-based interventions that brought divergent groups together for a common purpose. Secondly, it gave skills to the community groups to resolve and mitigate conflicts in their communities. During the evaluation, CWGs gave examples of how they had resolved conflicts between neighbors and family members through mediation, and where that didn't work through contacting relevant authorities, such as the police in extreme cases.

### Gender

IRC has been able to enable robust participation of women particularly through the Community Working Group structure. There is at least a 50% representation by women in the CWGs – in some cases more – and women play an active role in the management and decision-making processes of the groups. All of the groups met noted a positive change in their perceptions of the capacity and role of women in the community– this attitudinal shift was expressed by both men and women.

In Jajarkot, at the inception of the project in four VDCs (Khalanga, Punma, Jhapra and Laha VDCs) through the CWGs, IRC found that gender relations was a priority issue. Women were compelled to undertake all of the household activities such as farming, buffalo keeping, and domestic work such as cooking, cleaning, washing the utensils etc. They were not allowed to exit the home. Husbands did not allow their wives to take part in any type of meetings, training or community activities.

IRC conducted trainings on human rights, IDP policy, legal awareness, women's rights and conflict resolution activities for men and women of these VDCs. After the training, gender relationships improved. For example, the number of female participants in training increased. In one training on human rights and protection training in Khalanga VDC, 12 males and 16 females participated. During the training period participants (male

and female) raised issues relating to gender such as equal participation and equal work responsibility, and committed to solve the gender-related problems. Today, husbands are taking more ownership of the domestic chores such as cooking, feeding the buffaloes and farm work and are sending their wives to participate in training, meetings and social work.

## **NETWORKING AND RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

IRC works in close coordination with other non-governmental, inter-governmental, and governmental partners in Nepal. IRC actively participated in the main inter-agency coordination fora, including the Association of International NGOs (AIN) and those facilitated by OCHA, UNHCR, WHO, and other international organizations. Close working partners include INGOs such as Save the Children, CARE, ACF, Caritas, ICRC, NRCS, NRC; local NGOs such as the BEE Group, FORWARD, BASE, INSEC, CSWC and SAFHR; and Nepalese government ministries and local authorities (including the government Peace Secretariat). In particular, IRC set up a referral system with working partners to ensure that services are streamlined, to fill gaps, and to avoid duplication. In cases where IDPs require legal assistance, IRC will engage NRC's legal aid team for referral. IRC also maintains constructive links and ongoing dialogue with CPN-M cadres as well as political parties in areas of operation. This project helped to strengthen coordination mechanisms, referral processes, and policy frameworks to ensure that interventions are efficient and provide the maximum benefit to the communities and families it serves. IRC participates in the national IDP working group coordinated by UNHCR and OCHA, which acts as forum for agencies to share information on IDPs.

### **CASE STUDY: Agro-Collection Center**

Babiyachaur VDC is located towards the western side of Birendranagar the district headquarters of Surkhet. It takes almost three hours to reach the VDC center from Birendranagar by vehicle. Some of the wards are very remote and hilly with no vehicle access.

The local people have suffered as a result of victimization and violence from both the Maoists and the Government. At least three people were killed during the conflict in the VDC. Many people of the VDC were displaced due to the threats by conflicting parties.

There, the Babiyachaur Community Working Group has established an agro-collection center with the financial support of IRC. The project covered all nine wards of the Babiyachaur VDC.

The building of the agro-collection center was already completed with technical and financial support from a DFID-CSP program. Though the structure had been up for more than a year, the agro-collection center was not established due to lack of technical and financial support. The community was seeking assistance to get the agro-collection center up and running.

**Total budget:**

IRC Contribution – Materials	11,243 Rs
IRC Contribution – Cash	38,738 Rs
Total IRC Contribution	49,981 Rs
Community Contribution	1,000 Rs
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>50,981 Rs</b>

**Total beneficiaries:** Direct beneficiaries: 7,173 population (male 3,479 and female 3,694) of Babiyachaur and total beneficiary is 9,853 households and 60,000 populations (male – 34,000 and female -26,000). The major benefited castes are Dalits, Brahmans, Chetris and Janajati. Caste wise data can be disaggregated as Dalit -30,000 (50%), Janajati – 9,000 (15%) and others are 15,000 (25%).

**Approach and procedure:** Firstly, IRC organized a meeting with the local people of all the nine wards and formed a VDC level Community Working Group. The CWG took the responsibility of writing the proposal, monitoring, supervision, and evaluation of the project. The community working groups received training on proposal writing from IRC. After the training, the CWG prepared a proposal on establishing an agro-collection center and submitted it to IRC. After receiving the proposal from the CWG, IRC contributed both financial and technical support for the establishment of the center. The project was implemented through the mechanisms of an active and engaged CWG structure that met regularly and took decisions together. The CWG has appointed an agent (Mr. Narayan Prasad Poudel) in the agro-collection center, while IRC provided materials costing rupees 11,262 and cash rupees 38,738 as a revolving fund.

The community working group was formed in the VDC, ensuring the participation of local people from each ward and 50% participation of females. There are 24 members in the CWG (12 male and 12 female). The CWG Chairman, Mr. Lok Bahadur Shahi, a creative local farmer, reports that through this activity he has learned that it is better to work for the improvement of the whole community, rather than just working for his own interests. The CWG formed a small steering committee that manages the project activities. The CWG appointed an agent in the center, handing over all the materials to him. The agent made a contract with the CWG to ensure the successful running of the collection center. The agent is also responsible for information dissemination, maintaining the log books and records, rate list etc.

**Community livelihood aspects:**

- The project has created more significant income generation opportunities from the smallest agro-production activities. Therefore, the livelihood opportunities for the local poor farmers are now open in the agro-collection center.
- The project has created employment opportunities in the community.



- The social conditions of the community have been improved. Before the project there was widespread caste-based, gender-based, and displacement-based discrimination. However, the project created an opportunity to gather representatives from all the castes, genders and displacement situations to work together towards achieving a common goal.
- Beneficiaries grow their products, sell and buy and meet at one place, share their problems and try to find collective solutions.

**Sustainability of the agro-collection center:** More and more farmers from the community are showing interest in growing vegetables and off-seasonal agro products. This represents an opportunity to generate income. The agent is reporting profits from trade of agro products. Similarly, the racks and stretchers have proved useful for maintaining organization of medicines and equipment, as well as transporting the ill from remote wards and VDCs to the Sub-health post. CWG and SHP has distributed the stretchers to the local people of each ward so that the community feels their ownership in the project and maintain its use and maintenance.

This CWG has reported that the social and economic status of their community people has improved.

**Annexes:**

Annex 1 – Inventory report

Annex 2 – Final Evaluation Report

Annex 3 – Family Information Form Template

Annex 4 - Village Information Form Template

Assets

Asset #	Description	Category	Sub Category	Current Site	Current Sub Site	Make	Model	Serial #	Invoice Cost	Invoice Cost (USD)	Grant Code	Acquire	PR #	PO #	Status	Notes	Date Disposed	isposal Note
84		Computer Equipment	Desktop	Surkhet	Protection	Assembled			35,975.00	592.00	GO220							
85		Office equipment	Copier machine	Surkhet	Protection	Canon	Imageclass	SUB03117	23,300.00	384.00	GO220							
93		Office Equipment	Digital Camera	Mugu	Protection	Canon	A550	5042103858	12,430.00	187.00	GO220							
96		Office Equipment	Digital Camera	Surkhet	Protection	Canon	A550		12,430.00	187.00	GO220							
103		Attractive Items	GPS	Mugu	Surendra Bam	Garmin	e-trex-vista	12010753	12,348.00	187.00	GO220							
104		Attractive Items	GPS	Dailekh	Uuma Pokhrel	Garmin	e-trex-vista	12010753	12,348.00	187.42	GO220							
105		Attractive Items	GPS	Jajarkot	Tilak Adhikari	Garmin	e-trex-vista	12010752	12,348.00	187.42	GO220							
106		Attractive Items	GPS	Surkhet	Logistics	Garmin	e-trex-vista	12010744	12,348.00	187.42	GO220							
102		Power supply	Generator	Surkhet	Logistics	Harves	Assembled	N/A	68,500.00		GO220							
139		Computer Equipment	Laptop	Surkhet	Mohan Lal Acharya	HP	HP500	CND7202BPS	80,000.00	1,204.00	GO220							
87		Computer Equipment	Laptop	Surkhet	Him Prasad Sedhai	HP	HP500	CND7202BNS	80,000.00	1,204.00	GO220							
131		Communication	Mobile phone	Surkhet	Manoj Shakya	Indicom	IndicomC2801	CXWBB10762627997	3,435.00	63.28	GO220							
142		Communication	Mobile phone	Surkhet	Surendra Bam	Indicom	IndicomC2801	CXWBB10762105098	3,435.00	63.28	GO220							
143		Communication	Mobile phone	Jumla	Protection	Indicom	IndicomC2801	CXWBB10760913515	3,435.00	63.28	GO220							
144		Communication	Mobile phone	Jajarkot	Tilak Adhikari	Indicom	IndicomC2801	CXWBB10762103739	3,435.00	63.28	GO220							
94		Communication	Mobile phone	Dailekh	Protection	Indicom	IndicomC2801		3,435.00	63.28	GO220							
109		Office equipment	Copier machine	Surkhet	Keshav	Kyocera	KM-1500	XAU7707685	73,500.00	1,116.00	GO220							
115		Computer Equipment	Desktop	Surkhet	Dhurba Raj Gautam	Lenovo	8811CL8	L3BE350	59,000.00	896.00	GO220							
116		Computer Equipment	Desktop	Surkhet	Admin Room	Lenovo	8811CL8	L3BE723	59,000.00	896.00	GO220							
101		Vehicle	Double cabin pickup	Surkhet	Logistics	Mahindra	Bolero Camper	Bhe 1 Cha 713	1,495,000.00	22,852.00	GO220							
140		Communication	Mobile phone	Surkhet	Logistics	NOKIA	2626	358071/01/398843/0	4,200.00		GO220							



**INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE  
NEPAL**

**INTEGRATED ASSISTANCE TO IDPs, RETURNEES  
& OTHER CONFLICT AFFECTED POPULATIONS  
IN THE MID WESTERN REGION OF NEPAL**

**FINAL EVALUATION REPORT**

**August, 2008**

## List of Abbreviations

IRC	International Rescue Committee
USAID	United States Aid for International Development
CWG	Community Working Group
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
NFI	Non Food Item
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
INSEC	Informal Sector Service Center
FORWARD	Forum for Rural Welfare and Agriculture Development
VDC	Village Development Committee
IDP	Internally Displaced People
CRA	Conflict Resolution Activity
NRCS	Nepal Red Cross Society
CDO	Chief District Officer
DAO	District Administration Office
CPN (UML)	Communist Party of Nepal- United Marxist and Leninist
CPN-M	Communist Party of Nepal- Maoist
DDC	District Development Committee
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission

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# **1. Executive Summary**

## **1.1 Objectives of the Evaluation**

The main objectives of the evaluation were to ascertain the relevance and effectiveness of the programme, note lessons learned and recommendations for future programming.

## **1.2 Methodology**

The key evaluation methodology comprised of interviews with IRC staff, and key informants. Focus group discussions and interviews with key informants were held in the communities and at district/regional level.

## **1.3 Key Issues and Conclusions**

- IDPs and conflict affected communities do not believe that the government will support their recovery and they must take control of their own circumstances
- Unregistered IDPs remain among the most vulnerable in the target communities
- The issue of internal displacement in Nepal is a complicated one and it is difficult to identify IDPs for a number of reasons
- IDPs and conflict affected people are motivated to take control of their lives and move forward towards durable return to safe and productive lives. They need support in this process both through financial assistance, skills development and through the promotion of an environment that will enable improved access and opportunities for development through structural change
- IRC has created strong linkages with the community, has gained trust and respect in the target areas and a good reputation among stakeholders
- CWGs are operating well and must be further supported to get to the point where they are fully enabled
- Local government needs to be more engaged in the process of community building as well as on issues such as IDPs and ex-Kamaiya rights. More emphasis needs to be placed on capacity building of state institutions and facilitating the creation of an enabling environment for protection and community driven development
- Linkages between community and local government need to be created.
- PAC meetings, while taking place, need to be made more meaningful and a mechanism to allow for greater inclusiveness and wider access/awareness of PAC needs to be put in place
- Overall, IRC has created the basis for the nurturing of a strengthened and empowered environment to help the post-conflict healing process and allow social re-integration of conflict-affected people.

## **1.4 Recommendations**

Continue to work with the target beneficiaries in the same locations to further support and enable vulnerable individuals and communities to take control of their futures. Expand existing protection programming to include a greater capacity building component that strengthens existing structures, including the government and civil society across a range of sectors that will impact on protection in the short and long term. This should include a strategy to promote an enabling environment for recovery and development.

- Re-evaluate the best use of NGO partnerships.
- Expand the scope of support in target locations to fit the changing needs of the most vulnerable eg. Livelihoods support, food security
- Develop a holistic advocacy strategy that would include robust engagement with government and civil society for the creation of an enabling environment for durable recovery and development for IDPs, returnees and conflict affected communities
- Consolidate the work done with CWG formation to create strong community driven structures
- Work more closely with the government at district and central level to make interventions more effective and more durable.
- Re-assess the types of information being gathered on IDPs and use this information more productively through regular dissemination/sharing with other agencies
- IRC should continue and strengthen its cross-agency referral and monitoring systems to ensure vulnerable individuals do not ‘fall through the gaps’.

## **1.5 Key Lessons Learned**

- The issues among IDPs and conflict affected are multiple, diverse and complex
- Trainings should be long enough to ensure maximum benefit to participants and have adequate follow-up
- Better use should be made of NGO/civil society partnerships.
- It was found the community as a whole was very receptive to IRC staff and welcomed the fact they established an office at local level.
- There is a need for livelihood training and access to markets/vocational opportunities
- There is little interest/knowledge/commitment among government officials in the districts on addressing IDP issue/ex-Kamaiya issue
- IRCs integrated approach is effective and should be continued to ensure immediate needs are met and longer term development is enabled.
- IRC staff are working ‘above the call of duty’ and have integrated well into the community.
- More emphasis needs to be placed on staff capacity building/training

- Sharing/coordination meetings for staff and partners should be held regularly
- Time and geographical areas are major constraints in project implementation in the region of operation and need to be factored into project design/planning

## **2. Introduction**

From mid 2007 to 2008, the IRC conducted an integrated assistance project to support safe and durable return in six districts of the Mid-West region of Nepal, through integrated assistance that strengthens protection services and improves quality of life for IDPs, returnees and other conflict-affected households.

The project aimed to assist returnees and conflict affected households by providing targeted assistance and monitoring the return processes to ensure that people's rights are respected and any needs identified. As part of this monitoring process, the information collected was used toward addressing the 'data gap' on IDP return by feeding information into the international community, Nepalese authorities and other stakeholders. The project's main components involved the dissemination of information and distribution of assistance packages, while also focusing on fostering improved relationships between returnees and communities through Conflict Resolution Activities.

This project aimed to take an integrated approach to assisting returnees and conflict-affected households, addressing the needs highlighted above through components which:

- Provided targeted field monitoring capacity in the areas of highest return/population movement in the Mid-West, to begin to address the 'data gap' on IDP return and reintegration;
- Offered an information, advice, and referral service for IDPs, returnees and conflict-affected households in the areas of highest return/population movement in the Mid-West, underscoring needs and directing vulnerable clients to appropriate services;
- Provided vulnerable returnees with a basic assistance package tailored to their specific needs. After consultation with the individuals and an in-depth look at local markets, IRC offered an essential basic package of NFIs. IRC also provided minimum transportation support for return on a case-by-case basis.
- Promoted a secure environment for return through Conflict Resolution Activities (CRAs) in areas of high return in order to foster improved relationships between returnees and communities.
- Assisted the international community, Nepalese authorities, and other stakeholders in addressing the IDP return and reintegration challenge in a more coherent and comprehensive manner, through support for the development of common policies and action plans.

### **2.1 Objectives of the Evaluation**

The final evaluation was carried out between July 19<sup>th</sup>-August 11<sup>th</sup> 2008 by Remy Herbert, Protection Program Coordinator, IRC Nepal. The main objectives of the

evaluation were to ascertain the relevance and effectiveness of the programme, note lessons learned and recommendations for future programming.

## **2.2 Methodology**

The key evaluation methodology comprised of interviews with IRC staff, and key informants at local level. Focus group discussions and interviews with IDPs, conflict affected groups, Community Working Groups, school students and teachers were held in the communities in two districts. At district level, the Evaluator met in Surkhet with INSEC(NGO partner), the District Chief Development Officer, senior staff of the Village Development Committee, Nepal Red Cross Society, and Norwegian Refugee Council. Officer. In Bardiya, the evaluator met with the Chief Development Officer and District Development Committee. At regional level, the evaluator met with FORWARD and INSEC NGO partners and UN OCHA. Interviews of Protection Officers and project staff were conducted in Nepalganj.

## **2.3 Limitations**

The time scale for the evaluation was short. Given the time constraint and the geographical area, there was no time to cover all project sites. This evaluation is based on the above meetings/interviews plus document based research. It was possible to interact extensively with the IRC staff who worked on this project over all locations.

## **3 Major Findings**

### **3.1 Relevance**

#### **Analysis**

The conflict between the Maoists and the State in Nepal took place over a 10 year period directly followed by an intense and effective people's movement in 2006 which resulted in the toppling of the monarchy and heralded the inclusion of the CPN-Maoists into the government. Never-the-less, peace remains fragile and the peace process has undergone many setbacks in 2007, not least the inter-communal tensions in the Terai region. In the latter six months of 2007, 82 people were killed through conflict and some 1,600 additional people were internally displaced.<sup>1</sup> An estimated 50-70,000 people remain displaced nationwide as a result of the long conflict years and vulnerability in general terms has increased (including food insecurity, health, natural disasters). According to INSEC records, in Bardiya alone, there were 181 cases of disappearances, 120 of abduction and a total of 337 people killed (254 by the Maoists and 83 by the State) during the conflict years.

With the establishment of a new government, Nepal will undergo significant change processes which will hopefully herald not only political stability but also good governance at all levels. But these changes will take time. At present, district administration structures are extremely weak. They are under-resourced and clearly lack the capacity to meet the needs of the communities they serve. This is particularly the case in the remote Terai area that IRC targets.

It is extremely difficult to calculate the number of IDPs in Nepal as many are not registered, either because of their own choice (through fear of repercussions), or through an inability to do so. Others may not identify themselves as displaced people, in that seasonal and permanent migration between areas and across national boundaries is common within Nepal. Others are living with relatives. Despite the fact that if they had registered with the CDO they would have been eligible for compensation, many of the very poor could not do so, for various reasons and have not been counted. These are among the most deprived, excluded and vulnerable groups in the country.

Some IDPs have now returned to their land, thus becoming “Returnees”. Of these many find that their houses and/or crops have been destroyed. Others have no money to rebuild and face too many barriers in obtaining the small compensation that is available. A portion do not wish to return, mostly due to fear and the psychological scars caused by the victimisation, brutality and torture that is now associated with these places for them. These families try to integrate into host communities, but face discrimination and disenfranchisement in addition to what are often desperate living conditions.

Though there is an IDP Policy in Nepal, it is not being implemented, or is only being partly implemented. A set of Directives has been drafted for rolling out the IDP Policy, and is waiting for approval from the Cabinet. In the meantime, assistance to IDPs, which in itself is limited, focuses solely on return and has not enabled full registration of all IDPs.

There are other groups who are not officially classed as IDPs but have been displaced. For example, the case of ex-Kamaiyas, who were displaced by the government. Ex-Kamaiyas have little rights, have lost their homes, are extremely vulnerable and living in camps. IRC has made sure to include them in its programme.

Those who have been termed conflict affected face a myriad of challenges that do not have simple solutions. The challenges include: the trauma of loss, the physical and emotional scars of torture, uncertainty as to whether missing family members are alive or dead. Their situation is compounded by the continuing lack of means to recovery. Without money, land, skills or access to livelihoods, many of those most affected by the conflict face the grim reality of worsening vulnerability due to entrenched cycles of poverty, poor health, poor nutrition and poor living conditions in areas that are prone to natural disaster.

Female headed households are extremely vulnerable. Without land or property, many displaced women whose husbands were killed or disappeared during the conflict face the

challenge of raising children often with no means of support other than through daily-wage work.

Of the six districts IRC worked in, all are remote, most lack basic infrastructure and are vulnerable to seasonal factors which limit agricultural production and/or the ability to transport agricultural goods. Some, such as Bardiya, are prone to flooding.

IRC planned to address some of the major needs of the conflict affected population, including IDPs, in six districts in the west of Nepal through an integrated programme which combined protection, education, health and community capacity building and strengthening. Given the context, IRC's integrated approach of at once mapping the unmapped (in terms of IDP status), providing immediate support to the displaced to assist in their return or integration, and facilitating their access to services, was relevant.

The conflict resolution activities enabled communities to begin the process of rebuilding and re-shaping their futures on their own, which was and remains a crying need given the stagnation they faced due largely to the inability of the government to provide infrastructure and services that are a precondition to any form of development.

Communities were able to find solutions to problems that they faced collectively, such as health and education issues, while finding common ground beyond the barriers of caste, ethnicity, gender and age.

IRC was able to provide essential non-food items to IDPs and returnees, enabling families to return to some semblance of normal daily life. They provided assistance for IDPs who wished return to their homes and support for those who did not. IRC gave, gathered and shared information on IDP rights and status and worked closely with other agencies to assist IDPs meet basic needs and claim their entitlements.

Though the project was limited in scope due to budget and time constraints, where it was able to intervene, the project made a tangible and positive difference in the lives of the people it aimed to assist.

## **Recommendations**

- Continue the programme among the same target group, increase beneficiaries to include those most vulnerable i.e., unregistered IDPs
- Expand the scope of the program so that it remains integrated but addresses the changing needs of the community at various levels Increase advocacy and information sharing for IDP status
- Build stronger linkages with government and aim to strengthen capacities for good governance during this time of transition

## 3.2 Efficiency and Effectiveness

### Analysis

The structure of partnerships was not effective in terms of genuine capacity building from either an institutional or a programmatic perspective. The partnerships were not partnerships in which IRC enabled local partners to implement durable protection programs through training, skills development and experiential learning. Rather, the nature of the partnership was to utilise the staff and resources of organisations to meet IRC's project objectives. While this did not compromise the project, as such, it has meant that the work that went into implementation, the lessons learned and experience gained have been limited to a small number of partner staff who worked on the project. Have the partners become better as protection practitioners as a result of the project? Institutionally, they have not. Often, planning institutional strengthening is overlooked in the design phase of projects, and unfortunately this component was not given careful consideration from the outset. Long term effectiveness and sustainability could have been enhanced by that kind of focus.

Not enough training was given to staff and partners. Training materials were developed and disseminated to all project staff but, because of the time constraints, the prohibitive costs and the distance between project sites it was extremely difficult and sometimes physically impossible to coordinate regular capacity building sessions for staff. The extent to which partners and staff were orientated into the objectives of the project and their role in it was limited, largely due to the fact that many staff were recruited after the project had already started. Though staff and partners rose to the challenge admirably, many expressed dissatisfaction at the level of training they received.

The project would have been more efficient had staff and partners had more opportunity to come together to share experiences and overcome obstacles together, rather than working in isolation.

The project was under-staffed with unrealistic workloads for protection officers in the field who lacked administrative and logistical support in their field sites. Valuable time was wasted by protection officers who also had to undertake administrative, clerical and sometimes cleaning duties in their field stations. The need for adequate human resources is heightened given the challenges of a vast and remote geographical coverage of project sites and limited time. Budget allocations for human resources should reflect these demands.

Efficiency and effectiveness of the four main objectives of the programme are given in section 3.6.

## **Key Conclusions**

IRC staff worked above and beyond the call of duty to make the project work. From an institutional perspective the project could have been operationalised better through more thorough planning at the outset and through a more inclusive and participatory approach. Due to the time constraints and lack of staff at the outset of the project IRC was unable to find a balance between meeting programme goals and building staff and partner capacity and ensuring staff and partners were adequately trained, prepared and consulted about their concerns and expectations through the implementation process.

IRC Nepal needs to clearly define and come to consensus on a definition of partnership and define, with partners, the goals and objectives of any partnership. Genuine partnerships focus on shared goals, mutual learning and institutional strengthening. IRC should aim for a model that enables the mainstreaming of IRCs priority themes into the community by working to bolster the local organisations with whom IRC partners.

## **Recommendations**

- Re-evaluate the best use of NGO partnerships;
- Re-evaluate structure/systems of operations in field sites
- Ensure regular interactions/meetings for staff and partners
- Build in staff capacity building into project design
- Consider how institutional strengthening can be incorporated during the project design phase

### **3.3**

## **Impact**

### **Analysis**

The overall impact that IRC had is extremely positive. All sectors covered by the programme had qualitative and quantitative positive impacts – physical/material needs were met, services improved through community action and changes in attitudes and practices of communities and particularly vulnerable groups is evident.. However, it is not realistic to assume that impacts could be sustainable after a short intervention such as this. Further support for the communities IRC has been working with will be a decisive factor in the long term.

There is a great need for support for durable return and durable recovery interventions in the six districts. There is limited support for return for IDPs provided by the government, which many have not been able to access due to bureaucratic process or simply because they are not registered (and may not be as the government has closed the process of IDP registration). The communities IRC works with are vulnerable, remote and

disenfranchised with little if any support forthcoming from the government to ensure basic needs are met. This project has had significant impact by meeting basic needs of targeted IDPs and enabling communities to work together to gain control of and improve the status of their communities.

## **Key Findings**

The use of an integrated approach was considered the best way to tackle a host of problems faced by the population including vulnerability due to traditional discrimination (Kamaiyas, Tharus, Dalits, scheduled castes); vulnerability due to natural disasters (flooding); vulnerability due to the conflict, vulnerability due to lack of public services (health, education, transportation) and vulnerability due to lack of access to information. The integrated approach has led to increased inclusion and participation of people who have been traditionally marginalised in remote and disenfranchised areas. The tangible positive impacts resulting from the project have also had a positive impact on the perceptions the broader community has of disenfranchised individuals and about the potential of collective community driven action.

Material support in the form of essential non-foods items that IRC provided through the project has served both to meet the immediate needs of vulnerable communities and enabled access for the IRC into the community. Subsequently, IRC's delivery of aid and relationship building with the affected populations and communities helped the organization gain trust and cooperation.

The extent to which there is an enabling environment to support the new skills, awareness, motivation and demand of the community is extremely doubtful because of lack of government capacity and political will. Working with government at any level is difficult, particularly when it involves tackling issues that it does not want to acknowledge. This bad situation is made worse by the lack of an established and stable central government and weak local government structures in Nepal. But without addressing the capacity and commitment of the government, all other interventions will be limited in their potential impact in terms of durable and comprehensive solutions.

## **Recommendations**

- Continue to build capacity and facilitate the development of Community Working Groups
- Incorporate livelihoods activities into future programmes
- Where needed and where possible respond to disaster and emergencies to ensure the immediate safety and security of the beneficiaries
- Link with government at all levels and continue to advocate for their fullest engagement and support on IDP issues

## **3.4 Sustainability**

### **Analysis**

IRC has entered an arena where few, if any INGOs have ventured. Not only is the organisation tackling direct conflict related problems (IDPs/Returnees) but it is doing so in geographical areas prone to natural disasters (flooding, such as Bardiya), where no other INGOs are working, and which has, in addition to being home to traditional discriminations, contains a large camp of ex-Kamayias, who are among the most vulnerable of the vulnerable communities.

Taking an integrated approach, IRC is also tackling some of the very root causes of insecurity and vulnerability – education, health, and lack of access and capability. Durable return and recovery are long term outcomes and require continued support through the period it takes to put sustainable structures in place and to build the capacity of relevant stakeholders. Protection programming needs to address immediate needs but must also address long term structural issues.

Linkages between communities and district line agencies are important. Linkages and referral systems were set in place. There needs to be a formal mechanism for monitoring the outcomes of referrals, which is so far not in place.

Capacity building through trainings can only be achieved if those trainings are properly thought through and long enough. The best trainings are conducted by professional trainers who specialise in the topics being presented. The cost of such expertise coupled with the barrier of distance/cost of transport meant that this expertise was not utilised. However, costs should be assessed in relation to the benefits of having better quality training.

When IRC began its integrated program no other agencies were working through such a methodology. Particularly in terms of its interventions with IDPs, this has been a model that other agencies have started to look towards replicating.

IRC has succeeded in completing activities and achieving planned results. They need to focus on strengthening, capacity building and relationship development of staff, partners, civil society, community groups and government in order to make what they have done so far genuinely sustainable. Such investments often require small monetary inputs but often yield the most significant and most durable outcomes.

### **Key Conclusions**

The issues that IRC is addressing are vast and complex and it is perhaps not realistic that an agency like IRC Nepal could intervene effectively across all the sectors that impact on vulnerability. In terms of a strong and consolidated approach to protecting and enabling

the realisation of the rights of vulnerable Nepalese living in the target areas, IRC could adopt a strategy that focuses more on strengthening local organisations to carry out integrated programs, or build the capacity of organisations across sectors. Identifying and strengthening on-the-ground expertise in key areas will be an effective way of maximising the results IRC can achieve as a part of an integrated approach to protection would be more sustainable and more cost effective in the long term. This should include advocacy, livelihoods, capacity building of government as well as community based development and the kinds of protection programming IRC has been doing like information gathering and dissemination. Strengthening civil society, CBOs and community working groups to work towards solutions to issues and to strive for an enabling environment through advocacy and other initiatives would be an effective and sustainable role for an agency such as IRC.

## **Recommendations**

- Establish links with local development actors who can provide long-term support and influence community development processes;
- For future projects, re-evaluate how to undertake the integrated approach based on time and money available;
- Re-evaluate trainings including their content relevance in the local context; and
- Put monitoring and evaluation systems in place

## **3.5 Partnerships**

### **Analysis**

As per Nepal Government guidelines, IRC is working with NGOs and government partners.

IRC partnered with FORWARD (Forum for Rural Welfare and Agricultural Reform for Development), an NGO working to improve livelihoods of under privileged rural communities using the principles of self help, and INSEC (Informal Sector Service Centre), a human rights NGO focussed towards working with disadvantaged groups. These are the leading local NGOs in their respective fields. Their expertise, linkages with the community and experience in similar activities added considerable value to the project. The protection related programme activities, such as awareness, human rights, non food items (NFIs), were conducted through INSEC, while FORWARD implemented conflict resolution activities (CRAs) and conflict resolution training.

IRC has been part of a Contact Group with OCHA, other UN agencies and INGOs since 2006. The main aim of this group is to discuss and assess emergency humanitarian needs.

Programmatically, IRC worked on close collaboration with Caritas Nepal and the Norwegian Refugee Council and Nepal Red Cross Society on an integrated approach to return as well as on a multi-agency referral mechanism for IDP support.

A Project Advisory Committee, comprising representatives from the DDC and VDC meet regularly to inform and assess the implementation process.

## **Key Conclusions**

Partnerships are one of the key factors to the success of a project. Considerable research is therefore required to ensure the selection of the best possible partners. The two local NGO partners selected by IRC were not fully aware of the activities being carried out as a whole, but rather knew well the part of the project with which they were tasked. It would have been better had the partners been aware of and even engaged in all facets of the integrated program. Partners need to be willing and able to go beyond simply carrying out a series of activities in a sector in which they already have expertise; they should be open to active involvement and engagement in processes that reach beyond limited operational functions. Given the time and resource constraints that many NGOs face, this needs to be fostered through an understanding and a desire by the NGO that they should gain in the long term through partnerships that have a focus on institutional strengthening.

To have a lasting and sustainable impact, IRC should aim to work more closely with local development actors and possibly the business community as well as government to implement programs in the short term, and put in place enabling structures and mechanisms in the long term.

IRC should evaluate how to better partner with government. This is discussed further under the programme objectives.

## **Recommendations**

- Work more closely with partners to cultivate a ‘genuine partnership’ through a model that enables ownership of projects and strengthens institutional capacity and commitment to protection
- Provide ongoing training and have regular dialogues between IRC and partner staff who are implementing the project
- Make partners aware of projects in their entirety and enable participation in projects as a whole. Avoid compartmentalisation.

## **3.6 Programme Objectives**

### **3.6.1**

**Objective 1: To strengthen protection services for IDPs and other vulnerable groups, and promote safe and durable return, through information, advice, advocacy, and conflict resolution activities.**

#### **Analysis**

At the outset of the project and to date there is a major gap of protection mechanisms for IDPs and returnees. There are no provisions for people who for whatever reason cannot return to their place of origin. The assistance provided for registered returns by NGOs and the Government has been inadequate and inconsistent.

IRC proposed to work towards filling these protection gaps by implementing an IDP/returnee protection project to identify, document, and address the needs of IDPs and by creating an enabling environment with host communities in areas of return through Conflict Resolution Activities (CRAs). In addition, IRC is a member of the IDP Working Group, led by UNHCR and OHCHR. As a member, IRC has been able to share IDP and returnee information with the national working group and contribute to the national implementation plan for an integrated approach to IDP return.

Family information forms were compiled by the protection officers on families who had been displaced during the conflict or returned to their original places or severely affected by the conflict. The family information forms were designed to obtain key data on IDP/returnee/OCA, nature of victim, family composition, address, assistance required, assistance got, extent of shelter damage, injuries, caste, employment status, adult to child ratio, etc.) of the victims of conflict. The lists for the IDPs/ Returnees and Other Conflict Affected People have been collected from different organizations in the project districts.

Village assessment forms were designed to gather information regarding communication, sanitation, safe drinking water, local bodies, health, irrigation and other facilities available at VDC level.

From this information, IRC started a database of the all the collected information, documented in the IRC Office, Surkhet. In addition to this, every two months protection officers provided an update of the security and human rights status in each district. Informally, data was shared between agencies, particularly through Contact group meetings and through the multi-agency referral system described previously.

## **Key Conclusions**

### **Protection**

There is always a question of how much data to collect, what data to gather and how to best use it. IRC should re-assess the data that it has gathered, the information it continues to gather and plan a strategy on how to use it to ensure that the information gathering process which has such potential in a context riddled with information gaps has real results for the beneficiaries.

All of the beneficiaries the evaluator spoke to had been given information about their rights. They were able when asked to give comprehensive lists of key rights and who was responsible for them. Some of the beneficiaries interviewed had gained the confidence to approach service providers like the VDC and other INGOs and NGOs. But these successes were not necessarily among those who were the most vulnerable or those who needed assistance most. In Surkhet, the evaluator spoke with a number of beneficiaries who knew the government is responsible for their rights but see no use in trying to approach the government for any kind of support. Some simply cannot because they lack the relevant documentation.

Simply knowing what their rights are and the appropriate channels to claim them is not enough for people who have been affected deeply by conflict, discrimination and long term poverty and disenfranchisement. Some individuals are too deeply disenfranchised. There is also the danger that for whatever reason the relevant government service providers will not be responsive. Facilitating face to face linkages between committed government officers and IDPs could be an option. This will involve engaging closely with relevant government actors firstly, then providing a forum for IDPS and government to connect. Government agencies need to be willing and able to respond to the needs of the people. This is a more long term, complex and challenging process, but one that the IRC should not overlook if it is trying to ensure access to rights, as has been mentioned already.

IRC provided 34,332 information packs on rights of IDPs/ returnees and how to obtain services. The recipients included women, conflict affected individuals, IDPs, ex-Kamaiyas and other marginalised groups. IRC's aim of informing its beneficiaries of their rights and how to claim them was consistent with reports received by the evaluator in the communities.

In terms of referrals and information sharing on the ground, IRC did well. IRC utilized well the existing networks to disseminate information and refer clients. Information was shared with NRC, Caritas and other agencies on who was vulnerable, where they were and what they needed, and this resulted in genuine coordination on provision of material support, assistance for return and access to services. It was reported that a number of individuals were referred through the Community Information Centre and there are also

reports that others used the information to try to access services from the CDO office, VDC and other agencies.

There is a danger that the demand being created through the information campaigns could hit a brick wall in terms of the capacity and political will of the government to provide services, particularly to IDPs and ex-Kamaiya's. The CDO in Bardiya told the evaluator that there are no IDPs in Nepal any more and that the ex-kamaiya displacement was 'not a matter to be talked about'.

The information campaigns would have been more effective if government representatives/the CDOs and VDCs had been more actively engaged. One of the problems that Nepal faces is the lack of capacity among its district administration who are under-resourced and often poorly equipped in terms of power and knowledge to be effective and meet the community's needs, as has been mentioned previously. IRC conducted training for government officials but this was limited. IRC should not be creating expectations among vulnerable communities without also working to ensure that these expectations can be met. To ward against this risk, project staff should describe the practical limitations inherent in societies that lack strong service provision.

IRC has a relationship with CDOs and at DDC and VDC level in the project locations. Through PAC meetings, IRC meets regularly with government and keeps them informed of the work they are doing. In Bardiya, the CDO stated that IRC is one of the few agencies that does this well. However, usually, the linkages with government are limited to one or two officers/individuals, with little institutional knowledge or awareness.

Because IRC is based in the region with frequent travel to project sites they maintain well their linkages with the beneficiaries. In this way, monitoring is ongoing in an informal way. The evaluator saw in Surkhet during interviews with IDP families one IRC staff member following-up with a sixteen year old girl who wanted training in sewing. This kind of continual engagement, rapport and support is very strongly evident in this program and is an important achievement that needs to be maintained over the long term. IRC regularly monitors beneficiaries and updates family information in its database.

## **Community Working Groups and Conflict Resolution Activities**

The project engaged in 24 conflict resolution activities across six project districts i.e. Jumla, Mugu, Jajarkot, Dailkeh, Surkhet and Bardiya districts. Where possible, IRC worked with existing groups. Where there were no such groups, a new community working group (CWG) was formed in each VDC. The Community Working Groups each had 20-22 community members ensuring the equal inclusion of 50% of women and IDPs/returnees, conflict affected people. IRC's CRA Specialist, Protection Officers and partner staff facilitated the process of formation of conflict resolution committee members, and the design of the CRAs which provided a forum for bringing together various elements in

the target communities to plan for and manage small scale improvements to community infrastructure and livelihoods development.

Most people in the CWGs noted a positive change in their own lives and in the way they related to the community and other community members. They saw benefits from working together rather than solely for personal gain. Women said that they had gained confidence through an understanding of their rights and their role in society. Most of the women in the CWGs were extremely vocal and played an active part in the decision making/management of the CWGs.

Local community resources were highly mobilized during the implementation phase of the integrated assistance project. CWGs were obliged to share/raise some of the cost of their projects either in-kind or by raising funds on their own. Allocated and utilized resources were basically seen in terms of sand, wood and concrete works and semi-skilled labour, but community members also sought funds from other sources after being trained in project proposal development and writing. This methodology worked well and seems to have heightened the sense of achievement and confidence that these communities have.

The CRAs have shown the community that they have the capacity to change bad situations and solve problems. They have improved health services, established a range of income generating activities, and, among many other initiatives, provided toilets to schools. Disenfranchised groups, such as Ex-Kamaiyas in Rajapur have become leaders, though they need more training to fully realise this role and exercise this strength appropriately.

The composition of groups was inclusive. One group in Surkhet, when asked about issues of social cohesion said that everyone is equally poor in their community and therefore equal. A CWG in Rajapur visited by the evaluator consists of a vibrant mix of elders, youth, women and men. This CWG has built a community centre which now hosts both community meetings and training programs by various agencies. As well as meeting material needs of their community, they have intervened collectively to deal with cases of domestic violence and other social issues. Another group in the same district had worked to have electricity supplied to a school with a student population of over 2,000. School attendance has reportedly increased, and aside from the obvious benefits of having electricity, students have been able to see the results of collective community driven action which may motivate them to replicate such initiatives themselves.

Groups have come together linked by a common purpose despite some considerable differences in their backgrounds. This cohesion has sent positive messages to the broader community by showing diverse groups working together and achieving positive outcomes. The community looks to the CWG for advice and to help solve problems such as problems in the home and conflicts between neighbours. In Bardiya, the Community Working Groups visited embraced this role, not only because they were able to support the community to overcome challenges and issues, but because of the sense of purpose and respect that this gave them – i.e., respect from others as well as self respect.

All of the CWGs met said that proposal development and writing was extremely valuable and have already started to apply these skills to try to raise funds. In the case of CWGs that had existed prior to IRCs project, they said that these practical skills complemented the training they had received from other agencies and supported their pre-existing goals.

In Babiyachaur VDC, one CWG expressed the sense that only through becoming registered and getting project funds can they have any power to change their circumstances. This highlights the double-edged sword that this kind of approach can be and needs to be balanced with a sense of community driven action/empowerment that is not contingent solely on money. It is very positive that CWGs have skills to prepare project proposals and are motivated to do so. But there is a danger that if they can't raise funds they will lose that motivation and not be able to see any alternative to drive their reconstruction process forward. The need to keep working with the CWGs to enhance their capacity and strengthen their awareness of their rights and role as citizens cannot be emphasised enough. For example, when asked how they might address a case of GBV in the community the response of this CWG was to 'prepare a project proposal' for 'an activity'. When it was suggested that collective action can be a powerful force and change agent, most of the CWG members could not see how this was possible. This is not the sense the evaluator got from another CWG in Rajapur, which was more proactive in the community to deal with social issues. This group is also extremely active in trying to raise funds at the moment and are in the process of becoming registered.

## Objectives Met

All quantitative objectives were met. To-date everything is operating well and there is positive feedback from the CWGs. The Community Information Centres are open, information disseminated and trainings conducted.

## Indicators

### Protection and human rights training

S.N	District	No. of training	M	F	B/C	Dalit	JJ	Total	Increased Knowledge (average)
1	Jumla	4	52	35	72	15	0	87	60%
2.	Jajarakot	5	79	73	71	53	28	152	58.14 %
3.	Mugu	12	157	135	-	24	-	292	42.48%
4.	Dailekh	5	78	41	-	-	-	119	23%
5.	Surkhet	4	47	40				87	28.34%
6.	Bardiya	22	400	218	202	31	399	629	46%
	Total	52	813	542				1386	

### District Level Trainings for Government and other stakeholders

S.N	District	M	F	B/C	Dalit	JJ	Total	Increased Knowledge
1	Jumla	17	4	16	2	3	21	16%
2.	Jajarakot	32	4	26	1	9	36	66.7 %
3.	Mugu	21	9	-	2	-	92	46.66%
4.	Dailekh	16	4				20	20 %
5.	Surkhet	11	5				16	30%
6.	Bardiya	22	3	15	4	6	25	66%
	Total	119	29				210	

### Number of community based trainings

S.N	District	No. of training	M	F	B/C	Dalit	JJ	Total
1	Jumla	14	333	135				468
2.	Jajarakot	26	343	432				775
3.	Mugu	89	275	89				364
4.	Dailekh	9	115	57	87	11	53	170
5.	Surkhet	28	662	383				1048
6.	Bardiya	38	617	270				887

### Coverage of Conflict Resolution Activity

S.N	VDCs	HHs	Population	Male	Female	Students	Boys	Girls
1	Birat	630	4200	2050	2150			
2	Kanakasundari	421	3000	1400	1600			
3	Tatopani					417	129	288
4	Hanku	357	1999	1034	965			
5	Khamale	266	8720	3720	4100			
6	Srikot					356	267	99
7	Gamtha	391	2737	1334	1403			
8	Seri	360	2190	1090	1100			
9	Salleri	675	5002	2435	2567			
10	Kalika	422	2786	1404	1382			
11	Naumule	300	1900	912	988			
12	Kashikandh	732	5198	2565	2633			
13	Khalanga	1842	9804	4893	4911			
14	Punma	1133	5665	2314	3351			
15	Laha					162	92	70
16	Jhapra					660	368	292
17	Hariharpur	810	4271	2171	2100			
18	Babiyachaur	1459	7173	3479	3694			
19	Kunathari					1250	692	558
20	Ghumkahare					590	318	272
21	Khairichandanpur	1330	6744	3454	3290			
22	Manau	1452	8599	4310	4289			
23	Manpur Tapra	1249	9519	4809	4710			
24	Suryapatwa					1216	595	621
	<b>Total</b>	<b>13829</b>	<b>89507</b>	<b>43374</b>	<b>45233</b>	<b>4742</b>	<b>2457</b>	<b>2285</b>

**Number of public information (PI) materials distributed**

S.N.	Districts	No. of Public Information	Types of information materials
1.	Jajarkot	1278	community information books-77, IRC calendar 15 and leaflets-1186
2.	Mugu	2128	CIC leaflets-175, leaflets-1902, training materials- 30, IRC calendars.
3.	Dailekh	678	IRC booklets-75, leaflets-150, CRA training materials- 175 and human rights training materials- 278
4.	Jumla:	933	Leaflets-563, booklets-100, training materials-270
5.	Surkhet	2820	community information booklets-1300, program leaflets-1100, IRC calendar-10, and others
6.	Bardiya	1115	CIC Booklets with protection and human rights information and 654 training handouts
	<b>Total</b>	<b>34,332</b>	

**Referrals to other agencies/government**

S.N.	Districts	No. of Referrals	Referred to	Purpose of Referral
1	Surkhet	32	NRC, INSEC	legal, relief, rehabilitation, livelihood opportunities, skills development trainings
2	Jajarkot	30	District Bar Association, VDC, CDO, DEO	Legal support, education support, NFI support, citizenships and birth certificate,
3	Jumla	17	NRCS, WFP and ADO	food, rehabilitation and house maintenance
4.	Mugu	None		
5.	Dailekh	15	NRCS	house maintenances, 4 families received supports from NRCS
6.	Bardiya	29	Area Administration Office, NRC and NHRC	Citizenship-12, birth certificate-13, 2 torture case- NHRC, 2 legal remedy case- NRC
	<b>Total</b>	<b>393</b>		

## Recommendations

- More guidance may be needed on the best use of funds. In particular, it is important to help groups think through the practicality and feasibility of options. For example one group has proposed a library on agriculture, but most farmers in the area are illiterate
- Be careful not to raise expectations too high when providing training or discussing things such as proposal writing;
- Post project monitoring and evaluation systems should be addressed in future programming
- Engage with the government
- The timing of trainings should take into account the agricultural season so time constraints are not placed on attendees.
- Identify and implement a better way to use the information that is being gathered.

### 3.6.2

**Objective 2: To support durable return through ensuring that returnees have access to vital Non-Food Items for the purpose of re-establishing themselves in their pre-conflict communities.**

#### Analysis

Some IDPs in Nepal are from relatively affluent families and were able to integrate into host communities, find jobs, transfer their businesses, and enroll their children in schools. These more affluent IDPs were among the first populations to be displaced. A number of studies, including the Inter-Agency Mission in May 2006, discovered that subsequent waves of displacement included more and more vulnerable families who lost everything they had during flight and found it difficult to manage in host communities that are overpopulated, under-resourced and poor. These vulnerable IDPs lack basic supplies for immediate survival and for reintegration into their old communities.

IRC, together with its partners developed an IDP assessment tool to ensure that specific needs were identified and prioritized. To address the immediate and potentially long term hardships faced by return, vulnerable families were selected for provision of immediate and reintegration assistance using a vulnerability checklist.

Initially, IRC and partners conducted a vulnerability assessment to determine the priority needs of the IDPs in the target areas in coordination with various agencies. Through this process IRC contributed to the development of common, inter-agency policy and guidelines on provision of standard assistance (based on SPHERE Standards) to returnees, ensuring that the final individual assistance package adopted by the inter-

agency working group was fully informed by field practice and experience. In addition, IRC conducted an assessment to identify the types of NFIs used locally and where possible purchased the NFIs locally.

The vulnerability assessment informed the kind of NFIs and other reintegration assistance required up to a total of \$120 USD per family. Based on experience from a previous NFI distribution conducted by IRC with the ex-Kamaiya in Rajapur, Bardiya in January 2006, IRC developed basic NFI package that included the kitchen sets, jerry cans, plastic sheeting, soap, and clothing material.

Every family whose family information was given was thoroughly checked to avoid fraud.

## **Key Conclusions**

Provision of NFIs was relevant and the operation was carried out efficiently and effectively. All of the IDPs the evaluator spoke to said that the NFIs had been useful and appropriate, although it was noted that there was a real need for tarpaulins in Surkhet to protect the IDP's houses from rain. The evaluator observed the continued use of items IRC had provided beneficiaries, such as blankets, cooking utensils, pots, clothes and bedding.

The value of the NFIs was clearly seen to be to enable IDPs to have the basic items in order to live some semblance of normal life, whether they were reintegrating or remaining in host communities.

Care needs to be taken when preparing NFI kits. Some items in the kits were of poor quality, perhaps due to buying items in bulk and aiming to maximise the amount of items given the budget constraints. Quality of the items is important and should be checked carefully before passing on to vulnerable communities, not least to preserve their dignity and trust.

The IDPs the evaluator spoke to were generally not willing to return to their homes. Most of the IDPS in Surkhet had been displaced from Dailekh. Most had been farmers and had lost their land since being displaced. Those who did have access to their land said they did not want to return because they were afraid and traumatised. They face tremendous challenges in resettlement. Many have lived in the same hand-to-mouth manner for multiple years and have no immediate prospects to improve their status, apart from one family the evaluator met, who were in the process of rebuilding their lives in Surkhet as the father had gained skills as a mason. None of the IDPs met had received any support from the government and did not expect to receive any in the future. A number of the individuals had been farmers but without land had resorted to day labour to make a living.

The families living by the river in Surkhet fall sick frequently due to poor hygiene conditions and lack of ready access to potable water. Falling sick is one of the greatest fears of parents, as it would threaten their ability to earn money for food for their children.

In general, the distribution of NFIs was beneficial, but the demand far exceeded IRC's capacity to provide. What was distributed was given to those most vulnerable according to the IRC's vulnerability criteria, which was designed by IRC, partners and other stakeholders. To this extent, distribution was equitable and even, and there was no evidence of discrimination or favour in the distribution process. However, it should be noted that it is extremely difficult to limit assistance to the 'most vulnerable' where there are such large numbers of people who are all so vulnerable in different ways.

## Objectives Met

NFI's were distributed to 735 families in 6 districts. All planned activities were carried out. IRC assisted in the return of 237 IDPs by providing transport for these individuals to return in conjunction with support they were receiving from Caritas Nepal and Norwegian Refugee Council.

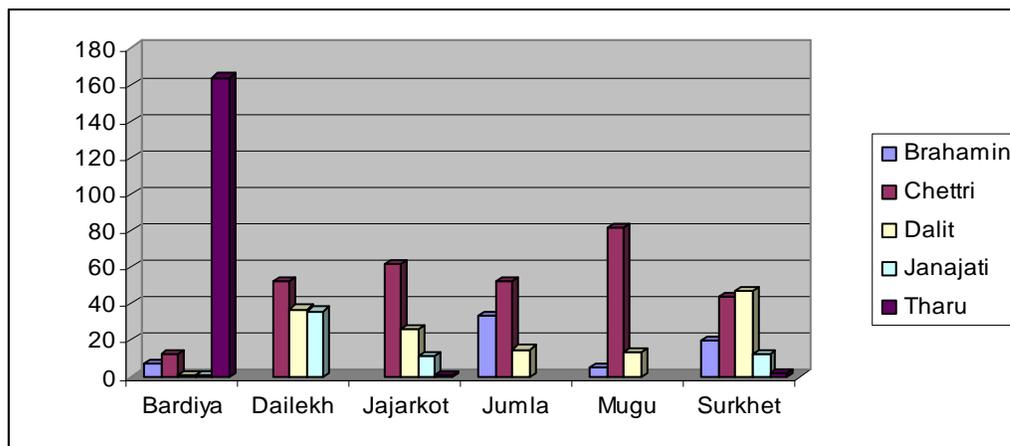
## Indicators

### Family Assessment/NFI Distribution

S.N	Districts	Filled the family assessment form	NFI kits distributed	No. of vulnerable families	No of NFI monitoring form filled
1.	Surkhet	356	125	166	125
2.	Bardiya	300	185	275	185
3.	Mugu	425	100	176	100
4.	Jajarkot	386	100	188	100
5.	Jumla	210	100	210	100
6.	Dailekh	293	125	160	125
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1970</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>1175</b>	<b>735</b>

### Ethnicity / caste wise distribution of NFI package

	District	Brahamin	Chettri	Dalit	Janajati	Tharu	Total
1.	Bardiya	7	12	1	1	164	185
2.	Dailekh		52	37	36		125
3.	Jajarkot		62	26	11	1	100
4.	Jumla	33	52	15			100
5.	Mugu	5	82	13			100
6.	Surkhet	20	44	47	12	2	125



### List of returnee families

S.N.	Districts	Date	No. of families	Number of returnees
1	Dailekh	12 September 2007	26	143
2	Jajarkot	12 September 2007	3	11
3	Jumla	12 September 2007	1	3
4	Kalikot	12 September 2007	2	9
5	Surkhet (Gadhi, Hariharpur & Jarbuta VDCs)	12 September 2007	3	15
6	Jumla	August 2007	17	56
<b>Total</b>			<b>52</b>	<b>237</b>

## **Recommendations**

- Link with other agencies for NFI support to enable a greater reach for beneficiaries and/or a wider selection of items (e.g. shelter, food items)
- Work to ensure consistency and coordination and work towards enabling the development of district disaster preparedness/response and prevention plans.
- Make sure that NFIs are quality checked

### **3.6.3 Cross Cutting Themes**

#### **Gender**

IRC has been able to enable robust participation of women particularly through the Community Working Group structure. There is at least 50% women in the CWGs, in some cases more, and women play an active role in the management and decision making processes of the groups. All of the groups met noted a positive change in their perceptions of women's role in the community and their capacity. This attitudinal shift was expressed by both men and women.

Some women said that they had a say and were empowered in the group but not in the home and that the CWG had worked to address the attitudes of the husbands of CWG members, with a degree of success noted. Two of the CWGs said that they were actively involved in promoting women's participation in community development as well as tackling issues of domestic violence and perceptions of women in their areas. The women in the CWGs are active and confident, many attributing this confidence to their participation in the CWGs, through the skills development and training on women's rights. One woman has recently run for the Constituent Assembly and is actively involved in social change initiatives.

IRC should look carefully at how to support women in positions of extreme vulnerability. In particular, female headed households and women who are victims of gender based violence. Unless action is taken to enable them to transform their situations, through immediate protection strategies, through addressing issues of violence against women and through comprehensive livelihood support and skills development packages, these women will have no means by which to escape the traps of poverty and violence.

#### **Conflict**

IRC addressed conflict in two major ways. The first was by promoting social cohesion through activity based interventions that brought divergent groups together for a common purpose. Secondly, it gave skills to the community groups to resolve and mitigate conflicts in their communities. During the evaluation, CWGs gave examples of how they had resolved conflicts between neighbours and family members through mediation, and

where that didn't work through contacting relevant authorities, such as the police in extreme cases.

The training of mediation and conflict transformation was not extensive – it was limited to a single session in the initial 5-day training. However, the communities have applied mediation skills and are actively involved in conflict resolution in their VDCs.

IRC should aim to work with these community leaders to give more comprehensive mediation training than has been provided, particularly as they are becoming recognised for and being utilised for this function in their communities.

## **4. Lessons Learned**

- Better use should be made of NGO/ civil society partnerships.
- There is little interest/knowledge/commitment among senior government officials in the districts on addressing IDP issue/ex-Kamaiya issue
- It was found the community as a whole was very receptive to IRC staff
- There is a need for both livelihood training and non-formal education
- Food security is emerging as one of the most urgent issues in western Nepal for vulnerable communities
- Information gathered on IDPs is not being used effectively
- Types of NFIs need to be thought through carefully based on the context and modified accordingly
- IRC needs to ensure its staff are supported and enabled sufficiently
- Access to education due to lack of uniforms is an issue for internally displaced children

## Annexe 1

### IRC Vulnerability Guidelines

Description of Vulnerability	Indicator of the Vulnerability
A death in the family (due to the conflict)	Number of family members killed
An injury to a family member (due to the conflict)	Number of family members injured
Hospital treatment needed for a member of the family (due to the conflict)	Number of family members
Displacement (movement from traditional residence out of fear or by force)	If the family is or has been displaced
The type of head of household	If the family is headed by a Single Female, Minor and Elderly
Caste	On the basis that the lower caste have always traditionally been exploited or had less opportunities than the higher castes.
Displacement status (if they have returned or are currently still displaced)	The conditions under which the family are living should be considered; note the conditions may be poor in a situation of displacement and return
Extent of damage to their shelter	The degree to which their shelter was damaged (if returned) as well as the conditions in which they are currently living (if IDP). The number of components, i.e. roof, walls, windows/doors, foundation that need to be fixed/replaced
Employment status	The number of people within the household currently holding a job that produces an income – this could be related to farming or labour -- and whether they are able to save money from doing this activity.
Adult to child ratio in the household	Calculate the adult to child ratio within the household from
Top three concerns	Consider the choices and the ranking given by the households as an indication of their vulnerability.

## Annexe 2

### Terms of Reference for Evaluation

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#### TERMS OF REFERENCE

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**Title:** External Evaluator

**Areas of Operation: Offices:** Surkhet field office with travel to selected project districts (Bardiya, Dailekh, Jajarkot, Jumla, Mugu)

**Background:** Throughout the past year, IRC conducted an integrated assistance project in six remote districts in Mid-West Nepal. The project aims to assist returnees and conflict-affected households by providing targeted assistance and monitoring the return processes to ensure that people's rights are respected and any needs identified. As part of this monitoring process, the information collected is used toward addressing the "data gap" on IDP return by feeding information into the international community, Nepalese authorities and other stakeholders. The project's main components involved the dissemination of information, and distribution of assistance packages, while also focusing on fostering improved relationships between returnees and communities through Conflict Resolution Activities. See below specific Objectives and Indicators of the project.

<b>Sector 1:</b>	<b>Protection</b>
<b>Objective 1:</b>	To strengthen protection services for IDPs and other vulnerable groups, and promote safe and durable return, through information, advice, advocacy, and conflict resolution activities.
Dollar Amount:	<b>\$ 283,261</b>
Number of Beneficiaries (Individuals):	<b>61,000</b> (50% of estimated population of 24 VDCs across the six districts)
Number of IDP Beneficiaries (Individuals):	<b>19,940</b> through information campaigns – total registered IDPs in six target districts (this will include IDP and community participants in the Conflict Resolution Activities: 480 people directly involved and 30,000 directly and indirectly benefiting).
Geographic Areas:	Bardiya, Jumla, Surkhet, Mugu, Dailekh, and Jajarkot
Sub-Sector:	<b>Coordination, Personnel, and Advocacy</b>
Indicator A (APDR standard indicator):	Number of protection officers provided. <b>Target: 6</b>
Indicator B (IRC impact indicator):	% of targeted IDPs / returnees demonstrating adequate understanding of key protection concepts. <b>Target: 80%</b>
Indicator C (IRC impact indicator):	% of target population receives information support for return and information regarding the rights of IDPs. <b>Target: 80%</b>
<b>Sector 2:</b>	<b>Logistics Relief and Commodities</b>
<b>Objective 2:</b>	To support durable return through ensuring that returnees have access to vital Non-Food Items for the purpose of re-establishing themselves in their pre-conflict communities.
Dollar Amount:	<b>\$ 308,711</b>

Number of IDP Beneficiaries (Individuals):	600 families, approximately 3,600 people
Geographic Areas:	Bardiya, Jumla, Surkhet, Mugu, Dailekh, and Jajarkot
Sub-Sector:	<b>Non Food Items</b>
Indicator A (APDR standard indicator):	Number of beneficiaries receiving tailored NFIs. <b>Target:</b> 600 families / 3,600 people <sup>2</sup>
Indicator B (IRC impact indicator):	% of NFIs that directly improve vulnerable families' ability to reintegrate. <b>Target:</b> 100%

To ascertain the relevance and effectiveness of the program as well as note lessons learned and recommendations for future programming, it is important that the project is evaluated. As part of the evaluation process, the project design, implementation methodologies, outputs and outcomes need to be reviewed. The evaluation findings will be shared with OFDA and other national and international stakeholders in order to ensure that assistance and monitoring is relevant, appropriate and effective in contributing to sustainable return, reintegration and development.

#### **Specific duties:**

- Design and undertake an evaluation based on proven methodology that is appropriate for this particular project.
- Review design component with technical team in advance of actual evaluation including survey content and approach.
- The evaluation process should include a means to measure outputs, outcomes and effects of the various components of the project (including information and assistance package distribution, Conflict Resolution activities and contribution to the various stakeholders) and distinguish these from the influence of other, external factors.

#### **Expected outcomes:**

- Draft report submitted to technical team in field and HQ for review (week 4 of consultancy). Final evaluation submitted to Country Director. The report should reflect the following (but not limited to):
  - o Project relevance and in line with local needs and priorities
  - o Coverage of project (appropriate and adequate)
  - o Appropriateness and efficiency of project design and management (efficiency of outputs)
  - o Overall project effectiveness comparable to goal, objectives and indicators
  - o Lessons learned
  - o Recommendations for future programming

**Time frame:** The evaluation is expected to take 4 weeks: 3 weeks traveling within the field sites, and 1 week preparation/reporting.

**Management:** The evaluator will report directly to the Country Director. While in the field, the evaluator will follow instructions given by the field Head of Office.

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<sup>2</sup> This is a conservative estimate of 6 people per family, although the numbers are larger in the Terai where the average family size is 7.8.

**Qualifications:**

- Degree in economics, social sciences, international relations preferably in Technical related field, Master's Degree preferred;
- Demonstrated monitoring and evaluation experience; familiarity with DAC criteria or other internationally recognized M&E approaches
- Community mobilization and participatory planning experience.
- At least 3 years program management experience in a development or relief capacity; Asia experience preferred.
- Competent in Windows, MS office programs, email and databases.
- Fluency in English, spoken and written. Nepalese language skills a plus.
- Excellent writing skills.
- Experience working in insecure and difficult locations.
- As the position will require field work in remote areas, some of which can only be accessed by foot, the candidate should be in good health/physical fitness.

**Logistics/working conditions:** IRC logistics will organize all transportation requirements. This position requires work in extremely remote areas requiring several days of walking within hill and mountain districts with only extremely basic accommodation available during field work.

## Annexe 3

### List of Key Questions Asked (not definitive)

#### **Key Informant Interviews**

##### **IRC Program Staff**

What were some of the main outcomes of the project?  
Were all the planned activities carried out? If not, why not?  
What were the biggest constraints?  
Were there any unforeseen outcomes/challenges?  
Was the project well accepted/relevant?  
Were you involved in the project design?  
How were manuals designed? Who prepared them and how were they disseminated?  
To whom?  
Do you think you reached the most needy people?  
Explain the process of information gathering. Describe data collection tools and methods?  
How was the information on IDPs used? Has it been made widely available to other agencies? Government?  
What training was given to data collectors?  
How were the CRA's implemented? Who was involved? Were all groups represented?  
Explain how the project improved relationships in the communities.  
Describe how gender relations were improved  
Did you have any opportunities to share challenges/experiences with the management? Were your concerns taken into consideration?  
Did you receive adequate technical training/inputs? Some of the staff.  
Did you work with all stakeholders in project implementation? List them and explain how they were involved.

##### **Partner Organisations**

Can you explain a little about the project? What were the aims and objectives?  
Describe the main activities?  
Did the project address the needs of the communities? How?  
What was your role in implementation? Was it clear?  
Were you involved in designing the project?  
What were the main benefits of the project?  
Were there any constraints? If so, what  
Explain your partnership with IRC?  
Did you receive training from IRC?  
Was it easy to communicate issues and solve problems with IRC?  
Did the project address the needs of the communities? How?  
What has your organization gained through the partnership/project?

How was gender addressed in the project?  
Can you explain how the project took a rights based approach?  
How were conflict transformation activities carried out?  
Describe the process of selecting beneficiaries in this project.

### **DDCs/ VDCs**

Can you describe how you see your role in the community?  
What is the role of the DDC/VDC in return and resettlement of IDPs?  
What do you see as your role in terms of human rights protection and promotion?  
What constraints do you face in dealing with issues/problems in the community?  
What has IRC and its partners been doing in this district? Has it benefited the community?  
Is there work similar or different to the work of other organizations working in the district?  
Is the project in line with District Development Plans?  
Has the project brought anything that can be used by you in the future?  
Has the project helped you in any way in your role?  
Did you participate in any training programs of this project? What was the training about?  
How often do you have discussions with IRC/partners?  
Can you describe the role of the P.A.C.?  
How often were P.A.C. meetings held?  
Was the project relevant? Did it meet the needs of the selected groups?  
What do you see as the greatest benefit resulting from the project?

### **Other NGOs/ stakeholders**

What do you know about this project?  
Did you participate in any other the project activities?  
Explain something of your role/work in the community  
What are some of the key issues you see in this community that need to be addressed  
(For NGOs) : Were you provided any data on IDPs by the IRC?

### **IDPs**

Did you get information about your rights as an IDP from IRC?  
Was the information relevant to you?  
Was it easy to understand the information?  
Have you approached the government or any other agency for assistance to help you to resettle? Describe this process/or why not?  
Did you receive any non – food items from IRC? What did you receive. In what ways were you able to use the items.  
After receiving the NFI's was there any contact with the IRC?  
Did you participate in training?  
What did you learn from this training?  
What is the main problem you and your family face today?  
Has the work of the IRC helped your life? Explain how.

## **Questions for Focus Group Discussions**

### **(CWGs)**

How long have you been formed?

How were you formed?

What training have you had/what information have you been given?

After giving training/information, what steps did IRC/partners take to assist you?

Has that been useful? How?

What are some of the biggest achievements of this group?

Do you feel confident that as a group you can improve the way of life in your community? Solve problems?

Has the project brought people in the community closer together despite their differences?

Who do you see as responsible for your rights? Who is responsible for the rights of IDPs?

Does the community play a role in protecting human rights? In resolving conflict? Describe this role.

Has working together changed the way you think of the role women?

What ideas do you have about this group in the future? What are your plans?

Individually, write down on a sheet of paper what explain what has been the most important result of taking part in this project to you.

### **Community Leaders**

What do you know about this project?

Did you participate in any of the project activities?

Did the project improve the relationship between groups in the community? Between community and government? If so how? Of not, why not?

Did you participate in conflict resolution training? What skills do you feel you gained from that training.

Can you explain the relevance of the Conflict Resolution Activities?

Have you seen any change in the attitudes of community members?

How do you see your role in ensuring social cohesion?

Were there issues that this project did not address that need to be addressed?

Has this project benefited the community?

What needs to be done to make this type of project sustainable?





# Family Information Form

IDP <input type="checkbox"/> (Check box)		Returnee <input type="checkbox"/> (Check box)		Conflict Affected <input type="checkbox"/> (Check box)		Respondent understands the purpose of the interview and agrees to continue: <input type="checkbox"/> (Check box)					
Name of Surveyor:			Caste:			Signature:		Date:		GPS Reading (if available):	
District:			VDC:			Ward no:		Village:			
Name Head of Household (HoH):		Who is the head of this household?			Single female headed household <input type="checkbox"/> Single male headed household <input type="checkbox"/> Two headed household <input type="checkbox"/>		Minor headed household (How old _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Elderly headed household (How old _____) <input type="checkbox"/>				
Marital Status of the Head of Household		Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/>		Widowed <input type="checkbox"/> Separated <input type="checkbox"/>		Have you ever been registered by any other organization or Government body due to either being an IDP or a Conflict Affected Victim?(Details)		Red Cross <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Political Party <input type="checkbox"/> Name:		NGO <input type="checkbox"/> Name: UN <input type="checkbox"/> Name:	
Is this the traditional HoH or there someone else who is currently the acting head?		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Please state the name of the traditional HoH and where they currently are.			How many family members are currently dependent on your household for shelter?					
Are there any family members who are normally present and reliant on this household for shelter NOT currently present?			Number:	Reason:		Where are they located:					
Permanent Address:		District			VDC		Ward No:		Village Name:		
Present temporary address (if there is one):		District			VDC		Ward No:		Village Name:		
Reason for a difference in addresses: (continue on another sheet if necessary)						<i>Examples</i> Direct threat <input type="checkbox"/> To join family member <input type="checkbox"/> Armed conflict in the area <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect threat or fear <input type="checkbox"/> Seeking healthcare (due to conflict) <input type="checkbox"/> Extortion <input type="checkbox"/> Seeking employment <input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal migration <input type="checkbox"/> Seeking healthcare (not due to conflict) <input type="checkbox"/> Seeking education <input type="checkbox"/>					
Answer a. b. if displaced:.		b. Do you require assistance to return? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If yes: Nature of assistance required?				What do you consider to be your households future options (note this relates to permanent movement): <input type="checkbox"/> Stay where you are <input type="checkbox"/> Migrate to India; Where _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Migrate within Nepal; Where _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain)					
As a result of the conflict, which type of issue was faced and number of family members affected (tick box and write number on line):		a. Death in Family <input type="checkbox"/> _____	b. Injury to family member <input type="checkbox"/> _____	c. Hospital treatment needed (was it given?) <input type="checkbox"/> _____		d. Displacement (movement from traditional residence out of fear or by force) <input type="checkbox"/> _____		e. Others			
Date when issue(s) was (were) faced:		a.	b.	c.		d.		e.			
Are you currently receiving support? Please list name of the body supporting the individual and the type of support.	Name of supporting body:			Type of Support:		Is the community as a whole receiving any support?(use other side of the sheet if needed)	Name of supporting body:			Type of Support:	

Details of Dependencies		Indicate the extent of damage to the households shelter as a result of the conflict Extent of damage:					Does one or more of your household members work? (farming, labour etc) Yes [ ] No [ ]  How many _____  Are you able to save money? Yes [ ] No [ ]		What are your top three concerns for your household at the moment?(do not prompt; write number with ranking from 1 – 3)																															
Age of 13-15 [ ] Household Male _____ members: Female _____  0-8 [ ] 15-18 [ ] Male _____ Male _____ Female _____ Female _____  9-12 [ ] Adult (19-60) Male _____ Male _____ Female _____ Female _____		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Not Damaged</th> <th>Repaired</th> <th>Useable</th> <th>Poor</th> <th>Totally damaged</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Roof</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>[ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Walls</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>[ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Windows</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>[ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Foundation</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>[ ]</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Not Damaged	Repaired	Useable	Poor	Totally damaged	Roof	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	Walls	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	Windows	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	Foundation	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	Does any minor in your household (17 years & below) work? Yes [ ] No [ ] How many: _____  Do you pay any taxes? If so what for? _____		1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ Examples Food _____ Lack of Money _____ Education _____ Family Separation _____ Shelter _____ Security _____ (Explain in comments) Employment _____	
	Not Damaged	Repaired	Useable	Poor	Totally damaged																																			
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Foundation	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]																																			
Does anyone within the household go to school? Yes [ ] No [ ] How many _____ How far is the school? _____ km _____ hours by _____		How would you describe your current accommodation? Short term [ ] Long term [ ] Temporary [ ] Don't know [ ]					Approximately how much food stock does the household have in reserve? <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>0 months [ ]</td> <td>3-6 months [ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0-1 months [ ]</td> <td>6 months or greater [ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1-3 months [ ]</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		0 months [ ]	3-6 months [ ]	0-1 months [ ]	6 months or greater [ ]	1-3 months [ ]																											
0 months [ ]	3-6 months [ ]																																							
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Context Questions		Does everyone in your household have a birth certificate? Yes [ ] No [ ] # household members _____ How old are members of the households (list the ages)  Do you and your household plan to vote? Yes [ ] Not decided [ ] No [ ]  If no why not _____		Would you agree to have IRC share the information you have provided on this assessment form with other partners? Yes [ ] No [ ]  (If yes) <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>UN [ ]</td> <td>HR NGOs [ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ICRC [ ]</td> <td>Government [ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nepal Red Cross [ ]</td> <td>International NGOs [ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td>National NGOs [ ]</td> <td>Political Parties [ ]</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		UN [ ]	HR NGOs [ ]	ICRC [ ]	Government [ ]	Nepal Red Cross [ ]	International NGOs [ ]	National NGOs [ ]	Political Parties [ ]	Have you experienced any form of discrimination recently? (Do not prompt)  How long ago was this incident?  Have you experienced any form of crime recently? (Do not prompt)  Robbery [ ] Assault [ ] Other [ ] (Details)  How long ago was this incident?		If there is a dispute in your village who resolves it?																								
UN [ ]	HR NGOs [ ]																																							
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National NGOs [ ]	Political Parties [ ]																																							
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<p><b>HEALTH – ask both Health facility and community's</b>                  ASK THESE QUESTIONS OF THE HEALTH FACILITIES</p> <p><b>Type of health service available in this VDC:</b></p> <p>Sub Health Post (SHP) [ ]                  Health Post (HP) [ ]                  Primary Health Centre (PHC) [ ]                  Dispensary/Hospital [ ]                  Private clinic [ ]                  Health facility outreach clinics [ ]                  Dhama / Boxi (Traditional) [ ]                  Others [ ]</p> <p><b>Number:</b></p> <p>Peon [ ]                  Auxiliary Health worker [ ]                  Health Assistant [ ]                  Auxiliary Nurse Midwife [ ]                  Maternal and Child Health Worker [ ]                  Village Health Worker [ ]                  Female Health Volunteers [ ]                  Staff Nurse [ ]                  Nurse [ ]                  Doctor [ ]</p> <p><b>Major pathologies (Rank in order of most prevalent):</b></p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:50%;">Diarrhea / Dysentery</td> <td style="width:5%;">[ ]</td> <td style="width:50%;">Skin Infection</td> <td style="width:5%;">[ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Malaria</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>ARI/ Pneumonia</td> <td>[ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Worms/ parasites</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>TB</td> <td>[ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Japanese Encephalitis</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>Uterus prolapse</td> <td>[ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gastritis</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>STIs</td> <td>[ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Eye/ear infections</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td>Others (specify below)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Malnutrition</td> <td>[ ]</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><b>How many Children (0-5) have died in the last six months?</b>                  _____ Male _____ Female _____</p> <p>Main Cause _____</p> <p><b>How many women have died during Child Birth in the last six months?</b>                  _____</p>	Diarrhea / Dysentery	[ ]	Skin Infection	[ ]	Malaria	[ ]	ARI/ Pneumonia	[ ]	Worms/ parasites	[ ]	TB	[ ]	Japanese Encephalitis	[ ]	Uterus prolapse	[ ]	Gastritis	[ ]	STIs	[ ]	Eye/ear infections	[ ]	Others (specify below)		Malnutrition	[ ]			<p><b>Vaccinations Campaigns</b>                  Yes [ ] No [ ]                  What type(s): _____</p> <p><b>HIV Awareness</b>  <b>Are there any on going HIV / AIDS awareness activities currently being conducted?</b>                  Yes [ ] No [ ]</p> <p><b>Are there confirmed cases of HIV/AIDS within this VDC?</b>                  Yes [ ] No [ ]</p> <p><i>ASK THESE QUESTIONS OF THE COMMUNITY</i></p> <p><b>Approximately how regularly is the Government health service staffed within a month?</b>                  Never [ ] 25% of the time [ ]                  50% of the time [ ] 75% of the time [ ]                  Always staffed [ ]</p> <p><b>Availability and accessibility to medicine:</b>                  Yes [ ] Available and affordable [ ]                  Available but expensive [ ]                  Available but not staff to give them out [ ]                  No [ ] Not available in the whole VDC [ ]                  Not available in the district [ ]</p> <p><b>Give comments on medicine below</b></p> <p><b>Where do women give birth? (Rank as the most common)</b>                  Home (no assistance) [ ]                  Home (with traditional birth attendance) [ ]                  Home (with trained health staff) [ ]                  Sub Health Post (SHP) [ ]                  Health Post (HP) [ ]                  Primary Health Centre (PHC) [ ]                  Dispensary/Hospital [ ]                  Private clinic [ ]                  Traditional clinic [ ]                  Mobile clinic [ ]                  Others [ ]</p> <p><b>What is the proximity to the closest health service?</b>                  _____ km                  _____ hr by _____ (specify)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>EDUCATION</b></p> <p><b>PRIMARY SCHOOL</b>  <b>Number of Pri schools in VDC</b> _____</p> <p>Functioning School [ ]                  No functioning School [ ]</p> <p><b>Number of Teachers</b>                  Female _____ % female                  Male _____ % male</p> <p><b>School fee (give for each level) (per student per month)</b></p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:33%;">1</td> <td style="width:33%;">2</td> <td style="width:33%;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><b>School Population (give Male Female ratio for each level)</b></p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:33%;">1 M</td> <td style="width:33%;">2 M</td> <td style="width:33%;">3 M</td> </tr> <tr> <td>F</td> <td>F</td> <td>F</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4 M</td> <td>5 M</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>F</td> <td>F</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><b>What are your top three concerns for your School at the moment?(do not prompt; write number with ranking from 1 – 3)</b></p> <p>1. _____                  2. _____                  3. _____</p> <p><b>Needs (Observation)</b>                  School building [ ]                  School material for students [ ]                  Teaching material for teachers [ ]                  Desk &amp; Chair [ ]                  Text books [ ]                  Teacher training [ ]                  Others (give details below) [ ]</p>	1	2	3	4	5		1 M	2 M	3 M	F	F	F	4 M	5 M		F	F		<p><b>SECONDARY SCHOOL</b>  <b>Number of Sec. schools in VDC</b> _____</p> <p>Functioning School [ ]                  No functioning School [ ]</p> <p><b>Number of Teachers</b>                  Female _____ % female                  Male _____ % male</p> <p><b>School fee (give for each level) (per student per month)</b></p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:25%;">6</td> <td style="width:25%;">7</td> <td style="width:25%;">8</td> <td style="width:25%;">9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><b>School Population (give Male Female ratio for each level)</b></p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:25%;">6 M</td> <td style="width:25%;">7 M</td> <td style="width:25%;">8 M</td> <td style="width:25%;">9 M</td> </tr> <tr> <td>F</td> <td>F</td> <td>F</td> <td>F</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10 M</td> <td>11 M</td> <td>12 M</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>F</td> <td>F</td> <td>F</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><b>What are your top three concerns for your School at the moment?(do not prompt; write number with ranking from 1 – 3)</b></p> <p>1. _____                  2. _____                  3. _____</p> <p><b>Needs (Observation)</b>                  School building [ ]                  School material for students [ ]                  Teaching material for teachers [ ]                  Desk &amp; Chair [ ]                  Text books [ ]                  Teacher training [ ]                  Others (give details below) [ ]</p>	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		6 M	7 M	8 M	9 M	F	F	F	F	10 M	11 M	12 M		F	F	F	
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ACCESSIBILITY OF THE LOCATION	SOURCES OF INCOME	LAND / PROPERTY	SECURITY (Observation)
<p><b>Accessible by</b> (Observation):</p> <p><b>By Vehicle</b></p> <p>heavy vehicle <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>light vehicle <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>motor bike <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>By Water</b></p> <p>Steamer <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Boat <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Others <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>By Air</b></p> <p>Condition of airstrip Tarmac <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Gravel <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Dirt <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>By foot <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>By bicycle <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Accessibility</b> (Observation):</p> <p>Good <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Difficult <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Very difficult <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Inaccessible <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Why Difficult or very difficult?</p> <p>Security Problem <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>End of road <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Heavy rain <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Broken bridge <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Others <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Distance (km/hr by usual means of transport) between closest town centre and village?</b></p> <p>_____ km</p> <p>_____ hr by _____</p> <p>(specify)</p>	<p><b>Main sources of Income (Rank using numbers 1-10)</b></p> <p>Farmer <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Pastoralist <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Fisherman <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Hunter <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Tradesman (blacksmith etc.) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Shop owner <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Migration to India <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Family members sending money from India <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Migration to Towns in Nepal <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Family members sending money from Town in Nepal <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Builder <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Civil servant <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>UN/NGO <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Others <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Are families generally able to save income generated by one of the activities listed above?</b></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Is there any vocational training available?</b></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Specify type _____</p>	<p><b>Any family/group prevented from using common land?</b></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Are there women without access to land due to the customary law?</b></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Which category of woman has no access to land?</p> <p>Single woman (never married) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Widow <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Woman headed household (husband is away, divorced, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Other <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Any ongoing land disputes? Yes No</b></p> <p>If yes, what is the nature of dispute?</p> <p>Dispute with authority <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Multiple ownership claim <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No documentation <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Sold unauthorized <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Others <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>How are disputes generally solved?</p> <p>Within a community <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Local court system <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>County authority <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unsolved <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Is land shortage a reason for the problem?</b></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If not, what is the problem?</p>	<p><b>Calm</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Tense</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Insecure</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If "Tense" or "Insecure", explain reasons.</p> <p>Ask these questions to groups of people: Is there any situation where women or girls feel unsafe within the communities?(Explain)</p> <p>Is there anything which prevents people from access health services? (Explain)</p> <p>Is there anything which prevents children from being able to access schools? (Explain)</p>
<p>Are there any Non-Governmental / local organization / committees working in the area? (Name /brief description of activities)</p>		<p>Comments:</p>	