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# USAID/NEPAL FLOOD RECOVERY PROGRAM QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT #1 JULY – SEPTEMBER 2008



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# USAID/NEPAL FLOOD RECOVERY PROGRAM

## QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT #1

### JULY – SEPTEMBER 2008

#### **QUARTERLY REPORT**

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# SECTION 1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is the first USAID/Nepal Flood Recovery Program (USAID-NFRP) quarterly performance report covering start-up, initial implementation and results for the program's six components per Task Order No. EDHI-04-05-00007-00. Fintrac, Inc. and its Subcontractor, METCON Consultants, established the USAID-NFRP base of operations in Kathmandu and two regional offices in Bara and Nepalgunj in June and July, 2008. The program's Chief of Party (COP) and technical specialists – livelihoods, engineering, social inclusion, monitoring & evaluation, and regional coordination - immediately began collecting district and Village Development Committee (VDC) level baseline information for thirteen of the most affected districts. Contacts were made with Government of Nepal (GON) district officials, other donors and USAID-funded activities in the target area. USAID-NFRP technical, financial and administrative staff developed and quickly implemented a participatory rural appraisal (PRA) of 2007 flood victim needs, priorities and willingness to contribute to “BUILD BACK BETTER” solutions to flood damage and future risks in the six priority districts: Banke, Bardia, Kailali, Bara, Parsa and Rautahat.

**Support rehabilitation and rebuilding of productive infrastructure** - Based on community priorities, support and availability of a local contractor the first infrastructure activity was completed; a bioengineering riverbank protection barrier and embankment repair that protects a village of 275 households.

**Provision of income generation activities** – USAID-NFRP identified high value horticultural crops and non-timber forest products with production potential and domestic market demand. Technical assistance, training and inputs activities are planned for 141 sites. Seven national and regional NGOs were pre-selected for bidding and two have been selected to provide agronomic extension activities beginning in early October.

**Improved sanitation, hygiene and nutrition** – In addition to the needs and activities prioritized by VDCs during the participatory rural appraisals phase, a potential partnership linkage was initiated with a US medical supply company to donate medical equipment and supplies to USAID-NFRP communities.

**Strengthening of local peace committees or other local groups** – USAID-NFRP created a high level of community involvement by training 35 local NGO staff in rural appraisal techniques and by training 300 community volunteers as “community liaisons” to assist villages that make up the 60 VDCs in priority setting and implementation. This careful planning process has strengthened the ties between local government, community groups and populace. It has also supported USAID/Nepal's other efforts to help Local Peace Committees and community level organizations to resolve conflicts at community and district levels.

**Protection of women and children** – An important outcome of the PRA activity was the engagement and increased role of women as key stakeholders in the community development process. Special attention was given to risks and needs of women subjected to violence and children vulnerable to trafficking. Awareness education and capacity-building activities for this component are currently being designed, and will be implemented in the next quarter.

**Windows of Opportunity** – In late September, following the 2008 floods in Koshi area of the Terai, USAID/Nepal discussed with USAID-NFRP the possible need for assessments of damage levels and what it would take to rehabilitate the livelihoods of the displaced people. The COP quickly responded with the option of utilizing the USAID-NFRP Windows of Opportunity component.

USAID-NFRP is coordinating with other USAID and donor funded programs like the World Food Program (WFP), Room to Read and Save the Children to leverage funds, collaborate and maximize impact.

Technical, administrative and financial information about USAID-NFRP is available to USAID/Nepal on the Fintrac NFRP (password protected) intranet site: <http://www.fintrac.com/nfrp>. A public access website has been created and is ready, pending USAID/Nepal approval.

# SECTION 2: IMPLEMENTATION

Fintrac Inc. is pleased to present the first USAID/Nepal Flood Recovery Program (USAID-NFRP) quarterly performance report to USAID/Nepal. The report provides a summary of program activities, results and impacts during the period of July to September 2008.

## 2.1 PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Recognizing the severity of the 2007 floods and the social, political and economic importance of supporting long-term recovery for the communities most affected in the Terai, USAID/Nepal approved the 24-month USAID-NFRP to be implemented by Fintrac Inc., host-country partner METCON Consultants and other local organizations operating within the Terai. Program components include:

1. Investing in rehabilitated and improved community infrastructure.
2. Improving livelihoods by increasing productivity and living standards through agricultural income-generating activities.
3. Raising health standards by training communities in improved sanitation and nutrition practices.
4. Increasing local capacity through the participation of Local Peace Committees and other community-based organizations in community development activities.
5. Outreach and awareness campaigns for the protection of women and children.
6. Other initiatives as determined feasible by USAID-NFRP.

### 2.1.1 GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS

As requested by USAID/Nepal, the USAID-NFRP team completed a ranking for program assistance of the 13 Terai districts most affected by the 2007 floods basing its criteria on factors such as flood damage, security, poverty, opportunity for leveraging resources, accessibility and vulnerability. Highest priority was given to security, flood damage and access to technical services as these are determinant factors that will allow the program to operate effectively and complete its tasks within the given timeframe. This ranking serves to justify the current program areas selected as well as provide insights for the prioritization and selection of future districts in case of program expansion.

USAID-NFRP is currently operating in the districts of Parsa, Bara and Rautahat in the Central region and in Kailali, Bardiya and Banke districts in the Mid/Far Western regions of the Terai. The team has coordinated with important stakeholders and government officials in the recovery process in each of these districts. Baseline information from reliable secondary sources such as the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) and important local NGOs has been collected to prioritize Village Development Committees (VDCs) for program support. Subsequently, 10 VDCs in each district were selected based on the severity of the 2007 floods and current levels of vulnerability relative to other VDCs in the same districts.

The preliminary list of 60 VDCs was later crosschecked for validity with the most active local NGOs in these areas. Unfortunately many VDCs that were ranked by the NRCS as most-affected coincided with their most active local chapters. Adjustments were subsequently made, replacing approximately 30 percent of the original VDCs with more appropriate ones. By giving strong consideration to local knowledge and expertise, USAID-NFRP is avoiding duplication and ensuring a highly appropriate response to under-assisted 2007 flood victims.

Within each selected VDC, USAID-NFRP conducted field assessments to identify the clusters of communities considered ‘most affected’ by the 2007 floods; and therefore in greatest need of support. These clusters are referred to as ‘USAID-NFRP worksites’ and may vary in size, population, ethnic and social composition.

**Table 1: Selected Districts and VDCs for USAID-NFRP support**

<b>Central Region</b>		
<b>Bara</b>	<b>Parsa</b>	<b>Rautahat</b>
Barainiya	Amarpatti	Bhasedwa
Basatpur	Bagahi	Bishrampur
Bhaluhi Bharwaliya	Biruwaguthi	Dumariya
Deopur	Hariharpur	Fatuwa Harsaha
Dharamnagar	Jaimangalapur	Kanakpur
Hariharpur	Lahawar Sakari	Katahariya
Kachorwa	Mirjapur	Karkach Karmaiya
Matiarwa	Pancharukhi	Laxminiya
Occhidiha	Sabaithawa	Maryadpur
Pattarhatti	Sambhawata	Paurahi
<b>Western Region</b>		
<b>Banke</b>	<b>Bardiya</b>	<b>Kailali</b>
Bankatti	Bagnaha	Bhajani
Basudewpur	Baniyabhar	Chuha
Betahani	Dhadawar	Dhansighnpur
Gangapur	Magragadi	Dododhara
Holiya	Neulapur	Joshiapur
Kamdi	Padnaha	Lalbojhi
Matehiya	Rajapur	Munuwa
Manikpur	Shivapur	Narayanpur
Phattepur	Suryapatuwa	Patharaiya
Uddharpur	Thakurdwara	Thapapur

## 2.1.2 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

On August 11th, USAID/Nepal granted formal approval of USAID-NFRP’s fiscal year 2008 work plan and life-of-project Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP). USAID-NFRP was also requested to modify the language of a number of indicators to match the USAID standard indicators relevant to the program. The table below is the final, approved USAID-NFRP PMP with the changes incorporated as requested by USAID/Nepal.

**Table 2: USAID-NFRP Performance Monitoring Plan**

No.	ACTIVITY	TARGET	FY08	FY09	FY10
<b>1</b>	<b>Program Level Objective</b>				
1.1	Number of beneficiaries assisted by USG-supported protection and solutions activities	<b>27,600</b>	300	27,300	<b>[Ongoing]</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Objective 1: Rehabilitation and Rebuilding of Productive Infrastructure</b>				
2.1	Number of community infrastructures constructed a/o rehabilitated	<b>150</b>	0	131	19
2.1.1	Number of classrooms constructed with USG assistance (Program Element IIP – 2.1 Basic Education)	<b>20</b>	0	16	4
2.1.2	Number of classrooms repaired with USG assistance (Program Element IIP – 2.1 Basic Education)	<b>15</b>	0	15	0
2.1.3	Number of model latrines in community schools	<b>30</b>	0	21	9
2.1.4	Number of drinking water sources installed or improved	<b>20</b>	0	20	0
2.1.5	Number of community irrigation systems rehabilitated	<b>4</b>	0	4	0
2.1.6	Number of river protection projects (e.g. embankment protections, gabions, spurs, check dams)	<b>32</b>	0	32	0
2.1.7	Kilometers of transportation infrastructure constructed or repaired through USG assistance (Program Element EG 4.3 Transport Services)	<b>4</b>	0	4	0
2.1.8	Number of transportation infrastructure projects such as culverts and small bridges constructed or repaired	<b>25</b>	0	19	6
2.2	Number of people in target areas with access to improved drinking water supply as a result of USG assistance (Program Element IIP – 1.8 Clean Water and Sanitation Services)	<b>3,900</b>	0	3,900	0
2.3	Number of people benefiting from USG sponsored transportation infrastructure projects (Program Element EG 4.3 Transport Services)	<b>24,375</b>	0	18,525	5,850
2.4	Number of households (HH) benefited by community infrastructure projects (assumes an average of 150 benefiting HHs per VDC)	<b>9,000</b>	0	7,250	1,750
2.5	Number of person-days of temporary employment generated by infrastructure activities (estimated at 15% of construction costs)	<b>135,000</b>	0	117,900	17,100
2.6	Subcontract funds disbursed (in USD)	<b>1,800,000</b>	0	1,572,000	228,000
2.7	Cost sharing leveraged from communities, local governments a/o other donor programs (in USD)	<b>270,000</b>	0	235,800	34,200
<b>3</b>	<b>Objective 2: Provision of Income Generation Activities</b>				
3.1	Number of individuals who have received USG supported long term agricultural sector productivity training (EG 5.2 Agricultural Sector Productivity)	<b>1,200</b>	0	1,200	0
	Number of women trained	<b>360</b>	0	360	0

No.	ACTIVITY	TARGET	FY08	FY09	FY10
3.2	Number of rural households benefiting directly from USG interventions (EG 5.2 Agricultural Sector Productivity)	1,200	0	1,200	0
3.3	Number of vulnerable households benefiting directly from USG interventions (EG 5.2 Agricultural Sector Productivity)	600	0	600	0
3.4	Number of producers organizations, water users associations, trade and business associations, and community based organizations (CBOs) receiving USG assistance (EG 5.2 Agricultural Sector Productivity)	60	0	60	0
3.5	Number of new technologies or management practices made available for transfer as a result of USG assistance (EG 5.2 Agricultural Sector Productivity)	1,200	0	1,200	0
3.6	Implementation funds disbursed (in USD)	450,000	0	340,000	110,000
3.7	Cost sharing leveraged by beneficiary farmers (25% of in-kind investment)	49,500	0	37,400	12,100
<b>4</b>	<b>Objective 3: Improved Sanitation, Hygiene and Nutrition (SHN)</b>				
4.1	Number of people in target areas with access to improved sanitation facilities as a result of USG assistance (Program Element IIP – 1.8 Clean Water and Sanitation Services)	1,500	0	1,050	450
4.2	Number of people trained in improved sanitation, hygiene and nutrition	3,000	0	3,000	0
4.3	Number of households with improved nutrition due to demonstration kitchen gardens	600	0	600	0
4.4	Number of households with improved sanitation due to improved cooking stoves	600	0	600	0
4.6	% increase in the incidence of hand-washing of SHN trainees	1	0	0	1
4.7	% of kitchen garden beneficiaries that continue to eat a minimum of five meals per week with green/leafy vegetables	1	0	0	1
4.8	Subcontract funds disbursed (in USD)	150,000	0	117,000	33,000
4.9	Cost sharing leveraged (15% minimum, in USD)	22,500	0	17,550	4,950
<b>5</b>	<b>Objective 4: Strengthening of Local Peace Committees or Other Local Groups</b>				
5.1	Number of peace-building structures established or strengthened with USG assistance that engage conflict affected citizens in peace and/or reconciliation processes (Program Element PS6.2 – Peace and Reconciliation Processes)	60	0	60	0
5.2	Number of groups receiving institutional strengthening and organizational development technical assistance and training	60	60	0	0
5.3	Number of community members trained	1,500	300	1,200	0
	Number of women trained	900	180	720	0
	Number of youth trained	750	150	600	0
5.4	Subcontract funds disbursed (in USD)	150,000	10,000	114,000	26,000
5.5	Cost sharing leveraged (10% minimum, in USD)	15,000	1,000	11,400	2,600
<b>6</b>	<b>Objective 5: Protection of Women and Children</b>				

No.	ACTIVITY	TARGET	FY08	FY09	FY10
6.1	Number of people trained	2,400	0	2,400	0
	Number of women trained	1,200	0	1,200	0
	Number of youth trained	600	0	600	0
6.2	Number of women and youth organizations strengthened (assumes one group per VDC)	60	0	60	0
6.3	Number of people trained in Trafficking-in-person related issues with USG assistance (Program Element PS5.3 – Trafficking-in-Persons and Migrant Smuggling)	2,400	0	2,400	0
6.4	Subcontract funds disbursed (in USD)	50,000	0	38,000	12,000
6.5	Cost sharing leveraged (10% minimum, in USD)	5,000	0	3,800	1,200
<b>7</b>	<b>Objective 6: Windows of Opportunities</b>				
7.1	Number of special studies (Program Design and Learning Element)	0	TBD	TBD	TBD
7.2	Number of Baseline or Feasibility Studies (Program Design and Learning Element)	0	TBD	TBD	TBD
7.3	Subcontract funds disbursed	50,000	0	30,000	20,000
7.4	10% cost sharing target (in USD)	5,000	0	3,000	2,000

## 2.2 APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

The top priority for this program is the delivery of an integrated package of high quality services, inputs and training opportunities to the Terai families and communities most affected by the 2007 floods. USAID-NFRP must be highly capable of responding to the real demands of its clients (beneficiaries) in order to have lasting impacts that will strengthen their (and communities') capacity to effectively manage future threats, be they physical, economic or social.

In order to ensure such responsiveness, USAID-NFRP takes a participatory approach to program implementation requiring direct access to communities and the capacity to motivate, mobilize and coordinate interventions effectively. USAID-NFRP has made substantial progress in gaining the interest and trust of target communities and a genuine recognition that it (and USAID) is capable of delivering. Starting with the participatory rural appraisals (described below) and continuing through to implementation and closeout of the six program components, USAID-NFRP staff and subcontractors will maintain a constant, weekly presence in the 60 VDC worksites throughout the life of the program. This will ensure more substantial participation from a broader range of community members while also providing ample time and opportunity to monitor and evaluate USAID-NFRP's effectiveness.

## 2.3 PAST QUARTER ACTIVITIES

### Start-up

The RAISE Plus Task Order initiated with USAID's approval on May 20, 2008. Fintrac's start-up team arrived 14 days later and moved into pre-identified office space in the building of its implementing partner, METCON Consultants. Within a week, the program's six technical, financial and administrative

staff began working. In the first month, most of the administrative and logistical arrangements were made, including processing necessary procurement waivers and approvals, ordering vehicles, motorcycles and office equipment, and establishing phone and internet communications. The USAID-NFRP Chief of Party (COP) also arrived in June and assumed his leadership role of the USAID-NFRP team of specialists.

By early July, the team had visited five of the six program districts, met with the senior district officials (chief district officers and local development officers), international and local NGOs, private service providers and flood-affected communities to collect and verify baseline data. The team also estimated costs and budget needs for the first Work Plan and PMP. The team participated in a detailed post-award conference with USAID/Nepal and presented – ahead of schedule – the first draft work plan for the remainder of fiscal year 2008 and a draft life-of-project PMP. USAID approved the life-of-project procurement plan and necessary administrative waivers during the first weeks of July as well.

By mid July the COP, livelihoods specialist, engineer, social inclusion expert, M&E outreach specialist, and regional coordinators returned to the field to continue baseline data collection and to initiate rapid appraisals of communities' needs and priorities for productive infrastructure, income generation, sanitation, hygiene and nutrition, organizational strengthening, protection of women and children and other windows of opportunity.

Fintrac drafted and finalized a subcontracting manual for this multi-sector program.

### **Coordination and collaboration**

The USAID-NFRP team has met with many of the donor organizations and international NGOs operating in the program areas. Opportunities for coordination and potential cost sharing of program activities have been discussed and USAID-NFRP will continue to pursue those collaborative relationships that pose the greatest potential. To date, meetings have been held with World Food Program, Nepal Red Cross Society, International Relief and Development, Mercy Corps, Winrock SIMI, Winrock EIG-CM, Room to Read, Save the Children, OTI (Chemonics), UNICEF and OCHA.

### **Local organizational capacity assessments and short-listing of NGOs**

Extensive capacity assessments have been conducted in each of the six program districts to determine the competencies and experiences of the most active and reputable local firms and NGOs. Assessments were also made at the national level to ensure fair representation and complete coverage of the skills sets required by the program. Those organizations considered minimally qualified to implement one or more USAID-NFRP component (i.e. objective) were placed on shortlists that are being used to award subcontracts with limited, yet adequate and fair, competition. Wherever possible, USAID-NFRP emphasizes subcontracting the services of local NGOs, Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and firms for program implementation.

### **Participatory rural appraisals of USAID-NFRP worksites**

In July and August, USAID-NFRP conducted participatory rural appraisals (PRAs) in the most affected communities of each of the 60 VDCs. The PRAs were conducted in order to learn more about the extent of damage caused by the 2007 floods, identify specific projects and activities that are relevant to USAID-NFRP program objectives, and enhance the capacity of communities to leverage support for their long-

term development. The 60 PRAs were completed by early September utilizing the services of specialized local NGOs from each district.

The overall objective of the PRAs was to assess the development needs of communities affected by the 2007 floods and identify interventions that can be supported by USAID-NFRP via a participatory process that involves direct consultation with community leaders, members, vulnerable and marginalized groups, women, youth and other stakeholders. The specific objectives were:

- Engagement, coordination and communication with flood-affected communities and local government
- Capacity building of local NGOs and community volunteers in PRA implementation
- Needs identification and prioritization and development of community action plans
- Utilization of PRAs to leverage assistance from USAID-NFRP, local government and other donor programs

### **Initiation of Infrastructure component**

The most tangible outcome of the PRAs is the prioritized list from each USAID-NFRP worksite that identifies the infrastructure projects most needed by flood-affected communities. By and large, the highest priority identified by communities was flood protection and control infrastructure. USAID-NFRP initiated its first community infrastructure activities in September, immediately after the completion of the PRAs. Projects are programmed to begin in the next quarter and all 60 VDCs will have projects underway or completed by early January 2009. Prequalified local firms and NGOs are being utilized for design and construction.

### **Program Launch**

The official program launch of USAID-NFRP was held on September 24. During the event, senior Nepalese government and USAID/Nepal officials visited the flood-affected communities of Barainiya VDC in Bara district, and discussed with community members the impact of last year's floods, their short and long-term development aspirations, and expectations they have for USAID-NFRP in their communities. Many villagers described positive initial impressions of USAID-NFRP based on its quick mobilization and responsiveness to infrastructure priorities. Simultaneous to the official visit to Barainiya VDC was the inauguration of its first infrastructure project, a riverbank protection barrier and embankment repair that had been designed by our project engineer, supervised by a local construction partner and constructed by community members.

### **Competitive bidding of the Livelihoods/Income Generation component**

The competitive bidding process for the implementation of the livelihoods and income generation (LIG) component was initiated in late September. Seven national and regional NGOs preselected by USAID-NFRP submitted proposals. Evaluations will be completed in early October, with award(s) expected to be made immediately after the Dashain holidays in mid October.

Through participation in the LIG program, affected families and other marginalized households with agricultural options available to them will gain medium-term support in livelihoods development. They will receive quality seeds and inputs, learn small-scale irrigation methods for growing nutritious and

commercial crops, and create linkages to micro-credit and local development organizations that facilitate improved access to markets and suppliers. LIG's general objective in the selected VDCs is to apply practical approaches that will increase output of quality products, net sales and incomes of 2007 flood-affected households. The specific objective is to impart skills to farmers in managing the production and marketing of high value crops (HVCs) for increased incomes.

### **Social Inclusion components**

Terms of reference for the competitive selection of qualified local NGOs to implement the three social inclusion components were drafted in September. Bids will be requested and evaluated in October and November.

### **Windows of Opportunity component**

In late September, USAID/Nepal communicated to USAID-NFRP the potential need for assessments of the flood damage and vulnerability statuses of the districts (Sunsari and Saptari) affected by the recent flooding caused by the breaching of the Koshi barrage. The COP quickly responded with a proposed plan for utilizing human and logistical resources from the Windows of Opportunity component to conduct the required assessments and, if additional resources became available, mobilize a recovery effort in the affected districts.

### **Deliverables**

USAID-NFRP has completed and received USAID approval of the following deliverables:

- Procurement Plan
- FY08 Work Plan
- Performance Monitoring Plan
- Baseline report

## **2.4 CHALLENGES**

Security in the Terai has been an ongoing challenge. Fortunately, to date, there have not been any serious effects on program planning and implementation. The team has become accustomed to the occasional strike or bandh and always maintains contingencies strategies in case travel plans are disrupted. The CTO continues to keep the COP apprised of security notices from the US embassy and other sources and USAID-NFRP regional coordinators regularly inform the COP of situations that could affect travel and program activities in their districts.

# SECTION 3: RESULTS ACHIEVED

## 3.1 PROGRESS PER THE PERFORMANCE MONITORING PLAN

USAID-NFRP has already made gains in a number of its PMP indicators as can be seen in the following table. Although in its first quarter, Infrastructure and Strengthening of Local Groups are already ahead of schedule. All other activities are on schedule as per the final, approved PMP.

**Table 3: Progress per PMP**

No.	ACTIVITY	TARGET	RESULT	BALANCE	COMPLETION RATE
<b>1</b>	<b>Program Level Objective</b>				
1.1	Number of beneficiaries assisted by USG-supported protection and solutions activities	<b>27,600</b>	2,088	27,600	0%
<b>2</b>	<b>Objective 1: Rehabilitation and Rebuilding of Productive Infrastructure</b>				
2.1	Number of community infrastructures constructed a/o rehabilitated	<b>150</b>	1	149	1%
2.1.1	Number of classrooms constructed with USG assistance (Program Element IIP – 2.1 Basic Education)	<b>20</b>	0	20	0%
2.1.2	Number of classrooms repaired with USG assistance (Program Element IIP – 2.1 Basic Education)	<b>15</b>	0	15	0%
2.1.3	Number of model latrines in community schools	<b>30</b>	0	30	0%
2.1.4	Number of drinking water sources installed or improved	<b>20</b>	0	20	0%
2.1.5	Number of community irrigation systems rehabilitated	<b>4</b>	0	4	0%
2.1.6	Number of river protection projects (e.g. embankment protections, gabions, spurs, check dams)	<b>32</b>	1	31	3%
2.1.7	Kilometers of transportation infrastructure constructed or repaired through USG assistance (Program Element EG 4.3 Transport Services)	<b>4</b>	0	4	0%
2.1.8	Number of transportation infrastructure projects such as culverts and small bridges constructed or repaired	<b>25</b>	0	25	0%
2.2	Number of people in target areas with access to improved drinking water supply as a result of USG assistance (Program Element IIP – 1.8 Clean Water and Sanitation Services)	<b>3,900</b>	0	3,900	0%
2.3	Number of people benefiting from USG sponsored transportation infrastructure projects (Program Element EG 4.3 Transport Services)	<b>24,375</b>	0	24,375	0%
2.4	Number of households benefited by community infrastructure projects (assumes an average of 150 benefiting HHs per VDC)	<b>9,000</b>	275	8,725	3%

No.	ACTIVITY	TARGET	RESULT	BALANCE	COMPLETION RATE
2.5	Number of person-days of temporary employment generated by infrastructure activities (estimated at 15% of construction costs)	135,000	1200	133,800	1%
2.6	Subcontract funds disbursed (in USD)	1,800,000	0	1,800,000	01%
2.7	Cost sharing leveraged from communities, local governments a/o other donor programs (in USD)	270,000	0	270,000	0%
<b>3</b>	<b>Objective 2: Provision of Income Generation Activities</b>				
3.1	Number of individuals who have received USG supported long term agricultural sector productivity training (EG 5.2 Agricultural Sector Productivity)	1,200	0	1,200	0%
	Number of women trained	360	0	360	0%
3.2	Number of rural households benefiting directly from USG interventions (EG 5.2 Agricultural Sector Productivity)	1,200	0	1,200	0%
3.3	Number of vulnerable households benefiting directly from USG interventions (EG 5.2 Agricultural Sector Productivity)	600	0	600	0%
3.4	Number of producers organizations, water users associations, trade and business associations, and community based organizations (CBOs) receiving USG assistance (EG 5.2 Agricultural Sector Productivity)	60	0	60	0%
3.5	Number of new technologies or management practices made available for transfer as a result of USG assistance (EG 5.2 Agricultural Sector Productivity)	1,200	0	1,200	0%
3.6	Implementation funds disbursed (in USD)	450,000	0	450,000	0%
3.7	Cost sharing leveraged by beneficiary farmers (25% of in-kind investment)	49,500	0	49,500	0%
<b>4</b>	<b>Objective 3: Improved Sanitation, Hygiene and Nutrition (SHN)</b>				
4.1	Number of people in target areas with access to improved sanitation facilities as a result of USG assistance (Program Element IIP – 1.8 Clean Water and Sanitation Services)	1,500	0	1,500	0%
4.2	Number of people trained in improved sanitation, hygiene and nutrition	3,000	0	3,000	0%
4.3	Number of households with improved nutrition due to demonstration kitchen gardens	600	0	600	0%
4.4	Number of households with improved sanitation due to improved cooking stoves	600	0	600	0%
4.6	% increase in the incidence of hand-washing of SHN trainees	1	0	1	0%
4.7	% of kitchen garden beneficiaries that continue to eat a minimum of five meals per week with green/leafy vegetables	1	0	1	0%
4.8	Subcontract funds disbursed (in USD)	150,000	0	150,000	0%
4.9	Cost sharing leveraged (15% minimum, in USD)	22,500	0	22,500	0%
<b>5</b>	<b>Objective 4: Strengthening of Local Peace Committees or Other Local Groups</b>				

No.	ACTIVITY	TARGET	RESULT	BALANCE	COMPLETION RATE
5.1	Number of peace-building structures established or strengthened with USG assistance that engage conflict affected citizens in peace and/or reconciliation processes (Program Element PS6.2 – Peace and Reconciliation Processes)	60	1	59	2%
5.2	Number of groups receiving institutional strengthening and organizational development technical assistance and training	60	60	0	100%
5.3	Number of community members trained	1,500	300	1,200	20%
	Number of women trained	900	180	720	20%
	Number of youth trained	750	0	750	0%
5.4	Subcontract funds disbursed (in USD)	150,000	6,882	150,000	<1%
5.5	Cost sharing leveraged (10% minimum, in USD)	15,000	0	15,000	0%
<b>6</b>	<b>Objective 5: Protection of Women and Children</b>				
6.1	Number of people trained	2,400	0	2,400	0%
	Number of women trained	1,200	0	1,200	0%
	Number of youth trained	600	0	600	0%
6.2	Number of women and youth organizations strengthened (assumes one group per VDC)	60	0	60	0%
6.3	Number of people trained in Trafficking-in-person related issues with USG assistance (Program Element PS5.3 – Trafficking-in-Persons and Migrant Smuggling)	2,400	0	2,400	0%
6.4	Subcontract funds disbursed (in USD)	50,000	0	50,000	0%
6.5	Cost sharing leveraged (10% minimum, in USD)	5,000	0	5,000	0%
<b>7</b>	<b>Objective 6: Windows of Opportunities</b>				
7.1	Number of special studies (Program Design and Learning Element)	0	0	TBD	N/A
7.2	Number of Baseline or Feasibility Studies (Program Design and Learning Element)	0	0	TBD	N/A
7.3	Subcontract funds disbursed	50,000	0	50,000	0%
7.4	10% cost sharing target (in USD)	5,000	0	5,000	0%

### 3.2 PROGRESS PER PROGRAM OBJECTIVE

The findings of the PRAs are critical to the planning and evaluation of program interventions as they provide a contextual framework for USAID-NFRP's operations. The tables below detail the status of key socio-economic indicators within USAID-NFRP worksites which allow the program to identify the most appropriate areas and beneficiaries for recovery support.

Through its VDC worksite selection process, USAID-NFRP has targeted 141 communities for program support with a total population of 81,054 people, or 12,372 households.

**Table 4 : Population in Program Worksites**

Item	Western Region			Central Region			Total
	Banke	Bardiya	Kailali	Bara	Parsa	Rautahat	
Male	6,364	4,789	4,367	10,142	9,089	6,096	40,847
Female	5,985	4,819	4,478	9,421	9,977	5,527	40,207
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>12,349</b>	<b>9,608</b>	<b>8,845</b>	<b>19,563</b>	<b>19,066</b>	<b>11,623</b>	<b>81,054</b>
Households	2,615	1,669	1,337	2,491	2,372	1,888	12,372
Average Household Size	4.7	5.8	6.6	7.9	8.0	6.2	6.5
Program Communities	26	26	17	31	25	16	141

Less than 27 percent of the total population within USAID-NFRP's 60 worksites is capable of reading and writing.

**Table 5 : Literacy Levels**

Item	Western Region			Central Region			Average
	Banke	Bardiya	Kailali	Bara	Parsa	Rautahat	
Male	40.5	43.0	44.0	20.2	23.3	21.3	32.0
Female	15.2	24.1	32.9	13.3	14.0	27.5	21.2
<b>Total Literacy Levels</b>	<b>27.9</b>	<b>33.5</b>	<b>38.4</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>26.6</b>

Only 14 percent of the population in USAID-NFRP's worksites can be considered "not poor". However, this is an extremely subjective rating that could still be interpreted as below the poverty line within other contexts. But the point is clear: the areas where USAID-NFRP is operating are in serious need of floods recovery support and development assistance.

**Table 6 : Well-being Rankings**

Well-being Ranking of Households	Western Region			Central Region			Total
	Banke	Bardiya	Kailali	Bara	Parsa	Rautahat	
<b>No. of Households</b>							
Category D (Ultra-poor)	1,015	652	321	724	768	582	4,062
Category C (Very Poor)	636	516	422	918	846	718	4,056
Category B (Moderately Poor)	580	342	274	611	485	309	2,601
Category A (Better)	384	159	320	238	273	279	1,653
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,615</b>	<b>1,669</b>	<b>1,337</b>	<b>2,491</b>	<b>2,372</b>	<b>1,888</b>	<b>12,372</b>
<b>Percentages</b>							<b>Average</b>
Category D (Ultra-poor)	39	39	24	29	32	31	32%
Category C (Very Poor)	24	31	32	37	36	38	33%
Category B (Moderately Poor)	22	20	20	25	20	16	21%
Category A (Better)	15	10	24	10	12	15	14%

Of the 12,372 households within USAID-NFRP's selected worksites, 6,755 households (55 percent) can be considered "vulnerable" based on the criteria listed below.

**Table 7: Vulnerable Households**

Vulnerable Household Types	Western Region			Central Region			Both Regions
	Banke	Bardiya	Kailali	Bara	Parsa	Rautahat	
Women-headed	64	34	28	27	35	30	218
Landless	610	420	178	407	415	425	2,455

Below Poverty Line (ultra-poor)	1,185	552	321	724	668	632	4,082
Dependent on Disabled Member	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

### 3.2.1 INFRASTRUCTURE

The following table details the types of infrastructure projects selected by USAID-NFRP worksites as top priorities. River protection/control, transportation, irrigation and sanitation infrastructure were among the highest priorities for most worksites.

**Table 8: Worksites' Infrastructure Priorities**

Infrastructure Priorities	No. of Worksites						Both Regions
	Banke	Bardiya	Kailali	Bara	Parsa	Rautahat	
<b>No. of program villages/ wards</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>141</b>
Bioengineering embankment; river embankment protections; embankment construction; dams, spurs and gabions	11	21	15	7	10	9	73
Road construction, rehabilitation, gravelling, repairs and maintenance	10	13	13	10	6	7	59
Sanitation: wastewater management; drainage; solid waste management	7	3	4	13	10	9	46
Irrigation systems	3	8	4	8	9	9	41
Culverts	6	13	7	6	1	3	36
School buildings and other educational infrastructures	3	6	7	7	4	5	32
Bridges	4	3	6	4	3	2	22
Drinking water supply	2	1	1	6	6	5	21
Health posts and outreach health clinics	0	1	0	0	5	5	11
School bathrooms	0	0	2	1	2	1	6
Earthwork	0	5	0	0	0	0	5
Community centers	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Housing	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Early Child Development	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Electricity	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Vegetable storage (silos)	0	0	0	0	0	1	1

USAID-NFRP's first infrastructure activity, consisting of 475 meters of bio-engineering river protection barriers and embankment repairs in Barainiya VDC (Bara district), was initiated in early September and completed within 25 days, resulting in permanent flood protection for 275 vulnerable households. The project was built at a cost of \$16,500, approximately 20% less than Government of Nepal's (GON) approved rates, generating more than 1,200 person-days of temporary employment in the community. Construction materials were bought locally, adding to the local economy at a time when household food supplies are lowest and market prices are highest.

### 3.2.2 LIVELIHOODS AND INCOME GENERATION

The LIG program will improve livelihoods by increasing productivity and living standards through income-generating activities of flood-affected and other vulnerable families of the target districts. Farmers will gain medium term support by receiving quality seeds, nursery management kits, IPM kits, irrigation kits, on-farm trainings in improved production practices of high value crops (HVC), pre and post-harvest handling management training and marketing management training for growing nutritious and commercial crops with linkages to micro-credit and local development organizations. LIG activities will demonstrate increased output of quality products and sales. By the end of this project, at least 1,200 families will have new or improved skills to manage the production and marketing of HVCs from 480 hectares of land for increased incomes with an aggregate value of at least USD \$820,000 worth for each region.

81 percent of the households within USAID-NFRP's worksites own less than two hectares of productive land. Only 27 percent of all households own more than 0.6 hectares. 20 percent of all households are landless.

**Table 9: Landholdings**

Land Size	Western Region			Central Region			Both Regions	
	Banke	Bardiya	Kailali	Bara	Parsa	Rautahat	Total	Percent
> 2 Ha	275	193	268	663	552	360	2,311	19%
0.6 to 2 Ha	415	262	242	15	16	13	963	8%
0.3 to 0.6 Ha	713	481	323	748	693	549	3,507	28%
< 0.3 Ha	602	313	326	658	696	541	3,136	25%
Landless	610	420	178	407	415	425	2,455	20%
<b>Total Landholdings</b>	<b>2,615</b>	<b>1,669</b>	<b>1,337</b>	<b>2,491</b>	<b>2,372</b>	<b>1,888</b>	<b>12,372</b>	<b>100%</b>

Less than 18 percent of all households produce enough food to feed themselves for an entire year. Almost half of all households (49 percent) are unable to produce enough food for even half of the year.

**Table 10: Food Security**

Food Security	Western Region			Central Region			Both Regions	
	Banke	Bardiya	Kailali	Bara	Parsa	Rautahat	Total	Percent
> 1 year	620	234	386	438	423	79	2,180	18%
6 months to 1 year	754	455	410	981	940	540	4,080	33%
< 6 months	1,241	980	541	1,072	1,009	1,269	6,112	49%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,615</b>	<b>1,669</b>	<b>1,337</b>	<b>2,491</b>	<b>2,372</b>	<b>1,888</b>	<b>12,372</b>	<b>100%</b>

Regardless of the high degrees of vulnerability in USAID-NFRP's worksites, ownership of livestock is still prominent throughout the region, as can be seen in the following table.

**Table 11: Livestock Ownership**

Livestock	Western Region			Central Region			Both Regions
	Banke	Bardiya	Kailali	Bara	Parsa	Rautahat	
Cow/Buffalo/Oxen	2,332	3,287	1,226	2,415	2,481	2,547	14,288
Goat	1,905	2,790	2,004	2,810	2,832	2,855	15,196
Pig	552	548	733	0	0	0	1,833
<b>Total Livestock</b>	<b>4,789</b>	<b>6,625</b>	<b>3,963</b>	<b>5,225</b>	<b>5,313</b>	<b>5,402</b>	<b>31,317</b>

The livelihoods priorities identified in the following table coincide perfectly with the approach, methodology and objectives developed for USAID-NFRP's livelihoods and income generation program.

**Table 12: Worksites' Livelihoods Priorities**

Livelihood and Income Generation Priorities	No. of Worksites						Both Regions
	Banke	Bardiya	Kailali	Bara	Parsa	Rautahat	
<b>No. of work sites</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>141</b>
Technical knowhow, management skills and capital for improved farming (off-season vegetable production; disease prevention and control; plowing systems; organic composting)	13	22	12	8	9	6	70
Support and technical skill in livestock production and management (buffalo farming; pig and goat raising; poultry; fodder)	3	12	13	4	6	9	47
Irrigation management systems (electric, manual and gravity)	6	4	4	10	10	9	43
Improved seed and fertilizer; pesticides; development of local technicians; service centers and depots	0	7	2	11	8	7	35
Market systems development	7	3	5	6		9	30
Vocational training in sewing and cutting, carpentry, masonry, driving, electrician and others	7	3	5	3	3	4	25
Veterinary technical skills and service centers	2	0	0	6	1	7	16
Reclamation of flood-affected lands for high value cash crops	1	0	0	1	1	4	7
Fish farming	3	2	2	0	0	0	7
Retail shops	0	0	7	0	0	0	7
Cold storage; vegetable storage and collection facilities	0	0	0	4	0	3	7
Savings and credit	2	0	4	0	0	0	6
Food security	3	2	0	0	0	0	5
Cooperative establishment	3	0	0	0	0	2	5
Product marketing	2	2	0	0	0	0	4
Development of institutional linkages and networking	0	0	0	2	2	0	4
Study tours/visits	0	0	0	0	0	1	1

USAID-NFRP's senior agronomist has met with active NGOs, input suppliers (agro-vets) and farmer groups in all six program districts to identify high value crops, key markets and potential opportunities for program support. Together, they have agreed to initiate demonstration plots (not to exceed 0.4 hectares) on 480 hectares of land across 1,200 farms in the six targeted districts, all of which will be considered for small-scale irrigation development. Potential crops include cauliflower, cabbage, tomato, chilies, eggplant, French bean, string bean, bitter melon, cucumber, squash, watermelon, and non-timber forest products, such as *mentha* and lemon-grass. Seven national and regional NGOs were pre-selected for bidding on provision of the agronomic extension activities that will begin in early October.

Based on the PRAs and the research conducted in the field, agricultural activities will be implemented in clusters of flood-affected families who are committed to collaborating in high value crop production and marketing demonstrations.

The deliverables of the LIG program are as follows:

- Selection of participating/beneficiary farmers.
- Baseline report of program beneficiaries.
- Household participation of marginalized vulnerable households at least 50%.
- Total coverage of productive area >480 hectares.
- Number of households trained in improved production and marketing of HVCs >600 households.
- Metric tons of HVCs sold >20,000 MT per crop season.
- Aggregate Net Value in Sales (LOP) > USD \$820,000.

### 3.2.3 SANITATION, HYGIENE AND NUTRITION

The following table details the social inclusion priorities applicable to USAID-NFRP's third, fourth and fifth component objectives.

**Table 13: Worksites' Social Inclusion Priorities**

Social Inclusion Priorities	No. of Worksites						Both Regions
	Banke	Bardiya	Kailali	Bara	Parsa	Rautahat	
<b>No. of program villages/wards</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>141</b>
Awareness, training and physical development programs in health, hygiene and sanitation; improved cooking stoves; reproductive health; first aid	11	18	13	11	9	9	71
Gender and women's empowerment	4	11	5	11	8	8	47
Health service programs	7	9	0	3	6	4	29
Campaigns against caste discrimination	1	0	6	7	2	4	20
Management, leadership and life skills development	1	2	4	4	1	1	13
Non-formal education	2	5	0	2	2	0	11
Child development, education and child rights programs	2	1	1	1	0	3	8
Peace building	5	0	0	0	1	0	6
Youth mobilization/social mobilization	6	0	0	0	0	0	6
Strengthening of local CBOs	2	2	0	0	0	0	4
Quality education in public schools; establishment of practical teaching learning materials	0	1	0	1	0	2	4
Development of institutional linkages and networks	0	0	0	2	2	0	4
HIV/AIDS prevention and control	2	0	1				3
Resource management	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Nutrition	0	0	0	0	0	1	1

### 3.2.4 LOCAL PEACE COMMITTEES AND OTHER LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Priorities for this component are listed in the preceding table.

Nine local NGOs from the six program districts were subcontracted by USAID-NFRP to conduct PRAs in each of the program's 60 VDCs in order to learn more about the extent of damage caused by the floods, identify specific projects for supporting flood recovery, assist communities in visualizing their long-term development and enhance capacity to leverage support from local governments, NGOs and other donor agencies. This participatory process involved direct consultation with community leaders and members, vulnerable and marginalized groups, women, youth and other stakeholders.

Training-of-trainers activities are an integral part of all USAID-NFRP interventions. Before initiating work in the field, selected personnel from partner NGOs were trained in Fintrac's PRA methodology. By completion in mid September, 45 local partner NGO staff and 300 community volunteers were successfully trained in PRA implementation, interpretation and utilization of results for long-term community development planning. The five community volunteers trained in each worksite have since been empowered as "program liaisons" that will serve to coordinate community efforts with future USAID-NFRP interventions. USAID-NFRP has also developed a PRA handbook for local NGOs to use as basic guidelines for conducting effective appraisals in rural communities.

**Table 14: Local Volunteers trained per Local Peace Committees/Other Component**

**Central Region**

District	Volunteers Trained										Total	
	Barainiya	Basatpur	Bhaluhi	Deopur	Dharamnagar	Hariharpur	Kachorwa	Matiarwa	Ochchidiha	Pipapatti		
<b>Bara</b>												
Female	3	2	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	2	29	
Male	2	3	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	3	21	
<b>Parsa</b>	Bagahi	Sabaitihawa	Sambhauta	Hariharpur	Lahawarthakari	Jaymangalapur	Amarpati	Biruwiguthi	Mirjapur	Pachrukhi		
Female	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	4	3	2	31	
Male	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	3	19	
<b>Rautahat</b>	Bisrampur	Kataharia	Laxminia	Dumaria	Kanakpur	Phatuha	Bhasedawa	Maryadpur	Karkach	Paurahi		
Female	4	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	30	
Male	1	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	20	
											Female	90
											Male	60
											<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>

**Western Region**

Banke	Holiya	Betahani	Bankatti	Uddharpur	Phattepur	Matehiya	Basudewpur	Kamdi	Gangapur	Manikpur	Total	
	Female	2	3	2	2	3	4	3	3	2	3	27
Male	3	2	3	3	2	1	2	2	3	2	23	
<b>Bardiya</b>	Rajapur	Neulapur	Suryapatuwa	Bagnaha	Thakurdwara	Shivapur	Dhadawar	Baniyabhar	Padnaha	Magragadi		
Female	3	4	2	3	4	2	3	3	2	3	29	
Male	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	2	3	2	21	
<b>Kailali</b>	Thapapur	Chuha	Joshipur	Bhajani	Dhansignpur	Lalbojhi	Munuwa	Dododhara	Narayanpur	Patharaiya		
Female	3	4	3	3	4	3	4	3	3	4	34	
Male	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	16	
											Female	90
											Male	60
											<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>

TOTAL	
Female	180
Male	120
<b>Total</b>	<b>300</b>

### 3.2.5 PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Priorities for this component are listed in the table of section 3.2.3.

An important outcome of the PRA activity was the engagement and increased role of women as key stakeholders in the community development process. Special attention was given to risks and needs of women subjected to violence and children vulnerable to trafficking. Awareness and capacity building activities for this component are being designed for implementation in the coming month.

### 3.2.6 WINDOWS OF OPPORTUNITY

As described above, USAID/Nepal is considering the program's suggestions for assessing the 2008 floods damage in the flood-affected areas caused by the breach in the Koshi barrage.

### 3.3 PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

In addition to the initial progress made in coordinating program activities with local governments, donor-funded programs and local NGOs as a result of the participatory rural appraisals process, a potential partnership linkage was initiated with a US medical supply company to donate medical equipment and supplies to USAID-NFRP communities.

### 3.4 SUCCESS IN PROMOTING USAID OBJECTIVES

**USAID-NFRP continued to actively promote USAID's objectives of:**

- Decentralization of flood recovery and rehabilitation assistance
- Working with the poorest marginalized growers in Nepal's Terai region
- Working with Nepali consultants and Nepali-owned businesses
- Promoting women in agriculture
- Promoting public-private sector cooperation
- Promoting good environmental management practices

# SECTION 4: SUCCESS STORY



## SUCCESS STORY

### USAID/Nepal Completes River Protection Barriers and Embankment Repairs in Barainiya VDC

*"Building Back Better"*

The USAID/Nepal Flood Recovery Program (USAID-NFRP) completed its first infrastructure activity – 475 meters of river protection barriers and embankment repairs. The project took 25 days from design through construction and 275 rural households in Barainiya VDC are now better protected from further flooding and erosion.

USAID-NFRP Engineer Mohan Shrestha worked with local construction partner South Consult and villagers in Kantipur village of Barainiya VDC in Bara district to build the protection barriers. Construction costs of \$16,500 were 20 percent lower than Government of Nepal approved rates and locally purchased materials including bamboo and sandbags for gabions were used. More than 1,200 person-days of temporary employment were also generated in the community.

During July-August 2007 heavy monsoon rains caused widespread flooding and landslides in 50 of Nepal's 75 districts. More than 600,000 lives were disrupted because of losses in farm and micro/small business livelihoods. Whole villages, including schools and clinics, were displaced or destroyed.

USAID-NFRP is a two-year project designed to build back and improve small-scale infrastructure, increase incomes from agriculture, support health/nutrition activities, and strengthen organizational capacity across six districts of the Terai in direct consultation with 60 Village Development Committees (VDCs). Kantipur was selected as a USAID-NFRP site because of its extensive flood damage and because, during a project appraisal, villagers identified river protection as a top priority.

The project will soon be working with this client community on demonstration plots and training to increase income-generation from farming.

USAID-NFRP started operations in June 2008, and held its official launch on Sept. 24 in Bara district, where senior Nepalese government and USAID/Nepal officials visited the new river barriers.



Photos by Fintrac Inc.

Appropriate, low-cost construction will provide flood protection in Kantipur village of Barainiya VDC.

#### USAID/Nepal Flood Recovery Program *"Building Back Better"*

This project is implemented by Fintrac Inc., a US agribusiness firm, in partnership with METCON Consultants. USAID-NFRP collaborates with village development committees and local NGOs in the Terai. For more information, contact:

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## SECTION 5: PRIORITY ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT QUARTER

Planned activities will follow the outline in the Work Plan and Performance Monitoring Plan.

Selected activities include:

- Signing of subcontracts
- Initiation of more river protection and transportation infrastructure activities
- Training of Trainers on improved practices of vegetable/NTFP cultivation, IPM, post-harvest handling, market interaction for efficient marketing of produce
- Sanitation, hygiene and nutrition training initiated
- Ongoing training of community members in planning, implementing and maintaining local infrastructure
- Ongoing awareness and capacity building to engage women as key stakeholders in the community development process to increase their role in reducing the risks and needs of women subjected to violence and children vulnerable to trafficking

# SECTION 6: MANAGEMENT/FINANCIAL REPORT

## 6.1 MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

### 6.1.1 START-UP ACTIVITIES

(See section 2.3)

### 6.1.2 PROJECT STAFFING

**Joe Sanders, Chief of Party**, holds over a decade of experience implementing donor-funded projects. His technical areas of expertise include community development, alternative livelihoods, value chain strengthening and emergency and post-conflict recovery. He has lived and worked in challenging places like Bolivia, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Georgia.

**Brahmaram B. Mathema, Deputy Chief of Party and Livelihoods and Income Generation Specialist**, has 30+ years of experience in agricultural production, distribution and marketing of staple food crops and high-value agriculture products. He has past experience as a COP on a USAID project in the late 1990s.

Dr. Mathema recently received status as the Deputy Chief of Party after a request was made to USAID/Nepal and approved.

**Subarna Bajracharya, Finance and Contracts Specialist**, is the manager of finance and contracting. He has 25+ years of experience working with multilateral development agencies and holds a Ph.D. in Cash Management.

**Ramananda Prasad Gupta, Regional Coordinator/Central Region**, has more than 25 years experience working with landless peoples, female-headed HHs and ethnic minority groups.

**Laxmi Narayan Shah, Regional Coordinator/Mid & Far West Region**, is replacing Laxmi Narayan Shah.

**Geeta Lama, Social Inclusion Specialist**, joins the team after developing strategic approaches to empower individuals with Plan International.

**Kamal Bahadur Shrestha, Monitoring and Outreach Specialist**, is a community development and outreach expert.

**Mohan Krishna Shrestha, Engineering Specialist**, has more than 15 years experience implementing community and productive infrastructure projects throughout the country.

**Suresh Manandhar, Admin and Procurement Officer**, joins the project from CEDA where he worked in all aspects of economic development.

**Shudipa Shrestha, Administrative Assistant**, supports the NFRP program.

### 6.1.3 MANAGEMENT ISSUES

None currently

## 6.2 FINANCIAL REPORTS

### 6.2.1 EXPENDITURES

## 6.2.2 LOE

# SECTION 7: MONTHLY BULLETINS



**USAID | NEPAL**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Monthly Bulletin: June–July 2008

## USAID/Nepal Flood Recovery Program

### PROGRAM BACKGROUND

The USAID/Nepal Flood Recovery Program (USAID-NFRP) started in June 2008 as a two-year program aimed at supporting livelihoods recovery, improved health and infrastructure rehabilitation and reconstruction in a way that makes the 2007 flood-affected communities less vulnerable to future floods by "building back better" and strengthening the ties between the local government, community groups and the populace of Nepal's Terai region, an area approximately twice the size of the state of Massachusetts.

### PROGRAM STARTUP

The USAID-NFRP RAISE-PLUS Task Order was made effective with USAID's approval on May 20, 2008. Fintrac's startup team arrived 14 days later and moved into a pre-identified office space in the building of its prime implementing partner/subcontractor, METCON Consultants. Within a week, the majority of the program team was incorporated and started work. During the first month, nearly all the administrative and logistical arrangements were made and work started by collecting baseline data to finalize the FY08 Work Plan and Performance Monitoring Plan. By the end of June, Joe Sanders arrived in Nepal and assumed his role as chief of party. The team visited five of the six program districts, met with the senior district officials (chief district officers and local development officers), international and local NGOs, private service providers and flood-affected communities. The team participated in a detailed Post-Award Conference with USAID/Nepal and presented to USAID/Nepal – ahead of schedule – the first draft work plan for the remainder of fiscal year 2008 and a draft PMP for the entire program period. USAID approved the life-of-project Procurement Plan and necessary waivers.

USAID-NFRP's COP, livelihoods specialist, engineer, social inclusion expert, M&E outreach specialist and regional coordinators returned to the field to continue baseline data collection and to initiate rapid appraisals of the Village Development Councils' needs and



A boy walks his bike across a flood barrier in Nepalgunj

### USAID/Nepal Flood Recovery Program

This project is implemented by Fintrac Inc., a US agribusiness consulting firm, in partnership with METCON Consultants. For information, contact USAID-NFRP at:

43/15 Dandibaba Marg | Tangal, Kathmandu – 2, Nepal  
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nfrp@fintrac.com



priorities for productive infrastructure, income generation, sanitation, hygiene and nutrition, organizational strengthening, protection of women and children, and other windows of opportunity.

**TARGETED COMMUNITIES/ GEOGRAPHIC AREAS**

**District Development Office:** The Bardiya chief district officer invited the startup team to a district-level conference organized to initiate 2008 flood preparedness plans, based on lessons learned from the 2007 floods. More than 60 public and private organizations, including local and international NGOs, participated. This allowed the startup team to cross-check data and anecdotal information gathered in interviews during the field trip to Bardiya and to meet with new organizations about their experiences, both positive and negative, with VDCs and other local organizations.

The best source of baseline data turned out to be the **Nepal Red Cross Society**, with flood affected information organized by severity, number of affected households and VDC. This information helped to quickly prioritize the ten most-affected VDCs in each of the six program districts.

**SYNERGIES**

**OFDA/Save the Children** shared their Disaster Preparedness and Response (DPR) Project annual progress report and end report for Mid & Far Western and Eastern Regions. They were able to reach over 60,000 men, women and children with humanitarian relief. One of their main implementing partners was BASE.

**World Food Program (WFP):** The USAID-NFRP startup team met with the acting Regional Representative in Nepalgunj and a Program Coordinator in the Kathmandu home office. Both were quite interested in joining efforts to respond to priority rehabilitation needs in the Terai. After discussing the needs and the value of a participatory approach to the village development process, the Program Coordinator arranged for a WFP vehicle and a Technical Manager to take the startup team to one of their model villages. Along the way we stopped to see a culvert under construction with labor provided by villagers who had been forced to abandon their farms because of the 2007 floods.

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**Senior agribusiness program manager Ray Waldron and livelihood & income generation specialist Brahmaram B. Mathema meet with World Food Program representatives and community beneficiaries in districts of the Terai**



**The USAID-NFRP team meets with a flood affected community in Banke district**



**Fintrac Startup team member Mary Duncan oversees office arrangements during USAID-NFRP's office set up**



# USAID | NEPAL

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Monthly Update: August-September 2008

## USAID/Nepal Flood Recovery Program (USAID-NFRP)

"Building Back Better"

### NOTE FROM THE PROJECT DIRECTOR

The official project launch of USAID-NFRP was held on Sept. 24 and during the event, senior Nepalese government and USAID/Nepal officials visited the flood affected communities of the Barainiya Village Development Committee (VDC) in Bara district, and discussed with community members the impact of last year's floods, their short and long-term development aspirations, and expectations they have for USAID-NFRP in their communities. Many villagers described positive initial impressions of USAID-NFRP based on quick mobilization and responsiveness to infrastructure priorities. It was my great pleasure to simultaneously inaugurate the new riverbank protection barrier that had been designed by our project engineer, supervised by a local construction partner, and built by many of the villagers. Other major deliverables during these two months included completion of participatory rural appraisals in 60 VDCs of the Terai targeted for project assistance that we are now using to inform critical income-generation and other recovery activities.

*Joe Sanders, Chief of Party,  
USAID/Nepal Flood Recovery Program*

### INFRASTRUCTURE

USAID-NFRP's first infrastructure activity, 475 meters of river protection barriers and embankment repairs for Kantipur village of Barainiya VDC in Nepal's Terai Region, was initiated in early September and completed within 25 days. As a result, 275 vulnerable households now have permanent flood protection. The construction, built at a cost of \$16,500 (20 percent less than Government of Nepal approved rates), generated more than 1,200 person-days of temporary employment in the community. Construction materials (bamboo and sandbags for gabions) were bought locally too, which contributed to the village economy at a time when household food supplies were low and market prices high. This activity was identified and prioritized by the USAID-NFRP worksite communities within Barainiya VDC, and is a model for other villages interested in similar infrastructure.



Photos by Fintrac Inc.

**USAID-NFRP's chief of party visits a protection embankment with the site engineer.**



**USAID-NFRP engineer Mohan Shrestha (right) and the south consult site engineer discuss construction with villagers.**

### USAID/Nepal Flood Recovery Program

This project is implemented by Fintrac Inc., a US agribusiness firm, in partnership with METCON Consultants. USAID-NFRP collaborates with village development committees and local NGOs in the Terai to increase incomes from agriculture, support small-scale infrastructure and health/nutrition activities and strengthen organizational capacity, especially among vulnerable populations.

For more information, contact USAID-NFRP at:

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**Villagers work to build a river embankment in Barainiya VDC, Bara district.**

### **AGRICULTURE**

To date, the USAID-NFRP Senior Agronomist-Livelihoods Specialist has met with input suppliers (agro-vets) and farmer groups to identify high value crop production potential and domestic market demand. Together, they have agreed in the next quarter to initiate demonstration plots (not to exceed 0.4 hectares) on 480 hectares of land across 1,200 farms in the targeted six project districts, all of which will be considered for small-scale irrigation development. Potential crops include cauliflower, cabbage, tomato, chilies, eggplant, French bean, string bean, bitter gourd, cucumber, squash, watermelon, and non-timber forest products, such as mentha and lemon-grass. Seven national and regional NGOs were additionally pre-selected for bidding on provision of the agronomic extension activities that will begin in early October.

### **SANITATION, HYGIENE & NUTRITION**

In addition to the needs and activities prioritized by VDCs during the participatory rural appraisals phase, a potential partnership linkage was initiated with a US medical supply



**Community volunteers trained by USAID-NFRP assist villagers to assess needs and set priorities for recovery activities.**



Monthly Update: August - September, 2008  
**USAID/Nepal Flood Recovery Program**

company to donate medical equipment and supplies to USAID-NFRP communities.

### ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

USAID-NFRP subcontracted with nine local NGOs from the six program districts to conduct participatory rural appraisals (PRAs) via direct consultation with 60 VDCs, inclusive of community leaders and members, vulnerable and marginalized groups, women, youth and other stakeholders. The appraisals verified the extent of flood damage, and identified specific flood recovery activities in critical project areas (agriculture, infrastructure, health). The PRA process itself additionally strengthened the capabilities of the VDCs to visualize long-term development goals, and began to enhance their capacity to participate in program implementation of the flood recovery activities they prioritized (many of which were related to small-scale infrastructure such as the riverbank protection barriers). As part of the appraisal process, USAID-NFRP trained 45 local NGO staff and 300 community volunteers in the PRA methodology. These community volunteers have now been empowered as "program liaisons" through this exercise and will coordinate community efforts with future USAID-NFRP interventions.

### WOMEN AND CHILDREN

An important outcome of the PRA activity was the engagement and increased role of women as key stakeholders in the community development process. Special attention was given to risks and needs of women subjected to violence and children vulnerable to trafficking. Awareness education and capacity-building activities for this component are currently being designed, and will be implemented in the next quarter.

#### USAID-NFRP STAFF LIST

Main office	Regional Coordinators	Technical Specialists
Joseph Sanders Chief of Party <a href="mailto:joesanders@fintrac.com">joesanders@fintrac.com</a>	Laxmi Narayan Shah Regional Coordinator – Mid & Far West <a href="mailto:lshah@fintrac.com">lshah@fintrac.com</a>	Brahmaram B. Mathema Livelihood and Income Generation Specialist <a href="mailto:bbmathema@fintrac.com">bbmathema@fintrac.com</a>
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# SECTION 8: PERFORMANCE MONITORING PLAN



Activity No.	Activity	Unit	FY08												FY09					FY10					Deliverable/Result	Verification Method			
			F08			F09			F10			F09			F10			F10											
			Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr			May	Jun	
6.1	Activities to be determined	NA																									TBD	Project Reports	
6.2	Activities to be determined	NA																										TBD	Project Reports
7.1	Number of special studies (Program Design and Learning Element)	TBD																										Studies	
7.2	Number of Baseline or Feasibility Studies (Program Design and Learning Element)	TBD																										Studies	
7.3	Subcontract funds disbursed	\$0000	1000	2000	3000	4000	5000	6000	7000	8000	9000	10000	11000	12000	13000	14000	15000	16000	17000	18000	19000	20000	21000	22000	23000	24000	Subcontract funds disbursed	Financial reports	
7.4	100% cost sharing target (USD)	\$0000	1000	2000	3000	4000	5000	6000	7000	8000	9000	10000	11000	12000	13000	14000	15000	16000	17000	18000	19000	20000	21000	22000	23000	24000	Cost share contribution	Financial reports	

**STATUS KEY**

DONE  
 + ahead of schedule  
 = on schedule  
 X behind schedule



USAID/NEPAL FLOOD RECOVERY  
PROGRAM  
QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT #1  
JULY – SEPTEMBER 2008



## **USAID/Nepal Flood Recovery Program**

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