



**Youth Initiatives for
Peace and Reconciliation (YIPR) Project
In Five Districts of Nepal**

Project Final REPORT

September 2006 to September 2008

Ref.: Cooperative Agreement No. 367-A-00-06-00111-00

Submitted to:

United States Agency for International Development

USAID Technical Office

USAID/Nepal, Rabi Bhawan

Kathmandu, Nepal

November 30, 2008

Mercy Corps Contacts:

Josh DeWald

Country Representative

Kathmandu, Nepal

Tel. (Nepal) (01) 555-5532

jdewald@np.mercycorps.org

John Stephens

Program Officer, South Asia

Portland OR, USA

Tel. (US) (503) 796-6800

jstephens@mercycorps.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Background
- 1.2. Goal, Objectives and Activities of the Project

2. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION TEAM AND PLAN

- 2.1. Mercy Corps
- 2.2. BASE (Backward Society Education)
- 2.3. Project Implementation Plan/Strategy

3. PROJECT OUTPUTS

4. EXTRA ACTIVITY: HIV/AIDS AND YOUTHS

5. EXTRA ACTIVITY: NIKE MATERIALS

6. EXTRA ACTIVITY: SHOUT DVD

7. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

8. CONSTRAINTS AND CHALLENGES

9. LESSONS LEARNT

10. CONCLUSION

Annexes:

Annex-1: Project Accomplishment Matrix

Annex-2: An Example of VYC Peace Strategy

Annex-3: Baseline Questionnaire

Executive Summary

The Youth Initiatives for Peace and Reconciliation (YIPR) project reduced the risk of conflict in mid-and far-Western Nepal by actively engaging youth in community reconciliation and decision-making. During the 10 year civil war between the Nepal Government and the Maoists, youth were often a cause and target of violence as a result of recruitment into fighting and a loss of connection to their homes and villages. For youth to actively participate in community reconciliation and decision-making processes, YIPR worked to: 1) mobilize 15,000 youth to participate and lead non-violent activities and build good relationships among youth from different communities, ethnic groups and castes; 2) promote participation of youth in community service projects, dialogues and decision-making forums; and 3) enable youth to promote peace and reconciliation. To achieve these objectives, Mercy Corps partnered with a local NGO, Backward Society Education (BASE), whose mission is to increase opportunities for marginalized groups.

By the end of the project, 32,622 youth were mobilized and involved in 820 Village Youth Clubs/Committees (VYCs). The VYCs brought together youth from different ethnic groups and castes. The membership of almost half of the clubs were less than 50% Tharu (the majority group within BASE before the project), illustrating the diversity of the membership within the VYCs. Additionally, dominance by one ethnic group in a VYC was decreased by 70%.

Through the VYCs, the youth constructed 808 Community Service Projects (CSPs), which ranged from community halls to fisheries. Through the process of designing and implementing the CSPs, youth built stronger relationships to one another and to adults in their community. Moreover, to raise community contributions and receive approval for some of the CSPs, the youth had to approach community groups, local government and other local stakeholders. By approaching these different stakeholders, youth developed ties to a larger network and ultimately raised approximately nine times more than YIPR required. Activities such as sports competitions, cultural programs and village, area and district meetings also increased the ties youth had to others from different ethnic groups, castes and villages.

Four thousand seven hundred twenty-six youth received training on peacebuilding, leadership, management, social mobilization and project management. As a result of these trainings, youth had the confidence to approach adult stakeholders, achieve leadership roles on community decision-making committees, and mediate local conflicts. After the training, youth were 90% more likely to use dialogue to resolve conflicts. Each VYC developed a peace strategy plan for how to implement what they learned to promote peace and reconciliation in their villages.

Youth reported that the combination of activities led to increased security, the return of displaced persons and ex-combatants, and increased development. Through the implementation of YIPR, it became apparent that when trying to reduce conflict through youth programming, it is critical to create incentives for building relationships, have a large enough core staff that can build the capacity of others, find ways to bring youth and adults together repeatedly, and integrate youth into their communities at multiple levels. With a strong mobilized youth who have developed their leadership, peacebuilding and management skills, there is an opportunity to create the next generation of local leaders who can further develop mid and far-Western Nepal after years of neglect and reduce the risk that Nepal will fall back into violence.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

Nepal suffered from armed conflict for 10 years which was resolved in November 2006 through the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) between the Nepal Government and rebel armed party, CPN-Maoist. The conflict created mistrust and rifts between and within communities, which already knew substantial educational and economic disparities as well as gender- and caste-based discrimination. Youth (defined as 16 to 30 years old) were at the core of the conflict. The lack of employment and involvement in society created a situation where youth were prone to being recruited into the conflict. The conflict also contributed to a collapse of the local conflict. Consequently, male youth left villages in the thousands to either join one of the conflicting parties or to migrate to India and beyond. The absence of many young men from the villages resulted in increased pressure from the insurgent army on women, who normally stay in the villages, to join the army. About 40% of the insurgent army consisted of women. Both those who were recruited and those who remained were affected by the violence.

Taking the situation into the consideration, Mercy Corps designed the *Youth Initiatives for Peace and Reconciliation (YIPR)* in October 2005. The project was funded by USAID for an amount of \$600,000 USD in September 2006. The project was implemented by Mercy Corps' partner organization Backward Society Education (BASE) with technical and management support from Mercy Corps and Nike Sport Material Aid. YIPR ran from September 2006 to September 2008 and included the conflict-affected districts of mid- and far-western Nepal—Dang, Banke, Bardiya, Kailali and Kanchanpur.

Map: Project working districts



1.2. Goal, Objectives and Activities of the Project

The goal of the Youth Initiatives for Peace and Reconciliation project is for youth to actively participate in community reconciliation and decision-making processes in five districts of mid and far western Nepal.

The project consisted of three major objectives, and each objective contained a series of activities, which were:

<u>Objective # 1:</u>	Mobilize 15,000 youth to participate in and lead non-violent activities and build good relationships among youth from different communities, ethnic groups and castes. <u>Activities:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formation and strengthening of youth committees• Training and capacity building• Annual youth general assembly• Camps at district level• Sports competitions• Cultural show programs
<u>Objective # 2:</u>	Promote participation of youth in community service projects, dialogues and decision-making forums <u>Activities:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Service Projects (CSPs)• Coordination meetings with decision making bodies• Dialogued and meetings with traditional decision making bodies• Meetings with parents
<u>Objective # 3:</u>	Enable youth to promote peace and reconciliation <u>Activities:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Publication of "Sanghari"• Development and broadcast of radio programs• Street Dramas• Cross visits• Peace promotion competitions

2. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION TEAM AND STRATEGY

Youth Initiatives for Peace and Reconciliation (YIPR) Project was funded by USAID for a maximum of U\$ 600,581, with Mercy Corps contributing at least \$ U\$ 97,152 in the form of technical specialist staff inputs and material aid (NIKE sporting goods). BASE (Backward Education Society) was Mercy Corps' main partner organization and sub-grant recipient to implement the project activities in five districts

2.1. Mercy Corps:

Mercy Corps was the main recipient of the project grant from USAID. Mercy Corps had overall responsibility for the achievement of the project as well as communication to USAID regarding the progress of project and budget status. Furthermore, Mercy Corps' Kathmandu office and the project team in Nepalgunj delivered necessary technical support and advice regularly to the partner organization, BASE (Backward Society Education), for the smooth management and implementation of the project in five districts. The major roles performed by Mercy Corps were:

- Design the project;
- Prepare M&E plan of project, annual work plan, quarterly performance reports and submit to USAID for approval;
- Release the amount of sub-grant to BASE and monitor the financial compliances;
- Provide a wide range of technical advice to BASE and youth committees for the smooth implementation of project activities in five districts;
- Carry out a series of Monitoring and Evaluation visits at BASE central and district offices as well as to villages where the youth committees implemented Community Services Project (CSPs) and other activities;
- Conduct baseline and endline surveys of the project;
- Design and conduct training programs in order to build skills and knowledge of Selected Youth Master Trainers from 21 Areas Youth Committees in five districts.
- Communicate with USAID regularly regarding the progress of the project.

In early 2003, upon review of the situation in Nepal, Mercy Corps identified the potential opportunity to bring its experience of working in conflict-affected environments to the Himalayan country. Mercy Corps conducted two assessments in the spring of 2003, including a conflict assessment¹ and an in-depth assessment of Dailekh District. In September 2005, Mercy Corps established an office in Kathmandu with full-time representation.

2.2. BASE (Backward Society Education):

BASE was the main partner organization which received the sub-grant from Mercy Corps to implement the project activities in five districts as mentioned. Moreover, it was responsible for the coordination, management and implementation of activities through mobilizing youth members at the grass-roots level. The major roles performed by BASE in the management and implementation of the project are summarized below:

- Participate actively as Mercy Corps' key partner organization in planning and consultation meetings;
- Organize the activities of the project within the agreed timeframe by mobilizing a maximum number of youth from different castes and ethnicities in five districts;
- Prepare quarterly performance reports and submit to Mercy Corps.

BASE is a mass membership organization with over 30,000 active members, and has a structure of committees elected at the village, area, district and central levels. BASE works with Tharus², ex-Kamaiya (bonded laborers), and other disadvantaged and marginalized people from other castes and ethnic groups in the mid-west and far-west regions of Nepal. During the last 14 years, BASE has covered more than 700 VDCs in seven districts (Dang, Banke, Bardiya, Kailali, Kanchanpur, Rukum, and Salyan). BASE's project activities focus mostly on community mobilization, education (formal and non-formal), health, income

¹ *Sowing the Wind...History and Dynamics of the Maoist Revolt in Nepal's Rapti Hills*, Mercy Corps, October 2003. Available at <http://www2.mercycorps.org/items/1662/>

² Tharus are an ethnic group that has traditionally lived in the Terai, and whose lands were taken during the past fifty years by hill people who migrated to the Terai after the malaria eradication efforts. Many Tharus lost their land to these higher caste people, and were forced to work for them to earn a livelihood and repay their debts.

generation, rights awareness, conflict mitigation, preservation of indigenous cultural traditions, and capacity building of community-based organizations.

Mercy Corps chose to work with BASE in the implementation of this project because of its significant experience working with communities in the targeted area, including its structure of youth committees at multiple levels. BASE has long-term relationships in these communities, is well respected and is able to move freely based on its work and acceptance in the communities. BASE has also partnered with numerous international NGOs and organizations, including Save the Children/US, World Education, Winrock International, and UNDP among others, and is familiar with USAID reporting requirements.

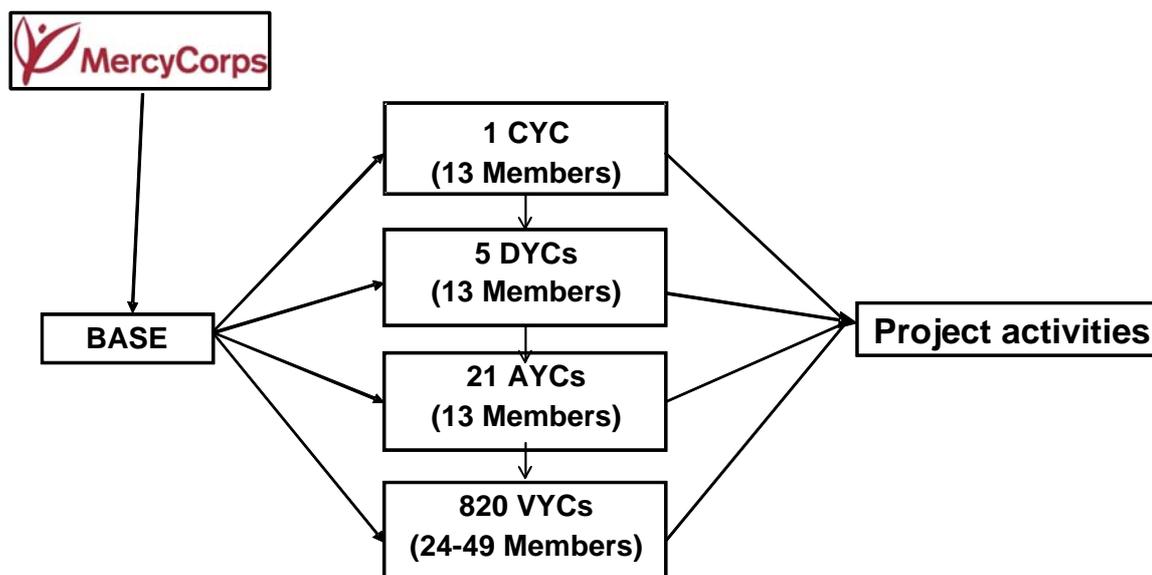
2.3. Project Implementation Plan/Strategy:

Youth Initiatives for Peace and Reconciliation (YIPR) started activities in November 2006 after two agreements were signed, one between USAID and Mercy Corps in the end of September 2006, and the other between Mercy Corps and the partner organization, Backward Society Education (BASE), in mid-October 2006.

After the signing of the agreement, Mercy Corps developed a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and the first-year annual work plan with direct involvement of BASE and youth members. During the second and third weeks of November 2006, both Mercy Corps and BASE started to recruit staff for the project. Mercy Corps established a fully functional project office in Nepalgunj in the first week of December 2006 in order to provide timely technical assistance as well as establish project-level monitoring mechanisms. Mercy Corps sent three project staff (Lokendra Babu Rai and Shova Thakali from Mercy Corps and Punita Chaudhary from partner organization BASE) to Darjeeling, India for a short training course on Participatory Rural Appraisal and Social Mobilization during the second and third weeks of December 2006.

The implementation of the project activities began in January 2007. BASE mobilized and involved youth in planning, managing, implementing and evaluating each activity of the project in all five districts throughout the project period. The Nepalgunj-based Mercy Corps project team provided necessary technical support and advice to the BASE staff and youth committees in planning, managing and coordinating the activities at village level, area level, district level and central level as needed. The mobilization of youth was based on the cascading structure of youth committees/clubs which were: (i) One Central Youth Committee (CYC), (ii) Five District Youth Committees (DYCs), (iii) Twenty-one Area Youth Committees (AYCs), and (iv) Village Youth Committees/Clubs (VYCs). The dissemination of information among youth clubs also was conducted by youth according to the cascading structure. The following chart shows the cascading structure of youth committees which is similar to other BASE committees such as Adult Committees, Woman Awareness Committees and Child Clubs.

Activities implementation strategy and layers of Youth Mobilization



Besides the involvement of youth committees, BASE also involved other BASE committees such as adult committees and Women Awareness Committees in planning, managing, implementing and evaluating the activities of the project.

BASE has district offices in all five districts. These district offices consisted of three staff funded under the project grant: one full time District Project Officer (DPO), one full time Social Mobilizer (SM) and Youth Peacemaker Master Trainers. The Master Trainers were mobilized through a monthly incentive-based provision.

BASE was responsible for liaising with local governments as well as other stakeholders. The Mercy Corps team in Nepalgunj established relationships with local government authorities as well as presented at a wide range coordination meetings organized by the UN or other INGOs in the mid- and far-western regions.

3. PROJECT OUTPUTS

The specific outputs under each objective accomplished from project are outlined below. A table with quantitative details is provided in Annex 1: Project Accomplish Matrix.

3.1. Objective 1: Mobilize 15,000 Youth to Participate and Lead Non-Violent Activities and Build Good Relationships among Youth from Different Communities, Ethnic Groups and Castes.

Through the formation of youth committees, the General Assembly, camps, cultural shows and sports competitions, youth were able to meet other youth from different castes, ethnicities and communities. The training program, which focused on building the capacity of youth to mobilize others, to become leaders in their community and to design Community Service Projects (CSPs) that brought people together, solidified these relationships. In the end, 32,622 youth were mobilized to be a positive force in their communities.

3.1.1. Formation of youth committees

820 Village Youth Clubs/Committees (VYCs), 21 Area Youth Committees (AYCs), 5 District Youth Committees (DYCs) were formed, mobilizing 32,622 youth, far exceeding the initial target of 12,402.

Table 1: Numbers of Village Youth Clubs/Committees and Youth Members

Districts	Actual Targets of the Project		Baseline		Endline	
	VYCs	Youth	VYCs	Youth	VYCs	Youth
Dang	324	4,212	169	6,733	168	7,312
Banke	81	1,053	88	3,599	103	3,365
Bardiya	207	2,691	162	5,431	206	7,640
Kailali	234	3,042	105	5,173	174	8,577
Kanchanpur	108	1,404	136	4,512	163	5,748
Total	954	12,402	660	28,713	814	32,622

Youth found the fact that the project was much more popular than expected was an indication that youth were eager to make a positive contribution to their communities. VYCs that expected to mobilize 15 members each had mobilized an average of 40. At this rate, the project would have become un-manageable if the initial number of 954 VYCs had been formed and it was decided to stop the new formation of VYCs at 820.³

Table 2: Composition VYCs by Gender and Caste/Ethnicity (814 VYCs reporting)

Districts	By Gender			By Castes and Ethnicities				
	Male	Female	Total	Dalit	Tharu	Other Ethnic	Brahmin/Chhetri	Total
Dang	4,292	3,020	7,312	181	6,214	518	399	7,312
Banke	2,049	1,316	3,365	128	2,579	219	439	3,365
Bardiya	4,356	3,284	7,640	357	6,489	263	531	7,640
Kailali	5,144	3,413	8,577	128	6,903	240	990	8,577
Kanchanpur	3,233	2,515	5,748	181	4,455	211	725	5,748
Total	19,074	13,548	32,622	1,447	26,640	1,451	3,084	32,622
Percentage	58 %	42 %	100%	4 %	82%	4 %	9 %	100%

³ 814 of the 820 VYCs returned endline survey.

The gender and ethnic composition and of VYCs overall remained relatively stable over the life of the project. However, as shown in the endline survey, fewer VYCs were dominated by male youth or Tharus by the end of the project.

3.1.2. Training and capacity building

4,726 youth received training on peacebuilding, leadership, management, social mobilization and project management. Forty-seven of these youth were part of the Master Trainer of Trainers (TOT) program. The project exceeded targets significantly (Target: 1,279).

The peacebuilding training was developed through a needs assessment conducted by Mr. Silas Everett of the Mercy Corps' Civil Society and Conflict Management Unit (now Mercy Corps CMG) and the Institute for Conflict Management, Peace and Development (ICPD). Mr. Everett and Mr. Bishnu Prasad Bhusal of ICPD conducted the TOTs. The Master Trainers then conducted 38 peacebuilding trainings for 926 VYC members.

Difficulties with organizing the peacebuilding training caused disruptions in the project start-up. Part of the training covered writing proposals for CSPs. Activities were slow to begin and the youth had little direction as to how to link activities with peace and reconciliation. However, once the trainings were held, implementation became easier. Particularly, youth seemed to gain a better understanding of the peace and reconciliation aspects of the project.

Also, as part of the project, the Mercy Corps' YIPR project manager, Lokendra Babu Rai and BASE Lead Trainer, Bhagi Ram Chaudhary, developed a *Leadership, Management and Social Mobilization for VYCs* training and trained the Master Trainers on how to deliver the material to the VYCs. The Master Trainers, in turn, led 67 workshops, reaching 1,764 youth.

As part of Activity 1.2, Mercy Corps and Base produced the *Youth Peacemakers Facilitators' Manual* and the *Leadership, Management and Social Mobilization for VYCs Booklet*. The *Youth Peacemakers Facilitators' Manual* has already been used in Mercy Corps' USAID-funded Youth For All (Y4A) program in East Timor.

3.1.3. Annual youth general assembly

Two general youth assemblies were held, reaching 2,331 youth. The target was to involve 2,422 youth in two assemblies. Ninety-one youth could not join either assembly because of business obligations. In addition to youth, the assemblies brought together politicians, community leaders, social activists and development organizations.

One of the lessons from the first assembly was for the second assembly to have a greater focus on YIPR. To that end, the second assembly incorporated of a number of events related to project activities and objectives, including:

- Peacebuilding, HIV/AIDS and Livelihood workshops (Activity 1.2)
- Cultural Programs (Activity 1.6)
- Street Dramas (Activity 3.3)
- Cross Visits (Activity 3.4)
- Peace Poster Competition (Activity 3. 5: Peace Promotion Competitions)

During the peace rally, youth held their posters, presenting the following messages of peace:

- Youth for Nonviolence and Peaceful Social Change
- Youth for Participation, Accountability and Peaceful Change
- Let's Respect All Religions, Cultures and Human Rights
- Let's Stop All Types of Discrimination and Disputes in Society
- Let's Guide Youth Towards a Path of Peace and Reconciliation
- Violence Begets Violence; Therefore, Let's Break the Cycle of Violence
- Reconciliation for Peace. Peace for Development and Development for a Prosperous Life.

As part of the second assembly, USAID Nepal Mission Director, Ms. Beth S. Paige, and Mercy Corps Country Director, Mr. Keith Polo, awarded Nike Sports material to winners of the poster competition and participants in the cultural programs and street dramas. Master Trainers also received Nike goods as a reward for their hard work.

3.1.4. Camps at district level⁴

Twenty-six youth camps were held, reaching 5,248 youth, exceeding the target of 5,000. These camps provided a forum for youth to discuss peace, project, health and other relevant issues with youth from different castes, ethnicities and villages.

Originally, 21 youth camps were planned for year 2. However, this number was reduced to five as a result of strikes and the project staff felt the General Assembly accomplished many of the objectives of the camps—bringing youth from different areas to discuss issues of peacebuilding and development.

3.1.5. Sports competitions

Twenty-six sports competitions were held, reaching 1,320 youth, exceeding the target of 1,000. During the first year, nineteen of these competitions were held at the area-level. Events included football (soccer), volleyball and 200-meter race for both men and women. There were two women-only events, “Needle and thread” and “Pot-breaking” races.

The area winners were nominated to compete in the second-year competitions. One person from each district was on the Sports Management Committee. They received a one-day training on sports management to prepare them for organizing the sports events. Eight to ten members of the CYC supported them in this endeavor.

The competition for the second year was named, *Sports for Peace and Reconciliation Program (SPRP)*. Each district hosted a sports event in January 2008. As part of SPRP, Nike donated equipment, including shoes, clothing and footballs (soccer balls). Nine hundred forty-two Mercy Corps-Nike sports kits were distributed to participants and committee members.

In addition to football and volleyball teams, there were a number of guest teams that included a combination of local government officials, members of the police club and clubs

⁴ A *camp*, in BASE terms, means a “campaign day” and should not be confused with a multi-day event of tented camp.

from other ethnic groups. VYC members were placed on teams with youth from other VYCs, providing them an opportunity to build relationships with youth from other castes, ethnicities and villages.

The formation of the new teams also provided an opportunity for youth to use their consensus-building skills as they had to agree on a team strategy in a relatively short period of time. A team captain from Bardiya explained:

Yes, we had a dispute and disagreement while forming a team for this competition. It was hard to reach a consensus, but after a lot of discussion we resolved our disagreements. Finally, we are here and I believe we can sort out other disagreements within the club in a similar manner.

Three other teams also reported disagreements, but were able to resolve their differences through dialogue. The new teams allowed the youth to see that you can peacefully resolve differences with people different from yourself.

SPRP and focus group participants commented that the sports competitions were one of the most successful activities in bringing youth together. Bed Bahadur Chudhary, a Master Trainer and resident of Urahari VDC, Dang District, is a Master Trainer for YIPR. He shared,

The Dojan Youth Club is known a Brahmin/Chhetri youth club whereas Dangisharan Youth Club is known as a Tharu youth club. These two clubs always used to fight with each other. Most of the members of these two clubs said that they wanted to dominate others in order to be known as the more powerful group in the village. I had been watching them. I invited them so many times to a series of activities. When we participated in the district-level competition in January 2008, we decided to make one team from these two clubs. After a series of meetings with them, they finally agreed to be one team in the district-level contest. They participated in the district level competition and won the first position in the competition. Since then, they are friendly with each other and they meet and talk frequently.

Moreover, the sports competitions also brought together adults and youth affected by the conflict. According to Siddhartha Yuwa Club of Krishnapur VDC, Kanchanpur District, "We had organized a sports competition here in our area before we participated in the district competition. Look, this village was totally affected during the insurgency period by both sides. People had negative feelings towards police personnel and Maoists. We invited both of them for friendly football competition in the village which helped build a friendly relation between them."

3.1.6. Cultural show programs

Thirty-two cultural programs were held, reaching 1,535 youth (Target: 32 programs reaching 1,500 youth). In year one, 21 area-, five district- and one central-level cultural programs were held, totaling 27 in all. In year two, the cultural programs were folded into the General Assembly. Each district performed Nepali folk, mixed national and Tharu dances. Youth mentioned that performing and watching each others' cultural dances showed that each community respected each other. A Master Trainer in Banke mentioned that in one village, groups that used to fight with each other now dance together.

3.2. Objective #2: Promote Participation of Youth in Community Service Projects, Dialogues and Decision-Making Forums.

Through participation in the VYCs, youth implemented over 800 Community Service Projects (CSPs). In addition to bettering their communities, adults began to see youth in a new light, as people who could be leaders in their communities. Youth built relationships with various stakeholders and became active in decision-making bodies.

3.2.1. Community service projects (CSPs)

Eight hundred and eight CSPs were completed using USAID funds (Three others were started but not completed). Types of CSPs include: community halls, hand pumps, latrines, road repair, furniture, farming (animal and fish), and culverts. The reason this number was below the target of 835 was that there were fewer VYCs than initially planned. At the same time, the number of youth involved in the CSPs was 26,640, well above the target of 15,000.

By far, the CSPs were the most highly rated of the project activities. The projects showed people that after ten years of conflict, they could finally invest in and develop their communities. The CSPs also helped build stronger relationships within the villages and with other stakeholders, including NGOs and local government. For one, CSPs helped bring together youth from different castes and ethnicities and occasionally brought together villages when they worked on joint projects. As mentioned in the Endline Study (see Annex 5), in Dang, youth from different castes worked together to build a road, which in turn, increased the amount of interaction between two caste enclaves. Bus depots and community halls were also places where different groups came together. Second, the CSP grants were quite small (approximately \$100) and rarely would cover the whole project. Youth were required to contribute at least 20% to the project. To meet this obligation, youth often had to reach out to other stakeholders to find funding, such as the women's group or the forestry user group. Below is a table of YIPR and community contributions

Table 3: Youth Contributions to CSPs

YIPR Project Contribution	Amount (NRs.)	Amount US\$
Cash amount released for 808 VYCs for the implementation of 808 CSPs	6,431,645	80,395
Community contributions:		
<i>Details of community contributions</i>	<i>Amount (NRs.)</i>	<i>Amount US\$</i>
Cash contributed by communities	2,719,345	39,411
Labor contributed by communities (Equivalent to cash)	6,649,082	96,364
In-kinds contributed by communities (Equivalent to cash)	826,560	11,979
Total of community contribution	10,194,987	147,753

According to the table, the youth raised significantly more than the required amount (20% = NRs 1,286,239), almost nine times the amount they needed to raise. For example, the Gaurigaun Youth Club of Tarigaun VDC, Dang District decided to build a fish pond where

they could farm fish to sell for money and allow the club to be sustainable. They submitted a proposal, but only received NRs 8000 (approximately \$100 USD) from YIPR, which was not sufficient for starting the fishery. The club members met and discussed other potential resources. They approached the Agricultural Development Bank in Dang with their proposal and received NRs 68,000 (\$450 USD).



Third, as the projects were often on public land, the youth needed to build consensus within their communities in order to implement the projects. The Maghai Youth Awareness Club, Tribhuvan Municipality Dang district, decided to build a community hall on public land in the village. The adults initially disagreed with the youth's proposal. The youth, however, were not deterred and designed a strategy for influencing the adults who were against their proposal based on what they

learned in the peacebuilding training. They decided to go to the village women's group with their proposal since the women's group had been in existence for a long time and was quite influential in the village as a result of their effective social work. The members of the women's group liked the proposal and agreed to support the youth in getting access to the public land. Together, the youth club and the women's group called a meeting inviting the males of the village. In this meeting, the youth and women were able to convince the males to accept the proposal. When discussing how they were able to successfully influence the males in the village, the youth mentioned how women talked to their husbands at home before the meetings, already starting the influence process. Ram Lal Tharu, a 39 year-old male member of the village said, "We used to not believe in the youth. After looking at what they have done for the village, we started to believe in them. They are quite active compared to past times."

These are all important examples of successes and illustrate how the CSPs met the intended objectives. According to program documents, the criteria for selecting CSPs were:

- Strengthen those factors of society which enhance reconciliation, peace and coordination in the villages.
- Minimize those elements which disintegrate and divide people as create conflict in society.
- Promote the restoration of peace and progress of community development in the village by reducing the state of violence and conflict.
- Make all youth, adults and other ethnic people equally accountable for the further development of village peacefully

The process of developing the CSPs—agreeing on a project, writing the proposal, building consensus with local stakeholders, raising additional funds and implementing the project—helped meet these objectives. Through these processes, the youth were able to build a more cohesive community, supporting peace and reconciliation. The post-completion success of the projects in continuing to meet these criteria depends upon their use. For example, bus shelters, libraries and community buildings create a public space and can promote continued interaction, but only if they are used. Projects that required continued interaction, such as

fish and pig farming, were successful in meeting these criteria both in terms of process and outcome.

3.2.2. Establish regular coordination meetings between youth committee members and decision-making bodies

Ninety-six coordination meetings were held with decision-making bodies, involving 1,873 youth. were held. The coordination meetings allowed youth to build relationships with government and civil society actors. Basant Chaudhary, District President of Kanchanpur, resident of Jhalari VDC in Kanchanpur district explained:

Our youth never had an interactive meeting with district-level decision-making personnel before. We organized a meeting for youth and stakeholders in Mahendranagar. Youth got an opportunity to build a relationship with government authorities and civil society. There are so many clubs which have started to meet with stakeholders independently for possible partnership with them.

These relationships also allowed youth to mobilize additional resources for their CSPs.

3.2.3. Dialogue and meeting with traditional decision-making bodies

There were 11 dialogues and meetings with traditional-decision making bodies, involving 441 youth. This was below the target of 21 dialogues/meetings involving 630 youth. In the meetings, youth met with decision-making bodies such as the Mahatam and Badghar in Tharu communities and the Mukhiya in non-Tharu communities.

Originally, this activity included working with civic and government structures. During the conflict period, Maoists had completely deactivated the traditional and governmental decision-making structures and put their structures in villages. The goal was to revive, normalize and modernize these structures. However, after the Comprehensive Peace Agreement was signed, it was no longer the appropriate time to support expansion of traditional, civic, and governmental decision-making structures because of the transitional security and political situation in the villages. Maoists were quite active in villages up to that time and it would have put youth at risk to support expansion of traditional structures. Therefore, this activity was postponed until the second year.

While planning the activities and budget for the second year, the situation in the villages returned to normal, except for some political tensions and unrest in the Terai belt. NGOs and other civil societies started to work in the villages. Government was about to conduct the Constitution Assembly election which would shape the governing structures. There was no confirmed system of government which the youth could support. The youth members and project teams had an in-depth discussion regarding implementation of this activity. The main purpose of the discussion was find ways to support expansion of traditional decision-making, civic and governmental structures and how the team would measure and record the progress or achievements of the activity. The discussion group concluded that the project would support expansion of traditional decision-making structures through “Dialogue and meeting with traditional decision-making bodies” through 21 meetings with 630 traditional decision makers, with each traditional decision maker participating in at least one event. The AYCs were responsible for the coordination and management of these meetings. Overtime, it became clear that the adults who were in traditional decision-making structures or

governmental decision making structures, were also the parents of youth and were included in quarterly and monthly meetings. To avoid repetition, it was decided to reduce the number of meetings specifically geared towards traditional decision-makers.

3.2.4. Youth committees organize quarterly parent-youth discussion forums

There were 35 meetings with parents, involving 1,377 youth (target was 41 meetings involving 1,230). As discussed above, there were a number of meetings with VYCs that included parents—dialogues with traditional structures, monthly and quarterly meetings, and coordination meetings. Therefore it was decided to fold this activity into the other types of meetings.

3.3. Objective #3: Enable Youth to Promote Peace and Reconciliation

Various activities created opportunities for youth to discuss issues around peace and reconciliation, including publications, street dramas, radio programs and cross visits between youth clubs. Combined with activities mentioned above, such as trainings, general assemblies, cultural shows and sports competitions, youth organized various events to bring people together. Youth also learned mediation skills that allowed them to help people resolve conflicts non-violently. Youth clubs finished the program by developing peace strategies to implement in the future. The success of YIPR in promoting peace and reconciliation is described by Drona Raj Pokharel, a non-Tharu Master Trainer from Dhikpur VDC in Dang district:

Almost all male people had left the village because of fear from both Maoist rebels and Government Army. Some people used to come and live in the village only in day time and spent night in the city to feel safe. People used to look at each other doubtfully. Village people rarely used to talk with each other and they did not have time to share joys and sorrows in the village. As there was a peace agreement between Maoist and Nepal Government, people started to return to the village and stay at their houses, but people had not developed a friendly and trustworthy environment yet. The doubt of people on conflict and peace remained same. As we started implementing our program activities, we were the first people who gathered people especially youth for an open discussion. We formed clubs and trained them and these clubs started to involve other people in regular meetings. Youth started to talk about peace building, reconciliation, development, inclusion, human right, non-violence. We involved all people in meetings, training programs, sharing fora, discussion programs, sport competitions, cultural programs and in so many activities which really helped to reduce the tensions which people had from their past experience. People started to talk with confidence. Nowadays, I feel that village has got back its social system which should be preserved forever.

While youth said they would have preferred to focus on fewer activities that had greater impact, the broad range of activities provided them with a base on which they can continue to plan activities they found most useful for promoting peace and reconciliation in their communities.

3.3.1. Publication of *Sanghari*

Eight editions of *Sanghari*, BASE's quarterly newsletter, were published involving 36 youth members (target: 20 youth members). These youth members contributed 54 written pieces including news stories, articles/essays, poems, interviews, case stories and dramas. All these writings focused on the issues of community development, youth, peace and reconciliation. According to the original plan, youth were to contribute articles and stories to *Sanghari* and local newspapers. Most of the newspapers would not accept the articles. However, one article written by a youth member was published in local paper in Dang. In addition, some local newspapers covered the stories of YIPR activities such as sports competitions and the General Assembly.

The following table shows the numbers of articles, poems by youth and project staff who contributed for the *Sanghari* News Bulletin of BASE.

Table 4: Articles Produced through YIPR

Contributors	# of News	# of Articles	# of Poems	# of Interviews	# of Case stories	# of Dramas	Total
By Youth	15	16	21	1	0	1	54
By Project Staff	12	33	0	1	2	0	48
Total	27	49	21	2	2	1	102

3.3.2. Radio/FM development and broadcasting

Altogether 97 radio programs were produced by 21 youth. Seventy-five of the 97 programs news programs and the other 22 were scripted dramas, dialogues or skits. The 22 scripted programs were also recorded and saved on CD. Youth did not have the sufficient skills for this task nor was there enough capacity-building money in the budget to help them produce the shows; hence the majority of the programs were shifted towards news. The initial target for programs were 24 interviews, 24 segments of dramas, and 48 news items. Additionally, the cost of production and broadcast was more expensive than planned. As a result of these difficulties, the youth committees and project team agreed to produce and air 48 programs in the first year and 40 in the second year (in total 88). In the end, the youth exceeded their overall target for radio programs by one.

The structured radio programs covered a range of topics—peace, HIV, trafficking and unemployment. While radio programs have been successful in post-conflict contexts, such as Rwanda, the radio program in YIPR suffered from two problems:

- The programs did not focus on peace and conflict issues. The other issues are pertinent to youth, but may have distracted project participants from the objectives of YIPR.
- Mercy Corps and Base had to repeatedly change the broadcast time of the programs to find inexpensive time slots because of under-budgeting for this activity. As a result, people were not sure when it would be broadcasted, and therefore, did not listen.

Future use of radio programs should prioritize radio shows focused on the project objectives and broadcast shows at regular times when people will be likely to listen.

3.3.3. Street dramas

YIPR initially intended to have 240 youth perform 40 Street Dramas. By the end of the project, 26 Street Dramas were performed, with 355 youth participating. Each drama took a significant time to produce as the youth worked to build consensus on the concept, management and organization of the dramas. To focus on building consensus, the dramas were merged into the General Assembly. Therefore, the number of dramas produced was fewer than targeted, while the number involved was higher than targeted.

3.3.4. Cross visits

To promote better understanding and expose youth to youth from different castes, ethnicities, living environments (urban vs. rural) and districts, YIPR included cross visits as part of the project design. Four cross visits were completed, including 168 youth. This was below the target of 10 cross visits, although the four visits did reach a greater number of youth than planned. The number of cross visits were reduced because 1) in the first year, a number of cross visits had to be postponed because of flooding and 2) in the second year the cross visits were included as part of the General Assembly. Youth found the cross visits educational as they were able to learn what other youth were doing to mobilize youth.

3.3.5. Peace promotion competitions

Initially, 996 peace promotion competitions including 1,958 youth were planned, one in each VYC and one in each AYC. It was decided that these would be more effective if held at larger venues, and were therefore carried out at the AYC level and as part of the general assembly. At the end forty-three competitions were completed including 1,991 youth.

During year one, 21 AYC's hosted competitions where youth submitted essays on the "Roles of Youth in Peacebuilding" as part of International Peace Day. In year two, the competitions were included as part of the General Assembly. Youth designed posters that incorporated peace slogans related to the topic, "New Prosperous Nepal and Youth." The posters were carried during the SPRP peace rally (See Activity 1.5).

Peace Strategies (Extra Activity under Objective 3)

Eight-hundred sixteen VYC's, 21 AYC's, five DYC's and the CYC all submitted peace strategies. The purpose of the peace strategies was for VYC's to focus on how they would implement peace and reconciliation activities during and after YIPR. As part of the strategies, VYC's analyzed the conflict, determined the most significant contributors to the conflict and decided on a work plan for how they are going to address the conflict issues. See Annex 2 for an example strategy.

4. EXTRA ACTIVITY: HIV/AIDS AND YOUTHS

The inclusion of HIV/AIDS awareness sessions were added to YIPR as a response to a letter from the USAID Deputy Mission Director encouraging partners to consider addressing and mitigating the HIV/AIDS epidemic. In response to this letter, YIPR added HIV/AIDS components to the following activities:

- Youth Assembly
- Youth Camps
- Cultural Programs
- Sport Competitions

In total, 27 events were held, reaching 2,723 youth (21 events reaching 5,104 were planned). The number of youth reached did not meet the target because of budget constraints and many of the events were held during farming season.

5. EXTRA ACTIVITY: NIKE MATERIALS

Nike gear was distributed as part of sport competitions, awards for the peace competitions and the top CSPs and a reward to the Master Trainers for their hard work. Each youth participating in the SPRP received a Nike kit with shoes and clothing, plus Nike donated sports equipment such as balls. The kits were appreciated by youth and adults alike. As one adult commented, "Look at them, there! How many times they look at their shoes and dress! They look so excited about this. I do not need to worry about buying a pair of shoes for my son this year." The original plan was to award at least 20 members of selected clubs plus 9 youth leaders of each area with Nike gear. During the project, the youth and project management decided to reach more clubs by reducing the number of youth per Nike award. The total number of recipients targeted was 2520 youth members of 126 VYCs including 189 youth leaders of 21 Area Youth Committees; whereas 2507 members of 800 VYCs received Nike gear.

6. EXTRA ACTIVITY: SHOUT DVD

Students Hearing Others to Understand post-conflict Transition (SHOUT) produced a DVD that included an overview of YIPR and interviews with four conflict-affected families. The DVD was produced in cooperation with the Mercy Corps Darjeeling office. The purpose of the video was to document YIPR and to help others around the world understand the suffering that is caused by conflict. Watching the DVD, it became apparent how angry people are at what happened and that people still feel the need for revenge. This is particularly important as some of the people who committed the atrocities during the conflict were recently elected into power.

An unintended result of the DVD was discovering a new method to conduct conflict assessments. Often it is very difficult for people to talk about conflict. The video format, for some reason, allowed people to feel more open to sharing what happened to them. This may be a tool for conflict assessments in the future.

7. MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E)

7.1. Development of M&E Plan

Mercy Corps, BASE and youth committee members held an M&E plan development workshop on October 18, 2006 in Nepalganj. This plan was approved by USAID. The project has been able to follow the objectives laid out in the M&E plan and the selected indicators were the basis for the baseline and endline studies.

7.2. Annual Work Plan for the First Year

Mercy Corps, BASE and Youth Committee members developed the year one work plan. The finalization workshop was held in the BASE project office in Nepalganj on November 21 and 22, 2006. A total of twenty participants from MC, BASE and youth committees actively participated in the discussion and finalization of the work plan. The work plan was approved by USAID. See the relevant activity chapters for details regarding specific activities and success in implementation.

7.3. Development of M&E Tools

A reporting system with various reporting formats for youth committees, BASE offices and Mercy Corps staff was developed and was found to work well. A workshop on the quarterly performance report and monitoring matrix sheet was held with senior level management staff of BASE in Dang on December 6 and 7, 2006. In the beginning of the project, many youth committees had difficulty with reporting formats, but this was later solved through intensive coaching of each VYC by the Master Trainers.

7.4. Baseline Study

Mercy Corps drafted a one-page survey with 30 closed-ended questions. Mercy Corps hired the "Communication and Management Institute" (COMAT), a Kathmandu-based well-renowned social and behavioral research institute, to translate, refine, distribute and analyze the results of the survey. The consultants trained AYC members to distribute and collect survey data. AYC members provided each VYC with instructions on completing the surveys. As the survey had to be filled in by each VYC without much guidance, it did not cover more complex behavioral and attitudinal issues regarding peace, conflict and violence. Please refer to Annex 3 for the English version of the one-page questionnaire.

Out of 820 VYCs, 660 VYCs responded to the baseline questionnaire. The collected surveys were sent to the COMAT office Kathmandu for coding and tabulation. The data was also inputted into simple excel sheets so that anyone could understand how the data was tabulated and interpreted against the project indicators.

The processes of collecting data and analysis were severely delayed by regular strikes, absences of key personnel, the delay in returning the forms by VYCs and an underestimation of the number of data inconsistencies. The findings, which are presented in Annex 4, provided the project with invaluable data regarding the conflict-related issues still pertinent in VYC communities.

7.5. VYC participatory monitoring

Originally, the VYCs planned to report monthly on changes against the baseline results. This was not possible because the project did not have enough staff to guide the process and collect and process all these reports. Instead, monitoring was done quarterly with the help of the Master Trainers. The quarterly progress reports from all VYCs were received by the Master Trainers which were verified and submitted via the cascading system and compiled into one central report and review by the BASE Central Youth Committee along with Mercy Corps staff.

7.6. Quarterly VYC Meetings

5,195 meetings including 23,780 participants (4,920 meetings with 21,320 planned) were held by 820 VYCs. Considering the workload of VYCs in preparing reports, the project team decided to change the reporting period of VYCs from monthly to quarterly. Strikes and disturbances around election time also negatively affected the timely collection of reports.

7.7. Quarterly AYC Meetings

One hundred fifty-three quarterly meetings with 751 participants were held by 21 AYC during the project (126 meetings with 546 participants planned).

7.8. Quarterly DYC Meetings

Thirty-five quarterly meetings with 227 participants (30 meetings with 130 participants planned) were held by five DYCs.

7.9. Quarterly CYC Meetings

Seven quarterly CYC meetings were held.. A total of 41 youth participated, exceeding targets of six meetings including 29 youth.

7.10. Quarterly Reports to Mercy Corps (MC)

BASE submitted 7 quarterly reports, with the 4th and 7th quarterly reports including annual reports.

7.11. Project Review Meeting

All YIPR project management staff from both Mercy Corps and BASE, including key representatives of youth committees from five districts and the CYC, participated in the mid-year review meeting of the first year, which was held on May 14 and 15, 2007 in Nepalgunj. The meeting reviewed progress, quality and implementation constraints and formulated resolutions for project improvement, such as restructuring of staff and changing meeting frequency. Likewise, the review meeting of the second year was held in Mahendranagar, Kanchanpur during April 20-21, 2008.

7.12. Follow up (Monitoring)

Mercy Corps staff and central staff of BASE visited VYCs throughout the project. Besides VYC visits, visits were made to assist DPOs in preparing quarterly action plans, monitoring 3-day Peacemakers' training to VYCs, and assisting BASE in preparing a quarterly reporting and monitoring matrix. Mercy Corps and BASE central staff frequently visited BASE district offices and youth committees in order to monitor and backstop activities. A total number of 277 days were spent for the direct monitoring and technical assistance by Mercy Corps Nepalgunj and Kathmandu national staff.

7.13. Annual Planning Workshop for Second Year

The annual review and planning workshop, held on August 23 and 24, 2007 in Pokhara developed the work plan and budget for the second year with the direct involvement of 25

participants from Mercy Corps, BASE and youth committees. The detailed work plan for the second year was submitted to USAID on September 28, 2007.

7.14. Endline Survey

To see changes from the baseline, an endline survey was distributed to all VYCs in July 2008. The survey was similar to the baseline, the only additions being open-ended questions as to why the situation changed and what tensions still exist.

Two problems with the baseline were 1) only 660 of the 820 VYCs returned surveys and 2) inconsistent answers which called into question the validity of the data. To increase the response rate and validity of the data, survey questions were revised when necessary (See Annex 5) and Master Trainers worked with each VYC to complete and return the surveys. Both improved greatly, with 814 VYCs returning completed surveys.

Working with Project Manager, Lokendra Rai, Dr. Rebecca Wolfe, a technical specialist from Mercy Corps Conflict Management Group (MC CMG) analyzed the data and wrote the Survey Report (See Annex 5). Mr. Rai and Dr. Wolfe also visited three districts, met with groups of Master Trainers and interviewed beneficiaries to gain a deeper understanding of project successes and areas of improvement.

Some main findings from the endline survey were:

- Tensions in YIPR villages were greatly reduced and security improved over the life of the project.
- Youth were significantly more engaged in their villages and showed both themselves and adults that they could be a positive force in their communities.
- Youth were more likely to engage with youth from different ethnicities, castes and villages.
- Youth built relationships with various stakeholders, allowing them to raise significantly more resources than required (almost nine times the amount).
- Youth applied their newly developed peacebuilding and leadership skills to bring their communities together.

8. CONSTRAINTS AND CHALLENGES

Strikes: Numerous strikes and protests prevented certain activities from being held as scheduled, such as a district meeting in Dang, various sports competitions, street dramas and cultural shows. Delays and cancellations caused frustrations. For the most part, Mercy Corps and BASE were able to reschedule these activities. While Mercy Corps and BASE had little control over the strikes, it was important to create contingency plans for events that had to occur during a small window as strikes were unpredictable.

Limit in Ethnic Reach as a Result of Partner NGO's Foundation: BASE had many advantages as a partner. They were connected to many villages across the Terai, had a solid cascading structure that allowed decisions to move up and down from the central to village levels, and the structure was an easy way to connect youth and adults. The one drawback of working with BASE is that they mostly worked with Tharu communities, limiting YIPR's ability to bring together youth from different castes and ethnicities. Consequently, much of the first year was spent trying to draw those communities into the project. While the

overall percentage of Tharus in the project did not change, fewer VYCs were dominated by one caste or ethnicity by the end of the project.

Falling Dollar: The dollar's value fell significantly over the life of the project, reducing the budget by \$70,000. While aware of the situation, the project staff did correct for these changes earlier enough—such as reducing the budget for CSPs and radio programs—something the project manager recognizes. In the future, when such budget changes occur, it is important to work with CTO to manage which activities need to be funded and which activities could be cut in order for the project to be financially soluble.

9. LESSONS LEARNT

Create Incentives for Building Relationships: With the YIPR grant being relatively small, youth had to reach out to other community members for contributions. This forced them to contact other community groups, government officials and development banks. In the end, the youth raised far more resources than required, allowing them to implement multiple projects without the help of YIPR, and they built strong relationship throughout their communities.

Plan Projects and Events that Bring People Together Repeatedly: Youth mentioned a number of times that what helped build relationships was that they saw youth from other ethnic groups, castes and villages and adults often—to plan CSPs, quarterly meetings, sports competitions, etc. Moreover, in discussing successful CSPs, youth described how roads and bus shelters allowed people to interact on a regular basis when previously, they would not even have said hello to one another.

Integrate Youth with Adults: A critical reason to the success of YIPR is the focus on integrating youth with adults. The lack of involvement in their communities was a central factor for why youth were vulnerable to recruitment into armed groups. The youth and adults worked on CSPs together, attended meetings, and sat on the same decision-making bodies. Adults mentioned that seeing the youth implement a number of successful CSPs and events increased their confidence in the youth and encouraged them to include youth as part of the community leadership. With the youth more integrated within their communities, the risk of recruitment by armed groups has been reduced.

Clearly Define Who the Projects is Trying to Build Relationships Between: In conflict programs, it critical to define which parties and groups will be targeted as the appropriate intervention depends on analyzing the causes of conflict and violence between the parties. There was some confusion in project documents as to which relationships were targeted as part of YIPR. Although the proposal mentions that the conflict is not between ethnic identities, the proposal never defines who the conflict is between and Expected Result 1 was to improve understanding and relationships between ethnic groups and castes.. Therefore those implementing the project may not have known which relationships to target. This lack of definition may have also contributed to choosing a partner that only focused on one ethnicity. In the end, YIPR was able to overcome the confusion by bringing youth from other ethnicities and castes into the project. However, it is unclear if the project targeted the most relevant groups with regards to stabilization of the Terai.

Project Start Up: To launch a project, it is critical to orient staff and project beneficiaries early on, even if it is only an overview of aspects of the project. This is particularly true if a

formal training cannot occur until later as a result of scheduling or unforeseen circumstances. Because the initial peacebuilding training could not be scheduled until five months into the project, it was difficult for VYCs to design appropriate CSPs that incorporated peacebuilding and reconciliation into the CSP design. This slowed the project down during the first year and could have led to frustration amongst beneficiaries.

Provide Enough Resources to Build Youth Capacity: Initially, the youth who were working the VYCs to build their capacity in peacebuilding, leadership, social mobilization and project management were volunteers. It became clear early on that in order to dedicate the time necessary to work with the VYCs, the Master Trainers would need a stipend. After becoming employees of YIPR, the Master Trainers were able to dedicate enough time to help build the skills of other youth and help the youth design and implement the CSPs since they did not have to divide their time between other forms of employment. When training is a critical element to a program, and it is often a critical element of youth programs, it is important to: 1) have enough trainers to work with beneficiaries and 2) provide those trainers with the resources so that they can dedicate enough time to work with beneficiaries.

Long-term Future for Mobilized Youth: In interviews with youth, all wanted to know what they could do next. Particularly, the Master Trainers, who have built significant skills in leadership, peacebuilding, and social mobilization, were eager to continue using their skills in other domains. A number of youth have been incorporated into USAID's EI-GCM program and YIPR was proactive in having VYCs plan future activities, even after YIPR funding is over. However, there is a concern that if these mobilized youth do not find an outlet for their energy, they will become frustrated and be at-risk for joining other groups that might not be as beneficial to their communities.

10. CONCLUSION

As evident by the youth and community engagement in activities, Nepalis want to move beyond the conflict years. Many more youth than anticipated became involved in YIPR, they raised significantly more money than required and at the end, continually asked Mercy Corps what else they could do to improve their communities. Numerous people commented how comforting it was to see their villages starting to develop after many years of neglect.

However, as documented in the SHOUT video, people suffered horribly during the conflict. With those who committed some of the atrocities recently elected to power, confidence in government will remain questionable for some time. These hurts can be quickly activated if not more is done to help the government provide to those affected by the conflict. Networks, such as the ones developed through YIPR can hopefully provide the government with an avenue to building and rebuilding those relationships, and ultimately trust.

Annex-1: Project Accomplish Matrix (Part-A)

Objective #	Budget line item #	Activities	Units	Total Targets						Achievements against targets					
				Targets in Year-1		Targets in Year-2		Total Targets		Achievement in Year-1 (Oct-06 to Sept-07)		Achievement in Year-2 (Oct-07 to Sept-08)		Total Achievement (Year1+Year2)	
				Quantity/Event	Persons/Youths	Quantity/Event	Persons/Youths	Quantity/Event	Persons/Youths	Quantity/Event	Persons/Youths	Quantity/Event	Persons/Youths	Quantity/Event	Persons/Youths
Project Activities															
1.1	6.1	Formation of Village Youth Committees/Clubs (VYCs)	VYCs & youth members	945	15,000	-	-	945	15,000	820	32,115	-	-	820	32,115
		Formation of Area Youth Committees (AYCs)	Committees and youth members	21	273	-	-	21	273	21	273	-	-	21	273
		Formation of District Youth Committees (DYCs)	Committees and youth members	5	65	-	-	5	65	5	65	-	-	5	65
		Formation of Central Youth Committee (CYC)	Committee and youth members	1	13	-	-	1	13	1	13	-	-	1	13
		Total Committees and members		972	15,351	-	-	972	15,351	847	32,466	-	-	847	32,466
1.2	5.1	Peace Makers' Training for Master Trainers & Social Mobilizers	Event	1	47	-	-	1	47	1	48	-	-	1	48
	5.2	Three-day Training on Leadership, Management and Social mobilization for Master Trainers and Social Mobilizers	Events & youths	-	-	1	47	1	47	-	-	1	47	1	47
	5.3	One-day orientation on second-year YIPR activities	Events & youths	-	-	5	172	5	172	-	-	5	181	5	181
	5.4	Two-day training on Leadership, management and social mobilization for VYCs	Events & youths	-	-	56	1,703	56	1,703	-	-	67	1,764	67	1,764
	5.5	One-day Orientation on CSP management and evaluation for BASE Gaun members and youth committees	Events & youths	-	-	56	1,724	56	1,724	-	-	64	1,634	64	1,634
	5.6	Three-day peacemakers training for VYCs	Events & youths	32	981	8	215	40	1,196	32	799	6	127	38	926
	5.7	Two-day Project Planning and Review workshop	Events & persons	3	67	1	28	4	95	3	67	1	28	4	95
	5.8	One-day Final dissemination workshop	Events & persons	-	-	1	24	1	24	-	-	-	-	-	-
	5.9	One -day Orientation on Sport management	Events & youths	-	-	1	20	1	20	-	-	5	79	5	79
1.3	6.2	General Assembly	Events & youths	1	1,266	1	1,156	2	2,422	1	1,800	1	531	2	2,331
1.4	6.3	Youth Camps	Events & youths	21	2,900	21	2,100	42	5,000	21	4,620	5	628	26	5,248
1.5	6.4	Sports competitions	Events & youths	21	160	5	840	26	1,000	21	378	5	942	26	1,320
1.6	6.5	Cultural program	Events & youths	27	500	5	1,008	32	1,508	27	1,485	5	50	32	1,535
2.1	7.2	Community service projects/CSPs (Fund released)	VYCs & youths	15	240	820	19,680	835	19,920	15	525	796	24,250	811	24,775
2.1	7.2	Community service project/CSPs (completed)	VYCs & youths	15	240	820	19,680	835	19,920	15	525	793	26,115	808	26,640
2.2	6.6	Coordination meeting with Decision making bodies at village, area & district level	Events & persons	995	12,935	5	125	1,000	13,060	91	1,638	5	235	96	1,873
2.3	6.11	Dialogue & meeting with traditional decision making bodies (mahatwa, badghar, mukhiya, bhalmansa)	Events & persons	-	-	21	630	21	630	-	-	11	441	11	441
2.4	6.10	Meeting with Parents	Events & Parents	20	600	21	630	41	1,230	20	800	15	577	35	1,377

Annex-1: Project Accomplish Matrix (Part-B)

Objective #	Budget line item #	Activities	Units	Total Targets						Achievements against targets					
				Targets in Year-1		Targets in Year-2		Total Targets		Achievement in Year-1 (Oct-06 to Sept-07)		Achievement in Year-2 (Oct-07 to Sept-08)		Total Achievement (Year1+Year2)	
				Quantity/Event	Persons/Youths	Quantity/Event	Persons/Youths	Quantity/Event	Persons/Youths	Quantity/Event	Persons/Youths	Quantity/Event	Persons/Youths	Quantity/Event	Persons/Youths
3.1	10.4	Publication of Sanghari	Series	6	-	4	20	10	20	4	23	4	13	8	36
3.2	10.1	FM/Radio programs from 3 FM stations (Dang, Banke, Kailali or Mahendra Nagar)	Episodes & Broadcasting	48	-	40	-	88	-	51	11	46	10	97	21
3.3	10.3	Street Dramas	Events & youths	20	-	10	120	30	120	21	315	5	40	26	355
3.4	6.7	Cross Visit	Events & youths	5	64	5	42	10	106	3	126	1	42	4	168
3.5	6.9	Peace promotion competitions	Events & youths	975	1,538	21	420	996	1,958	42	1,974	1	17	43	1,991
HIV/AIDS/STD and Youths															
		HIV/AIDS/STD awareness sessions		-	-	21	5,104	21	5,104	-	-	27	2,723	27	2,723
Monitoring and Evaluation															
1	7.3	Mobilization of Master Trainers	Youths	-	42	-	42	-	42	-	42	-	42	-	42
2	7.4	Monthly visit to district office by Master Trainers	Youths	-	-	420	42	-	42	-	-	44	42	44	42
3	7.5	Program review and reflection meeting in district	Events & youths	2	25	15	333	17	358	1	28	15	352	16	380
4	8.1	VYC Quarterly meeting	Events & youths	2,460	10,660	2,460	10,660	4,920	21,320	2,325	11,480	2,870	12,300	5,195	23,780
5	8.2	AYC Quarterly meeting	Events & youths	63	273	63	273	126	546	84	373	69	378	153	751
6	8.3	DYC Quarterly meeting	Events & youths	15	65	15	65	30	130	21	111	14	116	35	227
7	8.4	CYC Quarterly meeting	Events & youths	3	11	3	18	6	29	4	23	3	18	7	41
8	9.1	M&E by BASE Area Committees Representatives	Days & persons	-	-	-	-	252	42	-	-	150	51	150	51
9	NA	Distribution of NIKE sport material award for Sport competitions, poster competition, street drama, cultural show programs and best CSPs implementing VYCs	VYCs and Leaders	-	-	126	2,709	126	2,709	-	-	800	2,507	800	2,507
10	9.2	M&E by AYC Representatives	Days & youths	-	-	420	21	420	21	-	-	318	155	318	155
11	9.3	M&E by DYC Representatives	Days & youths	-	-	200	10	200	10	-	-	148	53	148	53
12	9.4	M&E by CYC Representatives for program	Days & youths	-	-	240	8	240	8	-	-	39	11	39	11
13	9.5	M&E by BASE Central YIPR Program staff	Days & persons	-	-	240	6	240	6	-	-	30	8	30	8
14	9.6	M&E by BASE District YIPR staff	Days & persons	-	-	300	10	300	10	-	-	228	38	228	38
15	NA	M&E by MercyCorps staff	Days & persons	-	-	-	-	250	5	179	8	98	7	277	15
16	11.1	Development of peace initiative strategy by VYCs	Committee	-	-	-	-	820	10,660	-	-	816	10,049	816	10,049
17	11.2	Development of peace initiative strategy by AYCs	Committee	-	-	-	-	21	273	-	-	21	273	21	273
18	11.3	Development of peace initiative strategy by DYCs	Committee	-	-	-	-	5	65	-	-	5	65	5	65
19	11.4	Development of peace initiative strategy by CYC	Committee	-	-	-	-	1	18	-	-	1	18	1	18
20	9.7	End line Survey	VYCs	-	-	-	-	820	-	-	-	-	-	814	11,041
21	NA	Final project report submission by BASE	Report	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	NA	Closing process of the project	Report	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-

Annex-2: An examples of “Peace Strategy developed by VYC” (Part-A)

Peace strategy by VYCs

Name of club: Prayetna Yuwa Club.

Address: Naubasta-5, Dangpuruwa,

District: Banke

A) Analysis of dividers in village:

Which of the following issues have divided the village? Please mark 1 for the most effective divider to 6 for less effective divider.

<i>Rank of priority</i>	<i>Dividers</i>
4	Different Political ideologies and groups
5	Reach and poor/landlord and peasant/land less
2	Youth and Adults
3	Different caste and ethnicities
6	Different religions
1	Gender/Women and Men
	If other please mention here:

B) Analysis of issues related peace and conflict in village:

Which of the following problems do the members of club experience in village? Please mark 1 for the most prioritized issue to 6 for least prioritized issue.

<i>Rank of priority</i>	<i>Problems/issues</i>
	The members of the club do not represent all types of people which are in the village.
	Youth do not participate in social and development functions organized by others in village.
1	There is still conflict in the village about some issues
	There strike and restrict in movement in village
	There is problem of robbery, abduction, and forceful donation
	There is some cases of damages in infrastructure, houses, and some have lost life in

	village.
	People feel unsafe to walk in village.
	There is tension with neighboring village.
	People, who left the village during the conflict period, do not want to return to village.
3	There is low role and representation of youth at decision making level from village.
2	Opinions, interest and issues of youth have not been included/addressed at decision making level.
	Some people have been excluded from decision making level.
	Some other caste people have excluded and discriminated in village.
	If others:

Annex-2: An examples of “Peace Strategy developed by VYC” (Part-B)

C) Determination of Strategies:

Which 3 major of the above problems do the members of club want to respond from their available resources and capacity?

1. There is still conflict in the village about some issues.
2. Opinions, interest and issues of youth have not been included/addressed at decision making level.
3. There is low role and representation of youth at decision making level from village.

How do the club members want to address the above prioritized issues?

1. Assess the conflict of the village and analyze the main root causes of the conflict in village, and develop action plan with full participation of people from the village.
2. Involve youth, adult and women as well as member from other communities in planning, implementation and evaluation of work to be done in village.
3. Organize a meeting with village people and share the action plan for the village to address the conflict in village.
4. Enhance the leadership and communication skill youth, particularly for female youth members
5. Advocate the issues of youth as well as gender issues with adult members and other stakeholders through meeting program and non-violent campaigns.
6. Organize meeting regularly and discuss the progress and changes in the actions.
7. Plan some social works for village where all people can participate.
8. Seek assistance from others and manage resources to carry out the activities.

Work chart:

Works	Time Frame
Assess the conflict of the village and analyze the main root causes of the conflict in village.	2064-09-15
Organize a meeting with village people and share the action plan for the village to address the conflict in village.	2064-09-29
Prepare a detailed action plan with full participation of all people in village and made them agree.	2064-10-30
Enhance the leadership and communication skill among youth	As per applicable
Advocate the issues of youth with adult members and other stakeholders through meeting program and non-violent campaigns.	As per applicable
Organize meeting regularly and discuss the progress and changes in	Monthly

the actions.	
Desing some social works for village where all people can participate.	2065-1-5
Seek assistance from others and manage resources to carry out the activities.	As per applicable

Prepared by:

Approved by:

Date:

Date:
