

National Action Plans

on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820



UN Women worked to improve the status of conflict affected women in far west Nepal in three districts of Bajhang, Doti and Kailali from 2012 to 2016. Search for Common Ground prepared this document based on the study of women, peace and security during the first and last year of the UN Women project "Strengthening Implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Nepal (SIWPSAN): Towards Implementation of NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820."

National Action Plans on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820

Achievements

REACH. In 2012, 96% conflict affected women were unaware of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. In 2016, 30% said they were aware. Representatives of inter-party women's network, civil society, and political parties witnessed women participating, speaking out, planning, and implementing activities.

INTEGRATION. NAP is part of planning at district development committee meetings. Beneficiaries audit village development committee plans to assure inclusion of issues. 16% female respondents said they were in key positions such as chairperson, secretary, or treasurer in organizations. 90% felt violence against women and girls had decreased.

District **COORDINATION** committees collaborate with government agencies and the civil society. "They plan, remove duplication, encourage replication of successes and create synergy." 52% of respondents participated in women, peace and security related efforts and 29% in UNSCRs training. "We went to Kyrgyzstan to see first-hand how NAPS are localized."

Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development guidelines became gender responsive, including provisions on **PARTICIPATION** in women, peace and security agenda. Women's networks are now part of village development committee level planning. Integrated planning committees in municipalities have at least two women members and gender equality during planning and implementation.

IMPLEMENTATION. "82% of 89 decisions made at district level meetings were implemented." Effectiveness of Women and Children Service Centre, safe houses, awareness, and social reintegration increased. "If programs for women are not included, it is very difficult to get a sanction from the VDC now."

Five Pillars of the NAP

PARTICIPATION of women combatants or violence victims increased from 52% in 2012 to 88% in 2016. 74% female respondents became affiliated to women's groups, mothers' groups, ward citizen forums, or forest user groups. Women left behind were engaged.

PROTECTION & PREVENTION: safe houses and Women and Children Service Centers were strengthened. Awareness was raised: in 2012, 23% female respondents were aware of women's security,

laws and legal provisions, the figure rose to 70% in 2016. A sub-inspector of police said, "After being trained in computer use, we now digitize and analyze data to discover trends related to violence against women and girls."

PROMOTION: In 2012, 3% of women reported having heard of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. By 2016 93% were aware with 58% also saying they knew about the five pillars of the national action plan. Vice-chairperson of a women's center said, "I used to consider myself a victim and felt ignored by the government. Now I feel empowered."

RELIEF & RECOVERY: "Of 1,205 conflict affected women 311 had received relief packages from the government," Surendra Bhatta, LPC coordinator, Doti, said. Chief district officers, civil society representatives, and District Coordination Committee members assure better distribution of relief materials.

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION & MONITORING: "Women monitor DCC members, the SIWPSAN project, and organizations working on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820," said a former DCC member. "Key achievements and gaps and challenges are shared," Dev Bahadur Khadka, VDC Secretary of Sanagaun reported.

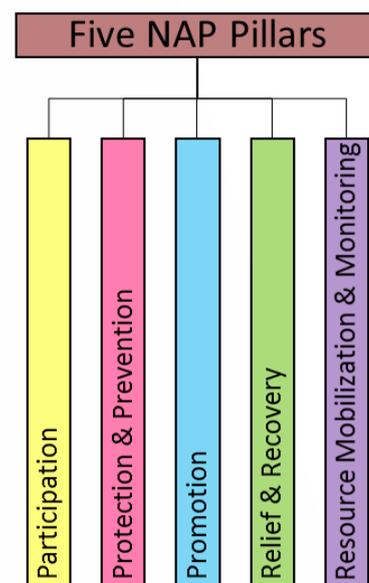
Representing women

PARTICIPATION & COORDINATION. Conflict affected women were present at every planning meeting. Issues were collected from all five village development committees when making the district action plan. Plans by the VDC were reviewed by a committee chaired by the chief district officer.

ROLE of women and children officers were **IMPROVED.** WCOs helped assess needs of conflict affected women, formed conflict affected women's groups and provided skill-based training. In 2016, participation of conflict affected households increased from 40% to 68%.

Target group opinions were incorporated. 67% of women respondents were aware of the action plan. **AWARENESS** of budget allocation was higher among women in SIWPSAN covered districts.

Ministry of federal affairs and local development provided district development committees policy guidelines that prioritizes women, peace and security. District coordination committees **MAINTAINED** the WPS agenda.



Related activities

ECONOMIC. Victims know they are entitled to government support. "SIWPSAN provided training, seed grants and IEC materials." With awareness, economic improvement, coordination, and communication, conflict affected women and former women combatants found integration within communities easier.

COOPERATION. District action plans united women from different political ideologies. During the curfew in Kailali, women from the opposing political parties organized activities that built harmony and encouraged peaceful protest.

GENDER RESPONSIVE BUDGET. GRB was introduced "to ensure that the government and donors take into account women's perspective in the budget and taxation policies and programs and allocate adequate resources to fulfill their commitments to gender equality." IPWN members of Kailali were involved in the process of collecting issues related to women, enlisting activities and programs that responded to these needs in planning and implementation. The budget was also audited by women.

SUSTAINABILITY of the WPS agenda. As per the survey in 2016, women's affiliation in youth networks, women's groups, mothers' groups, FUG committees, *tole* user committees, NGOs, school management committees, local security committees, inter party women's network, political parties, IPC task force increased substantially. In 2012, affiliation in women groups was 20% whereas in 2016, it increased to 74%. More women achieved decision making positions.