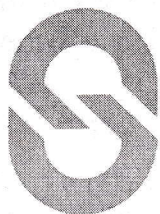


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**SAP - NEPAL
KATHMANDU**

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Governance within SAP-Nepal

SAP-Nepal Structure

SAP-Nepal Publications

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ABBREVIATIONS

CBO	Community Based Organizations
CDR	Central Development Region
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DDF	District Development Forum
EDR	Eastern Development Region
FWDR	Far Western Development Region
GO	Government Organization
HDF	Human Development Foundation
INAFI	International Network of Alternative Financial Institutions
INGO	International Non- Government Organization
MDF	Mutual Development Foundation
MT	Mobile Team
MWDR	Mid- Western Development Region
NRC	National Resource Center
PATH	Participatory Approach Towards Holistic (Development) Program
PGF	Peace and Governance Foundation
RRC	Regional Resource Center
SARPPP	South Asia Regional People in Policy Program
SED	Sustainable Environment Development
SAHDF	South Asia Human Development Foundation
SCOP	Strengthening of Civil Society Organizations Program

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



In the year 2002/03 some important historical events occurred in Nepal. His Majesty King Gyanendra through a royal proclamation on October 4, 2002 dismissed the caretaker government of Prime Minister Mr. Sher Bahadur Deuba. Mr. Lokendra Bahadur Chand was made Prime Minister of Nepal and given a mandate to restore peace, hold elections, promote rule of law and ensure clean administration. As the major political parties refused to join Chand's interim government he too failed to meet the objectives and His Majesty the King appointed Mr. Surya Bahadur Thapa as the new Prime Minister. In this seventh year of the Maoist insurgency which began in 1996, some hope for peace sprouted when the Government and the Maoists declared a cease-fire on January 29, 2003 and reinitiated peace talks. In the same period, the tenth five year plan was published and the Abuse of Authority Investigation Commission (CIAA) had taken action against high level bureaucrats and politicians for corruption.

SAP-Nepal has made direct and indirect contributions to the positive changes that occurred in the country during the reporting period. Despite the unstable political situation and an absence of local elected bodies, the organization made some attempts in promoting peace, good governance and sustainable livelihood in partnership with local NGOs, civil society professionals/institutions and INGOs. I would like to extend my heart felt thanks and appreciation for the work done.

My sincere gratitude is also extended to all civil society professionals for their participation in our programs and the moral support provided to us. I am grateful to Novib, Canadian International Development Agency, Swiss Development and Cooperation Agency (SDC), Cardinal Leger Organization (CLO), World Accord, SAP Canada, Club2/3, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Canadian Cooperation Organization (CCO), Bellanet, SAP-international, and other national and International institutions that provided financial, technical and moral support to us. Finally, I would like to acknowledge the contributions of all stakeholders including SAP-N board members and staff for successfully operationalizing the organization and the programs.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rohit', written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Rohit Kumar Nepali

OVERVIEW OF SAP-NEPAL

Nepal, a country full of natural resources and cultural heritage is one of the world's poorest countries where 42% of its 23.1 million people live below the poverty line. 80% of the population are involved in agriculture but this sector produces only 40% of the GNP of the country. The richest 20% of the country consume or share 44.8% of the total national income or resources and the poorest 20% share only 7.6% of the income.

Successive governments have not only failed to fulfill their promises but also failed to address peace and governance issues. Their vested interests, lack of accountability and the increased power struggle between the parties have resulted in the present instability. Good governance and inclusion of the poor and marginalized in decision making would be the best solution to many of Nepal's problems.

SAP-Nepal is committed to the empowerment of these poor and disadvantaged groups. It is making great efforts to mainstream these marginalized communities into the development process.

SAP-Nepal believes that effective development is possible only when there is effective planning. It is proud to state that it is one of the organizations that had introduced concept of strategic plan at the national level. It is also one of the dynamic organizations that changes its approach as per need and demand of the external environment and target communities. In this changing scenario of the country, some attempts at revising strategic plans were also initiated during the reporting period. During this revision, there was vigorous sharing and discussions at the regional and national level for finalizing the plan document.



Board and Staff Members in Strategic Planning Meeting

Organizational design has helped SAP-Nepal in promoting specialization amongst regional organizations, foundation and staff members. There was a pre testing of the concept of division for dealing with a holistic approach of development. After long experimentation, existing divisions were converted into foundations. It was decided that the Peace and Governance Foundation, the Mutual Development Foundation and the Human Development Foundation would focus on the political, economic and social component of development respectively. Besides, the foundation also initiated a process of institutionalizing itself by preparing a strategic planning document.

SAP-Nepal is a pioneering organization in the establishment of regional resource centers in rural areas. It has also initiated a process of providing functional autonomy to these regional centers by establishing them as independent organizations. These organizations have also identified a regional niche depending on the regional scenario and strength of the organization. There was also intensive discussion on the strategic plan and organizational structure of these regional organizations.



Regional Resource Center of SAP-Nepal

During the year remarkable achievements made in the development of communication system for the organization. Realizing that in the past the communication flow had operated without a system, the staff members reviewed the organizational communication flow to develop a more systematic approach. So, a communication strategy was initiated and steps were taken to establish a staff mailing list to share information and knowledge through online communication tools.

MISSION-WISE ACHIEVEMENTS

Creation of Critical Mass for Good Governance

SAP-Nepal had made attempt to create critical masses of various forms for facing the challenge of poor governance in the country.

Bad governance has been recognized as the main causes of failure of development programs, pervasive poverty, emergence of conflict and its escalation. The Nepalese civil society has been weak in influencing governance policies to favor the poor and marginalized community. A culture of silence, a culture of dependency and a culture of corruption still exist. In addition to this, now a culture of violence has also emerged in the country. To address these problems the organization has adopted the mission of creating critical mass for promoting good governance. The mass is created by socially, politically and economically empowering disadvantaged groups so that they will be able to break the culture of silence and raise their voice to influence public policies for pro people governance.

In this relation, SAP-Nepal has made attempts to facilitate different levels of critical masses. Eg: Nagarik Samaj Bikash Parishad Nepal, 11 District Development Forums (DDFs), 250 Civil society organizations affiliated to DDFs and 25,000 members affiliated to these organizations. This mass was active in raising a voice on governance issues. Priority was given to issues related to Corruption, Decentralization, Transparency, Accountability and Inclusion. These grass root based forums, composed of like minded Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), were also mobilized to raise awareness and sensitiveness amongst the local community to make them conscious of their duties and responsibilities to deal with governance issues.

SAP-Nepal also made attempts to mobilize the youth mass of 288 belonging to 10 districts via four events of Youth Camps and Education Camps. The rural youths were motivated to be involved in different development interventions. Various examples of youth interventions coordinated at the rural level showed that youth motivation and enthusiasm can be used for effective development. Development education of the youth will also support them to develop themselves as capable leaders.

Civil Society Organizations that have raised voice against bad governance are themselves blamed for corrupt practices. SAP-Nepal and partner organizations have made attempts to increase a democratic culture in their own organizations. Eg: the increased participation of members in decision making, the increased representation of women in organizational membership, the increased flow of information, etc.

The critical mass also started to discuss incorporating policies related to inclusion in the constitution for accelerating the development pace. These interactions of critical masses also supported discourse on the constitution at the national level. Similarly, peace building initiatives of different critical masses also helped intensify the peace movement in the leadership of civil society organizations. With the constant pressure of these critical masses, a second peace talk was held between the government and the Maoists.



Advocacy Campaign For Peace

SAP-Nepal also facilitated the process of forming an alliance amongst intellectuals, activists and former bureaucrats to add momentum to the peace effort. This alliance aims to turn the current ceasefire into permanent peace in the country. It will also interact with political leaders to build political commitment for conflict management.

Economic Empowerment of Civil Society

SAP-Nepal believes that economic empowerment is possible with sensitization, inclusive participation and the devolution of a decisive role. Different interventions of the organization have also concentrated in these beliefs. One hundred and forty five Mutual Development Organizations (MDOs) have been used as catalysts for raising awareness amongst community members about the importance of local resource mobilization. These organizations are providing financial and technical assistance to groups of 17,000 communities. Different capacity building interventions of SAP-N focused on these organizations supported them to groom them as organizations committed to development with broad visions of development.

These organizations had also facilitated different economic issue based interactions to raise grass roots voices against these issues. The effective facilitation of these interactions is also proof of the increased level of empowerment of these grass root based organizations.

Credit mobilization of Rs. 4,344,220 (annual credit) helped to promote the economy of 1202 families at the rural level. These investments were based on agro based sectors. It is envisioned that these inputs will support in developing a sectoral village for ensuring the effective marketing of agro-based products. Some of the prominent impacts were seen in the sectors of turmeric in Sarlahi.



Credit Mobilization in Grass Roots

The plan to involve these community based organizations in the Development Bank and the Nagarik Samaj Bikash Parishad. The inclusion of these organizations in the Development Bank will help them play decisive roles in their own economic actions. Professional inputs of the organization will support them in quality improvement. On the other hand, their representation in the Parishad will help them have a voice in economic policy formulation and implementation.

Enhancement of Social Cohesion

Social cohesion is one of the pre requisites for peace in the country. During the year, SAP-Nepal facilitated a process of information and knowledge sharing amongst the organizations at the South Asian level. Mailing lists were created and online discussions on Communication for Social Change were also facilitated. During the same period, SAP-N also initiated the process of using Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to share experiences and knowledge. It also facilitated different workshops to raise awareness among CSOs on the importance of effective knowledge sharing. There has been little development of the disadvantaged sections but elite groups are get more benefits from new technologies and interventions. SAP-Nepal had taken a two fold strategy to mainstream Disadvantaged Groups (DAG) into the development process. Firstly, it has facilitated the empowerment process of these DAGs in rural areas. There is increased participation of DAGs in SAP-N programs. The inclusion theory has been adopted to include the marginalized communities in different forums facilitated by SAP-Nepal. It helped to build capacity of these groups to idenitify, analyze and address the issues by effective mass mobilization. Secondly, it has worked to sensitize the elite groups and communities to devote themselves to the empowerment of the DAG community.



Sensitization of DAG Community

With the objective of empowering women in political local governance, 80 selected potential women leaders belonging to 40 villages were involved in various capacity building interventions. These women masses are mobilized for raising voice to ensure representation of women in decision-making. These women are also used as catalysts for enhancing capacity of other potential women leaders at rural level.

PROGRAM PERFORMANCE PORTRAYAL

Participatory Approach Towards Holistic (PATH) Development:

The envisioned goal of the second phase of PATH is to promote good governance for society building. During the year, it continued its interventions on building capacities at various levels of advocacy on peace and governance issues.

PATH initiated the third phase in January 2003 with the following objectives:

- To institutionalize sustainable development forums of governance
- To strengthen marginalized and deprived sections of society for policy influencing on humane governance
- To enhance capacity resource centers to deal with the dynamic and holistic need of governance

Regular interactive programs on governance issues at various levels by DDF

Each DDF of the 11 districts conducted an interactive dialogue to address governance issues existing in the PATH districts. The interactions were generally divided into two parts. First was the paper presentation, which was followed by a discussion on the theme. The interactions developed a common consensus among the participants on different issues and made suggestions and recommendations for the future.

Table 1: Issues of Interactive Dialogues Held in Different Districts

Regions							
District	EDR	District	CDR	District	WDR	District	MWDR
Ilam	Problem and constraint of people at local bodies without people's representatives	Makwanpur	Less efforts of local governance institutions for minimizing environmental degradation	Kaski	Ineffective role of Civil Society for analyze and minimize negative impact of conflict to women and children	Banke	Girl trafficking
Morang	Chaotic educational situation and quality education	Sarlahi	Inadequate efforts of local bodies to control damages from Lakhandehi River	Rupandehi	Ineffective Role of political parties and civil society in civic education	Bardia	Inadequate attempts to use education as a means to abolish caste based discrimination
Siraha	Child Marriage	Chitwan	Inefficient Role of political parties and the concerned authorities in solving the problems of landless people			Surkhet	Ineffective Role of civil society in safe motherhood program

Ineffective role of local governance, environmental agenda, DAG inclusiveness, educational management etc. were major areas of interaction. The representatives of the civil society, the market and the state actively took part in the interactions. Altogether 478 participants comprising 153(32%) women and 325(68%) men participated in the interaction including 70% privileged caste groups, 9 % under-privileged caste groups, 19 % ethnic communities and 2% others.

DDFs established their identity as advocacy institutions on governance

The DDFs have achieved progress on advocacy campaigns initiated in 2002. This has increased the credibility of the DDFs among the CSOs, the government and the market as an advocacy institutions of governance. The governance institutions of the districts regularly invite the DDFs to their programs. It was encouraging to note that the politicians, line agencies and intellectuals requested some DDFs to organize peace interactions during the difficulties found in the peace dialogue between the Government and the Maoists.



Advocacy Campaign at Local Level

Democratic practices in DDF

The DDFs have started democratic practices in their organizations. They have initiated the election of the executive bodies by voting instead of using consensus. They have also started to raise questions on the efficiency of the leadership for the effective implementation of the DDF. It was also noted that there has been increased sharing of information among general members. It has been reported that partners have begun to involve beneficiaries in the decision making process of their program activities.

The prime focus of PATH III will be research/advocacy, network management and capacity building on issues related to governance including causes and consequences of violence and insecurity, development and democratization. Based on previous experiences, effort will also be focused on solidarity building and capacity building of civil society organizations. At the same time linkage with other stakeholders of the civil society such as labor unions, trade unions, professional unions etc. and the state and the market actors and agencies will be enhanced at various levels.

Strengthening of Civil Society Organizations (SCOP)

SCOP is now in its sixth year of implementation. The program has incorporated various strategies and approaches: social mobilization to promote social solidarity and harmony in the community; organizational development to help institutionalize the development process and democratic practices at the grassroots; networking to promote co-operation and collaboration and a mutual development banking process aimed to make funds accessible at the grassroots for economic projects.

Promotion of sector village

The establishment of model villages by promoting sector specific agro-based micro enterprises is a main thrust of this program. For this purpose 25 village development committees of 10 districts have already been selected. The major commodities for the sector village: have been identified as ginger, goat and vegetable. Mutual Development Groups (MDGs) of the respective villages have started increasing their production. However, not much progress has yet been made in the market linkage process.

Table 2: Status of the credit facilities made available to the sector and non-sector partner organizations:

Regions			
S.N	DEVELOPMENT REGION	CREDIT MADE ABAILABLE DURING LAST 12 MONTHS	NO. OF FAMILIES AND ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVED CREDIT
1	Mid. West	1,304,000.00	237 families of 18 organizations
2	Western	569,600.00	165 families of 9 organizations
3	Central	1,146,720.00	402 families of 14 organizations
4	Eastern	1,323,900.00	398 families of 21 organizations received credit
	TOTAL:	4,344,220.00	1202 families of 62 organizations

Seventy-five percent of the loans requested by CBOs have been on on agro-based sectors and 25% for other sectors. The size of the loan per family is Rs. 2662, but the size of the loan per partner is Rs. 89,926. A few more applications from MDOs for loans are being processed. Presently there are 145 partners in the MDF.

Promotion of Cooperative and Investment Scheme Development

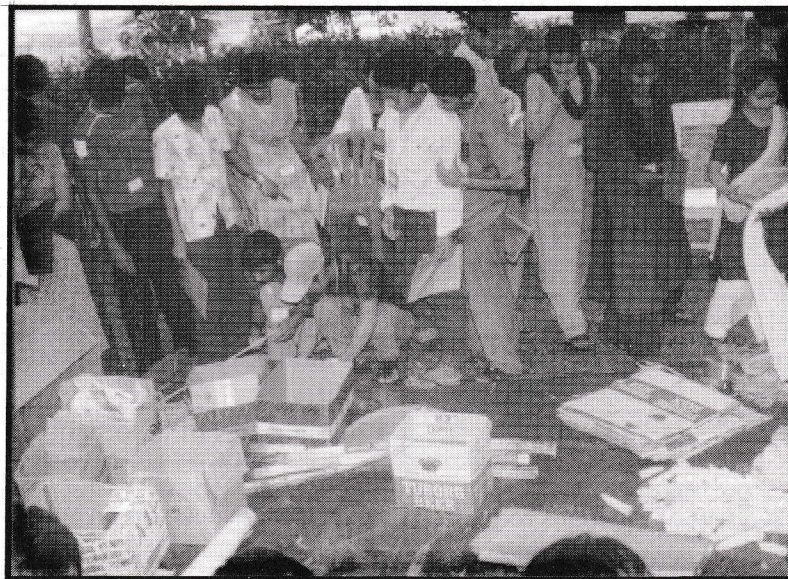
SCOP also supported some like-minded cooperative societies who are provided a small amount of credit facilities. During this reporting period some cooperatives repaid their loan instalments. The main purpose of the investment scheme development is to promote the of marketing of sectoral village products. Since this work has already been incorporated in the sectoral village scheme there has not been any separate intervention made.

Youth Mobilization:

SAP-Nepal has realized that youth leaders can play a vital role in social and resource mobilization, conflict resolution and policy influencing. Youths of 16- 25 years are energetic and have the desire to do something for their community or nation. Thus, SAP-Nepal is trying to tap the innovative-energy of the youth for community development. SAP-Nepal has organized two big campaigns to select youth leaders from the SCOP district of EDR, CDR and WDR through multi-stage samplings of their intelligence, sincerity, hard work and commitment.

This year, four youth camps of different nature and magnitude were conducted to create an enabling environment for youths to bring out their leadership qualities for the betterment of their respective villages. Some follow up activities of the camps were also conducted.

These camps have increased the level of participation of the youths in the community development activities in their respective villages. It was also noticed that there was an increase in the voluntary work of youths in social mobilization programs



Team Building Exercise in Youth Camp

There are various successful case studies of youth leaders, which is a major outcome of several youth camps organized by SAP-Nepal under SCOPE program.

Box 1: An action plan of Prakash Paudel: A Successful Youth Leader

Mr. *Prakash Poudel* is a sixteen-year-old youth leader of Ward no. 1, *Purunchour* Village Development committee, *Kaski* district. He has just completed his SLC and is energetic, hard working and committed to rural development. He was selected from the *Kaski* district as a youth leader for a three-day youth campaign held at Sauraha organized by SAP-Nepal CDR, Chitwan. At the second level youth leader campaign held at Sauraha between 12-14 March 2003, he said "I learned several effective issues of community development and approaches in the last campaign and most of these, I have implemented in my community as I had committed in my last action plan. I had especially focused on health issues like HIV-AIDS, sanitation and awareness activities". He had divided his programs into two sections and involved his colleagues, parents and villagers. He said, "Getting full cooperation, support and sympathy from all stakeholders is the only means of successfully implementing the activities as per my action plan". He further said, "The awareness raising was the first activity of the program, started from 2059/4/10 as per the action plan schedule". In the first program, health and sanitation related slogans and messages were displayed in placards, and several rallies were organized. For this reason, he says they had involved local youth clubs, school students and interested villagers. They rallied over all the wards (1-9) of the (VDC). They posted and spread hand written posters and pamphlets. The messages spread in the rally were like, what is HIV-AIDS, causes of transmission, measures of control; importance of sanitation, effect of dirtiness etc. Ultimately, the rally was converted into a mass convention where several speakers gave their views. The convention was chaired by the chairperson of the VDC. Mr. *Poudel* was pleased to say, "It was very effective raising the awareness among so many people at one time. The youth and villagers, most of whom were not aware previously, benefited a lot". The second phase program was carried out on the second week of *Bhadra*. This was a follow-up program to assess the effects of the first phase activities. An interaction program was also organized focusing on young school going children (13-19 years) vis-à-vis HIV-AIDS and other health related issues. A clear picture about HIV-AIDS, causes of transmission, control measure, and role and responsibilities of all stakeholders, was given at the end of the program.

In this way, a young person like Mr. *Poudel* having social-motive, commitment and sincerity is sufficient to transform the society. The development of the state is possible, if we produce people like Mr. *Poudel* in every community. He has been successful in the resolution of HIV-AIDS and some other health related issues in his village. He has mobilized local resources and skills tried to influence policies with the participation of government line agencies.

South Asia People and Policy Program (SARPPP):

SARPPP is in its second year of implementation. Its main aim is to enhance civil society's ability to promote systemic changes in governance, human rights, peace and human security policies and to allow greater participation of women groups in local governance. SARPPP has been launched in four districts of Nepal - Ilam, Morang in eastern development region and Banke, Bardiya in mid-western development region. In four districts, it has implemented program in 51 VDCs within four constituencies.

During this reporting period an analysis of women in governance was conducted and case studies of local women leaders was compiled. Mapping of CSOs working on the issue of women and governance was also undertaken.

To analyze the national budget in terms of provision made for the empowerment of women, SAP-Nepal conducted a study under the SARPP program. The study was followed by a one-day interactive meeting, organized on 13 September 2002 to share the findings and get the input from different groups. The findings was published in a report titled "Women in National Budget, Alternative budgetary strategies for women empowerment".

Collection of various success case stories:

Twelve case studies were prepared in Nepali version. A semi-structured questionnaire and check list were prepared to collect information for the cases. The women political leaders who were elected are taken as success stories. We tried to identify the main strategy they had adopted to be a successful.

Dialogue exchange and advocacy

Through the interactive dialogue conducted at local level, a greater awareness was created among the civil society on the issues of local governance. District Development Forums (DDFs) have organized advocacy dialogue on the importance of women's participation in local governance. The evaluations conducted at these advocacy dialogue meetings show a significant increase of interest in like-minded CSOs on this issue.

Table 3: The issues identified by CSOs

Regions			
District	EDR	District	MWDR
Ilam	Reservation, to increase the participation of women at political governance	Banke	Less Participation of women at political Governance (at local level)
Morang	Women participation in Political Governance	Bardiya	Women participation in political governance

Education materials were also produced under the program. Leaflets on women leadership were produced.

Building Capacity of women and CBOs and CSOs

One of the objectives of this program is to increase the capacity of CSOs to promote and train women leaders. To achieve this objective SAP-Nepal had selected trainers from different CSOs and formed a training mobile team which is now providing training to the potential women leaders and other CSOs in these districts. A total of 80 potential leaders from 40 villages have been identified to participate in the program.



Mobile Team in Training organised by SAP-Nepal

Voter Education:

Last year when the parliamentary elections were announced, a training program on voter education was provided to the mobile team. A sensitization camp on Just Vote (voter education) at community level was also planned to make the election effectual. Two posters and one pamphlets focusing on the importance of voting were designed and published in Nepali version. The pamphlet is on strategies to empower women. However, elections were postponed and the program could not be conducted. The program was funded by the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC). This program will again be initiated by SAP-Nepal after the announcement of elections by the Government.

South Asia Human Development Forum (SAHDF):

The South Asia Human Development Forum (SAHDF) strengthens the agenda for human development in South Asia and helps all committed parties to move it forward. The forum enables information on human development to be shared readily within and outside the region. It provides space for dialogue and consensus building on human development issues. It supports the civil society to influence local, national, regional and international policies affecting human development in South Asia. It facilitates

cooperation in implementing the human development agenda and it promotes accountability of action on human development policies.

As a regional secretariat for the South Asia Human Development Forum, the on-line forum is updating its web site www.hdfnet.org. At present the main focus of the forum is on-line resource sharing. The website has links to sites and information, news, documents, other resource centers, networks and forums on various topics such as governance, democracy, citizenship, conflict, peace and justice. The forum is currently functional with members in five South Asian countries (India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal).

A four-day training on "Information Communication Technologies for Development" was organized in collaboration with One World South Asia. The training was designed for communication personnel of non government organizations and focused on communication skill development with the use of various online collaboration tools, discussion lists and web sites.

A Knowledge Management workshop was organized in collaboration with Bellanet from 16- 18 July, 2003. Besides Nepal there were participants from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Canada. Concepts tools techniques and approaches of knowledge management were shared and discussed in the workshop. Though the objective of the workshop was not to find the solution to any particular issue but to gain knowledge and skill on knowledge management, the exercises conducted in the workshop were very useful in getting an insight into the root causes of some specific issues.



Knowledge Management Workshop

Apart from online discussions and posting in the forum, a concept of E-interactions, a mailing list for effective information sharing and the concept of D-groups has been adopted by SAP-Nepal as an effective tools for communication.

NETWORKING

SAP-Nepal is working with 1500 NGOs, comprising national and international organizations committed to societal development. It has enabled the network for communal development to be a part of a new network called the International Network of Alternative Financial Institutions (INAFI). It is an active network in Asia, America and Africa and its three secretariats serves 12 million clients world wide through the intervention of 60 MFI's in 25 countries that are united to provide financial services to the poor without sacrificing their social justice. The objective of this network is to build the capacity of its member institutions. It also aims to effect a positive change in the economic sector through capacity development, research and development and advocacy.

SAP-Nepal hosts a national INAFI network (INAFI-Nepal) from July 2003 which consists of 5 members and planning to have 14 members at the end of the project period. INAFI Nepal will have separate legal identity to function as an autonomous body at national level as mandate set by the INAFI-Nepal in consultation with INAFI-International. Dr. Rohit Kumar Nepali, Chairperson of INAFI-Nepal is also the board of trustee of INAFI-International and board member of INAFI-Asia registered under Netherlands and Bangladesh law respectively.



A Workshop on Small Arms

South Asia Small Arms Network (SASA-Net) is another attempt for creating a critical mass for minimizing small arms. It is a network of civil society members that aims to bring organizations and activists from different parts of the region to lobby policy makers, build public awareness and share information on small arms and light weapons.

The ad hoc committee of SASA-Net National Coalition for Nepal was formed in June 18, 2003 in Kathmandu. There are seven members in the executive committee, which is led by Dr. Rohit Kumar Nepali, the coordinator of the national coalition. SAP-Nepal is the secretariat for National Coalition of Nepal.

The members of the CFP have already held a series of meetings with prominent leaders of Political parties and the National Human Rights Commission. The team had interaction with Prime Minister on March 25, 2003. The meeting was successful in conveying voices of people to the high level policy makers of the country.

A group comprising "Coalition of Peace" visited some Maoist affected areas of Dang and Rolpa districts and had interactions with war victims and with people who had watched closely events of human rights violations or witnessed the suffering of relatives and friends. These face to face conversation/interactions clearly illustrated the discussion of development infrastructures and the absence of public services that can be brought about by the armed conflict.



*An interaction at Maoist Affected Area
by the Members of Coalition of Peace in*

PROMINENT VISITS

SAP-Nepal is also working constantly for capacity building of the partner organizations and its staff members. Some of the prominent visits of the year are described below:

Dr. Rohit Kumar Nepali, Executive Director participated in Asian NGOs Symposium on the Implementation of the UNCCD in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates on 7-8 June 2003.

The major agendas of the program were

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
2. Election of Officers
3. Presentations of case studies, progress in the implantation of UNCCD
4. Civil Society's contribution towards implantation of the convention
5. Success stories of Asian Communities
6. Discussions for the preparation of the 6th session of the conference of the parties
7. Statement for the focal point meeting and the ministerial conference

Ms. Rita Bhadra, Human Development Division Coordinator participated in the SARPPP Program Officer Meeting in Colombo from 5-8 May 2003. The main objective of the meeting was to share the progress made by the respective countries and reach collective clarity and consensus on the changes to SARPPP.

Ms. Tapaswee Rajbhandari, Assistant Program Officer participated in a month long training course on Certificate in Managing NGO Resource Center in Nova Scotia, Canada from May 12- June 6, 2003. The course contained diversified areas of organizational management and sustainability. The training was conducted by the Coady International Institute. The Canadian Cooperation Organization, Lazimpat, Kathmandu, Nepal funded the entire fees.

NEW RESOURCES



Women in National Budget
(In English Version, December 2002)

This report focuses on the series of events of knowledge building process for developing equitable women development strategies in the country. This book identifies the gap in women empowerment program planning in relation to budget allocation as well as to provide suggestions and recommendations.

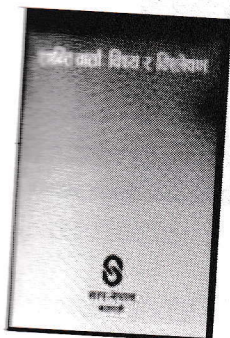
Price: Rs 50



Shanti Ra Sushasan: Nagarik Samaj ko Chintan
(In Nepali Version, Mangsir 2058)

SAP-Nepal has been organizing workshops at various levels to discuss the peace establishment in the nation with various proficient level of civil society for restoring peace in the country. This report is a consolidation of the inputs for restoring peace which have been gathered from the workshop "Shanti Ra Sushasan: Dirgakalin Shanti Upaya ko Khoji" on Ashwin 2058.

Price: Rs 65



Shanti Ra Barta: Bisaya Ra Bishlesan
(In Nepali Version, Baisakh 2060)

This is a report of interactive program organized by SAP-Nepal on 2059 Magh, 22 with the title "Shanti Barta: Bisaya Ra Bisleshan". The views of the members of the civil society for converting the cease fire into permanent peace with the simple and uncomplicated ways of restoring peace process was specified in the program. This report is the consolidation analysis of the civil society members.

Price: Rs 65

All these resources are available at SAP- Nepal

Please refer annex for the detail information of SAP-Nepal publications

SERVICES

SAP Publishing House: Aimed at facilitating the dissemination of development information on regular basis, the National Resource Center in Kathmandu has established a publishing house with printing facilities.

Eco- Tourism: Helping the community to support their local sustainability development goals and promote biodiversity conservation efforts, an eco-tourism package has been developed and is ready to be initiated from next year. The purpose of this initiative is also to support the sustainability of SAP as well as benefit the communities. The role of SAP-Nepal will be to work as intermediary between national and international clients and the community service providers in potential rural areas.



Natural forest At SAPDEC

Development Bank: SAP-Nepal is being established a development bank in cooperation with partner organizations. Banking services will be provided initially to 10 of the 25 districts it plans to reach. Supporting the concept of sector specialization, the services are focused on promoting agro based sector specialization by communities. Local partner organizations will function as intermediaries for the community.

International Events Coordination: Kathmandu has had an ever-increasing attraction to organizers of conferences and seminars both national and international. This is evident from the numerous successful workshops and seminars conducted and coordinated by SAP-Nepal. The venues and services rendered have won high acclaim from all the parties concerned. SAP-Nepal fully understands the requirements of such events and has upgraded its services to the ever-changing demands.



International Board Meeting

Up Coming Services:

Restaurants: A food facility will be introduced in SAP-Nepal premises. This facility is aimed to support programs, interactions, workshops etc organized in the conference and training halls of SAP-Nepal. Apart from that, the restaurant also aims to provide catering facility for any social functions.

Internet Facility: An internet facility or the cyber café will shortly be introduced in the SAP-Nepal premises at nominal prices for the promotion of knowledge based system.

A membership criterion for the individuals as well as organization has been developed for maximizing the utilization of SAP-Nepal facilities. A discount can be taken for using the SAP facilities at a regular interval of time.

LESSONS LEARNT AND FUTURE DIRECTION

Lessons Learnt

- Solidarity of Civil Society Organizations is essential for effective policy influencing

Peace movement was accelerated when there were solidified efforts of Civil Society Organizations. Even the political cadres and policy makers realized that there is need of effective mobilization of Civil Society for accelerating development pace. While working for influencing policies, SAP-Nepal realized that networks should have representation from all parts of the country for effective advocacy. It helped in presenting voices of different areas of the country. Again, the concept of Village Development Forum was introduced during the reporting period. Most of Disadvantaged groups are residents of rural areas. These rural based forums are good means to solidify their voices for raising their true concerns and issues to policy makers.

- Civil Society Organization should itself develop as role model for governance Promotion:

It was realized that civil society organization should practice culture of good governance before advocating it for others. This organization acts as a role model to other organizations that are making efforts for promoting good governance at various levels. Despite there is also need to maintain neutrality for influencing external environment more effectively.

- Area specific sectoral approach supports for creating favourable marketing environment:

SAP-Nepal had initiated sectoral concept in context of micro enterprise promotion. This concept was found to be supportive in enhancing team building at community level thereby supporting for marketing of agricultural products. One of the good example is Shankarpur Cooperative facilitated by SAP-Nepal. It is committed itself for marketing turmeric and yams from Shankarpur.

- Advocacy interventions for issues related to daily lives of people is highly effective:

The organization had raised various issues and concerns at different levels. However, issues related to people and their daily lives got more appreciation from large mass. Peace building initiatives of the organization was highly accepted and participated by larger sections of the society.

Due to this great recognition the organization also got peace award Ahinsha Shanti.



Ahinsa Shanti Peace Award presented to SAP-Nepal

Future Direction

Look before you leap is essential not only in day to day personal life but also to develop good organizational planning. After reviewing major achievements, lessons learnt and problems encountered SAP-Nepal developed strategic plan. There were more efforts at organizational level for ensuring good participation of organizational and staff members while developing the future direction. One of such attempts is a five day workshop on "Strategic Planning and Annual Program Planning" held at SAP-Nepal, Central Office, Kathmandu, Nepal. The strategic planning of three divisions: Human Development Foundation, Peace and Governance Foundation and Mutual Development Foundation along with the strategic planning of all the regions presented their strategic plan in the meeting. From the consolidation of strategic plan of all regions with three foundations, a draft strategic plan of SAP-Nepal was formulated for the period of 2004- 2007 AD.

SAP-NEPAL TEAM



Annexes

Financial Statement of 2002 - 2003

K. K. Singh & Co.
Chartered Accountants

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF South Asia Partnership [SAP]-Nepal, Kathmandu

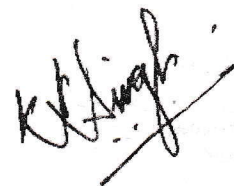
We have audited Balance Sheet of South Asia Partnership, nepal as at July 16, 2003 (32nd, Asadh, 2060) and the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended on that date annexed thereto.

Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures, as we considered necessary in circumstances.

We report that:

- a. We have obtained all information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit.
- b. The attached Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account are prepared in conformity with the books of accounts of South Asia Partnership, Nepal.
- c. In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us the enclosed accounts read together with notes attached thereto give a true and fair view of:
 - i. In the case of Balance Sheet of the state of affairs of South Asia Partnership, Nepal as at July 16, 2003 (32nd, Asadh, 2060); and
 - ii. In the case of Income and Expenditure Account of the net deficit of South Asia Partnership, Nepal for the year ended July 16, 2003 (32nd, Asadh, 2060).

Kathmandu.
Date : 2nd, January, 2004



K. K. Singh
K. K. Singh & Co.