

**National Plan of Action for Children  
NEPAL**

**(2004/05 – 2014/15)**

**His Majesty's Government of Nepal  
Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare  
Central Child Welfare Board**

**Kathmandu, NEPAL  
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## Acronyms

ADDC/N	Association of District Development Committee Nepal
ANC	Ante-natal Care
ARI	Acute Respiratory Infection
CBO	Community Based Organization
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
CCWB	Central Child Welfare Board
CDP	Community Drug Program
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CEDC	Children Especially in Difficult Circumstances
CMR	Child Mortality Rate
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CWC	Child Welfare Committee
CWD	Children with Disability
DCWB	District Child Welfare Board
DDC	District Development Committee
DEO	District Education Office
DHO	District Health Office
DOE	Department of Education
DOH	Department of Health
ECD	Early Child Development
EFA	Education for All
ENT	Ear, Nose and Throat
EPI	Extended Program of Immunization
FCHV	Female Community Health Volunteer
GOs	Government Organizations
GTZ	German Technical Cooperation
IDUs	Injected Drug Users
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMCI	Integrated Management of Child Illness
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate
INGO	International Non
LDTA	Local Development Training Academy
MCHW	Mother Child Health Worker
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MLJPA	Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliament Affairs
MOHome	Ministry of Home

MOH	Ministry of Health
MOES	Ministry of Education & Sports
MOLD	Ministry of Local Development
MOLTM	Ministry of Labour and Transportation Management
MOPE	Ministry of Population and Environment.
MUAN	Municipality of Association of Nepal
MWCSW	Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare
NAVIN	National Association of VDCs in Nepal
NCASC	National Center for AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Disease
NFE	Non Formal Education
NGO	Non governmental Organization
NHRAP	National Human Rights Action Plan
NID	National Immunization Day
NPA	National Plan of Action
NPC	National Planning Commission
NPCS	National Planning Commission Secretariat
OHSE	Occupational Health Safety Environment
OSP	Out of School Program
PHC	Primary Health Center
PLWHA	Person Living with HIV/AIDS
PNC	Post Natal Care
PWD	Person with Disability
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SCN	Save the children Norway
SCUK	Save the Children UK
SCUS	Save the children United States
SEAT	Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Trafficking
SIP	School Improvement Program
SMC	School Management Committee
SOS	Save Our Soul (Emergency Support)
TBA	Traditional Birth Attendants
TOR	Term of References
UN	United Nations
UNESCO	United Nation Economic, Social and Cultural Organization
UNGASS	United Nation General Assembly's Special Session for Children
UNICEF	United Nation Children's Fund
VCT	Voluntary Counseling and Testing
VDC	Village Development Committee
VEC	Village Education Committee

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## **Foreword**

Human rights organizations all over the world have been continuously advocating the civil and political rights for many years. Rights of children, however, were ideally realized only after the adoption of UN Convention on the Rights of Child (UN-CRC) by UN General Assembly in 1989. Since then very many movements and campaigns have come into being to crusade for rights of children and against all forms of abuse, exploitation and discrimination over children in the world. Apparently, the decade of 1990s has seen so many political commitments by the governments throughout the world. However, many of them remained to be translated into a reality. Consequently, the beginning of this millennium has not only examined and assessed the results of child development in the 1990s, but also drew a new vision to build a "World Fit for Children".

The restoration of democracy in Nepal in 1990 has opened a new avenue for the rights movement in the country. As guided by the "Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal, 1991", HMG/Nepal has ratified a number of international conventions and laws on human rights including the UN-CRC. This was a milestone for the rights of the children in Nepal. As per the commitment to the UN CRC, the government of Nepal has introduced a number of national instruments and mechanisms including Children's Act 1992 and its Regulations, national policies on children, Central and District Child Welfare Boards, national plans of action on child labor, trafficking in children and women, domestic violence etc. Likewise, the government has also formulated and implemented the "National Program of Action for Children and Development for 1990s". The end decade report of the same reached into the conclusion that Nepal has achieved many important targets for children of Nepal. Nevertheless, due to many critical reasons related to political volatility, weak political commitments, poor economic development, some target goals were not fulfilled. In the decade of 1990s, Nepal had traveled a meaningful journey in the child rights sector with lots of ups and downs and twists and turnings. Nonetheless, this was a history-making period for the rights of children movement in Nepal. Experiences and learning of this period are worthwhile not only for present but also for the days to come.

Like in 1990, the UN had held UNGASS on children in May 2002. This session adopted a new global declaration entitled "A World Fit for Children" after the review and assessment of the progress and challenges made in the decade of 1990. To fulfill the obligation of this declaration, HMG/Nepal had formed a task force to formulate a 10-

Year National Plan of Action (NPA) for children. The process of formulation of NPA for children has taken place by promoting participation of all stakeholders of the rights of children, including the children.

As per the terms of reference given by HMG/Nepal the Task Force had completed the final draft of NPA. One of the significant facts of formulating this NPA was the process itself, in which there was a series of thematic groups meetings participated by representatives of the ministries and departments, specialists, development partners, children and representatives of national and international NGOs working for the rights, welfare and dignity of children in Nepal. In order to get inputs, feedback and suggestions from the districts including NGOs, community organizations, users groups, DCWBs and the representatives of children's club, the Task Force organized regional consultations in all five-development regions in collaboration with DCWB and development partners. Likewise, consultations and interactions were held with the representatives of national federations and trade unions to get their constructive inputs to make a result-oriented NPA. All DCWBs were also requested to organize a district level consultation to acquire more inputs and information about the problems of planning, implementation and evaluation of plans of action for children. In addition to this, the Task Force had also published a public announcement in the mainstream national dailies and electronic media to get productive information and ideas for making the NPA a commendable document. Toward the end, the draft NPA was presented in two different national consultations, one of which was attended by the representatives of ministries, UN agencies, I-NGOs, Child and disabled NGOs, association of DDC Nepal, development partners and the representatives of child clubs. Another national consultation was organized only with children by inviting children from all development regions to improve the draft version of NPA. With all these efforts and initiatives, the final draft of NPA is ready to be submitted to HMG/Nepal.

We had wished to promote and ensure maximum participation of people while discussing for the preparation of this NPA. Despite adverse political situation, limited time and budget what we have achieved is significant. We regret that we could not reach everywhere, however; we had tried our best to collect inputs, ideas and suggestions from people in general through different means and methods to make this NPA a people's document. While formulating this NPA, we also always kept in mind to build up linkages with other NPAs on Children, MDGs and 10th Plan (2002-2007).



I do not think formulation of NPA in itself is a big deal. So many previous NPAs have been drafted on various topics and during various occasions. The challenge is to make this document simple, comprehensible and a lively document for the best interest of children of this country. The success of any planning is in fact its implementation. No NPA could become a living document in terms of policy, strategies and programs unless it is translated into action as well as owned by the concerned stakeholders including children.

Our experiences in the past refer that we had made so many beautiful planning, but the implementation part was rather poor. The reason for this setback was either we made too ambitious planning or, there were lack of political will, committed human resources, dynamic organizations, social ownership and social mobilization. It should be visionary and reality-based. If people including civil society do not feel their responsibility for national development, government systems alone cannot make it possible. Therefore, we should try our best to communicate to public that the implementation of NPA for children though the responsibility of HMG/Nepal is also a concern of all. For this, we also have suggested a special mechanism consisting of experts and activists to work as NPA Implementation Watch Group (NPA-IWG) as well as Watch Groups/Network of children and child rights NGOs for the monitoring of the implementation of NPA. This mechanism will work as advisory cum pressure group to the government including other implementers for the implementation of NPA as per plan.

Nepal is undergoing a painful process of socio-political transformation at present. The on-going armed conflict, increasing violence and political turmoil have created a chaotic situation in the country. This has affected every sector of development, however, the direct and indirect effect of armed conflict on children is much grave. Therefore, if the present armed conflict and political unrest in the country continues like today, the expected results of the NPA might not be achieved as per plan. Hindsight, no matter how big is a problem in the country; the basic rights of children should not be less prioritized or hampered at any cost. Therefore, all concerned including state and non-state parties should not create any such environment which is adverse for the rights of children. If the conflicting parties feel responsibility for future of the country, they should not hinder and delay to implement any program that is dedicated for the best interest of children. In this retrospective, leaving behind their power interest, the conflicting parties should also try to find out means of conflict transformation and way out for sustainable and just peace for the interest of future generation. We should all know that children

couldn't be a part of armed conflict. Children should be regarded and respected as "zones of peace" everywhere. We should not forget the appeal made by our children from different parts of the country for peace during the consultation process of NPA.

The final draft of this NPA is a composition of various brains, hard work and commitments of different individuals and organizations dedicated for the common cause of the children of this country. I am thankful to all, especially to children who made immense contribution in this process. Co-operation from media, development partners and other stakeholders is also highly appreciated. Similarly, I am also thankful to State Minister Ms. Renu Kumari Yadav, Secretary Mr. Shasi Kant Mainali, Joint Secretary Mr. Shyam Sunder Sharma and other staff of the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare for their generous co-operation while formulating this NPA. I am grateful to Dr. Shanker Sharma, Vice Chairman of National Planning Commission for his meaningful suggestions. A warm thanks goes to our development partners especially UNICEF, SCN-Norway, US and USA, PLAN Nepal, ILO and GTZ for their support in terms of financial as well as technical assistance. Sincere gratitude is also due to all our thematic co-ordinators: Dr. Manindra Ranjan Baral, Mr. Upendra Keshari Neupane, Mr. Sharad Sharma and Ms. Manorama Rana and all other members of the thematic groups for their invaluable co-operation. It is noteworthy to mention that we are very thankful and privileged to have selected Mr. Gyanendra Kumar Shrestha as a consultant, whom we found very professional, dedicated and experienced in the preparation of this NPA. I sincerely thank his efforts. Last, but not least, Mr. Deepak Raj Sapkota, Executive Director of CCWB and member secretary to the task force deserves a special mention, as he is a person behind the coordination and funding arrangement for NPA preparation. I am sincerely thankful to him and his dedicated staff.

Despite innumerable problems, we are now at the final shape of NPA for children. During the preparation of this we had received sincere co-operation from GOs, NGOs, civil society and people of different walks of lives. In the mobilization of support from GOs, NGOs and development partners, the team members of the Task Force of NPA Draft Committee played a significant role. I want to extend my earnest thanks to all of them. Working together with them was not only a rich experience but also a very good learning for future.

Finally, the team and I would like to extend our special and genuine thanks to the child representatives Atmaram Neupane, Sanjog Thakuri, Reshika K.C., Suran Maharjan and

Sona Maharjan who contributed in the thematic groups and also facilitated in the national consultation for children as well as all the participants of NPA consultations, specially the representatives of children's club who has contributed significantly for making this an important document not only for HMG/Nepal but for all who are concerned to the rights, welfare and dignity of children. While we thank the children, we regret the sad demise of one of our child participants Hari Khanal of 14, who was killed in a bus accident while on his way back to home after attending the regional consultation held in Pokhara, Kaski. We would like to pay special tribute to him by expressing our firm commitment to work together with children for the translation of our dreams into a reality.

Let's work together to make difference for children of today and tomorrow. Let every child of the world be respected and be able to enjoy her/his fundamental child rights without any abuse, exploitation, discrimination and injustice. May I wish for an effective translation of this NPA into a real practice.

Gauri Pradhan

Convener

Task Force for drafting the NPA for Children

March 24, 2004

**Task Force Members in Formulation of a 10-Year National Plan of Action for children**

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2. Member:	Mr. Upendra K. Neupane, Member of CCWB and Coordinator, Information and Public Relation Sub

	Committee, CCWB
3. Member:	Mr. Sharad Sharma, Member of CCWB and Coordinator, Coordination, Monitoring and Evaluation Sub Committee, CCWB
4. Member:	Mrs. Manorama Rana, Member of CCWB and Coordinator, Child Development and Protection Sub Committee, CCWB
5. Member:	Mr. Gyanendra Kumar Shrestha/Shashi Shekhar Shrestha, Under-Secretary, NPC Secretariat
6. Member:	Mrs. Sudha Neupane, Under-Secretary, MoWCSW
7. Member:	Mrs. Sharada Pandey, Senior Public Health Officer, Ministry of Health
8. Member:	Mr. Resmi Raj Pandey, Under-Secretary, Ministry of Local Development
9. Member:	Mr. Representative, Ministry of Education and Sports
10. Member:	Mr. Shanker Raj Pandey
11. Member:	Dr. Pradeep K. Yadav
12. Member:	Mr. Bal Krishna Neupane
13. Member:	Ms. Sabeena Pandey
14. Member Secretary:	Mr. Deepak Raj Sapkota, Secretary / Executive Director, CCWB
Special contribution to child health sector:	Dr. Manindra Ranjan Baral, Member of CCWB – Child Specialist

### A Team of Consultants

- |   |   |                   |
|---|---|-------------------|
| 1. Gyanendra Kumar Shrestha, Consultant | - | Team Leader       |
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| 5. Shashi Kumar Khadka                  | - | Office Assistant  |
| 6. Khu Bahadur Karki                    | - | Supporting Staff  |

### Dedicated to:

*All children including those who are deprived of enjoying their fundamental rights including children affected from armed conflict, especially to Hari Prasad Khanal 14, who passed away in a bus accident on his way back to home from Pokhara after attending the Western Regional NPA Consultation in January 5, 2004.*

## **Executive Summary**

### **National Plan of Action for Children**

#### **Background**

Commitments for and the implementation of rights of the child are encouragingly on the increase worldwide. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989 (CRC) geared up the movement for ensuring the rights of the child that is further reaffirmed by the United Nations General Assembly on Special Session for Children (UNGASS). Similarly, there are other similar international declarations and conventions also support the rights of the child. The UNGASS Declaration entitled "A World Fit for Children" guides the state parties to prepare a 10-year national plan of action for children addressing the issues of: Promoting healthy lives; Quality education; Protection against abuse, exploitation and violence; and Combating HIV/AIDS.

Based on commitments made His Majesty's Government of Nepal, especially on the CRC and UNGASS Declaration, this National Plan of Action (NPA) has been prepared with wide participation of all stakeholders including children as well as with the contributions from the Development partners, NGOs and Civil Society. Since the issues of child rights are crosscutting in nature, this NPA will on the issues like health, education, protection of children rights in child rights perspective, and interlink itself with other NPAs such as NPA for EFA, Human Rights, CEDAW, Beijing + 5, Disabilities, Child Labour, Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Trafficking, etc.

During the last decade significant efforts have been made especially in the areas of international commitments, legislation, policy formulation, implementation, awareness and advocacy. In addition, children themselves have been active in raising their voices for their rights and development, and, some remarkable achievements have been realized. Nevertheless, many children are still deprived of enjoying their basic rights – education, health, non-discrimination and to be protected from all forms of exploitation.

In the past, it was realized that many factors became hindrances in meeting the goals set for the year 2001 as well as in promoting the rights of children. Some of these hindering factors were insufficient legal provisions and weak implementation of existing laws; deep-rooted poverty, illiteracy and lack of awareness and sensitization on rights of children, lack of resources, lack of ownership from all stakeholders etc.

Based on the international and national commitments of His Majesty's Government of Nepal and the existing situation of rights of children, this National Plan of Action (NPA)

has the vision that "Children enjoy their rights and realize their full potentials in societies, which is fit for children". This will be followed by a mission to "Ensure the rights of each child to improve the quality of life by promoting child friendly environment and eliminating all forms of exploitation, abuse and discrimination against children". The major objectives of this NPA are to promote the rights of every child and eliminate all forms of exploitation, abuse and discrimination against children. Similarly, the major Strategies to be adopted are Construction and necessary amendment of laws; Develop networks and promote child participation; Coordination, collaboration and integration development; Decentralization and community mobilization; Reach to the unreached groups; and Capacity development of concerned stakeholders and human resources.

In regards to implementation modality, this NPA does not suggest a different implementation modality; however, it requires a collaborative and clearly stated modality, which complements the government's regular implementation system. Since the issue of children is crosscutting in nature, all implementers from central to village level including development partners, NGOs, civil society and child institutions will be responsible in the implementation process based on a cost-effective and integrated approach. Direct benefiting programs will be the primary focus whereas awareness raising will be secondary or as parts of the major programs. Certain watch/pressure groups along with a coordination and monitoring mechanism are strongly suggested to make an effective implementation of this NPA.

The NPA is prepared based mainly on the four themes (as mentioned above) identified in the World Fit for Children. The primary objective of all themes is to protect and promote the rights of children; whereas the programs focus on improving legal, institutional, administrative, coordination and monitoring measures to increase access of every child to all required services/facilities, which are of good quality. The programs also focus on awareness and sensitization raising and capacity development of institutions including human resources.

A wider participatory approach was followed throughout the NPA preparation process. A total of six regional consultations were organized in the five development regions. The participants of the consultation included Chairperson/Coordinator of District Child Welfare Board (DCWB), member of DCWB (NGO representative), District Child Welfare Officer and child representatives (one girl and one boy). The inputs provided in these regional consultations were very useful in shaping the NPA as the participants were

very creative and sensitive on the issues of child rights. At the central level, various consultations were organized with the private sector, professional associations, trade unions, associations of DDC, Municipality and VDC, street children, children with disabilities, and other concerned agencies. In addition, public appeal was made through mainstreaming media to get contributions to NPA from the general public at large, and regular contact with media was followed during the preparation process and press conference organized. More importantly, child participation was scrupulous. Child representation was at least 40 percent in all six regional consultations where children were grouped separately, and worked on all the four themes. The views, ideas and concerns expressed by children have added much value to the development of the NPA. At least one girl and one boy from each district including child representatives of specific child groups like - groups working against child labour, Dalits, ethnic minorities, children in armed conflict, sexual exploitation, abuse and trafficking) as well as street and disabled children contributed to the development process.

NPA includes the provision of defining a clear concept of child participation and its inclusion in all project cycle based on age and maturity of children. Furthermore, the development and strengthening of child institutions and network from grassroots to national level are strongly mentioned.

Coordination, collaboration, monitoring and evaluation have been given due priority throughout the NPA implementation period. The Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare will be as focal ministry and Central Child Welfare Board as focal point at the national level whereas District Child Welfare Board and Municipality and Village Development Committee as focal point at district and village respectively.

Increasing global/International attention and the Government's commitments towards child rights; Increasing Funds for Child Cause at international and national level; Increasing child Participation in child related planning and implementation process are the positive scenario in protecting and promoting the rights of children. On the contrary, poverty; weak economic status; ongoing armed conflict and political instability; some child rights insensitive social and cultural aspects and lack of ownership in all stakeholders will still be seen as hindrances, risks and challenges.

***NPA suggests adopting some key policies for the effective implementation that are:***

- Construct and reform legal provisions in line with international commitments as soon as possible
- Reduce wide spread gender and caste discrimination in practice
- Ensure effective delivery of basic services
- Provision of at least one pediatrician and one gynecologist in district hospital and one female teacher up to secondary school
- Make cost effective implementation of child rights and development programs
- Meet 20/20 commitments on basic social services
- Encourage the public – private mix modality in implementation
- Rehabilitate (community and home based) for children affected by conflict and living in difficult circumstances
- Develop and strengthen protection program for children living and working in the most difficult circumstances
- Establish a national child health institute
- Develop regional and district plan of action for children

The total resources required for the implementation of this NPA is estimated to be about Rs. 126 billion.



## **CHAPTER – ONE**

### **National Plan of Action for Children**

#### **International Commitment and National Plan of Action for Children**

Global efforts have been continuing for the rights and development of children since early 1920s, particularly after the First World War. For the welfare and development of children, Save the Children unanimously adopted a five-point declaration in 1923. A number of other similar Declarations, Conventions and World Summit for welfare, development and rights of children such as - Child Rights Declaration in 1924, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights in 1948 and Child Rights Declaration in 1959, International Children's Year, 1979 soon followed. The United Nations General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) on November 20, 1989, and UN organized the First Special Session for Children, which adopted a global plan of action for children entitled "A First Call for Children". Additionally, optional Protocols to the CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, 2000 as well as on the involvement of children in armed conflicts, 2000 were also adopted. All these Declarations and Conventions reflect the international commitment in ensuring rights of children in the world. Some other declarations that are directly or indirectly related with children are given in ANNEX-1.

World Summit for Children on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children was held on September 30, 1990. Many countries including Nepal participated in the Summit, and committed itself to implementing the provisions of the Declaration. Accordingly, some 155 countries prepared their National Programs of Action (NPA) to implement the Summit goals, and implemented these NPAs during 1990s. The 1990s was a decade of great promises and modest achievements for the world's children. On the positive side, the Summit and the entry into force of the CRC helped to accord political priority to the cause of children, and brought many tangible results.

In May 2002, United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Children (UNGASS) was held in New York to share the situation of the children of countries in the world, to assess the achievements based on the NPA and to prepare guidelines for the coming decade. The end decade (1990s) reports were discussed in detail, and the Special Session adopted four major areas to protect and promote the rights of children with a theme: "A World Fit for Children". The UNGASS Declaration guides all the participating countries to address the following:

- Promoting healthy lives, including good nutrition and control of infectious diseases;
- Quality education, the basic primary education free and compulsory by 2015;
- Protection against abuse, exploitation and violence (armed conflict', Combating child labor, Elimination of trafficking and sexual exploitation); and
- Combating HIV/AIDS.

The UNGASS Declaration mentions that all the state parties must develop a 10-year NPA for children by 2003 and advocates for further development of regional plan of action, if possible. This NPA should be very much focused on child rights and development and should very closely related to the country's national development plan. Hence, the countries of the world that participated the UNGASS Declaration have an obligation to prepare a comprehensive national plan of action on child rights, and to implement it effectively in a participatory way.

### **Conception of National Plan of Action for Children**

His Majesty's Government of Nepal was one of the participatory countries in UNGASS. The Prime Minister of Nepal along with the Minister of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MWCSW), member of National Planning Commission (NPC) and other concerned officials/ representatives of non-government organizations (NGOs) and children participated in the UNGASS, and expressed Nepal's deep concern and commitments towards protection and promotion of rights of children as enshrined in the UNGASS Declaration "A World Fit for Children".

Following the UNGASS declaration the Government formed in December 2002 a 7 member Task Force to formulate the 10-year NPA for children with terms of references, and later in June 2003 the Task Force was expanded to include 14 members.

The MWCSW approved the following *terms of references* (TOR) for the Task Force to assist in the preparation of NPA for children:

- To prepare NPA in order to reflect the Government's commitment to the UNGASS Declaration.
- To focus on the issues included in the 10th Five-Year Plan (2002-2007).

- To manage required resources for preparation of NPA by CCWB in close coordination with the Ministry.
- The committee developed a concept paper for the NPA based on the given TOR and UNGASS Declaration, which included the following Strategies/Approaches and was later approved by the MWCSW.
- Desk review of relevant national and international documents relating to child rights.
- Consider 10 principles of Global Movement for Children as per the Nepalese context.
- Develop NPA that is doable\workable.
- Integrate NPA with the mainstreaming child rights into national development plan, and establish interlink with other NPAs.
- Formulation of four thematic groups.
- Coordinate with line ministries and other line agencies including District Child Welfare Board.
- Activate/coordinate with local governments [District Development Committee (DDC), Village Development Committees (VDCs) and Municipalities].
- Promote partnership/collaboration with UN agencies, bilateral agencies, international non-government organizations (INGOs), NGOs, civil societies and corporations.
- Promote children's participation throughout the process.
- Organize process-oriented consultations from the district level to national level.

The NPA formulation process included contributions from different sectors/groups/individuals of the society like; children including youths and adolescents; parents, legal guardians, family and other care providers; local authorities; human rights organizations; non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations; private sectors; indigenous leaders; mass media; international organizations working on the issues of child rights in Nepal; teacher's associations, trade unions, journalists and other relevant professionals.

The Task Force further decided to form four thematic groups according to the four major areas identified in the UNGASS Declaration: a) Promoting Healthy Lives; b)

Providing Quality Education; c) Protecting Child Rights; and d) Combating HIV/AIDS. These thematic groups were set-up to collect intensive as well as extensive information regarding the corresponding theme and issues. All thematic groups consisted of representatives from line ministries, departments, various NGO Federations, professionals, including children and child focused NGOs. The list of participants of all thematic groups is given in ANNEX-2.

The Task Force embarked on a three- phase preparation process as described below:

**Phase one (up to November 15, 2003)** consisted of preparatory work that included resourcing and managing a team of 5 persons; consultations with line ministries, key stakeholders e.g., UNICEF, ILO, GTZ, Plan Nepal, Save the Children Norway, UK and US); revision of the concept paper; setting up the secretariat with logistics; identification of areas to be covered; development of media campaign (to get inputs from public, press conferences); and development of initial discussion paper.

**Phase two (up to January 2004)** consisted of consultations and meetings - National and Regional Consultations, thematic group meetings and other meetings with specific professional groups including children's groups and organizations, trade unions and associations to share basic information and outline of NPA and collect inputs for NPA preparation.

**Phase Three (up to March 2004)** included preparation of the draft NPA, national consultations for various stakeholders and children to review and discuss the draft and finalize the NPA.

### **Collaborative Process of Preparing National Plan of Action**

The National Plan of Action for Children, led by the MWCSW, CCWB in close cooperation with UNICEF, ILO, GTZ, INGOs (PLAN Nepal, SC Norway, SC UK and SC US), and in close consultation with the representatives of the National Planning Commission Secretariat, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Sports, Ministry of Local Development, NGO Federation, Child NGO Federation, NGOs working on children's issues, children' groups and organizations and civil society at large, has been prepared based on many consultations, workshops and policy discussions on issues of child rights. The collaborative process followed in the NPA preparation is as follows:

- **Approval of concept paper:** The Task Force developed a draft concept paper, and it was discussed with the MWCSW and development partners in detail. Finally, the MWCSW approved the concept paper.
- **Consultation and build up consensus with development partners on the concept paper:** Since the beginning of the formation of Task Force NPA in 2002, CCWB initiated series of dialogue with the development partners such as UNICEF, ILO, GTZ, Plan Nepal, Save the Children Norway, UK and US for their support and involvement in the entire process of developing the NPA. All of the development partners readily agreed to contribute in the process including providing financial, human resources and logistical supports. Representatives of these organizations also contributed in organizing and facilitating regional and national consultations. Hence, a very collaborative and participatory process was followed.
- **Formation of four thematic groups:** The Task Force decided to form four thematic groups according to the four major areas identified by the UNGASS Declaration: a) Promoting Healthy Lives; b) Providing Quality Education; c) Protecting Child Rights; and d) Combating HIV/AIDS to collect information for NPA. All thematic groups consisted of representatives of line ministries, departments, various NGO Federations and NGOs including professionals and child organizations. Between November 2003 and January 2004 a total of 30 meetings related to the four thematic groups were organized. These meetings discussed the issues, achievements and problems in detail and listed down the possible objectives and programs to ensure rights of children in Nepal.
- **Regional Workshops:** CCWB in collaboration with District Child Welfare Board (CCWB) and development partners organized six regional consultations throughout the country. Out of the 75 districts, 73 districts contributed actively whereas two districts (Sindhuli and Mustang) could not attend the consultation meetings. These two districts were later contacted and inputs were incorporated. The main aims of the consultation were to involve the district level stakeholders in the preparation process; collect information; and make the NPA preparation process more participatory. The participants of the consultation included Chairperson/Coordinator of DCWB, member of DCWB (NGO representative), District Child Welfare Officer and child representatives (one girl and one boy). The inputs provided in these regional consultations were very useful along with

the fact that all the participants were very constructive and sensitive. In addition, the participants were requested to organize consultative meeting in the district and send inputs directly to CCWB. Among them a few districts have sent in their inputs.

- **Consultations with various groups at central level:** Consultations were organized with the private sector, associations of DDC, Municipality and VDC, various associations of teachers and parents, street children, disable children, student's unions, trade unions and other concerned agencies. Their contributions, especially in the progress review, problems and recommendations, were valuable to NPA.
- **Public appeal through media:** Public appeal was made through mainstream media to get contributions to NPA from the general public at large. In response, inputs were received and incorporated. Regular contacts with media were maintained during the preparation process including a press conference.
- **Child participation:** Throughout the NPA preparation process, child participation was scrupulous. Child representatives were also members of all four thematic groups. Their contributions were very constructive. Similarly, children's representation constituted at least 40 percent in all six regional consultations with about 50 percent in Eastern and Mid-Western Development Regions. In all regional consultations, children were grouped separately, and worked on all four themes. These children representatives also provided inputs on some other issues that they felt necessary to be addressed in the NPA. The views, ideas and concerns expressed by children in all consultations deserve special mention as these children were very informative, sensitized and strong in terms of child rights perspective, and they added much value to the development of the NPA. At least one girl and one boy from each district including child representatives of specific child groups like - groups working against child labour, Dalits, ethnic minorities, children in conflict, sexual exploitation, abuse and trafficking) as well as street and disabled children contributed to the development process.

## **Highlights on Key Documents of NPA**

### **A. *A World Fit for Children Declaration, 2002***

In May 2002, United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Children (UNGASS) was held in New York to share the past experience on the situation of children of the world, to assess the achievements based on the NPA for 1990s and to prepare guidelines for the coming decade. The UNGASS declared the outcome document as "A World Fit for Children" that includes four major areas or themes as explained above to protect and promote the rights of children of the world. The UNGASS Declaration requires that all the state parties must develop a 10-year NPA for children by 2003 through consideration of the following strategies and advocates for further development of regional plan of action if possible:

- Putting in place, as appropriate, effective national legislation, policies and action plans and allocating resources to fulfill and protect the rights and to secure the well-being of children;
- Establishing or strengthening national bodies or other institutions for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child;
- Developing national monitoring and evaluation system to assess interventions
- Enhancing widespread awareness and understanding of the rights of the child.

### ***B. Millennium Development Goals Declaration, 2000***

In September 2000, a total of 191 nations adopted the Millennium Declaration. The Declaration outlines peace, security and development concerns including environment, human rights, and governance. The Declaration mainstreams a set of inter-connected and mutually reinforcing development goals into a global agenda. The International Development Targets and Millennium Declaration have been merged as "Millennium Development Goals" (MDGs) centered on eight major issues including issues of children like; universal primary education; gender equality; reduce child mortality; combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.

### ***C. Beijing + 5 Declaration***

The Fourth World Conference on Women and Development held in 1995 in Beijing identified 12 critical areas of concerns including rights of girl child among other problems in ensuring women's empowerment and gender equity. Beijing Platform for Action states that discrimination against boys and girls (socially, economically, health and education) should be eliminated. Beijing + 5 declaration further reaffirms and strengthens the issues related to child rights.

#### ***D. Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989***

Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989 is the Convention that is ratified by the highest number of countries in the world. It focuses in ensuring rights of children on four major issues such as child right to survival, protection, development and participation. The UNGASS Declaration's major themes and issues are interrelated with CRC provisions. HMG/N has also signed the following two optional protocols under CRC:

**a. Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, 2000:**

United Nations adopted the "Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, 2000" that urges all member states to prohibit the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography as well as prohibit offering children in the name of god, transfer of organs of the child for profit.

**b. Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflicts, 2000:**

This Optional Protocol to the CRC also mentions that member states ensure that nobody under the age of 18 is recruited compulsorily into their armed forces, and do not take a direct part in hostilities. The Protocol urges the member states to adopt all necessary legal, administrative and other measures to ensure the effective implementation and enforcement of the provisions of this Protocol within its jurisdiction.

#### ***E. ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (NO.182)***

His Majesty's Government of Nepal among other ILO member states has ratified the ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No.182). These countries have a responsibility towards eliminating the worst forms of child labour. HMG/N committed itself to taking immediate and effective time-bound measures to eliminate the worst forms of child labour, rehabilitate children of the worst forms of child labour and prevent other vulnerable children from becoming child labour.

#### ***F. SAARC Declarations***



The Governments of SAARC have shown their commitments on various issues of protection and promotion of the rights of children coming from the Colombo Declaration, 1991 to the 11th SAARC Summit Declaration, 2002 in Nepal. The major issues raised in the Declarations are: Reduction of infant and under 5 child mortality rate; Reduction of severe and moderate malnutrition among under-5 children; Reduction of maternal mortality rate; Increase age at marriage; Elimination of gender disparities; Protection of children in especially difficult circumstances with special attention to protection of girls from exploitative social environment; Access to and enrolment in primary education; and progressive and accelerated elimination of child labor.

### ***G. Tenth Plan, 2003 - 2007***

The Tenth Plan recognizes the issue of child rights as a cross-cutting issue and focuses to establish child friendly enabling environment in the country by protecting and promoting rights of the child and eliminating all forms of violence, exploitation, abuse and discrimination against children. It aims at ensuring child rights in all spheres of life - physical, emotional, spiritual, mental, social and psychological development. The major goals and policies included in the Plan are; Improve legal provisions; Create child friendly environment in child related sectors; increase child's participation; provide free education to all children with disabilities and 'Dalit' children, and strengthen effective special education for children with disabilities; strengthen institutional mechanism; increase collaboration and partnership with development partners; eradicate the worst forms of child labour; reduce and control other forms of child labour, sexual exploitation, sexual abuse, sales and trafficking by adopting protective, promotive and rehabilitative measures; rehabilitate children especially in difficult circumstances and affected from conflict; and mobilize Development partners, NGOs, civil society and private sector in this purpose.

### ***H. National Laws***

The provisions related to children in the Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal, 1990 along with Children's Act, 1992, Labour's Act 1992, Local Self Governance Act, 1999 and other related acts have been taken as the legal base in the NPA.

## **Interrelation of NPA for Children with other NPAs**

In Nepal a number of NPAs have been prepared over the past several years. These include NPA on Education for All, 2001 – 2015; Second Long-term Health Plan, 1997-2017; Health Sector Strategy: An Agenda for Reform, 2002/03; Nepal's National HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan, 2002; Health Sector Program Implementation Plan 2003–2007; NPA against Trafficking in Children and Women for Sexual and Labor Exploitation, 2002; and NPA on UN Conventions on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), 2003 have been prepared. Similarly a number of other NPAs, Child Labor Master Plan; NPA on Human Rights; NPA on Beijing + 5 Declaration; and NPA on Persons with Disabilities are currently under formulation. Since the rights and development of children are crosscutting issues to all development and administrative processes, the NPA is directly or indirectly related with other sectoral NPAs. Hence, unlike other NPAs, this NPA raises and focuses the issues of child rights and development in child rights perspective. Therefore, all relevant legislative, administrative, and institutional issues including program focus, participation, monitoring and evaluation mechanism may be more in detail in other sectoral NPAs. However, this NPA will interlink with them and refer them in specific provisions and issues.

## **CHAPTER – TWO**

### **Review and Assessment of National Program of Action for Children and Development for 1990s**

#### **Efforts for Rights and Development of Children**

- **Commitments:** His Majesty's Government of Nepal has ratified almost all international and SAARC level declarations regarding issues of child rights and development, and is committed to implement all provisions of declarations. The Government has given much needed priority for the over all development of children in national plans and policies after the ratification of CRC in 1990.
- **Legislative Efforts:** Some fundamental rights of children are included in the Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal, 1991. In response to the international commitments, the Government enacted Children's Act, 1992 and its Regulation, 1995, and the Labour Act, 1992. The Children's Act is in the process of revision in conformity with CRC and other international commitments regarding child rights.
- **Policy Efforts:** The Government prepared a 10-year National Program of Action for Children and Development (NPA) in 1991/92 focusing on child survival, protection and development, and implemented the programs from 1992. The Government included issues as mentioned in the NPA for 1990s in the Eighth Plan (1992-97). Issues of child rights were well taken in the Ninth Plan (1997-2002) and Tenth Plan (2002-2007). NGOs and civil society's involvement has been encouraged in the planning process more effectively since the Eighth Plan. The Tenth Five-Year Plan encourages child participation in development process and addresses the right of children as a crosscutting issue. The policy is now being shifted to right-based approach from welfare-based approach.
- **Implementation Efforts:** To protect and promote the rights of children more effectively, government line agencies, UN agencies, INGOs, NGOs and local bodies, particularly since the last decade, have been implementing different programs in different sectors like in health and nutrition; education; training; awareness raising; child labour; sexual abuse, exploitation & trafficking and community development, community based rehabilitation for children with disabilities. These efforts contributed significantly to promote awareness, child participation, health and education services. This is an indication of the Government's seriousness in promoting the rights of children. On the other hand, NGOs have been more active in raising awareness against all forms of discrimination and exploitation, lobbying for advocacy, income generation for poor family and community development. They actively conducted the movement of Global March against child labor in Nepal. Global Movement for

Children was also launched in Nepal in collaboration between and among GOs, UNICEF, INGOs and NGOs. NGOs are massively contributing to increasing awareness on child rights all over the country.

- **Survey and Research:** The Government introduced Sentinel Community Surveillance (Nepal Multiple Indicator Surveillance) in 1994/5 to collect information on rights and development of children to report and monitor the goals set in NPA for 1990s. During the last decade, government organizations, UN agencies, I/NGOs conducted many studies especially on child health; nutrition; education; child labour; street children; disabilities; sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking; child marriage, birth registration; worst forms of child labour, etc. These studies brought out many hidden terrors against child rights, and the findings were instrumental in adopting changes in policy and implementation measures.
- **Reporting:** In February 1995, the Government submitted its initial/first report on the implementation of the CRC to the CRC Committee, and in May 1996, the final report was presented and discussed. The Committee commended the Government for being self-critical about the difficulties encountered in implementing the CRC. The key areas of concern raised by the Committee were: the gap between legislation and enforcement, insufficient measures to curb discriminatory practices towards girls, and the absence of specific laws and policies to combat the trafficking of children and child prostitution. The Government submitted its second and third periodic national report prepared in collaboration with SC-Norway and UNICEF to CRC Committee in 2002 that highlighted the developments over the last five years, The Government line agencies, children's groups and organizations, child focused NGOs also contributed to the report.
- **Institutional Development:** The Government has developed a number of institutional mechanisms to implement the provisions of CRC, national Acts and programs e.g., creation of Children and Women's Development Section at the National Planning Commission Secretariat in 1993, establishment of the MWCSW in 1995, and juvenile bench in all 75 district Court, formation of CCWB and DCWB. In addition, some committees at district as well as village levels have been formed to work on the issue of child rights. Child homes are being run by the Government as well as non-Government organizations. Similarly, many

NGOs are being encouraged to work for child causes. In June 1994, the Government constituted the National Council for Woman and Child Development headed by the Prime Minister but the council is yet to be fully active. Various children's organization/clubs are lobbying for the rights and development of children. The formation of a National Human Rights Commission in 2000, National Dalit Commission, 2002, and National Women's Commission, 2002 are also expected to contribute to protecting the rights of children and women.

- **Collaborative Efforts:** The coordination, cooperation and collaboration between and among the concerned stakeholders of GOs, UN agencies, INGOs, NGOs and local bodies has been increasing remarkably over the last decade. In addition, the participation of NGOs, civil society and children in national development process is increasing. As a result of such collaborative interventions, there have been noticeable achievements on the issues of law, institutions, plans and policies, program implementation, awareness, advocacy and all forms of discrimination.
- **Child Participation:** Child participation was recognized as one of the important issues in planning and development process. Consequently, the issue of child participation was included in the Ninth, and children's views were incorporated in the Tenth Plan. Similarly, children have been involved in formulating various national plans of actions like; NHRAP, NPA on disabilities and NPA for children. INGOs and NGOs are also extensively promoting the child participation. Child clubs are being active in raising their voice for their rights.

### **Reviews and Assessment of NPA for 1990s**

As explained above, legal, policy, institutional and non-discrimination measures have been noticeably taken in the last decade in protecting and promoting the rights of children in Nepal. Based on implementation, various initiatives and their achievements can be reviewed and assessed in brief as follows:

Notwithstanding the legislative measures taken in Nepal in the last decade, the existing legal provisions, especially on child labour, legal age at marriage, sexual exploitation and abuse including provisions regarding child rights and development of Local Self Governance Act, 1999 have not been effectively implemented. Child Labor Regularization and Prohibition Act, 1999 was enacted but not yet implemented. It is

taken as a positive sign that Children's Act, 1992 is under revision for further improvement in conformity with international commitment.

As explained above, various institutional mechanisms have been developed and strengthened from the central level to village level including CCWB, DCWB, Women Development Section at districts, district level committees and child clubs. However, it is realized that lots of effort need to be undertaken to develop their institutional capacity especially in terms of human, financial and technical resources , so that these bodies can perform their duties and responsibilities as they are entrusted with.. In addition, some of the conservative social beliefs, poverty, illiteracy, lack of awareness, administrative challenges and Nepal's difficult terrain still remain challenging tasks in ensuring rights of children.

As mentioned above, the Government introduced Nepal Multiple Indicator Surveillance to collect information for reporting and monitoring the goals set in National Program of Action for 1990s. In 1996, the mid-decade review concluded that majority of the targets in health, nutrition and education had not been achieved although significant progress had been made especially in the rate of infant and child mortality as well as school enrolment and literacy. Similarly, the Government together with development partners reviewed the end-decade goals, and identified many factors that affected progress towards the goals, including political instability, poverty, population growth, and widespread gender and caste discrimination as well as low levels of economic growth. Despite these difficulties, the review noted that mid-decade goals for water supply and sanitation had been close to the target;, however, the quality of water was still questionable.

Specific child survival interventions, particularly routine immunization and vitamin A supplementation and deworming program (mass distribution program), the control of diarrhea diseases and acute respiratory infections (ARI) have helped to significantly reduce child mortality and morbidity during the 1990s. However, vaccine-preventable diseases cause a large number of child deaths in Nepal. Although Nepal joined the global polio eradication initiative only in 1996, experts believe it is on track to eradicate polio by 2005. Although the prevalence of HIV/AIDS is still relatively low in Nepal, studies show that it has rapidly spread among high-risk groups, threatening to spread to the general public including children. Increasing intravenous drug use amongst young people is a raising concern. The Government and NGOs run a number of treatment and

rehabilitation centers for PLWHA, but these are mostly concentrated in the capital. As a preventive measure, Government agencies and NGOs have been creating awareness about the issue through the media.

There has been a very slow improvement, as compared to spending, on reducing child malnutrition in the last two decades. Research study argues that the improvements seen in child nutrition are more likely a result of general improvements in the socio-economic factors, such as GNP, infrastructure and health services, than a result of concerted efforts to reduce malnutrition.

Awareness and advocacy has gained noticeable effect from central to community levels because of efforts made by GOs, UN agencies, INGOs and NGOs. A number of international organizations and NGOs are working for protection and promotion of the rights and development of children. The efforts now need to be focused to reach to the more disadvantaged children and women in the rural areas.

Access of children in formal as well as non-formal education is increasing. Consequently, school enrolment and literacy rate has been on the rise. Both GOs and NGOs have been conducting non-formal literacy program for both adults and out-of-school children. However, these efforts have shown little measurable impact over the years.

The 20/20 initiative, investing 20 percent of total budget to basic social services, has been a declared government policy since 1996/97. However, Nepal's spending on the basic social services does not yet conform to the internationally recommended norm. The total budget allocation to basic social service is about 14 percent out of 20 percent commitment (Study on Basic Social Services, 2001).

Despite prohibiting laws, child labour is rampant, and it has been difficult to control and prevent in Nepal since children work to supplement the family income. The Nepal Labour Force Survey of 1998/99 found that over 40 percent of all children 5-14 years, or 1.987 million children, were economically active. More girls work than boys, and the proportion of working children in the rural areas is greater than in the urban areas. The rural children include the thousands of child bonded labourers who were freed together with their parents in July 2000. On the other hand, the problem of child trafficking,

sexual exploitation and abuse has not been noticeably resolved in spite of efforts made in the country.

Because of current conflict in the country, many children are deprived of their basic rights. Few rehabilitation facilities are being provided, but they are not enough as the children affected from conflict are growing.

Some major goals set for 2001 for children and development and the achievements are as follows:

### Nepal Goals for 2001 and Achievements

Indicators	Goals for 2001	Achievements
<b>1. Child HEALTH</b>		
Reduction in the infant mortality rate	50/1,000 live births	64
Reduction in the U5 mortality rate	70/1,000 live births	91
Reduction in the maternal mortality ratio	400/100,000	415
Reduction of child malnutrition (severe and moderate) among children under five years of age	25 %	48 %
Universal access to safe drinking water	77 %	72 %
Universal access to sanitary means of excreta disposal	31 %	25 %
<b>2. Child Education</b>		
Universal access to basic education	100 %	80 %
Completion of primary education	70 %	45 %
Adult literacy rate	70 %	49%
Female literacy rate	61 %	36%

*Sources: Census, 2001 and 10<sup>th</sup> Plan (2002-2007)*

### Challenges Faced in the Implementation of NPA for 1990s

As mentioned above, some achievements have been realized in the last decade, however, due to political instability, resource constraints, low capacity of institutional mechanism, low sensitization and ownership of key stakeholders etc, many targets set for 2001 could not be achieved. Some of the challenges are as follows:

- Mainstreaming child right issues into national development
- Reducing disparity between boys and girls, rural and urban, marginalized and privileged areas especially in basic health and education services



- Severity of income-poverty
- Making primary education universal and of good quality
- Educating parents and community
- Ensuring adequate nutrition to children and developing locally responsive nutrition program
- Improving the quality of health facilities
- Developing appropriate strategies to address the high prevalence of neonatal mortality
- Implementing existing Children's Act, Labour Act and child related provisions of other relevant acts effectively as well as developing laws in perspective of the rights of the child
- Sensitizing on child rights among all stakeholders from central level to grassroots level
- Developing ownership and accountability to all concerned stakeholders
- Making programs effective in terms of cost and grassroots level beneficiaries
- Reducing child labour and other forms of exploitation
- Rehabilitating children displaced from armed conflict and other children who are especially in difficult circumstances including emergencies (natural calamities)

## **CHAPTER – THREE**

### **Formulation of NPA for Children and Its Implementation Modality**

#### **Background**

During the last decade, many interventions have been taken in different sectors to address the issue of child rights like law enforcement, institutional development, health,

nutrition, education, awareness and advocacy, child labour, sexual exploitation, sale and trafficking, coordination and collaborative efforts. Additionally, a significant number of programs in survival, protection, development and participation of children have been ongoing since the last decade. The Government, UN agencies, bilateral and multilateral agencies, INGOs, NGOs, local bodies, civil society and individuals have been involved in implementing programs to address the issues of child rights.

Notwithstanding the measures taken in law, policy, implementation and institutional development, the target set for the children and development for the 1990s decade has not been achieved, and many children are deprived of enjoying their rights as enshrined in the CRC. Some of the reasons like contradictory legal provisions; weak enforcement of existing laws; lack of legal provisions to address the exploitation, abuse and discrimination against children; insufficient capacity development of institution and human resources; lack of resources; lack of ownership and accountability of key stakeholders; continuation of armed conflict; high prevalence of poverty; low awareness on the importance of rights of the child etc. have been realized as hindrances and challenges in protecting and promoting the rights and development of children.

Based on the international and national commitments and the present situation of rights of children, this National Plan of Action has the following vision, mission, objectives, policies and strategies:

### **Vision**

Children enjoy their rights in society fit for children and realize their full potentials.

### **Mission**

Ensure the rights of each child to improve the quality of life by promoting child friendly environment and eliminating all forms of exploitation, abuse and discrimination against children.

### **Objectives**

1. Promote the rights of every child
2. Eliminate all forms of exploitation, abuse and discrimination against children
3. Promote child friendly environment focusing on education, health, nutrition and other sectors

4. Increase access of children to all basic needs, facilities and services ensuring quality

## **Policies**

### **General**

1. Review, harmonize and improve laws to ensure the rights of children in line with the CRC (international commitments of the government) - best interest of children, non-discrimination, child participation and elimination of all forms of abuse and exploitation.
2. Adopt institutional, administrative and implementation measures to ensure the full enjoyment of all child rights and fundamental freedoms without any discrimination.
3. Give priority in basic services of quality and opportunity to ensure rights of disabled, orphans, street, Dalit, marginalized, internally displaced and refugee children, and children affected by armed conflict, trafficking and sexual and economic exploitation including children in jail.
4. Define and promote child friendly environment in all sectors
5. Develop disaggregated information management system in all sectors especially on child, gender and marginalized groups
6. Include child right issues in all guidelines and training packages in all sectors
7. Ensure social security schemes gradually for all children with focusing on CWDs, children especially in difficult circumstances (CEDC) including emergencies (natural calamities) particularly in health, education and rehabilitation sector
8. Coordinate and collaborate among all GOs, and development partners, NGOs and other actors for reducing area and program duplication, bringing consistency in approach and making programs cost effective
9. Develop a mechanism to bring private sector into social/corporate responsibility
10. Make stakeholders more accountable in fulfilling their obligation to child rights
11. Strengthen government agencies to bring all development actors/partners in all phases of project cycle
12. Strengthen the national and local mechanisms for effective implementation of the NPA

13. Encourage and promote child participation in all levels that are related to their issues according to the age and maturity of the child
14. Increase allocation and proper utilization of resources to fulfil and protect the rights of children
15. Develop community based child information management system
16. Declare children, health institutions and schools as zones of peace, develop it as a social norm and monitor regularly

**Health** (Refer Long-term Health Strategic Plan)

17. Expand and strengthen health service delivery system including development of institutional and human resource capacity
18. Increase access of all children to quality and gender friendly basic health services as well as nutrition
19. Reduce infant, child and maternal mortality
20. Ensure minimum package as outlined in the long-term health plan
21. Strengthen, expand and integrate early childhood development with education through life cycle approach
22. Ensure access of children with disabilities and children with special needs to integrated health and rehabilitation services within primary health services
23. Encourage private sector in promoting health services
24. Ensure universal access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities

**Education** (Refer NPA on Education for All)

25. Develop a minimum standard for quality school education
26. Bring out-of-school children in mainstream of education system
27. Expand and improve comprehensive early childhood care and education, for girls and boys, especially for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children
28. Increase enrolment, competence, completion, and retention in school education (from ECD to 12 grade)
29. Ensure gender equity in school education
30. Promote and expand meaningful and life skill-oriented education

31. Promote and expand vocational and technical and alternative school education by giving priority to dropout and out-of-school children
32. Ensure education system inclusive and responsive to children with special learning needs
33. Promote and expand child-friendly teaching-learning environment in school
34. Enhance the status, morale, training, capacity and professionalism of teachers, including early childhood educators in child right perspective
35. Promote and expand information and communication technologies to support school education
36. Revise and update school curriculum, textbooks and training packages including for teachers (nonviolent teaching method, peace education, parents and school management committee) in child rights perspective

## **Protecting against abuse, exploitation and violence**

### **General protection**

37. Develop relevant laws and policies, and implement them effectively to promote protective environment for children from all forms of abuse, neglect, exploitation, violence and discrimination whether in home, school, institutions, workplace, or in the community including the issue of adoption and refugee children
38. Increase sensitization and accountability of all stakeholders including all service providers, children and duty bearers
39. Promote and strengthen child friendly justice system specifically for children in difficult circumstances with appropriate monitoring mechanism
40. Strengthen vital registration policy and make client friendly registration process for identity and protection of children from exploitation and relating to social benefit
41. Develop appropriate policy to stop corporal punishment including all forms of torture and sensitize teachers against using physical punishment
42. Develop, implement and monitor minimum standards of institutional care (orphanage and child homes)
43. Develop social protection measures for children at risk

### **Protection from armed conflict**

- 44. Develop family, community and institutional rehabilitation for armed conflict affected children with clear protocols
- 45. Develop sensitization mechanism to all civilian and security personnel involved in armed conflict affected areas and monitor regularly
- 46. Develop and standardize psycho-social care and support system especially in health and education sector
- 47. Develop SOS support system for children affected by the armed conflict

**Combating child labour** (NPA on the worst forms of child labour)

- 48. Eliminate the worst forms of child labour as a matter of urgency and reduce and control of other forms of child labour (refer NPA on child labour)
- 49. Mainstream issues of child labour into national poverty eradication and development efforts (refer 10th Plan)
- 50. Focus on the preventive and protective measures from exploitation and violence in the work conditions realizing of basic rights, health, education etc.
- 51. Elimination of trafficking, sexual exploitation and abuse of children (NPA on sexual exploitation, abuse and trafficking)
- 52. Protect children from all forms of sexual exploitation, harassment and abuse including paedophilia, trafficking and abduction by reforming existing laws, enforcing laws and sensitizing to all concerned
- 53. Eradicate the harmful traditional or customary practices, such as early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation, which violate the rights of children and women
- 54. Ensure the security of survivors of trafficking and sexual exploitation and provide appropriate services to facilitate their recovery and social reintegration
- 55. Promote SOS services such as helpline/hotline system to provide immediate assistance for the protection of children in need

**Combating HIV/AIDS** (Nepal's National HIV/AIDS Strategy)

- 56. Ensure non-discrimination and full and equal enjoyment of all human rights through the promotion of an active and visible policy of de-stigmatization of persons including children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS
- 57. Increase access of children affected and infected from HIV/AIDS to effective and necessary rehabilitation, treatment and services

58. Develop partnership and participation with PLWHA and health-care providers in increasing access to information, education and communication (IEC) materials, and services necessary to develop the life skills required to reduce their vulnerability to HIV infection
59. Raise awareness and sensitization on HIV/AIDS from community to national level through education, media and other means

## **Strategies**

The following strategies will be adopted to make an effective implementation of this NPA:

- **Construction and necessary amendment of laws:** All laws relating to children will be reviewed, modified and codified in line with CRC as well as international standard and government's commitments. If necessary, new laws will be constructed to ensure the rights of children. Along with all legal provisions regarding children, Local Self-Governance Act, 1999 will be effectively implemented.
- **Develop networks and promote child participation:** Networks of child clubs/institutions as well as child right-based NGOs will be developed as watch/pressure groups to oversee the implementation of this NPA, and a joint network of those two groups of institutions will also be developed at district and national levels. On top of that, child participation will be encouraged in accordance with the age and maturity of the children from need identification to impact evaluation phase of the program/project. Consultation with children will have to be followed in all project cycles, and their opinion should be included in all processes. All implementers will encourage and seek child participation.
- **Coordination, collaboration and integration development:** Coordination will be developed among all actors in experience sharing of all forms like planning, policies, working modality/approach, pros and cons, implementation, achievements etc. Collaboration with implementers like GOs and GOs; GOs and development partners (UN agencies, Bi-lateral and Multi-lateral (international) agencies; NGOs, civil society; local bodies and user's groups). Integration will be encouraged and promoted based on the nature of programs, need and capacity of actors and target areas and groups. Coordination with GOs and/or local

bodies (DDC and VDC/Municipality) will be made compulsory for especially development partners. The networks will also be mobilized for this purpose.

- **Decentralization and community mobilization:** District level authorities, municipalities, VDCs and wards/community will be made more responsive by providing technical, financial, human resource, and information management system.
- **Reach to the unreached:** A huge amount of money has been spent over the decade aiming at protecting and promoting the rights of children, women and marginalized groups/communities; however, still a majority of these groups are left behind in enjoying their rights as well as coming out from the vicious circle of poverty. In this context, targeted programs/actions will be directly implemented to benefiting the target population with their direct involvement in all levels/project cycle. Awareness raising programs/activities will have to be tied-in with other direct benefited programs.
- **Transparency:** Transparency in terms of policy, programs, resource mobilization and benefit sharing will be followed and maintained between and among all stakeholders. Focal stakeholders will play a key role and they will be provided with enough authorities and responsibilities through the proper channel of line Ministries. In this regard, focal stakeholders will be GOs, DDC, VDC and Municipality.
- **Capacity development of concerned stakeholders and human resources:** Institutional and administrative mechanism will be developed and strengthened for planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation in child rights perspective. All concerned stakeholders especially the MWCSW, CCWB, DCWB, DDC, Municipality, VDC, child clubs and networks will be provided with required backstopping - policy, information, resource, technical and logistic management while demanding accountability to the protection and promotion of the rights and development of children. In addition, all concerned human resources will be provided training with awareness, sensitization and information empowerment packages.

## **Implementation Modality of NPA**

### **Background**



The Government has been implementing programs relating to children (mainly education and health services) since the First Development Plan, 1956. However, the efforts were geared up especially after the ratification of the CRC. In response to the CRC, the Government included the issue of child rights in the Ninth Plan, to some extent. More importantly, the Tenth Plan (2002-07) is a step ahead in addressing child rights as crosscutting issues. As this NPA is in line with CRC and UNGASS Declaration, it is inter-linked with all NPAs as mentioned in the Chapter 1.5 and as such the implementation requires a clear and collaborative modality which complements the government's regular implementation system.

Since the issue of children is crosscutting in nature, all implementers - ministries, departments, line agencies at the district, DDC, Municipality, VDCs, NGOs, user's groups and development partners will be responsible to implement the NPA by following a holistic/integrated cost-effective approach.

All line ministries like the MWCSW, MOH and MOES and their departments will continue to implement the child related programs under their regular mechanism and system but they will be sensitized to give more focus on child issues in child rights perspective. The same approach will be followed at DDC, municipality and VDC levels. For promoting the focus on children, the focal points will play an active role in all project cycles. MWCSW and CCWB will play a major role with intervention in planning and monitoring at the central level. More importantly, they will coordinate in implementation of actions at the national level.

The following **policies** will be followed in implementation especially in resource mobilization, coordination, implementation, monitoring and evaluation:

1. Increase program and budget allocation of resources in all sectors related to children
2. Give priority to meet 20/20 strategy/commitment to basic social services
3. Mobilize international, national and local resources in implementation of NPA, and utilize the resources in cost effective way
4. Enhancing partnerships with key stakeholder concerned including business, trade unions and civil society in support of the goals of the NPA
5. Strengthen annual and periodic planning, coordination, implementation, monitoring and evaluation process

6. Encourage local level planning, coordination, implementation, monitoring and evaluation process to make NPA more effective
7. Encourage to prepare and implement regional as well as district level plan of action
8. Develop and Strengthen the capacity of MWCSW as a focal ministry and CCWB as a focal point at national level; DCWB as focal point at district level; Municipality and VDC as focal point at village and town level; and networks as watch and pressure groups in coordination, monitoring and evaluation of implementation of NPA

In regards to coordination, monitoring and evaluation, the mandate of the MWCSW includes coordination, facilitation, monitoring child related plans and programs. Similarly, CCWB's mandate also includes coordination, monitoring and evaluation of child related issues. CCWB will develop an effective information management system to perform those mandates.

**The following channel of coordination, monitoring and evaluation mechanism is to be followed in the implementation of this NPA:**

National Planning Commission Secretariat (NPCS) is the apex body to coordinate among all line ministries especially in annual and periodic planning and programming, therefore, it should be accountable for the central level coordination, monitoring and evaluation.

1. The MWCSW and CCWB will jointly coordinate in planning and implementation process with all line ministries, agencies and development partners at central level. However, CCWB will be held more responsible for this purpose. Similarly, district level offices and/or committees under the MWCSW and CCWB will coordinate, monitor and evaluate district level plans and programs including implementation of their own programs. In addition, CCWB will play a role more in coordination, facilitation, monitoring and evaluation rather than implementation of programs. MWCSW will be a focal ministry, and CCWB will be a focal point at the central level whereas DCWB will be the focal point at the district level. Municipalities and VDCs will be developed/strengthened as focal points at village level. In addition, a separate network of child clubs/institutions as well as child rights oriented NGOs will be developed to work as watch groups in the

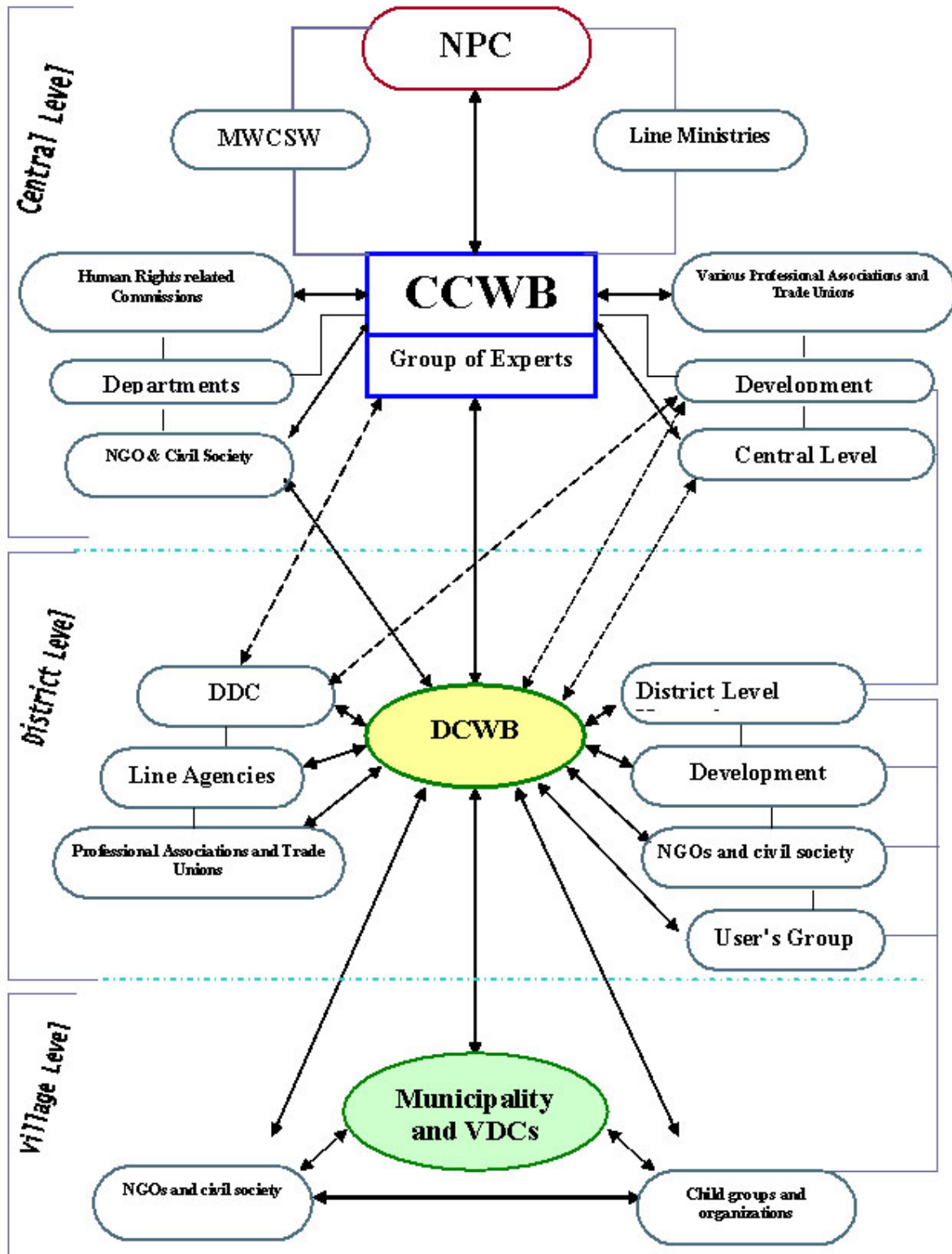
implementation of NPA. Similarly, a joint pressure/watch group consisting of those two groups will be promoted. All these groups will be formed/strengthened from village to the national level.

2. A group of professionals will be formed at CCWB, which will work as experts and pressure group at national level in implementation of this NPA as well as in the phase of annual and planning process/period. Annual Progress Report from this group to draw public attention on the actual implementation of the NPA will be prepared.

Children's groups and organizations will be included in the monitoring mechanism especially at community and district level. A detail plan of action regarding child participation as well as coordination, monitoring and evaluation is given **in Chapter 4 (Section 5 and 6)**.

The circular flow of implementation, coordination, reporting, monitoring and evaluation mechanism/modality is suggested as follows:

## Organizational Flow Chart



Note: Central, District and Village Level Network includes network of children's institutions and child rights NGOs.

## **CHAPTER – FOUR**

### **National Plan of Action**

#### **Background**

The NPA is prepared mainly based on the four themes identified in the World Fit for Children. Besides, it includes other areas and subjects that are coming out in Nepal as burning issues for children. This chapter deals with the plan of action for children that covers the sector of child health, child education, protection of child rights, HIV/AIDS, child participation, and coordination, collaboration, monitoring and evaluation, which is presented as follows:

#### **Promoting Healthy Lives**

His Majesty's Government has been focusing on promoting health care services down to the community level. Various policy measures through periodic plans and specific health plans have been adopted and implemented since the beginning of the systematic development plans. Access to better health services for the population has steadily increased during the last decade. The safer motherhood, immunization, and diarrhea/respiratory disease control and child health including education program has been expanded down to the village level to reduce infant and child mortality. There has been massive campaign to immunize children, with positive results. Consequently, infant and under five mortality has steadily decreased from 102 to 64 and 165 to 91 from 1991 to 2002. Infectious diseases, maternal and peri-natal ailments, health problem and micro-nutrient deficiencies are the leading causes of morbidity and mortality in Nepal. Still, vaccine-preventable as well as curable diseases cause sizable death because access to proper health care services is still inadequate.

There has been only a slight reduction in child malnutrition in the last 25 years. Hence, half of young children are still under-nourished. From 65 percent of 1975, stunting prevalence in children aged 6-36 months decreased to 50 percent in 1998. Although Nepal joined the global polio eradication initiative only in 1996, experts believe it is on track to eradicate polio by 2005.

Access to drinking water supply has been increasing steadily in Nepal over the past decade. The progress in the rural areas is more dramatic, where surveys found that coverage nearly doubled from 43 percent in 1991 to 78 percent in 2000. The increase

in coverage is attributable to the increasing number of water supply schemes executed by NGOs, local government bodies and the communities themselves. In urban areas, however, it appears that water supply coverage has not been able to keep pace with the rapid population growth.

In the preparation process, inputs were collected from central level meetings, thematic group meetings, focus groups meetings, regional consultation, consultations with children, professional organizations, school associations, teacher's associations, trade unions, parents, service providers especially to street children, disabled children and HIV/AIDS affected children. There were mix participants in central level meetings, thematic group meetings and regional workshops as mentioned in Chapter one. Representatives of ministries to district level offices, UN agencies, INGOs, NGO Federations, Child NGO Federation, various associations and children themselves participated actively in the discussions and provided inputs for NPA. Based on the all sources of information, the progress reviewed and problems identified, are given below in brief:

### **Progress Review**

The followings are the progress reviewed in brief that are collected from primary as well as secondary sources of information. Primary source includes thematic group, concerned specific groups, national and regional consultations:

### **Policy Issues**

- Commitment of the government to child health
- Provided incentives to women health volunteers
- Increasing health personnel including MCHW, village health workers and female health workers

### **Program Issues**

- Continuation of NID/routine immunization program
- Conducting Vitamin 'A' and school feeding program
- Essential drug distribution in remote areas including distribution of Iron capsules
- Health issues included in school-education
- Increasing health check up for children
- Increasing use of iodized salt

- Increasing vitamin 'A' supplement to postpartum mother
- Increasing demand of iron tablets
- Health camps and mobile health clinics in villages
- Free health check up for disabled, street and helpless children
- Started to keep 'First Aids Kits' in some schools and social organizations
- Free treatment of leprosy and tuberculosis
- Monitoring growth of children
- Increasing family planning services
- Publicity of health education (media, door to door program, textbooks) including sanitation
- Testing arsenic in drinking water and providing arsenic treatment facilities
- Sprayed medicine against malaria and encephalitis
- Initiating little doctors program
- Campaign against environment pollution
- Implemented "Selection for future" program
- Improving safe motherhood program
- Continuing breast feeding program
- Established maternity service fund
- Initiated parental education programs
- Continuing pneumonia control program
- Developed concept on community health center
- Initiated IMCI program
- Increasing ANC/PNC visit
- Increasing facilities of ambulance, x-ray and surgery
- Increasing health service providing organizations
- Distributing IEC materials
- Increasing health care services
- Reducing discrimination in health service
- Continuing various training on primary health care, and training for MCHW and TBAs

- Initiated child to child programs

### **Institutional Issues**

- Developing community hospital
- Established sub-health post in VDC
- Provision of MCVH in each ward of VDC
- Established rehabilitation centers
- Promoting coordination between GOs & NGOs
- Increased construction of toilets in villages

### **Awareness /Sensitization/training issues**

- Increasing awareness on health and nutrition issues; vaccination, delivery care of mothers
- Increased awareness about iodized salt
- Published books on reproductive health

### **Others**

- Increasing international support
- Screening of qualifications/academic certificates of health personnel
- Decreasing extreme dependency on traditional health care
- Gradual improvement in use of nutritious food
- Increased male participation for take caring of babies

### **Problems Identified**

#### **Legal/Program Issues**

- Weak enforcement of all laws regarding to health issues and disability
- Lack of child health insurance policy
- Low access of rural people to health service
- Health services not fully decentralized
- Weak referral system due to lack of PHC and proper mobilization of them
- Lack of school health program
- Low delivery rate from skilled health personnel
- Inadequate neonatal/newborn/peril-natal care



- High infant and child mortality rates
- Low birth weight
- Prevalence of high malnutrition (mother/child)
- Political and administrative interference in health administration
- Unhygienic drinking water
- High environmental pollution
- Low focus on adolescent health education/service/counseling/awareness
- High magnitude of disability
- No full immunization coverage (all vaccines)
- Certain norms - not followed by various agencies in immunization.
- Cross boarder effect on child health
- Lack of sensitization on child health and rights
- Lack of health service support for street children/Need first aid for working children
- No twenty four hour emergency in district hospitals
- Low special attention for under five years children
- Inadequate medicine at district/village level health institutions
- Low family income/ Expensive health service/ Many people unable to afford health expenses
- No accident prevention program
- Lack of ambulance services
- Negligence in drug distribution
- Lack of free health services to poor
- Lack of psychosocial counseling service for victim children from various exploitation
- Insufficient health service for conflict affected children
- Lack of reproductive health contents in school education
- Lack of safe drinking water

#### **Human Resources/Institutional issues**

- Inadequate skilled health technicians/workers

- Negligence of some health personnel
- Prevalence of fake doctors and drugs
- Lack of doctors (Amchi) in Himalayan areas
- Lack of required equipment and materials
- Lack of health institution in many needy areas
- Lack of child/disabled friendly hospitals
- Lack of rehabilitation centers and health services for underprivileged and disabled children
- Weak physical infrastructure
- Lack of access to health centers
- Lack of pediatric hospital
- Lack of coordination among hospitals and private Medical Colleges in pediatric issues
- Lack of specific health services to all forms of CWDs and inaccessibility of to existing health centers (Geographical reason)
- Lack of proper human resources (right person to right place)
- Lack of secured and proper birth place

#### **Awareness/ Sensitization Issues**

- Lack of awareness on breast feeding, nutritious value of locally available foods, eradication of worms, reproductive health, care taking of babies and safe motherhood, use of expired medicine
- Insufficient parental education
- IEC materials not developed in local language
- Low media coverage to address health issues
- Prevalence of high illiteracy and superstitions
- High child marriage, and early and multiple pregnancy

#### **Coordination, Monitoring and Evaluation**

- Lack of coordination between GOs, NGOs and Private sector
- Lack of effective monitoring and evaluation.
- Duplication in programs/activities especially in accessible areas
- Professional bodies not fully mobilized, coordinated and encouraged

## Others

- Preference for son
- Rampant use of fake/duplicate drugs
- Deprived of modern medical treatment because of conservative practices, superstitions, lack of services
- Rapid growth of population
- Unavailability of timely medical treatment
- Conflict affected health facilities
- Underdevelopment of Ayurvedic health facilities
- Problems of epidemic diseases
- Uncontrolled adulteration
- Rapid increase in fast food
- Abortion of girl child
- Lack of sterilized syringe
- Under utilization of available facilities
- High dependency on foreign aids
- Poor utilization of global fund
- Lack of people's /community participation to health sector

**Nepal goals are given in ANNEX-3.**

Major health goals are as follows:

Indicators	Nepal Goals				Remarks
	Situation	2007	2012	2015	
	2002/03				
<b>1. PROMOTING HEALTHY LIVES</b>					
Reduction in the infant mortality rate	64	45	30*	20*	
Reduction in the U5 mortality rate	91	72	60*	54 <sup>+</sup>	<sup>+</sup> MDG
% of deliveries attended by health care providers	13	25	50	100 <sup>+</sup>	<sup>+</sup> MDG
CPR	39	47	60*	100 <sup>+</sup>	<sup>+</sup> MDG
Crude birth rate per 1000 live birth	34	30	35*	32*	
Reduction in the maternal mortality ratio	415	300	250*	213*	
Reduction of child malnutrition	48*	40*	30*	20*	
Reduction in the rate of low birth weight.	30			15	
Access to hygienic sanitation facilities	25	50	70*	80*	
Affordable and safe drinking water.	72	85	90*	95	
Access to reproductive health for all individuals of appropriate age as soon as possible.	70	90		100*	
Ensure full immunization of children	80	90	95*	100*	
Reduce deaths due to measles by half	95%	100%			
Eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus		<b>Eradicate</b>			
Certify global eradication of poliomyelitis		<b>Eradicate</b>			

Sources: 10<sup>th</sup> plan and MDGs

\* Rough estimation

## Promoting Healthy Lives: Plan of Action

**Coordinating Agency:** CCWB

**Overall objectives:**

1. To reduce child mortality (neonatal, infant and under five) focusing to reduce disparity between male and female child, urban and rural differences and among disadvantaged groups by improving community and district levels health services
2. To reduce maternal mortality by improving community and district levels maternal health services

**Strategy:** Capacity building of institutions and human resources, Quality health services, Decentralization and Collaboration development

Objectives	Programs	Implementing Agencies	Time Frame	Development Indicators	Means of Verification	Risk Factor
1. Ensure basic child rights to health by laws and policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and reform existing laws relating to child health</li> <li>• Provision of child health insurance</li> <li>• Enforcement of legal age at marriage and implementation monitoring</li> <li>• Review and reform adulteration law and enforcement</li> <li>• Review and reform occupational safety and occupational law and enforcement</li> </ul>	Parliament MLJPA MOH MWCSW CCWB	Within two years	Improved legal provisions relating to health, OHS and age at marriage	Amended laws	Inactive stakeholders Political instability
2. Increase access to health care services for children and adolescents and ensure PHC (minimum package mentioned in the Long-term Health Plan) free to under five children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Devolution of health system specially up to the district levels</li> <li>• Continue and strengthen outreach services like EPI camp and Gaon Ghar Clinic</li> <li>• Continue and strengthen screening program for children on nutrition, dental, eye, ENT, disability, etc.</li> <li>• Continue and strengthen community based preventive, promotive and curative interventions like community based</li> </ul>	MOH, DOH, DHO Department of Ayurved Development partners Local Bodies NGOs/CBOs	Continue	Percentage of access to formal health services IMR, CMR	Studies Progress report Media	Insufficient financial resources  Possibility of lack of ownership  Social disturbance

	<p>Integrated Management of Childhood Illness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish and develop referral services for children</li> <li>• Promote Community Drug Program (CDP) and develop mechanism for those who are not able to afford CDP</li> <li>• Promote school health program (environment, health education and services)</li> </ul> <p><b>Support:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and supplies of essential drugs, equipment and other supplies specially related to child health and up to the district level and below</li> <li>• Training, refresher training and supportive supervision to the peripheral level health workers</li> <li>• Motivation and incentive to work in the rural areas</li> <li>• Mechanism to involve traditional health workers in the national health system through recognition, training and support</li> <li>• Strengthen health system to implement reproductive health policy including safe motherhood and adolescent policies.</li> <li>• Strengthen district hospital to provide basic child health services and gradually upgrade to specialized services with separate bed allocation</li> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> IEC and behavioral change communication on maternal and child health</li> </ul>					
3. Reduce prevalence of micronutrient and macronutrient	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen existing micronutrient programs to improve nutritional status of children, adolescent and women</li> </ul>	MOH, DOH, DHO Development	Continue	Reduction in child malnutrition	Studies Progress report	Insufficient financial and human

deficiency among adolescent, women and children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IEC and behavioral change communication on nutrition</li> <li>• Promotion of breast feeding and young child feeding programs</li> <li>• Integration with other development programs like kitchen gardening with livelihood</li> <li>• Integration of nutrition program with health program including growth monitoring</li> <li>• Supplementary feeding to high risk areas including biannual vitamin A supplementation, deworming and iron supplementation program</li> <li>• Iodized salt distribution program</li> <li>• Focus program in high risk area (rural and urban slum) like maternal and child care program coordinating with development partners</li> </ul>	partners Local Bodies NGOs/CBOs			Media	resources  Possibility of lack of ownership
4. Promote ECD and child health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote, expand and strengthen early childhood development and care at center and home including parenting education</li> <li>• Integrated program on child health and ECD (Refer Long-term Health Strategic Plan)</li> </ul>	MOH, DOH, DHO Development partners Local Bodies NGOs/CBOs	Continue	Enrolment rates in ECD No. of ECD centers	Studies Progress report Media	Insufficient financial and human resources Possibility of lack of ownership
5. Improve maternal health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective implementation existing reproductive, safe motherhood and adolescent policies and strategies</li> <li>• IEC and behavioral change communication</li> <li>• Formation and strengthening of community mobilization group including emergency fund and transportation system</li> <li>• Strength ante natal and post natal care from community to district levels including</li> </ul>	MOH, DOH, DHO Development partners Local Bodies NGOs	Continue	Maternal mortality and morbidity rates	Studies Progress report Media	Insufficient financial resources

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>strengthening outreach services</li> <li>• Strengthen birth spacing from community to district level including strengthening outreach services</li> <li>• Develop and strengthen referral services for maternal health</li> <li>• Strengthen micro-nutrient supplement program according to policy</li> </ul>					
6. Develop physical facilities for child health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish mother and child hospital under the umbrella of regional and zonal hospital where specialized services will be provided.</li> <li>• Gradually allocate bed for children in district hospital and gradually upgrade to specialized services with bed allocation</li> <li>• Expand and strengthen essential obstetrical care at district hospital</li> <li>• Improve infrastructure specially from district and below for mother and child health</li> <li>• Provision of essential future and equipment</li> </ul>	MOH, DOH, DHO Development partners Local Bodies NGOs	Continue	Improved child health conditions	Studies Progress report Media	Insufficient financial and human resources
7. Capacity building of existing health institutions in providing child health services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training on management, community mobilization and staff development program</li> <li>• Produce human resources on child phycho-social issues.</li> <li>• Promotion and strengthening of community participation in all stages of program cycle</li> <li>• Gradually develop disabled friendly to all health facilities</li> </ul>	MOH, DOH, DHO Development partners Local Bodies	Continue	% of trained staff Community participation in health sector	Studies Progress report Media	Insufficient financial resources
8. Rehabilitation and support to children in special circumstances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education on disability and children in special circumstances about their special need (orphans, street children, single</li> </ul>	MOH, DOH, DHO Development	Continue	Rehabilitation facilities to CWDs	Studies Progress report	Insufficient financial resources Possibility of



	parent children) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enable health workers on counseling and education on special need</li> <li>• Establishment of community based, vocational and medical rehabilitation centres for sever malnourished children in zonal and sub-zonal hospitals and other needy areas</li> </ul>	partners Local Bodies			Media	lack of ownership Social disturbance
9. Make access to safe drinking water and sanitation of all households	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporate the subject of sanitation and drinking water in curriculum</li> <li>• Promotion of toilets in schools and home</li> <li>• Implement sanitation programs and campaign in the village and school</li> <li>• Provision of quality drinking water within reasonable distance</li> <li>• Focus program on personal, community and domestic sanitation</li> <li>• Community capacity building</li> <li>• Implement pollution control policies and monitor program</li> <li>• Develop and implement water conservation policy and program development for sustainable use</li> </ul>	MOH, DOH, DHO MoES Development partners Local Bodies NGOs/CBOs	Continue	% of households with safe drinking water and sanitation	Studies Progress report Media	Insufficient financial resources Possibility of lack of ownership Social disturbance
10. Develop effective monitoring and evaluation system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop networking with related organizations for strong monitoring system focusing on disparity</li> <li>• Include gender and disadvantaged group information in the present health management system of MOH</li> </ul>	MOH, DOH, DHO Local Bodies NGOs/CBOs	Continue	Situation of monitoring mechanism	Studies Progress report Media	Inactive stakeholders

## **Providing Quality Education**

His Majesty's Government is committed to providing universal access to basic and primary education for all and increasing the quality of education. The government is providing and expanding physical infrastructure, educational materials, teacher's training and various incentives like scholarship, school feeding and other support programs to increase both the enrolment and retention. Special focus is being given for girls, children of ethnic groups and children with disabilities, Dalit and marginalized groups.

Enrolment of girls as well as boys in primary schools has been increasing significantly since the last decade. Literacy rate of the population of 6 years and above is 58 percent (70% for male and 45% for female), and it is 84 percent among the age group 11-13 years. This shows that the variation of literacy rate in younger generation (between boys and girls) is becoming narrower as compared to older ones.

Since the global initiative of Education for All in 1990, there has been a visible impact on the development of primary education in Nepal. Both government and non-government sector have been conducting various non-formal educations for adults and out-of-school children. They have also been undertaking bridging classes for drop-out children.

For a limited number of young adults entering the job market, vocational training is provided by the Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training and affiliated training institutions as well as by the different ministries. NGOs as well as the private sector are equally active in providing skill training. However, most of the vocational schools lack the necessary infrastructure, qualified teachers and adequate instructional materials.

In the preparation process, inputs were collected from the central level meetings, thematic group meetings, specific groups meetings, regional consultation, and consultation with child groups, professional organizations, school associations, teacher's associations, trade unions, parents, service providers especially to street children, disabled children and HIV/AIDS affected children and children themselves. There were mix participants in the central level meetings, thematic group meetings

and regional workshops as mentioned in Chapter one. Representatives of government organizations from ministries to district level offices, UN agencies, bilateral agencies, INGOs, NGO Federations, Child NGO Federation, various associations and children themselves participated actively in the discussions and provided inputs for NPA. Based on the all sources of information, the progress reviewed and problems identified, which are given below in brief:

### **Progress Review**

The followings are the progress reviewed in brief that are collected from primary as well as secondary sources of information. Primary source includes thematic group, concerned specific groups, national and regional consultations:

### **Policy Issue**

- Developed policy for appointing at least one female teacher in primary school
- Approved Education for All NPA
- Initiated bottom up and local level education planning
- Provision of parents-teacher association
- Role of private sector spelled out in the policy
- Provision of election for school management committee
- Initiated hand-over of schools to communities

### **Program Issue**

- Increasing school enrolment and literacy rate including girls and indigenous community
- Initiated community- based ECD programs
- National level networking in ECD and girl education
- Increasing quality education
- Increasing access to higher school
- Increased percent of female and trained teacher
- Initiated decentralization in education management

- Started school feeding and incentives for girls (oil) in some districts including scholarship, cash incentives and school dress for poor, Dalit and indigenous children
- Free primary education up to class 5
- Distributing free textbooks and IEC materials
- Provision of special education for disabled children and increased access to education
- Conducting parental educational, non-formal education and training program for out of school children including child labor
- Conducted distance education, child to child education etc.
- Included some child right issues in textbooks
- Started school health and sanitation programs
- Provision of mother tongue in primary education
- Provided free education to conflict affected children
- Introduced and expanded SIP
- Piloting compulsory education in some districts
- Increasing awareness and sensitization on education, child rights
- Problems of dropouts and competency
- Promoting extra-curricular activities

### **Institutional Issues**

- Increasing number of schools and institutions
- Expanding and strengthening local education institutions and associations – education committees, resources center
- Increasing child rehabilitation center

### **Discrimination**

- Reviewed textbooks and curriculum from gender perspective, to some extent
- Decreasing trend of discrimination in terms of gender, caste, ethnicity and religion

**Others**

- Increasing issues of children in newspaper and developing child magazines
- Broadcast and published children's program through various media
- Screening of fake educational certificates

**Problems Identified****Policy Issue**

- Female teachers not appointed in all schools
- Primary education not compulsory
- Weak monitoring and evaluation system
- Weak implementation of act and regulation
- Weak implementation of policy to mainstream Dalit and disabled children into education
- No minimum standard for running ECD program
- Lack of higher education policy for deaf

**Program Issue**

- Misutilization of school feeding program
- Textbooks not distributed in time
- Lack of health programs and drinking water supply in school
- Not enough education services for all types of disabled children
- No system of encouragement and punishment to the teacher
- Weak management for children's library
- Expensive school fee in private schools and excessive textbooks
- Cost paid for primary level books - not refunded in time
- Ineffective school management committee
- Lack of access of conflict affected and poor children to education
- Lack of moral education
- Limited coverage of incentives programs
- Lack of effective teaching in mother tongue

- Weak parental/family education
- Inadequate skill development programs
- Lack of transparency in scholarship
- Lack of child/disabled friendly school environment

### **Discrimination Issue**

- Low access of girls to school
- Gender inequality in schools
- Lack of orientation to teachers on discrimination issues in terms of gender, caste, disability, religion etc.
- Low access of children with disabilities to education

### **Institutional Issue**

- Lack of sufficient physical facilities in schools
- Some communities still lack schools
- Limited quota for scholarship and inaccessible to target children
- Overcrowded classes
- Inadequate IEC and educational program in child homes and for disabled children.
- Lack of science laboratories in schools
- Weak SMC and PTA

### **Awareness / Sensitization /Advocacy**

- Conservative thinking and misbelieve
- Burden of domestic work
- Lack of awareness on special education
- Low priority to government schools as compared to the private by people

### **Financial support**

- Unable to attain school due to poverty
- Inadequate budget for education sector
- Inadequate resource mobilization at community

## **Others**

- Lack of trained teachers
- Female teachers not fully recruited according to provision
- Irresponsibility of teacher
- Insufficient staffs in school
- Few children deprived of education in absence of birth registration certificate and due to seasonal migration
- Affected school education from armed-conflict
- Political interference in education
- Corporal punishment at schools

Some major goals in education sectors are set as follows:

Indicators	Nepal Goals			
	Situation 2002/03	2007	2012	2015
<b>PROVIDING QUALITY EDUCATION</b>				
Ensuring all children have access to and complete primary education that is free and compulsory		90	100*	100*
Gross enrolment rate for ECD	18	32	60	80
Gross enrolment rate at primary Grade 1-5	115	110	110	105
% of new entrants at Grade 1 with ECD	25	40	65	80
Increase net primary school enrolment or participation in alternative good quality primary education	72	90	95	100
Gross enrolment rate, GER for ECD	20	32	60	80
% of New entrants at Grade 1 with ECD	30	40	65	80
Gross Intake Rate, GIR at Grade 1	125	123	111	102
Net Intake Rate, NIR at Grade 1	67	73	89	98
% of teacher with required qualification & training	50	100	100	100
% of teachers with required Certification	60	100	100	100
Pupil Teacher Ratio	34	34	31	30
<b>Repetition Rate</b>				
Grade 1	30	24	14	10
Grade 5	9	8	8	8
Survival Rate up to G5	71	75	86	90
Efficiency	63	67	76	80
% of learning Achievements at Grade 5	52	57	70	80
% of literacy Age at Group 15-24	76	79	86	95
<b>% of literacy</b>				
Age Group 6+ years	56	75	85	90
Age Group 15+years	49	63	70	75

Sources: 10<sup>th</sup> plan and MDGs

\* Rough estimation

Note: Nepal goals for NPA are given **ANNEX – 3**



## Providing Quality Education: Plan of Action

**Coordinating Agency:** The Ministry of Education and Sports, CCWB and DCWB

**Overall Objectives:**

- Ensure access of all school going aged children to formal school education with quality
- Ensure gender equity at school education
- Mainstream out-of-school children into education system

**Strategy:** Capacity building of institutions and human resources, Decentralization and Collaboration development.

Objectives	Programs	Implementing Agencies	Time Frame	Development Indicators	Means of Verification	Risk Factor
1) Expand and improve comprehensive ECD program to ensure access of all children especially for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children below 6 years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expansion and strengthen ECD centers with required resources and physical facilities</li> <li>• Compulsory ECD program in industries</li> <li>• Pilot integrated program for children below 3 years</li> <li>• Parental education program</li> <li>• Awareness raising / Community mobilization</li> <li>• ECD teacher's training program</li> <li>• Development of community based information system</li> <li>• Initiate and ensure holistic development (physical, social, emotional, cognitive) approach in pre-schools</li> <li>• Promote both community based and school based ECD centers</li> </ul>	MoES, DoE, DEO Development partners, Local bodies, NGOs/CBOs SMC, Schools, Civil Society, Private educational institutions	Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No. of ECD centers with required resources</li> <li>• No. of child in ECD centers</li> <li>• Information system</li> </ul>	Studies Progress reports Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of financial resources</li> <li>• Lack of access to rural and remote areas</li> <li>• Continuation of conflict</li> <li>• Inactive stakeholder</li> </ul>

<p>2) Ensure access to education of all children, and provide free and compulsory primary education to all children (6-10 years)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make compulsory primary education by law</li> <li>• Increase school, outreach/annex programs in remote areas</li> <li>• Increase physical facilities in schools</li> <li>• Capacity development of community to manage schools</li> <li>• Conduct distance learning education</li> <li>• Conduct parental education and psychosocial counseling program</li> <li>• Focus on inclusive approach in education</li> <li>• Expansion of incentives e.g., scholarship, school feeding, uniform distribution and parental support (IG program)</li> <li>• Free education to CWDs, CEDC, and expansion of special education program to all forms of disabilities</li> <li>• Expansion of NFE - adult literacy, OSP, Child to Child program, special education for street, displaced children and CWDs</li> <li>• Manage teacher and textbooks to encourage providing primary education in mother tongue <b>(Refer EFA)</b></li> <li>• Development of monitoring and evaluation System</li> </ul>	<p>MoES, DoE, DEO Development partners, Local bodies, NGOs/CBOs SMC, Schools, Private educational institutions</p>	<p>Continuous</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of compulsory primary education</li> <li>• School enrolment rate</li> <li>• Inclusive approach in education</li> <li>• Provision of at least one female teacher to secondary school</li> <li>• Expansion of NFE</li> </ul>	<p>Studies Progress reports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of financial resources</li> <li>• Lack of access to rural and remote areas</li> <li>• Continuation of conflict</li> <li>• Inactive stakeholder</li> </ul>
<p>3) Increase retention, competencies and completion of children in schools</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special education./support program for CWDs and academically weak children</li> <li>• Secondary school integrate to +2</li> <li>• Expansion of girls hostel in remote districts</li> <li>• Development of gender/child friendly school environment</li> <li>• Strengthen monitoring and evaluation mechanism</li> <li>• <b>Note:</b> Incentive programs as mentioned above</li> <li>• <b>(Refer NPA on EFA and programs of objective – 3)</b></li> </ul>	<p>MoES, DoE, DEO Development partners, Local bodies, NGOs/CBOs SMC, Schools Civil Society</p>	<p>Continue from the first year of operation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Situation of retention, competencies and completion of children in schools</li> </ul>	<p>Studies Progress reports Media</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of financial resources</li> <li>• Lack of access to rural and remote areas</li> <li>• Continuation of conflict</li> <li>• Inactive stakeholder</li> </ul>

<p>4) Improve quality education and child friendly environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reform physical facilities and educational materials including science laboratory and library in each school</li> <li>• Provision of training &amp; skill development to teachers including issues of child rights, child psychology and discrimination</li> <li>• Development of subjective and practical education providing opportunity for potential children</li> <li>• Increase extra curricular activities within school including educational tour</li> <li>• Strengthen RCs, VECs, SMCs, PTAs and child clubs</li> <li>• Improve examination system including continuous assessment system at primary level and extra hour facilities in examination for CWDs</li> <li>• Curriculum review and development for inclusion of issues of child rights, gender, reproductive health etc and alternative subject for CWDs e.g., geometry, science.</li> <li>• Expansion of vocational training, life skill development program and technical education program</li> <li>• Improving school environment (child and girl friendly)</li> <li>• Inclusion of concept defining disabilities in textbooks</li> <li>• Reward and punishment system to teachers</li> <li>• Screening academic certificate and punishment for fake certificate holding teachers</li> <li>• Regular monitoring and evaluation system and transparency</li> </ul>	<p>MoES, DoE, DEO Development partners, Local bodies, NGOs/CBOs SMC, Schools, Civil society</p>	<p>Continue from the first year</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved physical facilities</li> <li>• Improved examination system</li> <li>• Curriculum revision</li> <li>• Capacity development and utilization of youths</li> <li>• Improving child, girl and disabled friendly environment</li> </ul>	<p>Studies Progress reports Media</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of financial resources</li> <li>• Inactive stakeholder</li> </ul>
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<p>5) Ensure gender equity in basic primary education by 2007 and in secondary education by 2012 (MDG-eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Massive awareness/sensitization raising programs including parental education, community literacy etc.</li> <li>• Provision at least one female teacher up to secondary school</li> <li>• Development of gender and disable friendly school environment (accessibility to all facilities in schools)</li> <li>• Special focused education programs for CWDs and girls</li> <li>• Provision of at least one female teacher up to secondary school</li> <li>• Reward those schools having gender friendly school environment</li> <li>• Counseling programs</li> <li>• <b>Note:</b> Incentive programs as mentioned above program 2.</li> </ul>	<p>MoES, DoE, DEO Development partners, Local bodies, NGOs/CBOs SMC, Schools Civil Society</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender equality and equity in education</li> <li>• Provision at least one female teacher to secondary school</li> <li>• Child, girl and disabled friendly school environment</li> </ul>	<p>Studies Progress reports Media</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of financial resources</li> <li>• Lack of access to rural and remote areas</li> <li>• Inactive stakeholder</li> </ul>
<p>6) Ensure children and school as zones of peace</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Declare school as zone of peace</li> <li>• Mass awareness raising including advocacy program for all stakeholders</li> <li>• Develop/strengthen networking/alliance building program</li> </ul>	<p>MoES, DoE, DEO Development partners, Local bodies, SMC, NGOs/CBOs, Schools Civil Society</p>	<p>Within one year</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Declaration of children and school as zones of peace and its practice</li> </ul>	<p>Studies Progress reports Media</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of access to rural and remote areas</li> <li>• Continuation of conflict</li> <li>• Inactive stakeholder</li> </ul>

## **Protecting Child Rights**

There are some legal provisions for protecting children from various exploitations besides fundamental rights mentioned in the Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal. However, hundreds of children are suffering from violence, exploitation, neglect and all forms of abuse and discrimination, and are being deprived of their basic rights. Many children live under unbearable circumstances – permanently disabled or seriously injured by armed conflict; internally displaced; suffering from natural disasters; and children of migrant workers. Trafficking, smuggling, physical and sexual exploitation and abduction, as well as the economic exploitation of children, even in its worst forms, are daily realities for children, while domestic violence and sexual violence against women and children remained serious problems. Children have the right to be protected from all forms of abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence. Given these backgrounds, the issues of child labour; children in conflict; sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking; identification; street children, refugee children; disabled children and drug abuse are addressed as follows:

### **Child Labour**

The Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal, 1991 forbids the engagement of minors in a factory, mine or in a dangerous workplace. The Children's Act prohibits the employment of children below 14 years in factories/industries. It also provides for protective and safety measures for children aged 14 and above. The Act also requires employers to send photographs and details of all child labourers to DCWB.

The Nepal Labour Force Survey of 1998/99 found that over 40 percent of all children 5-14 years, 1.987 million children, were economically active. More girls than boys work, and the proportion of working children in the rural areas is greater than in the urban areas. Child labour exploitation has been one of the problems in promoting the rights of children because of weak implementation of laws, poverty, landlessness, illiteracy, age long tradition, and lack of awareness on child rights, monitoring mechanism and social security scheme. There is a lack of administrative and legislative mechanism to address the issues of child labour in the informal sectors.

It is necessary to classify the child labour based on vulnerability of works and exploitation, and prioritize the program interventions to protect the rights of working children. Most of the activities against child labour are urban focused. New interventions need to be targeted in rural setting addressing causes and consequences of child labour for its prevention.

### **Children in Armed Conflict**

Under the 1962 Royal Army Recruitment Rules, anyone under 18 is not eligible to join the Army, however it allows enlisting for military training from the age of 15. The Maoist insurgency that started in 1996 has, to date, claimed more than 10,000 lives including 300 children, and injured many others. There are reports that Maoists have been recruiting children and youth into their movement. Detailed information of the situation and the number of children involved, however, is not available. Although the insurgency originated in Nepal's Western and Mid Western regions, an increasing number of districts are being affected by disruptions and insecurity. Development activities have been adversely affected in the country and in the situation of the children.

### **Sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking**

Sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking are the major issues of concern on child rights, which continues unabated despite efforts by the Government, and civil society organization. The studies show that sexual abuse and exploitation is found everywhere including home, school, community, work place, and even public places. On the other hand, it is reported that children are trafficked for sexual and labour use. The Government is trying to control sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking in the commercial sectors but yet to address in the non-commercial sectors. District level committee has also been formed to address these issues of trafficking. NGOs are working on this issue of protection, prevention and rescue exploited and abused children (in and out of the country) and rehabilitating them in different centres. Some activities to prevent girl trafficking are being run that include community mobilization and peer counseling through child clubs and women's groups.

In the absence of reliable data on the number of children trafficked and proper definition of the term 'trafficking' in the national legal system, it has become difficult to understand the nature and magnitude of the problem. There have been many incidents of girls raped by their own relatives and even fathers.

### **Identity of children**

The Government introduced vital/civil registration from 1977 and covered in all 75 districts in 1990 that includes birth registration of children. However, because of many reasons children are not registered, and they do not have any authorized card that proves their identity. Some of the major reasons are lack of awareness, lack of required documents to register the birth of the child, poverty, some ambiguities in laws to register all children, faraway office of registration, and heavy work burden of parents and lack of immediate motivation after registration.

### **Street children**

With the increasing urbanization and urban focused opportunity and facility, the problem of street children is growing year by year. In urban centers, children land on the street from neighboring rural villages and districts as a result of poverty, broken family, physical and verbal abuse in the family, abandonment, helplessness and desires of seeing and living in the city. The street children face many problems of hunger, lack of health and education facilities, skill development, physical and sexual exploitation by elder and former street children, drug abuse etc. It is also reported that as they grew up they face problem of subsistence (transaction and addiction), and, consequently, they get involved in immoral and illegal activities contributing to social distortion

Some NGOs are working to address the issue of street children like running transit homes, skill training, socialization centre, counseling, providing food education and family reunion etc. However, it is realized that there should be preventive and controlling measures in origin and destination with issuance of identity card for rehabilitative services for those who are already landed in urban centers.

### **Disabled children**

The Government initiated special education program for blind in Kathmandu. Now, the special education program is being launched for all kinds of CWDs. However, a majority of children with disabilities is out of reach of such facilities, as again, these facilities are mostly urban based.

The Government has ratified almost all Declarations related to CWDs, and promulgated separate law for the protection and promotion of their rights and development. Since early 1980s the Government organizations and various associations, federations and NGOs have been working for CWDs mainly in education, skill training, and community-based rehabilitation and against social stigma, discrimination and exclusion. NGOs are spread over the districts in launching such programs and activities, and raising a voice for the rights and development of CWDs.

A national survey on "Situation of Disability in Nepal" reports that there is about two percent CWDs whereas other studies show varying figures of 1 – 15 percent. Among them only about 10 percent children with disabilities have access to formal and non-formal education.

### **Drug abuse**

Drug abuse among young people may be a relatively new phenomenon in Nepal, but it is a growing problem. With HIV/AIDS now a growing problem in Nepal, increasing intravenous drug use amongst young people is a raising concern. Half of all IDUs in Kathmandu, according to the National Centre for AIDS and STD Control, test HIV positive. NGOs run a number of treatment and rehabilitation centres, but they are mostly concentrated in the capital. As a preventive measure, NGOs and the Government have been creating awareness about the issue through the media.

### **Refugee children**

There are more than 100,000 Bhutanese refugees of ethnic Nepalese origin living in UNHCR-administered camps in east Nepal for the past 10 years. While talks continue about repatriation, the Government has been providing food, education, health and other services to the refugees. A number of NGOs and INGOs such as



Save the Children UK, World Lutheran Service and Oxfam as well as UN bodies have been assisting in this endeavour.

In the preparation process, inputs were collected from the central to district level consultations and meetings as well as consultation with children, professional organizations, school associations, teacher's associations, trade unions, parents and service providers especially to street children, disabled children and HIV/AIDS affected children. Representatives of government organizations from ministries to district level offices, UN agencies, INGOs, NGO Federations, Child NGO Federation, various associations and children themselves participated actively in the discussions and provided inputs for NPA. Based on the all sources of information, the progress reviewed and problems identified, which are given below in brief:

### **Progress Review**

The followings are the progress reviewed in brief that are collected from primary as well as secondary sources of information. Primary source includes thematic group, concerned specific groups, national and regional consultations:

### **Legal Issues**

- Enacted Children's Act 1992, Regulations, 1995 and Labour Act 1992
- 11th amendment in Civil Code, 1963
- Penal provision against sexual harassment and labor exploitation in laws

### **Policy issues**

- Ratified CRC, 1989 and signed Optional Protocols, 2000
- Developed NPA for Children of 1990s
- Inclusion of child rights and development chapter in national development periodic plans including 10th 5 year plan
- Prepared NPA on disabilities, CEDAW, Beijing + 5, Child Trafficking, Child Labour etc.

### **Program Issues**

- Launched income generation and community development programs

- Increasing facilities in education, entertainment, sport, health program, food, friendship environment
- Initiated school health checkup program
- Conducted different programs on trafficking and prostitution
- Launched special programs for street children and armed conflict affected children, child labour
- Provided scholarship for disabled, Dalit and poor children
- Provided informal education for street children
- Initiating identity card for children and persons with disabilities
- Protecting children from labour exploitation
- Increasing rehabilitation and socialization of children-at-risk including street children and survivors of trafficking
- Increasing participation of children in child related program
- Celebrated child right day/children's day
- Launching parental education program
- Initiated psycho-social counseling for children
- Increased disabled aid program – education, health, training, skill development program awareness, and community-based rehabilitation.

### **Institutional issue**

- Established MWCSW, formed CCWB and 75 DCWBs, established child bench in District Court
- Formation of Para-Legal committees in districts
- Established women and child cell in Nepal Police
- Formation of Disabled Cooperation Committee and Child Protection Committee
- Formation of District Working Committee on Trafficking and sexual exploitation
- Increasing child NGOs and INGO on child rights
- Running community based child centers

- Running about 5000 child clubs
- Established child homes for orphans and mentally retarded children
- Established rescue centers, NGO net on sectoral issues
- Set minimum standard of child homes

### **Awareness/Sensitization**

- Conducted awareness raising program against children in conflict, trafficking, sexual exploitation, abuse, discrimination, child labour, child marriage, HIV/AIDS and for rights of children including birth registration.
- Run campaign on "children are zones of peace"
- Increasing positive thinking of parents and teachers on child rights
- Decreasing harassment of girl child
- Developing/disseminating IEC on child rights
- Wide coverage of children issues by media
- Incorporation of CRC in police training

### **Others**

- Reservation policy in education and scholarship for girls and Dalit
- Increasing alternative parenthood for orphans
- Increasing friendly behavior with disabled children
- Increasing rescue of children at risk
- Increasing capability of children on child rights

### **Problems Identified**

#### **Legal Issue**

- Lack of law relating to child protection, sexual harassment, exploitation, abuse, social security
- Ineffective implementation of existing laws
- Lack of investigation procedure regarding child cases, since it has not been included in Schedule –1 of Government Cases Act, 2049 (A.D. 1993)
- Lack of legal provision to investigate and penal against exploitation of child labour in informal sector including domestic child labor

- Ineffective juvenile justice - Child Bench
- Problem of citizenship obtaining for orphan and abandoned children
- Complicated legal provision for registering children organization

#### **Policy Issue**

- Unclear policy for orphan home and its standard
- No specific policy against child labour in informal sectors
- Lack of specific policy and monitoring system for adoption
- Lack of child protection policy
- Lack of clear policy for registering child club
- Lack of social security system

#### **Program Issue**

- Lack of coordination and program duplication
- Lack of basic facilities to children of all forms of disabilities, child laborers including education
- Lack of rehabilitation program for children affected by conflict and living in difficult circumstances
- Inadequate scholarship for poor, girls and Dalit
- Lack of access and opportunity to health and education for children in difficult circumstances
- Lack of data of conflict affected

#### **Institutional Issue**

- Lack of child care centers at working places
- Inadequate child correction homes
- Lack of rehabilitative services to survivors of conflict, trafficking and HIV
- No minimum standard for running child care homes
- Lack of monitoring and evaluation system
- Lack of desegregated data/information about children and facilities available to them
- Insufficient coordination between GOs/NGOs

### **Discrimination Issues**

- Existence of gender/racial discrimination
- Social discrimination to children of prostitutes
- Prevalence of so called perception "girls are considered as object".
- Social discrimination against "Dalit" girls even by educated class

### **Awareness / Sensitization**

- Harassment of girls in and out of school
- Lack of awareness against child marriage, trafficking, all forms of exploitation and abuse
- Lack of gender sensitization at family, community and policy level
- Lack of knowledge about importance/process of vital registration
- Prevalence of Dowry system

### **Financial Support**

- Lack of proper utilization and transparency of budget of I/NGOs
- Lack of resources at DCWB and CCWB
- Lack of resources for CEDC
- Lack of permanent children fund/trust for emergency support

### **Others**

- Some illiterate/irresponsible parents
- Cruel punishment to child labour by masters
- Existence of corporal punishment in school
- Abduction and kidnapping of children
- Dropout from school due to conflict/sexual harassment
- Prevalence of poverty /illiteracy/unemployment
- Increasing problems of drug abuse/alcohol
- Lack of social security for children

## Protecting Child Rights: Plan of Action

**Coordinating Agency:** The Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare, Central Child Welfare Board and District Child Welfare Board

### Overall Objectives:

- Protect children from all forms of discrimination, exploitation and abuse.
- Ensure rights of children especially in difficult circumstances including children with disabilities, children affected from armed conflict, street children, child workers and others

**Strategy:** Legal reform; Capacity development of institutions and human resources, Networking, Decentralization and Collaboration development.

Objectives	Programs	Implementing Agencies	Time Frame	Development Indicators	Means of Verification	Risk Factor
1. Review, amend and construct laws ensuring the rights of children	Review and amend existing legal provisions in various laws to ensure rights of children, and construct new legal provisions as required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Punishment for offender of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment</li> <li>• Amendment of Children's Act, 2048 according to CRC and its protocols</li> <li>• Ensure legal provision of compensation to survivors</li> <li>• Review and amend laws regarding age of children</li> <li>• Focus on contradictory and discriminatory laws</li> <li>• Define the process of registering child organization</li> </ul>	Parliament, MOLJPA, MWCSW, CCWB	Within two years	Legal provision to ensure all rights of children	Amended legal provisions	Inactive stakeholders
2. Develop and implement policies ensuring the	Review existing policies and develop policies required to ensure rights of children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make policy for compulsory participation of children in committees relating to child issues</li> </ul>	Parliament, MoHome MWCSW CCWB	Within three years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional policies to ensure rights of children</li> </ul>	Developed policies Ratified Conventions	Inactive stakeholders

rights of children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define TOR for focal ministry and point at central and district level</li> <li>• Functionalize child cell in all district police offices</li> <li>• Develop Ward-VDC-District-National level networking in implementation, reporting and monitoring the NPA including child rights violations</li> <li>• Establish child welfare fund from district to central level</li> </ul>	DCWB		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Defined TOR for agencies concerned</li> <li>• Development of networking</li> </ul>		
3. Protect every child free from all kinds of exploitation, abuse and violence including social discrimination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Law reform – refer to above 1</b></li> <li>• Awareness raising program against all forms of exploitation, abuse and violence including child marriage from family to national level</li> <li>• Behavior and attitudinal change initiative program</li> <li>• Increase and regularize orphan, child and correction homes</li> <li>• Income generating program for parents (poor, Dalit and marginalized)</li> <li>• Strengthen and authorize DCWB to monitor and regulate the child rights in school, community and work place</li> <li>• Strengthen VDC and DDC level committee/unit in information management system</li> <li>• Develop and strengthen watch groups as mentioned in implementation modality</li> <li>• Develop a minimum standard of child homes</li> <li>• Operation and promotion of child homes according to the set standard</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation of homes</li> <li>• Include issues on non-discrimination in formal and non-formal education teacher's training and school textbooks</li> </ul>	MoHome, MLD MWCSW Development partners NGOs/CBOs Local bodies Nepal police	Continue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decreased exploitation, abuse, violence and social discrimination</li> <li>• Regularized child homes</li> <li>• Capacity development of stakeholders</li> </ul>	Studies Progress reports Media Survey	Lack of financial resources Lack of access to rural and remote areas Inactive stakeholder
4. Reduce child labour and eradicate worst form of child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Law reform – refer to above 1</b></li> <li>• Special programs for child labour/working children e.g., education and life skill including community</li> </ul>	MoH, MLD, MoLT, MWCSW	From the first year of Plan implementation	Reduction in child labour and eradication of worst form of	Studies Progress reports	Lack of financial resources

labour including domestic child labour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>managed NFE centers in VDCs</li> <li>Awareness raising from family to national level against child labour</li> <li>Rehabilitation for children at-risk due to hazardous work</li> <li>Parental education and economic empowerment program for vulnerable family</li> <li>Effective implementation of reasonable wages and working hour for minor workers</li> <li>Implement provision of occupational health safety environment (OHSE)</li> <li>Activate and support child clubs</li> <li>Mobilization of child clubs to address the issue of child labour</li> <li>Registration program of child labour in local bodies</li> <li>Develop networking and form watch/pressure groups for monitoring form village to central level</li> <li><b>( Refer NPA on Child Labour)</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development partners</li> <li>NGOs/CBOs</li> <li>Local bodies</li> <li>Nepal police</li> </ul>	Within one year onwards	child labour	Media Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of access to rural and remote areas</li> <li>Inactive stakeholder</li> <li>Conflicting situation</li> </ul>
5. Make children free from armed conflict and ensure their rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Declare schools and children as zone of peace</li> <li>Provide residential school for children directly affected by armed conflict</li> <li>Rehabilitation and psycho-social counseling program</li> <li>Income generating program for parents</li> <li>Special provision of health and education for children affected from armed conflict</li> <li>Form special cell in local level to work on conflict affected children</li> <li>Form/expand conflict protection committee in district/VDC Level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MoHome</li> <li>MWCSW</li> <li>Development partners</li> <li>NGOs/CBOs</li> <li>Local bodies</li> </ul>	Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No. of children affected from armed conflict</li> <li>Facilities provided for them</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Studies</li> <li>Progress reports</li> <li>Media Survey</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of access to remote areas</li> <li>Inactive stakeholder</li> <li>Conflict situation</li> </ul>
6. Protect adopted children's rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop transparent and regular mechanism</li> <li>Regular monitoring of adopted children</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MWCSW,</li> <li>Local bodies</li> <li>NGOs/ CBOs</li> </ul>	From the first year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of transparent mechanism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Studies</li> <li>Progress reports</li> <li>Media</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inactive stakeholder</li> </ul>



				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Situation of adopted children</li> </ul>		
7. Protect children from sexual harassment, exploitation and trafficking	<p><b>Law reform – refer to above 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct legal literacy programs and massive awareness raising program</li> <li>• Ensure compensation from offender</li> <li>• Tight security provision in boarder</li> <li>• Implement income generate programs for vulnerable groups</li> <li>• Develop network to implement and monitor activities from local to national level</li> <li>• Activate child clubs to address these issues</li> <li>• Inclusion of SEAT issues in school education and NFE</li> <li>• Rescue trafficked children and promote skill development training in rehabilitation centers</li> <li>• Strengthen social reintegration program</li> </ul>	MWCSW Development partners NGOs/CBOs Local bodies Nepal Police	Continuous from the first year  within one year	Decreasing events of sexual harassment, exploitation and trafficking	Studies Progress reports Media	Lack of access to rural and remote areas Inactive stakeholder Conflict situation
8. Ensure rights of children with disabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue distribution of disabled identity card</li> <li>• Develop physical infrastructure for education</li> <li>• Scale up integrated program for CBR</li> <li>• Awareness raising to change negative attitude towards CWDs – family and community along with support programs</li> <li>• Ensure accessibility in public places</li> <li>• Develop communication system between deaf and blind</li> <li>• Rehabilitation facility at the grassroots under PHC system</li> <li>• Provide free health service for disabled; specially disabled with severe condition</li> <li>• Establish at least one center in each district</li> <li>• Provide basic training to staff of CBR</li> <li>• Distribute IEC materials</li> </ul>	MWCSW Development partners NGOs/CBOs Local bodies	Continue from the first year of plan implementation  Within two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased access of CWDs to education, training, health and rehabilitation services</li> <li>• Increase BCC</li> <li>• Inclusive approach in public utilities</li> </ul>	Studies Progress reports Media	Lack of financial resources Lack of access to remote areas Inactive stakeholder

9. Ensure rights of dependant children in jail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rehabilitation program for children in jail, child home, family, community and others ensuring their basic to health and education</li> <li>• Alternative family program</li> <li>• Psycho-social counseling program</li> <li>• Human resources development</li> </ul>	MWCSW, CCWB Development partners NGOs/CBOs Jail administration	Continue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rehabilitation for children</li> </ul>	Studies Progress reports Media	Lack of financial resources Inactive stakeholder Conflict
10. Provide social security scheme to children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Health</b></li> <li>• Ante natal and post natal care</li> <li>• Regular immunization program</li> <li>• Health insurance extension program</li> <li>• Health, rehabilitation and education insurance program to CWDs</li> <li>• Mental health support and psycho-social counseling</li> <li>• Health awareness program including parental education to protect child's health development</li> <li>• <b>Nutrition</b></li> <li>• Nationwide safe motherhood program</li> <li>• Awareness raising program</li> <li>• Nationwide Vitamin 'A' program and Nutrition package</li> <li>• <b>Education</b></li> <li>• Focused education program for CWDs</li> <li>• Teachers training in sign language</li> <li>• Free education of CWDs up to +2</li> <li>• Inclusive education, NFE/Life Skill and vocational training for CWDs</li> <li>• <b>Sports development</b></li> <li>• Integrated program of sports and recreation into regular education</li> </ul>	MOH, MoLD, MOES, DOE MWCSW, DoH Development partners NGOs/CBOs Local bodies	Continue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IMR, CMR</li> <li>• Increased social security schemes for children especially CEDC</li> </ul>	Studies Progress reports Media	Lack of financial resources Lack of access to remote areas Inactive stakeholder Conflict situation
11. Ensure juvenile friendly justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish children court in each district</li> <li>• Reform legal and justice system</li> <li>• Sensitization and strengthening program for</li> </ul>	Parliament Judiciary MoHome,	Within one year	Improved justice to exploited	Studies Progress reports	Lack of financial resources

system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>institutions related to children in conflict with laws</li> <li>• Counseling program to juvenile delinquents</li> <li>• Peer education program</li> <li>• Life skill program (NFE, Skill training) and seed money to children in prison</li> <li>• Rehabilitation/Correction home/socialization centres for needy children, and community/family reintegration program</li> <li>• Socialization process under custody</li> <li>• Sensitization for service provider and children</li> <li>• Accused children under 16 years of age should be kept in correction home</li> </ul>	MWCSW Development partners NGOs/CBOs		children	Media Survey	Lack of access to remote areas Inactive stakeholder Conflict
12. Prevent and protect street children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage separate drop-in centers, correction homes and rehabilitation centers for street children including street youths</li> <li>• Provide life skill training according to the interest and age of street children</li> <li>• Family reunification program with proper counseling</li> <li>• Sensitize local bodies/parents and community</li> <li>• Tight security check in different departure point ( Bus, Truck and other transportation)</li> <li>• Provision of identity card for street children</li> <li>• Initiate helpline and protection program jointly by DCWB, NGOs and Police</li> <li>• Strong monitoring system</li> </ul>	MWCSW, Department of Police Development partners NGOs/CBOs Local bodies	Immediate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No. of street children</li> <li>- Facilities provided for them</li> </ul>	Studies Progress reports Media Survey	Inactive stakeholder
13. Develop information management system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collect data of children and update record by VDC and CWC</li> <li>• Conduct survey and maintain data of disabled children Conduct baseline study on conflict victim children</li> </ul>	CCWB DCWB CBS	Within two years	Develop information management system Availability of disaggregated data	Studies Progress reports	Lack of resources Inactive stakeholder

## **Combating HIV/AIDS**

Although the prevalence of HIV/AIDS is still relatively low in Nepal, it is increasing among high-risk groups, threatening to spread to the general public. Studies show that the magnitude of the HIV/AIDS epidemic seems to have been underestimated, and the mobile population is emerging as a new group vulnerable to HIV infection. Over the years, the prevalence of HIV infection has sharply increased, especially among sex workers and injecting drug users. Other high-risk groups include migrant workers, transport workers and their spouses, as well as children who are trafficked. Gradually, children are also being infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. Concerted efforts have also been on track to raise awareness against HIV/AIDS, however, it is a great challenge to prevent and control the epidemic of HIV/AIDS.

In the preparation process, inputs were collected from the central level meetings, thematic group meetings, regional consultation, consultations with children, professional organizations, school associations, teacher's associations, trade unions, parents, service providers especially to street children, disabled children and HIV/AIDS affected children. There were mix participants in the central level meetings, thematic group meetings and regional workshops as mentioned in Chapter one. Representatives of government organizations from ministries to district level offices, UN agencies, INGOs, NGO Federations, Child NGO Federation, various associations and children themselves contributed to NPA. Based on the all sources of information, the progress reviewed and problems identified, which are given below in brief:

### **Progress Review**

The followings are the progress reviewed in brief that are collected from primary as well as secondary sources of information. Primary source includes thematic group, concerned specific groups, national and regional consultations:

#### **Policy issue**

- Developed policies to address the issue of HIV/AIDS
- Provided different services by the government to control HIV/AIDS.

#### **Program issue**

- Initiated reproductive health and policy program
- Increasing reproductive health education and sexual education program
- Launched need based awareness program-Adolescent/ School children/Teachers
- Conducted awareness program through all forms of media against exploitation
- Making IEC materials available to target groups, and increased in the use of AIDS preventing materials.
- Conducted program against girls trafficking for sexual exploitation
- Conducted controlling program on drug abuse
- Launched care and support program
- Providing blood test facility for the victims of HIV/AIDS
- Developing and expanding rehabilitation and treatment for victim children of HIV/AIDS

### **Institutional**

- Established National Center for AIDS and STD Control
- Managed rehabilitation and counseling centers for the victims of HIV/AIDS, though limited
- Established Central and District Co-ordination Committee on HIV/AIDS
- Established district working committee to control girls trafficking
- Established adult clubs and expanding adolescents information centers
- Developing youth information system
- Providing education on HIV/AIDS to domestic child labor
- Conducted income generating activities for AIDS affected families
- Provided scholarship for AIDS affected children in some districts
- Establishment of information, education and communication branch in MOPE

### **Awareness/ Sensitization/ Advocacy/ Training**

- Developing positive attitude and behavior towards AIDS infected and affected persons and children
- Discussed and shared feelings of HIV/AIDS infected and affected persons freely among themselves
- Initiated national wise campaigning against HIV/AIDS, and Involving HIV/AIDS infected and affected persons in awareness raising campaign
- Celebrated World AIDS Day and international Drugs Abuse Control Day
- Initiated medicine distribution for AIDS affected mothers to make the new-born baby safe
- Conducted baseline survey and FHI baseline survey

#### **Others**

- Decreasing sexual transmitted diseases
- Included HIV/AIDS issue in school education
- Free distribution of Condom
- Used disposable syringe
- Increasing international support for prevention of AIDS
- Developing central level, local level and NGOs partnership to address the issue of HIV/AIDS

#### **Problems Identified**

##### **Legal issue**

- Lack of separate legal provision for conducting brothels and commercial sex

##### **Program issue**

- Remained girls trafficking and exploitation problem as a great challenge
- Use of children in drug trafficking
- Lack of access of common people to blood test, counseling and primary treatment
- Increasing problem of unemployment
- HIV/AIDS relating program
- Inadequate peer education and adult focus program relating HIV/AIDS

- Lack of counseling centres, treatment and care facility including VCT
- Low access to IEC materials in remote areas and to common people
- Lack of youth friendly health service
- Problems of basic needs including education facilities for HIV infected and affected orphans
- Coordination among main stakeholders not enough
- Low participation of PLWHA in social activities

### **Discrimination**

- Social discrimination against PLWHA
- Negative attitude towards the victim of HIV/AIDS
- Discriminated behavior in the school to the children of AIDS infected and affected parents
- Discrimination in community level program to HIV infected and affected children

### **Awareness/ Sensitization/ Advocacy/ Training**

- Misuse of AIDS preventing materials
- Lack of knowledge for using syringe
- Prevalence of conservative believes
- Lack of free discussion about HIV/AIDS
- Lack of belief towards AIDS victims and their potentiality
- Hesitation to express freely about the HIV/AIDS infection and test blood
- Hesitation to adopt contraceptives (condom)
- High seasonal migrants
- Misinformation and communication about HIV/AIDS

### **Financial & Economic Support**

- Lack of syringe
- Withdrawal of children from the school due to the death of parents and economic crisis
- Lack of financial support to the victim

**Others**

- Increasing problems of sex workers and drugs abuse.
- Unsafe sexual relation
- Problem of sexual exploitation, abuse and rape
- Unsecured health service and unsafe delivery kit
- Lack of privacy



## Combating HIV/AIDS: Plan of Action

**Coordinating Agency:** The Ministry of Health, and Central Child Welfare Board and District Child Welfare Board

### Overall Objectives:

- Protect children from affect of HIV/AIDS.
- Ensure rights of HIV/AIDS affected and infected children.

**Strategy:** Capacity development of institutions and human resources, Rehabilitation of HIV/AIDS affected and infected children, Awareness raising and Collaboration development.

Objective	Program	Implementing Agencies	Time Frame	Development Indicators	Means of Verification	Risk Factor
1. Review, amend and construct necessary laws and policies	Review, amend and construct necessary legal provision: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage separate legal provision against HIV/AIDS</li> <li>• Make effective legal provision for the commercial sex workers</li> <li>• Amend existing laws to punish to the brokers</li> <li>• Review existing policies and formulate necessary policies</li> </ul>	Parliament, MoLJPA, MWCSW  MOH  NGOs	Within two years	Improved and new legal provisions	Studies Progress reports  Media	Inactive stakeholder
2. Prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and mitigate its impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and implement policies to reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS</li> <li>• Conduct income generating and vocational training program</li> <li>• Provision of AIDS management including anti-retroviral drug</li> <li>• Establish DIC, drop-in-centre, day care center and rehabilitation center</li> </ul>	MOH NCASC Development partners Local Bodies  NGOs/CBOs	Continuous	No. of HIV/AIDS affected children	Studies Progress reports  Media	Lack of financial resources  Inactive stakeholder

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peer Education Program</li> <li>• Control IDUs</li> <li>• Promote accessibility of CLWHA to treatment and services</li> <li>• Accessibility and publicity of condom</li> <li>• Expansion of counseling center and maintain privacy</li> <li>• Blood screen at blood bank</li> <li>• Anti girls trafficking program in 75 districts</li> <li>• Program should be prevention to care continuous</li> <li>• Special awareness and advocacy program in factories</li> </ul>					
3. Increase sensitization and/or Decrease stigmatization as well as create awareness in each community of each VDC against HIV/AIDS by 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify target groups and bring in net (Street children, Potential parents, School children, Dropouts, Drug users etc)</li> <li>• Counseling; Rehabilitation; Life-skill development and income generating program for HIV/AIDs affected street children and vulnerable groups</li> <li>• BCC Programs</li> <li>• Sensitization for media</li> <li>• Rehabilitation and counseling for drug addicts</li> <li>• Collect and analyze data</li> <li>• Nationwide awareness campaign against HIV/AIDS through IEC, Media, Street drama and rally</li> <li>• Counseling/ awareness program to proper school/area/family/ care providers/health care centers/teachers</li> <li>• Reform textbooks</li> </ul>	MOH, NCASC Development partners Local Bodies NGOs/CBOs Civil society  PLWHAs	From the first year of plan implementation  Within second year	Awareness as well as sensitization situation	Studies Progress reports  Media	Lack of financial resources Lack of access to rural and remote areas Inactive stakeholder
4. Protect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Give orientation about HIV/AIDS for potential groups</li> <li>• Voluntary counseling and testing centers</li> </ul>	MOH, NCASC Development partners	Continue from the first	HIV/AIDS transmission cases and number	Studies Progress reports	Lack of access to rural and remote areas

children from the transmission of HIV/AIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct reproductive and sex education in school and community</li> <li>• Develop safe blood donation system</li> <li>• Develop the capacity of health workers to identify and referral</li> </ul> (Refer – Nepal's National HIV/AIDS Strategy)	Local Bodies  NGOs/CBOs			Media	Inactive stakeholder
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## **Child Participation**

### **Background**

Every child has right to participation in the program of child right issues, particularly in matters concerning their best interest. Participation of children is gradually getting momentum in Nepal from central level to community. The Government encouraged children in the process of formulating 10<sup>th</sup> National Development Plan (2002-2007). The trend of inviting children in the child related program of the government organizations, UN agencies, INGOs, NGOs and civil society is increasing. Earlier, children were invited in the events for token participation or physical participation. As the child right activities increased from GOs, UN agencies, INGOs, NGOs and civil society, children gradually empowered with information on child rights have started to express their views unhesitatingly from community level program to national level program. Child clubs are also being active from central to community level especially in awareness raising, raising voices on violence against sexual exploitation, child marriage etc. Their involvement in various creative and development activities is very encouraging, and as such, some children have already been included in DCWB as well as village level committees.

Child participation is not always related to economic resources, but it is more related to attitudes and behavior of adults, skill/capacity of individuals and institutions.

In the preparation process, inputs were massively collected from children through the central level meetings, thematic group meetings, regional consultation, child consultation - especially to street children, disabled children and HIV/AIDS affected children. Based on the all sources of information, the progress reviewed and problems identified, which are given below in brief:

### **Progress Review**

The followings are the progress reviewed in brief that are collected from primary as well as secondary sources of information. Primary source includes thematic group, concerned specific groups, national and regional consultations:

- Inclusion of child participation in national development plans
- Encouraged children in planning process from national level to grassroots level
- Registering child clubs
- Including child representatives in DCWB, School Management Committee and various Consumer's Committees
- Increasing positive attitude towards importance of child participation in different programs
- Children participated as members of the Government Delegation in international conferences including UNGASS
- Developing organizational capacity through child clubs
- Exploring capacity and knowledge of children

#### **Problems Identified**

- Facing difficulties in registering child organizations in some districts
- Lack of resources in conducting child rights and development activities
- Lack of coordination with other organizations
- Lack of clarity about the level of participation of children in planning and policy formulation and implementation

The issue of child participation has been integrated in all thematic plan of action.

#### **Policies**

- Define level and issues of child participation
- Involve children in all project cycles in accordance with the age and maturity of children
- Form pressure/watch groups from village to central level to watch and put pressure in implementation of NPA
- Develop net work of children's group and organizations from grassroots level to national level

## Child Participation: Plan of Action

**Coordinating Agency:** CCWB and DCWB

**Overall Objectives:**

- Promote proper participation of children in all project cycle.
- Develop capacity of child networking

**Strategy:** Reform in legal and administrative measures, Develop networking, Capacity development of child clubs, Coordination and collaboration

Objectives	Programs	Implementing Agencies	Time Frame	Development Indicators	Means of Verification	Risk Factor
1. Make the registration of child clubs process easy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve legal provisions to make easy registration of child groups and clubs</li> <li>• Provision of registering child clubs in DCWB</li> <li>• Make easy procedure to register child club</li> </ul>	MOLJPA, MWCSW, CCWB, DCWB	With one year	Improved in legal provision and registration process	New legal provisions and policies	Inactive stakeholders
2. Develop and implement the concept of child participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop clear guidelines and policies to encourage child participation in all planning and project cycle related to child issues by not depriving children from their educational performance</li> <li>• Develop network/watch group of children from village to national level to follow up the implementation of NPA as mentioned in the implementation modality</li> </ul>	CCWB, DCWB, Development partners	With one year	Development of guidelines and policies Proper participation of children	Study Evaluation	Inactive stakeholders
3. Capacity development of child groups and institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide technical and financial support to child groups and clubs</li> <li>• Increase awareness and sensitization about institutional and child right issues to children by developing IEC materials</li> <li>• Provide children involved in the groups and clubs about institutional, child rights, child participation, role</li> </ul>	CCWB, DCWB, Development partners	With one year	Improved training Logistics to child clubs	Studies Evaluation Observation	Inactive stakeholders

	of children etc.					
4. Increase coordination between child groups/institutions and stakeholders concerned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase coordination between child clubs and district level line agencies, NGOs, development partners, DCWB, municipalities, VDCs etc for involving children in all cycles of the plan and programs relating to child issues</li> </ul>	CCWB, DCWB, Development partners Municipality VDC	With one year	Better coordination between child clubs and agencies concerned	Studies Evaluation Observation	Inactive stakeholders
5. Develop effective monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen CCWB and DCWB to follow up and monitor the implementation of NPA</li> </ul>	CCWB, DCWB, Development partners	With one year	Active and regular monitoring	Reports Studies Evaluation	Inactive stakeholders

## Coordination, Monitoring and Evaluation

### Background

At present, there is a central monitoring system in the National Planning Commission Secretariat that monitors and evaluates specific project and programs based on annual and periodic plans, while there is planning, monitoring and evaluation division at line ministries that monitors their own projects and programs based on their annual and periodic plans.

The mandate of the MWCSW includes coordination, facilitation, monitoring child related plans and programs. Similarly, CCWB's mandate also includes coordination, monitoring and evaluation of child related issues. But both of them have not been effective to perform those mandates, as they are yet to develop an information management system.

Central Child Welfare Board is being active and effective in providing guidelines to DCWB and coordinating among DCWBs. More positively, CCWB is trying to coordinate among INGOs and also developing monitoring indicators of CRC implementation, however, it has to be properly supported with financial, technical and human resources.

Based on the nature of mandate, the following channel of mechanism is to be followed regarding coordination, monitoring and evaluation:

#### Channel of coordination, monitoring and evaluation mechanism

The following **channel of mechanism** is to be followed in implementation of this NPA:

1. National Planning Commission Secretariat (NPCS) is the apex body to coordinate among all line ministries especially in annual and periodic planning and programming, therefore, it should be accountable at central level coordination, monitoring and evaluation.
2. The MWCSW and CCWB jointly will coordinate in planning and implementation process with all line ministries, agencies and development partners at central level. Similarly, district level offices and/or committees of



the MWCSW and CCWB will coordinate, monitor and evaluate district level plans and programs including implementation of their own programs. In addition, CCWB will play coordination, facilitation, monitoring and evaluation role more than implementation of programs.

3. Since Local Self-Governance Act, 1999 provides decentralized authorities and responsibilities to local bodies in planning; implementation, resource mobilization and local level program monitoring. DDCs, Municipalities and VDCs are directly concerned on the issues of child rights and development. CCWB coordinates with the Ministry of Local Development, ADDC/N, MUAN, NAVIN and DDC.
4. Child rights issue is also one of the concerns of National Human Rights Commission; therefore, there should be a provision of one member for the sector of child rights.

Some I/NGOs are doing monitoring and evaluation of their programs in their program areas. However, it is felt that a coordinated effort should be in place to contribute to a synergy effect.

On these grounds, it is aimed at developing and smoothly working mechanism for coordination, monitoring and evaluation so that annual status of child rights can be known and period reporting can easily be made. Aiming at developing a regular and inter-sectoral coordination, monitoring and evaluation mechanism, the following plan of action is adopted:

## Coordination, Monitoring and Evaluation: National Plan of Action

**Coordinating Agency:** Central Child Welfare Board and District Child Welfare Board

**Overall Objectives:** Develop effective coordination, monitoring and evaluation mechanism

**Strategy:** Institutional capacity development, coordination and collaborative effort

Objectives	Main Programs	Implementing Agencies	Time Frame	Development Indicators	Means of verification	Risk factor
1. Capacity development of CCWB and DCWB in coordination, planning, monitoring and evaluation of NPA programs	<b>Programs to strengthen CCWB and DCWB:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restructuring and strengthening Central as well as District Child Welfare Board</li> <li>Institutional capacity development by Technical and financial support program; Human resource development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MWCSW</li> <li>CCWB</li> <li>DCWB</li> <li>Development partners</li> </ul>	Continuous from the first year (Long term)	Capacity of CCWB and DCWB	Progress reports Studies Observation	Lack of resources Inactive stakeholders
2. Strengthening data management system in CCWB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Financial and technical support in establishing data management system including Human resource development</li> <li>Documentation centre at CCWB</li> <li>Conduct study on the issue that is not covered by other Ministries' and Organizations' studies.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CCWB</li> <li>Development partners</li> </ul>	Continuous	Disaggregated data regarding child issues	Progress reports Observations	Lack of resources Inactive stakeholders
3. Increase coordination in planning, monitoring and evaluation process of child right plans and programs	Strengthen capacity of the MWCSW and CCWB to dialogue at central level in periodic and annual planning process by forming a core group to dialogue with the line ministries and NPC Technical support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CCWB</li> <li>DCWB</li> <li>Child clubs</li> </ul>	Continuous	Increase in program and budget in annual plan	Progress reports Studies	Lack of ownership

4. Increase sensitization of various GOs and independent organizations on child right issues	Interaction and sensitization programs. Develop a legal package and conduct orientation program for - National Dalit Commission, National Academy for Development of Indigenous and Ethnicity, Oppressed, Suppressed and Dalit Development Committee, National Police Training Academy, Royal Nepal Army, LDTA, ADDC/N, MUAN, NAVIN, DDC, Municipality, VDCs, teacher's associations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CCWB</li> <li>• Development partners</li> <li>• NGOs</li> </ul>	Continuous from the first year (Long term)	Inclusion of child issues in sectoral programs and plans	Progress reports Observation Studies	Lack of ownership Inactive stakeholders
5. Human resource development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop a roster of child rights related professionals and institutions</li> <li>- Conduct interactions and training time and often for updates in child right issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MWCSW, CCWB</li> <li>• Development partners</li> <li>• NGOs</li> </ul>	Continuous from the first year (Long term)	Availability and effectiveness of child rights professionals	Progress reports	Inactive stakeholders

Note: Budget estimation for the period of NPA implementation is given in ANNEX-4.

## CHAPTER – FIVE

### Opportunities, Threats/Risks/Challenges and Policy Suggestions

#### Background

The NPA demands collaborative and consolidated efforts to implement it. The key stakeholders including Government Organizations, development partners, NGOs and civil society institutions at different level as well as parents should take on shared responsibilities. A strong sense of obligation among the actors including political, social and resource commitment to bring positive changes in the lives of children as well as is the central factor to convert the plans into action. Similarly, functionalizing and strengthening existing as well as envisioned administrative, legislative, social and institutional mechanisms are critical in achieving the objectives of the NPA i.e. realization of the rights and development of children.

The government has made commitment for children by ratifying the CRC and other international instruments and has adopted laws and policies to fulfill them. Likewise, many development partners have joined hands in this regard and are working for children as focused areas of work. As such, the learning of the efforts made in the last decade provides a strong basis in relation to implementation of the NPA. Building on good practices, approaches and achievements; exploiting the opportunities available as well as taking up the challenges by minimizing risks are crucial in implementing the NPA.

The implementation modality of the NPA demands functional coordination among key actors-the government institutions and development partners. There is a need to have strategic linkages with the implementation of relevant existing plans including 10<sup>th</sup> National Plan, relevant sectoral NPAs and national strategies. Furthermore, the key implementation institutions should be clearly mandated and capacitated to shoulder accountability for the proper implementation the NPA. These remain both as opportunities as well as challenges for the implementation of the NPA at the same time.

In the given context, the following are some of the opportunities, challenges and risks in relation to the implementation of the NPA:

### **Opportunities**

- **International commitments:**

Globally, the issue of children and their development is getting attention as priority areas of work. It is especially significant in terms of adopting conventions and international law, developing policy and program, and mobilizing resource to bring about positive change in the lives of children. There is a critical mass across the globe to advocate and promote rights of children. Many countries have shown serious concerns and commitments at national, regional and global level for ensuring rights of children. The UNGASS declaration-2002 is a recent one among the commitments made at global level. Besides, many commitments have been made at regional level i.e. South Asian countries have adopted SAARC Convention. The regional forum provides an opportunity to the countries to share experiences amongst and to adopt strategies to cope with the situation individually, bilaterally and collectively as relevant. All these efforts have created a tremendous opportunity to work for and with children promoting their rights.

- **Government's commitments:**

HMG/N has ratified international Conventions, Covenants and Optional Protocols relating to rights of children, and is reporting as per the obligation of state party. The government has adopted administrative, institutional and legislative measures as well as formulated explicit policies for children and development.

The collaboration between the Government organizations and development partners is increasing in implementing the programs and preparing reports. It has provided opportunities to a) mobilize the key stakeholders in the country, b) review the progress, c) identify critical issues of concerns for future interventions, d) further collaboration with government, NGOs and development partners. All these opportunities provide evidence of the government's growing commitment towards children. This could be supportive and offer more favorable environment in implementing the NPA.

- **Increasing Cooperation and resource mobilization for children:**

The efforts of United Nations, bilateral agencies and international organizations have been significantly contributing for the cause of rights of children in the country. It has contributed in resource mobilization as well as sharing approaches and initiatives amongst key actors. This has motivated all concerned to invest in children. As a result, resource mobilization is increasing for children in Nepal especially since the last decade from the government, non-government and international organizations.

- **Increasing social concern/Growing recognition of Children as actors for their rights:**

Because of international, regional, national and local level efforts, social including individual, family and community concern is gradually increasing. Child institutions are being recognized from grassroots to national level. In addition, children are being included in various user groups and formal committees like School management Committee, District Child Welfare Board etc. Corporate sector is also showing their interest on the issue of children.

More importantly, children themselves are working as actors for their rights and development. Children through child-led institutions/initiatives are engaging in promoting their rights. UN agencies, INGOs, NGOs and civil society are promoting children's participation (focusing more on child-led initiatives/organization) and the government is gradually recognizing it. The Government is also involving children at different levels of participation. The number of child clubs is increasing in districts and villages, being provided with information children's rights and being supported with financial and technical inputs. As a result, there is a growing trend of consulting with groups of children in formal forum including policy feedback, awareness raising, media, journalism, school management etc.

- **Coordination, Cooperation and Collaboration:**

Coordination and collaboration among line ministries, departments of the governments, development partners, NGOs and civil society is increasing. This is, to some extent, reflected in formulation of plans and policies, but needs to enhance further at the grassroots implementation level.. Hence, stakeholders

are becoming more conscious about the issues of collaboration, cooperation and sharing for wider impact of the efforts on children's rights.

- **Human and technical resources:**

In the last decade, many initiatives have been taken in promoting the rights of children both from the government as well as development partners. This has contributed in developing human resources to work on the issues of children. The efforts made by UN agencies, INGOs, NGOs, civil society and children themselves are playing a vital role in developing capacity of human resources in terms of approach, methods and initiatives.

Besides, there may be other opportunities that are supportive in creating favorable environment for the implementation of the NPA.

### **Threats/Risks/Challenges in Implementation of NPA for Children**

- **Poverty:** Poverty in Nepal has persisted for decades, and it is recognized as a deep-seeded and complex phenomenon, for which there are no quick and easy solutions. The economy and the government actions have largely failed to fulfill the expectations of poverty alleviation. In general, women poverty is more deep-rooted; and it affects more on children. Widespread disparities persist in regard to income distribution, social and economic infrastructure. Because of high poverty, family, community and the government have not been able to invest in children as required.
- **Ongoing armed conflict:** The accelerating armed conflict, which has started some eight years back, has been intensified over the past few years. This has made difficult for the government agencies and development partners to carry out their development projects and activities especially in rural and remote areas. Furthermore, on one hand it is adding up more problems to address and on the other the resources has been diverted from social sector to security. If the present armed conflict continued for some more years, it would not only be difficult to meet the set goals for the year 2007, 2012 and 2015 but it would also be difficult to maintain the present status of children.
- **Social and cultural aspects:** In many cases, general social, cultural and religious values differ in bringing up children and fulfilling their rights. In

Nepal, many societies are still hierarchical, authoritarian and patriarchal and they perceive children as passive recipients of welfare provided by adults rather than considering them person with rights. The adult-child relationship is constructed in an authoritarian manner where children of all ages are powerless. Besides, the rampant poverty in the families, illiteracy among the parents and hardship in fulfilling basic needs push many children aside deprived of their rights. The different ways of treating boy and girls, children with disabilities also puts additional challenges.

- **Lack of real ownership in all stakeholders:** Since various other socio-economic problems and issues have been the main concerns of the central as well as community level stakeholders, child rights and development concerns may not get due priority as they need to be addressed as shared responsibilities from all. Hitherto, child right issues have been in lower priority in development agenda as compared other developmental issues.

### **Policy Suggestions**

For the effective implementation of this NPA, the following some of the policies are suggested to cope up with the challenges and risk:

#### **Laws:**

- Formulate and reform legal provisions in line with international instrument and commitments as soon as possible and implementing the effectively,

#### **Education:**

- Ensure access of all children to quality education that is free to all vulnerable children
- Provision of at least one female teacher in primary school.

#### **Health:**

- Provide basic health facilities and other relevant services to children and ensure effective delivery of basic services including safe drinking water and sanitation



- Ensure the provision of having pediatric and gynecological facilities in district hospital with at least one specialist doctor
- Emergency obstetrics care should be accessible to all, especially to marginalized and urban poor
- Preventive and proactive health have to be focused

**Protection of children:**

- Rehabilitate (community and home based) for children affected by armed conflict and living in difficult circumstances including affected by natural calamities
- Introduce more targeted interventions to reduce widespread discrimination based on gender, caste, disability, economic status of the family, language and ethnicity etc that are still prevailing in societal practice as well as ensure the access of all children in basic services without any discrimination

**Resource/stakeholders Mobilization:**

- Ensure that the required resources to implement the NPA will be mobilized from the community to national levels
- Meet 20/20 commitments on basic social services
- Encourage and support local bodies in CRC and NPA implementation
- Encourage NGOs and civil society to work for child rights and development

**Others:**

- Develop and enforce effective monitoring mechanism
- Make cost effective implementation of child rights and development programs
- Develop regional and district plan of action for children
- Encourage the public – private mix modality in implementation.
- Develop regional and district plan of action for children.

## ANNEX-1

### Child related International instruments

1. Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948
2. UNESCO Convention against Educational Discrimination, 1960
3. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, 1966
4. Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1966
5. Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966
6. ILO Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138)
7. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, 1979
8. Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989
9. Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992
10. Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious or Linguistic Minorities, 1992
11. International Convention on Population and Development, 1994
12. Fourth World Conference on Women Development, 1995
13. Beijing + 5 Declaration, 2000
14. International Court of Justice
15. ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention , 1999 (No. 182)
16. Dakar Declaration on Education for All, 2000
17. UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, 2001
18. Geneva Convention on Conflict Management, 1949 and its Optional Protocol, 1977
19. 11th SAARC Summit Declaration, 2002
20. SAARC Declaration Against Trafficking in Children and Women for Sexual and Labour Exploitation, 2002 including other Declarations relating to issue of child rights from Colombo Declaration, 1991
21. UNGASS Declaration, 2002

## ANNEX - 2

### List of Participants of all Four Thematic Group

#### A. List of participants of "Promoting Healthy Lives" Thematic Group

1. Dr. Manindra Ranjan Baral, Member of CCWB - **Coordinator**
2. Dr. J.R. Shrestha, Ministry of Health
3. Mrs. Sharada Pandey, Child Health Division
4. Dr. Shudha Sharma, Nepal Society of Obstetric and Gynaecology
5. Dr. Sunlal Thapa, Child Health Division
6. Dr. Pradeep Kumar Yadav, Medicare/Member of Task Force
7. Paban Kumar Timilsena, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare
8. Hom Raj Sharma, UNFPA
9. Laxman Prasad Gyawali, National Association for the Blind
10. Suresh Rajbhandari, National Association for the Blind
11. Sanjog Thakuri, Hatemalo Child Club
12. Bharat Adhikari, CWIN Helpline
13. Sabeena Pandey, Member of Task Force
14. Sanjay Bantawa, Nepal Federation for Disable
15. Tek Bahadur Gurung, NAPD
16. Aatma Ram Neupane, Concern Nepal
17. Bishowjeet , VEO

#### B. List of participants of "Providing Quality Education" Thematic Group

1. Manorama Rana, Member of CCWB - **Coordinator**
2. Dr. T.N. Uprety
3. Dr. Bal Gopal Baidya

4. Reshmi Raj Pandey, Ministry of Local Development
5. Sudha Neupane, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare
6. Guru Pd. Mainali, Ministry of Education
7. Anil Sharma, Department of Education
8. Sanjog Thakuri, Hatemalo Child Club
9. Ram Kushal Pant, NFDH
10. Mamata Shrestha, NFDH
11. Gunjeswar Neupane, Child Development Society
12. Ajelia Ranjitkar, ISCL/GTZ
13. Sadananda Kadel, Plan Nepal
14. Kumar Bhattarai, CWIN
15. Muna Lama, Concern Nepal
16. Suresh Rajbhandari, National Association for the Blind
17. Bhuwan K.C., National Association for the Blind
18. Aatma Ram Neupane, Concern Nepal
19. Agatha Thapa, Seto Gunras
20. Uma Ghimire, Seto Gunras

**C. List of participants of "Protecting Child Rights" Thematic Group**

1. Upendra K. Neupane, Member of CCWB - **Coordinator**
2. Shashi Shekhar Shrestha, National Planning Commission Secretariat
3. Durgadatta Dhakal, Ministry of Home
4. Pawan K. Timilsina, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare
5. Geeta Uprety, Nepal Police
6. Nupur Bhattacharya, SCN

7. Chandrika Khatiwada, SCN
8. Madhav Pradhan, CWIN
9. Badri Prasad Wagle, SAHARA GROUP
10. Madhuwanti Tuladhar, PLAN Nepal
11. Pralhad Dhakal, SCUUK
12. Kul Bahadur Shrestha, Concern Nepal
13. Ram Kushal Pant, NFDH
14. Madan Koirala, Ministry of Labor and Transport Management
15. Surya Bhakta Prajapati, RCRD
16. Upendra Khanal, NFDH
17. Tej Subba, Nepal Children's Organization
18. Suresh Rajbhandari, National Association for the Blind
19. Dhirendra Lamsal, NCPD
20. Anju Singh, SAATHI
21. Bimala Shrestha, SAATHI
22. Krishna Jibi Panth, UCEP
23. Asha Ram Maharjan, Concern Nepal
24. Mamata Shrestha, NFDH
25. Birendra Adhikari, NFDH
26. Ajay Shing Karki, Rugmark Foundation
27. Dipa Regmi, Rugmark Foundation
28. Kumar Bhattarai, CWIN
29. Sanjog Thakuri, Hatemalo Child Club
30. Keshar M. Bhattarai, UCEP Nepal
31. Pooja Shing, Nepal Police

32. Bhanu Timseena, T.U.
33. Indira Karki, ABC Nepal
34. Aatma Ram Neupane, Concern Nepal
35. Bishwa Khadka, Maiti Nepal
36. Bishowjeet, VEO
37. Tarun Adhikari, GTZ
38. Indira Joshi, Patan CBR

**D. List of Participants of "Combating HIV/AIDS" Thematic Group**

1. Sharad Sharma, Member of CCWB - **Coordinator**
2. Shanker P. Pandey, Member of Task Force
3. Sudha Neupane, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare
4. Bhakti Prasad Uprety, Ministry of Population and Environment
5. Bharat Raut, General Welfare Pratishthan
6. Jacqueline Bryld, UNAIDS
7. Bhoj Raj Pokharel, Policy Project Nepal
8. Menu Thapa, Sneha Support Group
9. Tshering Sherpa, Sneha Support Group
10. Mahesh Dev Bhattarai, General Support Pratishthan
11. Anoop S. Gurung, Maiti Nepal
12. Akhtar Salim, Nepal Plus
13. Gita Basel, Sneha Support Group
14. Sanjog Thakuri, Hatemalo Child Club

**ANNEX -3**

**NEPAL GOALS FOR CHILDREN TO A.D. 2015**

Global Goals	2010	2015	Nepal Goals			
			Situation 2002/03	2007	2012	2015
<b>PROMOTING HEALTHY LIVES</b>						
Reduction in the infant mortality rate	at least one third	2/3 by 2015	<b>64</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>30*</b>	<b>20*</b>
Reduction in the U5 mortality rate	at least one third	2/3 by 2015	<b>91</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>60*</b>	<b>54</b>
% of deliveries attended by health care providers	-	-	<b>13</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>100?</b>
CPR			<b>39</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>60*</b>	<b>100</b>
Crude birth rate per 1000 live birth			<b>34</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>35*</b>	<b>32*</b>
Reduction in the maternal mortality ratio	at least one third	3/4 by 2015	<b>539 (1996)</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>250*</b>	<b>213*</b>
Reduction of child malnutrition among children under five years of age with special attention to children under two years of age,	at least one third of the current rate		<b>48*</b>	<b>40*</b>	<b>30*</b>	<b>25*</b>
Reduction in the rate of low birth weight.	By at least 1/3		<b>48</b>			<b>28</b>
Access to hygienic sanitation facilities	at least 1/3		<b>25</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>70*</b>	<b>80*</b>
Affordable and safe drinking water.	at least 1/3		<b>72</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>90*</b>	<b>92*</b>
Access to reproductive health for all individuals of appropriate age		By 2015	<b>Access to EHCS 70</b>	<b>90</b>		<b>100*</b>
<b>By 2005</b> , ensure full immunization of children under one year of age, at 90 per cent nationally			<b>80</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>95*</b>	<b>100*</b>
<b>By 2005</b> Reduce deaths due to measles by half			<b>Mortality 95% by '05</b>			
<b>By 2005</b> Eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus				<b>Eradicate</b>		

<b>By 2005</b> Certify global eradication of poliomyelitis				<b>Eradicate</b>		
Reducing by one half tuberculosis deaths and prevalence	By one half deaths			<b>95% cure</b>		
<b>PROVIDING QUALITY EDUCATION</b>						
Ensuring access of all children to and complete primary education - free, compulsory and of good quality		By 2015		<b>90</b>		
Gross enrolment rate for ECD			<b>18*</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>80</b>
Gross enrolment rate at primary Grade 1-5			<b>115*</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>105</b>
% of new entrants at Grade 1 with ECD			<b>25*</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>80</b>
Increase net primary school enrolment or participation in alternative good quality primary education	At least 90 per cent by 2010		<b>72</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>100</b>
Eliminate gender disparities in school education <b>by 2005</b>						
Achieve gender equality in education of good quality		By 2015				
Achieve improvement in levels of adult literacy especially for women.		50 per cent by 2015				
Gross enrolment rate, GER for ECD			<b>20*</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>80</b>
% of New entrants at Grade 1 with ECD			<b>30*</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>80</b>
Gross Intake Rate, GIR at Grade 1			<b>125*</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>102</b>
Net Intake Rate, NIR at Grade 1			<b>67*</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>98</b>
% of teacher with req. qualification & training			<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>



% of teachers with required Certification			<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Pupil Teacher Ratio			<b>34</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Repetition Rate</b>						
Grade 1			<b>30</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>
Grade 5			<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>
Survival Rate up to G5			<b>71</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>90</b>
Efficiency			<b>63</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>80</b>
% of learning Achievements at Grade 5			<b>52</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>80</b>
% of literacy Age at Group 15-24			<b>76</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>% of literacy</b>						
Age Group 6+ years			<b>65</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>90</b>
Age Group 15+years			<b>58</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>75</b>
Literacy GP ( 15+years)			<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.0</b>

\*Estimation

## ANNEX –4

### Estimated Budget for the Period of National Plan of Action

(2004/05 – 2014/15)

#### Background

The plan period of NPA covers eleven fiscal years starting from 2004/05 to 2014/15. As explained in the NPA, the implementers are all line ministries, local bodies (DDC, VDC and municipalities), development partners (UN agencies, international agencies, INGOs (working for child rights and development), NGOs, civil societies etc. This tentative budget estimation, in general, includes the government's program budget related to child issues as well as the total budget (operating and program) of development partners. This is based on the tentative budget of some main implementers and the possible increment in coming years. This may indicate - how much resource will be required if the present nature of spending continues. It is recommended to the implementers that the direct benefiting programs/interventions need to be given high priority in implementation to meet the targets of NPA.

#### Estimation of required resources

(Rs. in  
Million)

Objectives	2005 - 2007	2008 - 2012	2013 – 2015	2005- 2015
<b>Legal reform:</b> Review, harmonize and improve all laws to ensure or to cover all areas of child's rights in line with the CRC (international commitments of the government)	5	10	5	20
<b>Institutional development:</b> Develop and strengthen institutional mechanism including network and watch groups for coordination, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of NPA along with Promote child clubs and institutions technical and logistic support	1000	4000	2000	7000
<b>Health and HIV/AIDS:</b> Increase health facilities, equipment, drugs and supports to ensure access of all children to quality health services	4000	13000	8000	25000

<b>Education:</b> Education including all required facilities, human resources, capacity development etc.	9000	25000	18000	52000
<b>Rehabilitation and social reintegration:</b> Rehabilitation, socialization, counseling and correction including life skill training, formal and non-formal education, health facilities, recreation, support program etc.	1000	3500	1500	6000
<b>Protection:</b> Ensure social security schemes gradually for all children with focusing on CWDs, children especially in difficult circumstances	1000	3000	2000	6000
<b>Others:</b> Family and community development	2000	6000	3000	11000
Human resources and capacity development	2000	6000	3000	11000
Advocacy and awareness to all sectors	500	1000	500	2000
Develop information management system	200	1000	500	1700
Research and studies	200	600	300	1100
Others	500	1500	1000	3000
<b>Total</b>	<b>21405</b>	<b>64610</b>	<b>39805</b>	<b>125820</b>