

Social Mobilizers' Refresher Program

Staff College

Jawalakhel, Lalitpur

22 July 2010 (6 Shrawan 2067)

PROGRAM REPORT

1. Background

The National Coalition Against Racial Discrimination (NCARD) has completed the Social Mobilizers' 2nd Refresher Program on July 22, 2010 (6 Shrawan 2067) at staff college, Jawalakhel, Lalitpur. It intended mainly to bring the discussion among NCARD partner organizations that are active in 24 districts, social mobilizers of 12 regions and Indigenous, Dalit and Muslim activists. The centre of the program was the discussion on coming **census of Nepal 2068 B. S., UNSCR 1325 and 1820** and mutual discussion among NCARD, NCARD member organizations and social mobilizers. The total 38 participants of Indigenous Nationalities, Muslim and Dalit representatives of 24 districts (Ilam, Jhapa, Sunsari, Dhankuta, Bhojpur, Khotang, Dhanusa, Siraha, Makawanpur, Chitwan, Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, Rolpa, Arghakhachi, Syanja, Palpa, Dang, Bake, Rautahat, Bara, Kaski, Tanahu, Kailali and Kanchanpur) had actively participated in the program.



The program was mainly divided in to two phases. During the program, Dr. Rudra Suwal director of the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) had presented paper on strategies, planning and process of coming census of 2068 B. S. including the expected role of Indigenous Nationalities, Muslim and Dalit organizations and activists; methods prepared by CBS to insure the participation of marginalized groups in field for generating their ownership feeling. Likewise, Rita

Thapa coordinator of Women's Alliance for Peace Power Democracy and Constituent Assembly (WAPPDCA) presented on; meaning and content of 1325 and 1820 including its relevancy and importance in Nepalese Indigenous, Dalit and Muslim women context and its relation with

Nepalese constitution making process. Besides this the regular dialogue part of program among the NCARD, Partner Organizations and Social mobilizers (SM) was also held.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the program were:

- To promote the concern and discussion of marginalized groups (Dalit, Muslim and Indigenous Nationalities) organizations and activists on the census of Nepal 2068 B. S. and UNSCR 1325 and 1820.
- To contribute in accelerating understanding on the meaningful participation of Indigenous Nationalities, Muslim and Dalit in coming census of Nepal for their ownership concept development in the result of the census.
- To share the experience, problems and strategies to develop for the further activities amongst NCARD, NCARD Member Organizations and Social Mobilizers on the effective implementation of EDIC project.

3. Activities and Process

As the program was divided mainly in two sessions, the first was dedicated to increase the understanding of participants through the presentation of resource person whereas the other one was entirely focused on sharing the concerns, observations and comments amongst them.

3.1 First Session

Dr. Sumitra Manandhar Gurung Chairperson of the NCARD chaired the first session and delivered the objectives for the conduction of this event. This session was especially allocated for the presentation on contemporary issues of census 2068 and United Nation Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 and 1820.

3.2 Presentation on Strategies, Planning and Process of Coming Census of 2068 B.S

After the introduction of participants, Dr. Rudra Suwal Director of the central bureau of statistic presented the paper on "strategies, planning and process of coming census of 2068 B.S". He mainly focused on the following key points on census 2068.

- importance,
- strategies ,
- features ,



- relevant information ,
- main programs in the context of current situation,
- opportunities and challenges

During the discussion, participants raised the queries on inclusion issues, possible roles and responsibilities of the nongovernmental organizations and modality of the questionnaire. Further, they were mainly concerned in the reliability of the data and role of the surveyor (enumerator) and his possible biasness. Moreover, some other issues shared were following;

- Enumerators should not be teachers exclusively,
- The enumerators should be selected form the same community where the data is taken
- Pencil is not be use for data collection
- Enumerators' field visit should be commonly with concerned community organizational representatives

3.3 Presentation on UNSCR 1325 and 1820

In the next session, Ms. Rita Thapa made a presentation on **United Nation Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 and 1820**. She highlighted the reality that women in general suffered the most from the conflict and violence and are continue to suffer even after post conflict. As Nepal is in transitional situation, it is very important to understand the text of 1325, which is unfortunately not the case also for many officials and public, that provides for the rights of women to be ensured during and after the conflict situation.



Further, the context that Nepal is in the process of preparing national action plan that is mandatory to apply in all further programs and policies of government on delivering peace process. UNSCR1325 mainly provides for 4 Ps prevention; protection; participation and promotion. Accordingly, the resolution states that state should prevent women from conflict, provide protection to women in conflict situation, ensure the participation of women in decision making body and promote the women for their participation in decision making body.

4. Second session

The second session was chaired and facilitated by Treasurer of the NCARD Rom Biswakarma.

4.1 Report from Social Mobilizers

Social mobilizers mainly shared their problems about the budget for the MGCC/DCC meeting, their travel/accommodation, communication and travel cost at the field of social mobilizers.

Moreover, they suggested that there should be provision of regular meeting among social mobilizer, alliance member and MGCC/ DCC. Similarly they also expressed their interest to participate in the meeting of alliance members and NCARD.



4.2 Alliance Members' Observation

After social mobilizers reporting, alliance members shared their observation on the project activities and its management process where they have emphasized on the need of developing further coordination among MGCC/DCC, alliance members and social mobilizers. Besides this, some alliance members shared their commitment that to them it is a necessity to strength the movement of marginalized groups. Some alliance members reported that the concept of the program is being appreciated by the marginalized groups like *Dalit Janjati* and *Muslim* at local level.



4.3 Updates on Activities of the Project

Project Officer, Mr. Prem Limbu, shared about the upcoming events of project till the third milestones along with its budget details. Further, the sharing also consisted the information on program content that is due to be implemented.

4.4 Role and Responsibility of the Social Mobilizers

Treasurer of NCARD, Rom Biswakarma had presented on the triangular relation among SM, NCARD and NCARD members including role and responsibility of the social mobilizers as per their Terms of Reference (TOR).

4.5 Baseline information collection

Project Monitoring Officer, Tilak Biswakarma oriented the social mobilizers about the collection of baseline information that project has required. He basically focused on the collection of data from political parties, NGO's and Indigenous Peoples' Organization (IPOs). Involvement of *Dalit*, *Janjati* and *Muslim* in the political parties and NGO's, the major constitutional issues, significant work they are doing at local level and other necessary information related to the project is major part of the collection of baseline information.



4.6 Closing

At the end of the program Mr. Rom Biswakarma gave vote of thanks to the participant and committed to apply the suggestion and feedback that was forwarded during the discussion.

5. Participant Status

Mainly, the program was designed for social mobilizers, however, mutual sharing among the alliance members and SM was another important part of the program. Hence, the program was participated also by alliance member representatives. There were 38 total participants;

Participation Status

Participant	Female	Male	Total
Social Mobilizer	9	2	11
Alliance Representatives	8	10	18
NCARD Staffs	3	4	7
Total			38

6. Outcomes

The program was successfully organized and participants were also able to share their concerns and observation among social mobilizers, alliance members and central based project team. The main outcomes of the program are;

- Social mobilizers, alliance members were generally aware on the understanding of the strategies, planning and process regarding census 2068. It basically complimented twelve centers alliance member representatives and SM mentally and morally prepare to contribute at local level in forthcoming census.
- Participants gotten the opportunity to be familiar with general understanding of UNSCR 1325 & 1820 and its relevance in present context.
- Increased the concern of marginalized groups (Dalit, Muslim and Indigenous Nationalities) organizations and activists.
- Idea shared on their involvement for the collection of data as per project requirement.
- Updates on upcoming activities of the project.
- Shared the experience in finding problems and developing strategies for the further activities and some common understanding developed amongst NCARD, NCARD Member Organizations and Social Mobilizers to implement EDIC project more effectively.

7. Suggestion

Some of the participants suggested for the conduction of frequent joint meeting among SM, alliance member, MGCC/DCC and NCARD to solve the financial and other problems. Likewise, NCARD should provide some task to MGCC/DCC because they are demanding their role and asking the question about the rational of forming the committee.

Problems Faced during the program

The following problems were faced during the program and overcome through immediate strategies.

Problem faced	How to overcome
Due to the rain, program was delayed half hour.	Time managed by exceeding program till 5 PM.
One social mobilizer did not participated in the program because of her exam.	Will be oriented later individually.
Due to the lack of proper venue to organize accommodation and program at similar place, participant faced a few technical problems.	Manage their accommodation in two separate hotels.