Country: Nepal

Programme Title: Support for the Local Governance and Community Development Programme (LGCDP)

Joint Programme Outcome(s):

UNDAF Outcome B: Socially excluded and economically marginalized groups have increased access to improved quality basic services

Programme Duration: 4 years

Anticipated start/end dates: 15 July 2008 - 31

December 2011

Fund Management Option: Pass-through and

parallel

Administrative Agent: UNDP

Total estimated budget*: 53,752,604 USD

Out of which:

Funded Budget: 30,519

30,519,658 USD

2. Unfunded budget:

23,232,946 USD

* Total estimated budget includes both programme costs and indirect support costs

Sources of funded budget:

UNDP 4,700,000 USD
 UNCDF 2,250,000 USD
 UNV 510,000 USD
 UNICEF 13,900,000 USD
 UNFPA 9,159,658 USD

UN organizations	National Coordinating Authorities
Name of Representative Anne-Isabette Degryse-Blatean Country Director UNDP Date & Seat Name of Representative On School pof UNCDF Date & Seat O7/04/2009	Name of Head of Partner SOM LAL SUBEDI Som LAL SUBEDI Som LAL SUBEDI 29-03-2009 Ministry of Local Development Date & Seal Juini Secretary

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Abbreviations and acronyms

AA Administrative Agent
ADB Asian Development Bank
ADDCN Association of DDCs in Nepal
AWPB Annual Work Plan and Budget

CIDA Canadian International Development Agency

CPA Comprehensive Peace Agreement CPAP Country Programme Action Plan

DACAW Decentralized Action for Women and Children Danida Danish International Development Assistance

DDC District Development Committee

DFID Department for International Development

DOLIDAR Department of Local Infrastructure Development & Roads

DP Development Partner

FY Fiscal Year

GE/SI Gender Equality/Social Inclusion

GoN Government of Nepal
JFA Joint Financing Agreement

JP Joint Programme JR Joint Review

LGCDP Local Governance and Community Development Programme

SAA Standard Administrative Agreement

LSGA Local Self-Governance Act

MC/PM Minimum Conditions/Performance Measures

MDG Millennium Development Goal
MLD Ministry of Local Development
MoHP Ministry of Health and Population
MoU Memorandum of Understanding
MuAN Municipal Association of Nepal
NAC National Advisory Committee

NAVIN National Association of VDCs in Nepal NDVS National Development Voluntary Service

NGO Non Governmental Organisation

NORAD Norwegian Agency for Development Co-operation

NPD National Programme Director

PM Programme Manager

PARHI Population and Reproductive Health Integrated Project

PCU Programme Coordination Unit

PEM/PFM Public Expenditure Management/Public Financial Management

R&RF Results and Resources Framework
UNCDF United Nations Capital Development Fund

UNDAF United Nations Development Assistance Framework

UNDP United Nations Development Programme

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund UNV United Nations Volunteers VDC Village Development Committee

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The UN Joint Programme (JP) of support to the Local Governance and Community Development Programme (LGCDP) will bring together the activities of five UN agencies -UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNV and UNCDF. The JP itself will be fully aligned with the overall framework provided by LGCDP, a national programme of the Government of Nepal, and will be subject to the wider programme's set of management, work planning and implementation arrangements. As such, the JP shares the same goal, purpose, outcomes and outputs as LGCDP and will therefore contribute towards poverty reduction in Nepal through improved and more inclusive local governance and service delivery. Specifically, the JP will build on the experiences of different UN agencies in the areas of decentralization, local governance and community-led development and support the implementation of a range of activities related to: (i) community empowerment, participation and involvement in local governance processes; (ii) the provision of carefully designed and expanded block grants to all tiers of the local government system in Nepal; (iii) capacity building of local governance and service delivery stakeholders; (iv) the piloting and fine-tuning of local level service delivery mechanisms and processes; (v) the establishment of a policy environment conducive to good local governance, community-led development and decentralized service delivery; (vi) developing national level capacities to support local governments and decentralized service delivery; and (vii) core administrative and logistical support. The JP, as an integral element of LGCDP, will leverage the comparative advantages offered by the five UN agencies in ways that contribute towards attaining the objectives of the wider Government programme and in a manner that facilitates the implementation of LGCDP as a whole. LGCDP has been designed so as not to pre-empt any major policy decisions on future sub-national state structures which emerge from the constitutional processes now underway and - conversely - to provide assistance to help the Government develop and implement policy frameworks in line with any such new directions.

1. SITUATION ANALYSIS

The Joint Programme of support for the Local Governance and Community Development Programme (LGCDP) needs to be seen:

- in the overall political and social context of Nepal
- in relation to the recent "history" of local governance, community-led development and service delivery in the country
- in the light of the fragmented nature of donor support.

Nepal ... poverty, inequality, conflict, and crisis

Since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in November 2006 and the successful holding of elections to the Constituent Assembly in April 2008, Nepal has entered into a phase of post-conflict recovery and relatively positive political change. However, much remains to be done if the root causes of the conflict and political instability are to be genuinely addressed.

Nepal has not been able to reduce inequality and exclusion from service delivery and other state mechanisms as well as development opportunities. That was one of the underlying reasons for conflict and political instability. Legal, economic, and social arrangements are not conducive for the influence and the prospects of a large proportion of Nepal's women, children and especially girls, Dalits, Janajatis, Madhesis, religious minorities, and the poor in general. Inadequacies in delivering basic services¹ and ensuring security, along with increasing unemployment, fuelled the frustration of the rural poor, especially the youth, and provided a fertile breeding ground for the conflict. The Madhesi movement has further highlighted the need to address multiple dimensions of exclusion in Nepal and the need for far greater and more systematic efforts to engage people in the peace-building process.

In terms of overall human development, Nepal currently ranks 142 out of 177 countries (Human Development Report 2007/2008) and poverty remains severe and widespread in many rural areas, with significant disparities between groups and regions. Although data shows that the incidence of poverty in Nepal decreased from 42% in 1995/96 to 31% in 2003/04, inequality increased from 34% to 41% during the same period. When the incidence of poverty is disaggregated by social group, the disparity becomes quite clear: 47% for Dalits, 41% for Muslims, 44% for Hill Janajatis and only 19% for Brahmans and Chhetris.

Other social indicators mirror these inequalities. While, for example, Terai Dalits have a literacy rate of only 21%, Newars have a 72% literacy rate, and Terai Brahmins/Chhetris have a 74% rate. Gender disparities are also striking. Only 42% of Nepali women are literate compared to 65% of men. According to the 2001 census, less than 11% of households reported female ownership of land. For every Rs. 101 women earn, men earn Rs. 137 in the non-agriculture sector. Furthermore, there are still a significant number of laws and provisions that are discriminatory against women.

The situation of children is not encouraging. General malnutrition of under-fives remains high, with 51 per cent stunted and 10 per cent wasted. There is widely prevailing discrimination against girls and children belonging to marginalized and vulnerable groups. The net primary school enrolment is estimated at 78 per cent (83 per cent for boys and 73 per cent for girls). Among low income and marginalized groups, however, enrolment is much lower than the national average.

¹ Basic services include services for health, nutrition, water and sanitation, HIV/AIDS, early childhood development, education, child protection and HIV/AIDS, as well as "services" associated with public road and market infrastructure, irrigation and drainage systems, electric power, etc..

Such poverty, social conditions, and inequality underpin the fragility of post-conflict recovery and peace-building in Nepal – and provide an idea of the scale of the development challenge faced by Nepal.

Local governance, community-led development and service delivery

Violent conflict and political crisis over the last decade have severely affected the local government system in Nepal. The Local Self Governance Act (LSGA 1999) established a solid institutional foundation for local government in Nepal – which is based on local bodies at the district, municipal and village levels. However, armed conflict resulted in the "demobilisation" of the vast majority of Village Development Committees (VDCs), and a dramatic narrowing of the "development space" within which District Development Committees (DDCs) could operate. In addition, since 2002 there have been no elected councils at any level of the local government system in Nepal. This has greatly constrained the scope for interaction between local governments and citizens/communities, and, as a result of this political vacuum there has been a reduced level of participation by local people in development activities.

Nonetheless, and despite protracted conflict and political crisis, local government remains in place in Nepal. The weakest level has been the VDC, but there have been positive developments since the CPA, and VDCs have now become more operational again. DDCs and municipalities – albeit shorn of elected councils – remain operational, and – to varying degrees – did so throughout the conflict. It is likely that all levels of the local government system will be re-dynamised if, as, and when interim local "councils" or other representative arrangements are put into place. In the short term, it seems safe to assume that local government will continue to operate – albeit very imperfectly during the interim period – and continue to have the primary responsibility for delivering a range of basic services with a direct impact on Nepal's effort to achieve the MDGs. Local governments will require support in order to meet their responsibilities.

Although they formally fall outside of the local government structure, major line ministries such as education and health are being "devolved" – and are expected to coordinate their service delivery activities with local governments. In practice, however, sector devolution remains weak, the ability of local government to influence line department service delivery is limited and basic services continue to be delivered in a largely centralised and vertical manner. Moreover, there are deficiencies in service delivery – which do not adequately respond effectively to local demand.

This situation has prevailed despite the provisions of the LSGA. The LSGA set a framework for devolution and community-led development but which has only been partly implemented. While government did begin devolution in primary health², agriculture extension, primary education and small scale infrastructure, this remains an agenda only partly implemented. Most stakeholders recognise that there are potentially significant benefits to be gained from a more genuine devolution of functions in these sectors.

Private sector³, civil society, associational organizations and various sorts of voluntary groups in Nepal have played a significant role, especially during the period of conflict, in

² For example, between 2002-05 the MoHP handed over 1433 health facilities to LGs in 28 Districts, and in the coming year plans to strengthen the capacity of the health management committees to handle these facilities. Preliminary findings suggest that health sector devolution has created higher managerial standards and improved access to health services.

ensuring more participatory planning and management of service delivery⁴. It is therefore imperative to recognize and take advantage of this social capital asset in the reconstruction and development of the country by revitalizing and strengthening such volunteerism at all levels.

At the same time, it should be noted that in this overall context – of local governments weakened by conflict and shorn of their elected bodies, and of centralised/vertical service delivery – particular emphasis has been and is placed on community-based development in Nepal. NGOs, donors, and even central government have channelled resources directly to communities and community organisations as a way of delivering assets and services. During the conflict, this was understandable – but in the present post-conflict and state rebuilding context, there clearly needs to be some rethinking and modification of this approach.

There is both a need to continue to empower communities and citizens to participate and demand responsive services, while at the same time build the capacity of local governments to provide such services.

Donor harmonisation

Given the multiple and complex challenges that Nepal currently faces, donor coordination and harmonization in accordance with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness remains a priority. The recent Paris Declaration survey 2008 on Nepal has identified key challenges such as lack of clear country owned plans against which donors can align their assistance, limited use of programme based approaches, relative absence of monitorable performance assessment frameworks and absence of mechanisms for mutual assessment of aid effectiveness. At the sub-national level, overlaps and duplications between and by donor-supported activities are common. It is critical that both the donor community and the Government find ways to synchronize their programmes for effective management and utilization of foreign and domestic resources.

The Local Governance and Community Development Programme

Within this broad context, the Government has recently designed the Local Governance and Community Development Programme (LGCDP), a national programme to be managed and implemented by the Ministry of Local Development (MLD). LGCDP is expected to be the main framework within which Nepal's development partners (DPs) will provide support for local governance and community-led development. A number of UN agencies (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNV, and UNCDF) have come together to draw up a joint programme (JP) of support for the implementation of LGCDP.

LGCDP consists of three main components:

(i) Support to strengthen the "demand" side to local governance, aimed at enhancing citizen/community "voice" and engagement with local governments and at increasing the intensity with which communities participate in service delivery. Fundamental to this process is the need to enhance downward accountability.

³ The GoN has not clearly articulated the role of the private sector at the operational level in the context of local governance. In the changing political context, there is a need for building strong public-private partnerships to institutionalize the support and harness their contribution in strengthening basic services in both urban and rural areas. MLD has developed a concept note and policy guidelines on PPP, which needs to be integrated into the larger decentralization framework.

⁴ The growth of the voluntary sector in Nepal indeed ranks as an outstanding feature of the development history of the country. A survey conducted in 1999 by the Central Bureau for Statistics found that one third of all local development works - equivalent to Rs. 3 billion - were estimated to be met through people's voluntary services (Volunteerism in Nepal, December 2002.)

- (ii) Support to strengthen the capacity of local governments and line departments to respond effectively to local needs and priorities. Such support includes increased fiscal transfers, supply- and demand-driven capacity development, and fine-tuning of local service delivery processes and public expenditure/financial management.
- (iii) Support to the national level, aimed at strengthening policy processes (such as sector devolution) and at developing the capacity of national-level institutions to enhance local governance and strengthen local governments.

Significantly, LGCDP has been designed so as to become a full Sector-Wide Approach (SWAp) for support to local governance and community-led development. LGCDP is thus intended to provide a platform upon which GoN and its development partners can establish a genuinely harmonised approach to support for local governance and community-led development.

LGCDP has been designed so as not to pre-empt any major policy initiatives that may emerge from the current constitutional process. Its implementation does not in any way preclude federalism. Instead, LGCDP focuses in on making existing arrangements for local level delivery of public goods and services as inclusive, participatory and accountable as possible. Through the additional fiscal resources that the programme will channel to DDCs, VDCs and municipalities, LGCDP also aims to satisfy more local needs and better address local priorities.

To date, a significant number of DPs have expressed a commitment to funding LGCDP. These include ADB, DFID, Danida, CIDA, SDC and NORAD.

2. STRATEGY

Background

LGCDP, as mentioned above, is a national programme, which will be managed and implemented by MLD. The LGCDP programme document has been drawn up through a process of extensive consultations and was jointly assessed by development partners. Nonetheless, and despite extensive DP involvement in its formulation, LGCDP is very clearly owned by the Government.

With its focus on poverty reduction through improved and more inclusive local governance and service delivery, LGCDP is entirely consistent with UNDAF (2008-2010) outcome B: "Socially excluded and economically marginalized groups have increased access to improved quality basic services". The JP in support of LGCDP implementation, then, mirrors that consistency – and reflects the over-arching developmental objectives of the five UN agencies involved in the JP. Underpinning this, the JP rests firmly on a Human-Rights based approach to programming, as also clearly spelled out in the UNDAF.

Importantly, while the JP represents a unified facility through which five UN agencies (and donor partners) will support LGCDP, the latter will also be supported by a large part of the development partner community in Nepal – many of the larger bilateral agencies (DFID, Danida, NORAD) and one of the multilateral banks⁵ (ADB).

⁵ The World Bank may also provide support for LGCDP implementation, depending on the outcomes of its own appraisal process

Lessons learned

Collectively, the UN agencies – through their past and ongoing programmes – have learned a number of important lessons in the area of local governance and community development, *inter alia*:

Communities and the disadvantaged

- The community organizations in Nepal have proven to be an effective vehicle for improving the effectiveness of service delivery, for managing community level development activities, and for ensuring sustainability and cost-effectiveness.
- Social mobilization needs to focus on its core function of helping communities and citizens to empower themselves, thus contributing to local ownership, rather than becoming a catch-all service and asset delivery activity.
- Community organizations need to be encouraged to meaningfully interface with service delivery agencies and local governments in order to access appropriate public goods and services.
- Better targeting of the poorest and most disadvantaged, including women, children, people with disabilities and minority groups, is necessary. Several evaluations have continuously pointed out that this remains a big challenge and that results to date have been unsatisfactory. However, the recently developed DAG-mapping provides steps in the right direction for identifying the most disadvantaged. In parallel different approaches for addressing the special needs of these groups are needed.
- Gender equality and social inclusion, including children and youth inclusion should be mainstreamed in local governance and throughout the local public expenditure management cycle (from planning to budget execution), providing opportunities for children, women and disadvantaged groups to participate meaningfully. Real incentives for this need to be built in.

Sectors and service delivery

- In trying to improve local level service delivery, programmes must engage with sector line departments and their parent Ministries – limiting interactions to DDCs, municipalities and VDCs is not enough. Moreover, experience in the health and education sectors has shown that facilitating linkages between line agencies and local bodies yields positive results.
- The ability of DDCs to lead and to coordinate service delivery in a sector such as health is largely dependent on the knowledge of sector issues on the part of DDC focal points.
- The involvement of local bodies, and community organizations of different sorts, in sector service delivery often leads to better planning and targeting, more resources, community mobilization, and more effective joint monitoring.

Local bodies

- Performance-based funding systems (MC/PM) are powerful tools for improving local government performance, encouraging compliance with regulations, identifying capacity gaps in different functional areas and strengthening the general M&E system through annual assessments.
- A comprehensive results-based monitoring and evaluation system and a system to apply lessons learnt to future interventions should be established at the central and local levels, including mechanisms for conducting baselines.

- There is a need for a comprehensive capacity building strategy/framework that is linked to MC/PM assessments. Capacity building should be a mix of demand- and supplydriven interventions.
- Joint integrated planning, supervision, monitoring and evaluation at DDC level increases accountability of local bodies, avoids duplication and facilitates better coordination among partners.

Programme design

- The programme design should be strategic and evolving, and sensitive to national and local contexts, rather than pre-defined. Thorough analysis of risks and issue management is crucial.
- The programme design should promote not only national, but also local ownership. In this case participation of government and civil society is important in the development of new systems and monitoring and reviews of the programme;
- Nepal has diversified cultural, social, economic and ecological realities. Therefore, for the successful implementation of the programme these realities should be taken into account:
- The policy guidelines should be in simple and understandable language and should be disseminated timely to local level stakeholders;
- The programme should be sensitive to the national financing mechanisms and the problems faced by low absorptive capacity. Measures to improve absorptive capacity have to be taken.
- Poor preparation and lack of consultation with relevant stakeholders before moving to implementation has resulted in confusion, deviation from the original intent of the policy objectives and delays in the implementation process e.g. implementation of decentralization in health sector. Efforts should be made to involve the stakeholders from planning, implementation and monitoring of the programme;
- Community monitoring and public audit system need to be institutionalized to increase ownership of local stakeholders and ensure transparency;

These lessons learned have informed the design of the JP, as well as the wider LGCDP.

Challenges and opportunities

Opportunities

- At the political level there is now consensus among major political forces in the Constituent Assembly meeting and civil society organizations to the need for promoting devolution and strengthening decentralized management and service delivery.
- VDCs, key institutions for local governance and local service delivery, are beginning to resume some of their functions again, after several years of being moribund due to the conflict in many areas.
- A variety of programmes show that LGs and local civil society organizations when given the opportunity and the resources have demonstrated their ability to manage these resources and to deliver services effectively and in a transparent manner.

Challenges

- It will be difficult for the decentralization agenda to be fully promoted as long as there are no locally elected representatives in place.
- A serious challenge will lie in the absence of a Local Service Commission for local officials. Local civil servants will remain partly under the line ministry control, partly

- under local government control, and so will suffer from the ambiguities inherent in dual accountability.
- There is not yet an adequate degree of horizontal coordination among the key ministries and departments involved in policy implementation (e.g. MOHP, MWCSW, MOE, MLD, MOF and NPC). This constitutes a particular challenge when attempting to synchronize sectoral decentralization policies with LGCDP's sector wide approach to decentralization. At the same time, vertical coordination will be equally challenging as each line ministry will prioritize its own central level interest and agenda.
- Lastly, it must be said that Nepal has in the past championed new policies but their implementation often remains a challenge, due to poor dissemination of policy and guidelines, inadequate technical and management capacities at national and local level, weak coordination among the institutions involved, political conflict and inadequate funding provisions. As a consequence, it will remain a great challenge to ensure the delivery of quality basic services corresponding to the needs of communities in general, and to the needs of the most disadvantaged groups (including children and women) in particular.

The design of the Joint Programme aims then to leverage these opportunities and to address the challenges, as far as this is possible.

Joint programme – design and strategy

Rationale and particularities

A number of UN agencies (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNV, and UNCDF) have come together to support the implementation of LGCDP, and are committed to:

- 1. Through LGCDP, support the Central Government and the Local Bodies of Nepal towards developing a local government system, which allows for the efficient delivery of local development, particularly the delivery of good quality and equitable basic social services.
- 2. As part of the LGCDP, support the Government through piloting and lessons learned in its consideration to move towards sector devolution i.a. the delivery of multi-sector interventions primarily through the local government system.
- 3. Facilitate the transition towards a sector-wide approach, including the efficient operation of a pooled donor funding mechanism, by providing key technical assistance and other support.

Building on this commitment the purpose of this JP includes:

- 1. Positioning of UN system towards fulfilling the objectives of the LGCDP.
- 2. Aligning ongoing UN programmes to the objectives of the LGCDP. In addition, there are programmatic synergies in the JP. UNDP and UNCDF, for example, both have considerable experience in dealing with generic local government systems (planning, budgeting, fiscal transfers, financial management, etc.) and this is highly complementary to the sector-specific expertise of UNICEF and UNFPA which, in turn, is invaluable to discussions about devolved service delivery. In addition, UNICEF and UNFPA have important experience directly supporting district and village level social mobilization and community participation. UNV through promotion of volunteerism will contribute to community development. Furthermore, there are programmatic synergies

as the JP will provide the venue to ensure that each specific agency's expertise is mainstreamed in the entire JP, thus resulting in a more efficient and cost effective implementation.

- 3. Ensure UN coordination and streamlining of lessons learned towards delivering as one (one UN).
- 4. Sustain the delivery of services in this critical period of transition while the future political structure is still being decided.
- 5. Mobilize resources for the provision of a comprehensive package of quality and equitable basic social services, through community mobilization and improved local governance.
- 6. Use the national programme framework as an opportunity to consolidate and scale up vertical and UN programmes tested through previous/current interventions.
- 7. Ensure sustainability of interventions by support to the LGCDP to build national ownership for its implementation.

The wider LGCDP should benefit greatly from the kinds of support that can be mobilized through the JP facility – indeed, the JP is likely to be crucial to the overall success of LGCDP.

LGCDP and the Joint Programme

As far as possible, the JP's structure mirrors that of LGCDP as a whole. In other words, JP outcomes, outputs and activities are based on those of LGCDP – either in whole or in part.

Poverty reduction, capacity building, gender, social inclusion, and rights-based approaches, represent cross-cutting issues that are central to the design of the Joint Programme and targeting of programme interventions at national, district and village levels.

Table 1 provides a summary of LGCDP's results framework and an indication of the ways in which the JP will serve to support the implementation of that framework. While the UN Joint Programme does not (and indeed cannot) provide support to all LGCDP activities, it has been designed so as: (i) to deliver assistance in ways that are likely to be of most strategic use to MLD; and (ii) to leverage the comparative advantages offered by the UN agencies involved.

Table 1: LGCDP Results Framework and JP alignment

LGCDP GOAL: CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS POVERTY REDUCTION IN NEPAL

LGCDP PURPOSE: IMPROVED ACCESS TO LOCALLY AND INCLUSIVELY PRIORITISED PUBLIC (GOODS AND) SERVICES

LGCDP Outcome 1: Citizens and communities engage more actively with local governments and hold them accountable

Output 1. Communities and community organisations are empowered to participate in local governance processes.

Output 2. Increased capacity of citizens, communities and marginalised groups to assert their rights and hold local governments accountable

JP support: social mobilization activities, technical assistance, facilitating interactions between communities/community organizations and local governments/service delivery departments [UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNV] JP support: assistance to disadvantaged and marginalised groups and organisations [UNFPA, UNICEF]

LGCDP Outcome 2: Increased capacity of local governments to provide basic services in an inclusive and equitable manner

Output 3. Local governments gain access to greater fiscal resources in equitable and appropriate ways

Output 4. Appropriate capacity building services passed on to all levels of the local government service delivery system

Output 5. Local government infrastructure and service delivery mechanisms and processes are fine-tuned

JP support: technical assistance for refining and where necessary design of block grant formulae and development/-implementation of performance-based funding systems [UNCDF, UNDP, UNFPA]

JP support: capacity building for local level line agencies and for local governments, technical assistance. [UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP, UNCDF] JP support: fine-tuning of local PEM/PFM procedures, piloting of social protection, piloting of sector support and decentralized service delivery at the local level, piloting of local level coordination [UNFPA, UNICEF, UNCDF]

LGCDP Outcome 3: Strengthened policy and national institutional framework for decentralisation, devolution and community development

Output 6. Policy framework for decentralisation promoted a more enabling environment for effective, transparent and accountable local governance.

Output 7. Capacity of central government and national non-government institutions to provide appropriate support to local governments is enhanced

Output 8. Support provided for programme implementation

JP support: technical assistance [UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNCDF]

JP support: technical assistance, training, study tours [UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNCDF]

JP support: technical assistance, logistical and operational support [UNDP, UNFPA, UNCDF]

While the JP Results and Resources Framework (R&RF) and other annexes present detailed activities, the participating UN agencies are committed to ensuring coordination and synergies, both technically and financially. The following highlights such synergies and joint activities.

A. National Level

i) Policy support (LGCDP Output 6)

The JP will provide the Government with demand-driven and appropriate technical advisory services for policy development related to decentralization, local governance and community-led development, as well as issues related to sector devolution. In addition, the JP will ensure that lessons learned from its pilot activities and previous experiences are fed into national level policy processes. (UNICEF, UNFPA, UNCDF)

ii) Technical assistance (across all LGCDP Outputs)

The JP will provide national and international technical assistance required by MLD to implement LGCDP as a whole. Situated within LGCDP's Programme Coordination Unit (PCU) a Technical Cell will provide the full-time national technical expertise needed for programme implementation. The Technical Cell will include advisers for both substantive aspects of the programme (e.g. sector devolution, child-friendly governance, fiscal decentralization, GE/SI, etc.), as well as specialists in financial management and procurement. Their role in assisting the Ministry in LGCDP implementation will be significant. In addition, the JP will provide LGCDP with access to short term international technical assistance on an as-needed basis. Finally, the JP will provide the PCU with administrative and logistical support. (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNCDF)

iii) Development of guidelines and orientation to key stakeholders

Together with sectoral line departments and the LGCDP PCU, the UN JP will provide support for revising and updating the existing policies and guidelines on decentralization, sector devolution and GE/SI, and will support the preparation of new guidelines and manuals. Manuals and guidelines on social mobilization will be developed in coordination with the participating UN agencies in the districts. Similarly, support for the development of planning, operational guidelines, and preparation of orientation manuals on sectoral issues will be jointly supported for nationwide coverage. (UNCDF, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNDP).

iv) Capacity building

Support will be provided to national level institutions for the preparation of a national capacity development strategy, capacity building packages and guidelines for different levels. Orientation will be carried-out for the policy and planning unit of LGCDP, the GE/SI section, and decentralization focal units of MOHP, MoE, MWCSW, MoF and NPC. This will include working with the Local Bodies' Fiscal Commission and the Local Government associations (ADDCN, MuAN, NAVIN). The JP will also assist MLD and sector ministries in strengthening their capacity to mainstream GE/SI (as well as children and youth inclusion), building up its monitoring and evaluation capacities and in providing local governments and local line agencies with training and mentoring services. Support will also be provided to ensure the availability and accessibility of socio demographic data that is disaggregated by age,

sex, ethnicity, caste and economic status for evidence based planning and monitoring. (UNFPA, UNDP, UNICEF)

v) Community empowerment & local governance processes (LGCDP Output 1)

Supporting implementation of LGCDP's general and broad-based community empowerment activities will include methodological and technical support, aimed at developing and rolling out mechanisms for community participation in local governance and service delivery processes (planning, budgeting, implementation, and community monitoring) and backstopping social mobilization activities throughout the country. (UNDP, UNV, UNICEF, UNFPA)

vi) Mainstreaming gender and social inclusion and child /youth inclusion

At the national level, the JP will continuously advocate for gender audits and gender responsive budgeting. It will extend both technical and financial support in preparation of GE/SI capacity development (CD) plans to LGs, line departments and service providers and organize training accordingly. The JP will support MLD to replicate and scale up effective approaches and mechanisms, such as paralegal committees, watch groups and women's federations. Social and Gender Audit will be piloted and feedback will be provided at the national level for scaling-up nationwide. Likewise, protection and GBV issues at district and community levels will be advocated for and a specific programme will be launched to address such issues. (UNDP, UNCDF, UNFPA, UNICEF)

vii) M&E and Impact study:

LGCDP/PCU will be assisted in developing a multi-sectoral monitoring mechanism. Comparative studies will be carried out on the impact of decentralization on delivery and utilization of essential health care services, especially RH and child health services (UNFPA, UNCEF). Baseline survey/studies, DMIS, District Poverty Monitoring Analysis and DAG mapping will be carried out jointly. (UNFPA, UNCEF, UNCDF)

viii) Fiscal Transfers (LGCDP Output 3)

Technical support will be provided for the fine-tuning and where necessary the development of formula- and performance-based grant systems for all tiers of the local government system (DDCs, VDCs and municipalities). Formula-based transfers will make grants more transparent and more equitable. Performance-based grant systems will contribute to improving transparency and accountability, and thus reducing the fiduciary risks associated with intergovernmental fiscal transfers. The MC/PM system will also facilitate the identification of capacity "gaps" and thus dovetail with LGCDP capacity building activities. In addition to the improvements for existing grants and other fiscal transfers, the JP will also pilot new social safety net measures. (UNCDF, UNICEF, UNFPA)

ix) Piloting and fine-tuning (LGCDP Output 5)

Providing financing and technical support for fine-tuning a range of local government processes and for piloting service delivery innovations, JP support will reach national, district and community levels. The JP will focus on four principal areas for this kind of work:

- systems and procedures for local public expenditure/financial management (e.g. DPMAS, poverty/DAG mapping, health sector inventory management, procurement, reporting, annual and periodic planning, budgeting, etc.);
- local government administration and management of social protection (cash transfer) programmes;
- piloting sector support at the local level, in sectors such as primary health, reproductive health, water, hygiene and sanitation, and education. Among other things, the JP will pilot the provision of matching funds in the health sector.
- improved coordination of development at the local level. (UNFPA, UNICEF, UNCDF)

x) Advocacy and media training

The UN JP will coordinate closely with LGCDP/PCU in the areas of Information, education and communication (IEC). Development, printing and distribution of IEC materials and media communication will be coordinated in such a way that they can produce multiple effects through single efforts. However, when specific advocacy materials are needed they will be produced by individual agencies. (UNFPA, UNICEF)

B. District and community levels

i) Targeted community empowerment (LGCDP Output 2)

Support for community empowerment activities will include specific and direct support, aimed at carrying out social mobilization and facilitating community empowerment in approximately 25 districts. The programme will pay special attention to promoting community level organizations among disadvantaged/marginalized groups and amongst children and the youth, and in remote areas. This will also include intensive facilitation of the interface between communities and local level service delivery units and departments (including local governments), thereby enabling communities and community organizations to fully articulate and communicate their basic services priorities. Civil society and community groups representing such people will be supported in negotiating for greater access to public goods and services. This is seen from a Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GE/SI) perspective. Training of village facilitators and social mobilizers will be planned and implemented jointly as far as possible. (UNFPA, UNICEF + UNDP/UNV).

ii) Strengthening bottom-up planning systems at the local level

In those districts where one or more UN agencies are present, they will collectively support DDCs and VDCs in operationalizing bottom-up annual planning processes, including updating of district periodic plans, ensuring the participation of target audiences in the integrated planning committees for inclusive, and gender sensitive and youth friendly plans. (UNFPA, UNICEF)

iii) Capacity building

Strengthening the capacity of LBs, government sectoral line agencies and community organizations will be one of the major activities of all participating UN agencies. A range of capacity building activities will be conducted, aimed at local governments, local level line departments, user/community groups and front line workers involved in scheme implementation arrangements. Capacity building measures for community groups, citizens' institutions led by SEGs, women, village facilitators and social

mobilizers will be coordinated through LG institutions. The JP will support LGs' capacity to undertake evidence based planning, including gender sensitive and socially inclusive components and the generation and use of disaggregated data.

The JP will also provide local line departments with capacity building support, aimed at enhancing their ability to respond effectively to local education, health, nutrition, HIV and AIDS, water, hygiene and sanitation as well as child protection and participation priorities. The existing capacity development packages for local Health and School Management Committees will be revised/updated together with the partner ministries and training will be conducted. Technical training for health care providers in selected districts will be planned and delivered in collaboration with participating agencies. This will reduce duplication and maximize optimal use of available resources. (UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP, UNCDF, UNV)

iv). Technical Assistance

In all UNFPA supported districts, DDCs will be assisted to recruit TA personnel on sector devolution. It is expected that after some years of support DDCs will fully appreciate the need for such TA and thus allocate funds from their own budgets to keep on specialist staff. (UNFPA)

Geographical strategy

In terms of its "localization", the JP will be structured as follows:

- (i) For community or VDC level interventions (LGCDP outputs 1 and 2), JP activities will be oriented in the following ways:
 - In alignment with LGCDP's overall roll-out of social mobilization activities. JP support for basic social mobilization will therefore be focused on those Districts and VDCs that are selected by MLD;
 - In the 25 districts⁶ (and their constituent VDCs) where UNICEF and UNFPA have been providing support for decentralized service delivery.
- (ii) For intensive piloting activities (VDC block grants, PEM/PFM, social protection, sector conditional grants, DDC coordination functions), JP interventions will as far as possible take place in those districts where ongoing UNICEF and UNFPA programmes overlap. This will enable the JP to leverage synergies.
- (iii) For support to local line agencies, the JP will focus in on districts where UNICEF and UNFPA have ongoing activities and in districts where line ministries (particularly MoHP) plan to test out sector devolution policies.
- (iv) For overall capacity building activities aimed at local governments, the JP will support LGCDP's nation-wide roll-out to all DDCs, VDCs and municipalities.

UN agencies

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Each of the five UN agencies has its particular comparative advantage and value added to bring to the joint programme.

UNDP brings to the JP its long-standing relationship and partnership with the Ministry of Local Development, District Development Committees, Municipalities and Village

⁶ See Annex 1 for a listing of these districts and VDCs.

Development Committees, and the Local Government Associations. UNDP also has a wealth of experience in the areas of social mobilization and community-led development, which should enable the UN collective to contribute to LGCDP's "demand" side activities. Finally, UNDP has an established track record in providing the Government with policy level support, as indicated by its involvement in the formulation of the Local Self-Governance Act (LSGA-1999).

UNICEF's value-added to the JP is multi-dimensional. UNICEF has considerable experience of supporting decentralization at all levels and brings a distinctive human rights based approach to social exclusion, focusing on women and children. The recent DAG-mapping tool will further support in targeting disadvantaged groups. At community level, a cross-sectoral and integrated approach through community action process and social mobilization is complemented with communication for behavioral change with full participation of beneficiaries thus enabling full ownership. UNICEF can deploy high quality social sector technical expertise and share experiences from an integrated approach, thus making a valuable contribution to sector devolution issues.

UNFPA's comparative advantage within the JP lies in its substantial experience of working at both national and decentralized levels on sector policy analysis, production of disaggregated data to inform policy making and programming, the delivery of health services, and the promotion of reproductive rights (particularly among women, youth and couples). This has involved a combination of local capacity building, the provision of support for improving the quality of services, and supporting local level advocacy, participatory planning and monitoring. By working intensively in six districts, UNFPA has built up its expertise in the area of decentralized service delivery, quality assurance through COPE/PLA and in bringing together service providers and citizens to broaden the scope of reproductive rights by integrating Reproductive Health, Gender and Population strategies. This expertise will serve the JP well and make a valuable contribution to LGCDP implementation as a whole by bringing UNFPA's experiences through policy dialogue at the national level and implementation experiences from its focused intervention districts.

UNV is the UN focal point for promoting and harnessing volunteerism for effective development. As such, UNV contributes to development effectiveness through its advocacy activities and the advisory support it provides to partners in development programming and through the volunteers it deploys. UNV's contribution to the JP will be through sustained community volunteerism which will be promoted as a means of inclusive participation, civic engagement and empowerment as well as a vital resource for local development works.

UNCDF has been supporting decentralisation and local governance in Nepal since 2000. Through its programme, UNCDF has successfully piloted a range of local public finance innovations (most notably, MC/PMs or the performance-based grant system) and other public expenditure management processes (e.g. social audits, transparency measures, etc.), many of which are now being replicated nation-wide. In the context of the JP, UNCDF will concentrate on its comparative advantage of being an agency that "takes risks" and pilots or fine-tunes innovative and policy-relevant processes in the area of local governance. Through its special funding mandate, it will also act as a conduit for any block grants (whether pilot or not) that are financed through the JP.

3. RESULTS & RESOURCES FRAMEWORK

The summary Results and Resources Framework (R&RF) for the JP is provided on the following pages. Annex 7 includes a detailed R&RF. A Risk Log is also provided following the R&RF.

Table 2: Results and Resources Framework

UNDAF Outcomes:

Socially excluded and economically marginalised groups have increased access to improved quality basic services National institutions, processes and initiatives to consolidate peace are strengthened

LGCDP Goal: Contribute towards poverty reduction in Nepal LGCDP Purpose: Improved access to locally and inclusively prioritised public (goods and) services

LGCDP Outcome A. Citizens and communities engage actively with local governments and hold them accountable							
LGCDP Outputs	Participating UN	Implementing partner	Resou	rce allocation an	d indicative time	frame	Total
LGCDF Outputs	agency	Implementing partner	2008	2009	2010	2011	TOLAT
Communities and community	UNICEF		264,436	1,279,530	1,279,530	0	2,823,496
organisations participate actively in	UNFPA		33,222	403,474	400,474	0	837,170
local governance processes	UNDP		0	293,000	320,000	339,500	952,500
	UNCDF		0	0	0	0	0
	UNV		0	170,000	170,000	170,000	510,000
	Total		297,658	2,146,004	2,170,004	509,500	5,123,166
Increased capacity of citizens,	UNICEF		1,299,434	3,838,590	3,838,590	0	8,976,614
communities and marginalised groups	UNFPA		118,000	120,000	202,000	0	440,000
to assert their rights and hold local	UNDP		0	0	0	0	0
governments accountable	UNCDF		0	0	0	0	0
	UNV		0	0	0	0	0
	Total		1,417,434	3,958,590	4,040,590	0	9,416,614

Outcome A summary					
Participating UN agency	Output 1	Output 2	Total		
UNICEF	2,823,496	8,976,614	11,800,110		
UNFPA	837,170	440,000	1,277,170		
UNDP	952,500	0	952,500		
UNCDF	0	0	0		
UNV	510,000	0	510,000		
Total	5,123,166	9,416,614	14,539,780		

I CCD	D. Outpute	Participating UN	Implementing partner	Resource	ce allocation and	indicative time fr	rame	Tota
LGCDP Outputs		agency	Implementing partner	2008	2009	2010	2011	Tota
3.	Local governments gain access to	UNICEF		0	1,137,360	1,137,360	0	2,274,720
	greater fiscal resources in equitable and	UNFPA		86,000	156,100	156,100	0	398,200
	appropriate ways	UNDP		0	33,000	33,000	34,000	100,000
		UNCDF		0	420,000	490,000	290,000	1,200,000
		UNV		0	0	0	0	(
		Total		86,000	1,746,460	1,816,460	324,000	3,972,920
4.	Appropriate capacity building services	UNICEF		781,935	2,859,900	2,959,900	0	6,601,735
••	passed on to all levels of the local	UNFPA		140,000	336,500	323,500	0	800,000
	government service delivery system	UNDP		0	903,500	845,500	768,000	2,517,000
	g	UNCDF		0	50,000	0	0	50,000
		UNV		0	0	0	0	(
		Total		921,935	4,149,900	4,128,900	768,000	9,968,73
5.	Local governments service delivery	UNICEF		0	710,850	710,850	0	1,421,700
	mechanisms and processes fine-tuned	UNFPA		2,723,500	3,474,759	2,067,088	0	8,265,347
		UNDP		0	0	0	0	
		UNCDF		40,000	816,000	1,524,000	1,510,000	3,890,000
		UNV		0	0	0	0	C
		Total		2,763,500	5,001,609	4,301,938	1,510,000	13,577,047

Outcome B summary						
Participating UN agency	Output 3	Output 4	Output 5	Total		
UNICEF	2,274,720	6,601,735	1,421,700	10,298,155		
UNFPA	398,200	800,000	8,265,347	9,463,547		
UNDP	100,000	2,517,000	0	2,617,000		
UNCDF	1,200,000	50,000	3,890,000	5,140,000		
UNV	0	0	0	0		
Total	3,972,920	9,968,735	13,577,047	27,518,702		

LGCDP Outputs	Participating UN	Implementing partner	Resource allocation and indicative time frame				Total
LGCDP Outputs	agency	Implementing partner	2008	2009	2010	2011	lotai
6. Policy framework for decentralisatio	UNICEF		261,593	2,006,880	2,006,880	0	4,275,353
promoted a more enabling environn	ent UNFPA		65,678	178,856	394,853	0	639,387
for effective, transparent and	UNDP		0	33,000	33,000	34,000	100,000
accountable local governance	UNCDF		0	135,000	215,000	200,000	550,000
	UNV		0	0	0	0	0
	Total		327,271	2,353,736	2,649,733	234,000	5,564,740
Capacity of central government and	UNICEF		0	1,108,926	1,117,456	0	2,226,382
national non-government institutions			8,000	50,000	70,000	0	128,000
strengthened to provide appropriate	UNDP		0	651,000	706,000	743,000	2,100,000
support to local governments is	UNCDF		0	50,000	50,000	50,000	150,000
enhanced	UNV		0	0	0	0	0
	Total		8,000	1,859,926	1,943,456	793,000	4,604,382
Support provided for programme	UNICEF		0	0	0	0	0
implementation	UNFPA		3,000	2,500	2,500	0	8,000
·	UNDP		0	274,000	274,000	277,000	825,000
	UNCDF		60,000	175,000	230,000	227,000	692,000
	UNV		0	0	0	0	0
	Total		63,000	451,500	506,500	504,000	1,525,000

Outcome C summary					
Participating UN agency	Output 6	Output 7	Output 8	Total	
UNICEF	4,275,353	2,226,382	0	6,501,735	
UNFPA	639,387	128,000	8,000	775,387	
UNDP	100,000	2,100,000	825,000	3,025,000	
UNCDF	550,000	150,000	692,000	1,392,000	
UNV	0	0	0	0	
Total	5,564,740	4,604,382	1,525,000	11,694,122	

Participating UN agency	Outcome A	Outcome B	Outcome C	Total
UNICEF	11,800,110	10,298,155	6,501,735	28,600,000
UNFPA	1,277,170	9,463,547	775,387	11,516,104
UNDP	952,500	2,617,000	3,025,000	6,594,500
UNCDF	0	5,140,000	1,392,000	6,532,000
UNV	510,000	0	0	510,000
Totals	14,539,780	27,518,702	11,694,122	53,752,604

Table 3: JP/LGCDP - RISK LOG

#	Description	Category	Impact & Probability I=1-5 P=1-5	Countermeasures
1	Peace process stalls or fails and the CA fails to develop or endorse the new Constitution	Political Security	Development environment deteriorates and implementation becomes impossible or difficult; national resources from development diverted into security Possible P=2 I=5	 GoN, the UN and other donors are currently deeply engaged in ensuring peace in Nepal Wider civil society involvement exerts pressure to maintain peace and constitutional process on track UN engaging in dialogue with Government and donors on a regular basis LGCDP will inject significant financial resources at local level for service delivery (root cause of conflict)
2	National policy will not prove conducive to local government	Strategic	The programme objectives can not be met Unlikely P=1 I=4	This seems highly unlikely given that all political actors seem committed to some kind of decentralised polity. LGCDP will make available more resources to LGs and thus increase interest in and awareness of decentralisation as a service delivery modality
3	Viable and stable interim local councils are not established	Political Operational	Implementation can still continue while some outputs and activities might have to be reviewed that require politicians Possible P=2 I=3	 Active measures will be taken at the VDC level to foster village level councils. Local pressure created through inbuilt Social Mobilization component within LGCDP and commitment expressed by the major political parties towards empowering local governments for service delivery. A number of other measures are in place to promote downward accountability, including social audit, support to watchdog facilities, public disclose of LB performance etc.
4	Fund flow processes prove ineffective and inefficient	Technical	Possible P=2 I=3	 DPs through regular joint monitoring, feedback and reviews put pressure on the government to revise/adjust financing procedures as per the spirit of LGCDP and Government implement measures to remove bottlenecks on fund flow mechanisms. Mitigating measures and adjustment of funding flows may be considered, but the first step will be to strengthen the control and capacity of involved partiers in flow of funds. Flow of funds modalities will be adjusted
5	Weak financial management	Technical	May reduce efficiency in	- In built LGCDP capacity building component

#	Description	Category	Impact & Probability I=1-5 P=1-5	Countermeasures
	capacity in LBs and MLD		allocation/spending May worsen poor absorptive capacity at local level Possible P=2 I=3	 Conditionality on release of funds (instalments, reporting etc.) LBs provided with incentives to improve financial management from the MC/PM system and other measures like disclosure of results and social audit, report cards etc. LBs and line ministry departments and units are thoroughly oriented on sector specific (e.g. health sector) norms and procedures
6	Financial malfeasance	Technical	Possible P=2 I=2	 Capacity building component Social Mobilization for community empowerment ensures accountability Social/public auditing, and transparency MC/PM system will promote better performance
7	Poor capacity to audit and lack of follow-up on audit Poor internal audit and absence in some LBs	Technical Technical	Possible P=2 I=1 Possible P=2 I=1	 Support to OAG, development of LB audit guidelines, training, support to system with QA of VDC audit. The MC/PM system promote LB incentives to follow-up on irregularities identified in the audit reports The MC/PM system promotes internal audit and has had an impact in the 20 districts where it has been piloted. Rolling out of the system is likely to improve financial management performance and internal audit, based on MTRs of DFDP and external fiduciary risks assessments (DFID, 2006).
8	Weak procurement capacity and experience in MLD, other sector ministries (health, MWCSW and education) and LBs	Technical	Possible P=3 I=2	 The new Procurement Act and Regulations are useful tools in strengthening of the public procurement process UN JP provides flexible support to MLD in the event of procurement blockages Standards are set and in place by MLD Transparency in procurement ensured Training will be provided in application of the new Procurement Act and Regulations. MLD arrangement and with checks and balances Core TA includes recruitment of a procurement specialist

#	Description	Category	Impact & Probability I=1-5 P=1-5	Countermeasures
				MC/PM system covers LB procurement performance and promote improvements
9	Staff instability in local governments	Operational	Institutional memory is lost and continuity in relations interrupted. Dedication of staff sub-optimal Probable P=3 I=2	The Government has indicated that it does wish to address this issue – and this commitment will be carefully monitored. LGCDP will react rapidly to any signs of undue staff turnover in local governments and line agencies, as well as bolster the ability of local interim councils to insist on staff stability
			1-2	- Regular review meeting between the DPs and MLD to minimize frequent staff transfers, backed by review of staff performance
				- LBs will hire essential staff locally as per the spirit of LSGA
				- LB's and service provider's capacity will be strengthened to ensure availability of basic services
10	Local governments or Line	Strategic	Output 5 will be negatively affected. Possible	- LGCDP offers major fiscal incentives as leverage.
	Ministries prove unwilling to undertake pilot activities		P=2	- NAC will instruct sectoral ministries (devolved sectors) to adhere to the LGCDP norms and principles.
			l=3	- Effective mechanism for sectoral coordination will be in place
11	GoN fiscal resources and donor funding decrease dramatically	Financial	Block grants and capacity development activities will have to be down scaled. Possible P=1 I=4	 GoN's finances have improved now that the conflict has ended and donors are committed to providing assistance in the post-conflict period LGCDP includes support by a wide range of DPs, the impact attached to individual DPs stopping their funding
12	Lack of political will to use performance-based incentives and sanctions	Strategic Political	Seriously affect the objective of the programme <i>Unlikely</i> P=1 I=4	 It is GoN policy to use performance-based incentives and sections in connection with grant transfer. MoF and NPC are keen to apply PB funding mechanisms and will support MLD in this respect. Requires high level advocacy support from donors. People are made aware of these systems through SM The system will be based on solid experience from testing in 20 districts.

#	Description	Category	Impact & Probability I=1-5 P=1-5	Countermeasures
13	Development partners prove reluctant to align themselves within a single framework of support for decentralisation	Strategic	This will significantly reduce the impact of the programme Possible P=1 I=4	 The Paris Declaration and commitment of some key development partners should mitigate against this Program adopts flexible approaches to accommodate different modalities or MLD allows DPs to operate within a framework. DPs will meet on a regular basic (monthly) with MLD to coordinate LGCDP. JFA will be elaborated and gradually expanded. The DPs have agreed to coordinate their capacity building support. NAC will take a strong lead in DP coordination.
14	Weak capacity of MLD to implement wider LGCDP	Operational	Would substantially reduce the impact of the JP Possible P=2 I=3	JP provision of technical assistance to MLD is intended to ensure that core capacities are in place to implement LGCDP
15	Line Ministries prove reluctant to align themselves within a single framework of support for decentralization (LGCDP) under MLD's leadership	Strategic	Would reduce the possibility for delivery of comprehensive service package. LBs will have less interest and control over sectoral issues P=2 I=3	AWPB 2008/09 will categorically specify the alignment process and required amendment into the existing rules and regulation of the policies. Consensus and trust building at high level with sectoral ministries, MoF and AGO and FCGOs

4. MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION ARRANGEMENTS

Management structure

The JP's guidance and management arrangements will again be harmonized with those that apply to LGCDP as a whole. This is consistent with the overall approach taken by the JP and will ensure that JP activities are properly and fully coordinated with the rest of LGCDP.

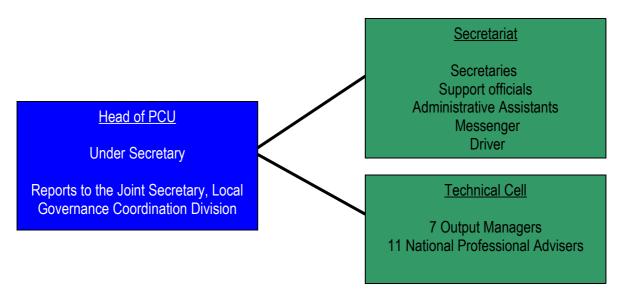
The management structure for the JP between the participating UN agencies will feature a coordination task force comprising focal points from each agency. (UNCDF, UNDP/UNV, UNFPA, UNICEF) The coordination task force will be chaired by one of the focal points on a rotating basis, meeting on a monthly basis and reporting to the UN Resident Coordinator. In view of the evolving LGCDP and decentralization process in Nepal, the coordination task force will also be responsible for designing and planning an expected follow on JP.

As part of LGCDP overall-management role in the JP, especially for those UN agencies requiring National Programme Directors, LGCDP management applies to the JP as follows:

- (i) High level oversight of the JP will be provided by the LGCDP National Advisory Committee (NAC), acting as Steering Committee for the JP. The National Advisory Committee will consist of the following members:
 - MLD Secretary (Chairperson)
 - MLD Joint Secretaries
 - Sector Ministry (JS level) representatives
 - MoF representative
 - NPC representative
 - DG DOLIDAR
 - Development partner representatives (including UN agencies)
 - LB associations' (ADDCN, MuAN, NAVIN) representatives
 - LGCDP National Programme Director (Member Secretary)
- (ii) The National Programme Director (NPD) for LGCDP, who will be the Joint Secretary of MLD's Local Governance Coordination Division, will be the JP's NPD.
- (iii) The Programme Manager (PM) for LGCDP, which will be a full-time position and filled by an Under-Secretary of MLD, will act as Programme Manager (PM) for the JP.

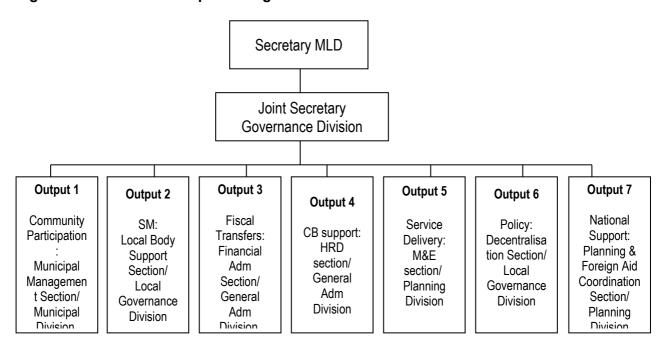
The PM will be in charge of LGCDP's Programme Coordination Unit (PCU), which will include an Administrative Secretariat and a Technical Cell. The structure of the PCU is shown in the following diagram.

Figure 1: The MLD LGCDP PCU



Within the PCU Technical Cell there will be specific, dedicated, Output Managers for each of LGCDP's outputs, selected from amongst the various section chiefs who will be PCU members. This will introduce a degree of accountability internally in MLD in terms of results based output management. The following diagram shows the allocation of output responsibilities to various MLD sections. PCU Output Managers will meet monthly to discuss issues regarding programme implementation and the PCU will prepare quarterly progress reports.

Figure 2: LGCDP PCU Output Managers



In addition to the Output Managers, the PCU Technical Cell will also consist of a team of full-time national experts, provided with support by the JP. These experts will provide the Output Managers and the PM with technical assistance, and will be accountable to the PM on a

day-to-day basis. As detailed in the results framework and annexes, UN agencies are providing technical assistance to the PCU. For example, UNICEF and UNFPA are jointly supporting a team member to provide expertise on issues related to sector devolution.

Management processes

All LGCDP activities (including those for which the JP will be providing support) will be included in a single annual work plan and budget (AWPB), which will be submitted to the National Advisory Committee for approval. AWPBs will be developed by the PCU, with Output Managers being responsible for their respective outputs, assisted by the national advisers and other resource persons as necessary.

To facilitate this, UN agencies subscribing to this JP will coordinate their own annual CPAP strategy and planning processes prior to preparation of the AWPB, and in conjunction with the PCU. This will evolve and build upon the existing UNDAF and CPAPs that some UN agencies have already agreed with the GON.

This will be adopted at all levels, for example all activities supported by this JP will be planned, managed and monitored together with the DDCs, including through joint periodic plans, and through the institutional arrangements of the LGCDP.

Because of the difference between the FYs used by GoN and the UN agencies, the latter will need to adopt an 18-month rolling work plan in order to synchronise their planning activities with those of the wider LGCDP.

5. FINANCING & FUND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

This JP represents a coordinated UN initiative to support the GoN's LGCDP, including building on coherence and synergies from previous UN experience in Nepal on decentralization, social mobilization, capacity building for inclusive local government and improved equity in service delivery. The financing and fund management at this stage will be a combination of parallel and pass-through arrangements, in particular because UNICEF and UNFPA already have CPAPs with the GoN.

Alignment with main LGCDP Financing & Management Arrangements

This JP represents a coordinated UN initiative to support GoN's LGCDP by the subscribing UN agencies, in line with the procedures laid down by the governing bodies of these agencies for support of such national programmes, and given that UN agencies — unlike other bilateral or multilateral funding agencies — cannot support such programmes through a JFA.

The following diagram (taken from the Government's LGCDP document) provides a graphic illustration of the positioning of the JP within the framework provided by LGCDP. The larger, dark blue ellipse denotes all local governance and community development activities; the smaller, light blue, ellipse denotes LGCDP. The JFA funding basket and the UN basket fund are integral parts of LGCDP (which includes a significant budgetary contribution by the Government.

Support outside of the JFA
Basket Funding

JICA
GTZ

Specific support

Basket UN
Earmarked
CB and TA

Aligned

Figure 3: Modalities for Support to Local Governance and Community Development

Although the financing support for LGCDP will be provided outside the JFA, it should be underlined that:

- All UNCDF funds provided through the JP for grants, of whatever sort, to local
 governments will be channeled to the same Treasury account, and managed, reported
 on and audited in exactly the same manner as other such funds provided for this
 purpose to the main LGCDP through the JFA.
- Other (UNICEF, UNFPA) funds destined for DDCs and VDCs will continue to transit through DDF accounts in the districts, as agreed by MLD.
- All funds provided through the JP for technical assistance and capacity building will be planned, managed and reported on as an integral part of main LGCDP activities.

Cash transfers will be made according to HACT (Harmonised Approach to Cash Transfer) procedures.

Cash transfer modalities, the size of disbursements, and the scope and frequency of assurance activities may be revised in the course of programme implementation based on the findings of programme monitoring, expenditure monitoring and reporting, and audits.

Budget commitments

The UN agencies subscribing to this JP will make financing commitments to the LGCDP, as indicated in the Results&Resources Framework (R&RF), through their own respective core funds and/or through non-core cost-sharing funds from other development partners wishing to support this JP.

In the case of UNDP, UNV and UNCDF, these core fund commitments constitute <u>net new</u> commitments of financial assistance to the GoN.

In the case of UNICEF and UNFPA, the core and non-core fund allocations reflect commitments <u>already made</u> to the GoN in respective CPAPs. These therefore do not constitute new funding commitments; however, fundraising shortfalls remain for those commitments.

Joint Programme Structure & Sequencing

Given this particular context for the JP, fund management arrangements will therefore be a mixture of pass-through and parallel:

- A pass-through arrangement will apply <u>from the outset</u> to those components of the JP which are the responsibility of UNDP, UNCDF and UNV and are financed from thirdparty contributions. Funds contributed by UNDP, UNCDF and UNV from their regular resources will follow parallel modality.
- Parallel arrangements will apply to those components of the JP which are the
 responsibility of UNICEF and UNFPA, and for which some funding commitments already
 exist UNICEF and UNFPA will therefore manage their own funds, whether coming from
 Regular or Other Resources. Financial management for the UNICEF and UNFPA
 supported components of the JP will be in accordance with each agency's rules and
 regulations.

Pass-through arrangements

Under the pass-through arrangement, donor funds will be channeled to the respective agencies as follows:

- Where donors wish to allocate funding to specific Outputs or Activities, these will be allocated to UN agencies through the Administrative Agent according to the RRF table of this JP, indicating the respective roles of UN agencies for implementing these Outputs and Activities.
- Where donors wish to allocate funding without any such earmarking, funds will be distributed across Outputs and Activities according to funding gaps identified and work plan priorities agreed jointly by all agencies, through the task force.
- As the LGCDP and JP advance, it is anticipated that some activities will include all
 participating UN agencies in the pass-through arrangement.

However, all agency budgets will be prepared in common (as part of the larger LGCDP work planning and budgeting process). In addition, responsibility will be assigned for the preparation of an aggregated or a consolidated narrative and financial report for submission to the LGCDP National Advisory Committee. The aggregated/consolidated narrative and financial report will be clearly identified as a compilation of the UN organizations' narrative and financial reports and will be presented "for information purposes" only.

UNDP will be the Administrative Agent (AA) for the pass-through arrangement, the agent through which all donor contributions will be channelled. It will become effective as a mechanism upon signature of the JP Document and applied as soon as the first donor contribution to the programme is received.

In its role as Administrative Agent, UNDP will be responsible for:

- conclude standard administrative arrangements with donors to the joint programme

- The administration of funds received and disbursed, and disbursing funds;
- Disbursement of funds to the participating UN organisations;
- Consolidating financial reports;
- Refining consolidated narrative reports according to donor reporting requirements;
- Providing consolidated financial and narrative reports to all necessary parties.

The Administrative Agent will enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with each participating UN organisation based on the portfolio of activities that have been mutually agreed in line with the common work plan, and a Standard Administrative Agreement (SAA) with each donor contributing to the Joint Programme. Under the MoU, each participating UN organisation will assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds disbursed to it by the AA. In the JP, the Administrative Agent, UNDP, will also be a participating UN organisation.

With the donors contributing to the JP, the Administrative Agent will enter into a Standard Administrative Agreement, which will set out the terms and conditions governing the receipt and disbursement of funds. As a principle, donors will be encouraged to channel funds using the pass-through mechanism as soon as the Joint Programme Document is signed, and discouraged from earmarking of funds for specific Agencies or thematic activities. The LGCDP National Advisory Committee (NAC) will play a key role in this respect and advise donors on the priorities for allocation of funds.

The Administrative Agent is entitled to receive 1% of the amount contributed by donors, for the costs of performing the functions described above⁷. The rate will be stipulated in both MoUs and Standard Administrative Agreement (SAAs).

Each participating UN organisation will recover indirect costs in accordance with its financial rules and regulations. For the portion of funding that is channelled through the pass-through arrangement, the indirect costs of the participating UN organisations are set at 7%. This arrangement will be documented in the MoU signed with the Administrative Agent.

The Administrative Agent will issue a financial report and final certified financial statement to donors and participating UN organisations on its activities.

Auditing arrangements

In line with the respective CPAPs of the UN agencies (agreed upon with the Government) the audit of the JP will be undertaken by the Office of the Auditor General of Nepal (OAG) as per the INTOSAI standards on auditing and international best practices. In view of the capacity development needs of OAG as identified in the Macro Assessment report, the services of a private audit firm may be obtained by UN agencies in coordination with other ExCom agencies, the Ministry of Finance and OAG. The OAG will lead the overall audit process and provide the final audit report to the UN agencies.

6. MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

Monitoring

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⁷ In parallel, UNICEF will reduce the HQ cost recovery rate from 7% to 6% thus equaling out the total administrative charge.

Monitoring arrangements for JP activities are summarised in table 4 below.

The Monitoring Framework will be fully aligned with the LGCDP Monitoring Framework. Changes in LGCDP's Monitoring Framework will therefore be reflected in the JP Monitoring Framework. Given that LGCDP's Monitoring Framework is currently being developed (as part of Inception Phase activities), this document only includes a very indicative JP Monitoring Framework (MF); a full MF will be designed during the first year of JP implementation.

The UN agencies will collaborate with other partners and MLD to prepare the baseline for LGCDP and the indicators for monitoring.

Table 4: Joint Programme Monitoring Framework (JPMF)

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Indicators (with baselines & indicative timeframe)	Means of verification	Collection methods (with indicative time frame & frequency)	Responsibilities	Risks & assumptions
Goal: Contribute towards poverty reduction in Nepal	By the end of 2012: Access to local public services improved with enhanced efficiency and accountability of local service providers. Participation/access of women, Dalits, Adibasi, Janajatis, Muslims, Madhesis and disadvantaged groups increased in the local governance process to establish citizen-centred, responsive and accountable local governance system. Employment creation and opportunities increased for subsistence living.	LGCDP MTR/Final Review report LGCDP MTR/Final Review report CBS data			
Purpose: Improved access to locally and inclusively prioritised public goods and services	By the end of 2012: Participation in leadership of women and children, Dalits, Adibasi Janajatis, Muslims, Madhesis, disadvantaged groups in governance system increased as compared to 2006 Engagement of communities (COs and their federations) in participatory planning cycle to lead community development activities in all local bodies improved as compared to the baseline information of 2007/08 20% of self-reliant local bodies (DDCs, municipalities and urban oriented VDCs), determined as per MLD developed criteria, plan and	MLD annual report Baseline and end line survey report			

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Indicators (with baselines & indicative timeframe)	Means of verification	Collection methods (with indicative time frame & frequency)	Responsibilities	Risks & assumptions
	allocate their own resources for local development (X no. of DDCs, X no. of municipalities and x no. of VDCs) • 60% of the COs and citizens surveyed in selected districts positively state that public services at local bodies have improved (deliver services consistent with citizens' preferences). • GE/SI strategy operationalised in MLD and GESI focal persons activated in 80% local bodies	MLD annual report MLD annual report			
Outcome A. Citizens and communities engage actively with local governments and hold them accountable					
Communities and community organisations participate actively in local governance processes	By the end of 2012: At least 33% of the capital expenditure grant provided to Municipalities and VDCs spent on projects prioritised by communities Inclusive Integrated Planning Committee functional in all local bodies 90% local bodies annual plan prepared on the basis of participatory planning process Communities of 100% VDCs and 50% municipalities covered with the	MLD Annual Report			

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Indicators (with baselines & indicative timeframe)	Means of verification	Collection methods (with indicative time frame & frequency)	Responsibilities	Risks & assumptions
	extension of social mobilisation program. X number of women paralegal committee functional by the end of the programme.				
2. Increased capacity of citizens, communities and marginalised groups to assert their rights and hold local governments accountable	By the end of 2012: Participation of women, Adibasi Janajatis, Dalits, Madhesis, persons with disability and disadvantaged groups increased by 50% in programme activities as compared to the 2007/08 baseline figure 33% of COs turned into federations and cooperatives and linked to local bodies and other institutions 50% DDC/municipalities' and 10% VDCs' performance evaluated and feedback incorporated in LG policy X% of community groups are able to access resources through local bodies for use to fund own- determined priorities Complaints/Grievance handling mechanism made functional at all levels	MLD Annual Report			
Outcome B. Increased capacity of local governments to manage resources and deliver basic services in an inclusive and equitable manner					

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Indicators (with baselines & indicative timeframe)	Means of verification	Collection methods (with indicative time frame & frequency)	Responsibilities	Risks & assumptions
3. Local governments gain access to greater fiscal resources in equitable and appropriate ways	By the end of 2012: Formula based fiscal transfer (with equalisation) system practised at all tiers of local government Local revenues increased by 50% as compared to 2006/07 Roles of central government and local bodies (DDC, VDC and Municipality) delineated and implementation started at LBs	-			
4. Appropriate capacity building services passed on to all levels of the local government service delivery system	 By the end of 2012: 70% DDCs initiated MC/PM reporting to MLD on their own (reports available in MLD) 20,000 office bearers of local bodies oriented/trained on local good governance 10,000 associated individuals oriented/trained in different subjects like planning, coordination, resource mobilization, conflict resolution, empowerment, administrative and financial management, competence in decision making etc. LB associations involved in policy advocacy and local governance accepted that their capacity has been strengthened VDC periodic planning piloted in 200 VDCs 80% of vital events registered in local bodies 	MLD Annual Report			

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Indicators (with baselines & indicative timeframe)	Means of verification	Collection methods (with indicative time frame & frequency)	Responsibilities	Risks & assumptions
5. Local governments service delivery mechanisms and processes fine-tuned	By the end of July 2012: Public hearing, public audit, code of conduct, citizen report card and local bodies computer software institutionalized by 90% DDCs, 75%f municipalities and 40% of VDCs MC/PM adopted in all DDCs and municipalities and piloted in selected VDCs All development programmes of the district/municipality reflected in DDC and municipal annual plans	-			
Outcome C. Strengthened policy and national institutional framework for devolution and local self-governance					
6. Policy framework for decentralisation promoted a more enabling environment for effective, transparent and accountable local governance	 Restructured MLD functional by 2010 Decentralisation SWAp adopted by MLD by FY 2009/10 Devolution coordination mechanism functional from 2009 X no. of local bodies adopted child friendly local governance by the end of July 2012 Roles & responsibilities of local government staff delineated (job descriptions, responsibilities, performance evaluation system, etc.) 	MLD Annual Report			

Expected Results (Outcomes outputs)	i	Indicators (with baselines & indicative timeframe)	Means of verification	Collection methods (with indicative time frame & frequency)	Responsibilities	Risks & assumptions
7. Capacity central governm national governm institution strengthe provide appropria support to governm enhance	nent and non-nent ns ened to ate to local nents is	By the end of July 2012: Human resource development plan (including broadly defined affirmative action mechanisms) available in MLD and implemented in all DDCs and 30 Municipalities. Decentralised and results based monitoring system practised in MLD DMIS functional and linked with DPMAS Devolution strategy operationalized by 2009	-			
8. Support for progrimpleme	ramme M entation a	By the end of July 2012 MLD staff trained and executing all aspects of project management, community development and local governance				

Regular reviews

Regular reviews of the JP will be an integral part of the bi-annual Joint Reviews (JRs) of LGCDP. These will be conducted by GoN and all development partners would participate. The first JR (timing around November/December of each year) will be the mechanism for proposing any changes to the JP document. JRs will be preceded by donor/Government assessments of implementation, overviews of systems, fact finding field visits, etc. A second joint meeting will be conducted in May/June every year, when the annual work-plans, budgets, procurement plans and coordination of support and TA will be agreed upon.

Regular bi-annual JP reviews will focus on both results and process. For the latter dimension, particular attention will be paid: (i) to the co-articulation of LGCDP and the JP; and (ii) to the collaboration between UN agencies, within the UNDAF review framework.

Evaluation

Evaluations of the JP will be harmonised with those for the wider LGCDP. The UN agencies involved in the JP will agree on a single person to join LGCDP evaluation missions – and who will ensure that UN-specific aspects of the programme are covered and evaluated.

Reporting

The reporting from Government to the UN agencies will be as per the revised LGCDP reporting formats the UN agencies and donors agreed on with the MLD.

The UN agencies participating in the JP will provide unified narrative reports, on an annual basis, to the Government and any donors. The format for these unified reports will be developed and agreed upon during the first year of JP implementation. The JP ccordination task force will be responsible for drafting and finalising any such narrative reports.

7. BASIS OF RELATIONSHIP

The following table provides a summary of the basis of the relationship between the Government and the various UN agencies involved in this Joint Programme.

Table 5:

Participating UN organization	Agreement
UNDP	This Joint Programme Document shall be the instrument referred to as the Project Document in Article I of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Nepal and the United Nations Development Programme, signed by the parties on 23 February 1984.
UNICEF	The Basic Cooperation Agreement (BCA) concluded between the Government of Nepal and UNICEF on 21 February 1996 provides the basis of the relationship between the two parties.
UNCDF	This Joint Programme Document shall be the instrument referred to as the Project Document in Article I of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Nepal and the

	United Nations Capital Development Fund, signed by the parties on 23 February 1984.
UNV	This Joint Programme Document shall be the instrument referred to as the Project Document in Article I of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Nepal and the United Nations Development Programme, signed by the parties on 23 February 1984.
UNFPA	This Joint Programme Document shall be the instrument referred to as the Project Document in Article I of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Nepal and the United Nations Development Programme, signed by the parties on 23 February 1984.

The following types of revisions may be made to this programme document under the signature of the UN Resident Coordinator only, provided that the other signatories of the project document have no objection to the proposed changes:

- · revisions in, or addition of, any of the annexes of the project document;
- revisions which do not involve significant changes in the outcomes, outputs or activities
 of the project, but are caused by the rearrangement of inputs already agreed to or by
 cost increases due to inflation; and
- mandatory annual revisions that rephrase the delivery of agreed project inputs, or
- increased expert or other costs due to inflation or taken into account agency expenditure flexibility.

The Implementing Partner agrees to undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the funds received pursuant to this Joint Programme are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism and that the recipients of any amounts provided by Participating UN organizations do not appear on the list maintained by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). The list can be accessed via http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/committees/1267/1267ListEng.htm.



Annex 1: Districts and VDCs in ongoing UNICEF and UNFPA programme

Region	District	No of VDCs covered by DACAW	No of VDCs covered by PARHI	Other
FWR	Accham	25	ı	
	Dadeldhura	8	5	
	Bajura	6	ı	7 QIPSI VDCs
	Bajhang	7	ı	7 QIPSI VDCs
MWR	Dang	17	20	
	Humla	12	-	6 QIPSI VDCs
	Mugu	7	-	7 QIPSI VDCs
	Dolpa	6	-	6 QIPSI VDCs
	Rukum	6	-	6 QIPSI VDCs
	Jajarkot	6	-	6 QIPSI VDCs
	Jumla	6	-	6 QIPSI VDCs
	Kalikot	6	-	6 QIPSI VDCs
WR	Kapilvastu	19	18	
	Kaski	18	-	
	Tanahun	18	-	
	Nawalparasi	17	-	
CR	Chitwan	28	ı	
	Kavre	34	ı	
	Parsa	22	ı	
	Mohottari	1	16	
	Rautahat	1	16	
ER	Udayapur	19	-	
	Sunsari	19		
	Saptari	28	29	
	Panchtar	14	-	
	Totals	348	111	

QIPSI = Quick Impact

Annex 2: UNICEF's contribution to the JP and to LGCDP

UNICEF's contribution to the JP and LGCDP derives from the ongoing Decentralized Action for Children and Women (DACAW) programme, which has been implemented by the Ministry of Local Development with UNICEF support for the last 10 years. UNICEF's current Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) for 2008 – 2010 includes the DACAW programme with MLD and as such, this work is being aligned with LGCDP, especially to ensure lessons learned and best practice contributes to improved local governance nationally.

DACAW is UNICEF Nepal's approach to improve access to sectoral services and interventions to rural communities in 23 districts across Nepal. As such, UNICEF's sectoral work in these 23 districts comes under the DACAW umbrella. The overall objective of DACAW is to build the capacity of families, communities, local bodies and duty-bearers to plan, manage and monitor actions that will realize the rights of children and women and ensure the provision of responsive services. DACAW operates within the country's ongoing efforts to decentralize governance and foster people's participation in development. With its rights-based approach to programming, DACAW has given priority to (i) reaching the disadvantaged; (ii) children's and young people's participation; and (iii) gender equality.

DACAW employs a combination of three key strategies 1) strengthening community action processes (CAP) 2) strengthening responsive service delivery and, 3) strengthening local governance at both district and village level and at national policy and strategy level.

JP Outcome A. Citizens and communities engage more actively with local governments and hold them accountable

JP Output 1. Communities and community organisations are empowered to participate in local governance processes

UNICEF works on the basis that sustainable human development and poverty alleviation require that people participate in and take responsibility for their own development. DACAW uses a series of actions collectively known as the Community Action Process (CAP) as its main strategy to facilitate this participation. CAP is an iterative process that enables families and communities to develop their capacity to assess their situation, analyse their problems, and take action individually and collectively—the Triple A process (assessment, analysis, and action). DACAW strategies aim to create a synergistic effect between the 'Triple A process' creating demand and mobilisation at the community level and building the capacity of service providers at village and district level.

The programme works through existing community organizations (COs) including Village Development Programme, the Integrated Women and Child Development Approach (IWCDA- including women's federations), and the Small Farmers' Cooperative Limited (SFCL). Women's federations are the most active and sustainable COs in DACAW. UNICEF has given support to strengthening the federation process in order to further empower women and effectively work with federations to achieve sectoral results for children and women. Some community-based groups such as paralegal committees (PLCs), Safe Motherhood Action Groups and child clubs have evolved from the DACAW programme and grown across different districts and nationally. The MLD has requested the development of guidelines for these approaches to be replicated in other districts.

DACAW social mobilisation takes place through CAP. It is a process implemented through a system of village facilitators and community mobilisers whom UNICEF/MLD provides basic and refresher training. During basic and refresher training these frontline workers are provided with the knowledge and skill to facilitate and lead CAP and other mobilisation processes at the community level, thus identifying locally appropriate solutions and sectoral

by enhancing knowledge and participation of individuals and families of disadvantaged communities.

As part of the JP and LGCDP, UNICEF will expand efforts to coordinate and align training to village facilitators and social mobilisers with training approaches and plans of the UN JP partners and other MLD partners. Similarly UNICEF support to the formation of community based institutions, such as paralegal committees, child clubs and WATCH-SMAG (Safe Motherhood) groups will be coordinated, including through formation of federations and networks in order to better advocate for children's / women's rights issues in disadvantaged communities. Activities will also include institutional assessment of federated groups to identify current stages and potential transition strategies, and documentation of case studies/best practices on CO sustainability for replication.

In 2006, UNICEF and MLD developed a participatory methodology for targeting groups that are socially and/or economically disadvantaged, know as disadvantaged group (DAG) mapping. There were two major outcomes. Firstly, it is now possible to rank VDCs within a district systematically by level of disadvantage. This methodology has been well received by communities, local government officials and political parties and will soon have been completed nationally. While initiated by UNICEF with MLD, UNDP joined to conduct the mapping in an additional 60 districts and UNICEF is now supporting MLD to complete the mapping in the remaining districts. As a result, MLD and UNICEF work on DACAW will prioritise CAP coverage in the most disadvantaged (category 4) VDCs.

Secondly, DAG mapping is also being extended to identify disadvantaged households within VDCs. This will ensure that programme interventions can be targeted at settlements where their impact is most beneficial and MLD is now directing local bodies and other development partners to use these findings to guide their programmes to reach the most underprivileged and vulnerable groups in each district. In addition, UNICEF will support the creation of a database to better use DAG-mapping for ongoing planning and monitoring purposes.

JP Outcome B. Increased capacity of local governments to provide basic services in an inclusive and equitable manner.

The Local Self-Governance Act 1999 opened up new opportunities for enhancing local participation in development, as it enables people at all levels to exercise their civil and political rights. It provides a sound basis for the promotion of a rights-based approach to development. DACAW works with local bodies to build their capacity to prepare medium-term plans, annual plans and actions for improving the wellbeing of children and women, and for working with the most disadvantaged.

JP Output 4. Appropriate capacity building services are provided to all levels of the local government delivery system.

JP Activity 4.6 Provide core capacity-building to local level line departments to deliver public services.

- In Education Sector, support will be provided in order to train and build capacity of district, local and community level educational bodies. This will include DDCs, VDCs, REDs, DEOs, School Management Committees, ECD facilitators, etc. Capacity will be built in order to continue welcome to school campaigns, parenting orientation classes as well as to establish ECD centres, etc.
- In Child Protection, support will be provided in order to train and build capacity of district
 and local civil servants on child protection issues as well as to build capacity of paralegal
 committees and child clubs on child protection issues. Capacity in order to strengthen
 the district protection system will be provided, including for birth registration of the most
 disadvantaged children, etc.

- In Health Sector, support will be provided in order to train and build capacity of district, local and community level health bodies. This will include DHOs, district health staff, village health workers, Maternal-Child Health Workers, Female Community Health Volunteers, traditional birth attendants, VFs and CMs, etc.
- In Water, Hygiene and Sanitation, support will be provided in order to train and build capacity of district water and sanitation partners (District Water Resources Committees, District Sanitation Steering Committees, Water Users' Federations, etc). Capacity in order to ensure a functioning MIS for WASH. Technical assistance provided in order to ensure safe water, sanitation and hygiene education for schools in neglected communities. Formation of child clubs in schools to promote sanitation and hygiene education, etc.
- In HIV and AIDS, support will be provided in order to train and build capacity on HIV and AIDS issues of district level governmental institutions such as DDC, DWD, DHO, DEO, DACC etc. Training supported for health care providers, DWD officers, etc. Awareness raising in schools and through child clubs on HIV and AIDS issues, etc.

<u>JP Output 5. Local government infrastructure and service delivery mechanisms and processes are fine-tuned.</u>

UNICEF will support revision of district periodic development plans, both medium term and annual plans, including to ensure that they are inclusive, gender and child sensitive in line and coordinated with JP and other partners. Capacity building of DDC staff and district level workshops will also be conducted in collaboration with other partners. Capacity building of DDC and line agencies (DEO, DWSSO, DHO, WDO, etc) at district/municipal and VDC levels will be provided in order to ensure ownership and smooth programme implementation. In addition, support to strengthen the DDC and other coordination mechanisms in the district for programme implementation will be provided.

UNICEF has introduced child-related indicators to the government's performance based monitoring system and will support the piloting of the District Poverty Monitoring Analysis System (DPMAS) and NepalInfo in 2-5 districts. There will be a linkage to existing sectoral management information systems. The use of these tools in improving planning and monitoring at a district level will be demonstrated to the DDCs. Monitoring guidelines and capacity building will be provided to the DDCs and district level staff in order to be better able to monitor and report on programme progress, including MDG indicators and utilising DAG-mapping data.

UNICEF support will be given to studies, surveys, case studies, evaluations and best practices documentation that improves the understanding of the situation of children and women. Action research on "how to work with the most disadvantaged groups (MDAG) to achieve better sectoral outcomes" will be carried out in Saptari and Nawalparasi.

JP Activity 5.3 Pilot sector support (e.g. education, health, etc) at the local level

Support will be provided to the development of conditional sector grants. Sector block grants in selected districts / VDCs in the Mid and Far Western Region will be piloted within the partnership of the LGCDP. These pilots will provide useful experiences and lessons for policy dialogues and for potential replication.

JP Activity 5.4 Test DDC local development coordination functions (line agencies, NGOs, etc.)

Through DACAW, Coordination Committees have been established to contribute to intersectoral and interagency coordination mechanisms for children and women at DDC and VDC levels. Ongoing support and orientation will be provided to LDO/planning officers in 23 districts and VDC secretaries; including support to planning and review meetings in order to ensure that women and children's concern are included in VDC plans before endorsed by VDC councils. The DACAW programme also supports intra- and inter-district exchange visits in order to share experiences and best practices.

<u>JP Outcome C. Strengthen policy and national institutional framework for decentralisation, devolution and community development.</u>

National level - Policy support on decentralization

The programme provides policy support for decentralization in the areas of child rights and reaching the disadvantaged. Many of the national policy dialogues in DACAW are influenced by local-level projects and experiences from communities and from disadvantaged groups. The programme also works closely with other UN agencies to promote decentralization, avoid duplication, and increase the impact of the programme. For example, UNICEF has collaborated with UNDP's Decentralized Local Governance Support Programme (DLGSP). JP Output 6. Policy framework for decentralisation provides a more enabling environment for effective, transparent and accountable local governance.

Various studies, surveys and reviews are foreseen. This will include a baseline survey and a decentralisation strategy review. The baseline survey will cover a range of social issues and will be carried out in 8 districts (Bajhang, Bajura, Mugo, Kalikot, Dolpa, Jajarkot, Rukum and Jumla). The Decentralisation Strategy review will include UNICEF sectoral work, the broader context of the LGCDP and the ongoing decentralisation efforts. Best practices from the DACAW programme will be documented and disseminated to contribute to national policy dialogues on decentralisation.

A child-friendly local governance framework will be developed and child-friendly governance piloted in 5 DACAW districts/municipalities. Piloted districts and municipalities will implement Local Development Plans for children as an integral part of revised District Periodic Plans. Policy guidelines and materials will be developed as well as easy-to use manuals on mainstreaming child rights issues in local development planning. Key child sensitive indicators will be developed for the Government's district-wide performance based monitoring system. Annual reports and status reports on children will be developed in pilot districts and corresponding data collection and monitoring systems will be supported.

JP Output 7. Capacity of central government and national non-government institutions strengthened to provide appropriate support to local governments is enhanced.

Relevant capacity building efforts of governmental and non-governmental partners will be supported. For example, capacity built within MLD to replicate DAG-mapping as a method to reach the most disadvantaged groups and to complete the VDC ranking. Capacity built within MLD to replicate relevant components of the DACAW programme in new districts. Programme (DACAW) replication guidelines will be prepared and published for wider dissemination. A document with key messages enhancing integration of children and women's concern will be finalised and published for wider dissemination.

JP Activity 7.6 Mainstream gender equality and social inclusion and child and youth inclusion in MLD

A gender audit will be carried out (jointly with MLD and DWD) in the DACAW districts and the report will serve as a basis for advocating the mainstreaming of gender equity in planning and implementation of programmmes. The capacity of WDO staff will be built on adolescent girls' development.

Gender mainstreaming in local governance will be piloted in selected districts in order to improve the quality of local governance as well as gender equality. Gender mainstreaming guidelines and checklists will be tested and the results validated, in collaboration with UN JP partners.

Annex 3: UNCDF's contribution to the JP and to LGCDP

This annex provides a summary description of the JP/LGCDP activities that will be supported by UNCDF – which has a specific mandate to support local development. For the most part, UNCDF activities will be in the following two areas:

- (i) Providing technical support (both international and national) to LGCDP for a range of issues related to fiscal decentralisation, local public financial management, capacity building and decentralisation policy.
- (ii) Supporting, both technically and financially (through "real-time" grants), pilot activities aimed at testing out improvements or innovations in local government service delivery, with a view to ensuring that such pilots inform policy processes.

These are both areas in which UNCDF has an established track record – and play to the organisation's principal comparative advantages of: (i) providing high quality technical support and assistance in the area of local governance; and (ii) piloting innovations in the area of local government service delivery.

The total budget for UNCDF's support to LGCDP amounts to \$6,532,000 million¹.

JP Outcome B. Increased capacity of local governments to provide basic services in an inclusive and equitable manner.

JP Output 3. Local governments gain access to greater fiscal resources in equitable and appropriate ways.

In budgetary terms, this is almost certainly the most important LGCDP output, as it covers all the "top-up" block grants that the programme will provide to DDCs, VDCs and municipalities. Most of these funds will probably be provided directly to GoN by major development partners (ADB, DFID, Danida, CIDA, NORAD, etc.).

Although it will not be involved in channelling fiscal transfers to local governments, there are a number of activities associated with this output that will be supported by UNCDF:

- Firstly, the proposed LGCDP "top-up" grants for VDCs are expected to be allocated on the basis of a formula as well as some kind of MC/PM system. UNCDF will assist in developing a formula-driven allocation procedure and a simple, but robust, MC/PM system, to be applied by DDC level personnel (perhaps complemented by short term local consultants). UNCDF will also provide technical support at later stages of the programme in order to progressively refine and fine-tune VDC-level performance-based grant systems.
- Secondly, UNCDF will provide technical support for refining overall MC/PM systems.
 This will include working alongside GTZ and MLD in developing a performance-based
 funding system for municipalities, as well as providing technical support for the nationwide and annual MC/PM assessments of DDCs and for refining them in the light of
 experience.
- Thirdly, UNCDF will provide technical assistance and support for LGCDP work on local own-source revenues – almost certainly on a pilot basis. Much of the initial work on this will consist of scoping studies – but, over time, this will evolve into real-time capacity development.

¹ Including the funding gap.

The total amount allocated to this component of UNCDF support is \$ 1.2 million, all of which would be used to finance mainly short term international technical support and assistance

JP Output 4. Appropriate capacity building services are provided to all levels of the local government delivery system.

As part of indicative activities 4.3. and 4.4., UNCDF will provide international technical support and assistance to help in developing:

- procedures and processes whereby DDCs provide backstopping and mentoring services to VDCs. This is an area where much remains to be done – and which will gain added importance as increased fiscal resources are made available to VDCs through LGCDP.
- a system whereby local governments make and implement their own capacity building plans. This will involve drawing up procedures through which local bodies will assess their capacity building needs (often in relation to their performance as measured by MC/ PM assessments), as well as procedures for drafting plans to address those needs. This will necessarily occur within the framework of a hard budget ceiling provided by capacity development grants. This is an area for which UNCDF would build upon its past and ongoing experience elsewhere.

The total amount allocated to this component of UNCDF support is \$ 0.05 million, all of which would be used to finance short term international technical support and assistance

<u>JP Output 5. Local government infrastructure and service delivery mechanisms and processes are fine-tuned</u>

This component of LGCDP is concerned with piloting new approaches to local government service delivery – and constitutes the main area of the programme to which UNCDF will contribute. UNCDF-supported activities will be as follows:

- Firstly, UNCDF will assist in fine-tuning local level public expenditure and financial management (indicative activity 5.1.). A range of systems and procedures will to be piloted in order to eventually strengthen local government planning and budgeting, processes for social inclusion, procurement, financial management, asset management, reporting, etc. This will be done at both the VDC and DDC levels and will involve working intensively with a selected number of local bodies. UNCDF will assist by drawing up new procedures and by providing pilot local governments with the capacity building they will require in order to apply new ways of working.
- Secondly, UNCDF will take the lead in piloting local government administration and management of safety net programmes (indicative activity 5.2.). Not only are safety net programmes (such as conditional cash transfers) one of the most promising ways of tackling extreme poverty they are also potentially well-suited to local level implementation. UNCDF will support real-time piloting of locally managed/administered social protection activities in about 25 VDCs over a period of three years. Inputs will include the allocation of social protection block grants to pilot VDCs, the provision of technical support and assistance in designing appropriate social protection programmes, training and capacity building of participating local bodies, and support for close monitoring of outcomes and impacts. This set of pilot activities will be closely articulated with national level policy thinking on social protection, with a view to providing policy makers with "real-time" information on how well (or poorly) local governments are able to implement social protection programmes.

- Thirdly, UNCDF will assist in the piloting of conditional sector grants to DDCs (indicative activity 5.3.). This will involve working in 6 pilot DDCs over a period of three years. It is expected that this pilot will test out education and health sector grants to DDCs, as a way of informing sector devolution policies. Sector grants will be allocated to pilot DDCs on a largely discretionary basis. Inputs will include "real-time" financing in the form of sector grants, technical support and assistance to define how the use of such sector grants would be planned, budgeted and accounted for, and capacity building of DDC level officials and stakeholders.
- Finally, UNCDF will support the fine-tuning of the coordination functions of DDCs (indicative activity 5.4.). Although LSGA provides DDCs with a strong mandate to coordinate all development activities at the local level, in practice DDCs have a poor track record in fulfilling this mandate. UNCDF will therefore assist in developing coordination mechanisms and in strengthening the processes through which DDCs ensure inter-sectoral and multi-partner coordination. Inputs will include technical assistance and support to develop robust coordination processes and capacity building of stakeholders at the DDC level.

The total amount allocated to this component of UNCDF support is \$ 3.89 million, which would be used to finance: (i) "real-time" grants to pilot local governments (\$ 2.3 million); and (ii) international and national technical support and assistance to develop systems and procedures and provide capacity building (\$ 1.59 million).

<u>JP Outcome C. Strengthen policy and national institutional framework for decentralisation, devolution and community development.</u>

JP Output 6. Policy framework for decentralisation provides a more enabling environment for effective, transparent and accountable local governance.

The overall policy framework for decentralisation in Nepal is likely to undergo considerable change over the coming years – and assisting LGCDP in addressing emerging policy issues will be an important form of support. In addition, it is clear that the overall national context for decentralisation can be made more conducive for effective local governance. In this respect, UNCDF will focus its support on two areas:

- Firstly, UNCDF will provide flexible technical assistance and support to develop the Government's decentralisation and sector devolution policies (indicative activity 6.1.).
 This will be on a demand-driven and opportunistic basis, enabling LGCDP to address policy issues as and when they emerge. For the most part, UNCDF support will take the form of providing international technical support and assistance, but may also take the form of funding for workshops and other such events.
- Secondly, support will also be provided for the preparation of a national capacity building strategy for local governments (indicative activity 6.5.). This will consist of short term international technical support and assistance.

The total amount allocated to this component of UNCDF support is \$ 0.55 million, which would be used to finance technical support and assistance.

JP Output 7. Capacity of central government and national non-government institutions strengthened to provide appropriate support to local governments is enhanced.

UNCDF, alongside UNDP, will support the policy and other functions of the Local Bodies' Fiscal Commission (indicative activity 7.2.). UNCDF support will take the form of international technical support and assistance, aimed particularly at strengthening the overall framework for inter-governmental fiscal relations in Nepal.

The total amount allocated to this component of UNCDF support is \$ 0.15 million, which would be used to finance international technical support and assistance.

JP Output 8. Support provided for programme implementation

Along with UNDP, UNCDF will provide some support for overall LGCDP implementation – particularly in the area of evaluation and meeting other technical needs.

The total amount allocated to this component of UNCDF support is \$ 0.692 million, which would be largely used to finance international technical support and assistance.

Annex 4: UNFPA's contribution to the Joint Programme (JP) and to LGCDP

Background

UNFPA has been supporting the Government of Nepal since 2004 in delivering quality reproductive health services under a decentralized approach. Cross-cutting issues such as poverty reduction, gender, social inclusion, human rights, population, and HIV/AIDS concerns are central to the design of UNFPA's community based programme at district and village levels.

Substantial efforts were made to broadening the scope of reproductive rights at district and village levels by a three pronged strategy. Firstly, by building the capacities of the local service delivery systems (DDCs/LDOs, DHOs, DEOs, WDOs and NGOs) to increase the coverage and remove the barriers of access for the socially excluded groups to basic services and appropriate information. Secondly, improving the quality of the RH delivered through the primary health care system. Thirdly, by supporting local level participatory planning, implementation and monitoring.

UNFPA's comparative advantage within the JP lies in its substantial experience of working at both national and decentralized levels. The experience gained from six PARHI districts will be utilized to roll-out in new districts. In the first two and half years (2008-2010) the UNFPA will support 18 districts and gradually expand to more districts in the coming years. UNFPA will (jointly) provide TA in all 18 supported districts on decentralization and Gender/Social inclusion. The main focus of TA will be planning and programming health and population activities at DDC level. The approach for implementation in districts will be district coverage through support to the DDC and sectoral line agencies.

This annex provides a summary description of the JP/LGCDP activities that will be supported by UNFPA from July 2008 to 2010 in 18 districts. Final selection of the districts will be made in consultation with GoN, related sectoral partners and other UN agencies (especially UNICEF).

JP Outcome A. Citizens and communities engage more actively with local governments and hold them accountable

<u>JP Output 1: Communities and community organisations are empowered to participate in local governance processes</u>

- 1.1. Establish institutional mechanisms through which communities and community organizations can participate in the local planning, implementation and oversight process.
 - Operationalize a mechanism for bottom-up-planning at DDC and VDC level with the involvement of target populations on reproductive health, gender equality and social inclusion (RH & GE/SI).
 - Establish and operationalize a mechanism at DDCs and VDCs level for social audit on RH needs and rights by the community.

- Organize social mobilization activities with active participation of the communities to raise awareness of poor, women Dalits and socially disadvantaged groups on increasing demand for social services and basic rights.
- 1.2. Strengthen the capacity of communities and community organizations to participate in the local planning, implementation and oversight process
 - Organize training to community stakeholders on bottom-up planning and Clientoriented Provider Efficient - Participatory Learning Approaches (COPE/PLA) in RH needs and rights. About 246 VDCs of 18 districts will be supported in developing 3 years integrated VDC plans with focus on RH, gender and population activities.
 - Support training and capacity building measures of community and programme stakeholders to carry out social audit (About 246 VDCs of 18 districts will be supported). Mother's groups, FCHVs and CBOs will be capacitated to carry-out social audit at least on 6 monthly bases.
 - Organize social mobilization activities in partnership with Dalit and socially excluded groups, NGOs/CBOs and youth clubs.

JP Output 2: Increased capacity of citizens, communities and marginalised groups to assert their rights and hold local governments accountable

Major Activities

- 2.1. Carry out Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities
 - Organize advocacy, media and education campaign to enable the rights holders to demand for SRH & Rights.
- 2.2. Strengthen mechanisms for local and community level advocacy, monitoring and oversight of local governance issues.
 - Assist in setting-up and/or strengthening 'multi-sectoral' Gender Based Violence (GBV) monitoring and response mechanisms at DDCs.
- 2.3. Provide technical and capacity building support to citizens' institutions led by disadvantaged groups to promote interactions with Local Bodies (LBs).
 - Support in development of affirmative action policies for increased women participation in local government.
 - Implement capacity building measures for meaningful participation of socially excluded groups, especially women in community based organizations (CBOs), Local Bodies (LBs) and Users' group of different nature and functions.

JP Outcome B. Increased capacity of local governments to provide basic services in an inclusive and equitable manner.

JP Output 3: Local governments gain access to greater fiscal resources in equitable and appropriate ways

- 3.1. DDCs provided with formula-driven and performance-based (Minimum Conditions/ Performance Measures MC/PM) block grants.
 - Facilitate all 18 districts (DDCs) on timely dissemination of national guidelines and tools on financing mechanisms and procedures for utilizing block grants by DDCs and VDCs.
 - Advocate for more gender sensitive planning and budgeting through DDCs and VDCs council meetings, and formal and informal interactions and workshops with key stakeholders. Matching grants will be provided to DDC on RH and gender related programmes.
- 3.2. VDCs provided with formula driven and performance-based (MC) block grants
 - Provide matching grants to at least 12 VDCs of each 18 district to carryout focused activities on RH, gender and social inclusion. VDC matching grants will be in the range of approx. US Dollar 1000/VDCs each year.
- 3.3. Review and refine revenue and expenditure assignments and types of revenue
 - Support in mapping of total resources available for health and population activities at VDC level and assist LBs in mobilizing additional resources for health in general and specific to RH related activities.

JP Output 4: Appropriate capacity building services are provided to all levels of the local government delivery system.

- 4.1. Provide core capacity-building to local level line departments to deliver public services.
 - Provide technical assistance to MoLD and DDCs for developing tools to strengthen vital registration system at district and VDCs levels.
 - Carry-out capacity needs assessment of partner institutions (MOHP, MoLD, DHOs, DDCs, VDCs). Support key areas of the capacity building measures to strengthen planning, programming, management and monitoring skills.
 - Conduct advocacy activities for policy dialogue at central level to ensure that LGBs mainstream populations, RH, gender social inclusion issues in plans as well as in programme implementation with adequate budget and functional monitoring mechanisms.
 - Strengthen Decentralized Monitoring Information System (DMIS) using District Poverty Monitoring Analysis System (DPMAS) tool and Dev Info Database in selected districts.
 - Strengthen capacity of LBs and local line agencies to generate and utilize sociodemographic data disaggregated by age, sex, caste, ethnicity and economic status
 - Set up/strengthen multi-sectoral GBV monitoring and response mechanism at national and district levels. TA will be provided through sharing national and international experiences and developing appropriate tools and guidelines.

JP Output 5: Local government service delivery mechanisms and processes are fine-tuned.

Major Activities

- 5.1. Update Public Expenditure Management (PEM) and Public Financial Management (PFM) systems and procedures
 - Organize financial management training to DDC, selected VDCs and district line agencies
 - Provide technical and financial support to DDCs and DHOs for maintaining essential RH commodities to prevent stock-out
- 5.2. Test safety net and social assistance programmes
 - Design and implement RH & GBV contingency plans in selected districts.
- 5.3. Pilot sector support (e.g. education, health, etc) at the local level
 - Strengthen the capacity of selected DDCs in RH, Gender and PDS programming.
 - Support to DHOs, DDCs, VDCs and NGOs for implementation of youth friendly services.
 - Support implementation of district RH and Reproductive Rights plans
 - Conduct orientation to health service providers and management committees on existing RH policies/strategies/guidelines/ protocols.
- 5.4. Test DDC local development coordination functions (line agencies, NGOs, etc.)
 - Strengthen district RHCC and DACC in facilitating the implementation and joint monitoring of RH action plans and HIV/AIDS programmes
 - Support to the District Disaster relief Committee for formulation and implementation of RH contingency plans

JP Outcome C. Strengthen policy and national institutional framework for decentralisation, devolution and community development.

<u>JP Output 6: Policy framework for decentralisation provides a more enabling environment for effective, transparent and accountable local governance.</u>

- 6.1. Prepare decentralization and sector devolution policy
 - Provide technical assistance to the MoLD, MOHP, MoES, MOWCSW and NPC for developing appropriate policies and operational guidelines on LGCDP and decentralization. Support in developing required capacity and technical skills in policy analysis, sector devolution policies and implementation plans.
- 6.2. Prepare improved staffing policies for local governments

- Support GoN in developing tools and required skills for the operationlization of UNSCR 1325 in planning at the central level for gender and women's' protection and reintegration.
- Support MoLD, MWCSWS and NPC in selection and training of GE/SI focal person.
- Monitor implementation of 33% representation of women in all state bodies
- 6.3. Prepare National Capacity Development Strategy for local governments
 - Provide TA to formulate national capacity development strategy and assist MoLD,
 DDCs and VDCs to operationalize the strategy
- 6.4. Conduct outcomes and impact studies of local governance and community development programmes and outputs (evidence-based policy-making)
 - Within the broader context LGCDP a comparative study on the impact of decentralization on delivery and utilization of essential health care services especially RH, gender, equity and child health services will be conducted. This will include a review of decentralisation strategy and implementation plan together with partners.

JP Output 7: Capacity of central government and national non-government institutions strengthened to provide appropriate support to local governments is enhanced.

- 7.1. Provide support for GoN local governance policy analysis and policy making functions
 - Assist in developing guidelines, tools and IEC materials on decentralized, gender, social and geographic sensitive planning, monitoring and assessment of health and population activities at district and community levels.
- 7.2. Organize capacity building programmes for decentralization focal units of various line ministries including NPC, MoF, PMO, MoGA, MWCSW, MoE, MOHP and MoAC
 - Support the national and local governments in their efforts to address the crosscutting issues of gender and social inclusion by mainstreaming gender sensitive programme implementation and monitoring. National level efforts will focus on policy related issues, while more specific support to women and socially excluded populations will be provided at district and community levels. Gender mainstreaming in local governance in selected districts will be piloted.
 - Strengthen capacity of MoLD, MOHP, MWCSW, CBS and National Women's Commission. Capacity building of MoLD, DDCs and VDCs to replicate DAGmapping as a method to reach the most disadvantaged groups and VDC ranking will be given priority. Lessons learned and programme replication guidelines will be prepared and disseminated at all levels.
 - Provide technical and financial support to national and district level committees/ commissions/forums related to gender and social inclusion ((GE/SI) and child/youth inclusion (CYI).

• Conduct gender audit in collaboration with MoLD, MWCSW and UNICEF. The audit report will serve as a basis for advocating the mainstreaming of gender equity in planning and implementation of programmes nationwide.

JP Output 8. Support provided for programme implementation

- 8.1. Support to recruit technical staff in MoLD
 - Review ToRs of technical personnel to be posted in PCU (decentralization, gender/social mobilization)
 - Support TA on decentralization and gender/social inclusion (UNFPA will be cofinancing 2 persons)
 - Support TA on decentralization and gender/social inclusion at implementation level (UNFPA will be co- financing 2 persons in each district)
 - Provide technical input to LGCDP joint programme monitoring. UNFPA will facilitate the monitoring visits to the districts and assist in documenting lessons learned.

Annex 5: UNDP's contribution to the JP and to LGCDP

This annex provides a summary description of the JP/LGCDP activities that will be supported by UNDP.

UNDP's contribution to the JP and to LGCDP implementation will be structured around its core comparative advantages and competencies in providing capacity building support (at both the national and local levels), providing technical assistance and support, and engaging in policy-level activities. UNDP will also bring to bear its experience in the area of social mobilisation by providing LGCDP with technical support in conceptualising and then implementing social mobilisation strategies and activities.

The total UNDP contribution in support to LGCDP for three years will be 6.594 million USD².

JP Outcome A. Citizens and communities engage more actively with local governments and hold them accountable

JP Output 1: Communities and community organisations are empowered to participate in local governance processes

Activities:

1.1. Establish institutional mechanisms through which communities and community organisations can participate in the local planning, implementation and oversight process

At the moment, the participation of communities in the local planning process varies across districts, municipalities and VDCs. Although several ad hoc mechanisms are being practised by the local bodies, there is no uniformity and the participation of communities in planning and implementation depends very much on the local government in question.

In a situation of political vacuum, there is a need for developing a transparent institutional mechanism whereby local bodies will systematically involve communities and community organizations in local planning, and implementation. Communities should also have the right to oversee the functioning of local government and "voice" themselves.

In developing the proposed mechanism, UNDP will draw on its past experience with a number of projects, including the Decentralized Local Governance Support Programme (DLGSP) and the Rural Urban Partnership Project (RUPP), as well as the lessons from the recent study done by DFID/World Bank on engaging communities in planning and resource allocation.

UNDP support to MLD will build on the previous work of UN and other development partners and will be focused on mapping out modalities and experiences within Nepal and from elsewhere in participatory planning procedures, and reactivating the integrated planning committee at the District level and suggesting interim measures for VDC and Municipal level planning. This will create an enabling environment for open budget meetings in which communities can actively participate and safeguard their interests in the local governance processes. UNDP will assist LGCDP in the formulation of guidelines for local level planning and in institutionalising their use throughout the local government system.

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² Including funding gap.

UNDP will assist the Ministry of Local Development and local bodies in developing and implementing institutional mechanisms for the effective participation of communities and community organizations in local governance processes.

The estimated budget for this particular activity will be USD 102,500.

1.2. Strengthen the capacity of communities and community organisations to participate in the local planning, implementation and oversight process

Based on over a decade of experience in social mobilization and community empowerment, UNDP will support the MLD in developing a strategy for nation-wide social mobilization for LGCDP. This will include mapping out all DDCs, VDCs and municipalities according to the degree of social mobilization that they have undergone.

Technical assistance and support will be provided to LGCDP to formulate a comprehensive social mobilisation strategy. This will cover a range of issues related to social mobilisation, including methodological options, out-sourcing options and developing an inventory of social mobilization agencies both at national and district level. The SM strategy will also cover exit options, through which VDCs and communities can be "graduated" from the need for continues social mobilisation. UNDP will also assist in drafting LGCDP guidelines for social mobilisation, which will provide social mobilisers with a user-friendly reference point, as well as guidelines for social mobilisation entities, including a set of criteria for the selection of such entities and for quality assurance.

In addition, UNDP support will include the provision of training and backstopping for all social mobilisers and social mobilisation agencies contracted through LGCDP. The detail modality of how this will be done will be determined following the discussion with LGCDP team.

The total estimated budget for this activity for three years will be USD 850,000.

JP Outcome B. Increased capacity of local governments to provide basic services in an inclusive and equitable manner.

JP Output 4:. Appropriate capacity building services are provided to all levels of the local government delivery system.

Under this LGCDP output, UNDP will provide MLD with technical assistance and funding for capacity building at the local level. This will include assisting in the provision of capacity building support to DDCs so that they are better able to backstop and mentor VDCs and funding the provision of gender sensitive and socially inclusive, supply-driven, training for local governments, community organisations, user groups and other local service delivery agencies. UNDP will also assist in the development of a demand-driven approach to capacity building, through which local bodies will develop their own capacity building plans.

UNDP-supported technical assistance will play a key role in developing training materials and peer learning options for local level capacity building.

The total estimated cost related to this output will be USD 2.517 million.

JP Outcome C. Strengthen policy and national institutional framework for decentralisation, devolution and community development.

JP Output 7: Capacity of central government and national non-government institutions strengthened to provide appropriate support to local governments is enhanced.

In line with its established expertise in national level capacity building and providing technical assistance, UNDP will provide MLD with comprehensive support in the implementation of output 7. This will include the supporting the following activities:

- Providing MLD and key line ministries (Education, Health, Agriculture, etc.) with technical
 assistance and capacity building to enhance their ability to develop evidence-based
 decentralisation policy and to undertake policy analysis in the area of local governance.
 This will be done jointly with UNFPA and UNICEF. This will strengthen the capacity of
 MLD to undertake sector devolution;
- Providing technical and other assistance to MLD for the design and use of a local government performance monitoring system;
- In collaboration with UNFPA and UNICEF, providing training and technical assistance to MLD in order to mainstream Gender Equality, Social Inclusion issues into both national level and local level processes;
- Supporting in the implementation of the national capacity building strategy for local bodies. This will involve providing technical assistance and strengthening the capacities of MLD's human resource development section;
- In conjunction with UNCDF, providing the Local Bodies' Fiscal Commission (LBFC) with technical assistance, capacity building and other support in order to strengthen LBFC's capacity to advise the Government on fiscal decentralisation issues (performance-based assessments, expenditure assignment, etc.);
- Providing the three local government associations (ADDCN, MuAN, NAVIN) with core funding, technical assistance and capacity building support, with a view to strengthening their ability to fulfil their primary functions of representing local bodies at the national level and carrying out policy level lobbying on behalf of their respective memberships;
- Providing the Auditor General's Office and others with capacity building support in order to strengthen their audit functions with regard to local bodies.

The total estimated cost related to this output will be USD 2.1 million.

Across the outputs: Support provided for programme implementation

The recent institutional assessment of MLD (funded by DFID) indicates that the Ministry will require substantial technical assistance over the first few years of LGCDP if the programme is to be efficiently and fully implemented. In conjunction with the other UN agencies involved in the JP (UNFPA, UNICEF, UNCDF) and given its track record of providing technical assistance, UNDP will provide the LGCDP Programme Coordination Unit with much of the longer term, national technical assistance required. This will include both technical specialists (in the areas of social mobilisation, capacity development, monitoring and evaluation, GIS, MIS/ITC, etc.) as well as the management specialists (financial management, public procurement) who will assist the PCU in programme implementation³. UNDP will also provide support for administrative staff and operational costs.

The total estimated cost related to technical assistance and output 8 will be USD 0.825 million.

³ In output 3 and 6 UNDP is providing core TA support only. The total cost for both is 200,000 USD over 3 years.

Annex 6: UNV's contribution to the Joint Programme (JP) and to LGCDP

Background:

United Nations Volunteers (UNV) is the United Nations focal point for promoting and harnessing volunteerism for effective development. UNV advocates for the recognition of volunteerism as a valuable resource for development; integrates volunteerism in development planning and promotes the global citizen's involvement in and contribution to the development agenda.

In line with its mandate, UNV contributes to development effectiveness through its advocacy activities and the advisory support it provides to partners in development programming and through the volunteers it deploys. UNV works essentially within development goals set by the UN agencies and partners with which it cooperates and also undertakes programmatic initiatives aiming at demonstrating good practices on integrating volunteerism in development thinking and practice.

Particularly in local governance, UNV in partnership with UNDP has supported community participation in local governance processes through harnessing volunteerism as a sustainable and culturally adapted development asset.

UNV's Contribution to LGCDP:

Volunteering builds reciprocity among citizens and helps social integration and inclusive participation. Furthermore, it contributes to civic engagement and peace building processes. Local volunteering has been a key resource for development in Nepal. Traditional forms of volunteering based on self-help and solidarity are still practiced especially in rural areas without legal recognition and provision. A considerable portion of local development works under VDCs and DDCs are carried out through people's voluntary services and in addition many local and national level volunteer based organizations (i.e. CBOs, NGOs) are promoting self-development through voluntary action.

The government of Nepal has also mobilized volunteers: e.g. Female Community Health Volunteers in the health sector and Forests User Groups in the forestry sector. The government's National Development Voluntary Service (NDVS) mobilizes, trains and places volunteers in host agencies working for development. NDVS has begun to operate at the local level in partnership with DDCs, in an attempt to enhance its efficiency, sustainability and responsiveness to local needs. As part of this UN Joint Programme, UNV will contribute to LGCDP by linking its mandate of promoting and harnessing volunteerism for development with the practical work of NDVS regarding the mobilization, training and placement of national volunteers. Furthermore, UNV will support NDVS by conducting a capacity assessment of the organization and developing a capacity development strategy for its operations as part of the LGCDP programme.

This annex provides a summary description of the JP/LGCDP activities that will be supported by UNV through cooperation with NDVS in a number of selected districts. Final selection of the districts will be made in consultation with GoN, NDVS and the UN agencies participating in the UN Joint Programme (especially UNDP).

JP Outcome A: Citizens and communities engage more actively with local governments and hold them accountable

JP Output 1: Communities and community organizations participate actively in local governance processes

<u>JP Activity 1.2</u> Strengthen the capacity of communities and community organizations to participate in the local planning, implementation and oversight process.

<u>JP sub-Activity 1.2.5</u> Mobilize and fund NDVS volunteers to conduct social mobilization and provide TA in other fields on demand from DDCs and conduct capacity assessment of NDVS and develop capacity development strategy for NDVS operations in selected DDCs

Mobilization and training of NDVS local volunteers to facilitate inclusive and participatory local governance processes

- Based on the demand from DDCs a number of remote districts in Mid- and Far western Nepal (and possibly some in other clusters) will be selected as location for the UNV/NDVS cooperation.
- The NDVS volunteers will be working on demand from DDCs as facilitators on district level, partly as social sector overseers but also in relation to i.e. health volunteering and as technical advisers in other areas. The NDVS volunteers will mainly be working on supervision and monitoring level and the focus of their work will be on empowerment regarding the "delivery" aspect of LGCDP, facilitating interactions between communities/community organizations and local governments/service delivery departments.
- UNV will provide funding for 100 NDVS volunteers whereas NDVS will provide basic orientation/training to the newly recruited NDVS volunteers.
- The NDVS volunteers will be offered a series of additional training activities, including training on social inclusion, participatory processes, community mobilization, gender and peace-building.
- Community volunteerism will be promoted through existing forms and mechanisms (DDCs, VDCs, user groups, VIOs etc.) and NDVS volunteers will support social mobilization and help mobilize village/community volunteers and facilitate their engagement in local governance.
- Community volunteers will play a key role in facilitating participation of disadvantaged groups and women and their active engagement in local governance processes.
 Voluntary engagement of communities will strengthen local ownership and sustainability of the LGCDP initiatives at the community level.

Supporting Capacity Strengthening of NDVS

- UNV will provide technical support in terms of capacity assessment of NDVS both at the national and district levels.
- The capacity assessment of NDVS will include capacities to engage with multistakeholders (i.e. local civil society organizations, Volunteer Involving Organizations), to ensure social inclusion, to mobilize and manage local volunteers and to promote civic engagement of communities in local governance processes.

- Based on the findings of the assessment, UNV will support NDVS(and civil society partners involved in it) to develop and implement a capacity building plan to enhance its organizational capacity. This includes tailor-made training and expertise support to NDVS and DDC officials and concerned partners and the introduction of improved arrangements and procedures for local volunteer management.
- UNV will provide coordination, facilitation and monitoring support as part of the proposed collaboration with NDVS.

ANNEX 7 Results Framework¹

UNDAF Outcomes:

- Socially excluded and economically marginalised groups have increased access to improved quality basic services
- National institutions, processes and initiatives to consolidate peace are strengthened

LGCDP Goal: Contribute towards poverty reduction in Nepal LGCDP Purpose: Improved access to locally and inclusively prioritised public (goods and) services

 $^{^{1}}$ The Ministry of Local Development (MLD) will be the implementing partner. UNICEF's activities reflect an aligning of their current CPAP 2008-2010 with MLD to the LGCDP.

LGCDP Outcome A. Citizens and communities engage actively with local governments and hold them accountable including corresponding indicators and baselines

LGCDP Outputs	Participating UN organization-	Particip ating	Indicative activities for each Output	Sub-activities	Resource a frame*	Illocation ar	d indicative	time	
(Give correspondi ng indicators and baselines)	specific Outputs	UN organiz ation			2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
Communities and community organisations participate actively		UNDP	1.1. Establish institutional mechanisms through which communities and community	1.1.1. Map out modalities and experiences from various countries in participatory planning procedures		10,000			10,000
participate actively in local governance processes		UNDP UNICEF		1.1.2. Support the functioning of the integrated planning committee at the DDC level and establish similar body at the VDC level by establishment of rules and procedures - UNICEF will continue to support the functioning of integrated planning committees at both the DDC and VDC level through the processes outlined below		30,000	30,000	22,500	82,500
		UNDP		1.1.3. Roll out and dissemination of procedures on 1.1.2.		10,000			10,000
		UNFPA		1.1.4. Operationalise a mechanism for bottom-up-planning with the involvement of target audience on RH & GE/SI	3,000	38,437	38,437		79,874
		UNFPA		1.1.5. Provide technical assistance to DDC on sector devolution in a phased manner covering 18 districts by 2010		306,000	306,000		612,000
		UNFPA		1.1.6. Establish and operationalise a mechanism for social/public audit on RH needs and rights by the community.		3,000			3,000
		UNICEF		1.1.7. Support the review and planning meetings of the DDC and VDC					
		UNDP UNICEF	1.2. Strengthen the capacity of communities and community	1.2.1 Develop a strategy for SM (UNICEF will contribute to the development of this strategy)		5,000			5,000
		UNDP	organisations to participate in the local	1.2.2. Map out DDC/VDCs according to degree of mobilisation		5,000			5,000

UNV funding is included in UNDP funding for SM Outcome A budget summary

UN Agency	Output 1	Output 2	Total \$
UNICEF	2,823,496	8,976,614	11,800,110
UNFPA	837,170	440,000	1,277,170
UNDP	952,500	-	952,500
UNCDF	_	-	-
UNV	510,000	-	510,000
Total	5,123,166	9,416,614	14,539,780

LGCDP Outcome B. Increased capacity of local governments to manage resources and deliver basic services in an inclusive and equitable manner. *NB – distinction between provision (finance, oversee, etc.) and production (implement) LGCDP Outputs Participating UN Particip Indicative activities for Sub-activities Resource allocation and indicative time organizationating each Output frame* (Give specific Outputs UN correspondi organiz ation ng 2008 2009 2010 2011 Total indicators and baselines) UNCDF 30,000 10.000 40.000 Local governments 3.1. Provide formula and 3.1.1. Provide technical assistance to gain access to UNICEF performance based develop formula- and greater fiscal (MC/PM) block grants to performance-based block resources in **DDCs** equitable and (UNICEF will provide technical appropriate ways assistance on child sensitive indicators for PM at all levels) UNFPA As per As per 3.2.1. Provide matching grants to As per MoU with MoU with MoU with DDCs on RH related DDC DDC DDC programmes 3.3. Provide formula and 3.3.1. Provide technical assistance to 30,000 30,000 60,000 UNCDF performance based develop formula- and (MC) block grants to performance-based block **VDCs** grants 144,000 372,000 UNFPA 84,000 144,000 3.4.1. Provide matching grants to selected VDCs of 10 most disadvantaged districts (selection based on DAG mapping) UNICEF 3.5.1. - Provide technical assistance on the development of child sensitive and child friendly indicators for PM. This will build on the indicators identified under the child friendly local governance initiative (CFLG). - Support the provision of equity funds for Disadvantaged communities and the fulfilment of their demands identified as part of the Community Action Process (CAP) 3.6. Provide formula and 3.6.1. Provide technical assistance to 70.000 **UNCDF** 30.000 40.000 performance based develop formula- and (MC/PM) block grants to performance-based block non metropolitan grants municipalities 3.7. Support to development 4 of the metropolitan and sub-metropolitan municipalities funding

Outcome B budget summary

UN Agency	Output 3	Output 4	Output 5	Total \$
UNICEF	2,274,720	6,601,735	1,421,700	10,298,155
UNFPA	398,200	800,000	8,265,347	9,463,547
UNDP	100,000	2,517,000	-	2,617,000
UNCDF	1,200,000	50,000	3,890,000	5,140,000
UNV	-	-	1	-
Total	3,972,920	9,968,735	13,577,047	27,518,702

LGCDP Outcome C. Strengthened policy and national institutional framework for devolution and local self-governance. **LGCDP Outputs** Participating UN Indicative activities for Particip Sub-activities Resource allocation and indicative time organizationating each Output frame* specific Outputs UN (Give organiz correspondi ation 2008 2009 2010 2011 Total indicators and baselines) Provide technical 200.000 200.000 500.000 UNCDF 17.1.Review decentralisation 17.1.1. 100.000 17. Policy framework 21.356 53.387 for decentralisation UNFPA and sector devolution assistance and support for 10.678 21.353 policy and operational promoted a more policy guidelines development enabling (studies, consultancies environment for workshops, study tours, etc.) effective. transparent and accountable local UNICEF 19.1.1. governance - Support the Development of a National Framework on Child Friendly Local Governance (CFLG) - Support CFLG initiatives in the selected pilot districts, municipalities and VDCs 19.2.Establish Provide support for the UNICEF 19.2.1. decentralisation SWAp development of a SWAp on decentralization 19.3.Prepare more effective 19.3.1. Review existing policies UNICEF policy environment for and programme experiences "demand" side of local through sharing DACAW/CAP experiences and analysis of governance strengths and future opportunities 19.3.2. Mainstream DACAW-CYP/ UNICEF CAP/social mobilisation & COs experiences and good practices 19.4. Prepare improved 19.4.1. Support GoN in 10,000 60,000 60,000 130,000 UNFPA staffing policies for local developing tools and skills for the operationalisation of governments UNSCR 1325 in developing planning at the central level for gender and womens' protection and reintegration 42,000 102,000 UNFPA Selection/Training of 18,000 42,000 19.5.1. GE/SI focal person 25.000 72.000 Support for the 22.000 25.000 **UNFPA** 19.6.1. implementation of 33% 6 representation for women in all state bodies (coaching classes) 19.7. Prepare National 15,000 50.000 **UNCDF** 35.000 19.7.1. Provide technical Capacity Development assistance for revising CD

Outcome C budget summary

UN Agency	Output 6	Output 7	Output 8	Total \$
UNICEF	4,275,353	2,226,382	•	6,501,735
UNFPA	639,387	128,000	8,000	775,387
UNDP	100,000	2,100,000	825,000	3,025,000
UNCDF	550,000	150,000	692,000	1,392,000
UNV	-	-	1	-
Total	5,564,740	4,604,382	1,525,000	11,694,122

LGCDP JOINT PRO	LGCDP JOINT PROGRAMME: ALL AGENCY BUDGET INPUTS					
UNICEF	Programme Cost (\$ 000s)					
	Indirect Support Cost (\$ 000s)					
UNFPA	Programme Cost (\$ 000s)					
	Indirect Support Cost (\$ 000s)					
UNDP	Programme Cost (\$ 000s)					
	Indirect Support Cost (\$ 000s)					
UNCDF	Programme Cost (\$ 000s)					
	Indirect Support Cost (\$ 000s)					
UNV	Programme Cost (\$ 000s)					
	Indirect Support Cost (\$ 000s)					
Total	Programme Cost					
	Indirect Support Cost					

Total:

UN Agency	Outcome A	Outcome B	Outcome C	Total
UNICEF	11,800,110	10,298,155	6,501,735	28,600,000
UNFPA	1,277,170	9,463,547	775,387	11,516,104
UNDP	952,500	2,617,000	3,025,000	6,594,500
UNCDF	0	5,140,000	1,392,000	6,532,000

UNV	510,000	0	0	510,000
Total	14,539,780	27,518,702	11,694,122	53,752,604

Funding gaps by agency

UN Agency	Total JP budget	Total available resources	Total funding gap
UNICEF	28,600,000	13,900,000	14,700,000
UNFPA	11,516,104	9,159,658	2,356,446
UNDP	6,594,500	4,700,000	1,894,500
UNCDF	6,532,000	2,250,000	4,282,000
UNV	510,000	510,000	1
	53,752,604	30,519,658	23,232,946