External Final Evaluation

Youth Engage Project
Multi-stakeholders Collaboration in Reducing Youth Engagement in Violence

Final Report

Submitted to:
Search for Common Ground (SFCG)
293/2, Nursery Marg, Lazimpat, Kathmandu, Nepal

Submitted by:
Bibhuti Bista

September 8, 2016

Search for
Common Ground

Table of Contents

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

APEC   All People's Empowerment Centre
AYON   Association of Youth Organisations Nepal
CCO   Cross-Cutting Objective
CCO   Cross-Cutting Objective
CLS   Civic Leadership Schools
CPA   Comprehensive Peace Accord
CSOs   Civic Society Organizations
DDC   District Development Committee
FGDs   Focus Group Discussions
IDIs   In-depth Interviews
IRIN   Integrated Regional Information Networks
KIIs   Key Informant Interviews
LEY   Leaders Engaging Youth
LGBT   Lesbian Gay Bi-sexual and Third gender
NW   New World
SFCG   Search for Common Ground
SO 1   Specific Objective One
SO2   Specific Objective Two
SO3   Specific Objective Three
ToR   Terms of Reference
VDCs   Village Development Committees
YE   Youth Engage
YI   Youth Initiative

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Youth Engage: *Multi-stakeholder Collaboration in Reducing Youth Engagement in Violence* (YE) project was implemented in eight districts in the Eastern and Central Terai: Sunsari, Morang, Saptari, Siraha, Dhanusha, Mahottari, Sarlahi, and Rautahat. Search for Common Ground (SFCG) Nepal, along with consortium members: All People's Empowerment Centre (APEC), Youth Initiative (YI), Association of Youth Organisations Nepal (AYON), and New World (NW), implemented a series of activities during the period from the 9th of December 2014 to the 8th of December 2016.

The project had three Specific Objectives (SOs), and one Cross Cutting Objective (CCO), five Expected Results (ERs), and 9 major activities of the project. The target groups were influential youth from the district, representatives from Civic Society Organizations (CSOs), members of the security forces, representatives of government agencies, and local political leaders.

This evaluation was carried out by an external consultant using a participatory approach and systematic methods to ensure full participation of target groups/members and key stakeholders in the evaluation process.

During the **desk/literature review**, all related documents were collected from Search for Common Ground (SFCG). The output of the review was used as input for the development of evaluation tools, and for context analysis. Similarly, **Evaluation tools** were developed as per the findings of the desk review, and requirements outlined in the Terms of Reference (ToR). Qualitative questions/discussion guidelines were developed that directly focused on the specific objectives and expected results-wise indicators. For the assignment, a purposive sampling method was chosen to decide the **sample size** 62.5% (5 out of 8 districts) of the target project district. Civic Leadership School (CLS), Leaders Engaging Youth (LEY), and Dialogue participants were taken as respondents during the evaluation. Other representatives were chosen from implementing partner organizations, and SFCG's team was also involved as sources of data and key respondents.

For **data collection**, the external evaluator applied qualitative methods, supported by quantitative secondary data from the baseline and end-line surveys. Information was collected from the key stakeholders, such as representatives from the police, the government, and target groups (youth) through seven Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and 18 Key Informant Interviews (KIIs). Out of the 66 respondents, there were 47 men and 19 women. The respondents in the FGDs were both men and women in Dhanusha, Sarlahi, Morang, and homogenous (only men) in Siraha. The respondents were from various ethnic backgrounds, such as Madhesi, Janajati, Muslims, Brahmin, and Chhetri. Similarly, eight In-depth Interviews (IDIs) were carried out with eight (all men) field staff of SFCG and their partners' staff who were involved in the project. Field observation was also carried out to observe the activities implemented under the seed grants and youth involvement in various activities. In addition, secondary data was collected from existing reports, and baseline and end-line survey reports.

Once the data and information were collected, all the information collected from various sources and levels were objectively **analyzed** and thematically interpreted as mentioned in the Terms of Reference (ToR), and feedback received from the SFCG team. Data obtained from baseline and the end-line survey were analyzed in accordance with the target versus achievement.

Based on the outputs of the analysis, a draft **evaluation report** was prepared and submitted to Search for Common Ground's (SFCG) team for their comments and suggestions on August the 15th. The report was finalized by incorporating all the feedback and suggestions received on September the 7th, 2016, from the SFCG team.

The major *limitation* that the evaluation encountered in the process of this final evaluation was that the project manager responsible for the implementation of the YE project was no longer working with SFCG during the time of evaluation. Therefore, the consultant had to rely on two field-based project staff and had to contact team members (field coordinators) of the implementing partner organizations.

Major Findings

Relevance/Appropriateness: When the project was implemented in the central and eastern Tarai region, many of the youth were involved in, and affected by, organized violence, unintended violence, and bandhs/strikes. As mentioned in the National Youth Policy (2010)[1], the project initiated arrangements, like cooperative action to discourage the involvement of the youth in crime, violence, illegal, and unsocial activities. There was a lack of trust between the youth and civic societies and the youth and government agencies. To establish trust, the project provided a common space for all to discuss, identify and prioritize issues. The YE project filled the crucial programming gap for youth needs (for example identification of issues, collaborative approaches, engaging the youth in leadership) while complementing the European Union's (EU's) existing support for stability and peacebuilding in Nepal.

The relevance of the project is also reflected in programs that focus on emphasis freeing the youth from involvement in crime and violence. Activities, like LEY, CLS, and dialogue are some examples of discouraging youth involvement in crime and violence and capacitate them to become involved in peace and development. The project also incorporated meaningful participation in peace and security, investing in youth socio-economic development, as highlighted in the Amman Youth Declaration[2]. Similarly, the appropriateness was observed when not only youth from diverse backgrounds were included, but space was also provided for the participation of the third gender (Sarlahi and Morang).

Program Effectiveness: To reduce youth engagement in organized violence, it is important to strengthen the capacity of civil society, the police, local government agencies, and influential youth and local leaders. In the target districts, 528 participants were targeted for training and workshop on CLS and LEY, and a total of 600 targeted individuals participated in the training and workshops. This was because of the content of the training and workshops and the participatory approach of the project.

Furthermore, 69% of the training participants (the target was 33%) have been applying the knowledge and skills received through the training to design and implement cooperative action. Similarly, 36% of the youth (the target was 24%) were engaged constructively in implementing collaborative activities. Some of the examples of collaborative activities are, the placement of hoarding board with messages on the negative impact of drug use, awareness raising activities on various issues at the community level, and local schools and colleges. To add more on this, a total of 36 collaborative activities (24 supported by seed grants and 12 on their own) were implemented by the youth. This could be taken as an example of the constructive engagement of youth.

The engagement of the youth participants of Civic Leadership Schools (CLS) and Leaders Engaging Youth (LEY) during the Tarai unrest as a watchdog in collaboration with the Human Rights Commission, the police, and Local Peace Committees (LPCs), is an example of how the youth are involved in peacebuilding activities. Furthermore, a clear understanding on how conflict can be solved was demonstrated by CLS and non-CLS participants. A radio drama played

---

[1] http://www.youthpolicy.org/national/Nepal_2010_National_Youth_Policy.pdf (retrieved on September 7, 2016)
[2] http://www.un.org/youthenvoy/2015/08/amman-youth-declaration-adopted-global-forum-youth-peace-security/ (retrieved on September 7, 2016)

an important role in the positive shift in the behavior of media professionals, local leaders, women, and other stakeholders, including community members, towards the youth role in peacebuilding and development. Multi-stakeholder dialogue provided a common ground where youths from all backgrounds, crossing the dividing lines of caste, ethnicity, gender, and so on, participated. Interaction with the youth and other stakeholders suggested that their level of trust in each other has increased after the series of dialogue. The current findings show that the level of trust has increased up to 80% between the youth and other stakeholders. The youth were invited to attend different programs in the VDC and district levels by stakeholders, and information sharing with the youth is one of the examples of increased trust.

Based on the progress from the baseline to final evaluation (in the log-frame), achievements were more significant that initially targeted. There was only one case where only 36 (targeted 40) collaborative activities were implemented by the youth and other stakeholders. The main reason for not meeting the target of collaborative activities was due to the Tarai unrest.

Peace Effectiveness: Apart from youth involvement in violence and crime, their involvement in development work and peacebuilding has also been observed in the project districts. Stakeholders and the youth have worked cooperatively (dialogue, football clinics, cooperative action, to mention a few) to prevent youth engagement in violence. There has been improved relationships and cooperation among the youth from across dividing lines and local police, leaders, and civil society organizations to address the causes of youth engagement in violence and promote civic engagement.

There has been a shift in public attitudes concerning the youth, and an increased realization that they can play important and constructive roles in peacebuilding. In all districts, the respondents mentioned that there have been changes in community perceptions that the youth are only involved in violence. Youth involvement was observed in contingency relief distribution to victims of floods and earthquake affected areas. In all districts during the Madhesh unrest, CLS participants actively engaged with civic societies and Human Rights based organizations, which contributed to peacebuilding without involving violence.

Implementation Process: Search for Common Ground (SFCG) implemented the project through a consortium of partners under one project framework for the first time. Each having their own expertise drew on their existing strengths and initiatives to work to implement the project. SFCG and their partners coordinated regularly, and very closely, for the implementation of the project activities. For the implementation of the project, a clear work plan was developed with specific roles for each of the partners. The Consortium implemented the project activities through the combined efforts of cooperative action (seed grants), learned from one another through dialogue and capacity building (CLS and LEY), and avoided duplication of isolated efforts as mentioned in the proposal.

The partners, together with SFCG, managed the project activities and coordinated with other stakeholders in the districts to maximize the impact of the project. The project was managed by a project manager, based in SFCG Kathmandu. While in the districts the partner organizations mobilized coordinators to coordinate and implement the activities. Similarly, district coordinators were also mobilized by SFCG in Dhanusha (Dhanusha, Mahottari, Sarlahi, and Rauthat) and Siraha (Siraha, Saptari, and Morang). It was found that the monthly monitoring of all outputs to ensure their reliability and variability was undertaken. Pre- and post-training surveys were undertaken to measure changes and case studies were developed for remarkable outcomes.

Sustainability:

- A number of collaborative approaches, training, workshops, and dialogue were organised. These training and workshops provided ample opportunities for both the youth and other stakeholders. This has increased the confidence of the youth in the stakeholders and *vis-a-vis* develop plans. The Youth District Action Plan (YDAP) is one of the important documents developed, which consists of plans on how the youth could be involved in various district level activities, together with the other stakeholders. For the sustainability of the activities in the plan, it was shared that the plan will be handed over to the District Development Committee (DDC) office through the District Project Advisory Committee (DPAC) meetings. As the project is phased out, DPAC meetings will not take place and the consortium has not developed any strategies to incorporate it into their plans.

- The football clinic has also contributed to motivating the youth to take initiatives for collaboration with the police. Therefore, in addition to changing negative perceptions of the youth towards the police, the clinic has also played a bridging role between the youth and the police in fostering peace and security in the future. This collaboration appears to be sustainable over time.

- The Youth task force in Morang is planning to establish a Youth Human Rights Network and focus on activities related to human rights issues affecting the youth. However, there is no concrete plan on how this will be achieved and supporting mechanisms are not identified yet This is a concern as the project is phased out, and it is uncertain how the project implementing partners will support the task force in the days to come.

- The youth task forces, which were formed during the dialogues, are loose forums of the youth. In Morang, Siraha, and Dhanusha the members are planning to register as a youth network; however, they are not certain whether to register or not. Different stipulations are there on the pros and cons of being registered. For example, if registered as a network, the status of the task force will be that of an NGO, and if working in a loose form, they will have fewer possibilities of getting funding and sustaining the task force. However, in the case of Sarlahi, the task force has been merged with an existing youth network of Sarlahi. Whereas in Mahottari there is already a youth network and it is not clear how the task force and youth network will work together in the future.

- The youth task force of Sarlahi requested UNFPA to support a 14-step planning process, and a total budget of NPR 500,000.00 was released to the DDC, but the amount was frozen due to the Tarai unrest. The budget has now been released and three days of training on the 14-step planning process was organized. Furthermore, it was shared that the training provided insights on how to reach the planning process of the government and request support. This suggests that the youth will submit their demands every year through this process.

- The National Youth Forum passed an 18-point declaration, which it tried to reach out to the youth across the nation and address their common voice to enhance their own capacity, and lead the process of development. However, in the project districts visited, planning on implementing the declaration is not yet developed. It is a concern of some respondents how the points mentioned in the declaration will be achieved and sustained in the long run.

Conclusions: The evaluator came to the conclusion that this project was successful and effective in meeting the objectives. Achievements were made as per the log-frame and there were some visible impacts in the project districts. To sum up, the project and its activities were appreciated by the beneficiaries and satisfactory coordination was demonstrated by all involved.

Lesson learned:

- Working in collaboration results in higher achievements. The consortium formed for implementation of the activities is an example of the collaborative approach. The YE Consortium draws on existing strengths and initiatives of each of the partners and brings them together under one project framework.

- The diversity of methods and themes must be introduced and increased when working with the youth. The YE project introduced CLS, LEY training, and workshop. Involved the youth and police in football clinics, and a common platform for the youth and stakeholders resulted in collaborative approaches.

- One of the gaps identified was the inefficiency in team mobilization and planning. There was a provision of coordinators at the local level and the task of project managers was to effectively mobilize the team and supervise the project activities. Frequent movement of project managers in all activities is not required. This hinders the implementation of the activities that could be organized in parallel.

- Three major issues of the youth were identified in the YE project. However, the institutionalization of those issues did not take place as the project phased out. In the future, such important outcomes could be incorporated in other ongoing programs of the partners and even in SFCG's projects.

- Another important aspect, that demonstrates the quality of the project design, is the exit plan. It is essential to have an exit plan; however, it was not evident in the YE project. During the project development phase, such plans should be developed. Exit plans explicitly articulate the required steps to be taken during the phase-out stage of the project.

- The project claims that the policy level sustainability will be established by creating long-lasting policy improvements beyond the project. Furthermore, this will address issues of youth recourse to violence at the individual, community, district, and national levels. However, the issues identified are not established at the institutional level of government agencies and as the project phased out there is very little possibility of the government recognizing the issues.

Recommendations:

- Civic Leadership Schools (CLS), Leaders Engaging Youth (LEY) and dialogue are diverse and effective methods in engaging the youth with other stakeholders. It is recommended to SFCG and their partner organizations to adopt these methods in new projects while working with the youth.

- It is important to have an exit strategy for the project. It is strongly recommended that SFCG should develop exit strategies, and these strategies should be reviewed in a timely manner by both SFCG and the implementing partners.

- Various issues were identified after the dialogues; however, as the project phased out these issues remained unaddressed by the civic societies and government agencies represented in the dialogues. The identified issues are directly related to the youth, and the involvement of civil society members and government agencies were there to make efforts in identifying the issues. Further efforts need to be made by the partners to address the issues and incorporate them into their new project or existing projects.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Context Analysis

According to Nepal's 2011 Census, there are 7.37 million (27.8% of the total Population) youth aged from 15 to 29.[3] The 1996-2006 Maoist armed conflict in Nepal adversely affected education, livelihoods, family care, survival, protection, and well-being of the youth in Nepal[4], particularly those from marginalized communities. The youth were both victims and actors during the Maoist insurgency as considerable numbers were recruited by the then CPN-Maoist, either forcefully or willingly[5]. The decade-long insurgency and counter-insurgency operations made the life of the youth very difficult. Not only the Maoist, but the state security forces perpetrated indiscriminate human rights violations against the youth. During that time, many of the youth from the hills fled their villages because of the fear of being caught in the fight between the Maoists and the state security forces[6]. Ten years after the Maoist war ended and the Comprehensive Peace Accords (CPA) were signed in 2006, the country's formal peace process reached its conclusion with the declaration of a new constitution in September 2015. However, given the vocal, violent, and ongoing protests in the Terai, it is clear that the informal peace processes will need to continue.

Late in 2015 and early 2016, saw a deterioration of the trust in the government and security in the Tarai, with Madheshi and Tharu groups, many of whom were young men, protesting the lack of desired inclusion in the new constitution[7]. Despite their noteworthy role in the decade-long armed conflict, launched by the Maoists, the democracy movement of 2006, and the Madhes Movement of 2007, the youth are largely marginalized from the current transition phase, which is driving many to join the youth wings of the political parties (Young Communist League, Youth Force, Madhesi Youth Forum, among others) and various armed groups. The survey report (SFCG 2014)[8] highlighted that the types of violence and criminal activities that involve the youth of Nepal, include trafficking or abuse of drugs and alcohol; public offences; larceny; robbery; sexual assault; domestic violence; homicide or attempt thereof; production, possession and use of sharp instruments, small arms or explosives; battery and assault; kidnapping; hate crimes; gang violence; and political anarchy.

In recent years there have been some positive steps by the Government to address youth concerns. The National Youth Policy 2010 identifies the youth as the backbone of the nation and recognizes that it is necessary to address the overall development of the youth and include their capacity in the mainstream of national development. Various international and national youth-led organizations are supporting youth participation in peacebuilding efforts, particularly at the community and district levels. Efforts include: youths' role in preventing different forms of violence (structural, cultural, and direct violence); Building youths' skills in conflict analysis, peacebuilding, non-violent communication and leadership; youth participation in radio programmes about peacebuilding and other media peacebuilding initiatives; using sport to promote peace (for example, between youths from different ethnic groups); Strengthening livelihood and income generation opportunities for the youth (including the youth who were

---

[3] Government of Nepal CBS (November 2012) National Population and Housing Census, 2011
[4] Save the Children Norway (2008) Global Report: Adults War and Young Generations Peace: Children's Participation in Armed Conflict, Post Conflict and Peace Building; Mulmi, R. (September 2009) Where are the Youth in Nepal's Post Conflict Peacebuilding Process. Masters of Arts Dissertation: Institute of Development Studies.
[5] Gupta, P., Kumar, R. and Katwal, S. (2011) National Youth Policy, 2010: Evolution, Definition and Implementation
[6] Thapa, Mohan. (2007) From conflict to peace: the role of young people in recreating Nepal
[7] Peskin, Amanda. Bista, Bibhuti, and Sapkota, Anuja, (2016) Youth as Contributors to Peaceful and Sustainable Development in Nepal, Inception Report, and United Nations Peace Fund for Nepal.
[8] SFCG (2014) Status of Youth in violence in eastern and central Terai.

affected by conflict or formerly associated with armed groups); and supporting youth participation in Constitutional development processes, policy developments, local and national governance processes that concern them.

Increased efforts are needed to sensitize adults (government officials, politicians, policy makers, community and religious elders, and parents) regarding the value of children and youth participation in peacebuilding, and the benefits of inter-generational dialogue and partnerships for peacebuilding.[9] The survey on Youth Engagement by SFCG, conducted in 8 districts of central and eastern Tarai highlighted that the perception of 66% of respondents believe that young people are not contributing to their communities. 10% of young people within the community are perceived to be involved in detrimental activities. Similarly, greater efforts are needed by the youth and adults to undertake conflict analysis and to develop peacebuilding programs that build upon such analysis and have a clear theory of change[10]. Many of the youth involved in peacebuilding have undergone significant personal changes and imbibed the value of non-violence. Factors such as mediation and dialogue helped to facilitate larger and more accepted roles for the youth in their communities. However, structural and cultural changes have not been as significant, especially for young women *(ibid)*.

Factors that influence whether the youth chose peace over violence have been identified. For example, the youth who opt for violence tend to lack opportunities for political engagement and have inadequate access to public services and livelihood opportunities. In contrast, "threshold conditions for peacebuilding" include opportunities for the youth to have social ties to their communities; be part of "constituencies for peace"; actively engage in political processes and decision-making processes; address discrimination and to build individual confidence and self-esteem, and have access to employment[11]. The types of violence and criminal activities that involve the youth of Nepal include trafficking or abuse of drugs and alcohol; public offences; larceny; robbery; sexual assault; domestic violence; homicide or attempt thereof; possession and use of sharp instruments and small arms or explosives; battery and assault; kidnapping; hate crimes; gang violence; and political anarchy. The positive outcomes of youth peacebuilding programs include increased knowledge and awareness of peacebuilding and human rights; prevention or reduction of discrimination among groups; reduced early marriages, decreased violence and scolding of children; and increased social support to vulnerable groups, among the many other benefits[12].

Thus, it is crucial that the youth are consulted and are meaningfully engaged in peace processes, good governance endeavors, and understanding conflict dynamics. The root causes of violent conflict including inequality, discrimination, poverty, and unemployment, need to be better addressed, and the youth need to be recognized and engaged as positive agents of change.

---

[9] Save the Children Norway (2008) Global Report: Adults War and Young Generations Peace: Children's Participation in Armed Conflict, Post Conflict and Peace Building; Search for Common Ground (January 2012) Youth and Peacebuilding in Nepal: Current Context and Recommendations.
[10] Care (January 2012) Theories of Change in Peacebuilding: Learning from the Experiences of Peacebuilding Initiatives in Nepal.
[11] Search for Common Ground (January 2012) Youth and Peacebuilding in Nepal: Current Context and Recommendations.
[12] Bista, Bibhuti and O'Kane, Claire. (2015). Evaluation of Child and Youth Participation in Peacebuilding: Nepal. Kathmandu: Global Partnership for Children & Youth in Peacebuilding.

1.2   Youth Engage Project: An Overview

Search for Common Ground (SFCG) Nepal, along with consortium members: All People's Empowerment Centre (APEC), Youth Initiative (YI), Association of Youth Organisations Nepal (AYON), and New World (NW) implemented a project 'Youth Engage: Multi-stakeholders Collaboration in Reducing Youth Engagement in Violence' (YE)" from the 9th of December 2014 to the 8th of December 2016. The overall goal of the project was to reduce youth engagement in organized violence by mobilizing youth-led organizations, civil society actors, multi-stakeholders, and state institutions to promote the constructive role of the youth in promoting peace and stability. The project was implemented in eight districts in the Eastern and Central Terai: Sunsari, Morang, Saptari, Siraha, Dhanusha, Mahottari, Sarlahi, and Rautahat.

The project has three Specific Objectives (SOs), one Cross Cutting Objective (CCO), four Expected Results (ERs), and 9 major activities.

Following were the target groups of the project

- Influential youth: aged from 15 to 29; those engaged in armed groups; youth and student wings of political parties and ethnic/cast-based interest groups; and youth-led groups;
- Civil society organizations: working with children/youth, and youth journalists in target districts;
- Security forces: including the Nepal Police in 8 districts; and
- Local Leaders: district level political leaders, and government officials.

2. EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

This evaluation was carried out by an external consultant using a participatory approach to ensure full participation of target groups/members and key stakeholders in the evaluation process: a desk/literature review, data collection, data analysis and report writing. The final evaluation primarily used qualitative methods of evaluation; however, some quantitative data was also used to compare results from the baseline and end-line survey.

During the **desk/literature review**, all related documents were collected from Search for Common Ground (SFCG). The output of the review was used as input for the development of evaluation tools, and for context analysis. Similarly, **Evaluation tools** were developed as per the findings of the desk review, and requirements outlined in the Terms of Reference (ToR). Qualitative questions/discussion guidelines were developed that directly focused on the specific objectives and expected results-wise indicators. For the assignment, a purposive sampling method was chosen to decide **sample size** 62.5% (5 out of 8 districts) of the target project district. Civic Leadership Schools (CLS), Leaders Engaging Youth (LEY) and Dialogue participants were taken as respondents during the evaluation. Other representatives were chosen from implementing partner organizations, and SFCG's team was also involved as sources of data and key respondents.

For **data collection**, the external evaluator applied qualitative methods, supported by quantitative secondary data from the baseline and end-line surveys. Information was collected from the key stakeholders, such as representatives from the police, the government, and target groups (youth) through seven Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and 18 Key Informant Interviews (KIIs). Out of the 66 respondents, there were 47 men and 19 women. The respondents in the FGDs were both men and women in Dhanusha, Sarlahi, Morang and homogenous (only men) in Siraha.

The respondents were from various ethnic backgrounds like Madhesi, Janajati, Muslims, Brahmin, and Chhetri. Similarly, eight In-depth Interviews (IDIs) was carried out with eight (all men) field staff of SFCG and their partners' staff involved in the project. Field observation was also carried out to observe the activities implemented under the seed grants and youth involvement in various activities. In addition, secondary data was collected from existing reports and baseline and end-line survey reports.

Once the data and information were collected, all the information collected from various sources and levels were objectively **analyzed** and thematically interpreted as mentioned in the Terms of Reference (ToR) and feedback received from the SFCG team. The data obtained from the baseline and end-line surveys were analyzed in accordance with the target versus achievements.

Based on the outputs of the analysis, a draft **evaluation report** was prepared and submitted to Search for Common Ground's (SFCG) team for their comments and suggestions on August the 15th. The report was finalized by incorporating all the feedback and suggestions received on September the 7th, 2016, from the SFCG team.

The major **limitation** that the evaluation encountered in the process of this final evaluation was that the project manager responsible for the implementation of the YE project was no longer working with SFCG during the time of the evaluation. Therefore, the consultant had to rely on two field-based project staff and had to contact team members (field coordinators) of implementing partner organizations.

3. EVALUATION FINDINGS

This chapter describes the Youth Engage (YE) project's major successes and shortcomings in each of the key result areas listed in the ToR. A list of participants of the evaluation is presented in Annex 3. Furthermore, the discussion guidelines and summary responses are presented in Annex 4, and activities-wise results/achievements are given in Annex 5.

A summary of a total number of stakeholders and beneficiaries interviewed during Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), and In-depth Interviews (IDIs) are presented in the following Table.

Respondents from	Number of Respondents			Ethnicity
	Male	female	Third Gender[13]	
Dhanusha	11	3	-	Janajati, Brahmin and Madheshi,
Mahottari	4	-	-	Madhesi and Muslim
Sarlahi	6	4	1	Muslim, Madhesi, Brahmin, and Chhetri
Siraha	13	1	-	Madhesi, Chhetri, Janajati, and Brahmin
Morang	19	11	1	Janajati, Brahmin and Madheshi,
Total	**55**	**19**	**2**	

Source: Field Visit, July 2016

The total Number of Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) was seven with 48 participants, 18 Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) with 18 participants and eight In-Depth Interviews (IDIs) with eight participants. The total number of respondents for this assignment was 74.

The final evaluation attempted to assess the relevance/appropriateness, program effectiveness, peace effectiveness, implementation process, and sustainability of the project. The evaluation criteria-wise analyses and findings are presented in the following sections:

3.1   Relevance/Appropriateness

When the project was implemented in the Central and Eastern Terai region, many of the youth were involved in and affected by, organized violence. According to the respondents of FGDs, some of the youth involved in the activities (CLS, LEY) of the projects were involved in armed groups as well as organized violence. Some of the factors that made the youth become involved in violence were unemployment, lack of education, personal disputes, and bad company to mention a few. In the project implemented districts, the largest affected groups from violence were students, the general community (middle/poor class families), and laborers and businessmen.

As mentioned in the National Youth Policy (2010)[14], the project initiated arrangements, like cooperative actions to discourage the involvement of the youth in crime, violence, illegal and anti-social activities. It was also shared by most of the respondents during FGDs and KIIs, that when the project was implemented there was a lack of trust between the youth and civic

---

[13] "Third gender" in Nepal was described as biological males who identify with feminine gender identity or for biological females who identify with masculine attributes. The Nepali Supreme Court stated that the criteria for identifying as "third gender" were based upon the individual's self-identification.
Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LGBT_rights_in_Nepal#Third_gender_rights (retrieved on August 27, 2016)

[14] http://www.youthpolicy.org/national/Nepal_2010_National_Youth_Policy.pdf (retrieved on September 7, 2016)

societies and the youth and government agencies. To establish trust, the project provided a common space for all to discuss, identify and prioritize issues. Based on these, the external evaluator finds the objective of the project to be relevant and appropriate. To meet the overall goal, the project integrated three entities (the youth, civil societies, and state institutions) and promoted the constructive role of the youth in encouraging peace and stability. While there are multiple initiatives in Nepal working to promote the role of children and youth in peacebuilding, few have been able to directly work with the vulnerable youth in the Central and Eastern Terai. The YE project filled the crucial programming gap for youth needs (for example, identification of issues, collaborative approaches, engaging the youth in leadership) while complementing the European Union's (EU's) existing support for stability and peacebuilding in Nepal.

The appropriateness of the project was clearly observed as it not only brought the youth from diverse backgrounds but also provided space for the participation of the third gender (Sarlahi and Morang) in training and workshops. They used to be involved in Lesbian Gay Bi-sexual and Third gender (LGBT) circles only, and the project provided opportunities for their representation in the youth task force.

> *"We received the opportunity to be included on a platform of diverse people participation, we have not received such opportunities in the past";* mentioned Balaram, from the Blue Diamond Society, Morang.

The relevance of the project is also reflected through programs where the emphasis was given to freeing the youth from involvement in crime and violence. Activities like LEY, CLS, and dialogues are some examples of discouraging youth involvement in crime and violence and capacitate them to become involved in peace and development. The project also incorporated meaningful participation around peace and security, investing in youth socio-economic development as highlighted in the Amman Youth Declaration[15]. Similarly, appropriateness was observed when not only youth from diverse backgrounds were included, but space was also provided for the participation of the third gender (Sarlahi and Morang).

Interaction with stakeholders also revealed that the project was relevant considering the focus was on the youth. The project focused on the challenges the youth face and opportunities for the youth and other stakeholders.

> According to the Bachha Lal Yadav of UNFPA in Malangawa, *"there was no specific youth-focused program in the district. Sensitisation of the youth and connecting youth with other stakeholders was done by the project".*
>
> According to the Sambhu Katwal, Inspector AFP Nagrain VDC of Dhanusha; *"the relevance of the project is reflected through the support in understanding the challenges faced by the youth in the district".*
>
> *"A common platform provided for the youth and other stakeholders to identify the challenges faced by youth and explore the opportunities, together",* was highlighted by Jamuna Dahal of Morang District Sports Development Committee.

Few of the contextual factors that justify the relevance of the project are:

1. The project's relevance is reflected through the efforts like youths' role in preventing different forms of violence; Building youths' skills in peacebuilding, non-violent communication, and leadership; youth participation in radio programs about

---

[15] http://www.un.org/youthenvoy/2015/08/amman-youth-declaration-adopted-global-forum-youth-peace-security/ (retrieved on September 7, 2016)

peacebuilding and other media peacebuilding initiatives; using sport to promote peace to mention a few.

2. The nature of violence is changing as the youth are either unemployed, in education, or working abroad, but there is a need for appropriate interventions that will help the nation maintain a positive trend among the youth.

3. It also highlights that the eastern and central Terai, as well as the eastern hills and far western Terai, continue to be the most unstable and vulnerable to violence.[16]

4. The National Youth Policy 2010 identifies the youth as the backbone of the nation and recognizes that it is necessary to address the overall development of the youth and include their capacity in the mainstream of national development.

3.2   Programme Effectiveness

The following analysis provides an overview of the findings concerning what extent the targeted objectives (overall, specific, and cross-cutting) have been achieved or not achieved, and the major factors influencing the achievement of the objectives.

To reduce youth engagement in organised violence, it is important to strengthen the capacity of civic society, the police, local government actors, and youth leaders. These play a major role, either in facilitating youth engagement in violence or peace.

According to the project manager: *"We usually invite the police, political leaders, and government officials to attend our meetings which give young people the chance to interact with them. This is an opportunity for all the concerned parties to get to know each other. It's a complaint when we hear from young people that they aren't taken seriously, so having these people listen to them and exchanging ideas is a boost to their confidence,"*. [17]

The Youth Engagement (YE) project adopted strategies and approaches to identify and analyze the key drivers that made the youth become involved in violence. The approaches and strategies were the involvement of key actors, including the youth themselves, in LEY, CLS training, workshops, and dialogue. These tailor-made strategies provided a common platform for the youth and other stakeholders. The following table provides an overview of the number of respondents who participated in capacity building training and workshops.

Participants	Planned	Achievement
Influential Youth	400	455
Civic Society Organizations	24	55
Police	80	60
Local leaders	24	30

Source: YE Project monitoring data

There was an increase in the number of the participants in training and workshops[18]. The Increased participation was mainly due to the nature of workshops, as it was unique in terms of its content and was highly participatory based. There were fewer participants than expected from the police and the reason was possibly the nature of their job and the Tarai unrest that took place.

---

[16] IRIN Asia "Nepal: Talks Crucial to Prevent Upsurge in Terai Violence – Rights Groups" October 2008, http://www.irinnews.org/report.aspx?ReportId=81024

[17] Derived from Educating the future leaders, August 11, 2015, My Republican

[18] Training and Workshops includes CLS (Civic Leadership School) and LEY (Leaders Engaging Youth).

Under the project, a five-day **Civic Leadership School (CLS)** workshop and two days of **Leaders Engaging Youth (LEY)** training were organized. The training and workshops provided ample opportunities to both the young people and other stakeholders to understand the issues affecting the youth, discuss what could be done, increase the confidence of the youth regarding stakeholders, and vice versa.

> Bechan Prasad Shah, Agriculture Technical Officer of Mahottari said; *"after the CLS and LEY training, there has been a change in the behavior of the youth. While compared to the earlier situation, they are not aggressive when coming to seek support from the agriculture office"*.
>
> *"Because of the training and workshop, we are able to understand the importance of intergenerational partnerships and the youth are one of the key players in supportive work"*, emphasized by Batuk Nath Jaha, a local journalist in Dhanusha.

The findings from final evaluation also revealed that one of the important outputs of the training and workshops was to increase the understanding and accountability of stakeholders towards the youth. Civic societies, NGOs, clubs, and the media are mediums that could provide opportunities for youth involvement in peace and development. Their presence at the local level and working together with the youth could result in reduced youth involvement in violence. It was rightly addressed in the proposal that the more the stakeholders are brought together for dialogue, the more their misperceptions about each other change.

> Krishna Kala Khadka, WCO, Dhanusha, *"together we need to work, change our existing concepts of who is big and small, and work on a common ground to reduce youth involvement in violence"*.
>
> *"Practical sessions supported us in understanding the role of the youth and other stakeholders to work for the development of the society and trust each other, and together we can prevent youth engagement in violence in our context"*, highlighted Suresh Kumar Yadav, YNPD Mahottari.
>
> Dev Kumar Mahato, OREC Dhanusha, *"preventing youth involvement in violence requires a decrease in the gap between youth and other stakeholders. The Project supported in decreasing the gap and increasing the understanding of the importance of youth"*.

According to the end-line survey findings, the effectiveness of the CLS and LEY, based on the difference between pre- and post-test, revealed that 53% of CLS participants agreed that through the training they not only enhanced their knowledge and skills but also became able to facilitate processes on collaborative leadership. The contribution of the project, in terms of the change, was the common approach of practical and highly interactive sessions.

> *"Because of the training, I understand the importance of leadership and personally got insights of how to materialize the role of a team leader to facilitate various processes where the youth and other stakeholders are involved"*, mentioned by Sangeeta Thapa, Marie Stops Morang.
>
> According to Yuresh Adhikari, CLS/LEY participant from Morang; *"after the training and workshops, we have tried to engage other youth as well. There are high, moderate and lower youth in terms of their engagement. The lower youth are less active and not interested in peace and development, we are and should encourage and work together to bring such youth to the front"*.

The following Table provides an overview of training participants applying knowledge and implementing collaborative activities.

Indicator Reference	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Achieved
Specific Objective Indicator 1.1	% of training participants who report applying the knowledge and skills from the training to design and implement cooperative actions.	NA	33%	69%
Specific Objective Indicator 1.2:	# of collaborative activities designed and implemented at a local level that engages youth constructively.	NA	24 %	36 %

Source: Endline Survey, July 2016

This illustrates that the percentage of training participants who report applying the knowledge and skills from the training to design and implement a cooperative action is 69% against the target of 33%. Some examples that support these findings are: young participants of CLS and LEY visited many places in Morang to share the constitution 2072 and gather information about the youth. Even constitution members and advocates facilitated the consent taking of the young population. Similarly, during the Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with CLS and LEY participates in Morang, it was shared that participants of CLS and LEY training engaged in non-violent forms of protest during the Tarai unrest.

"During the Tarai unrest in Morang, the CLS and LEY participants' engagement was in terms of collaboration with the Human Rights Commission, the police, Local Peace Committees (LPCs). We were involved as watchdogs and were able to convince the youth not to take the path of violence and engage in non-violent forms of protest." According to the FGD participants of Morang.

The project also initiated some cooperative action through a series of dialogues. **Dialogues** were organized to identify and analyze the key drivers (issues) of the youth recourse to violence. By promoting multi-stakeholder collaboration to tackle these drivers, the dialogues supported the identification of issues the concern the youth, prioritize the issues, work plan development, and the last dialogue organized a review and further planning.

Indicator Reference	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Achieved
Specific Objective Indicator 2.1	% of participating youth surveyed who report that the multi-stakeholder dialogues organized at district level have provided space for them to raise their voice	NA	33%	67%

Source: End-line survey, July 2016

The dialogues organized at the district level assisted in an increased understanding of the participants on the nature and causes of youth engagement in violence. More than double the target was achieved, where 67 percent of the youth surveyed reported that the multi-stakeholder dialogues organized at the district level have provided space for them to raise their voice. Multi-stakeholder dialogue provided a common ground where the youth from all backgrounds, crossing the dividing lines of caste, ethnicity, gender, and so on, participated. Interaction with the youth and other stakeholders suggested that their level of trust of each other increased after the series of dialogue.

According to some of the CLS participants from Siraha, *"till today, no such program was organized where the youth were able to discuss with, and put their views in front of, the Chief District Officer (CDO), Superintendent of the Police (SP) and Local Development Officer (LDO)"*.

The effectiveness of the project was also observed through issue identification and prioritization. The following table provides an overview of the issues identified in the districts visited by the consultant.

Districts	Issues
Dhanusha	Drug abuse, lack of quality education, lack of accountability/morality.
Mahottari	Drug abuse, lack of communication, unemployment
Sarlahi	Drug abuse, violence against women, unemployment
Siraha	Drug abuse, unemployment, and violence against women.
Morang	Drug abuse, human trafficking, and cyber crime

Source: Field Visit, July 2016

In all the districts visited, drug abuse was the most common issue among the youth. Unemployment was observed as an issue in Mahottari, Sarlahi and Siraha, and cybercrime in the Morang district. Awareness generation activities were conducted in different locations and on the identified issues by the youth and other stakeholders.

Similarly, the way the youth were seen by stakeholders was also changed. The baseline findings demonstrated that 87% of respondents reported that the youth have lost social respect in their societies. However, the current findings show that the level of trust has increased to 80% between the youth and other stakeholders. The youth were invited to attend different programs in the VDC and district level by stakeholders and information sharing with the youth are some clear examples of the increased trust.

These dialogue sessions brought the young people and other stakeholders onto one platform to discuss the possibilities of constructive collaboration. Some signals of the increased relationship between the youth and other stakeholders, as observed by the external consultant are:

- In Morang, beneficiaries of the project participated in the Human Rights Defender Observation (HRDO) and interacted with the victims. They organized a number of discussions on the issues concerning the youth in various Village Development Committees (VDCs) under their own initiative. Similarly, an action plan was developed to implement activities regarding cybercrime (one of the three issues identified during the dialogues), and it was facilitated by the Deputy Superintendent of the Police.

- In Sarlahi, the District Development Committees (DDCs) allocated NPR. 800,000.00 to further develop networks in 33 VDCs and two municipalities, and this took place immediately after the dialogue. Similarly, NPR. 8,000.00 to support a youth information center was also allocated by the DDC and NPR. 100,000.00 for Third Gender people was also provided. Previously, the only recipients of such services used to be people affiliated with political parties

- The youth # visiting Morang District Sports Development Committee increased by 10-15 per day. Information was shared with them and the available support was also provided.

- According to the field level team of SFCG and their partner organization in Siraha, after the dialogue, the police observation of drug abuse increased in the Siraha border area, and about 17 young people were apprehended for being involved in drug use.

- In Morang, after four levels of presentations, the municipality allocated NPR. 300,000.00 to organize leadership development programs in 22 wards of the municipality.

With these achievements; however, due to the Tarai unrest the last dialogue (forth dialogue) was completed without reviewing the achievements and challenges, and planning on what needs to be done next. As the review was not carried out and further planning did not take place, institutionalization (recognition by the government agencies) of the issues could not be instigated.

According to a Saroj Gautam, a Senior Officer from Morang DDC; *"it is required that such issues should be shared with the concerned government authorities at the district level as that will provide more momentum to what has been gained so far"*.

The evaluator observes that there is much less possibility of the institutionalization of the issues as the project has already phased out. It is not clear how such achievements will be followed up as the project has phased out and the exit strategy of the project was not developed.

A positive change of attitude in the public towards the youth is also important, as this enables youth engagement in development and peacebuilding. SFCG and its implementing partner New World (NW) produced and broadcast a total of 78 episodes of a radio drama series *Sangor*, which was about ***changing public attitudes and behavior***. According to the respondents, the *Sangor* Radio drama played an important role in the positive shift in attitudes or behavior of media professionals, the youth, local leaders, women, and other stakeholders, including community people towards youth roles in peacebuilding and development.

Similarly, sports have always been used for a common ground approach in SFCG projects, and a ***Football Clinic*** was organized in Morang and Dhanusha districts. The participants of the game were local young people, both male and female, and police staff. The main objective was to develop trust among the youth and the police. Against the target of 50%, there was an achievement of 83% of participating youth and other stakeholders who reported that the cooperative actions and football clinics have provided them space for collaborative action.

Indicator Reference	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Achieved
Specific Objective Indicator 2.2	% of participating youth and other stakeholders who report that the cooperative actions and football clinics have provided them space for collaborative action	NA	50%	83%

Source: End-line survey, July 2016

According to some of the police and the youth involved in football clinic in Dhanusha:
"we have exchanged cell numbers, and can call and inform the police on any activities that look unusual"
"I was reluctant to take a lift in the police van in the evening when I was late, I used to fear them, now, and I have no more hesitation".
"There was a gap in communication between the youth and the police, now it is no more like that".
"We used to think police only favours the rich and powerful, now I understand it is not like that".

Moreover, the clinic has also contributed to motivating the youth to take initiatives for collaboration with the police. In addition to changing negative perceptions of the youth towards the police, the clinic has also played a bridging role between the youth and the police for collaborative initiatives in the future to foster peace and security.

Another important aspect, in addition to collaborative initiatives, was ***Networking and advocacy***. One of the major activities was to organize district and national level youth forums. Because of the Tarai unrest, the district level youth forums were not conducted. It was difficult for the team to organize programs when the situation in the district was not good. However, the national level youth forums were organised in Kathmandu on the 25th and 26th of May 2016. This two-day event contributed to the development of a new strategic framework with an 18-point declaration for the integration of the youth movement, and it is expected that it will serve to define a clear role that young people can play in the process of social transformation. It attempted to reach out to the youth across the nation and address their common voice by enhancing their own capacities and leading the process of development. More than 500 youth participated in the forum, and 100 participants from the eight districts were there.

Another factor for the effectiveness of the program was the availability of a ***seed grant***. The seed grant initiated activities has built trust, mutual understanding, and further sharing key messages on the issues identified. Some of the examples of increased trust identified by the evaluation are:

- Now programs related with the youth can be implemented through the youth task force formed by the YE project (UNFPA and DDC, Malangwa)
- The villagers are still afraid of the police. Although the police are working at the lower communities, basic facilities are still not adequate. Therefore, the youth, together with police, can play an important role (District Superintendent of the police, Siraha).
- To reduce the drug abuse incidences and use of drugs, both security forces and the youth must develop social mobilization and volunteer mobilization plans together (Inspector, APF, Dhanusha)

Sixty-six participants interacted during the FGDs and KIIs, and it was found that most of them applied the knowledge and skills gained from the training to design and implement cooperative action. The available data exhibits that 93% cooperative action was achieved; although out of 40 planned only 36 were achieved.

In all districts, the first seed grant amount of NPR. 50,000.00 was used to support earthquake victims of the hill districts. The second grant received, which was also NPR. 50,000.00, was used for implementing various activities in the project districts. The following table provides an overview of the activities undertaken with the seed grants.

District	Activities implemented
Dhanusha	Hoarding board with messages saying no to drugs. (one near the Nepal – India border in Nagrain VDC and one on the highway in Godar VDC).
Mahottari	Organizing a youth day, Human Rights Day celebration, organizing programs in schools related to drug abuse, in six schools flex boards with information on the Code of Conduct about drug use.
Sarlahi	UNFPA and DDC interaction and orientation on drug abuse was organized in 5 colleges.
Siraha	The seed grant was used for orientation programs on drug abuse and involved the police in such programs. Also, in organizing a program on violence against women with the collaboration from VDC representatives, the police, and health post representatives.

District	Activities implemented
Morang	NPR. 40,000.00 used to make an awareness video on social issues (drug abuse) and the remaining amount for orientation on various issues identified during the dialogues.

Source: Field Visit, July 2016

In all districts visited, the seed grant amount was mostly used in awareness raising activities on drug abuse, as drug abuse was the prime concern of all, and the main concern voiced in the dialogues. The major achievement was that young people became aware of such issues and their negative consequences. Similarly, some of the participants of the activities were able to volunteer and facilitate programs focused on these issues.

"I attended the program on the negative consequences of drug abuse. Before attending the program, my interest was only in education, however, now I feel it is very important to understand such issues and make others understand them too". Arjun Kumar Yadav, Morang, participant of the drug abuse awareness program.

Meena Adhikari from Morang participated in the awareness program related with drug abuse and highlighted; *"I was not able to interact with drug users, after attending the program; I am able to interact with them and act towards the drug abuse campaigns".*

Awareness raising was carried out through the placement of hoarding boards with relevant messages. It was stated that because of the location of the hoarding boards, people traveling through that way will see the message. A rough estimation is about 30 to 40 people will see the message in a day. Similarly, the program in schools on drug abuse was facilitated by the local police. It was also found that the project districts share the border with India and drug abuse incidences, like importing and drug abuse take place in the border areas, and to reduce and stop the drug abuse, their counterparts (the Indian side) should also be responsible.

"Our Indian counterparts should also be active and play important role in controlling the drug abuse in the border areas", according to Eak Narayan Koirala, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Siraha

3.3   Peace Effectiveness

Apart from youth involvement in violence and crime, their involvement in development work and peacebuilding has also been observed in the project districts. Stakeholders and the youth have worked cooperatively (dialogues, football clinics, cooperative action to mention some) to prevent youth engagement in violence. Such collaborative action has increased peace effectiveness in addressing the causes of youth mobilization in violence. Most of the respondents, during the FGDs, highlighted that the platform provided by the project was an opportunity for linkage and relationship development between the youth and other stakeholders, and to understand their respective roles in peace building and conflict.

"We are planning to organize a discussion program titled 'the role of the youth and stakeholders in peace building' in a public forum. We came up with this idea after participating in the training and workshops under the YE project", mentioned by FGD participants from Morang.
According to the FGD participants from Dhanusha; *"the youth are involved in developing and enhancing the unity and brotherhood between Madhesi and Pahadi community members so that there will be no clash between the two communities like it used to be in the past".*

There has been improved relationships and cooperation among the youth from across dividing lines and the local police, leaders, and civil society organizations to address the causes of youth engagement in violence and promote civic engagement. There is a notable Increase in public awareness and attitudinal shift among the broader public in the Eastern and Central Tarai towards the potential of the youth as facilitators of peace and partners in community decision-making. There has been a shift in public attitudes about the youth, and an acceptance that they can play important and constructive roles in peacebuilding. In all districts, the respondents mentioned that there have been changes in community perceptions that the youth are only involved in violence.

The baseline survey (2014) showed that 25% of the youth were involved in development work in 2014, which increased to 34% in 2016 (end-line survey). Similarly, 22% were involved in peacebuilding activities in 2014, which increased to 34% in 2016. These could be considered as important accomplishments of the project; however, it cannot be claimed by the YE project alone as other various actors, NGOs, and INGOs may be involved in peacebuilding and developmental work in those districts.

In addition to the active engagement of the youth, their positive engagement at the local level is also very important. It is equally important to understand the change in the youth themselves. Following are some of the changes experienced by the youth, which could be attributed to the project:

Sikendra Yada Jatuwa, an 18-year-old from Biratnagar (Morang) participated in the CLS training. After the training and using his local club he convinced the local youth of 18 onwards that they need to work at the local level as collectively they could achieve a lot. Together, they organized advocacy campaigns, engaging the youth in sports, and reduce young people's involvement in drugs. He mentioned, *"every Saturday we play cricket, I bear the cost of the morning food for the players which has increased team bonding and trust among each other"*.

Saj Kumar Ale Magar, a reputed football player from Siraha in Lahan, was one of the participants of CLS. After CLS, he introduced his learning into football coaching where he involved the trainees in activities, like awareness on drug abuse, team building, and social awareness. He highlighted that, *"the project is different as it brought together young people and other stakeholders, training was a source of inspiration, and what I am doing today is an inspiration from the training"*.

During the Madhesh unrest in the Morang district, discussion among the participants of CLS and other youths took place every day. They shared the status of their VDCs and other locations. They were involved in observing the situation and notifying the concerned stakeholders on violence related activities, requesting and circulating the message not to become involved in violence.

Indra Kumar Jha from Tulsiyahi VDC in Dhanusha participated in both LEY and CLS training. Following the death of 55 citizens during the agitation after the promulgation of the constitution, he went on a hunger strike for 11 days. He mentioned that *"innocent citizens lost*

their lives when the government and the Madhesi Forum took this movement as a war. That's why I went on a hunger strike."[19]

The following Table provides an overview of the types of violence faced by communities led by the youth.

Types of violence (On an average within three months, faced by communities)	Baseline (2014)		End-line (2016)		Differences over the two years	
	Total	Led by youth	Total	Led by youth	Total	Led by youth
Organised violence	3.61	2.09	2.08	0.93	(1.52)	(1.16)
Unintended violence	4.44	2.97	5.44	2.05	1.00	(0.92)
Bandha/strike	5.48	1.92	7.73	3.28	2.25	1.36

Source: End-line survey, July 2016

The baseline survey (2014) showed that each household in the Tarai district in last three months was directly affected, and on average 3.61 experienced (organized violence activities), 4.44 (Unintended violence activities) and 5.48 (Bandha/Strike). In terms of youth-led activities, communities experienced that out of the total violent activities, 58% of the organized violence was led by the youth. The end-line survey shows that each household experienced an average of 3.61 organized violence activities in the past three months; whereas, 45% of such activities were led by youth groups. The survey revealed that organized violence has reduced by 42% and the involvement of the youth has also decreased by 13% over the two years.

During the final evaluation, based on the interaction with respondents and project staff, it was found that the project achieved all its intended results, although there were some delays in implementation because of the Tarai unrest. Some of the major outcomes of the project were:

1. Identification of the major issues directly affecting the youth. Three major issues were identified out of 10 to 20 issues in each district. The issues were identified based on a series of dialogues that took place between the youth and other stakeholders.

2. The development of a collaborative approach, linkage development (youth, civic societies, and government agencies). This has assisted in trust building and cooperation between the youth and other stakeholders.

3. Formation of youth task forces and their engagement in various activities at the local level, along with support from the stakeholders.

The factors that contributed to the achievement the project's objectives were:

1. The use of the Common Ground Approach (CGA) which helped/assisted the youth, local government, the police, and the media interface more effectively to prevent youth engagement in violence.

2. Training the youth, and other stakeholders, with the right tools (LEY, CLS, Dialogues, football clinics).

3. The identification of ways of collaborating with the youth and other stakeholders.

---

[19] Youth Engage: multi-stakeholder collaboration in reducing youth engagement in violence annual progress report reporting period: 9th of December 2014 – 8th of December 2015

3.4   Implementation Process

Search for Common Ground (SFCG) implemented the project through its consortium partners - All People's Empowerment Centre (APEC), Youth Initiative (YI), Association of Youth Organisations Nepal (AYON) and New World (NW).

A clear work plan was developed with specific roles for each partner, which assisted in the implementation of the activities. The Consortium implemented the project activities through combined efforts in cooperative action (seed grants), they learned from one another through dialogue and capacity building (CLS and LEY) and avoided duplication of isolated efforts as mentioned in the proposal. Some of the specific roles of partners were:

- APEC leads LEY workshops, multi-stakeholder dialogues, and cooperative action.
- YI's role is managing CLS training, input to drama.
- AYON's role includes leading the district and national level advocacy forums and mobilizing member organizations to use the DAPs and Youth Resolution for policy advocacy at the local and national levels.
- Expertise in using media programming to constructively address challenging issues in the Central and Eastern Terai. NW will produce Sangor; coordinate the broadcast, and promote it locally.

SFCG also provided ongoing assistance, coaching, and monitoring through field visits and participation in various activities of the project. The partners, together with SFCG, managed the project activities and coordinated with others stakeholders in the districts to maximize the impact of the project. As mentioned in the project proposal, SFCG and its partners coordinated regularly and very closely for the implementation of project activities.

A series of interaction and orientation programs were conducted to achieve clarity and common understanding between SFCG and the implementing partners. As a result, SFCG and the implementing partners worked in an environment with a remarkable level of synergy and coordination. (Derived from Interim narrative report, February 2015)

It is understood that bringing the youth and stakeholders together for dialogue, floating the issues, and working towards generating solutions to the issues identified was well established in the project. The project was managed by a project manager, based in SFCG Kathmandu. While in the districts, partner organizations mobilized coordinators to coordinate and implement the activities. Similarly, district coordinators were also mobilized by SFCG in Dhanusha (Dhanusha, Mahottari, Sarlahi, and Rauthat) and Siraha (Siraha, Saptari, and Morang).

Search for Common Ground (SFCG) has a robust Monitoring and Evaluation system and a team of experts to undertake the M&E task. SFCG Nepal's Design Monitoring, Evaluation and Accountability (DME&A) Manager was the key person for the quality control mechanism and quality assurance of the process involved while implementing the project. Support was provided by a Nepal-based Asia DM&E Specialist. It was found that a monthly monitoring of all outputs to ensure their reliability and variability was undertaken. Pre- and post-training surveys were undertaken to measure changes and case studies were developed for remarkable outcomes.

It was observed, by the external evaluator, that the project could be completed within the stipulated time-frame; however, the earthquake and Tarai unrest hindered the execution of the activities during the later stages. During the In-Depth Interviews (IDs), it was shared by the participants, that all the training, workshop, and dialogues, a project manager was present. The regular presence of project managers in all training/workshops and dialogues had implications

on the cost aspect of the project and also activities could not be implemented parallel in all districts.

3.5   Sustainability

Following are the major findings under sustainability:

- A number of collaborative approaches, training, workshops, and dialogues were organized. These workshops and training provided ample opportunities for both the youth and other stakeholders. This has increased the confidence of the youth in the stakeholders and *vis-a-vis* develop plans. The Youth District Action Plan (YDAP) is one of the important documents developed, which consists of plans on how the youth could be involved in various district level activities, together with other stakeholders. For the sustainability of the activities in the plan, it was shared that the plan will be handed over to the District Development Committee (DDC) office through the District Project Advisory Committee (DPAC) meetings. As the project is phased out DPAC meetings will not take place and the consortium has not developed any strategies to incorporate it into their plans.

- The football clinic has also contributed to motivating the youth to take initiatives for collaboration with the police. Therefore, in addition to changing the negative perceptions of the youth towards the police, the clinic has also played a bridging role between the youth and the police in fostering peace and security in the future. This collaboration seems to be sustainable over time.

- The Youth task force in Morang is planning to establish a Youth Human Rights Network and focus on activities related to issues of human rights affecting the youth. However, there is no concrete plan on how this will be achieved and supporting mechanisms are not identified yet This is a concern as the project is phased out and it is uncertain how the project implementing partners will support the task force in the days to come.

- The youth task forces, which were formed during the dialogues, are loose forums of the youth. In Morang, Siraha, and Dhanusha the members are planning to register as a youth network; however, they are not certain whether to register it or not. Different stipulations are there on the pros and cons of being registered. For example, if registered as a network, the status of the task force will be that of an NGO, and if working in a loose form, they will have fewer possibilities of obtaining funding and sustaining the task force. However, in the case of Sarlahi, the task force has been merged with an existing youth network of Sarlahi. Whereas in Mahottari there is already a youth network and it is not clear how the task force and youth network will work together in the future.

- The youth task force of Sarlahi requested the UNFPA to support a 14-step planning process, and a total budget of NPR 500,000.00 was released to the DDC, but the amount was frozen due to the political unrest. The budget has now been released and three days of training on the 14-step planning process was organized. Furthermore, it was shared that the training provided insights on how to reach the planning process of the government and request support. This suggests that the youth will submit their demands every year through this process.

- The National Youth Forum passed an 18-point declaration, which it used to try to reach out to the youth across the nation and address their common voice by enhancing their own capacity and lead the process of development. However, in the project districts visited, planning on implementing the declaration is not yet developed. It is a concern of some respondents how the points mentioned in the declaration will be achieved and sustained in the long run.

4. CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS LEARNT

4.1 Conclusions

The evaluator came to the conclusion that the indicators developed were based on SMART[20] principles and the set targets were met as per the log-frame, though no cost extension was done because of Tarai unrest. The project relevance could be reflected through its time of intervention in the central and eastern Tarai when many of the youth were involved in, and affected by, organized violence. Activities implemented under the project seemed to be developed in accordance with the government priority and close coordination, cooperation and collaboration with the partners and other stakeholders were clearly observed. For instance, the project implemented activities to discourage the involvement of the youth in crime, violence, illegal, and unsocial activities that was also highlighted in the National Youth Policy (2010). The most significant achievements of the project were bringing the youth and other stakeholders to a common ground, support in issues identification and prioritization, collaborative approaches, and networking, to mention a few.

The project was effective as it supported the strengthening of the capacity of civil society, the police, local government actors, and youth leaders. To reduce youth engagement in organized violence, these players play a major role. Similarly, the Youth Engagement (YE) project adopted strategies and approaches to identify and analyze the key drivers that made the youth become involved in violence. Youth involvement in peace and development work has increased from 22% (in 2014) to 34% in 2016 and 25% (in 2014) to 34% in 2016 respectively. Several youths have experienced changes in themselves, which has made it possible for them to positively engage at the local level. The end-line survey revealed that organized violence has reduced by 42% and the involvement of the youth has also decreased by 13% over the two years.

Regarding the smooth operation of the project activities, the evaluator observed that the team composition was sufficient. However, mobilization of the staff was not efficient, as the planning of staff movement was not well designed. Similarly, the project lacked an exit strategy which could support and sustain the achievements and upscale the practices (such as collaboration, and identification of the major issues) that it had established.

Overall, the final evaluation concludes that this project was successful and effective in meeting the objectives. Achievements were made as per the log-frame and there were some visible impacts in the project districts. To sum up, the project and its activities were appreciated by the beneficiaries and satisfactory coordination was there with all involved.

4.2 Lessons learnt

This section briefly presents the following lessons learned during the project phase.

- Working in collaboration results in higher achievements. The consortium formed for implementation of the activities is an example of the collaborative approach. The YE Consortium draws on existing strengths and initiatives of each of the partners and brings them together under one project framework.
- The diversity of methods and themes must be introduced and increased when working with the youth. The YE project introduced CLS, LEY training, and workshop. Involved the youth and police in football clinics. A common platform for the youth and stakeholders resulted in collaborative approaches.
- One of the gaps identified was the inefficiency of team mobilization and planning. There was a provision of coordinators at the local level and the task of project managers was to effectively mobilize the team and supervise the project activities. Frequent involvement of

---

[20] S: Specific; M: Measurable; A: Achievable; R: Realistic and T: Timely

project managers in all activities is not required. This hinders the implementation of the activities that could be organized in parallel.

- Three major issues affecting the youth were identified in the YE project. However, the institutionalization of those issues did not take place as the project phased out. In the future, any important outcomes should be incorporated into other ongoing programs of the partners and even in SFCG's projects.
- Another important aspect, that demonstrates the quality of the project design, is the exit plan. It is essential to have an exit plan; however, it was not evident in the YE project. During the project development phase, such plans should be developed. Exit plans explicitly articulate the required steps to be taken during the phase-out stage of the project.
- The project claims that policy level sustainability will be established by creating long-lasting policy improvements beyond the project. Furthermore, this will address issues of youth recourse to violence at the individual, community, district, and national levels. However, the issues identified are not established at the institutional level of the government agencies, and as the project phased out there is very little possibility of the government recognizing the issues.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

The evaluator would like to provide the following recommendations:

- Civic Leadership Schools (CLS), Leaders Engaging Youth (LEY) and dialogue, are diverse and effective methods in engaging the youth with other stakeholders. It is recommended to SFCG, and the partner organizations, adopt these methods in new projects while working with the youth.

- It is important to have an exit strategy for the project. It is strongly recommended that SFCG should develop exit strategies, and these strategies should be reviewed in a timely manner by both SFCG and the implementing partners.

- Various issues were identified after the dialogues; however, these issues remained unaddressed by the civic societies and government agencies that were represented in the dialogues, as the project phased out. The identified issues are directly related to the youth, and the involvement of civil society members and the government agencies were to make efforts in identifying these issues. Further efforts need to be made by the partners to address the issues and incorporate them into their new projects or existing projects.

6. ANNEXES

Annex 1: Terms of Reference

Search for Common Ground, Nepal (SFCG) program seeks an experienced evaluator to carry out the final evaluation of Youth Engage project implemented from 9 December 2013 to 8 June 2016. The project consists of capacity building training and workshops including cooperative actions, networking and advocacy initiation, and changing public attitudes and behaviours through media. The evaluation will start from 3rd week of June 2016 and will end by 2nd week of August 2016. This Terms of Reference (TOR) defines the work that should be carried out by the external evaluator. It provides a brief outline of the project, specifies the scope of the evaluation, and outlines evaluation method.

1. Background

1.1 Brief context
Nepali youth are often the targets of manipulations for collective public violence. Combined with a poor record of engaging youth in civic affairs, these acts of violence perpetuate a vicious cycle that deepens the feeling of alienation between youth and the government leaders and security forces. Often the political and interest-base leaders use youth for organizing protest and violence an abandon them once their interest are served.

SFCG believes that if vulnerable youth have the skills and opportunities to contribute to their communities in a constructive and non-violent manner, disaffection among youth will reduce, which in turn will decrease their vulnerability to being recruited in organized violence. Such dissociation from violence enables youth to develop relationships across dividing lines, build bridges through cooperative action, and work together with local leaders to promote youth civic engagement.

1.2 Organization background
SFCG is a leading international peacebuilding and conflict transformation non-governmental organization (NGO), working in 36 countries across Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. SFCG strives to transform the way that the world deals with conflicts away from adversarial approaches, and towards collaborative solutions. Through various multi-faceted approaches, media initiatives and collaboration with local partners in both government and civil society, SFCG aims to find a culturally appropriate means to strengthen the capacity of society to deal with conflict in a constructive manner – by understanding differences and acting on commonalities.

SFCG has been working in Nepal since February 2006 and has collaborated with a broad range of stakeholders, including government and non-government organizations, media, education, justice, and security institutions to support peace, good governance and solution-oriented approaches to conflict resolution at the local, regional and national levels.

1.3 Project Summary
'Youth Engage: Multi-stakeholder Collaboration in Reducing Youth Engagement in Violence' seeks to reduce youth engagement in organized violence. With the support from the European Union, 'Youth Engage' (YE) aims to strengthen youth capacity and foster dialogue, networking and advocacy among youth groups, members of police force, government authorities and local leaders. The project is being implemented from 9 December 2013 to 8 June 2016 in eight districts of Eastern and Central Terai region (Morang, Sunsari, Saptari, Siraha, Mahottari, Dhanusha, Sarlahi and Rautahat) in partnership with local NGOs, All People's Empowerment

Centre (APEC) and New World (NW), and national NGOs; Youth Initiative (YI) and Association of Youth Organizations Nepal (AYON).

The overall objective of the project is to reduce youth engagement in organized violence. SFCG aims to achieve its goal by strengthening capacity, transforming relationships, fostering dialogue and promoting networking and advocacy among youth groups, security forces and local leaders. Likewise, SFCG has focused on enabling local actors to create an environment conducive to reducing youth engagement in violence; reconnecting youth across geographic and/or ethnic divides; and promoting youth civic engagement. In addition, YE also includes the production of 78 episodes of a weekly, half an hour *Maithili* radio drama, *Sangor* (Assemble), which was broadcast across the Eastern and Central Terai reaching an estimated 1.5 million listeners[21]. The radio drama aimed to shift public perception on how youth can engage in social transformation.

The project has three specific and one cross-cutting objective:

To strengthen the capacity of key civil society, police, local government actors and youth leaders to work cooperatively for preventing youth engagement in violence;
To promote platforms for youth to advocate for changes that addresses the causes of youth engagement in violence; and
To shift public attitudes about the constructive role that youth can play in peacebuilding and development.
To improve relationships and foster cooperation among youth, local leaders, security forces and the media to prevent youth engagement in violence and promote youth civic engagement (Cross cutting).

The ultimate result is the reduced likelihood of youth involvement in organized violence. Specifically:

Increased capacity for cooperation among CSOs, police, local government actors, and youth leaders.
Increased understanding among project stakeholders about the nature and causes of youth engagement in violence.
Improved relationship and cooperation among youth from across dividing lines and local police, leaders and civil society organizations in addressing the causes of youth engagement in violence and promoting civic engagement.
Increased youth participation in advocating for policies and strategies that prevent youth engagement in violence.
Increased awareness and attitudinal shifts among the broader public in the Eastern and Central Terai towards the potential of youth as facilitators of peace and partners in community decision-making.

The project consists of nine interrelated activities within a five-pronged activity stream. All the activities are built on one another. The activity stream consisted of (i) research, (ii) capacity development, (iii) dialogue and cooperative action (seed grants), (iv) networking and policy advocacy, and (v) changing public attitudes and behaviours (media). The major activities of the project are as follows:

Comprehensive research and consultations in the project districts to analyze the nature, causes, consequences, and remedies (political, economic and socio-cultural) of youth recourse to violence.

Capacity-development training for 400 influential youth for civic leadership, non-violence, negotiation, dialogue and peacebuilding.

---

[21] Source:

Capacity development workshops for 200 leaders (including police, civil society organizations, local leaders) on how to engage youth constructively to address specific concerns of youth as they relate to reducing youth engagement in violence.

32 multi-stakeholder dialogues to build relationships between youth leaders and decision makers and result in district action plans to reduce youth engagement in violence.

Seed grants support to youth-led groups in 8 target districts to implement their action plans targeting 4000 youth; football clinics in 8 target districts to foster youth-police relations.

8 district-level youth-led advocacy forums targeting 1000 people and 1 National Youth Forum with 500 participants that will culminate in a Youth Resolution to prevent youth engagement in violence.

1.4 Target groups
The primary target groups of the project with whom SFCG and its partners directly work are:
Influential youth: aged 15-29 years; those engaged in armed groups; youth and student wings of political parties and ethnic/caste based interest groups; youth led groups;
Civil society organizations: working with children/youth; youth journalists in target districts;
Security forces: including Nepal Police in 8 districts; and
Local Leaders: district level political leaders and government officials.

The secondary target groups or beneficiaries include:
Youth: 16 to 29 years old who are vulnerable to exploitation as well as potential to contribute to the local level peace initiatives; local level youth clubs
General public (audience of the radio programs)
People from marginalized communities especially women and *Dalits*

2. Evaluation Methodology:
The approach of SFCG for evaluation is grounded in the guiding principles of our work: participatory, culturally sensitive, committed to building capacity, affirmative and positive while honest and productively critical, and valuing knowledge and approaches from within the context. In addition, the standards of utility, feasibility, propriety and accuracy developed by the American Joint Committee on Standards for Evaluation will be adhered to.

The evaluator will visit at least four districts in the Eastern and Central Terai for the purpose of evaluation. However, the participants could be invited from other four adjoining project districts for interviews. S/he will meet with the project participants, partners, SFCG staff and relevant stakeholders. The methodology and tools of the evaluation will be further developed and finalized in consultation with SFCG DME&A team, program staff and Regional DM&E Specialist. For this purpose, one day workshop will be organized among the Evaluators and the SFCG staff in order to finalize the evaluation indicators as well as the evaluation methodology.

2.1 Evaluation instruments:
The following data collection methods will be used to conduct the evaluation.

Desk/literature review: Literature review is a crucial part of this evaluation. The literature review is expected to provide answers to the evaluation questions. The evaluator shall carry out desk research on previous project evaluation report, progress reports, listenership survey reports, quarterly reports, baseline survey, district assessment reports, success stories, and other activity reports. In addition, the evaluator will collect quantitative data related to youth and the trend of violent activities from concerned organizations. The quantitative data will mainly be used to triangulate the qualitative findings. Based on the format provided by SFCG, the evaluator will

collect the quantitative data related to the engagement of youth in violence in order link the trend with the impact of the project (District Police Office, District Administration Office, and Informal Sector Service Centre).

Focus Group Discussions (FGDs): FGDs will be carried out among project participants to gain a deeper understanding of a group's perception, attitude, experience, needs and gaps on defined topics. It is also expected to capture how the participants derive meaning from their surroundings, and how this influences their behaviour. It will also seek to capture an explicit rendering of the structure, order, and broad patterns found among a group of participants. It is proposed to conduct at least 12 FGDs in project districts with the project participants and concerned stakeholders (youth, civil society, local leaders, media persons/ journalist). For the FGDs, the following format will be used to collect qualitative information: (Based on the evaluation checklist mentioned below, the detail checklist will be developed during the one-day workshop)

Broad questions	Lines of inquiries	Major findings	At least one relevant quote	Findings weighting (# of persons, majority views, different opinion/views)

Key Informant Interviews (KIIs): The evaluator (s) will conduct KIIs to collect information from a wide range of people, ranging from: participating government official security personnel, political leaders, media persons and implementing partners, who have first-hand knowledge and experiences, can provide insight into the exiting status of project's short-term impacts, and can give recommendations for the future. The interviewees will be purposefully selected and in-depth interviews using pre-determined checklist will be conducted (at least 5-6 KIIs in each project district). (Based on the evaluation checklist mentioned below, the detail checklist will be developed during the one-day workshop)

Case study: Eight case studies from each district will be collected capturing the details of a particular individual or a group relevant to the purpose of the project. The case studies will be collected from the existing ones and new cases. The template for the case study is provided below:

The situation/life before the intervention of the project – Knowledge, Attitude and Behaviour (KAB)
The problem/conflict
Project intervention
Changes – current status/situation – link with the problem/conflict
Overall message
Concluding remarks

Field Observation: The evaluator is requested to observe whether or not, all, or some proportion of the behaviours or events occur under distinct circumstances. The evaluator will generate a preliminary model to explain the collected data, which explains the context specific social norms with reference to their environment.

Endline Survey: During the inception phase, SFCG carried out a comprehensive district assessment and baseline survey in February 2014, and will carry out a similar endline survey in the project districts in June 2016 covering important indicators derived from the log frame. The endline survey will be designed by SFCG DM&E Team and data collection will be outsourced to

a Kathmandu-Based research organizations. Data analysis will be done by SFCG DM&E Team and the evaluator will be given the data tables to incorporate the major findings into the report. Based on the Baseline data and endline data, the evaluator will compare selected output and outcomes indicators to assess the contribution of project.

2.2 Evaluation questions:
The objective of the evaluation is based on the standard SFCG Evaluation Policy covering the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) criteria. The evaluation questionnaire will include questions from the following broad category:

i. Relevance/Appropriateness:
Were the project's stated goals and objectives relevant to the issues central to organized violence surrounding youth in Nepal?
Did the activities and strategies fit project objectives? To what extent was the project approach relevant to facilitate constructive engagement of youth at the local level?
How is the degree of satisfaction of beneficiaries with the project?
How relevant was the comprehensive research work in relations to the project implementation and how have SFCG and its partners utilized the findings of the research into making strategic decisions for project implementation?
Does the project add value to the peacebuilding initiatives in the districts?

ii. Programme Effectiveness:
How has the project contributed in building capacity for collaborative culture among key civil society, police, local government actors and youth leaders? How have these capacities converted into actions?
What types of platforms the project provided to youth and other stakeholders? Did the project foster dialogue between youth groups, and youth and other stakeholders?
Are there any signals of increased capacities and skills on dialogue, collaboration and conflict resolution among the project beneficiaries such as youth, women, NGOs and media professionals? How have they applied those knowledge and skills in their personal as well as professional lives?
Has there been any positive shift in attitude or behavior of media professionals, youth, local leaders, women or other stakeholders, including community people towards youth role in peacebuilding and development? Have there been any evidences of increased relationship and collaboration among youth and other stakeholders during the life of the project?
How the seed grants were utilized by the youth groups and what were the results achieved as a result of those see-grant activities?
What was the effect of coaching/orientation and its contribution on the target organizations/radio producers?
What unexpected results did the project lead to? What are the challenges to ensure proper implementation of the project?

iii. Peace Effectiveness
To what extent did the project achieve its intended results? What are the major outcomes of this project? What major factors contributed to achievement or non-achievement of its objectives (factors of success and challenges)?
What direct and indirect evidences are available that the action taken contributed to the active engagement of youth in peacebuilding and development at local level?
What are the significant changes experienced by the participants and the community that can be attributed to the project?
How did the national youth forum contributed in advocating for developing policy and strategies for youth engagement in peace process and development?

How has the project contributed in reducing youth engagement in violence?

iv. Implementation Process
To what extent has Common Ground Approach been mainstreamed in project activities?
Is there effective monitoring of the project implementation? What are the mechanisms of the reflection and learning process?
Were the project activities implemented on timely manner as guided by the implementation Plan?
Were there any delays in project implementation? Are those delays justified? Has the project achieved its milestones set for the period in a timely manner?
How was the coordination between SFCG, IPs and other stakeholders esp. the government agencies? Were there any challenges? If yes, how these challenges were managed?

v. Sustainability
Which steps have been taken or are planned to create long-term processes, structures and institutions for the continuation of good practices at the local level?
Have new mechanisms been designed to continue the work initiated by this project? If yes, will the initiatives sustain post-project?
Does the effort contribute to create momentum for peace by encouraging the participants and communities to develop independent initiatives?

3. Scope of Work
The scope of this contract is to carry out final project evaluation and to write a comprehensive evaluation report based on the checklist and framework provided by SFCG. During the evaluation, the evaluator shall review all baseline and endline survey findings, progress reports and other relevant documents, and produce a comprehensive evaluation report covering key findings. The evaluator shall visit four districts and conduct at least 12 FGDs and 18 KIIs. The evaluator will finalize the survey plan in consultation with the DME&A Manager.

The evaluator will work primarily with DME&A Manager, Asia Regional DM&E Specialist and the program staff. During the assignment, the evaluator will provide constant briefings on the progress of the work to DME&A Manager for feedback, adjustments, and finalization of the report through a consultative process.

3.1 Location:
This evaluation will take place in Kathmandu and in 4 selected working districts of YE project. The evaluator will finalize the districts in consultation with the program staff, Asia Regional DM&E Specialist and Nepal's DME&A team.

3.2 Deliverables:
The evaluator will provide a final evaluation report in English language. The report should be submitted electronically in MS-Word. It should include:
Executive Summary of applied methodology, key findings and recommendations (not more than 2000 words);
Context analysis including brief analysis of existing youth and conflict dynamics – referring to previous research conducted by SFCG in 2014 – max 4 pages;
Introduction of the project, its objectives and other important information.
Evaluation methodology, methods of data analysis, scope and limitations
Evaluation findings, analysis and conclusion with the clear illustration of associated evidence and data. Use of tables, graphs, quotes, anecdotes and stories to illustrate findings and conclusion is encouraged - max 30 pages; the sub-sections should be framed according to the evaluation criteria.
Recommendations for future action, which should be practical and directly linked to the conclusion– max 2 pages; and

Appendices, including methodology and evaluation tools, list of interviewees, questionnaire, and brief evaluator/s biography.

The evaluator will incorporate the comments provided by SFCG and will submit an edited final report at the end. The final report will be credited to the evaluator and potentially placed in the public domain at the decision of SFCG. During the assignment period, the evaluator will present the key evaluation findings among SFCG team and concerned partner organizations.

3.3 Duration & Deadlines
The duration of the contract will be a total period of 24 days, starting from 3rd week of June to 2nd week of August 2016.

S. N	Deliverables	By when?	Remarks
1.	Evaluation plan with detailed methodology	17 June	
2.	Field evaluation in the Eastern and Central Terai region	24 June to 2 August	
3.	Presentation – Major findings and lesson learned	22 August	
4.	Project Evaluation Report – Final report submission	30 August	

3.4 Logistical and other support
SFCG will provide preparatory and logistical assistance to the evaluator, to include:
Background materials (project proposal, periodic reports, previous evaluation report etc.)
Identify interviewees and provide their contact information
Technical assistance, e.g., input for questionnaire development, background information etc.
Consultancy fee in timely manner as per the contract
All logistical support required for the field visit, including travel cost (local as well as air travel)
Arranging meetings and appointments with stakeholders and beneficiaries in the field (if necessary).
For the endline survey, SFCG DME&A team will provide tabulation and other necessary quantitative information.

4. Evaluator's Role and Competencies
The evaluation will be carried out by the external evaluator who will report to SFCG's DME&A Manager.

The external evaluator will:
Identify and define evaluation priority areas, methodology and indicators;
Design and collect data;
Analyze data, findings and prepare report;
Write and submit a final report;
Develop a brief presentation of findings and recommendations to SFCG Nepal.

Evaluator competencies
Sound knowledge about the peace process and peace building activities in Nepal
Sound knowledge on organization development issues
Academic degree in peacebuilding and conflict transformation field or related field
Demonstrated technical skills in peace building project evaluations
Proficiency in English

Interested evaluators/ firms are requested to send a brief 2-page proposal and a sample of previous work by May 30, 2016 to sfcgnepal@sfcg.org*. Please include your Permanent Account*

Number (PAN). (Note: For consultancy firms, please include registration documents, VAT number, tax registration document, tax clearance certificate and latest audit report.) Only the candidates with evaluation experiences on peacebuilding projects will be considered for selection.

Annex 2: Progress from baseline to final valuation

	Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Baseline	Target	Achievements
Overall Objective	To reduce youth engagement in organized violence (by mobilizing youth-led organizations, civil society actors, and state institutions to promote the constructive role of youth in promoting peace and stability)	% decrease in organized violence over the life of the project in the districts as shown by UN RCHCO Reports			80%[22]
		% of community people surveyed who report decreased youth engagement in violent activities over the life of the project	46% (2014)	60% (2016)	58% decreased (2016)
Specific Objectives	SO1 – To strengthen the capacity of key local actors (civil society, the police, local government actors and youth leaders) to work cooperatively to prevent youth engagement in violence	% of training participants who report applying the knowledge and skills from the training to design and implementing cooperative actions.	Not applicable	33%	69% (2016)
		# of collaborative activities designed and implemented at a local level that engage the youth constructively.	Not applicable	24 (2016)	36 (24 with seed grant support and 12 without seed grant)
	SO2 – To promote platforms for youth to advocate for changes that address the causes of youth engagement in violence.	% of participating youth surveyed who report that the multi-stakeholder dialogues organized at district level have provided space for them to raise their voice	Not applicable	33% (2016)	67%
		% of participating youth and other stakeholders who report that the cooperative actions and football clinics have provided them space for collaborative action	Not applicable	50%	83%

---

[22] Over the lifecycle of the project there were no such incidents recorded due to organised violence. In most of the districts the formation of small gangs was there and their involvement in extortion for money, kidnapping, violence against women used to take place. Such activities are not taking place now, the respondents of FGDs mentioned that there is more than 80% decrease in organised violence. Among many factors (including other organisations' work) one of the contributing factors was the YE project itself. It provided opportunities for the youth to share their view and issues that they are facing. Created a platforms where youth, civic society and government representatives were present to understand the issues of youth and act accordingly.

	Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Baseline	Target	Achievements
	SO3 – To shift public attitudes about the constructive role that the youth can play in peacebuilding and development	% of radio listeners who consider youth as agents of change for promoting peace and development in their community and the country.	Not applicable	25% (2015)	31% (2015)
		% of people surveyed who believe that local youth are ready to take a leadership role in their community.	11% (2014)	25% (2016)	26%
	CCO – To foster cooperation among youth, local leaders, security forces and the media to prevent youth engagement in violence and promote youth civic engagement	# of collaborative initiatives implemented by youth and local key actors, including the security forces.	Not applicable	40 (2016)	36 (2016)
Expected results	R1.1 – Increased capacity of civil society organizations, the police, local government actors and youth leaders to work cooperatively to prevent youth engagement in violence. (SO1)	% of trained participants who demonstrate increased knowledge and skills on collaborative leadership and peacebuilding.	41[23]%,	66%	83%
		% of key civil society and government actors who say that they are confident to work with the youth.	16% (2014)	30% (2016)	30%
	R2.1 – Increased understanding of project stakeholders about the nature and causes of youth engagement in violence. (SO2)	Comprehensive and localized information about the nature and causes of youth engagement in violence is available to shape the program.	Not applicable	8	9 (8 districts specific report and 1 consolidated report)
	R2.2 – Improved relationship and cooperation among the youth (from across dividing lines) and local police, leaders and civil society organizations	% of youth and key local actors (civil society leaders, the police, local government actors) who report that their level of trust towards each other has increased.	40%[24]	66%	74%

---

[23] Based on pre-test
[24] Based on pre-test

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Baseline	Target	Achievements
to address the causes of youth engagement in violence and promote civic engagement. (SO2)	# of collaborative activities implemented by youth and local key actors.	Not applicable	40	36
R2.3 – Increased youth participation in advocating for policies and strategies that prevent youth engagement in violence. (SO2)	# of youth participating in youth forum at district and national levels.	Not applicable	500[25]	500
	# of activities organized by youth organizations from local to the national level to lobby for implementation of the points raised in the 'Resolution to Prevent Youth Engagement in Organised Violence' adopted by the National Youth Forum.	Not applicable	10	34
	Total # of youth participating in such advocacy meetings and interactions.	Not applicable	150	Not applicable[26]
R3.1 – Increased awareness and attitudinal shift among the broader public in the Eastern and Central Terai towards the potential of the youth as facilitators of peace and partners in community decision-making. (SO3)	% of listeners surveyed who say that youth are capable of facilitating the local level peace and development process.	Not applicable	25%	57%
	# of cases where local elders advocate for inclusion of the youth in local decision-making mechanisms.	Not applicable	16 cases	16 cases

---

[25] We had changed the target in 2015 – previously it was 1300
[26] Activity cancelled

Annex 3: A list of participants of the evaluation

Focus Group Discussion

Dhanusa	
Respondents Name	**Remarks**
1. Dinesh Tamang (Police)	
2. Basanti Ghimire (Police)	
3. Sunita Tamang (Police)	FGD 1
4. Puja Khanal (WCO)	(Beneficiaries: Participants of football clinic).
5. Richa Mishra (student)	
6. Rohit Kumar Shah (Student)	
7. Bikash Kumar Shah (student)	
8. Om Prakash Jha	
9. Suresh Prasad Jha	
10. Bijay Kumar Sha	FGD 2
11. Saroj Mishra	(Beneficiaries: Participants of CLS/LEY).
12. Dev Kumar Mahat	

Sarlahi	
Respondents Name	**Remarks**
13. Bijay Kumar Yadav	
14. Shrawan Kumar Singh	
15. Maya Kumari Yadav	FGD 3
16. Manju Kumari Chhettri	(Beneficiaries: Participants of CLS and LEY).
17. Nerusha Khatoon	
18. Ram Niwas Yadav	

Siraha	
Respondents Name	**Remarks**
19. Hari Narayan Yadav	
20. Ram Janak Ray	
21. Ramesh Yadav	FGD 4
22. Prachanda Katwal	(Beneficiaries: Participants of CLS/LEY and Dialogue).
23. Bilash Kandal	
24. Badri Nath Yadav	
25. Dilip Kumar Shah	

Morang	
Respondents Name	**Remarks**
26. Manoj Dahal	
27. Himal Bhattarai	
28. Srijana Shah	FGD 5
29. Meena Adhikari	(Beneficiaries: Participants of seed grant activities)
30. Puja Lamsal	
31. Arjun Kumar Yadav	
32. Chandan Sipalaya	
33. Deep Narayan Yadav	
34. Tulsi Shah	
35. Balram Rai	FGD 6
36. Rajan Kumar Shahi	(Beneficiaries: Dialogue participants).
37. Yuresh Adhikari	
38. Rakesh Roshan Yadav	
39. Sangeeta Thapa	
40. Prem Dewan	
41. Aman Shah	FGD 7
42. Babina Kharel	(Beneficiaries: CLS and LEY participants)
43. Sabin Dhakal	

44. Sanju Nepal	
45. Shree Prasad Chaudhari	
46. Rawal Giri	
47. Rita Thakur	

Key Informant Interview

Dhanusa
Respondents Name/Organization
48. Sambhu Katwal, Inspector (APF), Nagarain VDC
49. Krishna Kala Khadka, WCO
50. Batuk Jha, Reporter/media person

Mahottari
Respondents Name/Organization
51. Sushil Raut, Youth Task Force
52. Suresh Kumar Yadav, YNPD Mahottari
53. Bechan Prasad Shah, Agriculture Technical Officer

Sarlahi
Respondents Name/Organization
54. Bachha Lal Yadav, District Development Committee, Malangawa
55. Puskar Ghimire, District Development Committee, Malangawa
56. Rambha Jha, CLS participant
57. Abdul Sahamat, Dialogue participant

Siraha
Respondents Name/Organization
58. Saj Kumar Ale, CLS Participant
59. Parbati Pandey, Member of Youth Task Force
60. Sanjeev Kumar Singh, Local Peace committee
61. Kabindra Karki, Inspector
62. Eak Narayan Koirala, Deputy Superintendent of Police

Morang
Respondents Name/Organization
63. Saroj Gautam, District Development Committee
64. Tirtha Raj Ghimire, District Development Committee
65. Jamuna Dahal, District Sports Development Committee
66. Sikendra Singh Yadav, Madhesi Jana Adhikar Forum

In-depth Interview

Dhanusa
Respondents Name/Organization
67. Bijaya Kumar, SFCG
68. Ashok Kumar Shah, YI

Mahottari
Respondents Name/Organization
69. Akbar Ansari, SFCG (Now RRN)

Sarlahi
Respondents Name/Organization
70. Manoj Shah, Samagra

Siraha
Respondents Name/Organization
71. Sunil Kumar Shah, SFCG
72. Ram Bharose Mahato, Samagra

Morang
Respondents Name/Organization
73. Hemanta Parasar, YI
74. Mahendra Mahato, SFCG

Search for Common Ground (SFCG)

Final Evaluation of Youth Engage Project

Main Questions Set (Questions/Discussion Guidelines/Checklist) based on ToR and Summary of Responses

DAC Criteria	Key Questions	Responses
1. Relevance	1.1 Were the project's stated goals and objectives relevant to the issues central to organized violence surrounding youth in Nepal?	• When this project was started in the mid and East Terai region, that time many youths were affected by organized violence. • The objective of the project was found to be relevant as it was focused on integrating three entities (youth, civil societies, and state institutions) and promoting constructive roles for the youth in promoting peace and stability. • Youths involved in the activities of the project have undergone violent armed force as well as organized violence. • Lack of coordination between the youth and other entities were also a pressing problem. • Participant selection was based on the assessment of the youth and according to the election region. Youth who were leading, those who once used to be a part of organized violence and now leading a normal life, were selected.
	1.2 What were the issues and or Status of organized violence in the context of this district?	• Dhanusa: 10 to 15 youth formed a group and involved in kidnapping, asking for donations, even murder. Local people were scared to react, as that would invite unnecessary tension. Locals were scared and not able to face it. • In the context of Terai, male youth involved in violence, not women. • Morang: organized violence through small group formation, involved in drug supply, harassing and ragging local people. • Siraha: small gangs involved in violence, donation collection, extortion, playing cards.
	1.3 Did the activities and strategies fit project objectives? To what extent was the project approach relevant to facilitate constructive engagement of the youth at the local level?	• Relevant: Leaders Engaging Youth (LEY) and Civic Leadership School (CLS) focused on youth, civil societies and state institution representation on addressing the issues of the youth. • Identifying the issues of the youth • Game was innovative idea (to bring local youth and police together) in Dhanusha • Multi-stakeholder dialogue provided a platform for open discussion. • Space for putting thoughts and views was also provided. • Issues identified in Dhanusha: drug abuse, lack of quality education, lack of accountability/morality (out of 28 issues identified) Sarlahi: Unemployment, communication and drug abuse (out of 20 issues). Mahottari: drug abuse,

DAC Criteria	Key Questions	Responses
		Siraha: Drug abuse, unemployment, and violence against women. Morang: drug abuse, human trafficking, and cybercrime (out of 12 issues identified). • Task force was formed "Youth Task Force" involving both male and female youth. • Constructive engagement: during the Madhes unrest, youth were combined and no mishaps occurred, in previous close downs they used to be violent and this time they acted as watchdogs and involved in with the national human right commission. Able to tap budget from DDC, though small-scale proposal submission in US Embassy to organize youth dialogue. • The leadership quality developed was very helpful to mobilize other youths at the local level. Able to go to government agencies with a clear plan on the visit and put their views. • The important part was, provided space for the participation of the third gender (Sarlahi and Morang) in workshops, training and representatives are also involved in the youth task force. They used to be involved in LGBT circles only.
	1.4 How is the degree of satisfaction of beneficiaries with the project?	• Beneficiaries were highly satisfied as they have never attended such training, were never able to put their views, and did not receive a common space where all stakeholders were present and so on. • Most of the respondents from all districts highlighted they are very satisfied with the project. Dialogue provided an opportunity to closely observe the issues of youth. Able to understand the negative impact of crime, violence. • Highly satisfied as they were able to understand: how to identify the problem and solve it; how to complete the task that seems impossible; Understanding of good governance; Game showed how work can be easily done; • It has sensitized youth. • Satisfaction high as collaboration between all, team building spirit high, empowerment of youth,
	1.5 Does the project add value to the peacebuilding initiatives in the districts?	Some of the examples are: • Youth network of Morang has submitted a proposal on "Role of Youth and Stakeholders in Peacebuilding". Small support was provided by the US Embassy. • During the project period, in working districts many initiatives started by youths with collaborative with multi-stakeholders.
2. Effectiveness	2.1 How has the project contributed in building capacity for a collaborative culture among key civil society, the police, local government actors and youth leaders? How have these capacities converted into actions?	• The first step of improving the relationship between youth and other stakeholders was to understand the issues concerning the youth. The dialogues (32, in each district 4) organized provided a common ground approach where issues affecting the youth were shared by the youth and concerned stakeholders were also present. In the first dialogue, issues of the youth were identified, and a youth task force was established. In the second dialogue, the task force presented on the issues identified and all (youth, civic society representatives, government agency representatives) were involved in identifying the top three issues of the youths. In the third dialogue, indicators were developed on what could be done (co-operative action) and finally in the fourth dialogue assessment and review was carried out. However, due to Terai unrest in all districts, the forth dialogue was completed

DAC Criteria	Key Questions	Responses
		without reviewing the achievements and or challenges and planning what next. • The Civic Leadership School (CLS) workshop of 5 days, Leaders Engaging Youth (LEY) workshop of 2 days, dialogues (1 to 4) were the basis of developing the collaborative culture among civil society, police, local government actors and youth leaders. • Organizing such workshops and programs provided ample opportunities for the youth to express their views, others to understand the youth more closely. • Formation of the youth task force and working on issues identified during the dialogues. • For action: provision of seed grant was there, the opportunity for youth to visit government agencies, interaction with political parties, civic societies (NGOs, media, social organizations). • Collaborative activities with Human Rights Commission, Women and Children Office, Agriculture office, Local Peace Committee in Morang. • Because of dialogues, government agencies are also aware on the issues of the Youth. Further, it is required that such issues should be shared with the concerned government authorities at the district level. • In Morang after 4 levels of presentation, the municipality allocated NPR. 300,000.00 to organize leadership development programs in 22 wards of the municipality. There is 30-member ward network. • Football clinic (60 youth and 20 police) in Dhanusha was effective: bonding development, fear of police was eradicated, interaction with police and youth. • By the LEY workshop and CLS training, among the youth and others, multi stakeholders collaborative joint action for trust building and relationship improved of seed grant activities implementing in a collaborative way. Like i) Orientation program on drugs addiction reduction ii) Orientation program on Cybercrime and affected of youth career. iii) role and engagement in the local development of youth etc.
	2.2 What types of platforms the project provided to youth and other stakeholders? Did the project foster dialogue between youth groups, and the youth and other stakeholders?	• Space, where the youth were able to put their issues and stakeholders, have had a chance to understand the issues and also put their views and concerns. • Morang: Youth involvement in violence was not evident; Youth involvement in constructive ways was observed during the earthquake and Madhesh unrest; • Before the project intervention Youth rights were not addressed. • Because of the project, Youth Network was established and youth task force was also formed. • In Morang, 67 youth groups are affiliated with the Youth Network (loose network) established after the dialogues. • After participating in the project activities (like CLS and LEY) youth activeness was observed (in Morang) visited many places of Morang to share the constitution and gather information on youth. Even requested constitution members and advocates to facilitate the consent taking of the youth. • Discussion on Constitution was undertaken through Constitution information center in Morang.

DAC Criteria	Key Questions	Responses
		• According to the respondents of Siraha, till now no such program was organized where youth were able to discuss and put their views in front of CDO, SP, LDO
	2.3 Are there any signals of increased capacities and skills on dialogue, collaboration and conflict resolution among the project beneficiaries such as the youth, women, NGOs and media professionals? How have they applied this knowledge and skills in their personal as well as professional lives?	Yes, following are examples • Dialogue: Morang (participation in the Human Rights Defender Observation and interact with the victims; organized number of dialogues on the issues of youth in various VDCs under their own expenses). • Collaboration: Morang action plan was developed to implement activity under cyber crime, and was facilitated by the police. Social media comes under cyber crime. • Conflict resolution: A case of Dhanusha, where CLS participants resolved a case of killing fish (reared by one person) by others.
	2.4 Has there been any positive shift in attitude or behavior of media professionals, youth, local leaders, women or other stakeholders, including community people towards the youth role in peacebuilding and development? Has there been any evidence of increased relationships and collaboration among the youth and other stakeholders during the life of the project?	• Community people used to think youth just spend time and not involved in productive activities. Media used to cover news that was focused on negative aspects of youth. Other stakeholders' impression was youth are only involved in violence like gang formation, asking for donations. • Now, the situation is different, they take youth as agents of change. • The Youth view of on-line agencies was negative which now is positive. • Interaction with stakeholders (mainly government agencies) provided the youth opportunities to understand that the youth were also not following the rules and processes. • Community observation is the youth are becoming more responsible, they are trustworthy. • An example of relationship from Morang: There is an increase in Youth visiting Morang District Sports Development Committee, information flow to them and what support is available is shared. • Example from Siraha: After the dialogues, identification of the issues, in the border area police observation on drug use was high and 17 youths were captured. • Women of the community who used to backbite and talk negatively are requesting support from CLS/LEY female participants. • DDC of Sarlahi provided NPR. 800,000.00 to the different youth groups to invest in skill-based training, awareness generation activities. Similarly, NPR. 100,000.00 to Third Genders. Usually only those near and affiliated to political parties were beneficiaries of the support received from government agencies. • Sangor Radio Drama and Collaborative action have role played in a positive shift in attitude or behavior of media professionals, youth, local leaders, women or other stakeholders, including community people towards youth role in peacebuilding and development.
	2.5 How the seed grants were utilized by the youth groups and what were the results achieved as a result of those see-grant activities?	• In all visited districts, first seed grant (NPR. 50,000.00) was provided to earthquake victims. • In Dhanusa, second seed grant was used for hoarding boards with a message on saying no to drugs. (one near the Nepal – India border in Nagrain VDC and one on the highway in Godar VDC). • In Morang, out of NPR. 50,000.00 as second seed grant NPR. 40,000.00 used to make an awareness video on social issues and another amount on orientation on various issues identified during the

DAC Criteria	Key Questions	Responses
		dialogues.
		• In Siraha, seed grant was used for orientation programs on drug abuse; involvement of police was in such programs. Also in organizing programs on violence against women with collaboration from VDC representatives, the police, and health post representatives.
		• In Siraha, police representatives were involved in organizing programs on drugs abuse, violence against women, and relations between the police and the general public/youth.
		• In Sarlahi (Malangwa) along with police, UNFPA and DDC interaction and orientation on drug abuse was organized in 5 colleges.
		• In Mahottari seed grant was used in organizing youth day, Human Rights Day celebration, organizing programs in schools related to drug abuse, in six schools Flex Board with information on Code of Conduct about drug use.
		• By the seed grant activities have trust build on, mutual understanding of each other, especially in working areas.
		• During the period of the Earthquake (Baishakh 12 Gate) automatically organized relief collection and distributed in effective areas (Lalitpur and Okhaldhunga districts.)
		• News coverage by Himal Magazine and Local Newspapers.
	2.6 What unexpected results did the project lead to? What are the challenges to ensure proper implementation of the project?	•
3. Peace Effectiveness	3.1 To what extent did the project achieve its intended results? What are the major outcomes of this project? What major factors contributed to achievement or non-achievement of its objectives (factors of success and challenges)?	Major outcomes: Linkage development with stakeholders; youth task force; Youth civic engagement... Identification of the issues concerning the youth (three major issues in all districts); Development of collaborative approaches, linkage development (youth, civic societies, and government agencies); Formation of youth task force and their engagement in various activities. The factors that contributed to the achievement of the project's objectives were: Use of Common Ground Approach (CGA); Training youth and other stakeholders with the right tools (LEY, CLS, Dialogues, football clinic); Identification of ways on collaboration; Dedicated project team.
	3.2 What direct and indirect evidences are available that the action taken contributed to the active engagement of youth in peacebuilding and development at the local level?	• Morang: During the Madhesh unrest, CLS and LEY participants actively engaged with civic society and Human Rights which contributed in peacebuilding without involvement in violence.
		• Some local youth, after been involved in YE and took part in CLS/LEY, understood the importance of supportive action. Now they are engaging local youth in sports which have reduced youth involvement in drug use.
		• To increase team building, every Saturday cricket is played and Sikendra Yadav provides food to local youths.

DAC Criteria	Key Questions	Responses
		• In Siraha, in most of the VDCs' household violence that took place and not addressed and the victims used to suffer, similarly, rape case used to be solved in the village with money and power. However, now such cases are registered at the local police station. • In the agriculture office in Mahottari, there is a high flow of youth receiving services, which was not evident earlier.
	3.3 What are the significant changes experienced by the participants and the community that can be attributed to the project?	Interaction with the participants of various activities of Morang Participants: Sikendra Yada Jatuwa-18, Biratnagar (Morang); Saj Kumar Ale Magar, a reputed football player from Siraha in Lahan; During the Madhesh unrest, in Morang district, dialogue among the participants of CLS; Indra Kumar Jha from Tulsiyahi VDC in Dhanusha; Sanjeev Kumar Singh, Madar-17 Siraha Municipality, Siraha, • Youth participated in programs on drug addiction, Gender Based Violence, cybercrime, • The positive message in the community that youth are engaged in non-violence activities and becoming more responsible. • Previously government agencies used to give projects to the youth associated with political wings only, however now organizations represented by youth are also receiving it. This is because of the project. • In Siraha, the Municipality used to allocate budgets in only 8 topics and youth were not included under the recipients of the budget. However, last year they allocated NPR. 50,000.00 each to three youth teams. • People in VDCs believe that youth are capable of bringing budgets from the government level. • Local people respecting the youth. • District Sports Development Committee of Malangwa provided 8,000 for youth information center. • From Malangwa, 3 youth who participated in CLS were selected for youth self-employment and received support for training on commercial farming and also received financial support. • DDC Malangwa provided 500,000.00 to establish youth network in 88 VDCs and 4 municipalities. But the Terai unrest (due to) hampered it. Now attempts are being made to establish the network and a total fund of 10,000,00.00 had been proposed to UNFPA and DDC.
	3.4 How did the national youth forum contribute in advocating for developing policy and strategies for youth engagement in the peace process and development?	• Provided opportunities to meet other youth from other districts, understand each other's perspectives. • 18-point declaration for the integration of the youth movement • serve to define a clear role that young people can play in the process of social transformation
	3.5 How has the project contributed in reducing youth engagement in violence?	• During the Madhesh unrest, in Morang dialogue among youth took place every day. Sharing the status of their VDCs and other locations. Not to be involved and request others not be involved in violence message were being circulated. • By involving the youth who were taken as leaders in society, the youth once involved in violence and

DAC Criteria	Key Questions	Responses
		mobilizing them through the seed money support. • In the 2nd time of the Madhesh movement period, our project participated youth have not engaged in any violent activities, one Madhesi Youth Anad Jha has started the ANSHAN to address the Madhesh issue by peaceful ways in Dhanusha district.
4. Implementation Process	4.1 To what extent has Common Ground Approach been mainstreamed in project activities?	Common ground according to respondents • Dhanusha: Issues of youth-focused • Sarlahi: Youth involvement • Mahottari: Peace establishment • Siraha: Individual with different thoughts but common interest on Youth. • Morang: Youth Issues
	4.2 Is there effective monitoring of the project implementation? What are the mechanisms of the reflection and learning process?	• Monitoring: by the district coordinator, regular visits from SFCG Janakpur and Kathmandu office. occasional visits by YI central level staff. • There was no exit plan, presence of managerial staff in all activities implications on cost aspect but also programs could not be implemented parallel in all districts;
	4.3 Were the project activities implemented in a timely manner as guided by the implementation Plan? Were there any delays in project implementation? Are those delays justified? Has the the project achieved its milestones set for the period in a timely manner?	• The Multi stakeholder's dialogue and seed grant activities had delays because that time affected all the project areas by Earthquake and Madhes unrest situation, a total of 6 months totally closed in all project districts, no activities run at any cost. • Delays were justified as it was due to the promulgation of Constitution 2072, milestones achieved.
	4.4 How was the coordination between SFCG, IPs, and other stakeholders esp. the government agencies? Were there any challenges? If yes, how these challenges were managed?	• It was good, • While working in collaboration, it resulted in higher achievements. The consortium formed for implementation of the activities is an example of the collaborative approach.
5. Sustainability	5.1 Which steps have been taken or are planned to create long-term processes, structures, and institutions for the continuation of good practices at the local level?	• Youth task force of Morang is planning to establish Youth Human Rights Network and focus on activities related to the human rights of the youth. • Youth task force to be registered as youth network has been planned in Morang, Siraha, Sarlahi, and Dhanusha. However, there are not sure whether to register or work as a loose network. Few examples of the loose network. • Samagra is planning to train women leaders in the VDCs and making them politically active through the CLS/LEY participants. • Task Force Committee (TFC) and District Youth Network (DYN) are mobilized frequently for youth-led initiatives, Contingency relief distribution in flood areas of Saptari. Today, District Youth Network

DAC Criteria	Key Questions	Responses
		mobilized for District Youth Assembly organizes at August 12, 2016.
	5.2 Have new mechanisms been designed to continue the work initiated by this project? If yes, will the initiatives sustain post-project?	• The youth task forces are becoming active, however, not certain whether to register as a network or work in a loose form. • Project supported in identifying major issues of the districts, however, what will happen to the issues is not clear. • Received achievement during the project period hand over to DPAC and GON multi-stakeholders. • District action plan hand over to DDC office of every working district by DPAC meeting.
	5.3 Does the effort contribute to creating momentum for peace by encouraging the participants and communities to develop independent initiatives?	• Youth task force of Sarlahi requested UNFPA to support a14 step planning process, and a total budget of NPR 500,000.00 was released to DDC, but the amount was frozen due to the Terai unrest. • With support from UNFPA, Restless Development and Youth Initiative in Sarlahi 3 days training was organized on Fact-Based Advocacy. • Peace is an ongoing process, so our engaged youth of working district, have mobilized by district youth network, self-motivated and encourage by our synergized in others projects also.
OTHERS		
What were the **major constraints and challenges** that the YE project faced?		• Due to the Terai unrest in all districts, 3rd and 4th dialogue did not take place accordingly. 4th dialogue should be a closing and review what was done, however as planned it did not take place. • Activities were not able to be implemented in time as in all activities Project Manager's presence was a must. All programs should be carried out in presence of the Project Manager. This resulted in the lack of time management and activities that could have completed earlier could not. • Seed grant activities were delayed by almost 6 months. • District coordinator worked 5 months without salary.

Annex 5: Activities wise results/achievement.

Activities	Planned	Achieved	Achievement %	Remarks *(if target is not met REASON and if achievement more than targeted REASON)*
2.1.1 District-specific research and consultations on youth engagement in violence.	8 Districts	8 Districts	100%	
2.2.4 Capacity building training and workshops for				
• influential youth	400	455	113%	
• civil society organizations	24	55	229%	Civil Society Youth mainly actively participation in Training and Workshop
• police personnel	80	60	75%	Terai Movement mostly affected to participation of Nepal Police.
• local leaders	24	30	125%	
2.2.1 Cooperative actions: # dialogues to develop respective district action plans to reduce youth engagement in violence;	32	30	93%	Terai Movement mostly affected to Seed Grant Activities.
2.2.3 Seed grants to youth-led groups in 8 target districts to implement their action plans targeting 4000 youth.				
2.2.4 Football clinics in 8 target districts to develop youth-police relations with 400 youth.	4 Districts	4 Districts	100%	
2.3.1 Networking and Advocacy: 8 district level youth-led advocacy forums targeting 1000 people and 1 National Youth Forum with 500 participants.				
2.3.1 Networking and Advocacy: 1 National Youth Forum with 500 participants.	1	1	100%	
3.3.1 Changing public attitudes and behavior: 78 episodes of weekly half-hour radio drama broadcast across 8 target districts reaching 1.5 million listeners.	78 Episode	78 Episode	100%	