



Gender Mainstreaming and Social Inclusion Project

Government of  
Nepal-JICA  
Technical  
Cooperation

# GeMSIP Update



*August 2009, Volume 1, Issue 1*

## MESSAGE FROM JOINT SECRETARY MINISTRY OF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

Gender Mainstreaming and Social Inclusion Project (GeMSIP) is made possible through joint cooperation of Governments of Nepal and Japan. First of all, I would like to extend my greetings to you all as GeMSIP is publishing its first issue of newsletter.

The project is being implemented in Morang and Syangja districts to realize such important issue as gender mainstreaming and social inclusion, and it also aims to extend its impact to the neighboring districts of these two target districts. Moreover, GeMSIP intends to assist in annual plan formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluating and gender responsive at district level by strengthening the current policy of Nepal. Additionally, I believe that the project, being operated with the technical cooperation of the Government of Japan, will support in the area of national policy formation, program implementation, evaluation and monitoring in relation to gender and social inclusion issue, the burning topic of Nepal at present. Finally, I hope this newsletter will be oriented towards above mentioned issues along with women empowerment.

By Mr. Krishna Prasad Devkota  
Joint Secretary  
Ministry of Local Development

## MESSAGE FROM GEMSIP EXPERT TEAM

GeMSIP is a challenge. Not only for the people who are involved in and working for this project but also for Nepal as a whole. It is a project aiming at a shift in paradigm. It is an endeavor to initiate a real, sweeping change in society. Even though its size is small, GeMSIP entertains a big hope: A hope clearly seen on the distant horizon.

We, JICA Expert Team, are pleased and honored to work on GeMSIP and grateful to all people who go hand in hand towards that hope. Let's move on. Thank you.

By Dr. Norimichi Toyomane  
Team Leader  
GeMSIP Expert Team

## MESSAGE FROM JOINT SECRETARY MINISTRY OF WOMEN, CHILDREN AND SOCIAL WELFARE

First of all, I would like to express my happiness that Gender Mainstreaming and Social Inclusion Project (GeMSIP) is publishing its first newsletter. I wish the project be successful in achieving its goals and objectives.

GeMSIP, being implemented with the mutual co-operation of Governments of Nepal and Japan, has the objective of improving the living standards of women and socially excluded groups. To achieve the objective of this project, activities in Morang and Syangja districts should be implemented effectively in addressing gender mainstreaming and social inclusion. If this "GeMSIP Update", in addition to providing its programs and activities, could include the articles which analyze whether the implemented programs and activities are leading towards achieving its objectives or not and also point out the areas to be improved, then it can be hoped that it will support in achieving its objectives.

If the GeMSIP newsletter is written in an easily understandable manner and distributed to the general public, it will definitely contribute in achieving the project's objectives of serving women and socially excluded groups. In addition to supporting in providing guidance for the implementation of gender mainstreaming and social inclusion activities it will also help in replicating the best practices of this project in other districts of the nation.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the GeMSIP team for providing me an opportunity to express my greetings for the launching of the newsletter. At the same time I express my best wishes and hope for continuity of the newsletter.

By Mr. Ratna Kaji Bajracharya  
Joint Secretary  
Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare

## BASELINE SURVEY

From May to July 2009 GeMSIP conducted Baseline Survey by subcontracting it to Institute for the Integrated Development Studies (IIDS). The main objective of the survey was to understand how gender mainstreaming and social inclusion (GM/SI) is understood in the central government and in the two target districts, Morang and Syangja. The survey consisted of document review, interview and questionnaire survey. Among other things the survey brought light on the following points:

- The staff composition of MLD, MWCSW and DDCs is grossly imbalanced in terms of gender and caste, with the male and Brahmin/Chhetri as dominant group, while DWD has almost equal gender balance and WDOs are composed of mostly by women but both are largely represented by Brahmin/Chhetri.
- Relevant GM/SI policies and guidelines are in place but not well disseminated.
- Systematic and institutional collection of information and GM/SI disaggregated statistics is weak both at central and district level.
- "Government unwillingness", "lack of know-how", and "lack of awareness on the reality in the communities" are seen to be relatively high potential area hindering GM/SI promotion.
- "Policy formulation", "promotion of access to service" and "promotion of participation" have received more attention as areas to be strengthened by different agencies.



## GM/SI TOT

A 3-day Training of Trainers (ToT) was conducted from 14 to 16 June 2009 at LDTA, Lalitpur. The ToT was attended altogether by 20 participants, of which 6 were from the central level (MLD, MWCSW and DWD), 7 from Syangja and 7 from Morang.

The ToT aimed at developing common understanding on gender mainstreaming and social inclusion and fostering a group of trainers on GM/SI at two districts and centre level so that they could facilitate GM/SI Basic Training at their respective localities.

The ToT covered the following issues: Basic concept on gender issues and social exclusion; Outline of gender issues and social exclusion in Nepal; Problem analysis on gender issues and social exclusion; GM/SI approach; and Facilitation skills for GM/SI Basic Training.



## GM/SI BASIC TRAINING

A 2-day GM/SI Basic training was conducted on 26-27 June in Morang, 3-4 July in Syangja and 15-16 July in Kathmandu. The participants were from government offices and GM/SI related committees and NGOs. There were 37 participants in Morang, 25 in Syangja and 24 in Kathmandu. The training covered the same topics as those in the ToT except facilitation skills.



### GeMSIP Completed Activities (February - August, 2009)

| Month       | Activity   | Place                         |
|-------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Feb.        | Consultation Meeting with Counterparts in Japan  | Japan                         |
| April       | Project Management Committee (PMC) meetings and Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) meeting | Kathmandu                     |
| May - July. | Baseline Survey  | Kathmandu, Morang and Syangja |
| June        | Training of Trainers (ToT)   | Kathmandu                     |
| June - July | Gender Mainstreaming and Social Inclusion Basic Training                                   | Kathmandu, Morang and Syangja |

### GeMSIP Upcoming Activities (September – December, 2009)

| Month    | Activity                                    | Place                         |
|----------|---|-------------------------------|
| Sept.    | GeMSIP Project Design Matrix (PDM) Workshop | Kathmandu                     |
| Sept.    | Project Management Committee (PMC) meeting  | Kathmandu                     |
| Nov.     | Selection of pilot VDCs                     | Morang & Syangja              |
| Nov.     | Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) meeting  | Kathmandu                     |
| Nov- Dec | Training on GM/SI Appraisal and Audit       | Kathmandu, Morang and Syangja |