

A brief Report on
Performance Contract
Signing ceremony
between the Secretary of
the MoFALD and LDOs of
Mid and Far West
Districts amidst high
level Donor
Representatives.

February 12

2015



NEPALGUNJ
HIGH
LEVEL
VISIT
PROGRAM
ME

PERFORMANCE CONTRACT SIGNING CEREMONY WITH LDOS OF MID AND FAR WEST DISTRICTS:

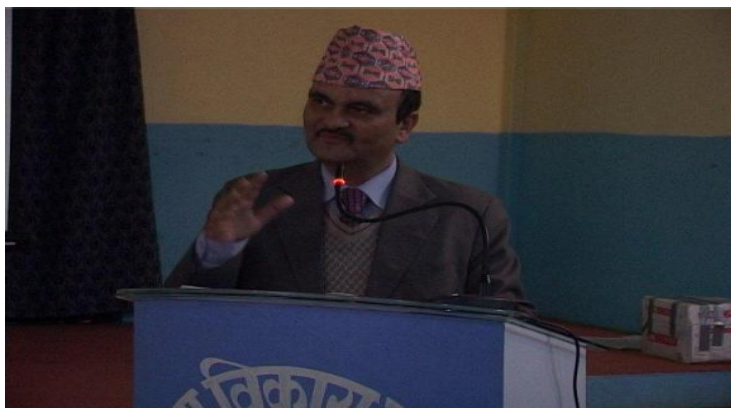


FIGURE 1: DR. SOM LAL SUBEDI, SECRETARY-MOFALD DELIVERING DURING THE PERFORMANCE CONTRACT SIGNING CEREMONY

Dr. Som Lal Subedi, Secretary of Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development signed the performance contract with LDOs of Mid West and Far West region on February 12, 2015 in Nepalgunj. At the outset of the performance contract signing ceremony, Dr Subedi highlighted on the concept and rationality of result based performance contract.

graced by high level dignitaries such as, H.E. Dr. Urs Herren, the Ambassador of Switzerland, H.E Kjell Tormod Petersen, the Ambassador of Norway to Nepal, and H.E, Ms Kirsten Gellan, the Ambassador of Denmark to Nepal. Similarly, the event was graced by other high level donor representatives, such as the UNDP Country Director, UNICEF Country Representative, DFID

Team Leader, representative from European Commission and other development agencies.

The contract signing ceremony was



FIGURE 2: HIGH LEVEL DONOR REPRESENTATIVES DURING THE CEREMONY

Addressing the ceremony, the Secretary highlighted that Government of Nepal is committed to deliver prompt quality goods and services to the citizens. He further stressed that the local governance process can be strengthened only if the citizens are empowered and enabled to actively participate in the local level decision making process. The absence of elected local bodies has been a complex environment to make the LBs more accountable and responsive to citizens. Despite many efforts, the resource allocation could not prove equitable as expected. To address and minimize such complexities, MoFALD introduced various measures like formulae based grant system, Minimum Conditions and Performance Measurements (MCPMs), developed and revised resource mobilization and management guideline, introduced transformational approach to social mobilization, capacity development of service providers and promoting e-

governance via incorporating various software based systems and Information Technology for enhancing service delivery of LBs. All these efforts have supported to enhance the service delivery system to large extent. Additionally, this performance based contract with Local Development Officer will further improve the system and make local body more responsive towards citizens.

MoFALD has introduced performance based contract with Local Development Officers and Executive Officers of entire DDCs and Municipalities. The main aim of this initiation is to make local bodies more responsive and accountable to citizens and deliver quality services to citizens. This initiation aims to concentrate on the efforts of LB's chief towards making Local bodies as a lead development agency with meaningful participation of citizen and strengthen local governance process at local level. In this regard, MoFALD has already signed the performance contract with LDOs of three regions East, Central and Western Development region respectively.

unofficial translation

Performance Contract Signed



**FIGURE 3: MEDIA COVERAGE-NEPALGUNJ
PERFORMANCE CONTRACT SIGNING PUBLISHED IN
GORKHAPATRA NATIONAL DAILY**

29 Magh 2071, Nepalgunj, Gorkhapatra National Daily.

The Performance contract agreement was signed between Dr. Som Lal Subedi, Secretary of MoFALD and relevant Local Development Officers of Mid West and Far West region in presence of LGCDP II donors that constituted of dignitaries such as Ambassador of Denmark, Switzerland and Norway, and high level representative from European Union, UNICEF and UNDP.

The performance contract agreement is envisioned to evaluate the performance of the local development officers and District Development offices based on the 61 indicators and 14 working areas as defined in the Performance Contract.

Binod Prasad Dhakal, Director Institute of Local Governance Studies (Inlogos) informed that governance issues such as CFLG, EFLG, Local Governance Service Delivery is included as indicators in the performance agreement.

It was informed that the performance contract agreement has been initiated as per the strategic planning of 2068 B.S, and guided by Local Self Governance Act. MoFALD Secretary, Dr. Som Lal Subedi expressed confidence that the performance contract will increase responsibility of DDC and LDOs to achieve targets. He further added that in order of successful implementation of government's policy and programme, all areas of Local bodies needs to be mobilized.

The programme was graced by H.E, Dr. Urs Herren, the Ambassador of Switzerland to Nepal, H.E, Kjell Tormod Petersen, the Ambassador of Norway to Nepal, and H.E, Ms Kirsten Gellan, the Ambassador of Denmark to Nepal.

In the same line, Dr. Subedi highlighted the objectives of performance contract as:

OBJECTIVES OF THE PERFORMANCE CONTRACT:

- Bringing forth the envisioning of the LSGA 2055, & Regulation 2056;
- Comply the provisions of Civil Service Act, 2049 & Regulation 2050;
- Adopt the Local Body Resource Mobilization Guideline 2069 and its mandate;
- Sincere adherence/compliance MCPM 2065 to operate Local Bodies;
- Enhance coordination with Line agencies and motivate them to work with LBs;
- Prepare Governance and result framework for elected representative in the future;
- Provide annual result framework to LDCs and their alignment with DDCs and VDCs;
- Enhance coordination with Line agencies and motivate them to work with LBS.

RATIONALITY OF PERFORMANCE CONTRACT:

- Increase the efficiency of DDCs;
- Measure the performance standard against the benchmarking;
- Set development priority of Local Bodies;
- Role clarity of DDCs: Re-scoping the roles;
- Raise the governance parameter through Transparency, Accountability, and Responsiveness;
- Maintain the quality of local infrastructure;
- Incorporate the latest local governance reform and development issues.
- Improve Civil service credibility in the absence of political representation in Local Bodies;
- Building leadership in Local Bodies;
- Smooth operation of Local Bodies assuring the basic benchmark of governance & addressing the development priority;
- Enhance managerial and leadership capacity of LDOs;
- Figure out the Performer and Non-performer;
- Introduce the performance based management system and establish the PERFORMANCE CELL at ministry;
- Further institutionalized the reform and service devises efforts in LBs (MCPMs, EFLG, CFLG, Social protection)

PRESENTATION BY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

After the performance contract signing process three Local Development Officers from Dang, Rukum and Kailali respectively briefly highlighted on the accomplishments, issues and opportunities of Local Governance and Community Development Programme (LGCDP). After this representative presentation, the floor was open to interaction on local governance strengthening process, efforts and achievements. The detail of the presentation is given in annex.

CLOSING REMARKS H.E AMBASSADORS AND HIGH LEVEL DELEGATES



FIGURE 4: UNDP REPRESENTATIVE DURING CLOSING REMARK

At the end of the session, all the distinguish excellence ambassadors and delegates expressed their views regarding the performance contract signing ceremony. Many of them praised the initiative as an important step towards making local government more accountable to its communities.

Furthermore, it was opined that due to absence of elected local bodies in Nepal, it has resulted in poor service delivery at local level and by virtue; the voiceless have been more vulnerable and deprived of basic goods and services. They expressed their hope that these types of result based performance system will inevitably bring positive impacts in people's lives, the service providers are more responsive towards citizen's demand and request, and create more transparency in daily operations.

In his closing remarks by H.E HRR, Honorable Ambassador of Switzerland thanked MoFALD for inviting the DPs in witnessing the important event of signing performance based contract with Local Development Officers of various districts of mid and far western region. The Ambassador on behalf of all DPs supporting LGCDP congratulated MOFALD for the good initiative and also successfully conducting this event.

He appreciated and stressed the Ministry's continued commitment to implement the reform process in Local Governance in this political transition through LGCDP. The lapses of accountability in absence of elected representative have long been a serious agenda not only within government but also among all DPs supporting Government of Nepal, especially in LGCDP. We must say, this initiative to establish performance based contract with LDOs and Executive Officers is a very good first step in making LDOs and EOs who are also

assuming the role of Chairperson or mayor at present, more accountable towards the population and the MoFALD about their work.

H.E also appreciated the fact that this performance contract is linked with the annual Minimum Condition and Performance Measurement (MCPM) of the ministry and also it is clearly mentioned that this will be the basis of performance measurement of the officials. In addition, District periodic plans and its linkage with annual plan and also institutionalization of social accountability tools like public hearing and public audits are well adopted as the indicators of this contract, which are very instrumental in ensuring downward accountability of local bodies.

H.E once again congratulated present leadership of the ministry for the launching of this initiative. What is needed now is the institutionalization of this initiative by effective implementation and adequate monitoring of the contract. On behalf of all the DPs, it is our hope that the ministry will be able to institutionalize it in the coming days and will be able to prove that it is not a one shot event.

H.E also stressed that, this Performance contract will also reduce significantly the tendency of frequent transfer of LDOs, which has been recognized as one of the hindrances in providing effective services to the people at the local level. The performance contracts can also be used in the handing over between outgoing and incoming LDO, to ensure continuity of the district development policy.

Finally, H.E mentioned that all the DPs once again, appreciate the MoFALD commitment to implement this programme in this difficult political transition and express DPs commitment to support this programme in the future as well. H.E reiterate that all the DPs are very keen to see holding of local election soonest possible, since this is the key in strengthening local democracy and that the programme will also play an instrumental role to define the future of local bodies in a federalized structure according to the much awaited new constitution.

Overall, the representatives expressed their fuller satisfaction and extended greetings for the success of this initiation. The closing session was respectively addressed by H.E of Switzerland, Denmark, Norway, UNDP Country Director, UNICEF Rep, UNFPA Rep, DFID Team Leader, Rep from European Commission and other delegates.

VOTE OF THANKS AND CLOSING OF THE PERFORMANCE CONTRACT SIGNING CEREMONY

Joint Secretary of Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development Mr. Purna Chandra Bhattarai extended heartfelt gratitude to all the delegates for their meaningful presence to make that ceremony as a major event. He further opined that the performance contract signing ceremony is itself a landmark step and indication of GoN to make the overall governance systems more responsive to citizens. He further committed that MoFALD will

take a meaningful facilitating roles to enable the local bodies for effective implementation of LSGA spirit and prove itself to be a genuine representative institution of people, by which all sorts of citizens will have equitable access over the resources, and meaningfully take active part in local level decision making process. He further stressed that MoFALD will closely monitor and follow up the result based performance system and make it more transparent to adhere it by all.

CLOSING REMARKS BY MOFALD SECRETARY:

MoFALD Secretary Dr. Som Lal Subedi formally announced the closing of the performance contract signing programme. He made cordial request to all Local Development Officers to produce tangible results as envisaged in the performance contract. He further opined that the role of Local Development Officers has been more crucial in absence of elected local bodies. Due to political instability, local election could not be held after 2054 BS. This has increased citizen's frustration and thereby needs to be addressed in a right way so that the GoN is sensitive to deliver quality goods and services even in absence of elected local elected bodies. Many development partners are extending their sincere support to GoN and MoFALD. Hence this support needs to be perceived and mobilized on right ways. All heads of LBs, that is, DDCs, Municipalities and VDCs need to be more and more responsive and accountable to citizens in all sorts of service deliveries. LBs need to introduce IT packages in greater extend and should demonstrate high degree of transparencies, and settle the unsettled amount in a timely manner. Local Self Governance Act has devolved high degree of authority to generate the local revenue and taxes to LBs. But very few LBs have succeeded to generate local taxes while relying heavily on the central government. This is not a sustainable approach to strengthen the local governance system. Hence, all LBs need to increase focus towards generating local resources and expanding better services to the citizens. He stressed that GoN/MOFALD had introduced various steps like formulae based granting system, MCPMs and periodic revisions in resource mobilization and management manual. All this steps are intended to ensure equitable allocation of resources. Besides, the target group focus grant has largely ensured the interest of marginalized citizens.

Mr. Secretary further emphasized that all of this could bring good results if enacted and monitored periodically. Hence, he further instructed the LDOs to establish result based management system and introduce the local bodies as the true representative and organization of citizens and community. He stressed that the social mobilization process implemented throughout the country need to reflect the people's voices, choices and rights and that should be addressed rightly from the supply side. He added that LGCDP support should always go towards strengthening the demand side and enable the supply side to be ready to address the genuine demands of citizens. Finally, Dr Som Lal Subedi extended sincere thanks to their Excellencies ambassadors and dignitaries for their

presence and encouragement, and extended gratitude to all participants and formally announced the closing of session.

BRIEF ON FIELD VISITS:

LGCDP Regional Coordination Unit Nepalgunj arranged a short field visit programme for MoFALD Officials, Ambassadors and Delegates. The field visits were arranged at nearby VDCs due to time limitation. The objectives of the field visits were to provide opportunity to delegates to understand:

- A. *How people are being engaged in citizen awareness centers, ward citizen forums?*
- B. *Roles of political parties in budget formulation process and scopes of integrated plan formulation committee at VDC s and district level? Any scope for CSOs influences and participation*
- C. *Effectiveness of VDCs and transparency of public financial management*
- D. *Participation of women and children in local governance business*

The field visit team was divided into two groups – Radhapur VDC and Mahadevpuri VDC’

VISIT TO RADHAPUR VDC (FEBRUARY 13, 2015)

The first group was headed by the MoFALD Secretary visited Radhapur VDC and the second group was headed by MoFALD Joint Secretary Mr. Purna Chandra Bhattarai and visited



Radhapur Field Visit team members

- Dr. Som Lal Subedi Secretary, MoFALD;
- Ambassador,
- National Programme Director, LGCDP;
- Representative, EU
- Assistant Country Director; UNDP
- Bhola Dahal, RNE;
- Arun Regmi;
- Local Development Officer, Banke
- Madhav Shrestha, RCU
- DGE, DDC Banke;
- Dovan Lawati; UNICEF
- Narendra Bista, RCU, Dhangadhi

Mahadevpuri VDC. Both groups were facilitated by the RCU professionals and District Governance Experts. The team composition is given below.

Radhapur VDC

Radhapur is a VDC in the western part of Nepalgunj Sub metropolitan city. The VDC is 10 Km away from Nepalgunj. It takes about 30 minutes to reach the Radhapur and is 8 Km far from district road. The VDC is connected with motorable graveled road and across the villages in the area. The VDC is spread over 2230 hector. It is situated nearby Nepal-India boarder. It is said that the hill tribal community that boast of retired Nepal army personnel were settled in the area to safeguard the boarder during King Mahendra regime.

The total population of the VDC is 4518 that comprise 2272 (50.28%) male and female 2246 (49.72%) whereas children share 41% (1894) of total population. The VDC has majority of Hill tribal (pahadi Janajati) Community. This particular tribal community covers 63% of total households of the VDC. Out of total households 4518, Dalit community shares 15% (122 HHs) of the total residents.

Literacy rate of the VDC is 83.5% which is above the literacy average of national census 2011. The VDC has one each government's primary and higher secondary schools. Interestingly, all school-going children are 100% in-rolled at schools. There are few private schools in the area as well.

Health facilities in the VDC are satisfactory. Altogether two private clinics and one government owned sub health post is providing basic health services to the people in the village. Importantly, a recently constructed and well facilitated health post building build with the support of DDC grant (LGCDP topping up) is providing good health services. The health post has separate birth cabins. Two ANM (Auxiliary Nurse) provides maternity service in-an-average to 5 women per month. For the major health hazards, people from Radhapur VDC come to big hospitals situated in Nepalgunj sub Metropolitan.

For livelihood and income generation, majority of population is dependent on agriculture, foreign employment and government pension. 70% of the population earns their daily livelihood from agriculture and 15 % youth earns from remittance. The major source of the income of the area is also from Government pension as there are retired army personnel. Community forest that covers 4.99 hector lands in the VDC is abundant source of timber and feeding cattle.

Social mobilization under MoFALD/LGCDP programme has intervened since the mid 2011. Ward Citizen Forum (WCFs) at ward level citizen institution is functional since the year of its formation and largely influencing planning and budgeting procedures of

local bodies. WCFs have become key players in the VDC to advocate and mediate the priorities of the deprived citizen and raise their voice in local governance process. Further Citizen awareness Centers (CAC) are operational and dedicated to people empowerment. Reflect circle as means of empowerment has shown many successful examples of changes in the lives of most deprived women members of Citizen Awareness Center.

INTERACTION WITH VDC SECRETARY, IPFC MEMBER AND WCF MEMBER



address the demands of targeted group. The Ward Citizen Forum (WCF) and Citizen Awareness Center (CAC) are involved in civic oversight process and use their active involvement in public hearing and public audit of each project under their jurisdiction.

First, the high level delegates interacted with Integrated Planning and Formulation Committee (IPFC) on participatory planning process, budget distribution, and target group program implementation. As provisioned in Local Body Resource Mobilization Management Manual, VDC have allocated at least 35% budget to

The VDC secretary highlighted that one of the emerging challenges is the expectation and huge demands from citizens which in turn has created pressure on VDCs to addressing their demands. On the other hand, this has created an opportunity to VDCs for

The VDC secretary Mr. Chiranjeevi Pandey explained that WCFs are becoming a platform to prioritize the ward level projects, verify the beneficiaries of social protection, settling community level petty disputes, playing key role in national campaign like school enrollment programme, declaring ODF, succeeding immunization campaign and creating awareness against gender violence and untouchability custom. WCFs have emerged as a key inclusive forum representing the voices of citizen in an effective way. In addition, the social mobilization process has turned the citizens from users to choosers.

The VDC Secretary Mr. Chiranjeevi Pandey and IPFC member explained that the project selection process has been institutionalized from settlement level and every member has opportunity to put their views.

VISIT TO MAHADEVPURI VDC (FEBRUARY 13, 2015)

The second group lead by Joint Secretary of MoFALD Mr. Purna Chandra Bhattarai consisting of his Excellency, the Ambassador of Denmark, National Programme Manager, Country Representative of UNICEF and UNFPA, DFID Team Leader, Assistant Country Director UNDP visited to Mahadevpuri VDC, where they interacted with the VDC Secretary, Integrated Plan Formulation Committee (IPFC), Ward Citizen Forum (WCFs) and Citizen Awareness Center (CACs).

Mahadevpuri VDC

Mahadevpuri VDC is located in the northern part of Nepalgunj Sub metropolitan city. The VDC is 25 Km away from Nepalgunj that takes 30 minutes to reach the VDC. It is 50 meter away from east-west highway. The VDC is connected with motorable road; however the road facilities inside the villages are not in good conditions.

The total population of the VDC is 11,144 that comprise 5551 (49%) male and female (51%) whereas children share 29% (3321) of total population. The VDC stands with majority of Tharu Community those known as deprived tribal ethnicity. Tharu community covers 40% of total households of the VDC. Out of total households 2072, Dalit community shares 6% (145 HHs) of the total residents.

Literacy rate of the VDC is 55.85% which is below the literacy average of national census 2011. There are government's primary, lower secondary and higher secondary schools in the VDC. There are one primary, three low secondary, one secondary school and one higher secondary school. Interestingly, all school-going children are 100% in-rolled in schools. There are few private schools in the area as well.

Health facilities in the VDC are satisfactory. Altogether five private clinics and one government owned sub health post is providing basic health services to the people of the village. Most importantly, birthing center, constructed two years ago with support of DDC grant (LGCDP topping up) is providing better option for safe-maternity treatment for women including those from the surrounding villages. For the major health hazards, people of the area have easy access to big hospitals situated nearby in Kohalpur and Nepalgunj City.

For livelihood and income generation, majority of the population is mostly dependent on agriculture, foreign employment and petty trade business. 82.53% of the population earns their daily livelihood from agriculture. Unemployment rate of the area is limited to 3.85%. The major source of the income is also from community forestry that covers 22.15 hector of the VDC.

Social mobilization under MoFALD/LGCDP program has intervened since the mid 2011.

Ward Citizen Forum (WCFs) at ward level citizen institution is functional since the year of its formation and largely influencing planning and budgeting procedures of local bodies. WCFs have become key platform in the VDC to advocate and mediate the priorities of the deprived citizen and raise their voice in local governance process. Furthermore, Citizen awareness Centers (CAC) are regularly operational and dedicated to people empowerment. Reflect circle as means of empowerment has shown many successful examples of changes in the lives of most deprived women members of Citizen Awareness Center.

INTERACTION WITH VDC SECRETARY, IPFC MEMBER AND WCF MEMBER

VDC Secretary Mr. Puskar Singh Thakuri made a brief presentation of VDC activities. After his presentation the floor was open for interaction, where the high level delegates raised different issues like role of political parties and others IPFC members during the programme and budget formulation process at VDC level, participation of women and children in local governance business; five major development priority areas of VDCs and several mother issues related to women suffering from Uterus prolapsed problem and role of VDC to address these issues.

In particular, the ward citizen forum is providing meaningful support to IPFC and VDC to identify and prioritize the development activities in their respective wards. This year ward citizen forum of nine wards proposed 76 projects, out of which VDC council approved 32.

Answering to the queries of visitors the VDC secretary and IPFC team explained that the VDC have used the participatory planning process with active involvement of ward citizen forum, whereby provides a conducive environment to put forward their concerns and making genuine development demands. The VDC with the active involvement of WCF and IPFC has prioritized five sectors as their prime priorities, which are road, income generation through agriculture and tourism, conservation of community forestry, health and quality education. With the aim of ensuring financial discipline in development activities, the VDC has conducted public auditing of all projects, without which no payment is made to users committee. Similarly, the VDC has allocated 35 percent of total block grant to children, women and socially and economically disadvantaged communities, by which they have implemented small programme like running child literacy classes, building birthing center, undertaking income generating activities and skill development activities. The VDC and the IPFC members explained that demands of citizen are increasing and it has been difficult to address even the genuine demands of citizens with limited budget. Meanwhile, they requested the GoN and donors to increase the budget and programme for local bodies. Meanwhile the visiting team also observed birthing center and discussed in detail which was supported by LGCDP topping of grant.

Interaction with the participants of Citizen Awareness Center

The team also visited the Citizen Awareness Center (CAC) of Mahadevpuri VDC. Initially, the conveyor of CAC briefed on overall activities of CAC including how reflect circle has enable them to raise their voices. After brief presentation, the team focused on understanding the changes that has been brought due to the regular CAC session. The CAC members explained that they all have now acquired citizenship, birth and marriage registration certificates. In addition, CAC members have now constructed CAC building from VDC resources.

On answering a query that how CAC session has supported to overcome the poverty, the CAC participant responded that they are now enrolled in a five day business creation training from VDC and DDC which have enabled them to make individual business plan, which is now under implementation. DDC Banke has provided Rs. 1 million to enact this plan which will help to create home stay and local culture promotion based tourism in the village. This will directly support 20 poor members of CAC. The amount will be used as revolving fund and gradually, other members will have also opportunity to undertake income generation activities in the coming days.

PRESS CONFERENCE:



FIGURE 5: MOFALD OFFICIALS AND DPS DURING THE PRES CONFERENCE

LGCDP Regional Coordination Unit Nepalgunj, organized a press conference after the field visits. Their Excellencies Ambassador of Switzerland, Norway, and Denmark along with the other high dignitaries' were

active participant in this press conference. The National Programme Manager of LGCDP moderated the press conference, which was chaired by Joint Secretary of MoFALD Mr. Purna Chandra Bhattarai. This press conference was attended by the journalist from national media such as Gorkhapatra, Kantipur daily, Sagarmatha, Nagarik daily along with other local newspaper and FMs. The main intent of this press conference was to bring the views of high level dignitaries in public media and collect further feedback and suggestions that could help Nepal to lead towards prosperity. During the press conference, the journalist put forward

queries to high level dignitaries and sought their views on supporting Nepal in its development efforts. The journalist queries were addressed one by one by the Ambassadors and dignitaries, where they expressed their fuller satisfaction on how the GoN is implementing the policies at local level. They further opined that they are happy to see efforts and people mobilization by the Ward Citizen Forum (WCF) and Citizen Awareness Center (CAC) while being active participant in local governance process. They thanked MoFALD for the opportunity to directly interact with the community people and to understand their working arrangements on the ground. It was expressed by the representatives that it was a delight for them to see and interact with the communities which they had only heard of before. Additionally, they reflected that the VDC and the Integrated Plan Formulation Committee (IPFC) are working together in a coordinated way for making equitable resource allocation while giving due focus to poor and marginalized. Answering to question of journalist on how international committee are supporting to peace process in Nepal, the ambassadors responded that it is for Nepal to decide on what sorts of support they required from the development agencies. It was expressed that the international committee has great faith over the dignity and sovereignty of Nepal. So, they wish to see a stable, peaceful and sovereign Nepal for which, they would be happy to serve as per the need and request of Nepal Government.

Finally, the Joint Secretary of MoFALD further elaborated the objective of the press conference and highlighted on the efforts of GoN for deepening democracy and strengthening the local governance process, where every citizens have the right to demand, make choices and claim their rights, and have meaningful involvement in local level decision making process. On behalf of GoN and MoFALD, the Joint Secretary extended sincere thanks to all the delegates for their visit, whereby they can further define the role of development agencies and contribute more in the coming days. Similarly, he extended sincere thanks to all journalists for their meaningful presence, queries and publicizing the efforts of GoN along with keeping concerns for better Nepal.

Thus concluded the two days high level delegate visit.

Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development
Performance Contract Signing Programme and Field Visit
Schedule, Nepalgunj

February 11-13, 2015

Venue & participants	Activity	Time	Date
Night stay at Hotel Siddhartha	UNDP Country Director Mr. Renaud Meyer & MoFALD Joint Secretary Mr. Reshmi Raj Pandey arriving in Nepalgunj together with Under Secretary Mr. Eshor Paudel, Anil Chandrika, Rajkumar Dhungana and Arun Regmi	18.30	February 11, 2015 (Magh 28,2071)
<p>Banke DDC Hall Nepalgunj</p> <p>Moderator Eshor Raj Poudel, US, MOFALD</p> <p>LDOs of Mid and Far Western Region</p>	Breakfast	7.30-8.30	<p>February 12, 2015 (Magh 29, 2071)</p>
	Orientation on Child Friendly Local Governance (CFLG) to LDOs:	08.30-09.00	
	Introduction and welcome remarks - Reshmi Raj Pandey		
	Why to invest in Children: - Eshor RaJ Poudel	09.00-09.30	
	CFLG national strategy - Reshmi Raj Pandey	9.30-10.30	
	National status and best practice sharing on CFLG, CFLG in performance contract of LDOs - ERP Interaction with Child Network –Npj (Note : Secretary of MoFALD Dr. Som Lal Subedi and Delegate team arrives form Ktm and check in hotel and join the programme)	10.30-11.30	
	Remarks by MOFALD Secretary, Som Lal Subedi and head of agencies	11.30-12.15p.m	

	from DPs		
Banke DDC Office Complex, Nepalgunj	Wrap up the first session & Lunch	12.30-1.30	
Banke DDC Hall Nepalgunj Please refer attached list of participants	Signing ceremony of Performance Contract with all the LDOs of Mid Western and Far Western Regions	1.30-3.00	
	Tea Break	3.00-3.30	
Banke DDC Hall Nepalgunj Moderator Mr. Purushottam Nepal Supported by Arun Regmi, Rajkumar Dhungana, C.P.Sigdel	<p>(10 min) Overview of LGCDP II in brief by NPD /PM</p> <p>(20 min) Sharing the experience of inclusive Local Planning process with specific contribution of WCF and CAC by representatives. (one of each)</p> <p>(30 min) Experience sharing on Local Governance Reform efforts through LGCDP by three LDOs (representing Tarai-Madhesh, mid-hill and Mountain-Karnali districts) Achievements and impacts Issues & Challenges (Following areas will be considered during the experience sharing- How citizen and communities hold their local governance actors accountable; How local bodies are more responsive to citizens demand (CAC and WCFs' priority projects) during political transition and absence of</p>	3.30-5.30	

	<p>elected body; How marginalized people including children are provide with efficient and effective local services (vital registration, social protection allowance and so on); and How central government and sectoral agencies are providing policy and institutional framework for devolution of power and local governance.)</p> <p>(60 min) Open Discussion (Question and Answer)</p> <p>Closing Remarks by UNDP Country Director, Ambassadors, NPD & MoFALD Secretary.</p>		
Hotel Siddharta	Dinner		6.30-800
Hotel Siddharta	Breakfast	7:30-8:30	February 13, 2015 (Falgun 1,2071)
RCU Nepalgunj	Briefing on field visit and split the group	8:30-9:00	
Radhapur VDC Mahadevpuri VDC Field visit will be facilitated by RCU Nepalgunj Team	Field visit <i>(Two teams will depart for designated field visits. Detail plan will be shared during the briefing)</i> Short Meeting and interaction with CAC Short Meeting and interaction with WCF Short Meeting and interaction with VDC secretary and IPFC member Following points will be considered during the interaction): How the people taking part in local government business	9.00-12.30	

	<p>particularly engagement of citizen awareness center, ward citizen forums?</p> <p>Roles of political parties in budget formulation process and scopes of integrated plan formulation committee at VDC and district level? Any scope for CSOs influences and participation</p> <p>Effectiveness of VDCs and transparency of public financial management taking place</p> <p>Participation of women and children in local governance business</p> <p>-Priority Activities , Ongoing activities, -Achievements /outcomes Issues and Challenges</p>		
Hotel Siddharta	Wrap up of the Field Visit followed with Lunch	12:15 – 2.30	
	MoFALD Secretary Dr. Som Lal Subedi & Joint Secretary R R Pandey departure to Far West hilly districts for monitoring. (separate detail program will be developed by RCU Dhangadhi)	1.30 PM	
MoFALD	Press Conference at Hotel Siddhartha	2.30- 3.30 PM	
4.30 PM	Team return to Ktm	4.30 PM	

S.N	Designation	Organization	Name	
1	Secretary	MoFALD	Dr. Som Lal Subedi	
2	Joint Secretary	MoFALD	Mr. Reshmi Raj Pandey	
3	Joint Secretary	MoFALD	Mr. Purnachandra Bhattarai	
4	Under Secretary	MoFALD	Mr. Purushottam Nepal	
5	Under Secretary	MoFALD	Mr. Eshor Poudel	
6	Ambassador	The Embassy of Swiss	H.E Dr. Urs Herren	
7	Senior Programme Officer		Prakash Regmi	
8	Ambassador	The Embassy of Norway	H.E Kjell Tormod Petersen	
9	Governance Advisor	The Embassy of Norway	Mr. Bhola Dahal	
10	Governance Advisor	DFID	Bishnu Adhikari	
11	Team Leader	DFID	Tom Wingfield	
12	Ambassador	The Embassy of Denmark	H.E Ms Kirsten Gellan	
13	Programme Manager	EU	Miss Ekaterina Wakovleva	
14	Country Director	UNDP	Mr. Renaud Meyer	
15	Assistant Country Director	UNDP	Mr. Yam Nath Sharma	
16	Country Representative	JICA	Mr. Tsupomu Shimizu	
17	Country Representative	UNFPA	Ms. Ms. Giulia Vallese	
18	Country Representative	UNICEF	Mr. Tomoo Hozumi	
19	Head CFLG	UNICEF	Ms. Dowan Lowati	

20	Governance Specialist	MoFALD-PCU-GIZ	Mr. Arun Regmi	
21	LGCDP DPs Coordinator	LGCDP DP Cell	Mr. Anil Chandrika	
22	CD Specialist	MoFALD PCU	Mr. Raj Kumar	

Annex: Field Visit Group (February 13, 2015)

Team B: Radhapur	Team A: Mahadevpuri [4 vehicles -]
Secretary, MoFALD; Ambassador, RNE; National Programme Director, LGCDP; Representative, EU Assistant Country Director; UNDP Bhola Dahal, RNE; Arun Regmi; Local Development Officer, Banke Madhav Shrestha DGE, DDC Banke; Dovan Lawati; UNICEF Narendra Bista, RCU, Dhangadhi	Planning and Foreign Aid Coordination; Division- Joint Secretary, MoFALD; Ambassador of Denmark; National Programme Manager- LGCDP; Country Representative- UNICEF; Country Representative- UNFPA; Representative – DFID; Bishnu Adhikari; DFID Ram Thapa; UNFPA; Raj Kumar Dhungana; Saroj Shrestha; RCU Dhangadhi Arjun Subedi, RCU, Nepalgunj Rajesh Saru Magar, UNICEF;
Vehicle Arrangement	
Vehicle 1: UNICEF Vehicle	Vehicle 1: UNICEF Vehicle

Vehicle 2: RCU Dhangadhi Vehicle 3: RCU Nepalgunj Vehicle 4: UNDP	Vehicle 2: RCU Nepalgunj Vehicle 3: RCU Dhangadhi Vehicle 4: UNFPA
Other Information	
Note: Request to check out before departure to the field	Breakfast: 7.00 am to 8.00 Am at Hotel Siddartha
Move from hotel for field visit: At 9.00 am from UNDP Field Office	Meeting at UNDP: 8.00-9.00 am: Brief Nepalgunj Field Office