

Nepal & Bhutan Initiatives Portfolio Review
Review Topic: Impunity & Transitional Justice
List of Portfolio Elements

Organizational Grants							
Organization	Organizational Description	Project Title	Years supported	Duration	Status	Avg. Yrly Grant Amt.	Project Description
Right Action Nepal (RAN)	Small human rights-focused NGO working in the Western Region (Parbat, Baglung, Myagdi)	To Support the Promotion of Transitional Justice and Reparations to Conflict Victims	2009-2014	6 years	Ongoing	\$27,064	The project aims to: ensure timely justice by institutionalizing and mobilizing RAN's victims' rights network to mobilize available local resources for interim relief, to change the culture of impunity and lack of accountability, and to create a conducive environment for reconciliation, development and sustainable peace. RAN implemented the project in the Parbat, Baglung and Myagdi districts in Nepal's Western Development Region.
Dynamic Multipurpose Society (DYMPS)	Small human rights-focused NGO working in the Far Western region (Achham)	Advocacy for Ensuring Human Rights and Justice	2011-2014	4 years	Ongoing	\$17,360	The project undertakes important grassroots human rights work in an area of Nepal in which the human rights situation is still precarious and worsening. This project aims to: 1) create awareness on transitional justice process; 2) hold concerned stakeholders accountable to address human rights violations and establish the rule of law in the district; and 3) organize victims of human rights violationsto strengthen their activism for justice.
Women Peace Research and Development Center (WPRDC)	Small human rights-focused NGO working with Madheshi women on development and peace issues in the Eastern region (Morang)	Strengthening Human Rights Accountability and Promoting Justice	2010-2014	5 years	Ongoing	\$18,347	WPRDC works closely with rights victims in Madhesi areas to seek justice and receive recognition and due compensation from the local government's Peace Committee, as well as hold increasingly corrupt political parties accountable to the rule of law. The project aimed to work with local media to sensitive them to rights issues and expanded WPRDC's legal empowerment program in the region.
Madhesh Human Rights Home (MAHURI-Home)	Mid-sized human rights-focused NGO supported by larger NGOs such as Human Rights Home, National Human Rights Commission, and UN OHCHR carrying out rights-based programs in the Western region (Kavilpatsu)	Strengthening Accountability through Human Rights Monitoring and Advocacy	2009-2014	6 years	Ongoing	\$27,527	With its first three years of OSF support, MAHURI-Home established local human rights monitoring bodies across the Madesh region in southern West Nepal. These local bodies have been effective in highlighting local human rights abuse cases and raising awareness on the poor human rights situation in the Madesh. Mahuri-Home plans to focus on the following objectives: human rights monitoring and documentation; follow-up of past incidents of HR violations; dialogue and advocacy with local stakeholders and officials; and mobilization of human rights monitoring officers in the field.
Conflict Victims' Society for Justice (CVSJ-Nepal)	Mid-sized national NGO working in 31 districts throughout Nepal with survivors of human rights violations and their relatives to unite conflict victims for truth and justice. Supported by OHCHR, Advocacy Forum and other human rights organizations.	Mobilizing Victims Groups to Advocate for Justice	2012-2014	2 years	Ongoing	\$20,442	The project aims to pressure government through advocacy at the village, district and central level for the formation of the transitional justice mechanisms. Through regular workshops, alliances will be forged by conflict victims to bring their problems and issues to the fore. The project will have one focal person in each region who will coordinate the activities between the networks of conflict victims and the central office, and will serve as the link between the conflict victims, service providers and the government authorities.

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Integrated Development Foundation (IDF)	Small human rights-focused NGO working with marginalized groups including women, Dalits, and other minority ethnic groups in the Eastern region of Jhapa.	Strengthening Human Rights and the Rule of Law in Jhapa District	2010-2014	5 years	Ongoing	\$14,758	The project aimed to collaborate with local political parties and police administrations to advocate for human rights violations to be brought to justice by documenting violations cases and exerting pressure. The IDF also strove to more effectively coordinate with other human rights organizations, protect human rights defenders themselves, and develop human rights training modules that are more suited for local conditions and experiences.
Setu Community Development and Human Rights Forum	Small human rights-focused NGO working in human rights monitoring and documentation, social development, and community empowerment in the southern Terai region.	Protection, Promotion and Documentation of Human Rights	2009-2014	6 years	Ongoing	\$14,700	This project will work to increase accountability of concerned stakeholders around the protection and respect for human rights in and around the Saptari District in the conflict-affected Madhesh region of southern Nepal. Setu will also continue in its work to monitor and document human rights abuses; provide legal and emergency assistance, including psycho-social counseling, to rights abuse victims; and work to coordinate the 40 local human rights watch committees established by the Forum to work in the district.
Advocacy Forum (AF)	Nepal's leading national-level human rights NGO dedicated to investigating and prosecuting human rights cases. AF is well-established and respected by the international community, but is currently under scrutiny for its financial practices and is in the midst of a difficult leadership transition.	Emergency General Support Grant 2013	Nov 2013- May 2014	6 months	Ongoing	\$100,000	AF raises awareness nationally and internationally on human rights issues and universal jurisdiction in Nepal, and advocates for legal reforms to the justice system. This grant provided institutional support for AF's core objectives: To provide legal aid to the victims of human rights violations, including children suffering from impacts of armed conflict, and juveniles in detention centers; To undertake systematic monitoring and documentation of human rights violations; To promote comprehensive transitional justice mechanisms; To advocate for the reforms of legislations; To combat impunity; and To work towards the prevention of torture.
Democratic Freedom and Human Rights Institute (DFHRI)	National-level human rights NGO working to build an inclusive, democratic and peaceful Nepal. DFHRI's programs include: peace-building initiatives with organizations and individuals, implementation of participatory dialogue programs covering a range of subject matters, action-based research and capacity building of local partner organizations, political cadres and civil society members.	Exploring Accountability on Human Rights Violations and Reconciliation Initiatives in Nepal	2010-2014	5 years	Ongoing	\$56,502	DFHRI produces a weekly talk show on Nepali Television (NTV) called "Whose Accountability" which combines intensive research and investigation into specific abuse cases with a television program talk show format. Following short documentaries on specific cases or issues, the programs include live discussions with human rights leaders, abuse victims, politicians, and members of the public. Initially funded by the UN, OSF has funded the subsequent second and third seasons and also provides support to reformat the programs for radio (in collaboration with OSF-partner Ujyaalo Media), in order to maximize the program audience.

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Informal Service Sector - Nepal (INSEC)	Well-established national-level NGO working towards the promotion of policies and institutions that contribute to the protection and promotion of human rights and democratic freedoms in Nepal. INSEC produces a comprehensive yearly publication documenting human rights abuses throughout all of Nepal which serves as the authoritative resource on the status of human rights in the country.	Citizens' Campaign for Clean Election, 2013	2013-2014	2 months	Completed	\$15,000	This project aimed to effectively disseminate information during the national constituent assembly elections in November 2013 and build national confidence in the process. Specifically, the project aimed to provide and distribute information on the human rights records of candidates, ensuring that the public was well-informed on past abuses of political candidates. This project served to hold political actors accountable for their past actions and promote an environment of transparency and respect for human rights.

Individual Grants							
Organization	Organizational Description	Project Title	Years Supported	Duration	Status	Amount	Project Description
European Council on Foreign Relations - Mandira Sharma	Advocacy spearheaded by a prominent Nepali HR defender, with institutional support from a pan-European think-tank with the objective to conduct research and promote informed debate across Europe on the development of coherent and effective European values-based foreign policy	Mandira Sharma Fellowship	2013-2014	1 year	Ongoing	\$74,750	This project aimed to strengthen European support for accountability in Nepal, and advocate for a more proactive stand against impunity in the country. ECFR used this grant as a fellowship for Mandira Sharma, former Director and current Chair at the Advocacy Forum Nepal. The fellowship provides opportunity for Ms. Sharma, a leading human rights activist in Nepal, to engage with governments, donor agencies, NGOs, and foreign policy organizations about the urgent need for stronger positions and a more proactive approach in Europe on the problems of impunity and violence in Nepal.

Direct Advocacy							
Activity	Activity Description	Project Title	Years Supported	Duration	Status	Amount	Project Description
International Advocacy	A multi-pronged effort to raise international awareness on continued impunity in Nepal and advocate for the international community to exert pressure on Nepal to uphold its commitments and ensure transitional justice is secured. The advocacy is conducted in the name of the umbrella organization Accountability Watch Committee, and is coordinated by the ASD, with the assistance, where available, of local civil society groups in target countries, like the German Nepal-Dialogforum für Frieden und Menschenrechte.	International Advocacy Program (IAP)	2013-2014	1 year	Ongoing	No funding	The core activities of the International Advocacy Program include: travel to Berlin, London, Geneva and Brussels to provide briefings on the situation in Nepal in order to influence the agendas of the OHCHR and each country's parliament to increase pressure on Nepal. Activities undertaken by the Accountability Watch Committee (AWC) in Nepal include: strict monitoring of the TRC and Disappearance Commission formation process so that transitional justice mechanisms are established in-line with internationally accepted principles, and cooperation with local/national/international initiatives to raise awareness on issues of transitional justice. The ASD's activities as part of the International Advocacy Program include: coordination between grantee organizations working on transitional justice issues on the ground and connecting them to the larger national network; and mobilizing victims and local civil society organizations to demand transitional justice mechanisms at the grassroots level. ☐

Litigation							
Organization	Organizational Description	Project Title	Years Supported	Duration	Status	Amount	Project Description
Legal Research Project, London	The Legal Research Project (LRP) is a community interest company which has been registered with the United Kingdom to support efforts of Nepali human rights defenders	Legal Research Project 2012 & 2013	2012 - 2014	3 years	Underway	\$24,270	Since 2007, with the support of Open Society Foundation, Advocacy Forum has been pursuing a small number of potential universal jurisdiction cases against alleged perpetrators of grave human rights violations during the conflict in Nepal who were known to be living or travelling abroad. On 3 January 2013, this finally resulted in the arrest and charging of Kumar Lama, a Nepal Army colonel resident in the United Kingdom with two counts of torture committed in 2005 in Kapilvastu District, Nepal. This development has caused shockwaves in Nepal and has brought the issue of human rights and impunity central to public discourse.

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Contextual Information: Network Programs carrying out associated TJ work in Nepal

Womens Rights Program							
Organization	Organizational Description	Project Title	Year	Duration	Status	Avg. Yearly Grant Amt	Project Description
Forum for Women Law and Development (FWLD)	Mid-sized human rights-focused NGO focusing on the effective use of law, specifically public interest litigation, as an instrument to ensure the rights of women, youth and minorities in Nepal.	Gender Sensitive Transitional Justice in Nepal	2012-2014	3 years	Ongoing	\$83,724	The project aimed to enhance Dalit women's understanding of their rights, strengthen their capacity as peer educators within Nepali communities and provide access to justice through legal aid initiatives. FWLD hopes to initiate a process for holding institutional stakeholders accountable to delivering due justice to victims of gender-based discrimination, violence, and abuses suffered during the conflict.
Feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO)	Mid-sized NGO focused on promoting the human rights of Dalit women and combatting caste and gender discrimination in Nepal through education and empowerment of minority women and advocacy for improved policy.	Inclusion of Dalit Women in the Democratic Process and Promotion of their Human Rights	2010 -2014	5 years	Ongoing	\$75,946	The project aimed to: mobilize networks and alliances of Dalits across central and regional levels in order to increase their collective voice and political bargaining power; to catalyze government and political party responsiveness to the needs of Dalits and Dalit women; and to mobilize the media towards the promotion of Dalit rights and the reporting of discrimination towards Dalits.
Women's Skill Creation Centre (WOSCC) or "Naari Sip Sirjana Kendra"	Mid-sized NGO based in central Nepal focused on advocating for the meaningful participation of women in government decision-making, the promotion of social justice, and the reduction of violence against women.	Campaign for Women's Participation on Policy-Making	2011 -2014	4 years	Ongoing	\$24,091	The project will work to build women's leadership capacity and empower women to reach decision-making levels in the local, regional and national government structures. The main objectives of the project include: Advocacy to reach a 33 percent participation benchmark of women in decision-making roles in both the local and state government structure; Provide capacity-building and leadership trainings to women to encourage more meaningful political engagement; and Promote media cover and awareness raising around issues affecting women.
Women's Rehabilitation Center (WOREC)	Mid-sized NGO working for the promotion of human rights and sustainable communit development through a social justice framework through direct partnership with grassroots community-based organizations, local government bodies, and national and international human rights networks.	Strengthening Capacity of Community Based Organziations to Prevent Violence Against Women	2012-2013	1 year	Completed	\$67,758	This project works to reduce violence against women in Nepal through empowerment and improved access to justice for women and girls. WOREC will strengthen local women's rights organizations through stronger partnerships and better coordination with critical stakeholders. WOREC's project also aims to enhance local communities' understanding of gender based violence (GBV) and civil, political, and human rights by providing orientation sessions to GBV and producing local radio broadcasts on these issues.

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Contextual Information: Other actors working in the TJ field not supported by NBI

National NGOs	
Organization	Organizational Description
Human Rights and Democratic Forum (FOHRID)	FOHRID focuses on the issues of impunity and rule of law, human rights including ESCR, transitional justice, democratic governance and democratic reform including inter party democracy and political accountability, establish culture of peace through conflict resolution and promoting reconciliation for sustaining peace initiative, and capacity building of non-state actors (including FOHRID and its networks).
Justice and Rights Institute - Nepal (JuRI-Nepal)	Established in 2011, Justice and Rights Institute-Nepal (JuRI-Nepal) is a non profit NGO that aims to promote justice and human rights.
International Institute for Human Rights, Environment and Development (INHURED International)	The primary focus of INHURED is to advocate on behalf of vulnerable populations such as women, children, indigenous people, Dalits, and other marginalized sections of society. Currently, it is focusing on securing transitional justice in Nepal and a compliance audit of the 2006 Comprehensive Peace Agreement.
Transitional Justice Resource Center (TJRC)	The Transitional Justice Resource Center (TJRC) is a joint initiative of the World Vision Advocacy Forum (WVAF), United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR), Government of Nepal. The MoPR established a TJ Resource Center in Kathmandu to disseminate information on transitional justice mechanisms to conflict victims and the wider population, and provide updates on government commitments and current events on the national level.
Victims Organizations (Committee for Social Justice Nepal; Conflict Victim Committee Bardiya; Conflict Victim National Society; National Network of Families of Disappeared and Missing Nepal; Conflict Victim Orphan Society Nepal)	A number of victims organizations have been established throughout Nepal to serve victims of human rights abuses inflicted during the conflict and survivors of disappeared or killed persons. These organizations provide legal aid, case documentation, form networks, and advocate for transitional justice at the local and national levels.
Women for Human Rights, Single Women Group (WHR-Nepal)	WHR was established in 1994 with the vision of a non-discriminatory and equitable Nepali society wherein single women are respected and can live with dignity and there are sufficient legal provisions to protect single women's political, social, cultural, and economic rights. WHR works in 73 districts and in 1,550 VDCs with over 100,000 single women members.

Organization	Organizational Description
<p>National Human Rights Commission of Nepal (NHRC)</p>	<p>The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) of Nepal is an independent and autonomous constitutional body. It was established in the year 2000 as a statutory body under the Human Rights Commission Act 1997. The Interim Constitution of Nepal 2007 has maintained the NHRC as a constitutional body, which has a separate sphere of responsibilities in the constitutional legal system of the country. These responsibilities support the responsibilities of the normal machinery of the administration of Justice, the Supreme Court, the Office of the Attorney General, the Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority, and other existing executive, quasi-judicial or judicial bodies of Nepal.</p>
<p>National Women Commission (NWC)</p>	<p>The National Women Commission (NWC) was established by the Government of Nepal through an executive decision in 2002. The NWC consists of a five-member Commission with a legal mandate to monitor and investigate cases of violence against women (VAW), provide legal aid, monitor the state obligations to UN reporting under CEDAW, coordinate with the government and other agencies for mainstreaming gender policy in national development, and provide recommendations for the reforms through research and monitoring.</p>

International NGOs	
Organization	Organizational Description
The International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ)	An international NGO, the ICTJ works to help societies in transition address legacies of massive human rights violations and build civic trust in state institutions as protectors of human rights. In Nepal, the ICTJ works at the national and grassroots level to advance transitional justice. ICTJ-Nepal provides technical assistance and guidance on the transitional justice process, training and advocacy for local actors, and works to integrate women into the peace process after the conflict.
International Commission of Jurist (ICJ)	The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) is an international human rights NGO working to promote the rule of law. The Commission itself is a standing group of 60 eminent jurists (including senior judges, attorneys and academics) dedicated to ensuring respect for international human rights standards through the law. The ICJ maintains an office in Nepal which looks after all of South Asia.
European Commission in Nepal (EC-Nepal)	The European Union Commission to Nepal identified three focal areas for EU support to the country in its Country Strategy Paper, one of which is "Stability and Peace Building." Under this framework, a 7 million Euro "Conflict Mitigation Package" was financed in Nepal. This ongoing project aims to enhance the capacity and effectiveness of the Human Rights Commission in monitoring and responding to human rights abuses, and to enhance the capacity of the judiciary in addressing past abuses.
Embassy of Switzerland and Embassy of Denmark's Missions to Nepal	While almost all foreign diplomatic missions to Nepal focus on the strengthening of human rights and the upholding of the rule of law, the missions of the Swiss and Danish embassies are particularly active in the promotion of transitional justice. The Swiss Embassy funds programs that support the Peace Process, Human Rights Monitoring, and the Strengthening of the Capacity of National Human Rights Commission of Nepal. The Danish Embassy has specifically outlined a "Human Rights and Good Governance Programme" which focuses on the securing of legal protection, and a "Peace Support Programme" which is designed to support the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement.
Amnesty International (AI) - Nepal	AI Nepal works with governments, intergovernmental organizations, armed political groups, companies and other non-state actors to protect international human rights. AI Nepal undertakes campaigns based on the findings of the systematic and impartial research of Amnesty International on the facts of individual cases and patterns of human rights abuses. In addition to its work and publications on specific abuses of human rights, AI Nepal urges all governments to observe the rule of law, and to ratify and implement human rights standards and carries out a range of human rights educational activities.