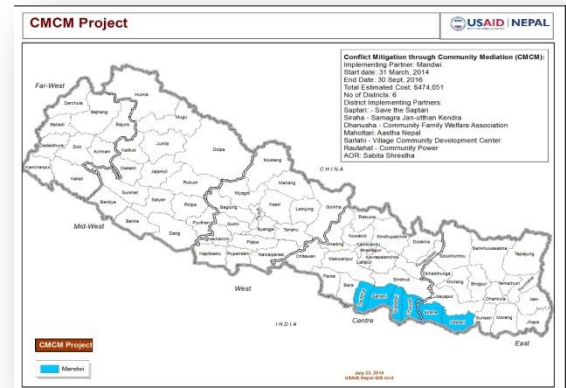


## FACT SHEET

Democracy and Governance Program

# Conflict Mitigation through Community Mediation (CMCM) Project

The Conflict Mitigation through Community Mediation project aims to increase mutual understanding among the conflicting groups and improve relationships between marginalized groups and their local governments, working together to resolve differences.



Marginalized groups, including women, youth, ethnic groups like Madheshis and Tharus, minority religions and specific caste groups still experience discrimination and social exclusion within their community's decision-making processes in Nepal. These groups lack access to the formal court system as well as to local resources and services. Large numbers of conflict affected persons including the Madhehi, Tharu and other marginalized populations in the central and eastern Terai, especially women and youth within these groups, have been historically discriminated against and tend to fall below national averages in poverty and literacy, and above national averages in child marriage and gender based violence. Local conflicts often stem from issues of inclusion and access, such as caste-based discrimination, gender-based violence, exclusionary development planning decisions, and natural resource management.

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Conflict Mitigation through Community Mediation project seeks to decrease local level conflicts that stem from issues of inclusion and access. This two and half year, \$474,051 project is designed to reduce community tensions and establish more inclusive mediation centers in 24 VDCs of Rautahat, Sarlahi, Mahotari, Dhanusha, Siraha, and Saptari districts. Project goals include:

- Establish and mobilize inclusive community mediation systems
- Improve the relationship between marginalized groups and their local governments
- Increase community awareness on conflict management and mitigation

## SNAPSHOT

**Life of Project:** March 30, 2014 to September 30, 2016

**Goal:** Conflict mitigation in targeted areas improved.

**Implementing Partner:** Mandwi

**Geographic Focus:** Central and Eastern Terai

In partnership with local organizations Community Power, Village Community Development Center, Aastha Nepal, Community Family Welfare Association, Samagra Jan-utthan Kendra, and Save the Saptari, the CMCM will benefit the people from the selected VDCs, particularly youth and women from marginalized communities.

## PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The project will provide conflict-vulnerable communities an opportunity to navigate differences in a peaceful manner and model a way forward. The key activities include but are not limited to:

- Train and build mediation capacity of community groups and key individuals.
- Establish inclusive community Mediation Centers and provide mediation services.
- Establish Women and Youth Advocacy Platforms and facilitate their interactions with community and local governments.
- Produce and share radio programs and video documentary related to conflict management and community mediation.
- Create and share information and education materials on Community Mediation.
- Improve the relationship between targeted populations and their respective local governments thereby increasing their participation at the VDC planning and community development processes.
- Build the capacity of local institutions to promote sustainable conflict mitigation programs.

## KEY RESULTS EXPECTED

- Key stakeholders ability to constructively address community-level issues related to conflicts is strengthened
- Dialogue between conflicting groups to foster mutual trust and reconciliation is improved
- Local government capacity to implement peace mandates is increased
- Inclusive community participation in local level government planning is increased
- Local partner organizations capacity to implement peace programming is increased

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