

Civil Peace Service (CPS) of GIZ

Project name	Civil Peace Service (CPS)
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Country	Nepal
Working areas	All 7 Provinces
Partner Organizations	All People Development Centre (APEC), Conflict Sensitive Media Production (CoP), Conflict Victims' Committee Bardiya (CVC Bardiya), Disappeared Memorial Park, Human Rights Forum Nepal (HURF), Kopila Nepal, Mandala Theatre Nepal, National Network for Disabled Conflict Victims (NNDCV), Pro Public, The Story Kitchen (TSK)
German Contribution	EUR 3 million
Duration	01/2022-12/2024

Context

The ten-year armed conflict in Nepal ended in 2006 with the signing of the 'Comprehensive Peace Agreement'. The new constitution was adopted in 2015. This paved the way for elections and federalism in 2017.

More than fifteen years after the conflict's official end, Nepali society still holds significant risks of conflict. The lack of accountability and entrenched impunity continue to weaken the existing state structures for conflict transformation. As a result, the transitional justice process is incomplete, and thousands of people are still awaiting truth and justice.

Discriminatory practices persist and add to marginalization of vulnerable groups and existing socio-economic inequalities.

Our Approach

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) is commissioned by the German Government to support Nepal and its society on the peacebuilding process through the Civil Peace Service (CPS) project. The project's main objective is 'Dealing with the past and shaping a future free of violence – strengthening non-violent conflict transformation approaches for sustainable peace in Nepal'.

CPS supports groups of victims and survivors of the conflict to develop their ideas for local memory work, raise their concerns with local government bodies and advocate for the implementation of transitional justice processes.

We strengthen conflict transformation through capacity development, promotion of creative forms of social transformation and dialogue, psychosocial support services and establishing systems to document and report human rights violations.

It seeks to enable representatives of women and marginalized groups to articulate and advocate for their needs, to become increasingly involved in decision-making processes, and to assume social and political leadership positions.

Additionally, it works with media actors to enable them to follow a conflict-sensitive approach, counter mis- and disinformation and to report on non-violent conflict transformation.



From left to right:

- APEC FM radio journalists and members of inter-religious dialogue committee in 'Conflict Sensitive Media Workshop'
- NNDCV members visiting the Disappeared Memorial Park, a community-led memorialization initiative in Bardiya



From left to right:

- Participants in Non-Violent Communication (NVC) community workshop organized by Pro Public
- Graduates of Mandala Drama School implementing projects in their areas

Expected Results

- Survivors and conflict victims are able to talk about their experiences, document them, and participate actively in the societal discourse to deal with the violent past.
- Civil society actors work with state actors (political office holders, judicial committees, deputy mayors, ward chairs, members of the National Planning Commission, etc.) to address social conflicts at local level.
- Civil society actors use non-violent conflict transformation approaches (such as mediation, restorative dialogue, Non-Violent Communication, and theatre) and actively focus on the participation of women and marginalized groups.
- The inter-religious dialogue committee successfully promoted local inter-religious acceptance and social harmony between religious groups through dialogues, celebration of each other's festivals, and coordination with local government.
- 763 members from judicial committees/executive boards were trained in the scope of their roles/responsibilities and set-up of local judicial systems.
- The traveling Photo Exhibition "14 Stories: Living Memories of War", with the stories of civilians who were disabled during the conflict, reached more than 25,000 people across Nepal. The exhibition contributed to the visibility of conflict victims with disabilities, created public and youth awareness about the ten-year conflict, and served as a crucial tool for peace education and non-recurrence.

Results from previous phase (2018-2021)

- 1153 people, including political leaders and ward chairs, were capacitated in the methods of peacebuilding and conflict transformation.

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