

Baseline Perception Survey on Gender Based Violence, Sexual Violence, Child Marriage and Safe Motherhood

January—May 2014



Perception Survey to establish baseline values for UNFPA Country Programme Document

Project Summary

Project Objectives:

- To identify the perceptions of the target populations within UNFPA and UNDAF development regions in order to set a baseline to measure the effectiveness of UNFPA's CPD interventions
- To explore perceptions of gender based violence, sexual violence, child marriage, health seeking behavior and safe motherhood among the UNFPA target populations of men aged 15-59 years, women aged 15-49 years including those who are pregnant and parents with children under 18 years of age

Team Members:

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This survey was part of a research project titled 'Baseline Perception Survey- 2012'. The project was led by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Nepal and executed by HERD. The main aim of the research project was to undertake a household survey to establish baseline values for four perception indicators in the UNFPA Country Programme Document (CPD) and Result and Resource Framework (RRF) Matrix. This project gathered information on gender based violence among the males of age group 15- 59 years; sexual violence and health seeking knowledge and practices/behaviour while facing any type of violence among females of age group 15-24 years; information regarding the child marriage among the parents of children aged below 18 years and information regarding safe motherhood: ANC and PNC visits, danger signs of pregnancy among women of 15-49 years of age.

Methods:

This survey used a blend of quantitative and qualitative methods. Household survey questionnaire was administered to collect quantitative information. Likewise, focus group discussions (20) and peer ethnography (28 in total, 14 to Men and 14 to Women) was used as qualitative methods to gain an in-depth understanding on issues related gender based violence, child marriage, sexual violence and antenatal checkup. Three categories of respondents were identified as much as possible to get ample number of samples in each category, used for statistical analysis. From the total household visited, the study recruited 2852 parents of children under 18 years of age (to know the perception towards child marriage), 2370 men aged 15-59 years (to understand the perception on gender based violence) and 3046 women of aged 15-49 years (to assess the knowledge on seeking health care following sexual violence and danger sign during pregnancy) who met the selection criteria.

Study Recommendations: Based on the findings of the study, some of the recommendations made by the study include:

- Law against child marriage and consequences of child marriage should be included in the secondary level curricula to make girls more aware about their right to marriage.
- Behaviour change communication strategies should be used in order to prevent practice of early marriage, especially in the Terai communities
- Peer education approaches through formation of peer groups and group education on gender based violence should be implemented
- Social mobilisation campaigns against GBV should be launched in order to decrease the level of acceptance on GBV
- Teaching adolescent girls on self defense skills and activity such as assertiveness training, exercise, sports—that promotes self-confidence, self-knowledge, and self-reliance should be promoted
- There should be the provision of victim friendly environment at health facilities and they should be assured of confidentiality and privacy.
- Influence of health workers in providing information to women should be cashed in to raise awareness of ANC visit, danger signs during pregnancy; and when and where to seek care after experiencing danger sign during pregnancy



HERD Field Researcher conducting an FGD