



Unnat Goreto: Resilient Trails for Resilient Futures

Final Report, February 2018



Overview

On December 5, 2016, People in Need (PIN) signed the Accountable Grant Agreement with DFID for the implementation of project "Unnat Goreto: Resilient Trails for Resilient Futures". The project was jointly implemented by PIN as the Consortium lead, Scott Wilson Nepal (SWN) as the technical lead, and Practical Help Achieving Self-Empowerment (PHASE) and Lumanti – Support Group for Shelter as the social leads. The program was implemented in four Gaupalikas (two in each district)¹. By December 2017, the Consortium rehabilitated 125.5km of trail and employed 3,914 households who earned the total of NPR 122,260,351 (GBP 880,838) through employment provided by the program. An additional NPR 18,940,509 (GBP 136,459) was spent on procurements & transportation in the communities.

	0	4	%		
	Output	Gorkha	Rasuwa	Total	Target
1.2	# of meters of span cross by footbridges	92	88	180	100%
1.3	# of meters of handrail constructed along hazardous parts of trail	341	244	585	97%
1.4	# of safe rest areas constructed	8	7	15	100%
2.1	Guidelines and curriculum are developed for trail maintenance and construction	n/a		1	100%
2.2	Number of community members capacitated to construct and maintain trails	2471	1443	3914	326%
2.3	# of kms of trails that have had post-monsoon maintenance performed	53.6	27.9	82	82%
2.4	National and local stakeholders trained on best practices and program guidelines	35		35	70%
3.1	# of early warning and response trainings in place and simulations undertaken	3	2	5	100%
3.2	# of women's groups capacitated to identify, respond to and refer security issues	3	4	7	100%
3.3	# of square meters of bioengineering works conducted	8,895	854	9749	122%
3.4	# of meters of geohazard mititgation works performed	539	247	786	157%

In addition to the 125.5 km of trail the consortium also completed:

On the national level, the Consortium organized the National Review of Foot-Trail Guidelines in December 2017 that resulted in the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) reaffirming its support for the process of integrating the newly developed trail guidelines into the Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Developement (MoFALD)'s official standards.

This report is accompanied by an internal evaluation of the project. A summary of evaluation report has been included in the appendices. A complete list of appendices of documents are found at the end.

¹ Namely Arughat and Dharche Gaupalikas in Gorkha, and Naukunda and Ama Chodingmo Gaupalikas in Rasuwa. Formerly, these were Manbu, Kashigaun and Kerauja VDCs in Gorkha; Haku, Yarsa, Saramthali and Bhorle VDCs in Rasuwa.

² Indicator 1.3: only 585m of handrails/handholds were completed due to lower needs following engineering re-assessment. Indicator 2.3: only 81.5km of post-monsoon maintanence was performed due lower trail damage.

Indicator 2.4: only 35 national and local stakeholders were trained due to unavailability of Gaunpalika officers.

Implementation & Results

Unnat Goreto was highly effective in achieving its objectives. The program managed to improve access to communities and markets through construction of durable, safer and quicker trails. Roughly one half of the community members living in UG target areas now finds traveling along the trail in monsoon safe, compared to just 2% before the intervention.

Unnat Goreto - Key Objectives

Impact:

Strengthened resilience of remote and vulnerable communities in Rasuwa and Gorkha, focusing on enhanced economic, health and education prospects, along with early preparedness and response mechanisms

Indicators	Target	Achieved
Indicator 1: Improved access to communities and markets throughout the entire year	40%	55.7%
Indicator 2: Improved resilience to seasonal changes and disasters along targeted routes	40%	43.3%

Outcome:

Remote communities have improved access to social services, markets and economic opportunities

Indicators	Target	Achieved
Indicator 1: % of community reporting quicker access to services and markets through targeted routes	80%	79%
Indicator 2: % of communities reporting improvements in safety when using newly constructed or rehabilitated trails/bridges	80%	79.1%



"Rocky trail" from Runchet to Hulchuk in Dharche Palika, Gorkha. 88% of people are now saying there are only very few or no hazards along UG trails, compared to 28% before the project.

•

Output 1: Trails are restored and upgraded, foot bridges are installed at water crossings, and safe rest areas are constructed along the trails

Area	Dahah Wastad		
District	Gaunpalika	VDC	Renabilitated
	Arughat	Manbu	16.8
Gorkha	Dharaha	Kashigaun	19.6
	Dharche	Kerauja	33.8
	Ama Chodingmo	Haku	9
Desume		Yarsa	31.9
Rasuwa	Naukunda	Saramthali	10.8
		Bhorle	3.6
		Total km:	125.5

Trail Rehabilitation

Over the course of 13 months, the Consortium managed to fully rehabilitate 125.5km of foot-trails across four *Gaupalikas* in Gorkha and Rasuwa districts³, involving nearly 100 staff from all partner organizations combined. Overall, 3,914 households took part in this community-led Results-based Work (RbW) program, earning a total of NPR 122,260,351. The RbW modality led to increased productivity by deriving workers' remuneration from teams' daily outputs, rather than setting a fixed daily rate.

Unnat Goreto	Worker	Productivity
---------------------	--------	--------------

District	Gaunpalika	VDC	Estimated work days	Actual work days used	Effectiveness (%)
	Arughat	Manbu	20,700	17,684	85%
Gorkha	Dharche	Kashigaun	23,070	16,137	70%
		Kerauja	36,580	25,601	70%
	Ama Chodingmo	Haku	14,184	7,951	56%
Bacunya	Naukunda	Yarsa	40,530	16,893	42%
Rasuwa		Saramthali	32,070	13,482	42%
		Bhorle	6,000	3,592	60%
		Overall	173,134	101,339	59%

Progress over different quarters

In the first weeks of the **project's inception**, UG teams worked with the district authorities to secure all necessary permissions required prior to the start of groundworks. This mainly included signing of the Pre-Consensus Agreement with the District Development Committees (DDC) in both Gorkha and Rasuwa, along with the official presentation of the project to all stakeholders in the area. Parallel meetings took place with the VDC Secretaries, ward representatives, community leaders and other locally based stakeholders to discuss different aspects of the project, especially the results-based payment modality.

³ Refer to Annex I of this report for complete list.

In terms of **program planning**, the inception phase saw the UG management finalize VDC and trail targeting, develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), develop engineering design criteria, conclude national tender for the procurement of project tools and materials, and set up the logistics and supply chain in both districts. In addition, a number of coordination meetings with local partners took place in order to harmonize program approaches.

Pilot works in Gorkha and Rasuwa began on January 1 and January 20, respectively. The main objective, among other things, was to test the methodologies developed in the inception phase, gradually introduce the project to local communities, find the most effective and efficient set-up for the Consortium field teams, and test the quality of tendered tools and materials. Registration of workers was carried out according to detailed guidelines contained in the SOPs. In Rasuwa, 75 households from the displaced Haku community temporarily residing in camps across Dhunche also registered.

As the pilots continued, the SWN engineers were in the process of **designing** other individual trail segments based on the data supplied by survey teams. This led to the production of Bills of Quantities (BOQs) for all targeted trails comprising various technical specifications, segment costing and specific labour, tools and material requirements. As soon as the BOQs became available, district teams started pre-positioning all necessary items for the gradual scale-up of field operations. **By February 28, rehabilitation works were underway on 14.7km** of trails in 5 out of 7 target VDCs.



Breaking stones in Parchyang, Naukunda Palika, Rasuwa

In the second quarter, district teams operated at full scale and with high intensity, anticipating an overall slowdown of operations during the upcoming monsoon season. By the time heavy torrential rains effectively cut off access to most project areas, the Consortium managed to rehabilitate around 77km of trails (62% of total target). This spike in productivity was achieved despite the loss of over 21,000 labour days caused by the first local-level elections in May, and the accompanying stoppage of all field activities as governed by the electoral code of conduct, and following PIN's consultations with DFID.

From **July to September**, there was only a limited progress in trail construction due to worsened access, safety risks for workers and the generally low participation of the community because of ongoing agricultural activities. For example, Kerauja VDC in Gorkha was completely cut off throughout August because of numerous safety risks precipitated by heavy monsoon rains.

In spite of these constraints, the UG team managed to complete another 25km, bringing the total to **102km as of September 30.** During this quarter, some UG staff supported relief efforts in Pahiro Besi, Rasuwa, after monsoon-triggered landslides killed four people and displaced 121 households. The support consisted mainly of coordination, planning and construction of WASH facilities.

In the final quarter, the Consortium managed to complete all remaining targets and thus successfully rehabilitated all 125km of trails. Segments in Runchet-Hulchuk, Subchet-Kashigaun (Gorkha) and Sanguel-Simbandhi (Rasuwa) were particularly challenging.

Case Study: "Rocky Trails" between Runchet-Hulchuk & Subchet-Kashigaun in Dharche Gaupalika (Gorkha), 8km

Importance: Provided a shorter alternative for people traveling to and from Hulchuk/Subchet. On average, people using the trail save at least two hours of travel time but the terrain was extremely risky, especially during monsoon. When the rains come, this trail is used even more extensively as the parallel Manaslu route is usually flooded and risks of landslides are very high.

Technical execution & challenges: UG widened the trail and installed handholds along the entire route. Workers were given training in safety harnessing to allow for uninterrupted drilling while hanging above the steep slopes. Due to the trail's remoteness, transport of generators, rotary hammers and demolition breakers was extremely difficult. For example, four porters were required to carry a signle generator from the last vehicle access point over one-day walk away.

Trail from Sanguel to Simbandhi in Naukundapalika (Rasuwa), 1.74km

Importance: This trail was part of the alternative route for trekkers going to Gosaikunda. Some sections were extremely hazardous to pass due to narrow crossings and steep cliffs. This posed dangers to both local population and potential tourists.

Technical execution & challenges: Trail widening and installation of handholds. Similary to Gorkha, workers were required to wear safety harness at all times while overhanging a six-meter precipice. Works also required use of heavy portable generators that had to be hauled from the last road access point in Langbu 5km away.



In the last quarter, works were again halted for several weeks because of Nepal's major festivals of Dashain and Tihar, and the nationwide parliamentary elections. In November, the UG management hosted three visits of central, district and gaunpalika authorities in both districts to showcase the near-completed work, as well as explain UG payment modality and other procedures used by the program. Official handovers of the newly reconstructed trails from the Consortium to the Gaunpalikas took place in the final two weeks of December, marking the end of 13 months of implementation.





BEFORE AND AFTER. Trail from Parchyang to Larchyang in Naukunda Palika, Rasuwa

Trail Rehabiliation Implementation Methodology

The construction of UG trails followed a set of standard **procedures**, as governed by the methodological design devised by PIN management. First, technical and social teams carried out a rapid walkover assessment in order to gauge current physical condition of the existing trails and, at the same time, collect key social data to inform subsequent targeting. In total, 221km (105km in Rasuwa, 116km in Gorkha) of trail was surveyed in 11 VDCs across both districts through a combination of semi-structured interviews with the community and key stakeholders. The technical part comprised collection of GPS data as well as targeted topographical observation by SWN engineers to determine an overall feasibility of intervention.

Factors determing final trail targeting

VDC demographic profile – key figures based on latest available data
Trail catchment – number of direct/indirect beneficiaries, trail daily traffic (pedestrians, children, mules or other livestock), movement patterns and seasonal access constraints
Livelihoods and access to services – schools, health posts, markets, administrative centers or police; water resources, forests, pastures for livestock; presence of tourists or potential benefits from trails for local businesses
Labor availability – including assessment of likely female participation
Institutional mapping and social cohesion - including assessment of potential conflicts that could be precipitated by the program
Technical viability – present physical condition and length, trail's geology and topography, availability of local materials and environmental assessment
Local development plans – existing trail priority lists shared by local authorities
Logistics – warehousing and anticipated cost-effectiveness of field operations

During the proces of trail selection, some routes deemed important by the authorities and local community had to be excluded due to anticipated high costs of execution. For example, the trail from Khadku to Mailung in Uttargaya Gaupalika (former Dandagaun VDC, Rasuwa) was cited by then VDC Secretary as a top priority route, but the presence of active landlides and unstable rock formations made it technically unfeasible and cost-ineffective. PIN's impact survey conducted in June confirmed that the vast majority of trails selected have been of high importance to the communities. **See Annex I for the complete list**.

After final targeting, the SWN teams proceeded with **designing BOQs** for individual trail segments. The BOQs comprised technical data for field engineers (type and volume of works, tools and materials needed, labour requirements, work group divisions and estimated costing), but also served as a key document for logistics (procurement, pre-positioning of supplies and field warehouse management) and programs (social mobilization, payments, community engagement and rapport) to devise work plans and manage field operations. The BOQ format was first piloted in January 2017 in Gorkha, and then continuously revised for better effectiveness.

In order to provide a clear set of guidelines to all UG staff on the Consortium's approach toward social How important were the sections of trails that were improved?



mobilization, worksite policies and the **Results-based-Work** payment modality, PIN developed the **Standard Operating Procedures.** Among other things, the SOPs outlined the process of workers' registration and defined criteria of selection based on people's age, gender (at least 30% women), residency and physical aptitude. In case of labour surpluses (particularly in Gorkha), the UG selection committees, made up of UG staff and members of the community, applied additional vulnerability criteria as specified in the SOPs.

In terms of work remuneration, UG introduced the RbW modality as opposed to daily wages based on official district rates. This approach drew largely on SWN's previous experiences with infrastructure development projects in other parts of Nepal.

Results-based Work vs. Fixed daily wages

The basic difference between the daily wage concept and RbW is that the latter measures labourers' productivity, rather than hourly counts. As mentioned earlier, every BOQ estimates the volume of work per group according to the official DoLIDAR work norms⁴.

However, as confirmed by field practice, labour groups are typically more productive. This is mainly because workers are motivated to complete their assigned segments quicker once they know the BOQ amount. Site supervisors, site managers and field engineers then monitor the actual quality of outputs. As a result, final daily wages are higher in the vast majority of cases.

In addition, this system largely prevented attendance manipulation by virtue of collective responsibility over performance. It also increased workers' ownership over the assets as it drew strictly on local labour supply.

Do you understand why you were being paid the amount you were?



Do you think the payment is fair?



Very fair / fair
 Unfair / very unfair
 N/A

	Daily wages (NPR)					
District	Official district rate Official district r (skilled) (unskilled) ⁵		Unnat Goreto			
Gorkha	1,019	725	1,127			
Rasuwa	720	480	1,197			

Once the trail segment received official technical sign-off, the SWN engineers prepared a **Final Bill** that reflected the actual volume of work performed against the estimates stipulated in the BOQs. As per the program's policy,

⁴ For example, an unskilled worker excavating, removing and disposing of materials in an ordinary soil has a prescribed DoLIDAR norm of 2m³ per day, for which he or she can claim an official district rate for unskilled labour. This applies largely to public works; competitive market rates tend to be higher, especially for skilled workers

⁵ Official government rates for Nepal's Fiscal Year 2073/74 (2016/2017) were used as the basis for UG BOQs.

the final payable amount was not allowed to differ by more than 10%. In principle, these and other core procedures contained in the SOPs were always shared with the labour teams prior to the start of works, while also forming an integral part of the Beneficiary Agreement signed separately for each trail segment.

Over time, the **RbW system gained on increased popularity with the labour teams**, proving to be an efficient community-based model for ensuring quality outputs and equal pay between men and women.

Coordination with Consortium partners

As the Consortium lead, PIN took responsibility over program's coordination, logistical planning and donor reporting. SWN was the technical lead of the Consortium while PHASE and Lumanti led on social mobilization on the ground. The Consortium established a number of **communication channels** in order to synchronize different programmatic approaches and field-based operations. To this end, the Consortium developed the **"Unnat Goreto Communication Flow Chart"** that laid out concrete coordination mechanisms and assigned individual responsibilities in key situations. This included division of individual tasks during the worker recruitment process, supply-chain management, assigning technical and social focal points responsible for communicating UG policies, or outlining the different steps required to prepare and disburse payments. Given the heavy hardware nature of this program, special emphasis was given to communicating the overall logistics set-up to all staff involved in field operations.

For its part, the UG organogram provided a clear overview in terms of the program's **HR structure**. Both PHASE and Lumanti district teams were managed by a Project Coordinator who directly oversaw individual VDC-based teams composed of Field Officers and Social Mobilizers. Similar structure was put in place by SWN, whereby District Infrastructure Lead (DIL) served as the line manager to SWN Field Engineers and Site Managers, as well as the main district technical focal point for the entire Consortium. PIN's Project Manager, Field Coordinator, Monitoring Engineers and VDC-based Field Officers would then largely coordinate the entire operation and monitor activities on the ground. The central-level coordination, consisting primarily of policy development and harmonization, logistics, HR and administrative management, was ensured by the respective agencies' senior management.

Coordination with authorities

The Consortium engaged in **regular coordination with relevant authorities on all levels.** In the inception stage, district meetings and introductory presentations took place with a wide range of stakeholders in attendance. As the project worked primarily with rural communities, coordination happened mainly on the local level, making VDC-level and then new Ward representatives the chief points of contact. The coordination dynamics changed after the nationwide federal restructuring reshuffled the roles and responsibilities of local authorities by introducing the new administrative unit of Rural Municipalities (Gaupalikas).

Local ward/VDC-level representatives assisted with the selection of beneficiaries and played an important role in resolving various social issues. The project team also actively approached new Gaunpalika representatives, and organized several joint field visits. NRA and DoLIDAR also visited select project sites in Rasuwa for field monitoring.

Foot Bridges

As part of the Consortium's efforts to provide communities with a better access to markets, services or sources of livelihoods, the engineering team designed and erected nine brand new pedestrian footbridges according to Government guidelines. Construction was contracted to two Nepali construction companies – Manaslu Construction PvT, Ltd. (five bridges in Gorkha) and Rubina Nirman Sewa PvT, LtD (four bridges in Rasuwa) through an open national tender as per PIN Procurement guidelines. Despite the numerous challenges surrounding the entire process (quality of materials, on-

site monitoring, effects of monsoon, etc.), all nine bridges were successfully completed and passed all final engineering checks from the technical team.

Bridge construction process

- Erection of bridge abutments made of stone masonry and cement mortar
- River training structures, such as gabion walls, for prevention and mitigation of monsoon flash floods
- Installation of steel anchor plates and bolts on top of abutments to connect points between abutments and steel



New UG pedestrian footbridge over Kojung Khola, Arughat Gaupalika, Gorkha

decks. These decks were made of individual steel angles bolted together on top of bamboo scaffolds

• Finally other supporting structures, such as handrails and side and top bracings, were also installed in order to stabilize the whole structure

Handrails and handholds

UG trails frequently pass through a number of hazardous sections that require advanced safety measures. For this reason, the Consortium laid down 585m of handrails and handholds as per recommendations of the engineering team (See Annex I for complete list). The final length of installed structures was reduced by 21m for the following reasons:



Handrails along the trail from Parchyang to Sersung, Naukunda Palika, Rasuwa

- Safety improvements across UG trail network, such as extensive widening works;
- Detailed technical re-assessment of pre-targeted sites that recommended some segments not to be constructed due to poor soil stability for railing foundations

The technical solutions took form of heavy-duty anchor rods in combination with sturdy cotton ropes (handholds); and 1m vertical posts fixed to the ground with reinforced concrete, with attached wire mesh running from start to end (handrails). In order to arrive at a minimum width of 1.3m, some sections were accompanied by additional rock chipping and widening works. This significantly improved the overall safety for trail users.

Rest areas

UG rest areas provide travellers with a safe shelter in case of hazardous weather conditions. For these reasons, all 15 rest sheds (8 in Gorkha, 7 in Rasuwa) were uniformly designed by the SWN engineers to offer trail users a roofed space in locations with no other shelters nearby. Every rest area was constructed using a combination of plain cement concrete and stone masonry works along with steel trusses and CGI-sheet roofing. All labour was procured locally and costing



Rest shed on the way from Larchyang to Langbu, Naukunda Gaupalika, Rasuwa

was done on the standard BOQ basis. Assigned SWN site managers and engineers ensured technical oversight together with regular monitoring visits by PIN engineers.

Output 2: Communities and relevant stakeholders (construction actors, national and district authorities) are capacitated to construct and maintain trails according to DRR and best practices

		ļ	%		
	Output	Gorkha	Rasuwa	Total	Target
2.1	Guidelines and curriculum are developed for trail maintenance and construction			1	100%
2.2	Number of community members capacitated to construct and maintain trails	2471	1443	3914	326%
2.3	# of kms of trails that have had post-monsoon maintenance preformed	53.6	27.9	82	82%
2.4	National and local stakeholders trained on best practices and program guidelines			35	70%

Design and development of trail guidelines

Trail guidelines were being developed throughout the project as an accumulation of field experience combined with prior technical know-how. In October 2017, a first draft was finalized by the SWN engineers and shared for review with the main stakeholders, namely DoLIDAR, MoFALD, NRA, Department of Tourism and other civil society actors, at a specialized workshop. After the first review by government agencies, a second workshop was organized to confirm the various modifications, and to follow up on the process of government's endorsment and the planned publication of guidelines in

2018. Currently, the guidelines are scheduled for uptake by DoLIDAR/MoFALD in coordination with NRA, including translation into Nepali and various government endorsements for us as official policy document

This SWN-supported process should be finalized by March 2018 and eventually handed over to the ministries and NRA, who will then ensure dissemination across Gaunpalikas and Nagarpalikas.

Trail maintenance

In anticipation of the likely damage by annual monsoon rains, the Consortium planned to assess maintenance needs on over 100km of the recently rehabilitated trails. This exercise was also designed to provide practical skills in trail maintenance to both the communities and Gaunpalikas.



Trail in Sisneri (Naukunda Palika, Rasuwa) after post-monsoon maintenance.

The post-monsoon maintenance assessments found there was **minimal need for maintenance**, and that soil settling and vegetation growth had helped stabilize the trails. The installed slope stabilization features, such as dry-masonry and gabion walls, proved efficient in most locations and protected trails from soil erosion. Nonetheless, some repairs were still required – mainly mitigation of damages to stabilization walls and removal of debris. Few other segments needed partial reconstruction. Overall, 81.5 km of trail (55.6km in Gorkha and 27.9km in Rasuwa) were repaired.

The post-monsoon maintenance was carried out by small groups of workers with prior UG experience. For light tasks such as vegetation removal, voluntary engagement of the community was encouraged; this approach resonated best with people in Dharche Gaunpalika, Gorkha.

For long-term maintenance, the Consortium mobilized local stakeholders to initiate formation of local maintenance committees. To this end, UG staff has organized community meetings in each ward to gauge the technical and financial needs, but also

the degree of commitment. In Gorkha, the communities mostly preferred to have respective ward representatives as leads, whereas in Rasuwa the process was led by Gaupalika technical officers. Typically, former trail workers with experience from multiple trail segments became members of the Committees. Involvement of former group leaders and Site Supervisors was particularly emphasized.

The newly formed maintenance groups received refresher trainings in trail construction techniques and damage assessment, as well as basic training in financial and logistical planning. The committees were also provided with tools to support post-implementation maintenance of trails. Despite frequent requests, UG provided no maintenance funds.

Capacity building for Gaunpalika officers

Throughout late 2017, most efforts of the UG team to reach out to the newly established Ganpalika technical departments did not materialize to due to their limited technical capacity at the time. Typically, only one or two technical staff would be available, and usually preoccupied with other

official tasks. The project team only managed to have engineers from two Gaunpalikas monitor UG trail construction. For future programming, it is recommended to organize decentralized workshops for these technical departments, focusing on trail rehabilitation and maintenance.

•

Output 3: Communities are able to effective prepare for and respond to disasters and can respond to security risks posed throughout reconstruction

		ļ	Achieved		%
	Output	Gorkha	Rasuwa	Total	Target
3.1	# of women's groups capacitated to identify, respond to and refer security issues	3	2	5	100%
3.2	# of women's groups capacitated to identify, respond to and refer security issues	3	4	7	100%
3.3	# of square meters of bioengineering works conducted	8,895	854	9,749	1 22 %
3.4	# of meters of geohazard mititgation works performed	539	247	786	157%

Early Warning and Response trainings (DRR)

The core objective of this activity was to improve emergency preparedness of communities exposed to natural hazards, so that they can respond to a potential disaster in a coordinated and safer way.

An internationally accredited contractor delivered the EWR trainings to 75 participants in both districts combined. The participating communities had been previously identified by two separate PIN assessments as the most vulnerable across the entire UG trail network. For example, in Kerauja and Kerauja Besi villages (Dharche Gaunpalika, Gorkha), the selected communities had been previously classified by the NRA as "category-3 sites", and thus highly susceptible to geohazard risks.

The trainings used highly practical and community-centered approaches, coupled with the provision of first-aid toolboxes for the newly created "Rescue Committees".

Women protection and inclusion – Her Safety trainings



"Wilderness First Aid and Rescue" training in Kerauja Besi, Dharche Gaupalika, Gorkha

"Her Safety" protection programming

The women protection trainings were administered according to PIN's "Her Safety" programming, and capacitated women to address protection concerns related and unrelated to their participation program in their communities. This was carried out under three main activities:

Formation of 7 "Her Safety Committees" – each made up of 11-12 members (mostly women but including men that they identify)
"Her Safety" trainings – based on established curricula used extensively in PIN programming in Nepal. • **Conditional cash grants** – given to each Committee for implementation of a specific project, proposed and developed by the Committees themselves

Training description

Committee formation & Sexual and gender-based violance (SGBV)

Forms of SGBV, legal provisions related to SGBV and referral networks. Assessing protection risks in the community and developing a project for first grant

Sexual and reproductive health

Understanding physical and psychological aspects of adolescence; female and maternal health and hygiene

Psychosocial wellbeing

Understanding the concept of emotional wellbeing and addressing the stereotypes about mental health

Through the variety of projects implemented by the Safety Committees, the women groups were able to address important protection issues in their respective communities. The projects focused largely on improving local WASH facilities and women's practical skills, such as construction of public water taps or knitting.

Her Safety Committee project: Knitting of traditional Tamang belt Koda Naukunda Her Safety committee, Yarsha village, Naukunda Palika, Rasuwa

Women first procured material from different places, found a trainer and mobilized three groups of women from Ghangmar, Yarsha and Yubra villages. The training took 30 days, but the group spent several more weeks practicing to master the proper technique. By the time UG phased out, the women had started to produce and sell their *kodas* locally.

"I have already started selling koda in my village (Yarsha)", said Palmo Chiring Lopchan, head of Naukunda Her Safety Committee. *"I am selling for cheaper price than on the market, so women now buy koda from me instead of going to Dhunche or Kalikasthan⁶. I am earning NPR 700 from one koda and I get around NPR 400 profit from it."*

Karsang Tamang, one of the trainees, concurred: "For me, it was very hard to knit at first as I am a slow learner, but now I can knit easily, and have confidence to teach others as well."⁷



Koda knitting training in Yarsa village, Naukunda Palika, Rasuwa

See Annex I for the complete list of Her Safety projects.

⁶ Dhunche and Kalikasthan are the two main district markets. Walking distance from Yarsha and other nearby vilages is 3-4 hours.

⁷ Interviews with women during a Her Safety Committee meeting.

Protection and gender mainstreaming under Unnat Goreto

UG also featured provisions for social inclusion and prioritized employment of workers from the most vulnerable households. It also sought to streamline women's protection through ensuring a minimum 30% participation of women in labour teams. The program also provided childcare services, and gender-segregated toilets and camping facilities.

One of the key aspects of UG RbW was the provision of **equal wage** for both men and women, and assigning tasks according to everyone's skills and abilities. For example, according to early interviews conducted in Naukunda Palika, Rasuwa, some women confided that they would most likely not participate in UG if they were to earn less than men.

WORKER STORIES

Chinmaya Gurung, Kerauja village, Dharche Gaunpalika, Gorkha



"We are happy because we received the same wage as men. We [had never been] paid equally before."

She worked for 50 days on *Unnat Goreto* trails and earned NPR 50,000. She then used the money to invest in her children's education in Lamjung, while putting some savings into a local women cooperative.

Watch interview with Chinmaya: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z4BWtfVVsEY

The post-UG monitoring suggests a remarkable effectiveness of this modality, with **36% female workers participating and personally collecting wages worth NPR 42,367,770.** Some women also worked group leaders bearing responsibility over outputs of an entire group.⁸

Bio-engineering & geohazard mitigation

UG bioengineering and geohazard mitigation works were part of an **integrated technical approach** designed to make hazardous or unstable sections safer for trail use. This largely consisted of installing retention walls, drainages and different bioengineering measures, such as vegetation planting of local species, bamboo fencing or grass turfing on top of dry walls.

Prior to the start of **bioengineering**, both the project technical staff and selected workers received a specialized training that discussed different techniques and the overall importance of bioengineering. In Kashigaun (Dharche Gaupalika, Gorkha), UG worked with the local forest user group that provided plants from their local tree nursery free of charge. By the project's end, 9,749 m² of bioengineering works were completed in both districts combined.

The **geohazard mitigation** was initiated by a thorough assessment of pre-identified locations in March 2017. The study listed 51 landslides along the targeted routes and recommended that any large-scale mitigation efforts should be avoided due to limited impact and high cost. Where feasible, the

⁸ See the story of female group leader here: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b3cBfiBJkBM&feature=youtu.be</u>



Bioengineering works along Parchyang-Langbu trail, Naukunda Palika, Rasuwa

Consortium carried out slope stabilization measures, mainly dry or gabion breast/retention walls and drainage systems to prevent erosion. In total, the Consortium built 786m of gabion walls and more than 10,000m of dry walls in both districts. In addition, further mitigation works on 5 IDP sites were conducted in Kerauja (Dharche Gaupalika, Gorkha) to stabilize river banks and provide basic landslide protection.

The technical quality of executed geohazard and bioengineering measures also contributed to the reduced needs for post-monsoon maintenance due to limited trail damage. Furthermore, the community feedback on the overall safety of the newly reconstructed trail was extremely positive (see graph below).





MEAL

All key programmatic and technical components of the program were monitored and evaluated on a regular basis by PIN's MEAL department and PIN monitoring engineers. This ensured a systematic, accountable and impact-oriented approach towards monitoring all activities on the ground.

PIN's MEAL officers led on the program's **key monitoring tasks**. These consisted of baseline and endline studies, monitoring of cash distributions, midterm impact assessment, and worker satisfaction survey.

On the **technical** end, every trail segment had to be approved for quality and overall conformity to the BOQ specifications before program teams could proceed with payment processing. Furthermore, a special monitoring system was established to track progress of bridge construction, largely to harmonize approvals across different stages of completion.

In addition, an independent **Complaint Response Mechanism (CRM)** and information request line was set up to enhance program's transparency and accountability. PIN's MEAL team was assigned to manage all incoming CRM requests and delegated issues to UG teams as appropriate. Some of the most frequent inquiries related to the UG worker selection process, payment calculations, quality of tools on worksites, requests for information pertaining to trainings/assessments, etc. These formal systems were complemented by routine feedback sessions held periodically between project staff and the trail workers.



What are the three largest things you spent your money on?

■ Food ■ Education ■ Debt repayment ■ Productive Assets (livestock, tools for farming, seeds, machines ■ Savings

Value for Money & Synergies

Throughout the 13-month period, the Consortium sought to bring VfM into all aspects of the program. This approach was largely based on creating efficiencies through using local resources to the highest extent possible, as well as using low-cost technical solutions. For example, the Consortium considerably reduced its originally planned use of cement not only to generate savings, but also to reflect the general lack of skilled workmanship, likely need for robust supervision and limited water access. By virtue of offering employment strictly inside the target communities, the program succeeded in stimulating local investments. PIN also attempted to run as many procurements requests through local vendors as possible, in turn supporting local market economy.

WORKER STORIES

Binod Kumar Karki, Manbu, Arughat Gaunpalika, Gorkha

Worked on two different *Unnat Goreto* segments and earned NPR 45,000. He used the money to buy cement, steel rods and sand, and started to construct his new house. He also bought a buffalo and some goats.

"This year, I [stayed] at home. Otherwise, I used to go to India [to find work]. Let's say, if I buy two goats at NPR 5,000 each now and sell them after 3-4 months, I will double the money. I can accomplish something."





The Consortium originally intended to manage payments through a third party, but the management eventually decided to disburse payments directly through UG staff. This was largely due to concerns over transparency, potential for corruption, high transportation costs and insufficient flexibility from the side of service providers. Strict cash-in-transit security rules, requiring mandatory police escort and a minimum number of staff handling the cash depending on value, were established and communicated to all concerned staff. This approach generated considerable savings and led to better flexibility in payment processing.

Furthermore, UG district teams sought to harmonize program plans with the existing or anticipated road construction projects funded by the government. PIN also put more investment into re-opening the trails in Runchet-Hulchuk and Subchet-Kashigaun (Dharche Gaunpalika, Gorkha) that had been damaged by the earthquake, thus shortening average travel time by at least two hours.

In addition, PIN undertook to seek synergies with the concurrent, DFID-funded Durable Solutions project, largely by providing incentives for displaced populations to get involved in the trail works. In Haku (Ama Chodingmo Gaunpalika, Rasuwa), over 60 households temporarily residing in various IDP camps in Dhunche took part in the reconstruction activities.

The Consortium also laid groundwork for the development of tourism sector in the target communities by rehabilitating long stretches of trails directly connecting to major trekking destinations. In Rasuwa, the alternative route to the holy lake of Gosaikunda that passes through several villages in the Naukunda palika now represents a unique income-generating opportunity for local homeowners. In Gorkha, the newly reconstructed trail now provides a viable alternative to the main route leading to Manaslu mountain range, and offers unique views of Ganesh Himal. Importantly, all UG trails now also feature directional signs installed at main intersections for an easier orientation of all future visitors.



UG trailhead connecting to the alternative route to Gosaikunda in Rasuwa

Sustainability

The completed trails were handed over to the respective Gaunpalika administrations in late December 2017, marking the official transfer of ownership. By the end of the project, the Consortium developed a new set of trail guidelines and drawings that received an official NRA/MoFALD endorsement and should be disseminated widely in 2018. The finalization of this process can have a strong impact on the quality of trail construction and maintenance exhibited by both governmentand donor-funded projects in Nepal. As mentioned earlier, Trail **Maintenance** Committees were created under either ward or Gaunpalika leadership. In order for these Committees to take firm roots, the Gaunpalika administrations need to include maintenance into their annual budgets and continue working with the Committees. Thanks to UG, there is now a large pool of workers trained in trail construction and maintenance that the authorities can dip into.

Did you learn something about trail building from this project?



Visibility & Communications

In the initial phase of the program, the Consortium agencies developed a uniform branding strategy in order to more effectively present and communicate the Unnat Goreto, or "Progressive Trails", platform to various stakeholders at all levels. This also helped to create accountability among workers for the project's outputs. For these purposes, the Consortium designed a unique project logo and used it extensively along with the donor and partner logos on all signboards, worker helmets, staff shirts and jackets in for better transparency and accountability to the local community. At the end of the project, the Consortium produced visibility signboards for all bridges and rest areas, and placed directional signs in key UG trail crossroads to help visitors navigate along newly rehabilitated routes.

PIN's communications department also produced several videos, photos and articles over the course of program's implementation and distributed widely through its multiple global channels. PIN also commissioned a local drone-technology operator and an international expert in 360-degree panorama viewing. In Nepal and locally, a number of news articles about the program were published.

Unnat Goreto media outputs:

Videos:

- "Step by Step towards Recovery", April 2017, by Sajana Shrestha <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b3cBfIBJkBM&feature=youtu.be</u>
- "Resilient Trails for Resilient Futures", December 2017, by Sajana Shrestha <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z4BWtfVVsEY</u>
- "Rising from the Rubble in Nepal", January 2018, by Sajana Shrestha <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K1iW-glge_Y</u>

Published online:

- "Resilient Trails for Resilient Futures", December 2017, by Sajana Shrestha (photo series) <u>https://medium.com/@People_in_Need/resilient-trails-for-resilient-futures-of-nepal-64b24f9846f1</u>
- "With the money I receveived from reconstructing trails, I built my house", January 2018, by Sajana Shrestha (article on PIN website) <u>http://bit.ly/2rmEpst</u>
- "Unnat Goreto 360[®] panorama tour of reconstructed trails in Gorkha", February 2018, by Virtual Visit <u>http://bit.ly/2rmEpst</u>

Articles (Nepali media)

• "Unnat Goreto", Gorkhapatra, December 20, 2017

Conclusion: Challenges & Lessons Learnt

Challenges

Delays due to holidays, elections, political rallies and monsoon

Throughout the implementation period, the project teams struggled with numerous delays largely outside the Consortium's control. First, a wide range of **holidays and festivals** of different ethnic groups routinely halted construction activities for up to a week, putting pressure on district teams to deliver on time. Secondly, two separate **elections** took place in Nepal in 2017. This resulted in a two-week hiatus and loss of roughly 21,000 labour days at a time, along with other restrictions as governed by the Nepal Election Commission's Code of Conduct. In some areas, political rallies started to affect workers' attendance as early as one month prior to the scheduled election date. In addition, there were reported cases of local political party representatives repeatedly requesting financial contributions from UG staff.

Furthermore, frequent seasonal activities, such as the annual **yarshagumba plant collection**, took their own toll on workers' participation. Lastly, all construction activities were affected by the adverse effects of **monsoon**, leading to access constraints, increased worker safety risks, soil erosion and faster depreciation of certain materials, particularly cement.

Quality of work tools, issues with contractors and logistical bottlenecks

In the early stages of the project, the logistics team struggled to supply desired **quality** of some work tools, as vendors did not conform to the standards they had confirmed earlier. Similar issues occurred during regular technical checks of the **bridge contractors** who at times used low-quality materials and improper building techniques. This prompted more controls from the UG engineers, and the contractors were not allowed to proceed to the next construction stage (and receive next instalment) unless all required technical standards were met. Furthermore, the Consortium faced substantial challenges related to material **transportation** to some of the more remote areas, particularly Kerauja VDC (Dharche Gaupalika) in Gorkha. As a result, the UG management decided to limit technical inputs or larger use of external materials (especially cement) in those segments for the sake of better cost-effectiveness and smoother operations.

Limited inception & construction period

Limited inception period of the project was one of the overarching challenges for this project. Especially with regards to the original 9-month deadline, proper planning was sometimes compromised for the sake of quick initiation of construction on the ground. This correlated with the short time available for staff training, internal and external coordination, or timely development of BOQs and technical drawings. Perhaps more importantly though, the limited inception sometimes translated into ineffective social mobilization and the resulting issues with comprehending the RbW modality. Similarly, the gradual building of rapport with local authorities at times had to be done in a somewhat hasty manner, offering a breeding ground for potential confusion or a lack of trust. For example, it took the UG management nearly two months to secure all necessary approvals from the DDC office in Gorkha, which in turn put the already ongoing activities into a dubious status. Lastly, due to the program's timing and administrative changes stemming from the previous PIN-GOAL arrangement, the Consortium lost about three months (mid-September until late December) of Nepal's main construction season.

Labour Supply & Competition

In most of its phases, the program faced considerable **shortages of manpower**. This was attributed to a wide variety of factors. In general, areas such as former Haku, Kashigaun and Kerauja VDCs had an overall **low population density** while the project's labour absorption capacity was often larger.

Moreover, even if field staff managed to recruit enough workers, their **capacity** would often be low, in turn requiring greater technical oversight. Next, multiple **ongoing reconstruction projects** were "competing" for the same labour. For example, most works in Langbu (Naukunda Palika, Rasuwa) could only start in April as most households were involved in a major shelter reconstruction project run by a different INGO.

Poor coordination & planning of reconstruction activities

Over the course of implementation, it proved extremely difficult to achieve a regular, effective and collaborative **coordination** with different agencies operating in UG target areas, as well as with the government. UG staff would routinely discover new activities run by other I/NGOs with direct effect on the program. For its part, the government's lack of effective planning and timely sharing of information caused a number of route realignments or complete cancellations, as in the case of the Yubra-Chillaunegaun trail in Naukunda Palika, Rasuwa. In turn, this had an effect on the overall targeting logic, maximization of resources and VfM.

Presence of many geological hazards

As mentioned in the Landslide Field Assessment and Geological Study carried out by SWN in both districts, the presence of various geological hazards posed challenges in both the design and implementation stage. In total, **51 landslides** were identified along the proposed UG trails in both districts combined. These risks were accentuated during the monsoon season, although no major damage was reported and the maintenance fund added as part of the cost-extension proved sufficient.

Lessons Learnt

Results-based Work – effective approach that improves productivity and gender equality

The high effectiveness of this model was largely based on the **incentives for workers to stay productive** beyond standard DoLIDAR norms, while the SWN engineers ensured continuous technical oversight to maintain quality. Average wages earned by the workers surpassed official district rates in UG areas, and the **36% of women workers were paid equally as men** for their labour contributions. This emphasis on gender equality was highly appreciated by many female workers throughout the implementation.

However, the model requires **significant volume of technical inputs** from the engineering team in order to maintain desired quality. It is reasonable to believe that any larger HR compromises in this area would directly affect quality on the ground.

Nonetheless, significant efforts on both social and technical end were required to have workers **fully comprehend and embrace the model**. In this regard, working closely with the group leaders proved crucial throughout all stages of construction, especially during the final measurement and calculation of outputs.



payments. As a matter of fact, it is more plausible to assume that the limited flexibility of most available providers would lead to significant delays on the ground, higher transactional costs and, perhaps most importantly, disillusioned and unmotivated communities. UG staff disbursed more than one million GBP over the project's duration without a single reported case of fraud, largely thanks to effective planning and robust control mechanisms set up by the Consortium management.

Robust monitoring and control mechanisms were essential to maintain quality of inputs/services of contractors and suppliers

On numerous occasions, UG engineers found unacceptable quality standards on bridge worksites, including low-quality gabions that had to be replaced and reworked, in turn causing substantial delays. These situations happened despite initial reassurances and contractual clauses agreed to by the contractors. For their part, official UG suppliers selected through tender at times supplied low-quality tools that had to be returned and replaced.

Inception period was too short and program did not fully follow Nepal's construction season

The project's limited preparatory phase had its effect on the Consortium's ability to plan effectively and lay down systems for smooth operations before initial piloting. This translated into various technical and social tools not being in place on time. Moreover, it is reasonable to believe that, if the inception phase was scheduled for July/August, the Consortium would have been in a strong position to finish all targets within one full construction season.

DRR and "Her Safety" components can be expanded to achieve wider reach

Both the DRR and Her Safety components served their purpose by providing effective social services to a limited group of beneficiaries. Given PIN's strong background in gender mainstreaming and existing needs for DRR programming, a greater integration of these components might significantly increase overall impact.

Gaunpalikas' capacity should be strengthened to ensure uptake of UG best practices

The Consortium lay groundwork for an effective, community-oriented approach toward trail construction and maintenance. Currently, there is a need to work with Gaunpalikas to integrate these best practices into local development plans. This can be done together with the planned rollout of UG trail guidelines endorsed by NRA and MoFALD.

Local development plans funded by the government, especially road and bridge construction, should be more effectively synchronized to maximize utilization of available resources

Although UG teams in both districts made regular efforts to synchronize plans with local administrations, several unannounced road construction projects were launched regardless. In some cases, the soil excavators destroyed parts of already rehabilitated trails. The gaps in coordination were in part caused by Nepal's federal restructuring, but impromptu planning without larger synergies remains a problem in Nepal.

Synergies with other, locally active development actors should be enhanced

Similar coordination gaps were observed across local NGO landscape. Little energy is expended on finding effective synergies, even across projects that fall under a broader DFID-funded portfolio. A greater emphasis should be placed on all new projects to conduct proper institutional mapping and consultations where programming overlaps, duplication or damage (physical and financial) to existing infrastructure are at stake.

Appendices:

- Annex I: detailed list of UG outputs
- Evaluation report summary (endline executive report)
- Maps of UG trails
- Beneficiary database & statistics

Unnat Goreto, Final Report: Annex I

Table 1: List of Reconstructed Unnat Goreto Trails

District	Gaupalika	Ward no.	VDC	Code	Section	km	
		1 and 2		GM01a	Armala - Manbu health post	2.5	
		1		GM01b	Yukta - Lamra	3.7	
		2		GM02	Armala - Manbu School	1.3	
		1		GM03	Dondore Khola - Mathillo Majhgau	0.9	
	Arushat	1	Manhu	GM04a	Lamra - Yarsa	1.9	
	Arugnat	1	Wanbu	GM12c	Chhote Khola - Subchet	1.1	
		2		GF03	Armala - Manbu Besi	1.2	
		1		GF04	Health post - Dhunchet School	1.8	
		2		GF05	Thalchok Besi - Paiyun Chautari	1.0	
		2		GM01c	Manbu health post - Dauchet	1.4	
		6		GM04b	Lamra - Yarsa	2.4	
		6	Kashigaun	GM05	Yarsa - Kashigaun	3.1	
		6		GM06a	Kashigaun - Kerauja	5.4	
Gorkha		6		GM12a	Kashigaun - Subchet	4.4	
		6		GM12b	Kashigaun – Subchet rocky trail	0.4	
		6		GM13	Kashigaun Khani Besi	3.9	
		2 and 6		GM06b	Kerauja - Kashigaun	4.2	
		2		GM07	Kerauja - Runchet	3.2	
	Dharche	1 and 2		GM08	Runchet - Hulchuk	8.0	
		1		GM09	Dovan - Hulchuk	2.2	
		2		GM10	Kerauja - Machhakhola	4.5	
		2	Kerauja	GM11	Machhakhola Kerauja Junction - Runchet	5.7	
		2		GF01	Kerauja - Kerauja Besi	3.0	
		1		GF02	Dovan - Umchet	0.9	
		2		GF06	Kerauja Village Trail (Bamlak)	0.4	
		2		GF07	Kerauja Old school - Health post	0.6	
		2		GM14	Kerauja Besi - Khorla Besi	1.1	
	Sub-total for Gorkha: 70						

		2		RM02a	Haku Besi - Sano Haku	2.1
	Ama Chodingmo	2		RM02b	Haku Besi - Pangling	1.1
		2	Uoku	RM02c	Bridge - Haku Besi	0.5
		2	паки	RM03	Sano Haku - Nesing	1.6
		1		RM04	Sana Haku Thulo Haku Dangling	27
		1		RM05	Sano Haku - Thulo Haku - Paligiling	5.7
		1		RM06	Lambu - Thangdor	2.4
		1		RM07	Thangdor - Sanguel	2.1
		1		RM08	Sanguel - Simbandi	1.2
		1		RM09	Simbandi - Doglang - Baccha	2.5
	Naukunda	1		RM10	Doglang - Rojan - bridge	1.1
		2 and 3		RM13a	Yarsa - Larchyang	2.4
Rasuwa		1 and 3	Yarsa	RM13b	Lambu - Larchyang	3.1
		2		RM14	Yarsa - Gyangmar	2.8
		1		RM20	Lambu - Arukharka - Arukharka bridge	3.9
		1 and 3	-	RM21	Parchyang - Arukharka	2.1
		1		RM22	Doglang - Vranggang (Gosaikunda trail)	4.7
		1		RM23	Simbandi - Doglang/Vranggang trail (connecting in mid-point)	3.5
		2		RM11	Larchyang - Parchyang	2.3
		5		RM12	Sersung - Parchyang	2.1
		2	Saramthali	RM15	Yarsa - Yubra	2.4
		1 and 3		RM17	Lambu - Parchyang	2.7
		3		RM18	Parchyang - Chillaunegaun	1.3
		6	Bhorle	RM19	Bhorle Buspark - Sersung	3.6
Sub-total for Rasuwa:						
Total:						

Table 2: List of Unnat Goreto Footbridges

No	District	Gaunpalika	Ward no.	VDC	River name	Bridge location (trail chainage)	Bridge Code	Span (m)	GPS Coordinates
1			1		Abdi Khola	01+200	GM01-FB1	20	N: 292497.403 E: 3117498.814
2		Arughat	1	– Manbu	Thade Khola	05+010	GM01-FB2	16	N: 290744.104 E: 3114656.42
3	Gorkha	Ū.	2		Megar Khola	07+260	GM01-FB3	24	N: 292443.100 E: 3116787.000
4			6		Kojung Khola	00+700	GM12-FB1	16	N: 294251.074 E: 3117199.189
5		Dharche	1	Kerauja	Pangrang Khola	01+060	GM09-FB1	16	N: 845440.45 E: 281725.92
6		Ama Chodingmo	Ama Chodingmo 1	Haku	Cholep Khola	04+700	RM04-FB1	24	N: 329637.5 E: 3111936
7		Naukunda	1	Varia	Jhakre Khola	05+243	RM08-FB1	16	N: 329637.5 E: 3111936
8	ndSUWd		2	Yarsa	Dhunde Khola	15+510	RM14-FB1	16	N: 334337.9 E: 3102487.3
9	-		6	Bhorle	Ghatte Khola	00+834	RM19-FB1	32	N: 334523.5 E: 3099919

Table 3: List of Unnat Goreto Rest Areas

No	District	Gaupalika	Ward no.	VDC	Rest shed code	Rest Area location	GPS		
1	2		1		GM04-RA1	Trail section Lamra - Yarsa (GM04)	N: 28 10'31.15" E: 84 55'20.95"		
2				6	Kashigaun	GM06-RA1	Trail section Kashigaun - Kerauja (GM06a)	N: 28 12'51.92" E: 84 53'25.81"	
3			6		GM12-RA1	Trail section Kashigaun - Subchet (GM12)	N: 28 15'58.45" E: 84 54'4.50"		
4	Carlina	Dhavaha	6		GM06-RA2	Trail section Kerauja - Kashigaun (GM06b)	N: 28 13'32.46" E: 84°53'28.42"		
5	Gorkha	Gorkha Dharche 2 1 2 2	2		GM07-RA1	Trail section Kerauja - Runchet (GM07)	N: 28 14'50.48" E: 84 53'50.49"		
6				1	Kerauja	GM08-RA1	Trail section Runchet - Hulchuk (GM08)	N: 28 16'34.53 E: 84 54'17.47"	
7			2		GM10-RA1	Trail section Kerauja - Machhakhola (GM10)	N: 28 14'86" E: 84~53'24.23"		
8			2		GM11-RA1	Trail section Machhakhola - Runchet (GM11)	N: 28 15'13.53" E: 84~53'44.56"		
9		Ama Chodingmo	2	Haku	RM02-RA1	Trail section Haku besi - Pangling (RM02)	N: 28°07'02.8" E: 85°16'20.5"		
10		isuwa Naukunda	Rasuwa 2 Sara		2		RM11-RA1	Trail section Larchyang - Parchyang (RM11)	N: 28° 0'35.57" E: 85°15'52.85"
11				5	Saramthali	RM12-RA1	Trail section Parchyang - Sersung (RM12)	N: 28° 00'35.57" E: 85°15'52.85"	
12	Rasuwa				RM15-RA1	Trail section Yarsa - Yubra (RM15)	N: 28°00'37.1" E: 85°18'04.5"		
13			Naukunda 1	RM07-RA1	Trail section Sanguel-Thangdor (RM07)	N: 28 °00'25.3" E: 85°15'55.1"			
14			3 Yarsa		RM13-RA1	Trail section Lambu-Larchyang (RM13b)	N: 28°1'20" E: 85°17'16"		
15			6		RM19-RA1	Trail section Sersung - Bhorle buspark (RM19)	N: 27°59'46." E: 85°15'04.8"		

Table 4: List of Unnat Goreto handholds and handrails

No	District	Gaupalika	Mard no	VDC	Turno	Trail code	Douto	Chainage		Length	
NO	District	баиранка	ward no.	VDC	туре	Trail code	Koule	From	То	(m)	
1	Gorkha			Kashigaun	handrail	GM12		2+900	2+939	39	
2	Gorkha			Kashigaun	handrail	GM12	Kashigaun - Subchet	3+100	3+130	30	
3	Gorkha			Kashigaun	handhold	GM12		3+078	3+088	10	
4	Gorkha		C	Kashigaun	handhold	GM12		3+062	3+073	11	
5	Gorkha	Dharche	0	Kashigaun	handhold	GM12		3+872	3+891	19	
6	Gorkha			Kashigaun	handhold	GM12		3+849	3+862	13	
7	Gorkha			Kashigaun	handhold	GM12		4+763	4+775	12	
8	Gorkha			Kashigaun	handhold	GM12		5+604	5+614	10	
9	Gorkha		2	Keraunja	handrail	GM11	Macchakhola-Runchet	1+63	1+690	60	
10	Gorkha					GM08	Hulchuk - Runchet	5+730	5+753	23	
11	Gorkha			Keraunja	handhold			4+984	4+995	11	
12	Gorkha		1 and 2					4+977	4+981	4	
13	Gorkha							4+925	4+941	16	
14	Gorkha							4+917	4+922	5	
15	Gorkha	Dharcha						4+869	4+872	3	
16	Gorkha	Dilaiche	1 anu 2					4+693	4+698	5	
17	Gorkha						4+677	4+682	5		
18	Gorkha					4+665	4+670	5			
19	Gorkha							4+650	4+655	5	
20	Gorkha	1				4+620	4+623	3			
21	Gorkha							4+589	4+596	7	
22	Rasuwa	Naukunda	1	Yarsa	Hand Hold	RM08	Sanguel-Simbandi	5+450	5+478	28	
23	Rasuwa	Naukunua	5	Saramthali	Handrail	RM12	Parchyang-Sarsung	30+395	30+417	22	
24	Rasuwa	Ama Chadingma	2	Haku	Hand Hold	RM 03	Sano Haku-Nesing	3+933	3+950	17	
25	Rasuwa		1	Haku		RM08	Sanguel-Simbandi	5+224	5+357	133	
26	Rasuwa							1+345	1+368	23	
27	Rasuwa	Naukunda	Naukunda	3	Yarsa	Handrail	RM11	Larchyang-Parchyang	1+378	1+383	5
28	Rasuwa							1+448	1+464	16	

	District		Gorkha			Rasuwa		
110	Gaupalika	Arughat		Dharche	Ama Chodingmo	Naukunda		
HS	Ward	1	2	6	2	1	2	value
Committee	VDC	Manbu-1	Manbu-2	Kashigaun	Haku	Yarsa-1	Yarsa-2	
	Members	12	11	12	11	12	12	
Grant 1	Project	Stool making training and equipment		Water tap installation, Yarsa	Bathroom and toilet construction in Haku Besi	Purchase of birth delivery kit for Langbu health post	Koda knitting training (1st part)	
	Grant value	NPR 30,000	NPR 30,000	NPR 30,000	NPR 30,000	NPR 30,000	NPR 30,000	NPR 180,000
Grant 2	Project	Wool knitting training and equipment	Purchase of emergency lamps and batteries for displaced HHs	Purchase and installation of 35 public lights in Kashigaun, electricity provided by Ward	Bathroom and toilet construction in Thulo Haku	Wool knitting training and equipment	Koda knitting training (2nd part)	
	Grant value	NPR 50,000	NPR 50,000	NPR 50,000	NPR 50,000	NPR 50,000	NPR 50,000	NPR 300,000
Grant 3 (or combined	Project	Construction of 3 public toilets in Manbu VDC	Water tap and reserve tank construction along foot trail GF03	Household solar panels purchase for Kashigaun Besi (EQ displaced sub- village)	Finalization of bathrooms - NPR 50,000	Wewing machines and sewing training for NPR 50,000	Water tap provision at Rest Area, Yubra	
3+4)	Grant value	NPR 120,000	NPR 120,000	NPR 120,000	NPR 50,000	NPR 50,000	NPR 120,000	NPR 580,000
Grant 4	Project				Finalization of bathrooms and knitting training for NPR 70,000	Purchase of 2 computers for Thangdor school		
	Grant value				NPR 70,000	NPR 70,000		NPR 140,000
total dis	bursed:	NPR 200,000	NPR 200,000	NPR 200,000	NPR 200,000	NPR 200,000	NPR 200,000	NPR 1,200,000

Table 5: Her Safety program: Projects implemented by Her Safety Committees

ENDLINE SURVEY - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Resilient Trails for Resilient Futures (Unnat Goreto) Gorkha and Rasuwa districts, Nepal Carried out by **People in Need**



Background

In December 2017, People in Need (PIN) carried out a **endline survey for the DFID-funded project "Resilient Trails for Resilient Futures** (*Unnat Goreto*)". The key objective of the survey was to provide comparative values for the project indicators to measure the change produced by the intervention. The collected values display beneficiaries' perception on trails accessibility, quality and safety at the beginning of the project and at the completion of intervention. Over 3,900 households participated in the project.

Methodology

The quantitative and qualitative survey was conducted in 7 VDCs in Gorkha (Manbu, Kashigaun, Kerauja) and Rasuwa (Haku, Yarsa, Saramthali and Bhorle) along the trails targeted for rehabilitation. In total, **829 structured interviews with randomly selected household members and random trail users** were administered **(43% women, 57% men**), employing 95% confidence level and 6% margin of error. The survey has repeated the baseline questionnaires and locations. The interviews were conducted in Nepali with the original English version of the questionnaire cross-checked beforehand to avoid misinterpretation. In addition, **15 focus group discussions** took place (5 with male and 5 with female-only participants and 5 mixed) with 6-12 people per group, aged 15 or over. All enumerators had been trained on data collection methods by PIN's MEAL officers, who have facilitated the discussions.

Key Findings

Perceived Access to Communities, Markets and	Baseline	Endline			
Frequency of trail use:	often, very often	80.8%	95.3%		
	all year equally	76.3%	92.6%		
Trail use across seasons:	all year except monsoon	9.8%	5.7%		
	other	13.8%	1.7%		
Trail accessibility to users the entire year:	81.6% / 17.8%	99.2% / 0.8%			



Perceived Quality and Safety of the Trails		Baseline	Endline
Quality of trails:	good, very good / bad, very bad	5.6% / 56.7%	99.5% / 0.5%
	easy, very easy	6.6%	94.0%
Traveling along the route during dry season:	a bit difficult, very difficult	54.5%	0.7%
	other	38.9%	5.3%
Traveling clong the route during last moneon	easy, very easy	2.3%	26.2%
(2016 vs 2017).	a bit difficult, very difficult	89.8%	47.2%
(2010 V3 2017).	other	7.9%	26.7%
Traveling along the trail for cattle or mules during	easy, very easy	1.9%	25.0%
last monsoon (2016 vs 2017):	a bit difficult, very difficult	87.8%	50.3%
	other	10.2%	24.7%
Haranda alang tha trail.	at many / some places	71.6%	11.3%
nazarus along the trail:	at few places / no hazards	27.6%	87.7%

Traveling along the trail in dry/ rainy season season before rainy after dry season before after 0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100% a bit difficult/very difficult easy/very easy other



		Baseline	Endline
Trail is too parrow:	in many or some places	90.6%	3.0%
Trail is too harrow.	few or no places	8.6%	96.6%
Thoro is dobris on trails:	in many or some places	57.4%	5.9%
	few or no places	41.8%	37.9%
Trail is too stoop:	in many or some places	77.5%	5.9%
Trail is too steep:	few or no places	21.6%	37.9%
Trail is muddy or slipory:	in many or some places	67.8%	11.6%
Train is muduy of supery:	few or no places	31.9%	87.8%











Community Participation and Perceived Impacts of the Program			
Participation in project as workers: yes / no (% of interviewed)	72% / 28%		
Fairness: (% out of 15 FGDs total)			
to the community / in worker selection	97% / 90%		
Greatest advantages of reconstructed trails: (% out of 15 FGDs total)			
improved accessibility, quality and safety of trails	93%		
job opportunity localy, equal wages for men and women	73%		

Unnat Goreto, Rasuwa



Unnat Goreto, Gorkha 2017



28°10'0"N

28°15'0"N

Unnat Goreto, Rasuwa





peopleinneed.cz