

PWCB Programming in Nepal - Overview

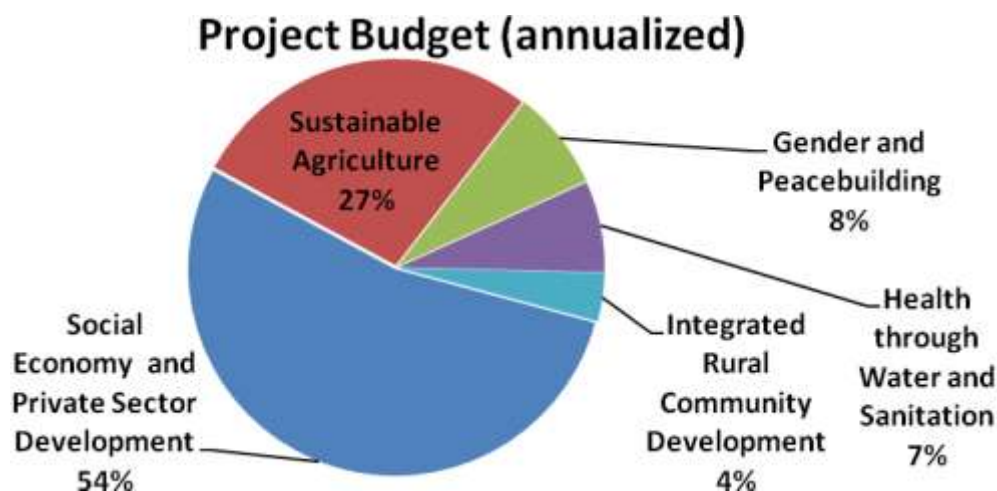
CIDA's Civil Society Programming

Partnerships with Canadians Branch's (PWCB) central mandate is to provide support for Canadian partners engaged in development cooperation. The Branch also plays a lead role on civil society programming Agency-wide.

Civil society programming in a responsive mode in Nepal involves all three of CIDA's programming Branches. The total CIDA responsive programming in Nepal in 2008-09 accounted for \$3 M, or 46% of total CIDA disbursements to that country. The breakdown by branch in 2008-09 was as follows: PWCB – 77 %, Geographic Programs Branch – 21%, and Multilateral and Global Programs Branch and Multi-Geo initiatives - 2%.¹ This overview provides basic information on PWCB-funded activities only.

PWCB Programming in Nepal 2009-10

In FY 2009/10, PWCB disbursed approximately \$2.3M in program funding to Nepal. This placed Nepal in 31st position out of 114 countries overall for PWCB that year.² The total value of PWCB's current portfolio in Nepal is \$8M, and is composed of six multi-country programs with a share of their work in Nepal, and two water and sanitation projects based exclusively in Nepal (Nepal School Projects and World Neighbours Canada Society). The following graphic and descriptive breakdown provides a picture of operational PWCB-supported activities in Nepal, as expressed by the annualized value of the PWCB portfolio.³



There are currently nine PWCB-funded partners with nine active projects in Nepal. Supported activities are concentrated in five areas, as follows.

¹ Appendix 3: CSO Programming in CIDA Country Programs, EDRMS# 5146043.

² PWCB Preliminary Estimates by Sector of Focus See EDRMS#: 5055722.

³ Calculated on the basis of all operational project budgets divided by the expected duration in years of each project.

- **Social Economy and Private Sector Development:** three projects, \$729,036 or 54% of the current annualized portfolio. Consortium WUSC-CECI (also known as Uniterra), accounts for 70% of this, and focuses on helping partner organizations in the agro-food sector (food-processing industry), and the sustainable management of community forests (see text box below). Canadian Cooperative Association, \$209,562, or 29% of the current annualized portfolio works to develop and strengthen cooperatives and their networks in Nepal.
- **Sustainable Agriculture:** one project, \$374,423, or 28% of the current annualized portfolio. The partner is USC⁴ (see text box below), which focuses on sustainable agriculture practices through improved biodiversity, soil fertility, and drought and climate change management.
- **Gender and Peacebuilding:** one project, by Care Canada (see text box below), \$105,857, or 8% of the current annualized portfolio. The project promotes awareness and respect of women's rights by the state, society and rights holders.
- **Health through Water and Sanitation:** two projects, \$96,479, or 7% of the current annualized portfolio (drinking water and community hygiene). Approximately 55% of this amount is accounted for by World Neighbours Canada Society (see text box below), and 45% by Nepal School Projects. Both projects take a grassroots approach to engaging villagers in community projects to build hygienic, environmentally friendly latrines and ensure a clean drinking water supply, while also addressing themes of community governance and gender equality.
- **Integrated Rural Community Development:** two projects, \$51,477 or 4 % of the current annualized portfolio. Fondation Léger accounts for 78% of the annual budget, and World Literacy Canada accounts for the rest. These projects take a holistic approach to development by addressing diverse community needs such as literacy, health education, community governance, and gender equality.

Based on current annualized⁵ budgets for Nepal, the top five operational partners:

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Annualized Budget</i>	<i>Activity Category</i>
Consortium WUSC-CECI (Uniterra - CECI)	\$ 506,690	Private Sector Development
USC	\$ 374,424	Sustainable Agriculture
CCA	\$ 209,562	Social Economy
CARE	\$ 105,587	Gender and Peacebuilding
World Neighbours Canada Society	\$53,238	Health through Water and Sanitation

In Nepal, which is emerging from ten years of armed conflict, and is the poorest country in South Asia, PWCB partners put a particular emphasis on ensuring the participation and recognition of the rights of the most marginalized groups, such as women, youth, Dalits, ethnic groups and isolated rural communities in general. Most programs integrate a strong gender equality component into their programming, with some partners, such as CARE and the USC, targeting almost exclusively women. Environmental protection is also a strong crosscutting theme.

⁴ Formerly known as the Unitarian Service Committee

⁵ The annualized budget is the total country budget of each project, divided by the number of years of project duration.

Below are descriptions of initiatives from four of the current PWCB-supported areas of intervention in Nepal. Together, these four examples are representative of approximately 80% of PWCB programming in Nepal, and have as a common thread their approach to achieving poverty reduction and sustainable development through the following strategies:

- the organization of cooperatives and self-help groups at the rural grassroots level;
- the strengthening of local community groups, civil society organizations and larger networks; and, whenever possible,
- the gradual extension of activities to policy influence and transformational changes at a state and society level.

Consortium WUSC-CECI (Uniterra): Building on Success 2009-14 - \$3,789,765 (Private Sector Development)

In Nepal, the Uniterra Consortium is managed by CECI, and works with a wide range of cooperative associations and organizations in the areas of agro-food small business development and sustainable community forests management. In the agro-food sector, the project aims to strengthen coops, business services, and entrepreneurship. In sustainable forestry management, the project aims to increase productivity, improve the regulatory environment, and increase participation of women and excluded groups in local forest management. It gives priority to strengthening of marketing cooperatives, micro-enterprise creation, lobbying for improved certification procedures, adopting sustainable forest management practices, and promoting the responsible participation of the private sector.

USC Canada Global Program 2010-15 - \$1,998,293 (Sustainable Agriculture)

USC's program in Nepal, called "Seeds of Survival" emphasizes environmentally responsible and positive agricultural practices. The program promotes the conservation and enrichment of soil fertility, the preservation of the genetic diversity of seed stocks, resilient agricultural practices enabling women and men farmers to cope with environmental risks, and the development and use of locally obtainable agricultural inputs. Gender equality and environmental protection are specific objectives of the program. USC partners work in the Rasuwa, Humla, and Makwanpur districts.

World Neighbour's Canada Society: Ramechhap Drinking Water Sanitation 2009-13 - \$196,469 (Health through Water and Sanitation)

World Neighbour's Society has two projects in Nepal, both focused on the provision of drinking water and sanitation services in two villages of Ramechhap District. The objectives are the reduction of disease through toilets that dispose of waste using sanitary methods, access to clean water and the use of smokeless stoves. Additional objectives are improved governance of community development initiatives, through increased civic engagement, particularly of women. One project includes the manual construction of 2,700 toilets and nine gravity-fed water systems, while the other will provide hygienic toilets for 5,400 families.

CARE: Gender and Peace-building or 'SAHABHAGITA' 2007-12 - \$529,575 (Gender and Peacebuilding)

CARE's current initiatives in Nepal aim to address the root causes of poverty, by encouraging local involvement of women and strengthening local development. The goal of this project is to contribute to the peace building and transformation process through the protection and respect of the rights of marginalized women by the state, society, and rights holders themselves, in ten districts of Nepal.

Results

The following are typical examples of results achieved by Canadian partner programming in Nepal. The CARE program is ongoing, while the Street Kids program has ended, apart from an IYIP Program, and the USC project has ended but a new program is now operational with PWCB.

CARE: Gender and Peacebuilding or SAHABHAGITA 2007-12, Nepal Budget: \$529,575 (Gender and Peacebuilding)

CARE's ongoing project has contributed to the peace building and transformation process in Nepal, through the protection, promotion and respect of women's rights. To date, 9,614 women in 10 districts of Nepal have benefitted from a diverse set of activities such as income generating projects, training on HIV and AIDS, campaign on domestic violence, sanitation, construction of small drinking water schemes, peace committees and advocacy with government.

Street Kids International: Setting Up for Success 2007-2010, Nepal Budget: \$312,196 (Social Economy and Private Sector Development – activities terminated except for International Youth Internship Program)

In Nepal, Street Kids International addressed issues of street child exploitation in the Terai region by empowering youth, particularly girls, with livelihood assets and capabilities to enable their participation across a broad range of activities. This project reached 1,540 youth, of which 1003 females, in youth entrepreneurship and financial and business management skills. 1,057 youth, of which 644 females, have set up savings circles to either launch or improve an existing business. The municipal government of Biratnagar has instituted a business loan program for which participation in the Street Kids training was a requirement.

USC Canada Global Program 2007-10, Nepal Budget: \$1,203,933. (Sustainable Agriculture)

In 2007, USC helped in the creation of three local NGOs located in three areas of Nepal, and is now implementing its agrobiodiversity program via these organizations. A small USC Canada Asia Regional office, with a highly qualified scientist with experience in farmer-based agrobiodiversity, now provides these local partners with direct technical and institutional support.