



HATEYMALO ACCOMPANIMENT PROGRAM

ICRC'S COMPREHENSIVE PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT PROGRAM TO THE FAMILIES OF MISSING PERSONS IN NEPAL



ICRC



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International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
G.P.O. Box No. 21225, Meen Bhawan, Naya Baneshwor
Kathmandu, Nepal
T +977 1 4107285/4107279 F +977 1 4107137
E-mail: kathmandu@icrc.org www.icrc.org
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**Bardia 2010. Wives and mothers of the missing
meet to share their problems with one another.**



“ If we stay at home, we feel bad, so it’s nice to come together in the group sessions. We can share our problems with one another. We feel lighter in the meeting. ”

Relative of a missing person



Kishor Pandey/ICRC

INTRODUCTION

As per ICRC records, on July 2014, 1347 people remain unaccounted for since the ten-year armed conflict ended in 2006. Many families remain uncertain about the fate of their loved ones. Other families have learnt about the death of their family members but still yearn to know where their loved-ones are buried and to recover their remains. These families live with the pain caused by uncertainty and are unable to grieve.

To help these families, the ICRC has worked on clarifying the fate of their relatives during and after the armed conflict. In 2010, the ICRC launched an accompaniment program called Hateymalo. While providing

psychosocial support to the families of missing persons, the ICRC in collaboration with national non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) delivers psychological, economical, legal/administrative and socio-cultural support to them. With support groups being at the core of its multi-faceted interventions, the program helps families cope with their specific problems and rebuild social and community bonds.

The program has covered 43 districts and is currently active in 27 districts. By the end of 2015, more than 90% of the families of the missing will have been supported through this program.



QUICK FACTS

Pilot phase (2010 August-2012 June), phased out

- 267 families
- in 28 VDCs (sub-districts)
- 1 implementing partner NGO
- 15 accompaniers
- 2 supervisors

1st expansion (2011 March-2013 June), phased out

- 348 families
- in 110 VDCs
- 5 implementing partner NGOs
- 32 accompaniers
- 10 supervisors

2nd expansion (November 2011-September 2014), phased out

- 126 families
- in 50 VDCs
- 2 implementing partner NGOs
- 12 accompaniers
- 4 supervisors

3rd expansion, on-going since March 2013

- 252 families
- in more than 150 VDCs
- 9 implementing NRCS DCs and 1 NGO partner
- 22 accompaniers
- 9 supervisors
- 5 admin and finance assistant
- 9 focal people from NRCS District Chapters

4th expansion (2014 May-2015 October)

- 337 families
- 17 implementing partners
- 41 accompaniers
- 18 counsellors
- 9 admin and finance assistants
- 17 Focal persons



ICRC

CHALLENGES FOR THE FAMILIES OF THE MISSING

Under international human rights law and international humanitarian law, families have the right to know about the fate of their missing relatives, including their whereabouts. If their relatives are dead, they have a right to know the circumstances of their death, and the place of burial if known. These families also need a proof of death to perform the final rites that are supposed to liberate the soul of the dead person, and to begin the grieving process.

The families of missing persons are usually facing economic hardships aggravated by the disappearance of their relative. In

particular, many families have no land or very small pieces of land, they live in small houses if they have one and have limited and unsustainable sources of income. In Nepal, 90% of the people still missing are men. Elderly parents and wives have lost their main bread winner and are economically vulnerable. Children who have to live without their father are often subject to discrimination by other children.

The uncertainty about the fate of their relative, the guilt, self-blame, anger, loss of interest in important areas of life can lead to depression, anxiety, physical pain, intra-



family disputes and even suicidal thoughts. In addition to these psychological consequences, families also face difficulties in relating with their community, which affects their daily lives. The wives of missing persons are particularly stigmatized. Society expects them to behave and dress as widows, which most wives do not accept. Other women in the community may consider them as threats, and men may perceive them as sexually available. Within the family circle, they lose their position and are often perceived as just an extra mouth to feed. They cannot inherit their husband's property and going back to their parents is

not culturally and economically accepted. Finally, the families of the missing face severe legal and administrative problems i.e. related to inheritance, the transfer or registration of land, difficulties to obtain loans or citizenship. Such issues are aggravated because missing persons do not have a legal status.

The Hateymalo program seeks to address all these closely interconnected psychological, socio-cultural, economic and relational issues.



THE HATEYMALO PROGRAM

The ICRC trains interested and motivated non-professionals/volunteers (also called accompaniers) on a number of skills that enables them to facilitate or organise most of the support groups' activities. These accompaniers also facilitate the referral of families of the missing to various service providers for specific needs.

a. Social and Community Support

In order to reduce the stigma and marginalization of the families, awareness and sensitization programs are carried out among the communities. For example, street theatres and art events depict the plight of the families of missing persons. At district level, the accompaniers help the families of the missing to be in contact with public services or organisations that can support them.

b. Family Support

To minimize potential conflicts within the family circle, accompaniers run information sessions to reduce intra-family disputes. In some cases, families are referred to organizations specializing in mediation, or to village leaders to help them resolve disputes. The accompaniers inform the families of governmental interim relief packages and ensure they benefit from these. They also refer them to appropriate service providers depending on their needs.



Sujeen Man Mahajan/ICRC

c. Mental Health and Psychological Support

Accompaniers run support group sessions for wives, mothers, fathers and children of the families of missing persons, to share their common suffering and grief. The most vulnerable people receive counselling support from trained counsellors. In certain exceptional situations, members of the families of missing persons can develop suicidal feelings, or suffer from severe depression, anxiety or psychosis. In these cases, accompaniers can refer them to institutions that provide specialized mental health care.

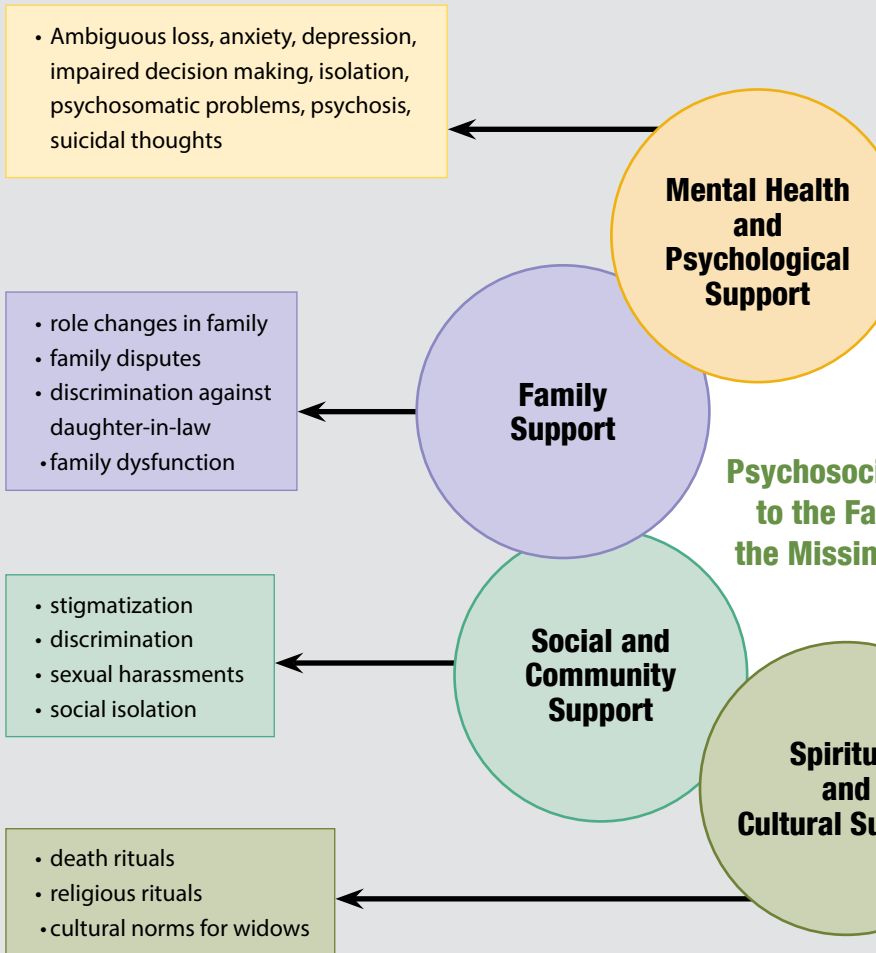
A SOLIDARITY NETWORK TO HELP THE FAMILIES

A single organization cannot address all the needs of the families (socio-cultural, economical, legal, mental, etc.). Channelling resources from multiple service providers is the only way to respond to these needs effectively. Hence, the Hateymalo program has built a solidarity network with other organizations to include the families of the missing in their assistance programs.

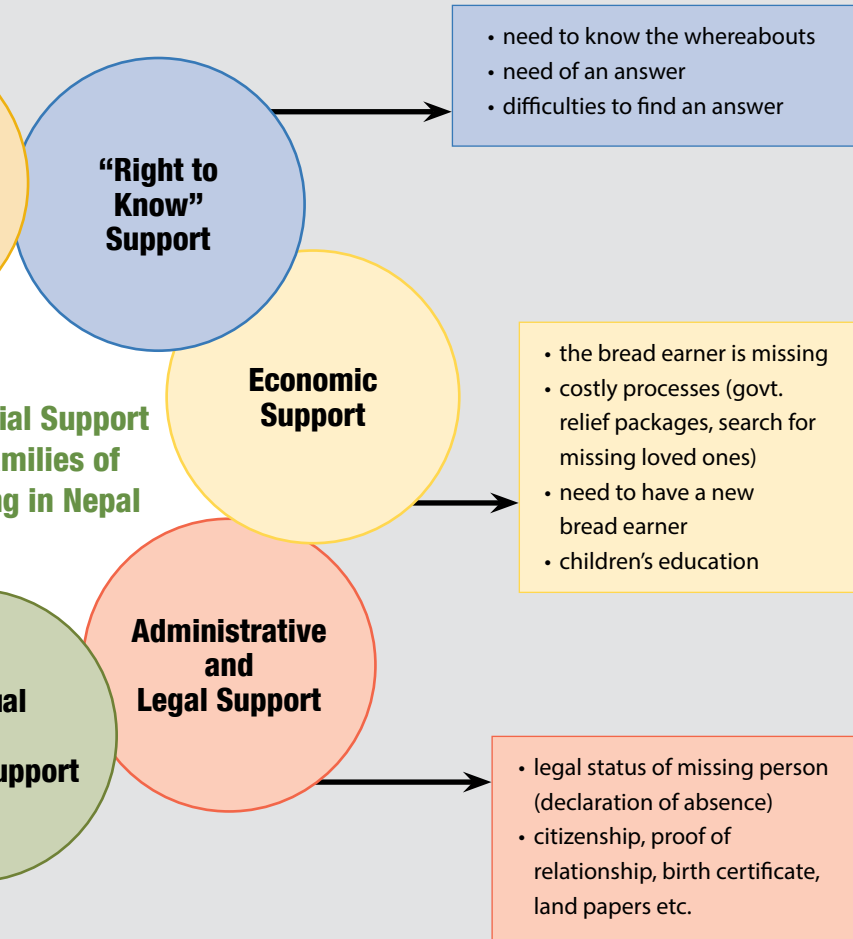
The solidarity network consists of Helvetas Employment Fund, and the Mental Hospital in Lagankhel.

Furthermore, Heifer International contributed to improve the livelihood of 750 families of missing persons as well as 1250 economically vulnerable families, in 13 program phased out districts, by encouraging them to actively engage in social activities.

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT TO THE FAMILIES OF MISSING



ING PERSONS IN NEPAL ACCORDING TO THEIR NEEDS





Bijay Rai/ICRC

d. “Right to Know” Support

The ICRC approaches all former parties to the conflict in order to clarify the fate of missing persons. In addition, the ICRC liaises with other organizations that have collected information on disappearances. With the support of the Nepal Red Cross, the ICRC conducts field visits and meets with local authorities and neighbouring communities in order to gather any available information on the whereabouts of missing persons. The ICRC also supports the National Network of Families of Disappeared and Missing Nepal (NEFAD). Finally, it also closely works with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to resolve cases of missing persons, among others, by referring families who wish to perform exhumations.

e. Administrative and Legal Support

Hateymalo accompaniers assist the families of the missing in obtaining administrative documents such as birth or relationship certificates and government assistance, in particular interim relief packages at district level. Follow-ups are conducted at ministerial levels in Kathmandu to facilitate bureaucratic processes. Families facing complicated legal issues are referred to organizations providing free legal services.



f. Spiritual and Cultural Support

During the group sessions, families generally express the desire to keep the memory of their loved ones alive. They decide which type of commemoration is most appropriate for them and for the missing person. Religious events/rituals take place to give peace to the soul of the missing person, whether dead or alive. Public spaces such as community buildings, waiting areas, and water wells are constructed in the name of the missing persons and inaugurated in the presence of the communities. Apart from helping the families of the missing find some comfort, this helps them gain recognition and solidarity.

g. Economic Support

Most of the families of missing persons live in rural areas and are farmers. The ICRC partners with Heifer International to provide them with economic support such as farm and animal management training and distribution of livestock (goats and pigs) and vegetable and fodder seeds. Based on the Heifer International principle of “passing on the gift”, families that receive resources from Heifer programs pass on livestock offspring, agricultural input and knowledge and skills to other similar families in need in their community. This POG practice enhances sustainability and creates a continuously expanding network of dignity and self-reliance. The families who want to join income generation training are referred to governmental and non-governmental organizations that provide these services.

COMMEMORATION SITES BUILT BY THE FAMILIES IN MEMORY OF THEIR LOVED ONES

SN	Districts	Place	Type	Date of Inauguration
1	Banke	Rajhena-2	Partikshyalaya (Waiting place)	2012
2	Banke	Kohalpur	Chautara (Resting place)	2012
3	Bardiya	Dhadhawar – 7, Dugdha	Partikshyalaya (Waiting place)	2012
4	Bardiya	Gola/Patabhar	Water/hand pump	2011
5	Bardiya	Khairichandanpur-2, Mangalpur	Water/hand pump	2011
6	Bardiya	Magaragadhi -5, Sunpur	Partikshyalaya (Waiting place)	2011
7	Bardiya	Mahamadpur-8, Bhaisahi	Temple in school compound	2012
8	Bardiya	Manau- 8, Nauranga	Water/hand pump	2011
9	Bardiya	Manau -8, Parseni	Water/hand pump	2011
10	Bardiya	Manpurtapara-8, Bikrapur	Partikshyalaya (Waiting place)	2011
11	Bardiya	Motipur – 5, Madaha	Partikshyalaya (Waiting place)	2011
12	Bardiya	Motipur - 7, Satariya	Community home	2011
13	Bardiya	Motipur -2, Newada	Partikshyalaya (Waiting place)	2011
14	Bardiya	Sorahwa – 2, Jagatiya	Partikshyalaya (Waiting place)	2011
15	Bardiya	Thakurdwara	Water/hand pump	2011
16	Chitwan	Bhandara - 01, Bhandara Bazaar	Partikshyalaya (Waiting place)	2012
17	Chitwan	Padampur - 08	Partikshyalaya (Waiting place)	2012
18	Dang	Bela-2, Kathberuwa	Chautara (Resting place)	2012
19	Dhading	Hekrang, Jogimara - 5	Monument and resting place	2013
20	Dhading	Dhading Besi	Resting place	2015 (Expected)
21	Dhanusha	NRCS compound, Bangadabar-6, Dhanusha	Partikshyalaya (Waiting place)	2014
22	Gorkha	In front of CDO office, Gorkha bazaar	Partikshyalaya (Waiting place)	2015 (Expected)
23	Jhapa	Kotihome	Monument	2014

COMMEMORATION SITES BUILT BY THE FAMILIES IN MEMORY OF THEIR LOVED ONES

SN	Districts	Place	Type	Date of Inauguration
24	Kailali	Dododhara – 7, Bawaniya bazaar	Water tap	2015 (Expected)
25	Kanchanpur	Belauri Municipality - 6	Chautara (Resting place)	2015 (Expected)
26	Kanchanpur	Krishanapur - 4, Bani	Chautara (Resting place)	2015 (Expected)
27	Kapilvastu	Barkalpur - 09, Chouhannapur	Chautara (Resting place)	2012
28	Kapilvastu	Sirshihawa - 08, Rupgunj	Chautara (Resting place)	2012
29	Kaski	Sahid Park, Ward No 7, Pokhara	Partikshyalaya (Waiting place)	2013
30	Kathmandu	Purano Naikap, Ward No 7	Monument and community building	2012
31	Lamjung	Fedikuna-9, Bhotewodar VDC Lamjung	Renovation of temple and Puja (worship)	2013
32	Mahottari	DHO compound, Jalleshwar municipality	Partikshyalaya (Waiting place)	2015 (Expected)
33	Morang	Biratnagar	Partikshyalaya (Waiting place)	2014
34	Nawalparasi	Daunne temple	Statue of Goddess Saraswati	2011
35	Nawalparasi	Shivamandir - 08, Maharajasthan temple	Entrance gate to the temple	2011
36	Nuwakot	Dupcheshwor Mahadev, Rautbesi - 8	Entrance gate to the temple	2015 (Expected)
37	Saptari	Sagarmatha Zonal Hospital compound, Rajbiraj	Partikshyalaya (Waiting place)	2015 (Expected)
38	Siraha	Siraha municipality	Partikshyalaya (Waiting place)	2015 (Expected)
39	Sunsari	Taltalaiya	Partikshyalaya (Waiting place)	2013
40	Surkhet	Latikoeli – 9, Bulbuliya	Partikshyalaya (Waiting place)	2014
41	Tanahu	In front of CDO Office, Damauli bazaar	Welcome gate with names of the missing	2012

ICRC HATEYMALO PROGRAM PARTNERS

PAST PROGRAM PARTNERS (THE PROGRAM HAS ALREADY PHASED OUT IN THESE AREAS)

Banke

Mahila Upakar Munch
Kohalpur, Tel : 081-540144

Bardiya

Tharu Mahila Utthan Kendra
Gulariya, Tel : 084-420347/420350

Chitwan/Nawalparasi

Diyalo Pariwar
Narayangadh, Chitwan, Tel : 056-522797/523031

Dang

Gramin Mahila Utthan Kendra
Ghorahi, Tel : 082-560489/560837

Jhapa/Morang/Sunsari

Women Rehabilitation Center (WOREC)
Biratnagar, Tel : 021-470238

Kapilvastu/Rupandehi

Namuna Intregated Development Council
Bhairahawa, Tel : 071-527205/522905

Kaski/Lamjung/Tanahu

Kopila Nepal
Pokhara, Tel : 061 466403/463486

Kathmandu Valley

Antarang Psychosocial Welfare Center
Teku, Kathmandu, Tel : 01- 4221173

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS

Heifer International - Nepal

Hattiban, Lalitpur, Nepal
P.O. Box - 6043, Kathmandu
Tel : +977 1 2121112/5250554
Fax : +977 1 5250873
Email : heifer.nepal@heifer.org

National Network of Families of Disappeared and Missing Nepal (NEFAD)

Email : nefad.nepal@gmail.com

Nepal Red Cross Society

Red Cross Marg, Kalimati
Post Box No. 217, Kathmandu, Nepal
Phone : +977-1-4272761
Fax : +977-1-4271915/4273285
E-mail : info@nrccs.org
Web : www.nrccs.org

ICRC HATEYMALO PROGRAM PARTNERS

CURRENT PROGRAM PARTNERS (THE PROGRAM IS STILL ACTIVE IN THESE AREAS)

Gorkha

Kopila Nepal, Pokhara
Tel: 061 466403/463486

&

Nepal Red Cross Society, District Chapters

NRCS Achham

Tel : 097-620148

NRCS Kalikot

Tel : 087-440125

NRCS Rukum

Tel : 088-530145

NRCS Baglung

Tel : 068-520169

NRCS Kanchanpur

Tel : 099-523983/525588

NRCS Salyan

Tel : 088-520004

NRCS Baitadi

Tel : 095-520356/520156

NRCS Kavre

Tel : 011-661431

NRCS Saptari

Tel : 031-521121

NRCS Dailekh

Tel : 089-420179/420137

NRCS Mahottari

Tel : 044-520633

NRCS Sindhuli

Tel : 047-520120/520226

NRCS Dhading

Tel : 010 - 520137

NRCS Makawanpur

Tel : 057-522977/520711

NRCS Sindhupalchowk

Tel : 011-620134

NRCS Dhanusa

Tel : 033-520095

NRCS Nuwakot

Tel : 010-560970

NRCS Siraha

Tel : 41-520870

NRCS Jajarkot

Tel : 089-430042

NRCS Ramechhap

Tel : 048540033

NRCS Surkhet

Tel : 083-520310

NRCS Jumla

Tel : 087-520036

NRCS Rautahat

Tel : 055-521278/520141

NRCS Syangja

Tel : 063-420114

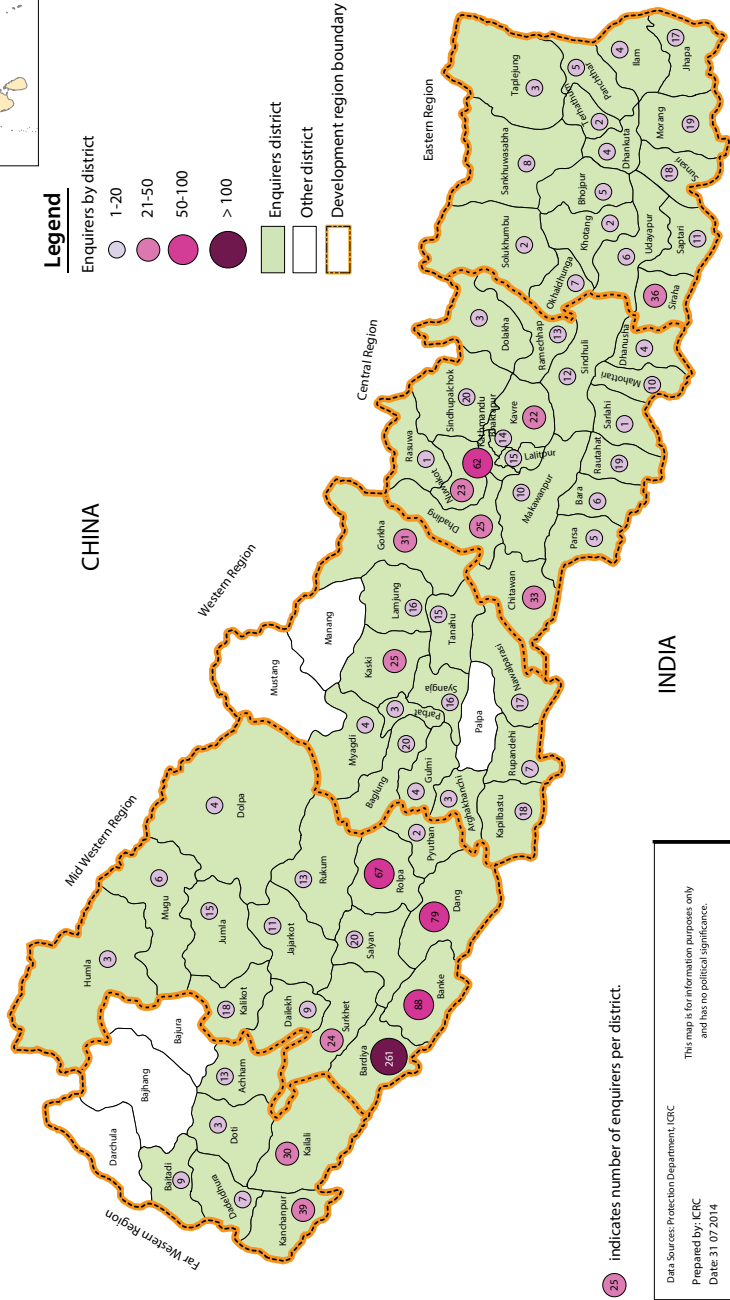
NRCS Kailali

Tel : 091-521333/526333

NRCS Rolpa

Tel : 086-440036

NUMBER OF ENQUIRERS BY DISTRICT IN NEPAL (1996-2014)



ICRC HATEYMALO ACCOMPANIMENT PROGRAM (2010-2015)



4th expansion (2014 May-2015 October)

- 337 families
- 17 implementing partners
- 41 accompaniers
- 18 counselors
- 9 admin and finance assistant
- 317 Focal persons

1st expansion (2011 March-2013 June), phased out

- 348 families
- 110 VDCs
- 5 implementing partner NGOs
- 32 accompaniers
- 10 supervisors

Pilot phase (2010 August-2012 June), phased out

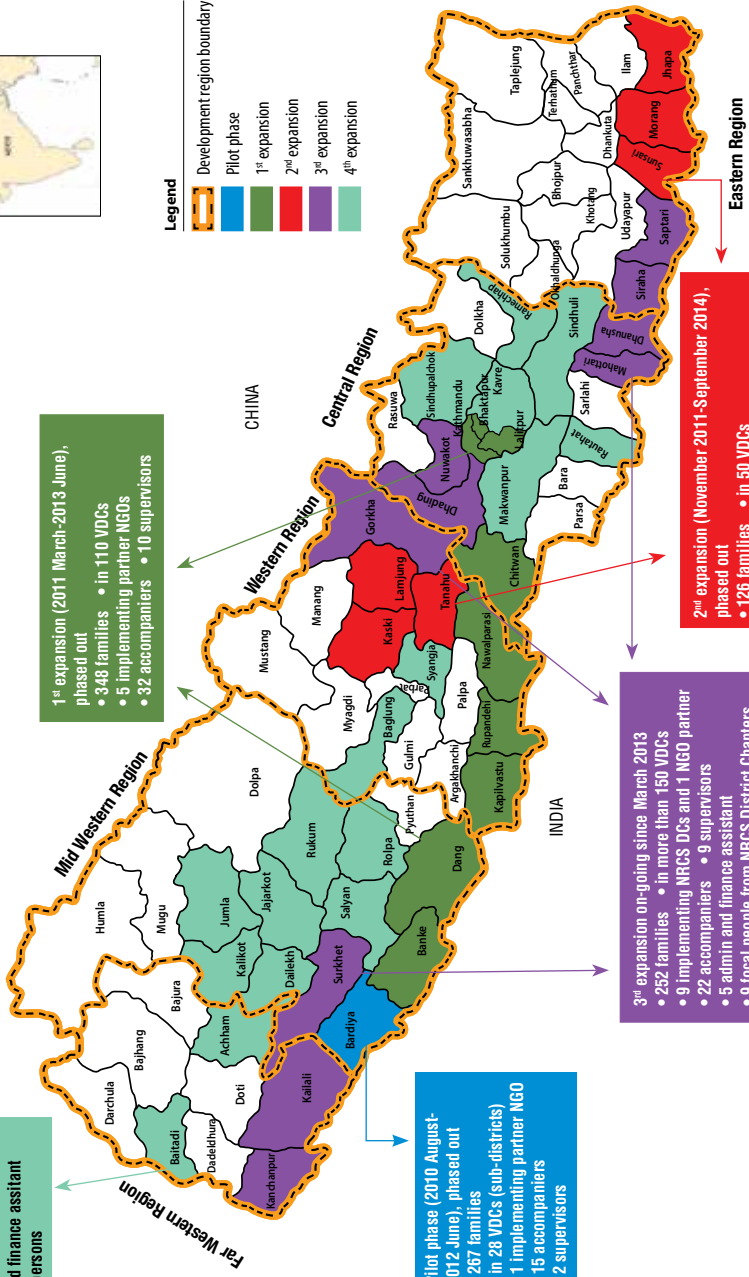
- 267 families
- in 28 VDCs (sub-districts)
- 1 implementing partner NGO
- 15 accompaniers
- 2 supervisors

3rd expansion on-going since March 2013

- 282 families
- In more than 150 VDCs
- 9 implementing NRCS DCs and 1 NGO partner
- 22 accompaniers
- 9 supervisors
- 5 admin and finance assistant
- 9 focal people from NRCS District Chapters

2nd expansion (November 2011-September 2014), phased out

- 126 families
- in 50 VDCs
- 2 implementing partner NGOs
- 12 accompaniers
- 4 supervisors



MISSION

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an impartial, neutral and independent organization whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence and to provide them with assistance. The ICRC also endeavours to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles. Established in 1863, the ICRC is at the origin of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. It directs and coordinates the international relief activities conducted by the Movement in armed conflicts and other situations of violence.

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Lahan
T 033 562322

Chitwan
T 056 523118

Nepalgunj
T 081 522262/525560
F 081 524456



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