

## Preparatory Technical Assistance for Employment Led Poverty Reduction in Western Nepal/Karnali Employment Program (KEP)

**Client:** Department for International Development (DFID)

**Project Period:** April 2013-July 2013

**Project Area:** Jumla and Kalikot

Karnali is one of the least developed zones in Nepal. People in this zone are primarily dependent on agriculture and remittance as their source of income which is inadequate to sustain their life throughout the year.



In order to improve livelihood of Karnali people, Nepal Government has introduced Karnali Employment Programme (KEP) in 2006/2007. KEP was initiated as a scheme with 'Ek Ghar Ek Rojgar' (one family, one employment) as its initial objective and later revised to target at least one unemployed family member in every household.

Several assessment reports on achievement and impacts of KEP have highlighted some key weaknesses of the program.



To increase the effectiveness of KEP, DFID is preparing to provide Technical Assistance (TA) to Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MoFALD) to initiate new and ongoing activities. In this context, Deego has been assigned to carry out this study to better understand field level information and capacity to support activities in the pilot districts in preparation for fully fledged support activities through the main TA contractor.

Under this assignment, Deego team undertook preliminary assessment of KEP implementation capacity, and its process and progress monitoring and budget flow at the district level. This involved intensive field level activities such as consultations and meetings with government agencies, KEP officials, NGOs, KEP beneficiaries, local users groups and other stakeholders. The Deego team also liaised with other similar programs of social protection at central level. The assignment also developed resource maps and key stakeholder capacity assessment to contribute to main TA.