

Nepal Participatory Action Network (Nepan)

Nepan response to Questionnaire on Global Action on Ageing (GAA)

1. What has your NGO done to educate older persons and/or the general public about the Madrid Plan

- a. Pre and post MIPAA meetings were organized to sensitize policy makers, NGO activists, and community people about MIPAA, and its implication at the policy and program levels.
- b. MIPAA was translated into the Nepali language and was widely disseminated through workshop and training sessions.
- c. Series of advocacy sessions, sensitization workshops, task force meetings and lobbying were organized by Nepan to gather recommendations on acts and regulations on aging issues.
- d. A number of research investigations were carried out in the areas, such as one focusing on the voice of older people, capacity assessment of organizations working on ageing issue, and as a cross cutting theme in other ongoing research (i.e. Overcoming Institutional of Social exclusion; individual and group strategies) being conducted by Nepan.
- e. Conducted a number of capacity building activities with partners engaged in ageing programmes, such as trainings, networking and education.
- f. Publication and advocacy through production of posters, articles, web pages, case studies, and radio programmes.
- g. Nepan is also active in various regional level networking and forums.

2. Which of the 3 priority directions of the Madrid Plan (older persons and development; advancing health and well-being into old age; ensuring enabling and supportive environments) has your NGO focused on?

Nepan, as an organization committed to promoting meaningful participation of people in the development process, has taken all three priority directions of Madrid Plan for action and advocacy. Currently Nepan is conducting a pilot project in the area of advancing health and well being into old age in collaboration with two local partners.

3. What accomplishments has your NGO achieved in that area? How has it worked with government, other NGO's and/or others to achieve its objectives?

- a. Training of Older Peoples Association took place in two areas. This process is expected to be replicated over the period in other parts of the country by different partners and networks.
- b. With support from a seed capital project, we initiated a group saving and credit program started by the OPAs.
- c. Self confidence developed among the senior citizens who were direct beneficiaries of the pilot project.
- d. Once organized into group, not only the attitude of the local community towards senior citizens has changed but the outlook of older people themselves about their capacity and role has also changed.

- e. The government collaborates with the celebration of Olders' Day, sensitization of policy makers and stakeholders, research and dissemination; formation and dissemination of the Senior Citizen Act (B.S 2063)
- f. Nepan also closely cooperate on other issues like research on the impact of social pensions.

4. Are there other significant accomplishments of your NGO that you'd like to share?

- a. Nepan supported Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare in drafting policy on aging as part of national three year interim plan (2007 – 2010)
- b. Nepan worked closely with government in drafting the senior citizen act and dissemination of the act once parliament endorsed it.
- c. Nepan probably is the first organization in Nepal to advocate the aging issue at the policy level and was fairly successful in bringing the ageing issue to the development agenda.

5. Every government has been asked by the UN, but is not required, to conduct a "bottom-up" review and appraisal during 2007 of progress in their country in implementing the Madrid Plan. To your knowledge, has your government begun or committed to undertake that review? If yes, has your NGO been invited to participate? If so, how?

Our Government is committed to the MIPAA program. After its adoption, the Nepal Government prepared the National Plan of Action on Ageing. The Ageing Act passed in the last year and the Ageing regulations are going to be released soon. The government has also incorporated and addressed the Ageing issues in its 3 years interim plan 2008 – 2010. Thus it has continuously reviewed and appraised ongoing work each year. The government also invited us and other stakeholders to take part in the review.