

Invitation

Local and Community Governance for Peace and Development in Nepal

Expert Talk with Vidyadhar Mallik

Thursday, August 23, 2012

14.30 – 16.30

Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE)

Tulpenfeld 6, 53113 Bonn, Seminarraum

(to be held in English)

Issues of local and community governance have been on the agenda of the FriEnt Nepal Round Table meetings on several occasions. They have been discussed as important elements for Nepal's peace and development processes. Now GIZ has commissioned a study on the subject which DIE is accompanying.

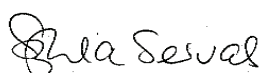
On the occasion of the researcher Vidyadhar Mallik visiting at DIE FriEnt and DIE are pleased, to invite you to a talk and discussion on the main findings of his research.

The study looks at the governance situation both at the local and the national levels and comes to the conclusion that most elements are in place at the local level, however, much still needs to be done at the national one.

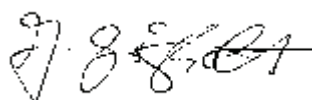
What does this mean for the Nepal peace and development processes? What does it more particularly mean for support from international development and peace building organisations?

We are looking forward to welcoming you on this occasion and to having a lively discussion.

Please confirm your participation by August 21 with Brigitte Kirschner at FriEnt, brigitte.kirschner@bmz.bund.de, Tel: 0228/ 535 3259.



Sylvia Servaes, FriEnt



Jörn Gravingholt, DIE

VIDYADHAR MALLIK

A Guest Researcher at DIE/GDI doing a Study project on “Local and Community Governance for Peace and Development in Nepal”.

Honorary Advisor to the President of Nepal (from July 2012); Co –facilitator, Nepal Transition to Peace – NTTP (from July 2008); Chairperson, Public Administration Association of Nepal – PAAN (from June 2008).

Vice Chairperson, Poverty Alleviation Fund (March 2010 – November 2011), Advisor to the President of Nepal (November 2008 – March 2010), Finance Secretary to the Government of Nepal (August 2006 – June 2008),

Peace Secretary (March 2005 - July 2006), Education Secretary (June 2003 - March 2000), Joint Secretary, Revenue, Ministry of Finance (September 2002 - June 2003) and Director General, Department of Inland Revenue/ Taxation (March 1998- August 2002).

Interested in Governance, Peace and Development, Peace process and negotiated settlements of conflict, Conflict sensitive approaches to development, community driven development, decentralisation at various levels and in different forms and relation with peace and conflict, inclusive growth and poverty alleviation, public finance and tax reforms, aid effectiveness and development finance, education and health sector finance

MA (Economics, TU, Nepal, 1986), BL (TU, Nepal, 1986), MA (Manpower Studies, PCL,

London, 1985- presently: University of Westminster, London), MPA (TU, NEPAL, 1983).

A book on taxation and various articles in Nepali Journals on issues of public finance and governance.

Chairperson, Public Administration Association of Nepal, (2008 till date).

Local and Community Governance for Peace and Development in Nepal

Abstract

The issues of local and community governance are very crucial for peace and development in Nepal, especially during its present transitional stage when a constitution is yet to be written and peace process yet to be concluded. This report focuses on local and community level governance and their impacts on peace and development. Four programs and three districts were chosen for this study which involved study of reports, secondary data analyses, focus group discussions with citizens, opinion survey and interviews. The study has found that the community level efforts of governance reform and social mobilization, awareness or demand side reforms have worked well in Nepal and has potentials to help stabilize the transition and contribute to peace and development. But the overall governance situation is pathetic, unaccountable and irresponsible to meet these demands. The government and its programs have gaps in terms of credibility, commitment, proper incentives for the actors, especially for the politicians and the bureaucrats, proper linkages and coordination and empathy and outreach towards the citizens. A number of reforms are required to improve the delivery capacity and quality of governance at the national level in order to cope with the fragile situation and deliver peace and development. Most of such reforms are required to make the existing institutions inclusive, participatory, just and equitable. A peace and development framework, compact with the people, inclusion, inclusive institutions and inclusive development, sustained social mobilization, proper incentives for politicians and bureaucrats (to make them accountable), management reforms, institutional compatibility and legal backup (to sustain the local initiatives) and more and deeper decentralization are some crucial areas of reforms where both the government and the donors need to focus.