

**Project Name:** Public Awareness in the Constituent Assembly Process in Nepal

**Funding Partner:** The Asia Foundation/RDIF

**Start date:** January 2007

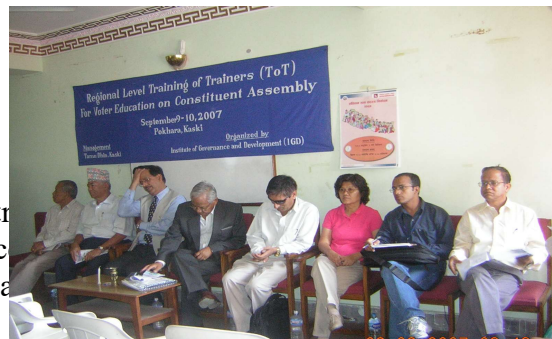
**End date:** December 2009

### **Project Summary of Activities and Outcome:**

IGD was commissioned to implement the project "Strengthening Transparency and Accountability in the constituent Assembly process" in the western and central development region in Nepal through local level training.

#### **Objectives**

- To support the effective participation of people in the constituent Assembly process
- To support the development of more inclusive and accountable forms of government in Nepal by increasing public awareness, participation and accountability in CA process.



*Mr. Nil Kantha Upreti, Election commissioner at Regional ToT, on Voter Education, Pokhara, Kaski*

IGD supported and backstopped partners to implement the citizen and voter education trainings at community level. An inter-district peer monitoring mechanism and process was developed to enhance effectiveness of the activities. A cascade of training was implemented from centre to the district level to produce a critical and inclusive group of facilitators to carry out citizen and voter awareness meetings at the local level. Partners in 16 districts conducted citizen and voter awareness meetings in their respective VDCs. They carried out door to door campaign for enhancing the voter awareness as well on the voting process.

Altogether 13, 009 people participated in community declaration dialogues. Male (45%) and Female (55%) participants attended the citizen education meetings. 401 facilitators among them male 150 (37.41%) and female 251 (62.59) were trained to conduct the citizen and voter education. An impact assessment done by an independent agency indicated that the awareness level of the people on CA and its importance increased from 35% to 77%. Altogether 1.327 voter education classes were conducted in 744 VDCs. Voter turnout was about 75% in the villages where citizen and voter education classes were conducted. 28 CA members, 61 local leaders, 37 government officials, 295 ethnic leaders, 107 civil society representatives, 91 press and 83 others participated in district declaration/public forum programs. District declarations were compiled and consolidated into a citizen national manifesto for CA. This is being handed over to CA and handed over to CA.

#### **Detailed Description of the Actual Services provided**

- Citizen education conducted to empower rural constituents on constitution making with CA members
- Local citizens including Dalits, indigenous peoples engaged to elect their representative to constituent Assembly and advocate for their interests



*Participants in Civic Education on Constitution and CA*