

## **Research: Mapping of Actors engaged to support Federalization in Nepal**

Funding Partner: The Asia Foundation (TAF)

The Interim Constitution, through its first amendment in April 2007, if Nepal would adopt a federal structure, abandoning its longstanding unitary and centralist state structure. Federalism is a complex system and transforming a unitary system into a federation ("federation by disaggregation") is more complicated than forming a federation with formerly independent units ("federation by aggregation"). Presently, interesting debates on federalism are taking place in Nepal. Most of these are focused on general issues such as the theories, advantages and disadvantages of federalism, and the basis of division of the country into the constituent units. Insufficient attention has so far been paid to the technical aspects of federalism. There has been no high-level commission on restructuring as required by the Interim Constitution.

At this backdrop, the need of stocktaking and mapping out the actions of various actors and stakeholders involved with a view to gauging into the extent of preparedness to resolve the issues and challenges associated with the transition to federalism have been felt. The study was conceptualized in mapping out the actions of various actors/agencies and precisely ascertains the areas where focus needs to be laid in navigating the process of transition to federalism.

### **Objectives**

The overall objective of this study is to map out existing actions and future plans of actors involved in supporting the process of navigating federalization in Nepal. However, the specific objectives of this study are as follows:

- To list out the ongoing actions of different stakeholders - donors, state and non state actors to support the process of federalization in Nepal.
- To explore plans of actors and stakeholders on federalization in Nepal especially with reference to building necessary preparedness to help navigate the process of transition from unitary to federation.

## **Methodology**

This preliminary mapping exercise comprised of primary and secondary information. The primary data were collected from key actors of federalism through checklist and the secondary information was collected through relevant literatures related to federalism. IGD's study team prepared checklist and finalize key actors of federalism in Nepal and then collected information obtained from respondent's agencies were presented in different tables, figures, and annexes.

### **Major Research Tools/Methods**

The interview technique was used and conducted based on check list. The details of major actors of federalism in Nepal are listed below.

### **Data Collection Procedure**

The whole data were collected based on face-to-face interview with the respondents in their office/residence with the help of check list.

### **Tentative Areas of Actions/Support**

1. **Knowledge production (KP)** - Books, articles, reports, booklets, journals, study/research, etc.
2. **Technical Assistance (TA)** - Training, physical facilities (computer, printers, and materials), long term and short-term technical support, study/exposure visit, etc.
3. **Consultation Meetings (CM)** - Dialogue, seminar, workshop, awareness campaign, etc.