



Government of Nepal



Joint Press Release

**DFID extend USD 21.0 million (equivalent to Rs 2.3 billion) grant assistance to Nepal
Government for 'Evidence for Development' Programme**

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, acting through the Department for International Development ("DFID"), have agreed to provide a grant assistance of USD 21.0 million (equivalent to Rs 2.3 billion) to the Government of Nepal for the implementation of the Nepal Evidence for Development Programme.

In this regard, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Government of Nepal and the Government of the United Kingdom was signed today at the Ministry of Finance, Kathmandu, Nepal.

The goal of the Nepal Evidence for Development Programme (E4D) is to strengthen the culture of evidence use in Nepal, in particular to improve evidence-based policy and decision making, to ensure that poor people will be targeted more effectively with public funds and support. The programme will support Government of Nepal's objectives around graduation from Least Developed Country (LDC) status by 2022, and progress against the set of recently agreed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The National Planning Commission (NPC) - including the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) - as well as the Ministry of Finance (MoF) and the Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MoFALD) shall extend the necessary guidance and support to the Programme and ensure collaboration of all relevant local bodies and line agencies. The programme will run until 31 December 2019.

The MoU was signed by Mr. Baikuntha Aryal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Dr. Gail Marzetti, Head of DFID Nepal, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The Government of Nepal has expressed its sincere appreciation to the British Government for this assistance and also for the continued support in the overall development of Nepal.

Ministry of Finance
Singha Durbar, Kathmandu
February 29, 2016