

Researcher-Led Initiatives Report 2017

Title **Female Ex-Combatants and Rehabilitation in Nepal: Lessons for
Peacebuilding and Development**

Organizer **Michanne Steenbergen, PhD Politics**

Location **Seminar hosted 8th of May 2017 at Nexus Culture Café, Kathmandu**

Outcomes

The event was a two-hour long seminar hosted in Kathmandu. As outlined in the application, the seminar had multiple purposes, including sharing some of my main research findings from previous fieldwork in Kathmandu with interviewees and other stakeholders (e.g. officials from the United Nations, Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction, and Non-Governmental Organizations), as well as providing a platform for a discussion on the broader peacebuilding process in Nepal and the implications of my research in this regard. The seminar was set up as follows: 30 minutes to present my research findings, 30 minutes Q&A, and 1 hour discussion. The event was documented (film and photography) by Narendra Raule from the Kathmandu Post.

The discussion was fruitful to my research and to the participants as evidenced by their comments during and after the presentation. Some of the major concerns I had outlined regarding the Rehabilitation programme designed for female ex-combatants resonated with the officials in their various roles and programmes they were working on. The seminar discussion provided an opportunity for exchange between these different officials, as well as journalists and researchers, where they could exchange concrete suggestions on how to begin addressing these concerns.

The event was further publicized in the Kathmandu Post in Nepali. Personally, the event was beneficial to me and my research by providing me with an opportunity to share and present my research, to network, and to ensure that my research was relevant and appropriate to the Nepali context.

Given the location of the event, the funding was used for the video editing of film footage obtained during the seminar. The footage was edited by Sabrina Mistry for the following short videos:

Promo <https://youtu.be/CDrfGRiU-eU>

Longer clip for the follow-up seminar to be held at UoM <https://youtu.be/7VR26CF-qTY>













