

## **U.N. IN ACTION**

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## PEACE DIVIDEND FOR NEPALI WOMEN

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NURSE EXAMINES PREGNANT WOMAN / BLOOD TEST Bacha Nepali is experiencing a 'peace dividend' after a decade of civil war. In her sixth pregnancy at 22, she is getting skilled prenatal care for the first time, at a mobile clinic in the town of Safebagar. (14.5")

WOMAN PLAYS WITH CHILD

A year ago, most of western Nepal had no medical services. Bacha delivered at home, alone. Her last baby was stillborn. (8.5")

ADRA BUS CROSSES ROCKY RIVERBED Under a fragile peace deal, health workers can now travel safely. For six months now, a medical team from ADRA Nepal has treated 20,000 people at health camps in 40 remote locations. (12.5")

PATIENTS AT HEALTH CAMP

The European Community and the UN Population Fund support the camps to help Nepal's recovery. The focus is on reproductive health, including care for women injured in childbirth. (12")

KUNTA NEPALI SPEAKING TO DOCTOR / WOMAN CARRYING

Kunta Nepali rode a tractor for 10 hours to get to

**GRASS** 

the clinic. For 22 years she suffered from fallen

womb, or prolapsed uterus. But she never saw a

doctor before. (11")

NEPALI: (In local language)

NEPALI ON CAMERA

"I am in pain from the neck down. I can hardly walk,

but I have to carry firewood and fodder for the

animals." (7.5")

**NARRATION** 

YOUNG MOTHERS WITH CHILDREN / WORKING IN FIELDS / CARRYING HEAVY LOAD One in 10 Nepali women suffers from uterine prolapse. It results from giving birth too early, too frequently and without skilled assistance – or from resuming hard work too soon after childbirth. (12")

Four hundred thousand women with this condition could be cured with surgery, but before the camps were started few had access to it. (8")

WOMAN SITTING OUTSIDE

Guma Badela is one of the first to benefit. (3")

CLINIC

BADELA: (in local language)

BADELA ON CAMERA

"Without the operation I would have suffered my

whole life." (4")

**NARRATION** 

WOMAN SPEAKING/ AT MARKET

Two months ago, a visiting surgical team operated successfully. She has come to thank the ADRA doctors who referred her. (7")

Not everyone can expect a full recovery. Kokila

Bista has a prolapsed uterus. She is also living with HIV, and her condition makes treatment difficult. (10")

Like a startling number of women here, Kokila was infected after her husband returned from working in India. He died five years ago, leaving her to care for two children. (10")

## PATIENTS AT HEALTH CAMP / SMALL VILLAGE

For years, poverty, geography and civil war combined have deprived most Nepalese of medical care. This crisis has taken a frightful toll on women who bear children. Proper health services are still a distant goal. But peace has started to bring relief, for some mothers at least, and opened a window of hope. (21")

**UN LOGO** 

This report was prepared by William Ryan and Marc Westhof of UNFPA for the United Nations.