

Press Release

The OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) has agreed to provide a loan assistance of US \$ 20 million (about Rs 1680 million) to the Government of Nepal for the implementation of the Rural Connectivity and Community Development Project. Agreement to this effect was signed and exchanged at OFID Headquarters Vienna, on June 01, 2012.

Also co-financed by the Asian Development Bank, the Project aims at improving the connectivity of rural communities, enhancing economic and employment opportunities and increasing access to market and social services. The loan assistance received as co-financing from the OFID will be utilized to promote rural economic and social development through small-scale infrastructure and capacity building sub-projects. The project will be implemented in 18 districts (Baglung, Baitadi, Bajhang, Bajura, Darchula, Dolpa, Gorkha, Humla, Jajarkot, Jumla, Kalikot, Lamjung, Myagdi, Mugu, Okhaldhunga, Ramechhap, Solukhumbu and Taplejung) of Nepal. Implementation of the Project is expected to be completed by 31 December 2016.

The loan assistance agreement was signed by Mr. Lai Shanker Ghimire, Joint Secretary and Chief of the Foreign Aid Coordination Division of the Ministry of Finance and His Excellency Mr. Suleiman J. Al-Herbish, Director General of the OPEC Fund for International Development on behalf of the Government of Nepal and OFID, respectively.

The Government of Nepal has expressed its sincere appreciation to the OPEC Fund for International Development for this loan assistance and for their continued support in the socioeconomic development of Nepal.

Ministry of Finance
Sungha durbar, Kathmandu
3 June, 2012