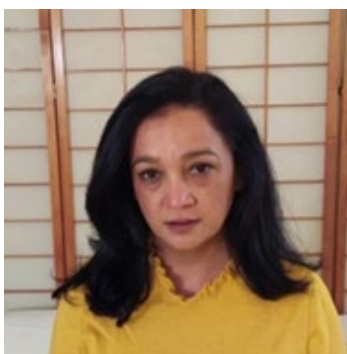


TRADE FOR PEACE WEEK

15 November – 19 November 2021

MONICA RIJAL

DEPUTY RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE IN KYRGYZ REPUBLIC, UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)



Ms. Monica Rijal is the UNDP Deputy Resident Representative in Kyrgyzstan. Monica has 20 years of conflict prevention, peacebuilding and recovery experience, working across the humanitarian, development and peace nexus in NGOs, Government, human rights institutions, and the UN. Previously, Monica led UNDP's work in New York on strengthening social cohesion, conflict sensitivity and conflict analysis in both policy and programming, and through partnerships. During this time, Monica represented UNDP within the UN system for coordination and partnerships on Recovery and Peacebuilding Assessments (RBPA) with the World Bank and European Union. In her most recent role as the Team Leader for Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding in the UNDP Crisis Bureau, Monica was instrumental in developing UNDPs Prevention offer, launching the flagship Prevention Forum and supporting/capacitating country offices to act early and at scale to prevent conflicts and build sustainable peace. Monica has previously worked in UNDP Myanmar as Recovery Specialist (2013-2015), leading UNDPs programmatic response to humanitarian situations. She joined UNDP in 2009 in Nepal, leading conceptualization of the conflict prevention, dialogue and conflict sensitivity portfolio and has previously served as a Political Affairs Officer at the UN Mission in Nepal (UNMIN) supporting political analysis, outreach, good offices for the SRSG, and monitoring the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and supported the establishment of the UN Peace Fund for Nepal in the UN RCO.

Monica holds an MA from the Eastern Mennonite University (USA) in Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding as well as a Masters in Economics from University of Pune (India).