



Government of Nepal
Ministry of Physical Planning and Works
Earthquake Risk Reduction and Recovery Preparedness
Programme for Nepal
(UNDP/ ERRRP-Project: NEP/07/010)



Sensitization Report
on
"Earthquake Risk Reduction and Preparedness"
for
Municipal Officials and Community Members
in
Hetauda Municipality

(September 26, 2008)

Prepared By:
UNDP/ERRRP - Project

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Executive Summary

Nepal is a disaster prone country due to its steep terrain, a rugged and fragile geomorphic condition, high peaks and slopes, volatile tectonic processes, variable climatic condition, very rural topography and other factors such as increasing population, poor economic condition, unplanned settlement, low literacy rate etc. Earthquake, floods, landslides, lightning often occur causing enormous physical damages and losses of human lives. Nepal is ranked 11th in terms of risk from earthquake according to global report on disaster risk as per 2003.

Earthquake Risk Reduction and Recovery Preparedness (ERRRP) program initiated by UNDP/BCPR (Bureau of Crisis Prevention and Recovery) with the support of government of Japan is a regional project. This being a National Implementation (NIM) project of UNDP, the implementation responsibility of the project will be with the Government of Nepal. Therefore, UNDP/ERRRP project, has, therefore been continuously strengthening the Earthquake Risk Reduction Management capacity of its selected municipalities of 5 development regions of Nepal since June 2008. It includes capacity building through training, sensitize people and giving awareness as well as establishing linkages with partners at different levels to maximize efforts to be prepared for and respond to disasters more effectively. The main goal is to reduce the impact of potential earthquakes on seismically vulnerable communities in Nepal.

Accordingly, with the joint effort of UNDP/ERRRP project and Hetauda Municipality had organised the half day sensitization program on earthquake risk reduction and preparedness for community members and municipal officials on September 26, 2008 at Motel Avocado in Hetauda Municipality. The objective of the sensitization programme was to sensitize all the community members and municipal officials of the municipality on Earthquake Risk Reduction and Preparedness. In this programme, causes and effects of earthquake, how to get prepared before earthquake, preparedness planning and issues of NBC implementation process and the strategies to be adopted by the municipality for effective earthquake risk reduction were covered by the experts in the relevant fields.

1.0 Sensitization Outline

The Hetauda Municipality and United Nation Development Programme / Earthquake Risk Reduction and Recovery Preparedness Programme for Nepal (UNDP/ERRRP) jointly organized sensitization programme on earthquake risk reduction and preparedness for community members and municipal officials at Hetauda Municipality on September 26, 2008. One hundred and twenty numbers of people were attended in the programme.

2.0 Objective and Purpose of the Workshop

The objective of the training programme is to sensitize the community members and municipal officials of Hetauda on earthquake preparedness. The main objective of the program is to generate earthquake awareness among the people and the specific objectives are:

- To make the participants aware about the earthquake risk of Nepal.
- To give the participants basic know-how of earthquake preparedness i.e. what to do before, during and after an earthquake.
- To discuss the issues related to importance of implementing NBC enforcement in municipality

The specific objective includes creating understanding on taking necessary actions toward earthquake resilience construction. In other aspects they will start to prepare themselves for earthquake disasters right from their families, then through small community to big ward level up to municipal level.

3.0 Participants

The programme was attended by more than 120 people (community members and municipal officials) from municipality office, members of political parties, project manager and project advisor of UEIP project, tole development organization, DTO, DDC, Irrigation department, environment department, district police office, women community office, health promoter, health promoter and other government and non government organizations. Out of total participants, 19 were female participants and rests 111 were men attended the programme. In covering the gender issues, Bhramin = 59, Janjati = 23, Madhesi = 11 and Dalit = 27 were attended in the program.

4.0 Time Duration

The duration of the training period was half day which started from 1 pm till 4:30 pm on September 26, 2008 at Motel Avocado in Hetauda Municipality.

5.0 Workshop Methodology

5.1 Inaugural Session

The programme started with a welcome address by the municipal engineer, Mr. Satya Narayan Shaha, Focal Person (UNDP/ERRRP Project) and Civil Engineer of Hetauda Municipality highlighted the objectives and briefed about the program. He even requested to come and sit on the dias for some dignitaries. Ms. Chandra Laxmi Hada, project engineer / training coordinator of UNDP/ERRRP Project highlighted the objectives of the sensitization program and one need to sensitize about cause and effects of earthquakes. Mr Amrit Man Tuladhar, National Project Manager of UNDP/ERRRP Project had given the introduction and activities of ERRRP project. Mr. Shankar Prasad Upadhaya, Acting Chief Executive Officer, UEIP Project members, members of political parties, police executives, women community members, different government and non government organizations were attended in this session and throughout the program.

The inaugural session concluded with the vote of thanks by Satya Narayan Shaha.

5.2 Technical Session / Presentations

The presentations were made by the resource persons on the following topics:

- “Cause and Effect of Earthquakes” by Mr. Amrit Man Tuladhar, National Project Manager of UNDP/ERRRP Project and Senior Divisional Engineer of DUDBC, Kathmandu
- “Earthquake Risk Reduction and Preparedness” by Ms Chandra Laxmi Hada, Project Engineer / Training Coordinator of UNDP/ERRRRP Project
- Floor Discussions and Closing of the session

Participants were provided with resource material and IEC material in Nepali having pictorial presentation for easy understanding among the uneducated participants. The objective of the workshop is to increase awareness and build the capacity at the local level on earthquake resistant construction through paper presentation, video show, floor discussion and lessons learned of past experiences.

6.0 Name of Resource Persons

- Mr. Amrit Man Tuladhar, National Project Manager of UNDP/ERRRP Project and Senior Divisional Engineer of DUDBC, Kathmandu
- Ms. Chandra Laxmi Hada, Project Engineer / Training Coordinator of UNDP/ERRRRP Project

7.0 Interactive Session

There was active interaction after the presentation sessions. The floor was opened after the presentations for discussion. The answer to queries was given by the resource person themselves.

Following points were brought forward during the interactive session:

- While rating the programme very informative the participants assured that they will share this information with others as well.
- Now they received knowledge on earthquake risk reduction and preparedness but suggested that:
 - This type of workshop shall be organized frequently for different focus group of people to get aware on effects of earthquake so as to reduce vulnerabilities and life losses of the people
 - They have also recommended the existing public buildings like ward offices and municipality store building for retrofitting.

8.0 Execution Arrangements

Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Physical Planning and Works, Ministry of Local development, UNDP/ERRRP project executed the programme in collaboration with Hetauda Municipality. Additionally, the UNDP/ERRRP Project will provide support to strengthen the

institutional, administrative, technical system for earthquake vulnerability reduction. The Municipality provided support for the successful implementation of the programme.

9.0 Output

- Awareness generation of the vulnerable communities.
- 120 community members of different organizations of Hetauda Municipality have been sensitized on earthquake risk reduction and preparedness.

10.0 Conclusion

They came to know about the preparedness tools related to structural and non structural component also. During the presentations the need for adopting earthquake resistant technology was highlighted.

In concluding session, Mr. Shankar Prasad Upadhaya, Acting Chief Executive Officer of Hetauda Municipality, expressed the need of awareness programme in disaster prone countries like Nepal. He highlighted that public awareness is crucial to reduce vulnerabilities of the people and their property. He gave thanks to organizers and felt thankful for good participation. Ms. Chandra Laxmi Hada emphasized all new settlements or buildings must be constructed following the Nepal National Building Code and its Guidelines. She thanked to Acting CEO, focal person, NPM, participants and UNDP/ERRRP project team for their support, coordination and good participation. At the end, Acting Chief Executive Officer delivered vote of thanks and concluded the programme.

The total budget of the program is NRs. 22, 540.00 (Twenty Two Thousand Five Hundred and Forty only) as indicated by the Admin Finance Associate of UNDP/ERRRP- Project.

Appendices

Appendix A: Name of Participants and their List

Date and Venue: September 26, 2008 (1pm till 4:30 pm)

Motel Avocado, Hetauda Municipality

Appendix B: Photographs

Appendix B-I: Inaugural and orientation to the objectives of the program



Appendix B-II: Paper Presentation by Resource Persons



Appendix B-III: Floor Discussions and Valedictory address



Appendix C: Registration Sheet of Participants

Appendix D: Resource Materials of Sensitization Program