

Introduction: ★

The program is designed in the context of the International Recovery Platform (IRP) for the fulfillment of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015: Building the resilience of nations and communities to disaster. Taking into account, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) has developed risk reduction strategies based on the recommendation of HFA. The UNDP/BCPR (Bureau of Crisis Prevention and Recovery) with the support of Government of Japan initiated an Earthquake Risk Reduction and Recovery Preparedness (ERRRP) program in five high risk South Asian countries: Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, India and Pakistan. This project is a part of a five country regional programme in South Asia that seeks to support regional cooperation through knowledge sharing and development of best practices in the context of the SAARC Comprehensive Framework on Disaster Management agreed in February 2006.

Earthquakes remain a major concern in Nepal, especially in urban areas. In fact, according to BCPR's (Bureau of Crisis Prevention and Recovery) 2004 report, Disaster Reduction: A challenge for development, Nepal is in the 11th rank in the world in vulnerability to earthquake hazards and seismic faults passing through Nepal makes the entire country susceptible to this phenomenon. The country programme is designed to strengthen the institutional and community level capacity to plan and implement earthquake risk reduction strategies and disaster recovery preparedness in Nepal. The recovery of the cost incurred is essential for the sustainability of the project. Hence, some recovery means should be adopted.

Project Duration: October 2007 to May 2009

Project Started: March 2008

Management Arrangement: National Implementation (NIM) project of UNDP

Purpose: To strengthen national capacity (institutional and community level) for pre-disaster

preparedness and mitigation and post-disaster recovery planning with a focus on targeted earthquake-prone urban areas of Nepal.

The National Project Director (NPD) and National Project Manager (NPM) both are Nominated from Government of Nepal.

Source of Fund : Government of Japan

Overall Output : Capacity of the key line ministries, local bodies, civil societies and urban/rural communities enhanced for planning and implementation of disaster risk management, emergency response and early recovery.

Key Activities: ★

1. Earthquake risk, vulnerability and capacity assessment conducted in the project areas, especially from gender and poverty perspective, to support the government and communities.
2. Capacities of government institutions and communities living in high risk areas enhanced to adapt and implement earthquake preparedness planning and safe construction practice using appropriate earthquake resistant construction guidelines.
3. Capacities of the government strengthened in disaster recovery preparedness to support enhanced recovery operations in post-disaster situations.
4. Capacities of the government developed to implement national disaster management framework by supporting locally appropriate solutions for earthquake risk reduction proposed by Nepal.

Monitoring and Evaluation: ★

The monitoring will involve field travel to the project municipalities for reviewing compliance with the annual work plan aimed at achieving the results as established in the project document.

Output indicators: ★

Earthquake risk and vulnerability of project areas and capacity of central and respective local

institutional mechanism in reducing the same assessed; Capacities of focal line ministries and selected municipalities enhanced in earthquake risk reduction; Recovery preparedness framework prepared; Lifeline buildings retrofitted and / or demonstrative houses will be constructed.

Implementing Organizations and its role ★

This being a National Implementation (NIM) project of UNDP, the implementation responsibility of the project is with the Government of Nepal. From the perspective of project management the following government organizations will be involved:

- **Ministry of Physical Planning and Works/ Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (MOPPW / DUDBC) :** Responsible for the overall implementation of the project as the focal agency in GoN for Nepal National Building Code implementation
- **Ministry of Home Affairs:** Responsible for inter-ministerial coordination as the nodal agency in GoN for disaster management
- **Ministry of Local Development:** Responsible for inter-municipality coordination as the focal agency in GoN for all local level coordination
- **Selected Municipalities:** Responsible for the municipality level activities of the project

Project Assurance: Project assurance would be undertaken as per the monitoring systems established by the new Results Management Guide and Monitoring and Evaluation unit of the country office using appropriate tools developed for the same. The reporting mechanism will include Quarterly Progress Reports (QPR) and Annual Progress Report. These reports will be the part of the annual review process.

Selected municipalities for the project implementation: The Project Appraisal Committee has approved the following municipalities to be covered under this project.

1. Central Region : Hetauda Municipality
2. Eastern Region : Biratnagar Sub-Metropolitan City

3. Western Region : Pokhara Sub-Metropolitan City (including the transferring of the technology to the technical staff of the adjoining Lekhanath municipality)
4. Mid-western region : Birendranagar Municipality
5. Far-western Region: Dhangadhi Municipality

Municipality Selection Criteria ★

- Following are the criteria for selection of municipalities from the above list;
- Municipality located in high vulnerability zone from a seismological perspective
- Municipality with higher total and density of population and faster urban growth
- Municipality possessing demonstrative effect for replicability of the project results
- The capacity of the selected municipality to institutionalized the knowledge gained from the project.
- Preferably, one municipality from each of the development region to balance the geographical coverage.

Goal: ★

To reduce the impact of potential earthquakes on seismically vulnerable communities in Nepal

Current Activities of ERRRP Project ★

- Establishment of Project Office at DUDBC premises
- Nomination of Focal Persons and establishment of Focal Desk in selected municipalities
- Municipal Level meeting already conducted in April and May.
- Birendranagar Municipality
- Dhangadhi Municipality
- Biratnagar Sub-Metropolitan City
- Hetauda Municipality
- Pokhara Sub-Metropolitan City

Name of the Focal Persons Nominated from the Selected Municipalities

Biratnagar Sub-Metropolitan City : Er. Dilendra Pradhan
 Pokhara Sub-Metropolitan City : Er. Shyamji Bastola
 Hetauda Municipality : Er. Satya Narayan Shah
 Birendranagar Municipality : Er. Janak Bahadur Shahi
 Dhanagadhi Municipality : Er. Deej Raj Bhatta

Photo of the Municipalities visited



Field visit in Birendranagar Municipality



Meeting conducted in Dhangadhi Municipality with ERRRP Project Team



Site visit of selected Building for Retrofitting in Biratnagar Sub-Metropolitan City



Presentation by NPM about ERRRP Project in Hetauda Municipality



Need Assessment from fillup by focal person Pokhara Sub-Metropolitan City

Meeting Minutes in all municipalities

- Discussion held about the earthquake risk of Nepal and the region and convince others on the reality of future occurrences of earthquakes
- All the trainings will be organized in the close coordination with respective municipalities. They have shown keen interest project implementation.
- The entire municipality owned the program as a milestone for the building code implementation and realized that the building codes is to protect public health, safety and general well-fare as they relate to the construction and occupancy of buildings and structures.
- Training / Retrofitting / Municipality profile programs will be conducted in close coordination with the local municipal authorities for making the programs more effective, impact-full and institutionalized.

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Earthquake Risk Reduction and Recovery Preparedness Programme for Nepal



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