

GENERAL INFO

Nepal became an International Organization for Migration (IOM) member state in 2006. In 2007, the Government of Nepal (GoN) and the IOM signed a memorandum of understanding to encourage cooperation and the delivery of services to Nepal, which is a country of origin, transit and destination of migration. The IOM's initial focus was on the resettlement of Bhutanese refugees. Since then, the organization's staff has grown to 470 (including 445 national staff and 25 international staff), and the IOM has diversified its areas of cooperation with the GoN into additional fields which include **Forced Migration, Facilitating Migration, Migration & Development, and Regulating Migration**. These four fields consist of a variety of programs that are outlined in this info sheet.

On 25 April and 12 May 2015, devastating earthquakes measuring 7.8 and 7.3 Richter killed at least 8,790 people and destroyed 498,852 houses across Nepal. Together with local communities, humanitarian organizations and the GoN, the IOM launched relief activities to meet the needs of those affected. The IOM's Nepal Earthquake Response is covered below.



Forced Migration

Refugees and displaced persons are a distinct category of “people on the move” deserving special attention. The IOM is actively assisting refugee populations during and after emergencies, as was the case in Kosovo and Timor. The IOM also facilitates the resettlement each year of thousands of refugees for whom resettlement in a new country is the approved durable solution. The IOM is regularly asked to help find solutions for internally displaced persons (IDPs), former combatants, victims of ethnic engineering and populations in transition or recovery environments. It also locates and assists widely scattered voters to enable them to take part in elections and referenda. The IOM has large programs and acknowledged expertise in post-war claims and compensation.



This field is divided into three categories: Third Country Resettlement, Emergency Preparedness & Disaster Risk Reduction, and Transition & Recovery.

Third Country Resettlement



In close collaboration with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the GoN and eight Resettlement Governments, the IOM facilitates selection missions, conducts medical examination of refugees selected for resettlement as per the protocol of the destination country, conducts cultural orientation for the destination countries, facilitates exit permits and arranges travel for the refugees until their final port of entry.



Resettlement Support Center, South Asia. The Resettlement Support Center (RSC), South Asia is operated by the IOM with the main office in Damak, Nepal. RSC South Asia conducts resettlement processing for the United States Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) in five countries throughout the South Asia region: Afghanistan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. The RSC began in 2007 in Damak, Nepal with the Bhutanese caseload and has since expanded to other countries. Funded by the United States Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), RSC South Asia assists refugees with the many steps involved in the resettlement process to the United States including receiving cases from the UNHCR, interviewing and counselling refugees, managing data entry, overseeing security checks, supporting US Citizen and Immigration Officers during adjudication, coordinating with US agencies on US placement, working with the GoN, Exit Permit Officers, and conducting Cultural Orientation classes. All refugees approved to travel to the US undergo five days of Cultural Orientation by the RSC team to help them prepare for life in America. Topics covered include hygiene, transportation to and in America, the importance of getting a job and going to school, as well as how to cope with cultural adjustments. The RSC regularly coordinates with the GoN to conduct exit permit formalities at the IOM Damak Sub-Office for all Bhutanese departing Nepal. The IOM provides housing and transport for the officials during their stay for granting exit permission for Bhutanese refugees being resettled.



Since 2007, the RSC has helped facilitate over 90,000 refugees to the US, of which 87,000 have been Bhutanese from Eastern Nepal. Other populations include Burmese and Pakistanis from Sri Lanka and India, and Afghans from Pakistan, Sri Lanka and India.



Operations. The Operations unit is responsible for all ground movements of refugees from camps through to the final country of resettlement by air. In Nepal, since 2007 the Operations unit has facilitated the departure of over 105,000 Bhutanese to Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands, UK and the U.S.A. The Operations team transports Bhutanese refugees daily from multiple camps to the IOM Offices for interviews and medical appointments, and also arranges weekly charter flights of refugees from Eastern Nepal to Kathmandu. In Kathmandu, the



Operations team receives refugees transported through charter flights, and arranges accommodation for them at the IOM Transit Centre for several days prior to international departure. The team also arranges commercial airline bookings for refugees and facilitates airport formalities for all departing refugees. Refugees are provided operational flight escorts as needed, medical escorts for medical cases in coordination with Migration Health Unit. The Operations unit also handles flight movements for cases ex-Sri Lanka, India, and supports the Pakistan mission.

The IOM Transit Centre in Kathmandu has the capacity of accommodating 240 people a night. This 24-hour facility provides clean water, hygienic food, comfortable beds and a children's playground for the refugees. Typically, Bhutanese refugees from eastern Nepal spend 3-6 nights at the Transit Centre in Kathmandu prior to their commercial flight to the country of resettlement. During this time, refugees undergo a final fitness-to-travel examination, and a final Cultural Orientation session as a part of the transit process.



Australian Cultural Orientation (AUSCO). IOM Nepal also provides five days of Cultural Orientation training for refugees resettling to Australia. The objectives of the AUSCO program are to: provide accurate information on the departure processes; present a realistic picture of life in Australia; describe the settlement process and provide practical information about post-arrival settlement services and how to access them; encourage language training on arrival in Australia; provide participants with the basic skills necessary to achieve self-sufficiency; equip participants with the necessary tools to deal with initial settlement concerns and the different stages of cultural, social and economic adaptation. The curriculum is designed to give participants confidence and independence starting their new life in Australia.



Migration Health Division (MHD). The MHD, under IOM Nepal, has its main office in Damak conducting health assessments of Bhutanese and in Kathmandu for a small number of urban refugees to the United States under the USRAP, funded by the Government of the United States through the PRM and the Center for Disease Control. As part of the USRAP regional responsibilities, the MHD assists Pakistan, India and Sri Lanka, in conducting quality health assessment of United States bound refugees. The Migration Health Assessment Program for Nepal started in 2007, primarily for Bhutanese refugees from Nepal. Currently, the MHD provides medical assistance to the refugees resettling to eight different countries, as well as to immigrants bound to the USA, UK, Canada and Australia through Migration Health Assessment Centers located in two different sites (Kathmandu and Damak).



From 2007 through Jun 2016, over 127,000 initial Health Assessments of refugees have been performed in Nepal; nearly 86% of these have been for US bound refugees and 11% for Australia and Canada and 3% for other countries. Additionally, from 2010 through the end of Jun 2016, over 51,433 immigrants have undergone initial health assessment and nearly 70% of them were US bound immigrants.



MHD Nepal also runs a clinic in the refugee Transit Center in the capital of Nepal, Kathmandu, as well as a specialized isolation center for the treatment of highly-infectious and drug-resistant TB cases in Damak. The MHD has a well-equipped TB Lab and two X-Ray facilities in the country, providing almost all needed services in house, and benefitting from well experienced health assessment national and international staff. The MHD has well-established linkages to the government and international partners and also implemented a Stop TB Partnership-funded TB Reach Project since 2011 in the Eastern and Central regions of Nepal and recently in the earthquake effected areas. In partnership with Association of Medical Doctors of Asia, the MHD runs a PRM and Citizenship and Immigration Canada funded TB Diagnosis and Treatment Protocol Harmonization Project for non-resettlement Bhutanese refugees as well as to the host communities around the refugees camps in the Eastern Region.



It is worth mentioning that Health Assessment requirements for migration to the receiving countries are defined and regulated through the Technical Instructions for Medical Examinations issued by the health and immigration authorities of each receiving country. Migration Health Assessment Center (MHAC) based in Kathmandu assists in DNA sample collection for various reputed laboratories of receiving countries.



Emergency Preparedness & Disaster Risk Reduction

The IOM assumes the role of the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) global cluster lead and in Nepal; the IOM was actively co-leading the CCCM Cluster alongside the Department of Urban Development & Building Construction, as the Government lead agency. The cluster was activated for the second time in Nepal in 2015 soon after the earthquakes. From the rapid



assessment of IOM from 29 to 30 April 2015 within the four days of the earthquake, it was found that 38 identified open spaces out of 83 were being used holding 36,104 people. In addition, there were 53 identified and spontaneous sites in use holding 41,937 people (IOM, 2015).

As requested and prioritized by the GoN in the National Disaster Response Framework, IOM continues to conduct a series of activities replicating the identification and protection of open spaces with the support from the United States Agency for International Development's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) through a project entitled "Identification and Management of Open Spaces for Disaster Preparedness (IMOS)". The project aims to assist the GoN to continue enhancing their preparedness efforts and establish coherent approaches in responding and managing the needs of the displaced populations after a large-scale earthquake in the remote areas and cities in the hilly districts west of Kathmandu.



Transition & Recovery

As part of its global mandate on migration, the IOM works to assist governments and societies address land and property issues and victim reparations in the aftermath of natural disasters or conflict.



Psychosocial Counselling and Support Services to Conflict-Affected Persons. Since it was first initiated in March 2013, the IOM has successfully provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR) in implementing psychosocial counselling and support services for conflict-affected persons and their families with support from the UN Peace Fund for Nepal (UNPFN). This project has recently concluded in December 2015.



Empowering Women 4 Women (W4W): Access to Land for Sustainable Peace in Nepal. This project is built upon the main findings and gaps identified by the previous 'Catalytic Support on Land Issues' (2013- 2015) project by including women that were almost absent and/ or not able to make their voices heard in the land reform discussions process. The project aims to support the processes associated or linked with land reform in Nepal by enabling women to play an active role as agents of change. In doing so, the project is contributing to ensuring gender equality in land policy discussions and enabling women to influence the policy decisions.



The project is promoting a W4W approach, where qualified women teachers use contextualized modules to enhance capacities of other women, on land rights and system as well as advocacy and negotiation skills. The W4W approach ensures a constructive environment for learning as well as participatory and long lasting impacts. In this way, the project is unpacking land issues pertinent to women in small steps and introducing components related to women empowerment and rights to women over land and property, thus facilitating catalytic changes that will support the future land reform process, including by facilitating the changes of attitude, perspectives and social mores in the Nepalese society, and giving due consideration to women's specific needs and ideas at the policy level.



Conflict Related Sexual Violence (CRSV). The decade-long conflict which wracked Nepal from 1996 to 2006 was marked by gross human rights violations including killings, enforced disappearances, torture, rape and other types of sexual violence. There are countless stories that are untold due to fear of stigmatization and retribution.

In 2011, Nepal launched a National Action Plan on UN Secretary General Resolutions 1325 and 1820, which deal with crimes against women. But recent reviews of the plan suggest that a significant gap is still unaddressed in the area of provision of relief and support to survivors of sexual violence during the conflict, including access to justice. In response, IOM, in partnership with the Conflict Victims Common Platform, has launched a project: "Empowering Conflict Related Sexual Violence Survivors to Effectively Assert their Rights on Services and Justice" in Kailali, one of the affected districts.



Funded by UN Women and Finland, the project focuses on capacity building for conflict-related sexual violence survivors. It will ensure that they have access to the government's relief programme, including health, legal, psychosocial and livelihood services.



Facilitating Migration

Mobility is an essential feature of today's world. Integrated world markets, the emergence of transnational networks and the rapid growth of communication technologies all contribute to the increasing movement of both high and low-skilled workers, students, trainees, families and tourists. The demographic and social structure in the industrialized world has created the need for workers and professionals from other countries. Large-scale migration for work represents potentially difficult adjustments, but economies that desire to remain competitive cannot ignore the need for change. Facilitating migration for work can be a win-win proposition. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) provides policy and technical advice to governments on the regulation of migrant labour and other migratory movements, and carries out programs to assist governments and migrants with selection/recruitment, language and cultural orientation, consular services, training, reception, integration and return. These services, tailored to each program, are provided during all stages of the process: information and application, interview and approval, and post-approval. The IOM has performed over 1.5 million immigration medical evaluations around the world and provides logistic and travel assistance to migrants.



Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration. The IOM is implementing a two year project entitled 'Return Assistance to Stranded Nepali Migrants' funded by the Qatar Development Fund to assist for the voluntary return and reintegration assistance to the vulnerable, stranded and exploited Nepali migrant workers in Qatar, Saudi Arabia, U.A.E, Kuwait, Jordan, Lebanon and Malaysia. The Project is implemented in close coordination and partnership with the line Ministries i.e. the Ministry of Labour & Employment, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the IOM host Missions and the local NGOs who are engaged in working towards benefit of migrants in need.



The project aims to provide voluntary return and reintegration assistance to migrant workers in the following situations:

- Victim of abuse, exploitation, trafficking, or being stranded at the destination;
- No possibility to regularize their status in the country where they reside;
- Unable to have access to assistance in the destination;
- Without access to support of home country's consular authorities;
- Without enough money to pay their way home; Without documentation needed to move to another country



The project offers eligible beneficiaries with pre-departure counselling, counselling & information provision, pre-embarkation assistance, medical checks (if required), one way air ticket, reception assistance and provision of in kind reintegration grant of USD 500 upon return to the country of origin.



Assessing the Climate Change, Environmental Degradation and Migration Nexus in South Asia. IOM Nepal is implementing a joint project entitled "Assessing the Climate Change, Environmental Degradation and Migration Nexus in South Asia" with IOM Bangladesh and IOM Maldives. The main project partners include International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development and other relevant organizations at the regional level. At the national level, the IOM is working closely with relevant government ministry counterparts from the governments of Bangladesh, the Maldives and Nepal. South Asia, comprising 8 countries including Bangladesh, the Maldives and Nepal, is affected by a range of natural disasters. These disasters take a huge toll as they displace thousands of people every year. To address the challenges encountered by South Asian countries, i.e. lack of evidence of the nexus and integrated environment-migration strategies alongside limited community resilience, this project is carrying out an assessment study, field research and national consultations in Bangladesh, the Maldives and Nepal, followed by a regional level dissemination meeting. The three countries have several commonalities including high rates of urbanization and international migration (though the Maldives is an exception as it witnesses net in-migration), while also being exposed to diverse climatic events. The experiences of these three countries is expected to serve as lessons for the whole region, as they all face similar challenges due to environmental degradation and climate change.



Migration & Development

The relationship between countries of origin and their overseas communities is significant to successful development. The International Organization for Migration's (IOM) goal in this field is to harness the development potential of migration for individual migrants and societies. We work by promoting international policy dialogue, policy-oriented research and programs that strengthen the



administrative and managerial capacity of governments. Program activities include improving remittance management, building human capital through labour migration programs, return and reintegration of qualified nationals, capacity building for governments and empowerment of migrant women.



Joint Migration Development Initiative (JMDI). The JMDI reflects the acceptance of and growing interest in the strong links between Migration and Development (and aims to support M&D actors to effectively harness the potential of migration for development. The program is led by the United Nations Development Programme in partnership with the IOM, the International Labour Organization, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Population Fund, UN Women and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research with the funding from the European Commission and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. The IOM is the anchor agency for the JMDI implementation in Nepal working with two partner organizations, Oxfam and Asian Human Rights and Culture Development Forum (Asian Forum). Oxfam in Nepal is implementing a project named “Safer Remittances and Improved Livelihoods” in Surkhet and Kailali districts with an objective to enhance the livelihoods status of seasonal migrant families and their communities. Asian Forum is implementing “Sustainable Local Development by Promoting Local Tourism through Homestay by Migrants and their Families” in Kaski and Tanahun districts with an objective to open new avenues for income generation for families of migrants, especially belonging to poor communities and disadvantaged groups through the home stay facilities.



This program is focused on up scaling of M&D initiatives at the local level, capacity development of the local authorities, in line with the essential local-to-local dimension of the migration and development nexus.



Research and Policy Dialogue Initiative on Migration and Development in Nepal. Remittances will continue to be important to Nepal and Nepalese households alike in the coming years. Remittances add up to 29% of Nepal’s GDP (World Bank, 2014) but only roughly 2% is set aside for investments. Currently, there are no institutional tools, programs or assessment of desired opportunities and services to counter this trend and encourage migrants to save and invest. Nepal’s excessive reliance on migration to fill the absence of in-country employment opportunities poses a threat as any substantial decline in capital inflow from migrants may destabilize the Nepalese economy at micro and macro levels. The project envisages assisting the Government of Nepal (GoN) and related stakeholders in developing policies and project interventions to more effectively harness the link between migration and development.



In pursuit of the objective mentioned above, the IOM will articulate research on the nature, use and impact of migration related social, human and financial capital flows on Nepal’s socio-economic development. To this end, the project will carry out household and migrants’ surveys in 31 randomly selected districts of Nepal, including structured interviews with key stakeholders/ local authorities and consultations with the GoN, private sector and civil society organizations. The project will foster ongoing consultative and capacity building process within the context of National Planning Commission also closely engaging the Ministry of Labour and Employment, the Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development, the Ministry of Finance and a local research partner to conduct the research and jointly develop the recommendations. The process will make the Government, civil society and private sector partners fully cognizant on the development potential of migration for promoting sustainable local development in Nepal.



Building on the recommendations of the High-Level Consultation of 2014, and in particular resolution no. 2, on enhancing linkage between migration and development, the data and evidence emerged through the research and the consultative process will provide the GoN, civil and private sector entities, with a viable baseline against which to formulate future policies, projects and market interventions for migration mainstreaming.

Regulating Migration



Regulating governments and societies have an interest in knowing who is seeking access to their territories. The objective is to take measures that prevent access by those who are not authorized to enter, while facilitating speedy access for those who are. The IOM assists governments in the development and implementation of migration policy, legislation and administrative mechanisms. To this end, the IOM provides technical assistance and training for governmental migration managers on border management, visa systems, regulating entry and stay and collecting and using biometric information. Replacing irregular flows with orderly, regular migration serves the interests of all governments, and the IOM can offer a broad range of programs to counter trafficking and smuggling of human beings, from prevention to assisting the victims. The IOM also implements programs to



facilitate the voluntary return and reintegration of displaced and stranded persons and other migrants, taking into account the needs and concerns of local communities.

Trafficking Survivors and Vulnerable Children Support Program. With financial support from ChildFund Korea, starting from January to 31 December 2015, the IOM in partnership with some local NGO partners will implement the Trafficking Survivors and Vulnerable Children Support Program in Nepal. This project is developed as a follow up to a fund-raising video filming mission of ChildFund Korea and Korean Broadcasting Services in Nepal conducted from September to October 2014. IOM Nepal and Korea facilitated the mission. The project aims to contribute to improving the status of vulnerable children and women, including victims of trafficking, in Nepal.



Nepal Earthquake Response 2015

As a result of the devastating earthquakes that affected Nepal in April and May 2015, the IOM - as one of the world's key humanitarian responders - quickly reacted by deploying a rapid response team of experts and promptly launched the Relief, Recovery and Reconstruction (RRR) Programme to efficiently and timely respond to the pressing needs in the aftermath of the earthquakes. The RRR programme includes a wide range of activities in the interrelated and mutually supporting fields of Shelter, Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), Health and Psychosocial Support, Protection, Early Recovery, and Housing Recovery and Reconstruction.



Displacement Tracking Matrix. In the aftermath of a disaster, it is of outmost importance for governments and aid organizations to gather reliable information on where people are located and which are their stringent needs. In order to achieve that, the IOM uses a survey tool called the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) to quickly gather, analyze and publish information about the number of displaced persons, their locations, as well as their needs on food, shelter, water and sanitation, health, education and safety.



To complement the DTM report, a household-level Return Intention Survey (RIS) was carried out in order to provide a more thorough analysis about the intention of displaced populations to return back to their place of origin. The RIS, incorporated in the second of eight DTM rounds conducted till date, included questions related to return intentions, livelihoods, shelter and factors preventing the return. The second RIS was conducted as part of the sixth DTM round, from 22 February to 6 March 2016, in which 1,189 households (HHs) from 82 sites were interviewed. Only 16% of HHs expressed their willingness to return. Out of those who were interviewed, 12% declared their intention and possibility to return to their place of origin, 3% wanted to return to the place where they used to live before the earthquake and 1% said that they would relocate to a new areas or site. The remaining surveyed HHs stated that they didn't have any plan to leave the site (44%) or didn't want to leave the site at all (40%).



The eighth DTM round was released in August 2016, and from 25 July to 02 August 2016, the DTM team identified and visited 80 potential displacement sites across the affected districts. Of these, 65 were active and hosting 20 HHs or more in camp-like settings, while the remaining 15 were found closed or below DTM criteria (20 or more HHs). These 65 sites were hosting an estimated 4,024 HHs (18,292 people): 9,293 female, 8,999 male and 2,108 children under five years old. Since the last round of DTM (seventh round), the number of displaced people has dropped by almost 17%.

CCCM. IOM has provided CCCM training to 277 representatives from various governmental agencies and national and international partner organizations to build capacities of different actors and raise standards, ensuring an appropriate response to the needs of displaced populations.



To address the needs of the most vulnerable groups, particularly to respond to the harsh weather conditions and as part of the winterization support, essential non-food items were distributed to HHs identified in the DTM reports as temporarily living in sites above 1,500 meters of altitude. The distributions were done in two phases. During the first phase, 3,991 HHs benefited from the total or partial distribution of blankets, tarps, and ropes, while during the second phase 4,756 HHs benefited from the total or partial distribution of stoves, chimneys, solar lights and Polyethylene Ether (PE) foam. Phase 2 also included cash distributions of 7,500 NPR per household as part of the winterization support, so that families could purchase clothes for the winter. A total of 1,968 HHs received cash distributions in Dhading, Kavre, Nuwakot, Rasuwa, Sindhupalchowk, Dolakha, Makwanpur, and Ramechhap districts.



IOM directly, or through implementing partners, carried out site planning and site improvements in displacement sites where the population is likely to remain for longer periods of time. 65 displacement sites with more than 20 HHs as per the latest DTM report were identified in the districts of Gorkha, Makwanpur, Nuwakot, Kathmandu, Sindhupalchowk, Bhaktapur, Dolakha and Lalitpur Kavrepalanchok, Rasuwa, and Ramechhap. Improvements of essential infrastructure such as drainage systems, access to roads, fencing and provision of water tanks were carried out in order to

ensure dignified living conditions as well as to protect displaced populations living in temporary sites.



Protection. As a prolonged period of recovery can generate hazards of human rights violations such as trafficking in persons, gender based violence (GBV), massive irregular migration and other violations of economic, social and cultural rights, protection has been one of the IOM's priority areas of intervention since the earthquakes. In the framework of its protection program, IOM identified and assisted vulnerable individuals with stringent humanitarian needs by distributing relief items as well as carrying out awareness raising activities among vulnerable displaced populations, government officials and the wider community on the risks of unsafe and irregular migration and its connection with human trafficking. As a result, approximately 16,240 earthquake-affected individuals and concerned stakeholders received information on GBV, unsafe migration, human trafficking and human smuggling through 209 awareness raising sessions. Additionally, over 70,500 beneficiaries have been reached through distributions of informational and educational material.



Shelter. Since the onset of the emergency, IOM jointly with its partner network composed of 49 national and international organizations distributed emergency shelter and non-food items to approximately 285,000 HHs, representing more than 1.4 million individuals. The shelter and non-food items distributed included plastic tarpaulins, ropes, bamboo poles and corrugated iron sheets to support families in building temporary shelter, as well as blankets, kitchen sets and solar lights to respond to the immediate needs of families who had lost their belongings. Blankets, tarpaulins, solar lights and PE foam were also distributed as part of winterization programming to households residing at the altitude of 1,500 meters and above.



IOM worked closely with the Shelter Cluster and further with the Housing Recovery and Reconstruction Platform in order to develop user-friendly materials such as the '10 Key Messages for Build Back Safer', and to build capacities among the earthquake-affected population to re-construct safer houses incorporating disaster risk reduction measures. For this purpose, four training of trainers were organized in Dolakha, Sindhupalchowk and Gorkha, followed by community awareness trainings on 'Build Back Safer' and respective mentoring and monitoring visits organized at the community level to provide necessary technical advice and guidance for the ongoing owner-driven reconstruction process. As of August 2016, 19,614 HHs from 35 Village Development Committees (VDC) in three districts participated in the awareness training. In cooperation with the Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC) and District Level Project Implementation Unit (DLPIU) in Sindhupalchowk and Dolakha districts, IOM conducted 12 training sessions on Construction Quality and Supervision for Earthquake Resilient Buildings for 231 newly recruited DLPIU engineers. This initiative is currently implemented with the ongoing five sessions training for 96 newly recruited engineers in cooperation with DUDBC/DLPIU in Okhahadhunga district.



Health. The IOM Health Team assisted in patient discharge and referrals, through the Assisted Discharge and Referral service established in May 2015 with the objective of facilitating the provision of essential care and decongesting hospitals. As of August 2016, IOM assisted 517 patients through 2,143 events of assistance such as discharge, follow-up and referral to local health facilities or safe return to the community.



In close cooperation with the Ministry of Health and the District Health Office in Sindhupalchowk, IOM established and currently operates the 20-bed Injury Rehabilitation Unit (IRU) in Chautara, Sindhupalchowk district, which provides step down care, including intensive physiotherapy, nursing care, psychosocial support and safe shelter for patients with earthquake-related injuries and disabilities. A total of 119 patients have been admitted to the facility, benefitting from the services of the IRU.



To closely monitor the health and hygiene conditions of displaced populations, the IOM medical teams continuously monitored living conditions in over 60 displacement sites. Since the onset of the emergency, nearly 100 health and hygiene promotion activities were conducted in displacement sites to promote preventative actions for diseases caused by poor hygiene and sanitation standards, overcrowding and lack of knowledge to mitigate against potential vulnerability to disease/illness. A total of 1,538 individuals benefited from this intervention.

As many of those affected by the earthquakes and displaced experienced psychological distress, IOM established a multi-disciplinary psychosocial team to provide direct assistance to the displaced population in 19 displacement sites hosting 17,550 displaced people. A total of 234 injured patients and displaced people were provided with individual, family and group counseling sessions and 370 psychosocial group activities were conducted involving 7,892 direct beneficiaries.



Additionally, IOM continues to support the National Tuberculosis Program to restore respective services in affected districts, including tracing of patients whose treatment was disrupted as a result of the earthquakes. Over 15,000 at risk individuals residing in displacement sites were screened for tuberculosis, and follow up services provided.

Early Recovery. As a result of the earthquakes, a noteworthy number of public and private



infrastructures collapsed and the rubble blocked roads, isolated villages and prevented aid deliveries. Immediately after the first earthquake, IOM launched a debris removal program, temporarily employing local laborers to clear rubble along the road to Chautara. As a result, Chautara became a humanitarian hub for the hard-hit district of Sindhupalchowk, the seat of the local government and a crucial transport corridor for aid supplies. Furthermore, IOM and partners engaged in larger and more complex demolitions. As of August 2016, IOM safely demolished and/or cleared debris from 443 public buildings, 188 public infrastructure and 100 private properties in Sindhupalchowk, Dolakha, Dhading and Gorkha districts.



In the framework of its early recovery program, IOM has engaged over 6070 local laborers, including 2,650 women, for a total of 99,519 working days. The latter combined the rubble removal with an income generation scheme for earthquake-affected families. In addition, IOM successfully led the debris management working group within the Early Recovery Cluster and provided technical support to the Shelter Cluster in developing relevant information material for safe demolition and debris recycling. Moreover, as requested by the local authorities, IOM constructed three offices to support the local authorities and security forces to increase their response capacities in case of future disaster and/or other emergency situations.



Housing Recovery and Reconstruction. A large number of national and international organizations, as well as the private sector and donor agencies are actively engaged in the recovery and reconstruction of earthquake-affected infrastructure contributing to the efforts made by the Government of Nepal. In order to ensure equitable assistance, technical awareness and capacity building for the timely and effective reconstruction of private houses, IOM, in coordination with its government counterparts National Reconstruction Authority (NRA), Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MOFALD) and Department of Urban Development and Building Construction established the Housing Recovery and Reconstruction Platform (HRRP) on 31 December 2015.



Through its presence across fourteen severely affected districts, the HRRP is working in coordination with more than 70 partner organizations specializing in housing reconstruction and conducting activities at the field level. At the district level, HRRP is supported by national and international organizations for an effective coordination of housing recovery and reconstruction activities.

Since its establishment, the HRRP has actively supported relevant government authorities in coordination, strategic planning, information management and technical assistance in support of an effective and efficient delivery of the Government of Nepal's housing reconstruction programme.

The second phase of the HRRP commenced the first week of September 2016 with the objective of supporting the Government of Nepal's efforts in housing recovery and reconstruction by strengthening the operations of the established coordination platform as well as by gradually integrating it into the National Reconstruction Authority structure. The HRRP aims to support the housing reconstruction process through strengthening coordination, information management and technical coordination of housing recovery and reconstruction activities.



IOM • OIM

IOM is the leading organization working with migrants and governments in providing humane responses to migration challenges worldwide. It works in the 4 main areas of migration management: migration & development, regulating migration, addressing forced migration and facilitating migration. Established in 1951 and headquartered in Geneva, it has 146 Member States and 13 Observer States.

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