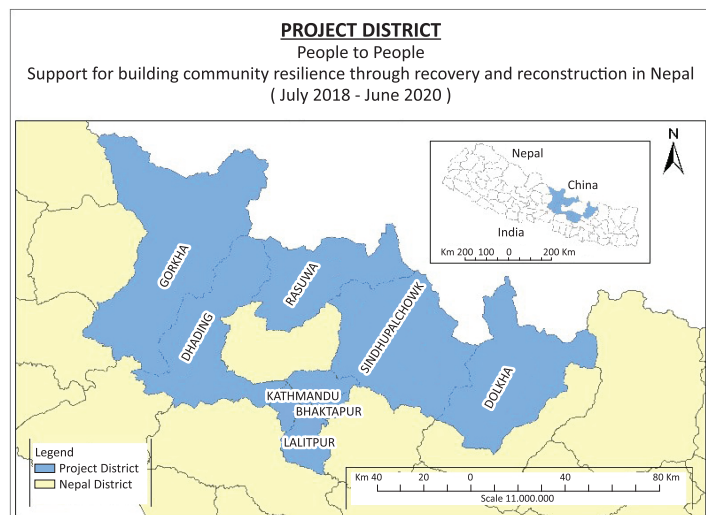


PEOPLE TO PEOPLE SUPPORT FOR BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE THROUGH RECOVERY AND RECONSTRUCTION IN NEPAL



BACKGROUND

Nepal is ranked 20th in lists of the most multi-hazard prone countries in the world. The country is respectively ranked 4th, 11th and 30th in term of climate change, earthquake and flood risk. Other recurring disasters in Nepal are drought, storm, hailstorm, avalanches, cold-waves, forest fires and Glacier lake outburst flood (GLOF). The 2015 earthquakes were the most catastrophic examples of this vulnerability, but also exemplified by the yearly flooding in the Terai. The earthquakes of 2015 had a devastating impact on the country and its people, including the deaths of over 8,500 individuals, the destruction of over 600,000 homes, damage to thousands of historical monuments as well as public and critical infrastructures, including schools, health facilities and government buildings. It is estimated that the Gorkha Earthquakes affected the lives of 8 million people (more than 28% of Nepal's total population) in 39 out of 75 districts, 14 of which were declared as severely affected.

The 2015 earthquakes also impacted human mobility and caused forced displacement that triggered migration both within and out of the country. Approximately 2.8 million people were reported as displaced and in need of humanitarian assistance (OCHA, 2015), and 117,700 people in the 14 highly affected districts made their homes in camps, living in makeshift tents and shelters (IOM, 2015). Unorganized urban sprawl, unplanned land use, inadequate monitoring of building construction and insufficient open space policies caused dire consequences within the country. In the Kathmandu Valley, all open spaces previously identified were used immediately. The rapid assessment conducted by International Organization for Migration (IOM) indicated that 38 out of 83 pre-identified open space areas to be used in emergencies were still being used over a week after the earthquakes, sheltering 36,104 people. Some existing remaining infrastructure such as schools and community buildings and their premises were also used for immediate shelter, medical and humanitarian assistance.

IOM, the UN Migration Agency, is committed to support its Member States to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 – 2030. IOM brings a unique perspective and comparative advantage to this global agenda given

PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET



Donor	Royal Thai Government
Implementing Agency	International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Lead Partner Institutions	Ministry of Urban Development (MOUD); Ministry of Home Affairs (MOHA), the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MOFAGA), selected Municipalities/ rural municipalities of Rasuwa, Dolkaha, Dhading, Sindhupalchowk, Gorkha, Kathmandu, Bhaktapur and Lalitpur
Geographic Coverage	Selected Municipalities of Rasuwa, Dhading, Sindhupalchowk, Dolakha, Kathmandu, Bhaktapur and Lalitpur Province 3 and Gorkha of Province 4
Target Groups	Local Government Authorities, Local communities, households and individuals that are vulnerable to displacement resulting from disasters
Duration	24 months
Budget	2,000,000 USD

the intrinsic links between mobility, risk and resilience. With financial support from the Royal Thai Government, the project aims to support the Government of Nepal's effort to strengthen disaster risk reduction and promotes a whole of Government approach to help Nepal move towards the path of strengthening overall resilience.

This project is promoting people-to-people (P2P) approach, where the citizens of Thailand are helping the citizens of Nepal to reduce risk and build resilience of the vulnerable communities in the eight worse earthquake hit districts. The P2P approach fosters the hopes of a global community, seeking a sustainable, safer and more prosperous future through collaboration and partnership in disaster risk reduction.

The project aligns with the National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy (NDRRP) 2075 and Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Act 2074. Over the span of two years, the project will make an effort to strengthen disaster risk reduction and help Nepal move towards greater recovery and resilience in the event of disaster. To achieve this objective, the project will pursue three outputs as mentioned below. A total of eight including Rural Municipalities are selected for the project and encompass both rural and urban settings, considering the expertise of the two UN agencies – IOM and UNDP to ensure that the work of each agency complements the other. The overall aim of the project is to minimize the challenges the country faces regarding natural hazard related disasters, displacement, and building resilience through sustainable recovery and re/construction.

PLANNED INTERVENTION

1. Rebuild or reinforce existing critical infrastructure or community centers to provide safe places for evacuation and recovery following a disaster

The project proposes to re/ construct or reinforce at least eight structures or multipurpose centers that could be used as evacuation centers in an event of a disaster. These multipurpose community centers can be used by community members and women's groups as places to exchange and share knowledge, i.e. training activities, temporary learning centers, adult literacy classes, income generating activities and information dissemination centers to create awareness of disaster preparedness, migration and mobility, or awareness on human trafficking among others.

After a sudden onset disaster, these pre-designated multi-hazard resistant structures would be used to host displaced population, giving priority to vulnerable people such as pregnant women, children, people with special needs (both physical and psychosocial) and the elderly, among others. These pre-existing structures will not only support in saving lives, but can also contribute to a more effective and cost efficient response. In addition to the construction of the multi-purpose centers, IOM will work together with UNPD to ensure these structures have WASH (water and sanitation) facilities. A primary criteria for reconstruction of such structures is their proximity to open spaces allocated to be used for humanitarian use. The selection of structures will be done in a conflict sensitive manner and 'Do No Harm' approach will be taken into consideration recognizing the different needs and interest of diverse communities within the districts.

2. Identify and map open spaces using a geographic information system (GIS) to safeguard open spaces as evacuation centers and shelter by communities and the Government

It was made abundantly clear that the pre-identified 83 open spaces in the Kathmandu Valley supported the immediate needs for shelter and safe space after the earthquakes in 2015. The importance of preserving the open spaces and effectively communicating their usage to communities cannot be overstated. However, the two earthquakes also demonstrated the need for suitable open spaces outside the Kathmandu valley and in remote geographic location. Due to the remote terrain, a critical challenge faced by many of these Municipalities are inadequate space to house displaced populations. This project will identify such open spaces in earthquake-affected municipalities with high population densities. Moreover, the recent earthquake demonstrated the need for open spaces in remote hilly areas, which experienced great loss of life and destruction of property. The identification and protection of open spaces is a priority of the Government of Nepal. Under

the overall leadership of the local and federal government, IOM has identified open 83 spaces in three districts in the Kathmandu Valley (Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, and Lalitpur) and 40 open spaces five municipalities of Resunga, Tansen, Pokhara Lekhnath, Putali Bazar and Baglung that can be used by communities for humanitarian purposes in the event of a disaster.

IOM will be supporting the local Government to identify open spaces in selected municipalities of earthquake affected districts that would be used by communities for humanitarian purposes in the event of a disaster. Mapping will be conducted based on GIS with information about essential services including health, WASH, transport, warehousing, and security services around the identified sites. This will ensure that effective mechanisms are in place for displaced populations prior to the onset of a disaster. This will contribute to the efficacy of the response and save lives during the emergency response phase.

3. Orient and train newly elected local government officials and community members to mainstream reconstruction within local development plans

The project will orient and enhance capacity of local government officials and advocate for the development of plans, policies and regulations that address the protection and usage of open spaces. The project will also train local communities around open spaces and prepare community and practice drills. The project will also train local government agencies and community members on Camp Management and Camp Coordination (CCCM) to enable them to manage temporary settlement in these identified open spaces in the aftermath of disaster and to enable them to act as the managers of such evacuation centers during an emergency response. Outreach campaigns will also be organized to increase awareness levels of local communities regarding protection of open spaces and to enhance their understanding and preparedness.

Likewise, the project will make an effort to conduct awareness programs through "Kung Fu Nuns of Kathmandu" which belongs to an order of Himalayan Buddhism. These Nuns were very pro-active during the time of 2015 earthquake to raise awareness about human trafficking and sensitizing the community with women empowerment messages. With their advanced athletic techniques, these Buddhist nuns are perfect examples of their teachings on gender equality. As women and girls post crisis/disaster become more susceptible to violence and exploitation their techniques, preaching and learning could be very useful. The training campaigns will build capacity, as the nuns will be mobilized to enhance disaster preparedness as well as gender equality and reduce risk among women and girls in communities within the selected Municipalities.

For more information, please contact:

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