

Policy and Programs (Institutionalization of DRRM)

In the process of replacing the Natural Calamity Relief Act of 1982 with a new Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act 2017, IOM Nepal provided technical support to the Government of Nepal. IOM conducted a detailed capacity and needs assessment of 14 municipalities in relation to the implementation of the DRRM Act 2017 and in line with the provisions of the Constitution of Nepal. Through the assessment, IOM generated a baseline on needs and capacity gaps that guided the technical support to municipal and provincial governments.

IOM also supported the establishment of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA). To mainstream DRRM into provincial plans and policies, Provincial Planning Commissions (PPC) are technically supported, and a series of strategic consultative meetings have been held with the Members of Parliament (MPs) of the Provincial Assembly as well as the PDMC members and MoIAL staff.

Consultations were held with MPs at the Federal and Provincial Level were conducted on the roles of MPs on mainstreaming DRRM into law making process. The consultations reached 284 (209 males and 75 females) MPs at Federal and Provincial Assembly.

SHELTER AND CCCM

IOM co-leads the Camp Management and Camp Coordination (CCCM) cluster and support the national lead agency, the Department of Building Construction and Building Codes.

IOM has experience in responding to the 2008 Koshi floods, 2014 mid-western floods, 2015 earthquakes and 2017 Terai floods. During the 2015 earthquakes response, the key achievements were:

- Shelter and non-food items distributed to 297,876 households, reaching approximately 1,489,380 individuals;
- Awareness raised for 2,272 individuals on gender based violence, safe migration, and referral mechanism for gender-based violence (GBV) cases;
- 40,700 Information and Education Communication materials on the risks of human trafficking and unsafe migration disseminated in the post-earthquake settings;
- 3,647 local laborers, including 1,498 women engaged in Cash for Work programmes; and
- 499 individual patients with earthquake related injuries and disabilities assisted through discharge from hospital, referral to step-down or specialist care, and/or assisted return to home or preferred community.

IOM Nepal has supported CCCM capacity building to the government authorities through CCCM trainings to share camp management tools and techniques, humanitarian and protection principles and SPHERE standards in 14 highly earthquake affected districts of Nepal. Working closely with the National Security Forces (Nepal Army, Nepal Police, Armed Police Forces), IOM Nepal has provided trainings on CCCM response linking with search and rescue for their immediate role for managing the internally displaced persons especially within the 72 hours and until any camp management agencies are present in the displacement sites is to ensure that needed assistance and protection is provided.

IOM has built eight multipurpose centers that could be used as evacuation centers in an event of a disaster to reduce risk and build resilience of the vulnerable communities in the eight worst 2015 earthquake hit districts through People to People Support for Building Community Resilience Through Recovery and Reconstruction in Nepal (P2P) project. 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.

Capacity Building of Government Officials

Through a baseline assessment conducted in relation to the DRRM ACT 2017, IOM developed training modules and conducted trainings to enhance capacity of the municipalities in relation to DRRM and post-disaster recovery. 133 (89 males and 44 females) elected representatives and municipal staffs received the capacity building training.

Building on the above, Training of Trainers (ToT) focusing on localization of the DRRM Act 2017 have been conducted with provincial and local-level DRRM focal persons in all seven Provinces. The ToTs enhance the local DRRM capacity and support the drafting/revision of local DRRM Acts and/or Strategic Action Plans. The trained DRRM focal persons will form a monitoring committee in each district to ensure the development and revision of policy, guidelines and strategies.

A total of 19 PTOTs were conducted through which 349 (304 males and 45 females) were trained in 2020 and 2021. The Provincial ToTs will be followed up by local trainings covering all 753 municipalities, expected to reach 18,825 persons in 2022.

IOM oriented and contributed to enhanced capacity of local government officials and advocated for the development of plans, polices and regulations that address the protection and usage of open spaces.

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in DRRM

In addition, separate orientation workshops with women representative's and leaders of the provinces have been organized to highlight their role and responsibilities in strengthening emergency preparedness, response and recovery while taking into consideration the issue of gender into each phase of the cycle.

For Training of Trainers conducted at Provincial level across seven provinces on localization of DRRM Act 2017, the gender equality and social inclusion has been given priority through inclusive and meaningful participation to increase awareness and build capacity on DRRM amongst these groups.

Collaboration with 3 tiers of Government

IOM has conducted a series of consultations at the federal, provincial, and municipal level with a multitude of stakeholders to solicit feedback on the draft regulations as well as to discuss the importance of a powerful and resourced National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) for effective DRRM in Nepal through 'Technical Support to Government of Nepal to Implement Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act' project. The consultations and workshops in the provincial and municipal level guided and initiated discussions in line with the DRRM Act and also include their roles in the implementation guidelines that has been drafted by Ministry of Home Affairs. The feedback and suggestions collected during these consultations and workshops have been reflected in the guideline and also addressed in the NDRRMA provincial committee.

Through 'Promoting Action for Disaster Risk Governance and Working to Achieve Preparedness for Risk Reduction through Technical Assistance in Nepal (PARIWARTAN)' project, IOM aims to assist GoN to enhance the DRRM governance at federal, provincial and local levels. In order to achieve this, the project will support in strengthening the legal framework of both the provincial and local levels taking into account the roles and responsibilities of the federal, provincial as well as local governments for effective and efficient disaster prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery activities.



Provincial training of trainers at Bagmati Province (September, 2021)

Data and Information Management

IOM has been working on data and information management concerning open-space identification through three projects: Identification and Management of Open Spaces for Disaster Preparedness (IMOS), Preparedness and Management of Open Spaces for Effective Humanitarian Response in the Kathmandu Valley (P-MOS) and the People to People Support for Building Community Resilience Through Recovery and Reconstruction in Nepal (P2P) projects.

Through the projects, 83 open spaces in Kathmandu Valley and 40 in the western region have been identified and mapped within. The projects have also included awareness raising to communities about open spaces, promoting open-space preservation and capacity building of national and district stakeholders on Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM).

The importance of identifying and mapping open spaces for preparedness and risk reduction is also reflected in the National Policy for Disaster Risk Reduction 2018 for Nepal. IOM has been supporting the Government of Nepal with the

Media and DRRM

To create awareness on disaster risk management and response, a televised program on disaster management was aired to inform communities about existing government acts and policies, evacuation plans, open spaces, early response and relief and recovery (June 2018 - May 2019). A total of fifty episodes was aired: fifteen episodes at the central level, 3 episodes each at the provincial level and two episodes each in selected municipal and rural municipal levels from all seven provinces (which include the involvement of communities and local people throughout the whole process).

With the success in reaching out to different high-risk provinces, districts and municipalities and raise awareness with regards to their role and responsibilities for the effective implementation of DRRM Act 2017, another 52 episodes of 'Talk of the Town' over the course of one year, was aired

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identification, mapping and protection of open spaces to be used for humanitarian purposes since 2013.



Open-space mapping conducted by drones (July, 2019).

covering the federal, provincial and local levels.

Considering the COVID-19 pandemic and the monsoon impacts, 5 episodes were aired on preparedness and response. The episodes focused on sensitizing the Government and community people by making them aware of timely monsoon preparedness and effective response through comprehensive media awareness program. In line with mainstreaming the DRRM, the media sensitization workshops have been held across seven provinces to enhance role of media in all stages of DRRM (prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery), analyze current situation of journalism across various media channels and discuss on challenges faced by media in DRRM reporting in provincial and local level



Participant presenting on DRRM issues (September, 2021).