

THE PATH TO HOUSING RECOVERY

NEPAL EARTHQUAKE 2015: HOUSING RECONSTRUCTION



SEPTEMBER 2018



Photo: HRRP Nepal

The Housing Recovery and Reconstruction Platform (HRRP)

was established in December 2015 to take over supporting coordination of the post-earthquake housing reconstruction from the Nepal Shelter Cluster, as it returned to the pre-earthquake format as a standing cluster. The platform provides coordination support services for the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA), Building and Grant Management and Local Infrastructure (GMALI) Central Level Programme Implementation Units (CLPIUs), other relevant government authorities, and Partner Organisations (POs). Phase 3 of the HRRP was approved by the Government of Nepal (GoN) at the beginning of March 2017 and will run until the end of February 2019. HRRP3 is primarily funded by DFID Nepal and CRS Nepal. Other financial contributors and implementing partners include Oxfam, Caritas Nepal, Plan International, National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET), and Habitat for Humanity.

The HRRP has 12 District Coordination Teams (DCTs) primarily focused on the 14 districts most affected by the 2015 Gorkha earthquake (1 team covers the three districts in the Kathmandu Valley) and providing support to the 18 moderately affected districts where feasible. The DCTs are made up of a Coordinator, a Technical Coordinator, and an Information Management Officer. The DCTs are supported by a District Management Team (DMT) made up of a Coordinator, Technical Coordinator, and Information Manager. The DMT provides day to day guidance and support to the DCTs as well as targeted capacity building and has a roving presence across all districts. The national team includes general coordination, technical coordination, and information management expertise and supports the link between national and district level.

The HRRP has four main areas of focus:

- **Monitoring and documenting the housing reconstruction process**
- **Improving coverage and quality of socio-technical assistance**
- **Addressing gaps and duplications**
- **Advocacy and communications**

HRRP teams:

- **General Coordination:** research, advocacy, reporting, liaison with reconstruction actors, facilitating interaction between reconstruction actors, and planning and coordinating field activities.
- **Technical Coordination:** harmonisation of technical approaches, support for development of technical guidelines, orientations and support to technical field staff, and facilitation of technical sessions and working groups.
- **Information Management:** tracking activities, visualisation and analysis of data, and capacity building support to reconstruction actors on IM and data management.

Phase 3 of the HRRP was approved by the Government of Nepal (GoN) at the beginning of March 2017 and will run until the end of February 2019. The primary funders of HRRP3 are DFID and CRS. The platform is led by CRS Nepal. The National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET), as an implementing partner, is leading on the technical coordination component of HRRP3. Other financial or in-kind contributions have come from the GoN, SDC, Caritas Nepal, Plan International, Oxfam, WSP, ACTED, Christian Aid, and Habitat for Humanity. Based on requests from the GoN, donors, and other reconstruction actors possible options for extending HRRP3 until the end of July 2019, and for a fourth phase of the platform which would run until the end of July 2021 are currently being explored.

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Primary Funding:



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SEPTEMBER 2018

First Edition: April, 2018
Second Edition: May, 2018
Third Edition: September 2018



www.hrrpnepal.org

Introduction

The 25 April 2015 Gorkha Earthquake, and the hundreds of aftershocks that followed, including a M6.8 on 12 May 2015, caused loss of life and widespread damage to houses and infrastructure across 32 districts of Nepal. The Government of Nepal (GoN) categorised these districts as severely hit (7 districts), crisis hit (7 districts), hit with heavy losses (5 districts), hit (6 districts), and slightly affected (7 districts, at the time of the earthquake this was 6 districts but with the new governance structure Nawalparasi has been divided into two districts; Nawalpur and Parasi).

The Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA), published by the GoN in June 2016, identified housing as the most affected sector with the per capita average cost of earthquake damage ranging from 255,860 NPRs in Dolakha to 43,800 NPRs in Makwanpur, at an average of 130,000 NPRs per person across the 14 most affected districts. The PDNA also estimated that an additional 2.5% to 3.5% of the population, at least 700,000 people, would be pushed into poverty in the year following the quake as a result of the disaster.

Immediately after the April 2015 earthquake, emergency shelter assistance was provided to more than 1.2 million houses in the 14 most affected districts. The response then progressed to addressing temporary shelter needs with 699,157 households in the 14 most affected districts receiving a 15,000 NPRs cash grant, or shelter materials of an equivalent value. The GoN, through the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA), began planning the owner-driven housing reconstruction programme in June 2015. The programme includes a housing reconstruction grant of 300,000 NPRs, provided by the GoN in three tranches linked to compliant construction; 50,000 NPRs upon signing a partnership agreement with the GoN, a further 150,000



NPRs after completing the foundation, and a final 100,000 NPRs after completing the walls. A retrofitting grant of 100,000 NPRs is also available to households whose homes have been partially damaged. This grant is provided in two

tranches of 50,000 NPRs. The NRA and HRRP defined a core package of socio-technical assistance activities to complement the GoN financial assistance.

As of 12 September 2018, the Grant Management and Local Infrastructure (GMALI) Central Level Programme Implementation Unit (CLPIU) reports that of the 810,196 households eligible for the 300,000 NPRs GoN housing reconstruction grant, 89% have now signed the partnership agreement with the GoN, 88% have received the first tranche (50,000 NPRs), 61% have received the second tranche (150,000 NPRs), and 32% have received the third tranche (100,000 NPRs). Of the 50,784 households eligible for the GoN housing retrofit grant, 18% have signed the partnership agreement with the GoN, 16% have received the first tranche (50,000 NPRs), and just one household has received the second tranche (50,000 NPRs). Through these grants, the GoN has so far disbursed more than 1.35 billion USD to earthquake affected households. In addition, more than 150 million USD has been invested by the GoN and Partner Organisations (POs) in socio-technical assistance.

This document presents a timeline of key points so far in the housing recovery. Looking at the timeline it is clear that the limited time during the year when construction is possible - as a result of cold, snow, storms and rain - has significantly impacted on people's recovery. However, this emphasises the enormous efforts made by people at all levels, but most of all by those in earthquake affected communities, to reach where we are today.

There are many lessons from the recovery process so far which demand reflection; we must learn from these and carry them forward in the years ahead to the completion of the housing reconstruction. This version of the timeline now includes a section providing an overview of a selection of key events prior to the 2015 Gorkha earthquake. This is an attempt to highlight the decades of work on earthquake preparedness and response in Nepal which preceded the 25 April 2015. We apologise in advance for anything important we have missed in this section and look forward to support from partners to make improvements where required.



Photo: People in Need

Key principles for reconstruction as identified in the PDNA:

- Reconstruction should empower communities to take control of their recover facilitated through the Owner Driven Reconstruction (ODR) approach.
- Reconstruction should apply “integrated safer settlement” principles where appropriate, involving the principles of holistic habitat development with an emphasis on basic services and community infrastructure.
- Reconstruction should become a vehicle for building long-term community resilience.
- Reconstruction should strengthen the local economy through processes supportive of the poor, marginalised and informal sector. It should provide an opportunity for the poor to upgrade their overall living and economic conditions.
- Reconstruction should ensure sustainable and environmentally conscious processes that keep in mind issues such as climate change, natural resource management, and scientific riskassessments.
- Reconstruction should be equitable and inclusive, with equal rights to land and property accorded to women.
- Reconstruction should be initiated through targeted strategies that address the specific needs of the diverse communities and settlements affected by the earthquakes.

1934

15 January

Nepal-Bihar earthquake of 8.4M results in more than 8,519 deaths in Nepal



Bhaktapur Darbar Square before and after 1934 Earthquake

Photo: National Seismological Centre Nepal

1988

21 August

6.9M earthquake resulted in 721 deaths in Nepal

Ministry of Physical Planning and Works (MPPW) established. **Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC)** also established with 26 divisional offices and Town Development Executive Committees (TDECs). These are the government institutions responsible for urban development and housing planning in Nepal.



1993

Lumanti Support Group for Shelter registered as an NGO. Organisation is “dedicated to alleviating urban poverty in Nepal through integrated approach of improving shelter conditions”.

National Society for Earthquake Technology - Nepal (NSET) established (registered as an NGO in 1994)

South-central part of Nepal experienced unprecedented floods, landslides, and debris flows following heavy rainfall in July and August. The total effect of the two events was 1,460 people dead or missing, 73,606 families seriously affected, and 39,043 houses destroyed.

1987

Ministry of Housing and Physical Planning established



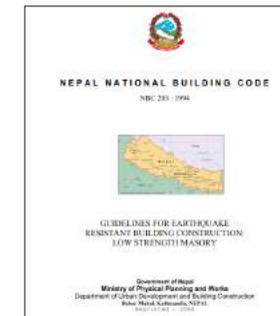
26 new municipalities declared, brings total to 36

National Building Code Development Project (BCDP) starts

1992

1994

Nepal National Building Code published



1959

10 municipalities in Nepal



1997

Building Act passed. Introduces provisions for building permits to be issued by Municipalities and Village Development Committees (VDCs)

1999

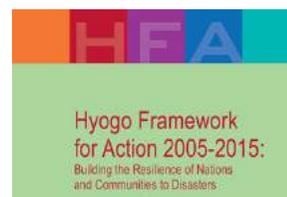
Department of Housing, Building, and Infrastructure renamed **Department of Urban Development and Building Construction** (DUDBC)

Local Self-Governance Act passed. Delegated authority for the design and implementation of DRR activities to local government through District Development Committees (DDCs), municipalities and Village Development Committees (VDCs)

2005

18-22 January

Second World Conference on Disaster Reduction, **Hyogo Framework for Action** (2005–2015) agreed, Government of Nepal commits to national level implementation of the framework.



2008

Koshi river flood affects more than 11,500 households across 6 districts. Shelter cluster (and other clusters) activated and shelter cluster becomes standing cluster

Draft **Contingency Plan for Emergency Shelter** prepared by DUDBC with support from UNOCHA, IFRC, and UN HABITAT.



Photo: Nepal Army

1996

22 new municipalities declared, brings total to 58



Disaster Preparedness Network-Nepal (DPNet-Nepal) formed as an umbrella organisation for national and international agencies, with the objective of facilitating coordination, collaboration, learning and experience sharing, and avoiding duplication in emergency response.

Government of Nepal publishes the **National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Management**

National Shelter Policy defines the role of central government in shelter delivery as a facilitator, rather than a provider.

Ministry of Home Affairs published **National Comprehensive Plan on Disaster Management**. The plan emphasised the improvement of national capacity for disaster management and institutional structures.

2007

National Urban Policy published by the Ministry of Physical Planning and Works (MPPW). Policy includes framework for reduction of vulnerability to risk through local level planning on the road network, open spaces, etc.



Nepal Risk Reduction Consortium (NRRRC) formed with five flagships; 1 – school and hospital safety, 2 – emergency preparedness and response, 3 – flood management in the Koshi river basin, 4 – community based disaster risk management, and 5 – policy / institutional support for Disaster Risk Management (DRM)

2009

May

Government of Nepal approves **National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management**

Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MoFALD) produces **Local Disaster Risk Management Planning (LDRMP)** guidelines for municipalities and VDCs

18 September

Sikkim earthquake of 6.9M killed 11 people in Nepal, caused damage to 100s of houses in eastern Nepal, as well as triggering landslides



Photo: China Daily

April

'Guidelines for masons training on earthquake resilient building construction' published by UNDP and Government of Nepal. Guidelines are for training existing masons on earthquake resilient techniques and will form the foundation of the 7 day masons training course used after the 2015 Gorkha Earthquake.



Photo: NSET

October

NSET-Nepal launch **'Building Code Implementation Program in Municipalities of Nepal' (BCIPN)** with funding support from US Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA). BCIPN works to build capacity of municipalities to implement building code. In 2010, just 10% of houses in BCIPN working areas were fully compliant. In 2015, after 3 years of the BCIPN programme, this number had jumped to 50% and a further 30% of houses were very close to compliance and could be considered earthquake resilient.

2011

2012

201



Under NRRC flagship 4, **'Nine Minimum Characteristics'** for a disaster resilient community in Nepal are agreed with DRR actors and government.

Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) produces **Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan (DPRP)** guidelines for district level and suggests DPRPs should be prepared at VDC level also

MoHA formalised **'District Lead Support Agency' (DLSA)** role and a DLSA was appointed for each of the 75 districts to support with preparation of Disaster Preparedness and Response Plans (DPRPs) and disaster response if required

18 May

Ministry of Urban Development formed

MoFALD produces **'Guidelines for the formulation of District Disaster Management Plans'**

April
Under the Local Governance and Community Development Programme (LGCDP) **ICT volunteers are deployed** in 75 District Development Committees (DDCs) and in 50 municipalities

May
72 new municipalities declared, brings total to 130



14-18 March
Government of Nepal delegation joins global DRR community at **UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, Japan** where a new international framework for DRR, the Sendai Framework, is agreed



15 March
Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) publish report **identifying open spaces in the Kathmandu Valley** which could be used for humanitarian purposes in the event of an earthquake.

2013

2014

2015



Photo: GoN Ministry of Irrigation

2 August
Massive landslide in Jure, Mankhaa Village Development Committee, Sindhupalchowk caused loss of life, displaced 5,000 families, and created a high artificial dam across the Saptakoshi River, one of the main tributaries of the Koshi River, blocking the flow of water completely.

14-16 August
Heavy rain caused **massive floods and several landslides across 18 districts** affecting almost 35,000 families and killing 53 people. The floods and landslides damaged roads, bridges, local markets, transport vehicles as well as livestock and crops. More than 1,240 houses were destroyed and 435 houses were damaged.

December
61 new municipalities declared, brings total to 191



April
District Lead Support Agencies (DLSAs) Terms of Reference (ToR) revised by Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA)

25 April 2015

M7.6 earthquake, 11:56 NST
epicentre Gorkha
8,790 people died
22,300 people injured



Photo: Shelter Cluster, Nepal

Emergency shelter support provided to 1.2 million+ households, this included tarpaulins, blankets and bedding. In the first few weeks of response, biggest providers of emergency food and shelter support were local businesses, CSOs, and communities themselves – demonstrating a high level of solidarity and local strength in response.

Initial Rapid Damage Assessment conducted by the Government of Nepal, **Red Card** system launched to identify earthquake beneficiaries



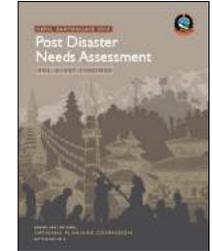
Shelter Cluster Nepal launches **Technical Working Group (TWG)** on Technical Assistance and Training for Recovery

May 2015



Photo: Shelter Cluster, Nepal

25 June
 Post Disaster Needs Assessment (**PDNA**) launched



APRIL

MAY

JUNE

15 Partner Organisations reporting emergency shelter support (shelter cluster 4w)

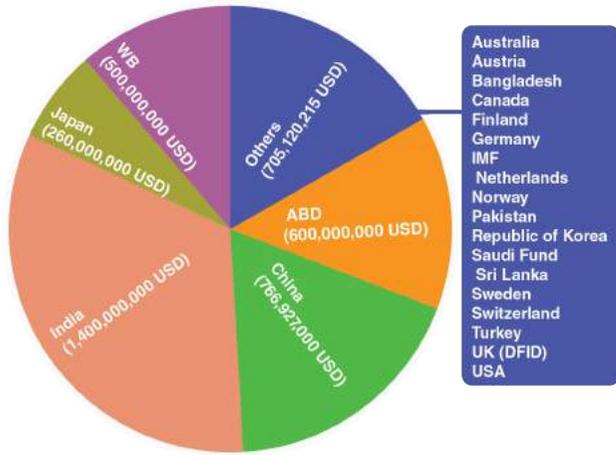
PO

Temporary shelter support starts. GoN / POs provide cash grant of 15,000 NPRs or material equivalent to 650,000+ households.



12 May

Biggest aftershock, M7.3, 12:50 NST
epicentre Dolakha
218 died
2500+ injured



4.4 billion USD (two thirds of total appeal) committed by international donors to support recovery and reconstruction at donor conference.

August 2015

13 August
Cabinet establishes **National Reconstruction Authority (NRA)**, **Dr. Govinda Raj Pokharel** appointed CEO

31 August
NRA loses legal status

September 2015

16 September 2015
Constitution promulgated

26 new municipalities declared, brings total 217



1,430 masons trained by Partner Organisations (POs) and GoN (HRRP 4W)

JULY

June – September Monsoon season, generally less construction work takes place

July 2015



Inter-Agency Common Feedback Project

Periodic Household Survey (2100+ Respondents)

74%

Do not feel their main reconstruction needs are being addressed

Do not have the information they need to access reconstruction support

67%

AUGUST

19 August

Flowminder reports that, with the exception of Rasuwa, all of the 14 of most affected districts, have experienced an inflow of people since the earthquake



Shelter Cluster

10 September

Shelter Cluster Recovery and Reconstruction Working Group (RRWG) launched



Inter-Agency Common Feedback Project

Periodic Household Survey (2100+ Respondents)

72%

Do not feel their main reconstruction needs are being addressed

Do not have the information they need to access reconstruction support

51%

SEPTEMBER

September 2015 – March 2016, unrest in the Terai

POs report 200 million USD in place for housing recovery and reconstruction. Shelter Cluster estimates indicate this would be enough to cover the delivery of the **minimum socio-technical assistance package** to all affected households in the **32 districts.**

WET

Minimal construction during monsoon (June - September)

October 2015

DUDBC Design Catalogue Vol. 1 published. The catalogue states "It is not mandatory for households to select a design from this catalogue, and they are free to prepare house designs outside of the catalogue but these designs must comply with the National Building Code".



Photo: Chetraj Ojha, DLPIU

25 December
Mr. Sushil Gyawali appointed as CEO

21 December
Reconstruction Act 2072 issued and NRA's Policy Act formed

7 December
National Consultation Workshop on the draft **National Plan of Action for Safer Building Construction** prepared by the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) and Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC)

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

October 2015 – March 2016: Winterisation support of 10,000 NPRs in cash or in-kind support provided based on Shelter Cluster guidance.

September 2015 – March 2016, unrest in the Terai and blockade at the borders



Photos: Shelter Cluster, Nepal

HRRP Phase 1 launched, led by IOM and UN Habitat, taking over responsibility for supporting the coordination of the housing recovery efforts from the Nepal Earthquake Shelter Cluster.



115 Partner Organisations reporting emergency shelter support (shelter cluster 4w)



31 December
The Nepal Shelter Cluster reverts to pre-earthquake form as a standing cluster focusing on preparedness and contingency planning

Construction challenges during Winter (November - February)

COLD.

15 January
CBS Detail Damage Assessment starts



Photo: HRRP Nepal

March 2016

13 March 2016
A pilot enrolment held in Singati, Dolakha, for households from Lamidada and Laduk VDCs.

31 March
Cabinet approved NRA NGO Mobilisation Guidelines launched.

15 January - 20 June: Detailed Damage Assessment conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), to determine eligibility for GoN housing reconstruction grant in 11 of the most affected districts (not including three Kathmandu Valley districts). 762,106 households surveyed using a census model in which each household is visited and assessed by a trained enumerator.

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

September 2015 – March 2016, unrest in the Terai and blockade at the borders

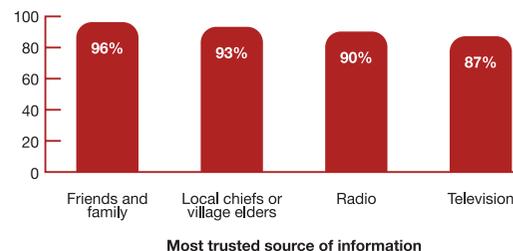
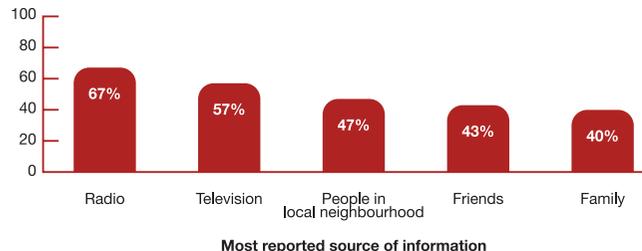
BBC Media Action research



Photo: HRRP Nepal

62 Partner Organisations supporting housing reconstruction (HRRP 4w)

PO



April 2016

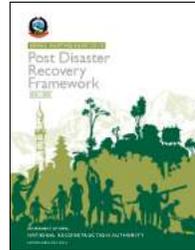
20,160 masons trained by POs (HRRP 4W)



Mid-April NRA begins signing reconstruction grant agreements in 10 districts outside Kathmandu Valley

May 2016

Post Disaster Recovery Framework (PDRF) launched



June 2016

GoN deploys 2,500+ engineers, sub-engineers, and assistant sub-engineers supporting housing reconstruction in 14 worst affected districts.



Photo: DLPIU Gorkha

APRIL

MAY

JUNE



Photo: CRS Nepal

24 May

450+ aftershocks reported with magnitudes equal to or above M4 since April 25th 2015 (51 equal to or above M5, 5 above M6). 20,000+ aftershocks of less than M4 reported.

Inter-Agency Common Feedback Project



Periodic Household Survey (2100+ Respondents)

82%

Do not feel their main reconstruction needs are being addressed

Do not know how to access reconstruction support

62%

68 Partner Organisations supporting housing reconstruction (HRRP 4W)

PO

July 2016

7th NRA Steering Committee meeting agrees to increase the GoN housing reconstruction grant from 200,000 NPRs to 300,000 NPRs.



August 2016

Procedures for handling of grievances related to reconstruction published by NRA



Photos: CRS Nepal

September 2016

29,340 masons trained by POs and GoN (HRRP 4W)



JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

11 July - 15 September: The Detailed Damage Assessment, conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), to determine eligibility for the GoN housing reconstruction grant is carried out in three Kathmandu Valley districts. Almost 114,414 households are surveyed under a system in which households certified by the local village and municipal authorities as earthquake-affected are assessed.

Inter-Agency Common Feedback Project



Periodic Household Survey (2100+ Respondents)

74% Do not feel their main reconstruction needs are being addressed

67% Do not have the information they need to access reconstruction support



Phase 2 of the HRRP launched, led by IOM

WET

Minimal construction during monsoon (June - September)

October 2016

Community Reconstruction Committees Directive published by NRA

November 2016

Inspection guidelines and associated Inspection Forms published by NRA.



December 2016

19 December
Participation Agreements signed by **475,000+** households in **11 districts**, almost **450,000** received **first tranche** of the reconstruction grant. (GoN Reports)

25 December
 First phase of **geo-hazard risk assessment** begins. NRA teams deployed.

29 December
Grant Disbursement Procedures for Private Houses Destroyed by the Earthquakes approved by Cabinet

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER



Photo: HRRP Nepal



25 November

Socio-Technical Assistance (STA) coverage (HRRP 4W)

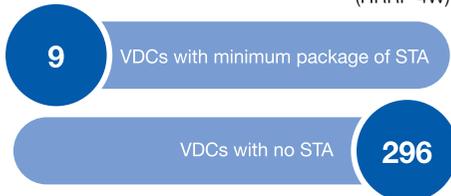


Photo: Baliyo Ghar, NSET

Construction challenges during Winter (November - February)

COLD.

January 2017

- 10 January
Dr. Govind Raj Pokharel appointed NRA CEO
- Refinancing Procedures for Reconstruction of Private Houses published by NRA
- Government of Nepal publishes National Urban Development Strategy

31 January
Cabinet approves first revision to NRA NGO Mobilisation Guidelines



March 2017

DUDBC Design Catalogue Volume 2 published, including designs for alternative technologies such as confined hollow concrete block masonry, hollow concrete block masonry, compressed stabilised earth block masonry, bamboo and stone masonry hybrid structures, and timber structures.

Inspection Forms (first and second inspection) published for dry stone masonry, and houses constructed using sun-dried bricks.



46 new municipalities declared, brings total to 263

21 November 2016 – 14 April 2017: Detailed damage assessment, conducted by Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) to determine eligibility for GoN housing reconstruction grant, carried out in 18 'moderately affected' districts. 176,428 households surveyed with system in which local village and municipal authorities certify households as earthquake affected.

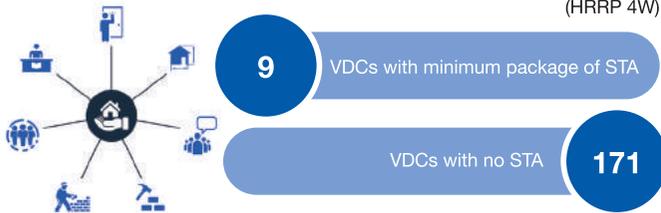
JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

25 January

Socio-Technical Assistance (STA) coverage (HRRP 4W)



February 2017

Inter-Agency Common Feedback Project

Periodic Household Survey (2100+ Respondents)



55% Do not feel their main reconstruction needs are being addressed

Now have the information they need to access reconstruction support **58%**

PO 81 Partner Organisations supporting housing reconstruction (HRRP 4w)



Phase 3 of the HRRP launched, led by CRS Nepal

May 2017

7 May
Grant Disbursement Procedures for Private Houses Destroyed by the Earthquakes revised to reflect **increase in grant** (from 200,000 NPRs to 300,000 NPRs) and **repair and retrofitting grant** (100,000 NPRs)



14 May
First phase of local elections.
 The ToR set out for Locally Elected Bodies.

April 2017



43,310 masons trained by POs and GoN (HRRP 4W)

7 April
 Cabinet approves **second revision to NRA NGO Mobilisation Guidelines**

Partnership Agreements process begins in **18 moderately affected districts** with households eligible for reconstruction grant

15 May
Corrections and Exceptions Manual published by NRA.



Inspection form for houses constructed with dry stone masonry published by NRA.

NRA toll-free number launched.
 16600172000 (NTC), 9801572111 (NCELL)

Procedures for interest-free loans to earthquake victims based on collective guarantee published by NRA

June 2017

23 June
Criteria for purchasing habitable lands for earthquake victims published by MoFALD CLPIU.



28 June
Second phase of local elections.

27 'District Support Engineers' deployed across 14 districts by NRA, with support from UNDP, based in the MoUD DL-PIU offices, provide guidance and back up for field engineers.



Under Federal Administration restructuring **6 metropolitan cities, 11 sub-metropolitan cities, 276 municipalities, and 460 rural municipalities** are declared

Local Governance and Community Development Programme (LGCDP) allocates budget to all 753 municipalities (under new administrative structure) for **hiring of IT officer**

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

Inter-Agency Common Feedback Project

Periodic Household Survey (2100+ Respondents)

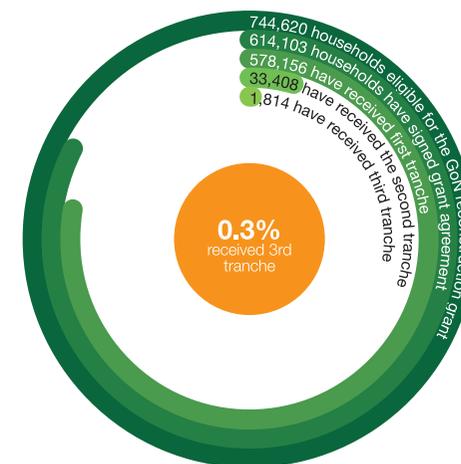
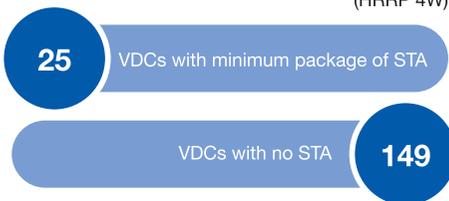


53% Feel their main reconstruction needs are being addressed

Have the information they need to access reconstruction support **75%**

25 April

Socio-Technical Assistance (STA) coverage (HRRP 4W)



Source: MoFALD June 2017

September 2017

51,270 masons trained by POs and GoN (HRRP 4W)

18 September
Third phase of local elections.

25 September
Repair and Retrofitting Manual for Masonry and RCC Structures and Hybrid Structures Manual published by NRA

Government of Nepal passes the Disaster Management Act. Includes provision for establishment of a National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA).



August 2017

Relocation and Rehabilitation of Hazard-prone Settlements procedures published by NRA

Flooding. 12 districts heavily affected.
9,850 houses destroyed
301,500 families affected
44,700 families temporarily displaced
131 people killed
32 people missing
30 people injured



Photo: People in Need

July 2017

Deadlines set by NRA for Disbursement of Housing Reconstruction Grant.

Grant agreement signing: November 16, 2017

First tranche: January 13, 2018

Second tranche: April 13, 2018

Third tranche: July 15, 2018

10 August – 16 September 2017: resurvey and verification conducted to address grievances with detailed damage assessment

JULY

AUGUST

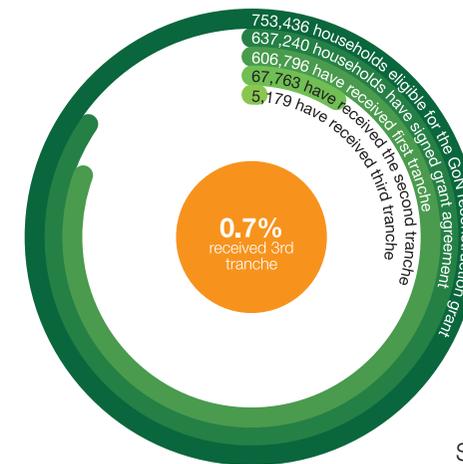
SEPTEMBER



Photos: Pradipraj Onta



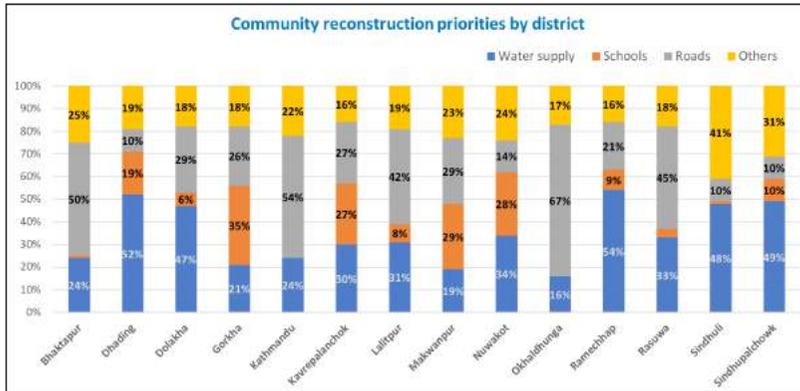
Photos: Niranjana Shrestha



Source: MoFALD September 2017

WET

Minimal construction during monsoon (June - September)



December 2017 Inter-Agency Common Feedback Project report. **Water supply remains an issue in 14 districts** (see graph). 37% of respondents say water supply is the biggest community reconstruction need followed by roads (31%) and schools (13%).

The report recommends continued restoration of access to necessary water supply for affected communities.

December 2017

450+ engineers, sub-engineers, and assistant sub-engineers deployed by the GoN to support housing reconstruction in the **18 moderately affected districts**.

Flood Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) launched

October 2017

23 October
Mr. Yuburaj Bhusal appointed NRA CEO

7 November
Inspection form for houses constructed with sundried bricks published by NRA.



7 December
Second phase of federal and provincial elections.



26 November
First phase of federal and provincial elections.

31 December
Local Governance and Community Development Programme (LGCDP) support for social mobilisation under local authorities ends.
5,000+ social mobilisers supporting reconstruction no longer employed under local authorities

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

Average house construction cost is 675,000 NPRs (approx. USD 6,750). Almost 60% of respondents are or are planning to build using stone masonry with an average cost of 550,000 NPRs (approx. USD 5,500). **56% have taken loans** (or are planning to) to reconstruct their home, at an average interest rate of 23% p.a. (HRRP report on the cost of construction)

The Inter-Agency Common Feedback Project
Periodic Household Survey (2100+ Respondents)

50% Feel their main reconstruction needs are being addressed

Have the information they need to access reconstruction support **76%**

25 October

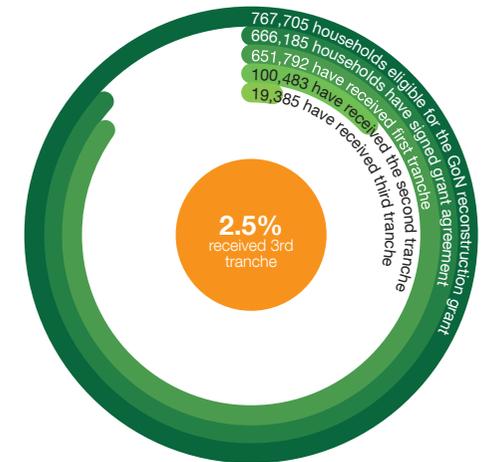
Socio-Technical Assistance (STA) coverage (HRRP 4W)

26 VDCs with minimum package of STA

VDCs with no STA **134**



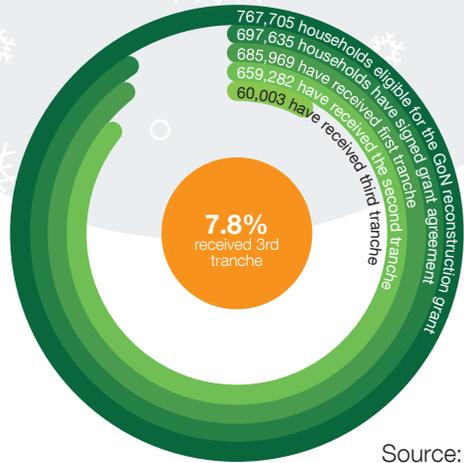
21 November
Clearing Away the Rubble: Moving Beyond Blockages to Reconstruction Progress launched (HRRP and Inter-Agency Common Feedback Project)



Source: MoFALD
December 2017

Construction challenges during Winter (November - February)

COLD.



Source: MoFALD
March 2018

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

9 February
Deadlines extended by NRA.
 Second tranche disbursement by 13 April 2018

21 February
Project Monitoring Information System launched by NRA

28 February
NRA toll-free number responded to **8,691 calls.**

March 2018

54,179 masons trained by POs and GoN, (HRRP 4W)



Light Timber / Steel Frame Structure Manual published by NRA.



25 February

Socio-Technical Assistance (STA) coverage (HRRP 4W)

27 VDCs with minimum package of STA

VDCs with no STA **124**

9 March
Women in Reconstruction Event.
 Continued gaps in effectively engaging and supporting women in housing reconstruction highlighted.

15 March
Temporary Shelter Status: 90%+ of respondents living in temporary shelter have not modified or improved their shelter since it was built

Women in Reconstruction: almost 50% women respondents have signed the Partnership Agreement with government in their own name.

Community Reconstruction Committees (CRCs): 50%+ of CRCs not receiving any support from reconstruction actors. (HRRP surveys and research)

PO **102 Partner Organisations** supporting housing recovery (HRRP 4W)

April 2018

3 April

Deadlines extended by NRA.
Second tranche disbursement by 16 July 2018

3 April

the MoUD and MoFALD Central and District Level Programme Implementation Units (**CLPIU and DLPIUs**) became the **Building and GMALI CLPIU and DLPIUs** and moved under the NRA

May 2018

15 May

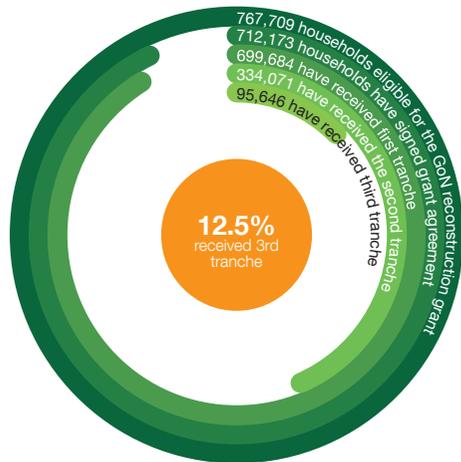
NRA published list of 18,505 households identified as vulnerable and requiring additional support for their housing recovery. These households were identified based on the following criteria:

- Senior Citizens above 70
- Single women above 65
- Persons living with disabilities (red and blue card holders)
- Children under 16



Source: Building and GMALI CLPIUs
June 2018

APRIL

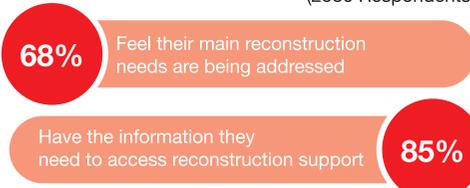


Source: MoFALD
April 2018

MAY

The Inter-Agency Common Feedback Project

Periodic Household Survey
(2580 Respondents)



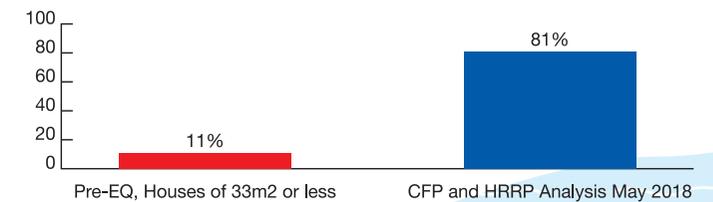
CFP and HRRP analysis **estimates 20% of houses being constructed are one room, one storey and 61% are two rooms, one storey.** When compared with CBS damage assessment data on pre-earthquake floor areas it appears that the reconstruction is causing a big change in house size.

JUNE

30 June

HRRP 4W phased out. Tracking of Partner Organisation activities transitioned to NRA 5W.

Comparison Pre and Post EQ



September 2018

16 July
Deadline for
disbursement of
second tranche
passes



Gatlang, Rasuwa: traditional house in the background and one room, one storey house being constructed in the foreground. The one room, one storey house is being constructed simply to access the Government of Nepal housing reconstruction grant.
Photo: DFID/Magnus Wolfe-Murray

August 2018

131 Partner Organisations supporting housing recovery (NRA 5W) **PO**

3 September
Report on NRA, Building DLPIU technical staff survey published. 51% did not receive training before deployment and 45% of respondents reported facing pressure or threats from households to pass their house and 29% reported facing pressure or threats from ward / municipal officials to pass certain houses.

6 September
NRA Steering Committee extends tranche disbursement deadlines; new deadline for second tranche disbursement is 15 January 2019 and new deadline for third tranche disbursement is 14 May 2019. The deadlines do not apply for households identified as eligible for the reconstruction / retrofit grant by re-survey/ verification, households in traditional settlements, and households that need to relocate. Steering Committee also decides to give the responsibility for monitoring and approving housing reconstruction / retrofit grant disbursement to municipal governments.

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

July 2018

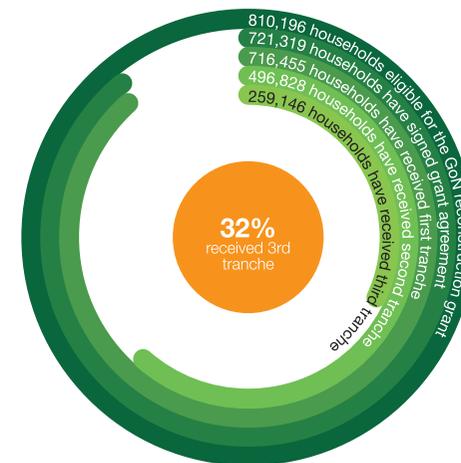
NRA announced approval of vulnerable support projects under five organisations; Mercy Corps, Care Nepal, People in Need, NRCS, and Practical Action

24 July

First meeting of Hollow Concrete Block Technical Working Group (TWG). The TWG includes representatives from NRA and Building CLPIU on the GoN side as well as representatives from the Partner Organisations (POs) Build Change, NRCS, and NSET. The HRRP technical coordination team is facilitating the TWG.

14 August
Sushil Gyawali appointed as CEO of the NRA. Mr Gyawali has served as CEO of the NRA previously from 25 December 2015 to 11 January 2017

65,282 masons trained by POs and GoN (NRA 5W)



Source: Building and GMALI CLPIUs
September 2018

WET

Minimal construction during monsoon (June - September)

Where to next?

“The quality of the housing reconstruction will determine how the overall reconstruction is viewed, if the housing reconstruction is well managed and effective then the reconstruction programme will be considered a success.”

General Nadeem
Retired Director of the Pakistan ERRA
Speaking with Shelter Cluster partners on 8 October 2015

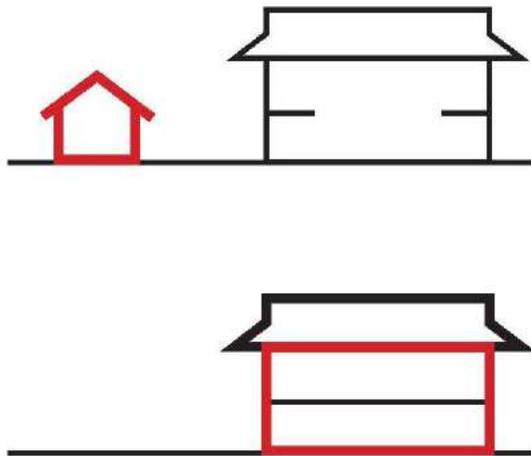
As we move in to the fourth building season since the April 2015 Gorkha Earthquake there are many positives that can be taken from progress to date; more than 1.35 billion USD has been disbursed to earthquake affected households by the Government of Nepal (GoN) through housing reconstruction and retrofit grants, more than 3,000 technical staff have been deployed by the GoN to carry out inspections and provide advice to households, 65,282 masons have been trained, a comprehensive geo-hazard risk assessment has been completed by the NRA and as of May 2018, 749 households eligible for the GoN relocation grant have resettled, and international donors and Partner Organisations have provided significant support to the GoN for the reconstruction efforts.

However, the progress with disbursement of the housing reconstruction grant is somewhat tarnished by the increasing trend of small houses being constructed just to access the grant. Issues with compliance are also increasing, particularly where households that have constructed small houses are beginning to look at extension of these structures. Can the housing reconstruction be considered successful if households build technically compliant households that do not meet their living requirements? Can it be considered successful if extensions to these small houses are not constructed in line with the building code potentially leaving households with pre-earthquake levels of vulnerability to earthquakes?

This is illustrated in the diagram; currently the housing reconstruction is predominantly the top section where households are using the grant to build small structures but are continuing to live in damaged pre-earthquake structures or are building new houses outside of the reconstruction programme and the building code. What the housing reconstruction grant is intended to do is the bottom section of the diagram – provide financial incentive for inclusion of earthquake resilient elements in rebuilt houses.



Photo: HRRP Nepal



“What went well, what could have gone better: learning from recovery in Nepal and Pakistan”, keynote presentation during Risk to Resilience conference in Kathmandu in June 2018.

Some steps, which could have a positive impact on the success of the housing recovery, are suggested below. These were developed in July 2018, with partners, as part of HRRP’s contribution to World Bank consultations with stakeholders on ‘Lessons Learning and Way Forward for the Housing Reconstruction Programme’.

Remove the tranche disbursement deadlines, or at least extend for the next two building seasons in rural areas and the next four in urban areas: unless the deadlines are removed or extended for an appropriate period of time, actions taken to improve the housing reconstruction are unlikely to have any impact.

Scale up coverage of socio-technical assistance, under a collective approach with common standards:

HRRP estimates that 75 million USD is required for socio-technical assistance to cover gaps and support households to completion of earthquake resilient houses across all 32 earthquake affected districts. This is just 7% of the amount of money yet to be disbursed through the GoN’s housing reconstruction grant.

Provide targeted support for vulnerable households and consider seasonal support or support for temporary shelter improvement: vulnerable and marginalised groups need specific, additional support to ensure that they are not left behind in the reconstruction process. This should include those that may not be

part of the formal reconstruction programme. Where households may take longer to reconstruct, seasonal support and / or support for temporary shelter improvement should be provided.

Address supply chain constraints and material quality issues and develop material vendors and producers as agents of technical assistance: national level action is required to address the increasing costs of construction materials. Need to invest in working with construction material producers and vendors to engage them as technical assistance agents and to address material quality issues.



Photo: DFID

Mass communications campaign required to address confusion, misinformation, and rumours:

standardised information to address common rumours and misinformation urgently needs to be widely distributed through a mass communications campaign. Increase engagement with national and local level media to develop their role in the reconstruction.

Develop solutions to address the potential debt crisis households are facing:

at current rates of borrowing and interest households are facing a huge debt crisis that has potential to negatively impact recovery and living standards in the long term.

Urban housing reconstruction needs investment and targeted policies and approaches:

urban reconstruction is a complex process and will require more time than rural reconstruction. Specific policies and incentives for urban reconstruction may need to be considered.

Increase support to the 18 moderately affected districts:

the 18 moderately affected districts have been neglected in terms of investment and support to date. Reconstruction support needs to be spread across all 32 earthquake affected districts moving forward.

Increase support for NRA, Building DLPIU engineers, sub-engineers, and assistant sub-engineers, and District Support Engineers:

these technical staff have an important role to play in the reconstruction in terms of the inspection process, but also as GoN representatives for the reconstruction process at household level and the sole source of technical assistance in many areas. Investment in supporting and developing the technical staff needs to reflect this and consider the impact on longer term technical capacity at local level.

Develop common approach for continuous capacity building support to municipal and ward officials on

reconstruction: local officials need continuous capacity building support on the housing reconstruction, under a common approach, if their impact on the reconstruction efforts is to be maximised.

Develop and disseminate design guidelines for alternative / emerging construction technologies and materials, and for traditional construction / architecture:

invest in training, printing, and information sharing to field level to ensure that technical manuals that have already been prepared are disseminated and utilised. Support NRA technical standardisation committee with

ongoing work to prepare manuals / design guidelines for other construction materials and technologies.

Invest in coordination at all levels: coordination only works if it is embraced at all levels and leads to an open, collaborative approach amongst all reconstruction actors.

Consider long term institutionalisation of recovery experience now, not just at the end of the reconstruction:

document and institutionalise recovery experience periodically and systematically now – not just at the end of the reconstruction.

“If we aim to ensure people are supported to take informed action, whether through building codes or other measures, we should anticipate an iterative process that is continuously learning, responding to opportunities and challenges.”

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Southasiadisasters.net, Issue No. 171




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