

APRIL 2016



50
YEARS

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ONE YEAR AFTER THE 25 APRIL EARTHQUAKE

Supporting Nepal to **Build Back Better**

Key Achievements in UNDP's Earthquake Response



Context

Two devastating earthquakes hit Nepal in April and May of 2015. The death toll climbed to over 8,700 while more than 22,000 people were injured. Out of 75 districts in Nepal, 33 were affected by the earthquakes, 14 of which were heavily damaged. In the hardest hit districts, as much as 95 percent of the structures were destroyed. Some 3 million people were displaced and hundreds of thousands of livelihoods are lost or damaged. Over 800,000 buildings were destroyed or damaged and public infrastructure lost, making government services slow to return.

UNDP, a long-standing partner of Nepal, has been at the fore of the earthquake early recovery and response. From co-leading the Early Recovery Cluster and facilitating the Post-disaster Needs Assessment, to engaging in emergency employment in debris clearance, UNDP has, and continues, to assist the Government of Nepal to recover from the disaster and build Nepal back better.

25 April

Magnitude
7.9

Gorkha district, 80 KM from Kathmandu,
population in the region: Over 2.5 million

12 May

Magnitude
6.7

Sindupalchok district
65km from Kathmandu



What We Do

UNDP is working through its established networks to deliver assistance to earthquake-affected communities. The Recovery Programme focuses on safe debris management for reconstruction, emergency employment and livelihoods recovery, rehabilitation of community infrastructure, local governance and public service delivery restoration, and disaster and climate risk management. Emphasis is put on accountability and transparency throughout the recovery, and on ensuring that existing vulnerabilities and inequalities, gender issues and environmental concerns are addressed.

How We Work

With a longstanding partnership with the Government of Nepal, UNDP delivers its earthquake recovery and reconstruction work through government systems. Effective national leadership for a resilient recovery is promoted through support and technical assistance to line ministries and local governments.

Debris Management for Reconstruction

With around 800,000 buildings destroyed or damaged, debris management is one of the most crucial priorities. With support from UN Volunteers (UNV), UNDP mobilized a team of 100 experts and civil engineers, along with 4,300 community members under cash-for-work, to assess and demolish 3,821 buildings and manage the debris. Part of the ongoing debris work focuses on public structures like schools and health posts allowing for the restoration of public services.





The Post-Disaster Needs Assessment

UNDER THE LEADERSHIP of the National Planning Commission (NPC), and in collaboration with the ADB, EU, JICA, and the World Bank, UNDP coordinated the UN system's contribution to the Post-disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA). In addition, UNDP provided technical assistance and led four sectors (DRR, human development impact, environment and governance), and managed the PDNA Secretariat.

The PDNA estimated that the total value of disaster effects (damages and losses) caused by the

earthquakes is NPR 706 billion (US\$7 billion).

On 25 June 2015, more than 300 delegates from 60 nations participated in the International Donors' Conference hosted by the Government of Nepal. The total pledges reached US\$4.07 billion, out of which, US\$1.97 billion would be provided as grants and US\$2.10 billion as loans. Priority sectors based on the pledges are: housing, education, health, livelihoods, and resilience and disaster management.



4,000 buildings assessed

3,821 buildings safely demolished



294,000 cubic metres of debris managed



Debris clearance and demolition teams on the ground with over **100** **experts and civil engineers.**

Almost **4,350** (40% women) **people** hired under the cash-for-work programme.



90 **young UN Volunteer engineers** led the debris management assessments and monitored cash-for-work teams. These young engineers are mentored and inspired to become demolition experts.

INNOVATION



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Bringing creative ideas to development and early recovery is essential to UNDP's way of working. Innovation, particularly with youth, has yielded excellent results such as in debris management, as well as in integrating renewable energy in public building reconstruction, and in debris management.

APPATHON 2015: UNDP and Microsoft Innovations Centre Nepal joined forces to bring teams of young people together to identify innovative ways youth can improve the reconstruction of Nepal. Over three days, 90 young Nepalis developed apps and web-based services such as volunteer hubs, virtual marketplaces, and community monitoring systems.

DEBRIS MANAGEMENT APP: Another excellent result of the partnership between UNDP and Microsoft was the debris management app that was rolled out in UNDP's early debris work. The app streamlined data gathering, kept track of hours and workers, and brought transparency and accountability to UNDP's emergency employment work.

Livelihoods and Economic Recovery

The earthquake affected the livelihoods of 2.3 million households and 5.6 million workers. Up to 90 percent of enterprises, markets and livelihoods were affected in the worst-hit districts. UNDP seeks to revitalize the hardest-hit areas and promote sustainable local economic recovery through supporting micro-enterprises, community infrastructure and skills building.



COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE



75,000

people benefiting from rehabilitated community infrastructure most notably improved access to clean water



75 community facilities and infrastructure rehabilitated in 3 districts

MICRO-ENTERPRISES

6,900

counselling and training
(63% women)



12,050

earthquake-affected enterprises were re-established

GENDER

UNDP's response to the Nepal earthquake focuses on bridging the gender divide through its interventions. Women and vulnerable groups have not only benefitted from these works, but also led the way in many regards. Through UNDP's support to the upgrading of building codes, Nepal has gender considerations included in its requirements such as locations of water sources, entrances and room positioning. Furthermore, UNDP ensures that women and vulnerable groups directly benefit from interventions like emergency employment and trainings.

20,000

women and vulnerable people benefited from mobile legal aid clinics

Installed

50

permanent and 5 portable solar systems in public buildings



Strengthening the National Reconstruction Authority

UNDP supports the National Reconstruction Authority as it rapidly scales up. Since its creation in January 2016, the NRA has received technical assistance from UNDP; most notably, three senior advisors and an executive assistant, coordination support for local-level planning, and significant support to the development of the **Post Disaster Recovery Framework** and several reconstruction guidelines and policies.

Restoring Local Governance Systems and Public Service Delivery

Local governance centres were badly hit by the disaster and in many villages and districts, public services have been slow to recover. The governance sector suffered US\$183 million worth of damages and losses. UNDP is assisting in the restoration of local governance systems; including justice, police, National Human Rights Committee, and legal aid to ensure affected communities have access to these services. Peace, gender equity and social cohesion issues cut across all UNDP's assistance during Nepal's recovery.



Installed **14** temporary government offices and court building to ensure provision of basic services; All new government buildings are fully powered by solar energy



Building Back Better Housing

With 800,000 structures in need of rebuilding or retrofitting, the bulk of the reconstruction efforts will tackle this enormous undertaking. UNDP's support focuses on ensuring those houses are rebuilt safer than before. Masons are trained in safer practices that comply with government building codes; disaster and climate risk reduction are integrated into design and construction, and quality control takes place to ensure the reconstruction is in line with national standards.

HUMAN RIGHTS

With UNDP's support, teams of experts from the National Human Rights Commission are posted in the **11** most-affected earthquake districts to monitor the recovery, ensure human rights are protected, receive complaints from the affected community and strengthen the human rights capacity of local officials. **50,000** people have so far accessed the Human Rights mobile clinics in the most vulnerable communities. Within the first two weeks of operation, **72** cases were brought to the clinic with **50** resolved.

Helping Nepal Build a Disaster-Resilient Nation

With many years as Nepal's development partner and employing its wealth of lessons learnt from its work in other crises, UNDP is helping Nepal develop a long-term recovery framework that emphasizes resilience. Existing projects have been reprogrammed to address urgent needs following the disaster, such as changes to sensitive ecosystems like Lake Imja, and will include scaling up renewable energy alternatives for some of Nepal's most vulnerable people, building a culture of disaster risk awareness, and helping to ensure all reconstruction is done with a build back better approach.



Risk assessments of areas prone to earthquake-induced landslides ongoing

Rehabilitation of

140

damaged micro-hydro or renewable energy systems

8

District Emergency Operations Centres

are rehabilitated and improved and 17 local disaster management plans supported

RESILIENCE

Ensuring Nepal can withstand future shocks is at the core of UNDP's earthquake recovery. As a result of UNDP's assistance, Nepal has strengthened its building codes and has begun investing in compliance through an integrated electronic building code system. Temporary government offices provided by UNDP are solar powered. Engineers and masons are trained in building back better.

- Prior to the earthquake, UNDP together with the Government developed guidelines for masonry training for safe construction, guidelines for retrofitting buildings, video toolkits for safer construction, and e-building permit system.
- **60 trainers-of-trainers** received training on safe construction practices in Nepal's vocational schools
- Training of **673 masons** (106 women) started in most affected districts in safe building technics to ensure that **500,000 houses** are built in a better and safer way.
- **580 national engineers** (of which **100** are women) trained for detailed assessment of damaged buildings.
- Code-compliant building permit systems are established and implemented in **14 hard-hit** municipalities

Financial Information

FUNDS MOBILIZED IN 2015

US\$15.1 million

FUNDS REQUIRED FOR 2016

US\$30 million

FUNDS REQUIRED FOR 2017

US\$25 million

FUNDS REQUIRED FOR 2018

US\$20 million

THREE-YEAR STRATEGY ESTIMATED AT

US\$90 million

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