



Developing the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management in Nepal



Participating the national workshop on NSDRM

While Nepal was one of the first countries in South Asia to have created a policy and legal environment for disaster risk management in early 1980s, there has been a growing realization on the need to redefine the existing policies in order to accommodate the considerable advances in the field of disaster risk management globally, especially those from the lessons learned from recent disasters such as the Indian Ocean Tsunami (2004) and the South Asian Earthquake (2005). A recent study (UNDP/BCPR, 2004) ranked Nepal as the eleventh most at risk country for earthquakes and the thirtieth for flood risk. Another study (World Bank, 2005) classifies Nepal as a 'hot-spot' for geophysical and climatic hazards. Moreover, improvement in the national policy is required also to fulfill the commitments made by the Government of Nepal to the international community in the UN World Conference on IDNDR (Yokohama, 1994) and the UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction, Kobe, 2005 (WCDR 2005). The latter resulted in an international consensus on disaster reduction in the form of the Hyogo

Framework of Action (HFA) 2005-2015, which needs to be translated into the local context for achieving the stated goals of disaster reduction in the stipulated time frame. Hence, the Government of Nepal is preparing the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management (NSDRM) based on the HFA in consultation with the relevant stakeholders across all levels. UNDP is supporting the Government of Nepal in this process with financial support from the European Commission through its Humanitarian Aid Department.

The Hyogo Framework of Action 2005-2015 (HFA) will be the beacon throughout the strategy formulation process. Reference to HFA is to be made not only because it recommends what every country should do for disaster reduction, but also because Government of Nepal had taken part in developing this framework and has made commitments to implement it. Hence, streamlining the National Strategy in line with the HFA is regarded as the most important approach to be adopted. The strategy is to be based on the ground realities and identified needs of Nepal. It will try to capture the opportunities of Disaster Risk Management (DRM) in Nepal in line with the current international understanding, scientific progress and regional initiatives.

National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET), is providing technical assistance to UNDP in assisting the Government of Nepal in preparing the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management (NSDRM) based on Hyogo Framework

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The Hyogo Framework of Action 2005-2015 (HFA)

In January 2005, 168 Governments including Nepal adopted a 10-year plan to make the world safer from natural hazards at the UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction, held in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan. The Hyogo Framework of Action is a global blueprint for disaster risk reduction efforts during the next decade. Its goal is to substantially reduce disaster losses by 2015 – in lives, and in the social, economic, and environmental assets of communities and countries. Therefore, the priorities of HFA are as follows:

- Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning
- Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels Reduce the underlying risk factors
- Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all level



Participating the national workshop on NSDRM

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of Action (HFA) in Nepal. The project will prepare draft strategy documents for eight specified sectors: Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Education, Shelter, Infrastructure and Physical Planning, Livelihood, Water and Sanitation, Information, Coordination and Logistics, Search and Rescue, Damage/Need Assessment and will also address cross cutting issues such as Human Rights and Protection, Gender and Social Inclusion, Staff Safety and Security and Decentralization and Local Self Governance. All these collectively will constitute the consolidated National Disaster Strategy on DRM. The strategy is expected to provide the road map for all sectors to prepare sector specific programs for DRM and formulate the necessary policy decisions for facilitating mainstreaming DRM into the development process.

National workshop on 'Development of National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management (NSDRM)'

NSET as Technical Consultant supported UNDP/Nepal to organize a one day national workshop on Development of National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management (NSDRM) on February 26, 2007 at Hotel Radisson, Kathmandu. The program was jointly organized by UNDP/Nepal and Ministry of Home Affairs with financial support from European Commission through its Humanitarian Aid department.

The purpose of the workshop was to present the concept and process of NSDRM and to discuss and know the expectations of all stakeholders, get their feedback, comments and suggestions for the development of Strategy Document. Participants were from Government Organizations (Central and Local level), Donor Community, National and International Organizations, NGOs and CBOs as well as from Corporate Sector. Mr. Amod Mani Dixit, Executive Director of NSET highlighted on the NSDRM inception report during the Introduction Session and later presented the summary of expectations of all sectors that participated in the workshop.

The Hyogo Framework of Action 2005 -2015 (HFA) will be the beacon throughout the strategy development process.

REGIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM

Medical First Responder (MFR)

Medical First Responder (MFR) is a thirteen-day course of the Program for Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER) that was developed by the United States Agency for International Development through its Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance together in collaboration with the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue



Participants involved in practical exercise during the MFR training

Department, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, and National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal. The course has been delivered in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, and the Philippines. The purpose of this course is to provide individuals with first response tasks, the knowledge and skills necessary to assess, treat and transport patient sick or injured as a result of an emergency or disaster such that they become qualified to attend further PEER training in the instructor development process. The training of 13 days is usually intended for the members of Emergency and Disaster First Response Groups, i.e. Fire Departments, Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies, Police Departments, Rescue Groups associated with government emergency response system. The course addresses;

- the steps necessary to prepare the first responder equipment kit
- actions necessary to secure the site of an emergency and gain access to the victims, evaluate a patient and select the correct equipment needed to treat that patient
- the steps used to immobilize and treat a patient during transport
- prepare a report containing the patient's condition and treatment given and
- prepare the equipment to respond to a new emergency

Upon completion of the course the participants will be able to assess, treat and transport patient sick or injured as a result of an emergency or disaster as the first responders. And further qualify a group of first responders to attend Collapsed Structure Search and Rescue (CSSR), Training for Instructor (TFI) then Instructors' workshop to make them available to teach these courses in the country as well as in the region.

PEER EVENTS CONDUCTED DURING (Jan-Mar) 2007

Events	Event Level	Date
Bangladesh		
TFI	PFAP	March 25-29
India		
CPM	National	Jan 23-24
Indonesia		
RPM	Regional	March 6-8
Nepal		
CPM Nepal	National	Jan 16-17
TFI	PFAP	Feb 26- March 2
Pakistan		
CPM	National	Feb 12 - 13
HOPE	Standard National	March 17 - 20

* PFAP- Partial Funding Assistance Program

School Earthquake Preparedness Program in Jhapa, Rautahat and Kathmandu Valley

NSET in association with Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Nepal under the LWF-DIPECHO-CPDRR component, is implementing the School Earthquake Preparedness Program in Jhapa and Rautahat Districts and in Kathmandu Valley. Keeping in view of current need of earthquake preparedness at schools, this project will meet its objectives; notably, Development and printing of schoolteachers training manual for school earthquake preparedness, 140 schools teachers (20 from Jhapa, 20 from Rautahat, 100 from Kathmandu valley, total 6 batches) will be trained in school earthquake preparedness, Each school (70 schools) will have comprehensive School Earthquake Preparedness Plan (Action Plan), Each school will conduct periodic earthquake preparedness class and simulation exercises.

In this series, Schoolteachers training manual has been prepared, Schoolteachers' Training of Trainer on 'SCHOOL EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS' for Kathmandu Valley has been completed and the training for the School teachers of Jhapa and Rautahat are in progress.



Participants in the training

Earthquake Safety Construction Skill Training for Masons and Construction Technicians



Participants involved in doing practical exercises

NSET in association with Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Nepal under the LWF-DIPECHO-CPDRR component, is implementing the Earthquake Safety Construction Skill Training for Masons and Construction Technicians in Bhadrapur, Gaur, Bhaktapur, Madhyapur Thimi, Kirtipur Municipality and Kathmandu Metropolitan City. Enhancing knowledge and skills of masons and construction workers of specified municipal areas on the earthquake-resistant construction technology is the main objective of the proposed project. Other additional objectives of the project are a) Capacity enhancement of municipal construction technicians for incorporating earthq-

quake-resistant construction technology, disseminating the technology and implementing earthquake risk management activities, b) Dissemination of earthquake resistant construction technology including the retrofitting technology for existing buildings to the key role players

of the building construction process, and c) Include municipal authorities in the training process and help them to initiate the process of promoting safer building construction practices. Upon completion of the proposed training programs 70 masons and construction technicians in Bhadrapur Municipality of Jhapa, 70 in Gaur Municipality of Rautahat and 455 in Kathmandu Valley (total 595) will be trained on earthquake-resistant construction technology.

In this series, six day training programs on Earthquake Resistant Building Construction for the technicians of various municipalities of Kathmandu

Valley have already been organized. The trainings were conducted as per the standard curricula designed by NSET. The curricula have optimum theoretical sessions and practical skill for upgrading the practicing masons in Earthquake Resistant Construction



Participants attending the lecture

Technology. All the sessions were conducted in a participatory manner with presentations followed by the interaction of the participants. The participants actively participated in entire duration of the training program.

Further, the remaining training programs of Kathmandu Metropolitan City and that of Bhadrapur and Gaur Municipality are also in progress. Besides mason training, around 112 self builders will be trained in Kathmandu valley.

S.No	Venue	Training No	Trainees No	Date
1	Kathmandu Metropolitan City	2	70	March 9-14, March 20-26
2	Kirtipur Municipality	2	70	Feb 19-24,26-March 3, 2007
3	Bhaktapur Municipality	2	70	Feb 18-23, 25-March 2, 2007
4	Madhyapur Municipality	2	70	March 4 -9, March 11 – 16 ,2007

Study Tour by Delegates from Islamic Republic of Iran

Thirty-three delegates from Iran comprising of engineers, government officials, representatives from UNDP Iran and the representatives from other organizations conducted a study tour of Nepal in the period of 31st January to 3rd February 2007, to observe the earthquake risk management initiatives, the ongoing and completed programs of NSET as well as the program of other government/non-government organizations in Nepal in the field of risk management. The main objective of the study tour was to enable Iranian representatives of partner implementing agencies at national and local levels to study various initiatives for earthquake risk management in an urban context in Kathmandu Valley as part of a "Five-year Program called "Strengthening Capacities for Disaster Risk Management in Iran 2005-2009".

National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET) and Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) has been providing technical support to this program through international consultancy, training courses, workshops and study tour. As a part of the project the study tour in Nepal was coordinated by NSET. As the team was here to learn ways to enhance earthquake safety, in their visit they met the concerned government representatives and made a field visit to different places of Kathmandu Metropolitan City, Lalitpur Sub Metropolitan City and Banepa Municipality to gather first hand information about Nepal's earthquake preparedness program. The delegation learnt about Nepal's experiences in implementing building



Visit at building construction site

codes, community level earthquake preparedness programs and mason training program that have been jointly launched by the government and the non-governmental organization. The study tour proved to be very fruitful in transferring the knowledge on innovative approaches towards integrated disaster risk management by all sectors in Nepal.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

"EARTHQUAKE VULNERABILITY TOUR"

Vulnerability Tour is one of the several efforts of NSET towards enhancing level of awareness and also for educating people on the need of investing in earthquake vulnerability reduction initiatives in Nepal. It is a guided tour in a defined route or a defined location to observe different vulnerability factors. The Earthquake Vulnerability Tour is an innovative awareness tool initiated by NSET. The tour aims to point out how vulnerable the city's buildings and critical facilities such as the schools and the fire stations are to earthquakes. This tour will help to know the ground reality of our cities which may help different stakeholders to work together to reduce the level of earthquake risk in Kathmandu Valley. The tour is conducted with an objective to convince common people to the policy/decision makers and the international community on urgency of urban earthquake vulnerability reduction initiatives and to help develop perception of existing seismic vulnerability of building structures, life line structures and their combination.



Participants observing in the vulnerability tour



The participants of the tour are encouraged to take part in the discussion on existing vulnerabilities along the route and their potential remedies. A range of hazards, primary as well as secondary is considered and discussed for the locality. Likewise, all the phases of disaster, from the onset of the event to the problems of rescue and response, rehabilitation, reconstruction and the necessity of introducing mitigation in the reconstruction, are talked about during the tour at appropriate moments. The discussion is mostly informal. The tour in fact allows and encourages the participant to identify the vulnerabilities in a neighborhood, to assess the extent of the problem, and to explore possible measures that needs to be promoted and implemented.

The tour has thus turned out to be an effective disaster risk communication tool. It provides the sentimental environment of probable earthquake scenario, which in turn drew more and more buy-in from all sectors in the success of the program. Further the Tour Operator's Guidebook has already been drafted. NSET has organized various such tours for the national and international participants. The entire exercise appeared to make very intense impact on the participants. But still there is a need to develop Volunteers who can develop such tours in their respective communities. Further there should be more informal discussion to get more success and the participants should be encouraged to identify the vulnerabilities in their neighborhood.

Orientation Program on Earthquake Risk Reduction and Preparedness

NSET organized an introductory orientation on earthquake safety on December 14, 2006 for the students of Shree Adarsha Saul Higher Secondary School, Bhainsepati, Lalitpur.

Further on December 27, 2006 NSET organized an orientation program on earthquake preparedness and earthquake basics for the teachers of Adarsha Saul School, and Jan Uday Nimna Madhyamik Vidyalaya, Bhainsepati.

Another awareness program on earthquake safety was organized by NSET for both the students and teachers of the Jan Uday Nimna Madhyamik Vidyalaya, Bhainsepati on February 8, 2007.

Similarly, an orientation program on earthquake safety was organized by NSET for the teachers and the community members of Shree Mahendra Shanti Secondary School, Balkot, Bhaktapur on March 23, 2007.

December, 2006: On request from Save the Children Alliance (SCA), National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET) conducted an orientation program on earthquake preparedness for its staff members of Save the Children Alliance at the Administrative Staff College, Lalitpur.

February, 2007: An Orientation program on Earthquake Safety was conducted for the staff members of

Family Health International (FHI) at Baluwatar.

February, 2007: Another orientation program on Earthquake Safety was conducted for the staff members of ICIMOD at the ICIMOD office, Khumaltar.

March, 2007: Yet another orientation program on Earthquake Safety was conducted for the staff members of Butwal Power Company, Buddhanagar.



Attending the orientation lecture

CONFERENCE / WORKSHOPS

(Dec 2006- March 2007)

Month / Year	Conference/ Workshops	Venue	Participation
December	Asia Disaster Reduction S&T Forum" kick-off event on the "Asia S&T Strategic Cooperation Promotion Program", at ISTK Building, Jakarta, Indonesia	Indonesia	Mr. Amod Dixit
December	Attended the Sixth International W/S on Seismic Analysis in the South Asia Region in Chiang Mai, Thailand, Dec 4 -7, 2006.	Thailand	Mr. Rudra Pun
December	ProVention Consortium-ADPC, Workshop on "Innovative Initiatives in Disaster Reduction", 6- 7 Dec 2006, Bangkok	Bangkok	Mr. Binod Shrestha, Ms. Hima Shrestha
December	Regional Conference on "Hazards of Nature, Risks and Opportunities for Development in South Asian Countries " Learning the Lessons from Past Disasters - Preparing for the Future organized by the W/B at Taj Mahal Hotel, New Delhi, India , December 19-20, 2006	India	Mr. Amod Dixit
January	Expert meeting for ABCD/HESI in Tokyo from 16-18 Jan, 2007 organized by UNCRD	Japan	Mr. Amod Dixit
January	'International Conference on School Safety' (17 - 21 Jan 2007) organized by SEEDS India at Ahmedabad, India	India	Mr. Ramesh Guragain
February	Country Planning Meeting /PEER in Islamabad, Pakistan (12-13 Feb,2007)	Pakistan	Mr. Amod Dixit
February	DRH Consultative Meeting, New Delhi, India (19 - 20 Feb, 2007)	India	Mr. Amod Dixit
March	Regional Planning Meeting / PEER in Jakarta- Indonesia	Indonesia	Mr. Amod Dixit
March	International DRH Contents Meeting / 1st Annual DRH Workshop held in Kobe, Japan	Japan	Mr.Surya N.Shrestha

Celebrating the Ninth Earthquake Safety Day

In commemoration of the Great Bihar-Nepal Earthquake of (Magh 2, 1930), Jan 15, 1934, ninth Earthquake Safety Day (ESD) 2007 was observed with the main slogan "Let's Reduce Earthquake Risk With Active Involvement Of Informed And Energetic Youth". As in the previous years this year also a week long ESD events from 12th - 18th January 2007 was carried out in collaboration with Central Government, Local Government and Non-Government institutions. Kathmandu was the focus this year, and the week kicked off with programs such as;

Symposium: A two day Symposium on "Experience in Earthquake Risk Reduction and Response", was organized jointly by Department of Urban Development and Building Construction, NSET, UNDP Nepal and Action Aid Nepal at Hotel Radisson on 14-15 January 2007. The Symposium was participated by more than 150 participants representing from the Government, Municipalities, INGOs, and NGOs. The symposium was divided into 5 sessions and 34 papers were presented by presenters representing different national and international institutions. The main objective of the symposium

was to share experiences of earthquake risk reduction and response between all stakeholders mainly among policymakers, decision makers and professionals.

Memorial Meeting: A Memorial Meeting at the Earthquake Monument, Bhugol Park, Newroad was organized by Kathmandu Metropolitan City in the morning of Earthquake Safety Day i.e., 16th Jan, 2007 in order to pay tribute and respect to victims who lost their life in 1934 earthquake.

Earthquake Awareness Rally: Earthquake Awareness Rally was organized and marched from Earthquake Monument, New Road passing through the narrow vulnerable core area of Ason, Indrachowk, and Makhan. The participants were high level government officials, municipality staff, representatives of INGOs, NGOs, CBOs and community.

Main National Meeting: The National Ceremonial Meeting was jointly organized by Earthquake Safety Day National Committee, Ministry of Home Affairs, Department of Urban Development and Building Construction, Kathmandu Metropolitan City and NSET. This was

held in Basantapur Dabali, Kathmandu Durbar Square under the chairmanship of Minister of Home Affairs.

Earthquake Safety Exhibition: Honorable Home Minister, Mr. Krishna Prasad Situala, inaugurated the three day exhibition (16-18 Jan 2007) on earthquake safety awareness organized jointly by the Earthquake Safety Day National Committee, Department of Urban Development and Building Construction, Kathmandu Metropolitan City and National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET) held at Basantapur Dabali, Kathmandu Durbar Square. In the exhibition, thirty-five stalls of different government and non-government organizations, security forces and international organizations displayed their equipment, materials, photos and their work related disaster risk management.

Apart from the exhibition, other events such as Shake-Table Demonstration, Display of Full Size Model of Construction Details (all disseminating the message of earthquake safer construction), Street Drama and Demonstrations on Fire Control and First Aid were also carried out as part of ESD events.



At the main national meeting



Earthquake awareness rally



Shake table demonstration



Briefing the full scale model

ESD 2007 at Hetauda

A district level earthquake safety day was organized in Hetauda on 16 January 2007. The program was jointly organized by Women and Children Development Forum (WCDF), a Hetauda based NGO, Building Technology Research and Training Centre (BTRTC) of Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC), Action Aid Nepal (AAN) and National Society for Earthquake Technology - Nepal (NSET).

Various events were organized to celebrate the day as: Public Awareness Rally, Earthquake Safety Exhibition, Shake Table Demonstration was carried out for the first time in Hetauda, and Street Drama on earthquake preparedness. All the activities of the day were highly participated by the district level high officials including the Chief District Officer, Local Development Officer, most of the Department Heads of the line agencies from Nepal



Awareness rally at Hetauda

Government, political leaders, influential persons, general public and policemen.

New cooperation agreements

A Project Agreement was signed among Social Welfare Council, Norwegian Refugee Council, Nepal Bar Association and NSET on February 2, 2007 for the Information, Counseling and Legal Assistance to Internally Displaced in Nepal (ICLA) and Shelter Program Component - in order to promote housing

reconstruction through training, capacity building, cash - for work and material inputs.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed among Action Aid Nepal, National Society for Earthquake Technology - Nepal (NSET), Centre for

Policy Research and Consultancy (CPReC), Education Network (EDNet) and Disaster Preparedness Network (DPNet) on February 7, 2007 for their involvement as national partners in Disaster Risk Reduction through School Project.

Similarly another Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed among

National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention (NIED) and National Society of Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET) on development of Disaster Reduction Hyper base (DRH) on March 22, 2007.

Yet another Agreement of Cooperation was signed among NSET and FOCUS (Focus Humanitarian Assistance Pakistan) on February 16, 2007 for the implementation of Capacity Building and Knowledge Management: Institutionalization of Earthquake Preparedness in Schools in Pakistan (CBKMP).

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed on 16 March 2007 by NSET and Mahendra Shanti Secondary School, Balkot, Bhaktapur, which has formally been included under the School Earthquake Safety Program (SESP) of NSET. Under SESP, NSET will support the school in the design and construction of the new building making sure that the construction duly considers the seismic-resistance elements for improving seismic performance of the new building.

Training Program

A two week long Regional Training /Workshop On “Earthquake Vulnerability and Multi – Hazard Risk Assessment”,

was organized by International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) with financial support from the European Commission Humanitarian Aid department (DIPECHO) and in collaboration with International Institute for Geo-Information and Earth Sciences (ITC) - The Netherlands, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) - Bangkok, National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET) and Nepal Centre for Disaster Management (NCDM) from 5 to 16 March 2007 at ICIMOD. The main objective of the Training/ Workshop was to build the capacity of national institutions in utilizing geospatial tools (GIS/RS/GPS) for multi-hazard risk assessment and mapping as well as to raise the awareness of such tools for disaster preparedness and mitigation. In the training, lectures were also delivered by the NSET professionals on efforts in earthquake risk reduction. Ms Nisha Shrestha from NSET attended the training program as a trainee.

An International Video Workshop on 'Disaster Education and Risk Perception' was organized by National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) and Building Research Institute (BRI) in cooperation with United Nations Center for Regional Development (UNCRD),

Asia Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), Institute of Technology Bandung (ITB), Indonesia, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB), India, NSET, Preston University, Pakistan and Istanbul Technical University (ITU), Turkey on 15 March 2007 at their respective World Bank Centers.

Mr. Shiva Bahadur Pradhanang, President, NSET and Mr. Ganesh Jimjee from NSET attended a closing ceremony of a training program on "Capacity Building of Young Engineers' in Earthquake Hazard Reduction" organized jointly by Lalitpur Sub Metropolitan City (LSMC), Rotary Club of Mt. Everest, CITC and ESI with support of other agencies on 8th of February, 2007. In the event, a Certificate of Appreciation was awarded to NSET.

Mr. Ramesh Guragain from NSET made presentation on 'Earthquake Risk Management in Nepal - Experiences of NSET' while attending a seminar on "Earthquake Preparedness: Efforts and Challenges" organized by New Human Concern Committee Nepal at Trichandra Campus on February 12, 2007.

Ms Hima Shrestha, from NSET participated in the HOPE Training Course in Pakistan as an Instructor from NSET from 14 - 24 March 2007.

District Level Consultation Workshop in Chitwan

As a part of the project, “Preparatory Works for Institutionalization of Disaster Inventory/Information Management System (PW/I-DIMS) in Nepal” implemented by NSET in selected two districts (i.e. – Chitwan and Tanahun) as pilot exercise, with the financial support of BCPR/UNDP, a District Level Consultation Workshop was conducted in Chitwan district on December 06, 2006.



In the preparatory workshop

The workshop was organized by NSET jointly with District Development Committee – Chitwan with a focus to strengthen the Information Section of DDC – Chitwan. In the event, demonstration of DesInventar System was also made to all participants to let them know how it works and what are the benefits of DIMS as well as DesInventar methodology in Disaster Risk Reduction Planning, Risk assessment etc, focusing the use of this methodology in district level planners working in disaster management. There were altogether 47 participants from different sectors and the workshop was very much successful in drawing interest of those stakeholders on the importance of Disaster Information

Management System and to implement the system in their district.

At the ProVention Consortium-ADPC Workshop

The two awardees, of the Applied Grants for Disaster Risk Reduction in 2005-06 under the funding of ProVention Consortium's program for their research on "Developing a set of Standard Building Design suitable for Nepal" and "Development of Seismic Retrofitting Scheme for Typical Nepali non-engineered masonry infill reinforced concrete framed buildings", respectively, Mr. Binod Shrestha, Geotechnical Engineer and Hima Shrestha, Structural Engineer, NSET, participated in ProVention Consortium-ADPC Workshop on "Innovative Initiatives in Disaster Reduction", 6- 7 Dec 2006, Bangkok. They shared their outcomes and presented a "dissemination plan" of their research work before the international intellectual communities present in the workshop. Both of them



The awardees in the Provention workshop, Bangkok

were able to publish their articles in 'Real Risk' in August 2006, which is the publication of Tudor Rose and ISDR, launched at the International Disaster Reduction Conference, Davos 2006.

Meeting on Project Progress and Future Direction

Under the Community Based Disaster Management Program, a “Meeting on Project Progress and Future Direction” was organized jointly by UNDP and Ministry of Local Development in association with the implementing partners viz National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET) and Rural Empowerment Society (RES) on 8 December 2006 at Hotel Royal Century in Bharatpur. The meeting was organized to disseminate the project achievement and decide on the registration process for the institutionalization of the newly formed CDMGs. The CDMG Chairpersons, Executive Officers of all the six project municipalities and the six Area Coordinators working for the municipalities from NSET attended the meeting. Local Development Officers from Sindhuli, Sarlahi, Makawanpur, Chitwan, Tanahun and Syangja were also invited for the meeting.



LDO of Sindhuli addressing the Meeting

Mr. Sudhar Man Tuladhar

Accounts Officer

National Society for Earthquake
Technology-Nepal (NSET)



Mr. Sudhar Man Tuladhar joined National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET) in February 1999 while NSET was implementing its first project "Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Risk Management Project" (KVERMP). He is now working in the capacity of Accounts Officer and looks after all books of accounts of various projects that NSET is implementing. Before joining NSET, he was basically a Secondary School Teacher. He had taught Office Management and Accounts subjects to high school students for more than 25 years. He also has around 10 years of experience in managing a print house. Besides, he had worked for Hotel Crystal, Kathmandu as a Bill Controller on part time basis as well as contributed some of his time to his family business of auto spare parts.

He holds Bachelor's Degree in Commerce from Tri-Chandra College (1973) and Diploma in Business Education from Sanothimi Campus (1974). He also has a Three Year Technical Training on Electricity (1971).

He comes from the reputed Tuladhar family of Kathmandu Valley. He was born in July 1951 and is married with two daughters.

The key participants actively interacted on the various issues related to the sustainability and effective continuation of the newly formed CDMGs after the completion of the project.

Three Day Training on Vulnerability Assessment



Participants of the First VA Training at Hetauda ward No 2

A three day training program on Vulnerability Assessment was carried out at 18 different wards of the six municipalities namely Kamalamai Municipality, Malangwa Municipality, Hetauda Municipality, Bharatpur Municipality, Vyas Municipality and Putalibazar Municipality under the Community Based Disaster Management Program (CBDMP) from 13 December 2006. This training was envisaged to enable the participants

to identify the existing hazards, risk, vulnerability, resources and capacity of the community to cope with the foreseen disaster, formulate preparedness and mitigation measures at the community level. So it was more focused on the practical aspects with ample theoretical background. Ten such trainings have been completed, two are ongoing and the remaining six will be completed in the next quarter. The main purpose of the training is to enable the CDMGs to initiate preparing Ward Level Disaster Risk Reduction Master Plan (WLDRRMP).

Interaction with the media

An Interaction Program with media persons was organized by NSET on 4th of January, 2007 at NSET. Representatives from various media sources were present in the program. The current initiatives of NSET on disaster risk reduction and the DesInventar Program – a disaster database program run by NSET was primarily discussed in the program.

Yet another Interaction program with the media personnel was organized jointly by NSET and Banepa Municipality on "Earthquake Risk Reduction and Management, Efforts of Banepa Municipality on Earthquake Risk Reduction" at the Banepa Municipality Office on 11th of February, 2007.

QUAKE MONITOR

Year	Magnitude	Location	Deaths
Dec-06	7.1	Taiwan	2 dead/ 42 injured
Mar-07	6.4	Southern Sumatra/Indonesia	70 people killed, hundreds injured and severe damage
Mar-07	7.1	Vanuatu/Australia	No damage reported
Mar-07	6.7	Honshu/Japan	At least one dead and 150 injured/ houses damaged

Source: USGS

TIPS ON EARTHQUAKE SAFETY

Prepare Emergency Kit – 'GO-BAG'

Stock up on emergency supplies beforehand. These include: portable battery operated radio, flashlights (extra bulb and batteries), first aid kit, bottled water, water purifying tablet, Non-perishable/packaged food and medical supplies (for regular use, if any), knife, tools, copies of important family/identity documents and important telephone numbers, copies of your house plan, money, duplicate set of keys, blowing whistle, rope, plastic sheets etc.



FOR TIPS ON EARTHQUAKE RISK MITIGATION TUNE IN TO...

Radio Sagarmatha (FM 102.4) at 7.30 PM, Tuesday
Radio Annapurna (FM 91.8) at 7.30 AM, Wednesday

For more information on

Earthquakes and NSET's efforts towards earthquakes risk reduction log on to www.nset.org.np



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