

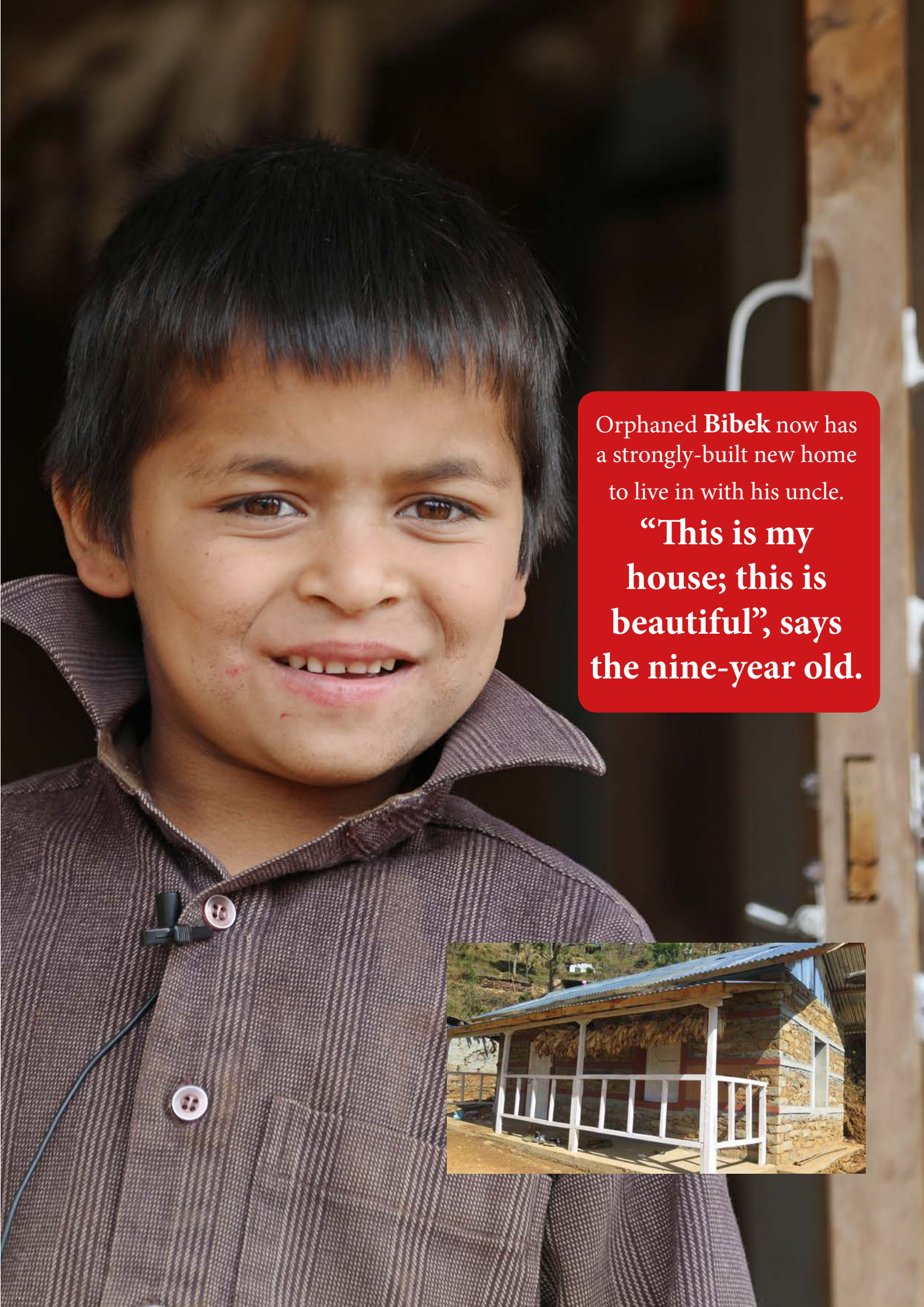


# Caritas Rebuilding Efforts Two Years On



“Mobilising communities  
towards a steady recovery”

*Earthquake recovery experiences of Caritas  
Internationalis member organisations in Nepal*



Orphaned **Bibek** now has a strongly-built new home to live in with his uncle.

**“This is my house; this is beautiful”, says the nine-year old.**





Government of Nepal  
**National Reconstruction Authority**



Singh Durbar, Kathmandu  
Phone: 01-4211103

Ref. No.

30 May, 2017  
Date :

I am happy and pleased to learn about the publication of – CARITAS Rebuilding Efforts - Two Years On. I appreciate this effort of putting your hard work together and sharing your experience and lessons to the wider community of this field. I understand Caritas Federation which involves many international organizations is active from the very beginning of the Gorkha Earthquake 2015 in Nepal. Thank you for extending your programme and activities in recovery and reconstruction phase as well. The support of Development Partners to implement and achieve the target within the stipulated time of five years is very important.

I acknowledge your selection of hard-hit districts and reaching to the most needy and vulnerable families of the region. Your attempt to address the priority needs in active participation of selected beneficiaries, local government and other government departments and agencies is central towards meeting the local demands on time. Your livelihood project has precisely demonstrated its impact on the overall welfare of the vulnerable communities fighting with many odds. Your recovery programme offers pragmatism in approach and diversity in interventions which therefore leads to safer development and builds resilience in local communities.

I expect that CARITAS Federation will up-scale their support and continue their good work by covering new areas and new districts from hard-hit zone. I also take this opportunity to thank all the partners of Caritas Federation and their members for providing generous support to the ongoing recovery and reconstruction programme led and coordinated by NRA in Nepal. Likewise, I would also like to assure that NRA is determined to continue its efforts and strive for smooth and successful completion of our recovery and reconstruction programme as envisioned.

Prof. Dr. Govind Raj Pokharel  
Chief Executive Officer- NRA

# Message



It is my immense pleasure to share a message with you in my capacity as Member Secretary of the Social Welfare Council, to commemorate the second-year anniversary of the Nepal Earthquake through Caritas Nepal's publication 'Caritas Rebuilding Efforts: Two Years On'.

The Social Welfare Council (SWC) is an umbrella organisation which approves, monitors, evaluates, coordinates, assists, and facilitates the projects of INGOs and NGOs in Nepal. In its policies, plans and programmes the Government of Nepal fully recognises INGOs and NGOs as its true development partners. It is the SWC's job to harmonise and coordinate NGO and INGO projects with the policies and plans of the Government of Nepal.

The SWC has laid down clear guidelines that each project undertaken by INGOs and NGOs should be relevant to national policy, the beneficiaries and location; coordinated with central and local government; efficient and effective in achieving direct change for its beneficiaries; technically, financially and institutionally sustainable; transparent and accountable to the Government of Nepal; and participative in its development process, emphasising the meaningful participation of those in need.

The devastating earthquake of 2015 affected large parts of Nepal. It destroyed private and public infrastructure, people's livelihoods and human lives. The SWC mobilised NGOs and INGOs effectively during the relief and reconstruction phase. I appreciate the great contributions made by NGOs and INGOs during this time, and their subsequent efforts at rehabilitating communities.

Caritas Nepal is an important development partner of the SWC. It has provided relief materials to thousands of earthquake-affected people, financial and technical support to construct 4400 earthquake-resistant homes, and a recovery programme for 6226 households in eight Village Development Committees (VDCs) across four districts. As we commemorate the second anniversary of the Nepal earthquake, I thank Caritas and its staff for playing an important role in the rapid development of the Nepal Earthquake Recovery and Reconstruction Programme.

Last but not least, the SWC looks forward to further cooperation and coordination with Caritas Nepal in the days to come, to improve the lives of vulnerable communities in Nepal.

***Mr. Dilli Prasad Bhatta***  
***Member Secretary***  
***Social Welfare Council***

# A Message from the Bishop



It is a great honour for me to contribute a few words to 'Caritas Rebuilding Efforts: Two Years On'.

Two years have passed since the people of Nepal were struck by a devastating earthquake, which killed about 9,000 people and displaced a million more. It destroyed roads, houses, schools, hospitals and people's means of making a living. Thousands are still living in emotional turmoil. And we remember those who lost their lives.

Within hours of the disaster, Caritas Nepal launched an emergency response, and today it continues to support earthquake-affected communities, empowering them to take on responsibility for rebuilding their homes and providing them with the necessary technical assistance, in line with the objectives of the Government of Nepal and its National Reconstruction Policy. This record shows Caritas Nepal going beyond immediate humanitarian assistance to develop sustainable long-term reconstruction programmes, and coordinating closely with the reconstruction strategy at national level.

The International Caritas Federation and a large number of Caritas Internationalis Member Organisations (CIMOs) have made a significant contribution to the disaster response effort, and are still working to support Caritas Nepal in its long-term earthquake response. Caritas Nepal is most grateful to all its partners for the human and financial support which they have provided during the last two years. Without such positive support from its partners, Caritas Nepal would not have been able to handle the magnitude of such a natural disaster.

I am proud to say that Caritas Nepal is one of the top contributors to post-earthquake reconstruction in Nepal, both financially and in terms of the number of staff assigned to earthquake response and community development projects. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff for their efficient hard work, and for the dedication, expertise and cooperativeness with which they committed themselves to the service of needy and distressed earthquake-affected communities, regardless of caste, creed, social or economic background. Each of our Executive Board Members has been extremely supportive of the work that Caritas Nepal does, and I express my sincere gratitude for their continued support in guiding Caritas Nepal's strategic direction during post-earthquake reconstruction.

We are proud of the service we are rendering to the neediest and least accessible communities in Nepal, but humbled by the knowledge that there is so much more to be done. As we move forward, we will make a determined effort to reach out to more poor and suffering people in more places. We are confident that continued support from our Caritas federation, closer cooperation with the Government of Nepal and a better understanding of the specific needs of communities will allow us to expand our assistance to those who need it.

***Bishop Paul Simick***  
***Patron***  
***Caritas Nepal***

# Preface



As we commemorate the two-year anniversary of the devastating earthquake of 2015, we are aware that we can't bring back what has been lost by our people and the whole of Nepalese society. But what we can do is spread a message of love and a message of hope. Caritas, through our work, has been doing exactly that.

Amidst the havoc of the aftermath, and what at times felt like slow progress in rebuilding and revitalising communities thrown into chaos by the destruction, our dedicated staff have carried out our mission by reaching out to the people most affected by the disaster, especially those unable to recover on their own: the poor and the marginalised, even in the remotest parts of the country. Regardless of how difficult the situation was, we never wavered in our determination to reach out to them and provide timely support.

This would not have been possible without collaboration and assistance from Caritas organisations around the world, who committed themselves to labour for Nepal's recovery. Operating as a single Caritas family, we have been able to build resilient houses for more than a thousand families, construct health posts and schools, and repair rural roads, irrigation canals and drinking water systems, all within a year from the start of our Recovery Programme. We are grateful to everyone involved for such wonderful support and teamwork!

We've also managed to coordinate effectively with government line agencies, especially the National Reconstruction Authority and Social Welfare Council, both at national level and within the districts and villages where we operate. We want to express our sincere gratitude to these agencies for helping us to work in a positive and constructive way, for the benefit of the most disadvantaged.

Today I am delighted to offer you this small booklet, setting out all the progress that we and our Caritas Internationalis Member Organisations have made over the past two years. The booklet has been prepared to mark the second anniversary of the earthquake, and covers all the sectors in which we have made interventions, the activities we have carried out, and the households and families who have benefited so far.

Let's continue with the good work we've begun, and may our presence be a means of dressing the wounds left by the earthquake in the lives of the people of Nepal.

***Fr. Krishna Bdr. Bogati***  
***Executive Director***  
***Caritas Nepal***



## Caritas Rebuilding Efforts, Two Years On

The devastating earthquakes, 7.8 and 7.3 on the richter scale in magnitude, which struck central and western Nepal on 25 April 2015 and 12 May 2015 left nearly 9000 people dead and more than 22,300 injured. The disaster affected the lives of 8 million people in 31 districts. According to the Government of Nepal's Post-Disaster Needs Assessment report, the earthquake destroyed at least 498,852 private houses, 2656 government buildings and 19,000 classrooms. Another 256,697 homes, 3622 government buildings and 11,000 classrooms were damaged. The impact was greatest in rural and remote areas, where the earthquake destroyed communities' livelihoods and basic infrastructure.

Caritas Nepal immediately sprang into action, supported by Caritas Internationalis (CI) and its member organisations (CIMOs) around the world. Caritas Nepal reached more than 70,000 households across 168 villages in 15 districts, providing them with temporary shelter materials, corrugated iron sheets, water and sanitation items, food, and unconditional cash grants as emergency relief. This was made possible by the strong operational collaboration between CIMOs and partners, as well as effective coordination with government agencies at all levels.

Caritas Nepal initiated a three-year recovery and reconstruction programme immediately after the relief phase, with the support of CI and the CIMOs. The programme focused on eight VDCs (expanded in 2017 to 14) in four severely affected districts, and reached out to 9400 households. A facilitation team led by Caritas Australia and members of other CIMOs accompanied Caritas Nepal and its partners, providing sectoral, technical and management support to carry out one of the most challenging and complex humanitarian response programmes in the region.

Everything cannot be mapped, not all problems can be solved, and you can never entirely “get it right” during a humanitarian crisis. However, Caritas makes every effort to identify the needs of the neediest, reaching out to the most vulnerable areas and communities, and striving to alleviate their suffering in a dignified way and enable them to rebuild their lives.

At the same time some of the CIMOs have been participating directly in rebuilding efforts, focusing their humanitarian response on specific sectors and geographical areas not covered by Caritas Nepal and other organisations. Caritas Switzerland and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) have engaged directly with affected communities through local partners. CAFOD, Caritas Austria, Caritas Germany, Caritas Italiana and CORDAID established support mechanisms in the country to assist marginalised communities with limited access to resources in far-flung villages in the affected areas.

These efforts are enabling the Caritas network to contribute to and support a community-owned recovery programme, tapping into local, indigenous knowledge. Interventions are aimed at strengthening and empowering community institutions and local governance structures through a participatory and inclusive process.

Caritas Nepal and other CIMOs take a comprehensive and context-specific approach to reconstruction in all the villages in which they operate, foregrounding the importance of a participatory process. Targeting key sectors like shelter, WASH, livelihoods, DRR, protection and psychosocial support, and health and education, Caritas is working towards a sustainable recovery by forming and strengthening community institutions, empowering and building the capacity of community members, and linking activities with long-term development.

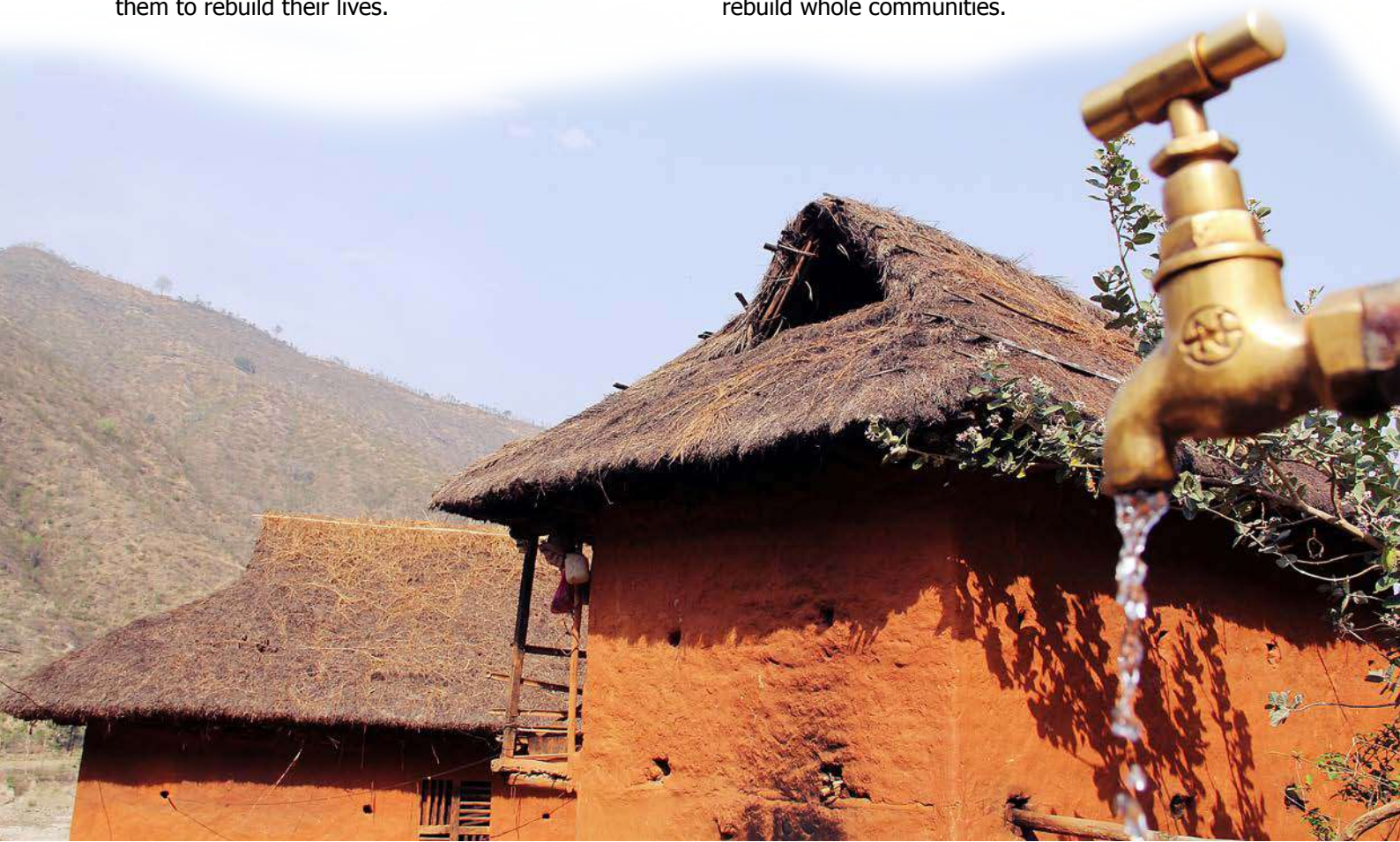
Everything cannot be mapped, not all problems can be solved, and you can never entirely “get it right” during a humanitarian crisis. However, Caritas makes every effort to identify the needs of the neediest, reaching out to the most vulnerable areas and communities, and striving to alleviate their suffering in a dignified way and enable them to rebuild their lives.

Caritas and its partners provide support to all, with a special focus on Janjatis, Dalits, women, children, orphans, elderly and disabled people, widows and widowers, who are often the most vulnerable and marginalised people in earthquake-affected communities.

Caritas Nepal and other CIMOs work in close coordination with the Government and civil society organisations to ensure that our actions are synchronised. Caritas Nepal and CRS play a key role in supporting the Housing Reconstruction and Recovery Platform, which acts as an interface between civil society and the Government of Nepal. CIMOs actively collaborate with the Social Welfare Council and National Reconstruction Authority, the Department of Urban Development and Building Construction, other government departments and ministries and community institutions like drinking water user groups, Sanitation and Hygiene Coordination Committees, farmer’s groups, cooperatives, schools, child clubs, forest user groups and dairy marketing centres, to name a few, to realise the objectives of the National Disaster Recovery Framework of Nepal.

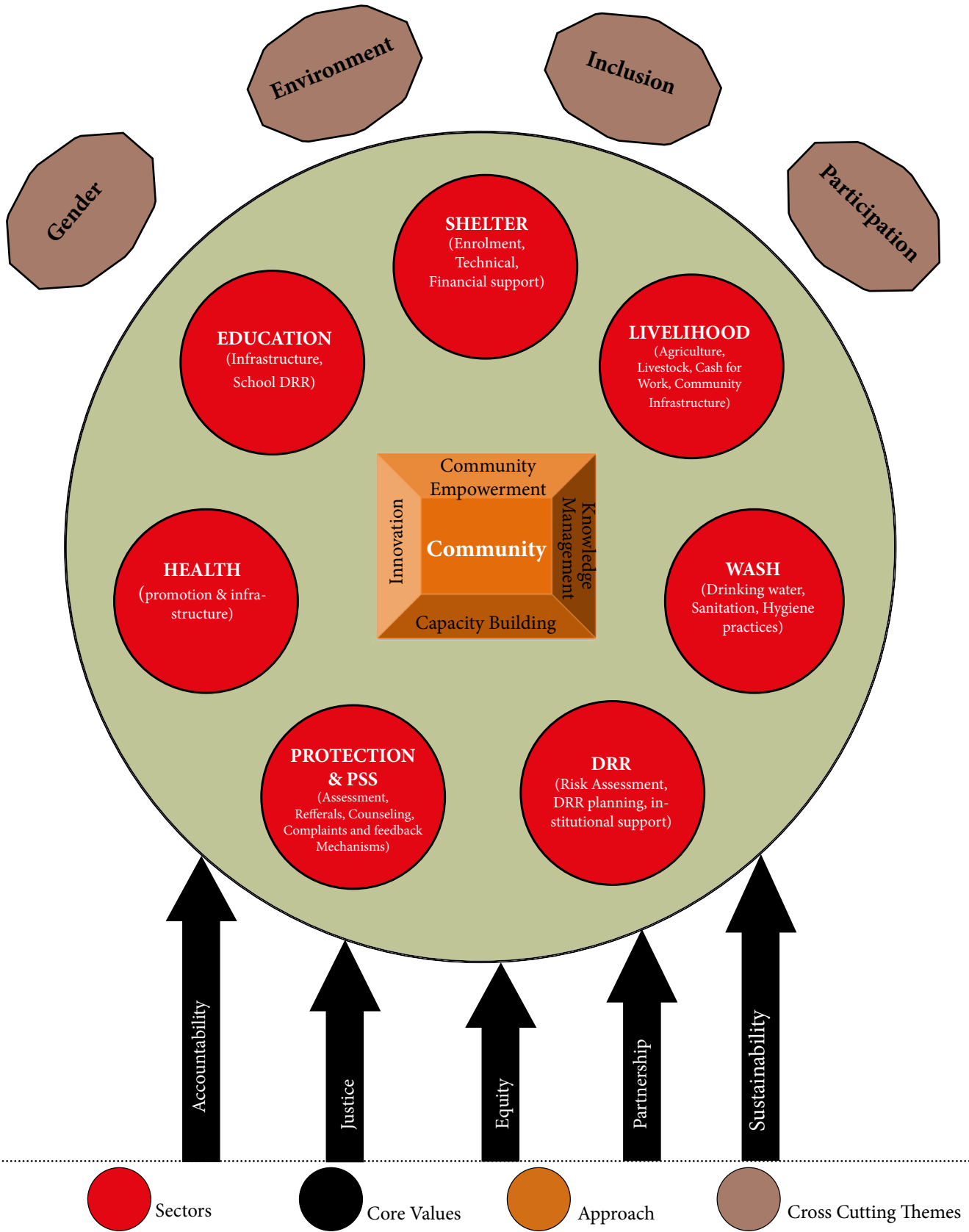
A coordination mechanism within CIMOs and allied organisations ensures knowledge sharing and learning. Regular joint review of the programme led by Caritas Internationalis enhance programme quality and adherence to core humanitarian standards. This helps in Caritas to play a strategic advocacy role with the Government of Nepal and other actors to influence policies and systems in favour of affected communities.

As we now commemorate the two-year anniversary of the catastrophe, our mission to save lives and give hope to people continues. This mission is not only about the development of physical infrastructure: it is a mission to rebuild whole communities.

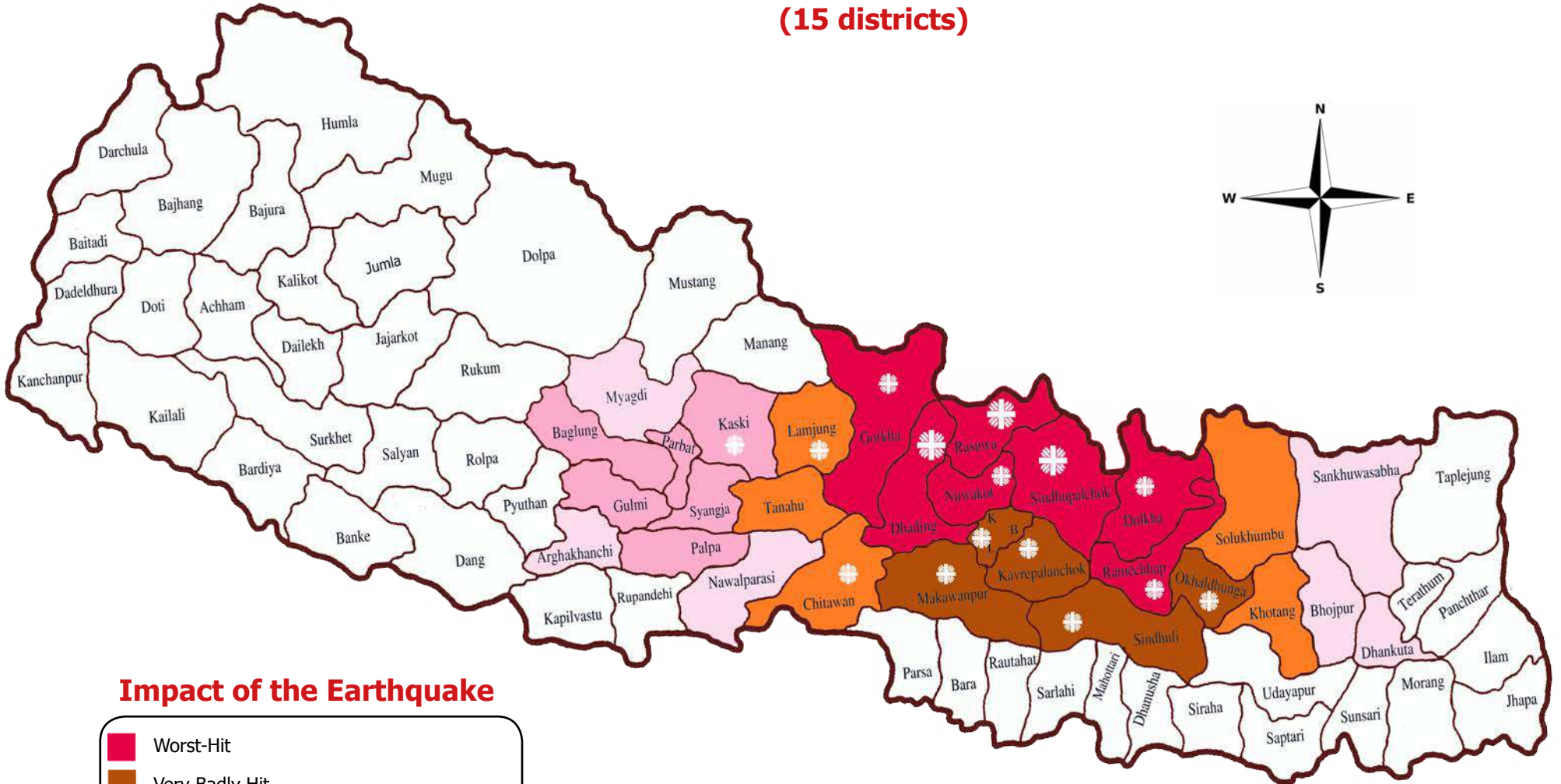




# Caritas Earthquake Response Framework in Nepal

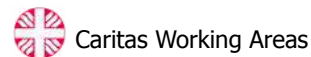


## Coverage of Caritas Internationalis Member Organisations (15 districts)



### Impact of the Earthquake

- Worst-Hit
- Very Badly Hit
- Badly Hit
- Hit
- Slightly Affected



(MAP NOT TO SCALE)



# CARITAS ORGANISATIONS REBUILDING EFFORTS

Jan 2016 - Apr 2017



**16875**

**STUDENTS**  
educational support

**15584**

**PEOPLE**  
protection and  
psychosocial support

**29456**

**FARMERS**  
livelihood inputs

**6864**

**PEOPLE**  
disaster risk  
reduction

**19264**

**PEOPLE**  
livelihood training

DRINKING WATER

**63**  
water schemes  
benefitting 21445  
people

**10710**

people reached by  
awareness activities  
on WASH

**2448**  
MASON'S  
Trained

**SHELTER**

**1062**  
Houses  
Completed

**111**  
Households received  
3rd tranche

**821**  
Households received  
2nd tranche

**4587**  
Households received 1st tranche

1000 USD

1500 USD

500 USD

**7**

**Schools**

serving 1026 students

**2**

**Health posts**

serving 8000 people

**39**

**Irrigation  
canals**

benefitting 1830  
farming families

**4**

public rest places  
constructed

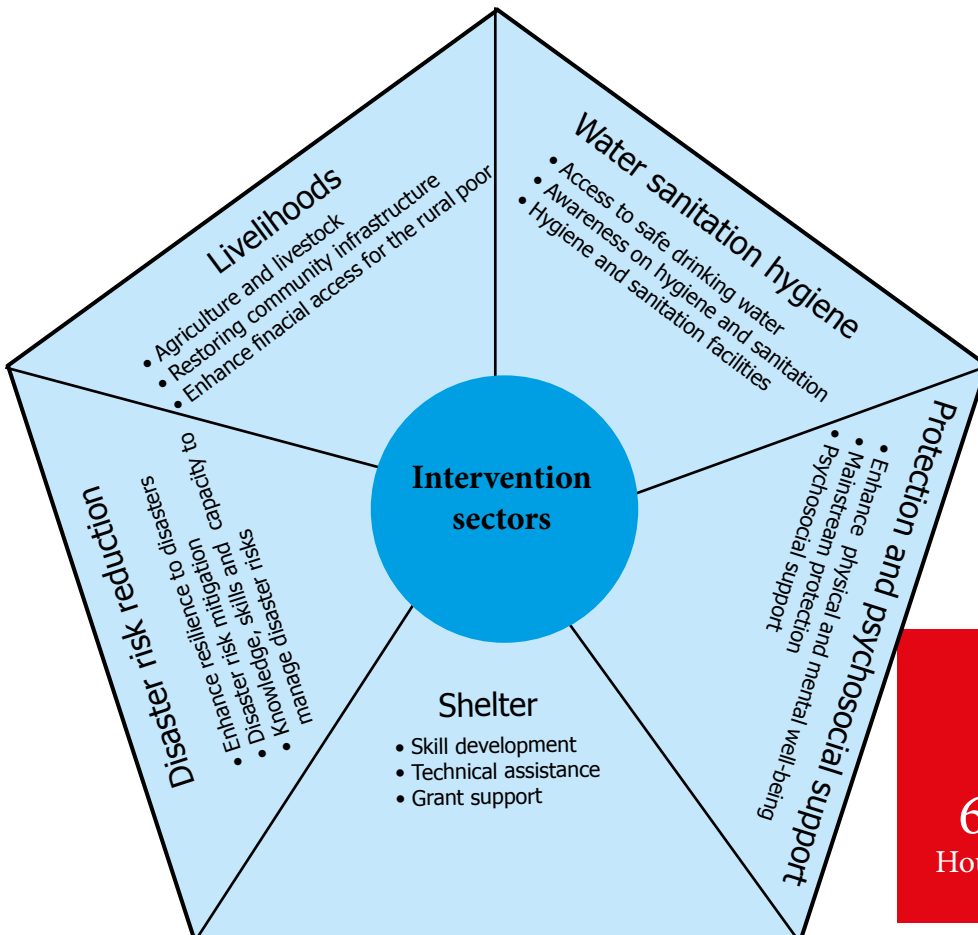
**141 km**  
rural roads &  
footpaths

# CARITAS NEPAL ENABLES COMMUNITY REBUILDING

Dolakha, Gorkha, Kavre, Sindhuli  
and Sindhupalchowk



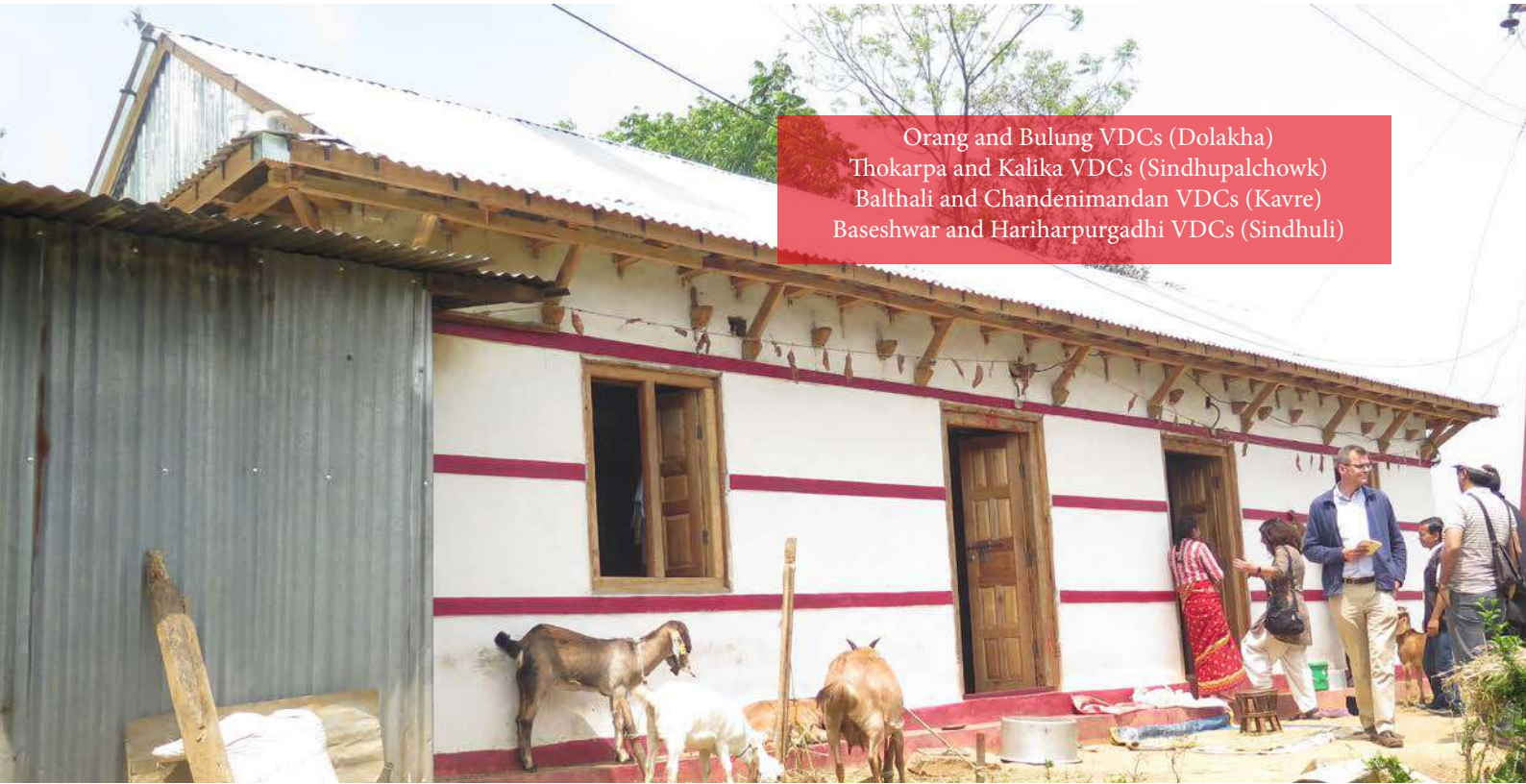
## NEPAL EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY PROGRAMME



The Nepal Earthquake Recovery Programme is being implemented in the Dolakha, Sindhupalchowk, Kavrepalanchowk and Sindhuli districts in Nepal. Caritas Nepal has reached out to about 6000 households with earthquake recovery and reconstruction services since April 2016. An additional 3400 households will start receiving services from June 2017.

|            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| 4          | 8              |
| Districts  | VDCs           |
| 6000       | 30000          |
| Households | people reached |

Orang and Bulung VDCs (Dolakha)  
 Thokarpa and Kalika VDCs (Sindhupalchowk)  
 Balthali and Chandanimandan VDCs (Kavre)  
 Baseshwar and Hariharpurgadhi VDCs (Sindhuli)



## SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS

### A. Shelter Sector:

An owner-driven approach to house construction is being promoted in communities with the slogan "Surakshit Awas Afain Banau, or "Let us build safe houses ourselves".

- 149 shelter facilitation groups formed in 6 village locations (previously called VDCs) are proactively facilitating earthquake-resistant construction of 3700 houses
- More than 70% of 326 masons trained in earthquake-resistant house construction are actively contributing to house reconstruction in the villages
- 59 engineering technicians (33 from the Government of Nepal and 26 from Caritas Nepal) trained in earthquake-resistant house construction are working on reconstruction activities for their respective agencies
- 1365 households have started house construction, and 622 houses have already been constructed with technical

support from Caritas Nepal's village-level shelter team

- 4256 households and 663 households eligible for housing grants have received the first (Rs.50000) and second (Rs.150000) installments respectively

### B. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Water user groups led drinking water system construction and adopted a community-led approach to promoting the improvement of sanitation facilities

- 6000 people in 1204 households are accessing safe drinking water from 17 drinking water systems (11 new and 6 renovated), constructed with 40% community contributions
- 11 of the remaining 15 drinking water systems identified for development or renovation are under construction by the drinking water user groups

Dr Govinda Raj Pokhar-el, Chief Executive Officer of the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA), and Fr. K. B. Bogati, Caritas Nepal Executive Director present a cheque to the manager of Laxmi Bank in Charikot, to cover payment of the second tranche of funding into the accounts of beneficiaries in Orang and Bulung. The housing grants are provided by Caritas Nepal in accordance with NRA guidelines.



- Empowered WASH committees are facilitating WASH activities in 8 villages (former VDCs)
- Community-based committees and groups are regularly checking the quality of water supplied to local households and taking remedial measures, ensuring access to safe drinking water
- About 1000 students and teachers in 41 schools across 8 project villages actively engaged in improving school sanitation conditions and their own personal and family hygiene

### C. Livelihoods

Support has been given to communities to restore their livelihoods, and communities have been mobilised by forming or strengthening local groups and cooperatives

- 3423 people involved in Cash for Work have improved community infrastructure, including irrigation canals and roads, which has earned them additional average income of Rs. 3207 for fulfilling their daily needs
- 5459 households have improved crop production by adopting seed replacement, drought resistant crop varieties, fruits and cash crop cultivation
- 1518 trained farmers are practicing sustainable agriculture and using agricultural tools enabling them to improve and expand their agricultural activities
- 1297 farmers trained in kitchen gardening have increased their garden area, diversified their diets by using improved seeds and good practices
- 1915 farmers trained in basic livestock farming have improved their livestock management practices and 578 have increased their livelihood capitals with the support of additional livestock for their farms

- Improved access to irrigation from 12 renovated and newly constructed irrigation canals and two irrigation ponds have helped 991 families increase irrigation on their farms and improve crop productivity

- 127 farmers trained on integrated pest management (IPM) practices for rice and vegetable crops during a season-long farmer field school training are now using IPM practices to improve crop productivity and farming sustainability

- 8 strengthened community-based cooperatives are promoting sustainable rural enterprises

- 5 reconstructed milk collection centres are now being used to market milk products from local farmers in three villages

- Kalika and Thokarpa VDCs have prepared disaster risk management plans using a risk and vulnerability analysis

### D. Protection Mainstreaming

The programme has adopted a protection mainstreaming approach to ensure all beneficiaries receive the services of the programme in an accessible, safe and dignified manner, and to identify and provide basic guidance and referral support to people suffering from disabilities or trauma

- 162 trained recovery staff and volunteers are ensuring protection mainstreaming through out the programme and 71 are providing basic guidance to people with psychosocial trauma

- Feedback mechanisms are in place (including community meetings, 88 feedback boxes and toll-free numbers), and people are using them to express their concerns and recommendations

- Vulnerable families are receiving psycho social support and counselling from protection committees in all 8 villages and 72 wards



A visit from the Social Welfare Council. Left to right: Fr. K. B. Bogati, Executive Director (Caritas), Mr. Dilli Prashadh Bhatta, Secretary (SWC), Mr. Ram Sharma, Acting Director (SWC) and Mr. Manindra Malla, Programme Manager (Caritas)

## CARITAS NEPAL INITIATIVES BEYOND NERP

- 686 masons trained in “build back better” construction techniques and 622 new houses constructed so far, including 12 demo houses for vulnerable people
- Funding for rebuilding provided (first tranche of funding to 4256 households and second tranche to 663)
- 3693 local people employed via Cash for Work (CfW) schemes; 141km of rural roads and footpaths repaired/constructed via CfW
- 15 irrigation canals repaired, measuring 33km, and four public resting places (chautari) constructed
- 17 water systems repaired, benefiting 6000 people across 1204 households
- Health and hygiene promoted through radio jingles, educational materials and 17 street dramas watched by 7005 local people; 885 students across 41 schools involved in awareness-raising activities
- 19111 farmers provided with modern agricultural toolkits
- 4940 local people trained in income-generating activities
- 233 staff and volunteers trained on protection mainstreaming and 88 feedback boxes installed in local community hubs
- Protection and psychosocial support activities reached 6695 local people; 16 individual psychosocial cases referred to specialist agencies
- 422 people trained and made aware of DRR



## Caritas made my life blessed: now we have a door to enter

Prakash Khadka/Caritas Nepal



“When he grows up, he may go out into the world to earn a living, and one day he may find his way back home”

Little Purna Tamang in Sindhupalchowk was left an orphan in 2015, when his father had a breakdown after the earthquake and hanged himself. His mother had left the family years before, when Purna was just 18 months old.

Finding protection with his grandmother Jamuna, five-year-old Purna survived the earthquake's many aftershocks. But the months that followed continued to be a waking nightmare for this small Tamang family. Grandmother and grandson had no home, and spent their days and nights under sheets of corrugated iron.

At the age of 64, Jamuna was too frail to carry out physical work; and the small piece of bare dry land which the family owns up in the high mountains fell out of use. Little Purna and his grandmother were left helpless.

Meanwhile Caritas Nepal was at work in their village, building an earthquake-resistant “demo house”. The local village committee arranged with Caritas that Purna and Jamuna, the most vulnerable family in the area, should live in the demo house once it was completed.

“Caritas made my life blessed,” Jamuna muses. “What greater service could anyone have done for me, an abandoned old Tamangni [Tamang] villager?”

The Tamangs are indigenous inhabitants of the Himalayan region, historically marginalised by mainstream Nepali society despite constituting 5.6% of the nation's population.

“Now we have a door to enter: a home for the two of us,” says Jamuna. “I could never have built this myself. I am very happy with Caritas Nepal. Caritas has really done good for us.”

Caritas has so far constructed 12 demo houses over the course of the recovery programme, and handed them over to the poorest and most vulnerable families in their communities.

Young Purna is now enrolled in Grade One in a nearby school.

“I am just like the setting sun: beyond the hills,” says Jamuna. “But my little one will now have a future, for sure.” She looks lovingly at her grandson. “Purna is a quiet boy, but he is a friend to me. He tells me a lot about his school, a little bit at a time. I am uneducated, but my boy is already able to write a few words.”

Jamuna's life is still by no means easy: she receives a small sum of money from the government as Old Age Assistance, but still struggles to feed herself and her grandson. But she has hope that Purna may grow up to have a better life than it has been her own lot to experience.

“When he grows up, he may go out into the world to earn a living, and one day he may find his way back home,” she says fondly. “And if he comes back here, it will be thanks to this house.”



# CARITAS AUSTRIA SUPPORTS REBUILDING OF COMMUNITIES

Sindhupalchowk, Sindhuli, Dolakha, Kavre, Gorkha and Ramechhap

- 2000 families provided with support to rebuild their homes
- 4600 households supported with livelihood inputs and repairs to local infrastructure
- Caritas Austria is additionally supporting Caritas Nepal in the earthquake recovery programme

**The recovery programme of Caritas Austria in Nepal is focused on the following areas:**

- Reconstruction of education infrastructure
- Reconstruction of community infrastructure facilities
- Shelter reconstruction
- Capacity building for skilled and unskilled labourers
- Sustainable livelihoods
- Volunteer management
- Knowledge management

**Caritas**  
Austria



## CAFOD AND TRÓCAIRE REBUILD SCHOOLS, WATER SYSTEMS AND LIVELIHOODS

Sindhupalchowk and Nuwakot



- 2 schools being rebuilt, including WASH facilities, serving 212 students and 14 teachers

- 15 School Management Committee (SMC) members benefited from training on procurement and financial record-keeping

- SMCs, teachers, students and community representatives given introductory DRR training

- DRR being incorporated into school curriculum at Birendra Secondary School and Himalaya Primary School in

Nuwakot District

- 2 new agricultural poly-houses established in Sindhupalchowk

- 75 local people supported to begin vegetable production and 65 trained in use of organic manure

- 41 self-help groups set up with 1033 members; leadership training provided to 44 local group representatives. 5 irrigation schemes constructed/repaired, benefiting 166 households.



## CORDAID SUPPORTS COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND INTERNALLY DISPLACED FAMILIES

Rasuwa



- Whole community in two VDCs sensitised on earthquake-resistant construction and “build back better” technology
- 300 local people trained in masonry, carpentry, plumbing and house wiring
- 152 permanent shelters constructed
- 41 water schemes rebuilt, providing clean drinking water for 2800 families
- Water schemes are now supplying filtered drinking water to 4000 students and teachers at 21 local schools
- Hygiene awareness promoted in all 18 wards of both VDCs and four camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs)
- 14 new irrigation systems constructed benefitting 428 farming families
- Skills training provided to 80 local farmers who are now growing paddy, ginger, maize and onions
- 180 families have started farming tomatoes commercially: Cordaid is working to support the market value chain
- 1200 local people have received training in income generation activities (agriculture and livestock sector)
- First lift irrigation system in Rasuwa’s history introduced, supporting 142 local farming households and 180 IDP families
- Social cohesion between host and IDP families improved by knowledge-sharing and joint work to rebuild water facilities
- New guidelines on community water management introduced, ensuring sustainability and ending decades of community conflict over water

Cordaid’s resilience project on Internally Displaced People (IDP) was awarded the Ockenden International Prize 2017.



## CRS TRAINS MASONS AND FARMERS, AND PROMOTES CLOSER COORDINATION WITH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Gorkha, Sindhuli and Okhaldhunga



- 1462 masons trained and 355 earthquake-affected households supported via door-to-door assistance
- 25 VDCs now receiving the full package of technical assistance (up from nine in November 2016), and 125 Community Reconstruction Committees formed across 14 VDCs
- Four footpaths restored, four drinking water systems constructed and 80 hygiene promotion sessions held
- 5188 farmers trained in improved agricultural practices, 240 farmers supported with cash to construct improved goat shelters and 100 taken on an exposure visit to learn about cardamom farming in Lamjung
- Three out of 12 district teams now integrated with the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA). Five Housing Recovery and Reconstruction Platform (HRRP) team members embedded in NRA office to support data collection & analysis and provide input on the technical assistance programme
- Four low-cost housing designs put forward by the technical coordination team have now been approved by the NRA and Central Level Project Implementation Unit
- 751 local people employed via Cash for Work schemes
- Distribution of improved varieties of maize seed to 18328 households and 222 maize demonstration plots established



# CARITAS GERMANY SUPPORTS EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Sindhupalchowk



- 335 households supported with toilet construction materials

- Five irrigation channels repaired, benefiting 673 households, and undamaged systems checked to make sure they are landslide-proof

- 245 households served by one new and four repaired drinking water systems

- 4316 households across four Village Development Committees (VDCs) reached by hygiene awareness activities including street dramas and education materials, and 926 informed about the banking system and government incentives

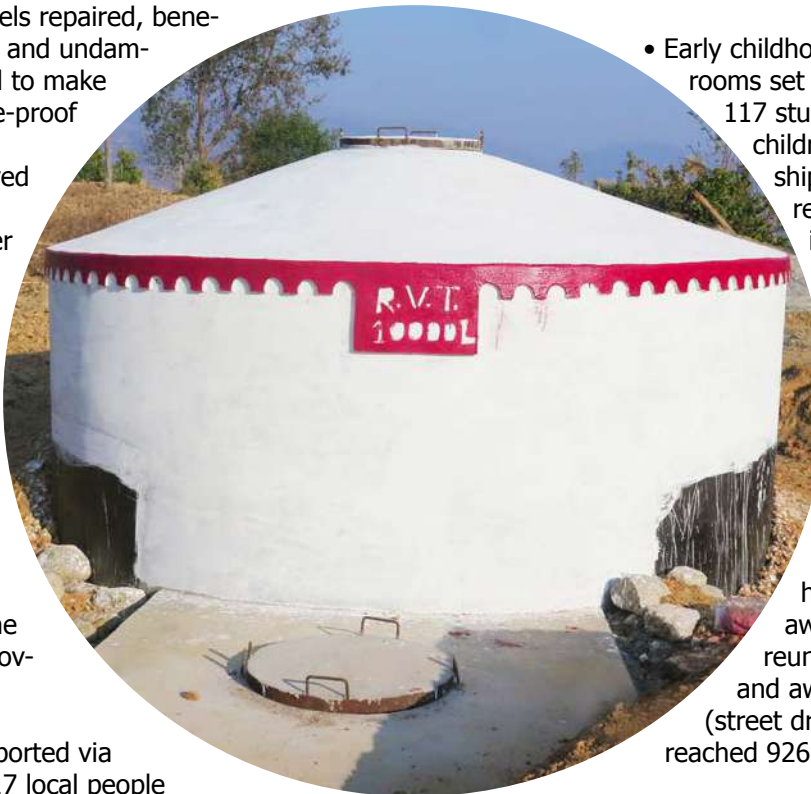
- 210 households supported via Cash for Work, and 117 local people trained in skills including farming mushrooms and vegetables and making incense

- Winter kits (blankets, solar lights, corrugated iron sheets etc) provided to 1280 households, and cash support of Rs.10,000 given to 796 others

- Early childhood development classrooms set up in seven schools for 117 students; 70 vulnerable children supported via scholarships; and 20 Child Club representatives given training in peer education and life skills

- 113 children provided with midday meals at the Panchakanya and Pratibha schools in Kunchok VDC

- Local committee set up in Kunchok to prevent human trafficking: two runaway girls have already been reunited with their families, and awareness raising activities (street dramas, radio dramas etc) reached 926 households



# CARITAS SWITZERLAND REBUILDS CHILD-FRIENDLY SCHOOLS

Sindhupalchowk



**CARITAS** Schweiz  
Suisse  
Svizzera  
Svizra

- Five schools and 42 classrooms rebuilt, giving 800 children a safe learning environment
- All new schools are child friendly with playgrounds, evacuation spaces, toilets, drinking water facilities and spacious classrooms accessible to disabled students
- 3705 participants undertook hygiene awareness-raising activities (essay competitions, street dramas etc)
- Four schools developed Operation & Maintenance plans, with Caritas staff support
- 1736 local people participated in activities to enhance their knowledge on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)
- Five schools have developed DRR plans
- 4407 local people participated in programmes to promote children's school attendance
- 70 children who had dropped out of school are now attending daily
- 4500 local people reached by street dramas and a weekly radio programme raising awareness on DRR, hygiene and school attendance



## CARITAS ITALIANA SUPPORTS LIVELIHOODS AND RECONSTRUCTION

Gorkha, Dhading, Kaski, Rasuwa,  
Ramechhap, Makwanpur, Lalitpur,  
Sindhupalchowk, Kavre and  
Chitwan



- 7720 students at 16 schools damaged in the earthquake given educational, nutritional, health and psychosocial support, and 1096 more given uniforms, bags and/or educational materials

- Psychosocial care and counselling training for 225 local people, with support from the Trichandra College Department of Psychology

- 428 households supported to reconstruct their homes

- 7700 people supported with agricultural materials and

training via ASIA Onlus; goats distributed to 50 households

- Community hall built for training delivery and courses run on driving, tailoring and knitting for 52 participants, with support from ASIA Onlus

- Health centre maintained, five health camps organised, two health posts reconstructed serving 8000 local people, and 3 health awareness programmes organised





## Rising up from the devastated ground

Prakash Khadka / Caritas Nepal

**S**even-year old Anisha isn't scared any more. She jumps around the hillsides with her younger brother Rajan. Her mother cooks delicious chicken and her father runs a poultry farm. They recently moved into a new earthquake-resilient house.

*The family belongs to the Pahari community in Sindhupalchowk, an endangered indigenous group believed to be living only in Nepal, with a population of around 14 thousand.*

Everyone in the family looks happy. But that hasn't always been the case over the last two years.

Shivahari, Anisha's father, was working as a labourer in the neighboring town of Banepa, and Kamala, her mother, was collecting fodder in the nearby jungle while the children were playing inside the house. That was on 25 April 2015, the day of the earthquake. When the couple ran wildly back home, they found their house collapsed on the ground. But something more important had escaped: both of the children were safe. Anisha had jumped from the window and rescued little Rajan.

That evening, the family sheltered under a stack of straw in their buffalo shed.

Caritas Nepal stuck by thousands of families from the first day of the catastrophe, camping out with them in the field under tarpaulins: sharing their sorrows, giving them hope.

Anisha's family received a grant and technical support

from Caritas.

"Our house was made of stones and mud. We cleared the rubble and stayed in a tent. It has been almost two years since then," Kamala recalls. "It used to be so cold and windy; we and our children got sick several times."

Shivahari also attended business planning training with Caritas. Motivated by what he learned, he started a small poultry farm near his house, with support from a business grant.

Now the father, 27, is hoping for a dignified life as the owner of his own business. "I started working as a child labourer at 10. Now I am a free man after more than 15 years of servitude. Thanks to Caritas for making this happen!"

The family was eventually able to build and move into a new little home: an earthquake-resilient house, better than their previous one.

The house is made of cement bricks, with two rooms and an outside kitchen. Its construction included iron rods, a damp-proof course (DPC) barrier and a new pillar system to support the corners.

Anisha, who has experienced more than 500 earthquakes and aftershocks since her early childhood, says that she likes her new house very much. "It looks strong and I feel safe", she says shyly.



Everyone worked hard: neighbours set up labour exchanges, and 50 of them worked together for 30 days to complete the rebuilding. Transporting the materials up into the mountains took up most of the time.

"We were worried and scared all the time. We never thought of building a house of our own." Shivahari is amazed himself at what he's accomplished. This has been a major achievement for his family.

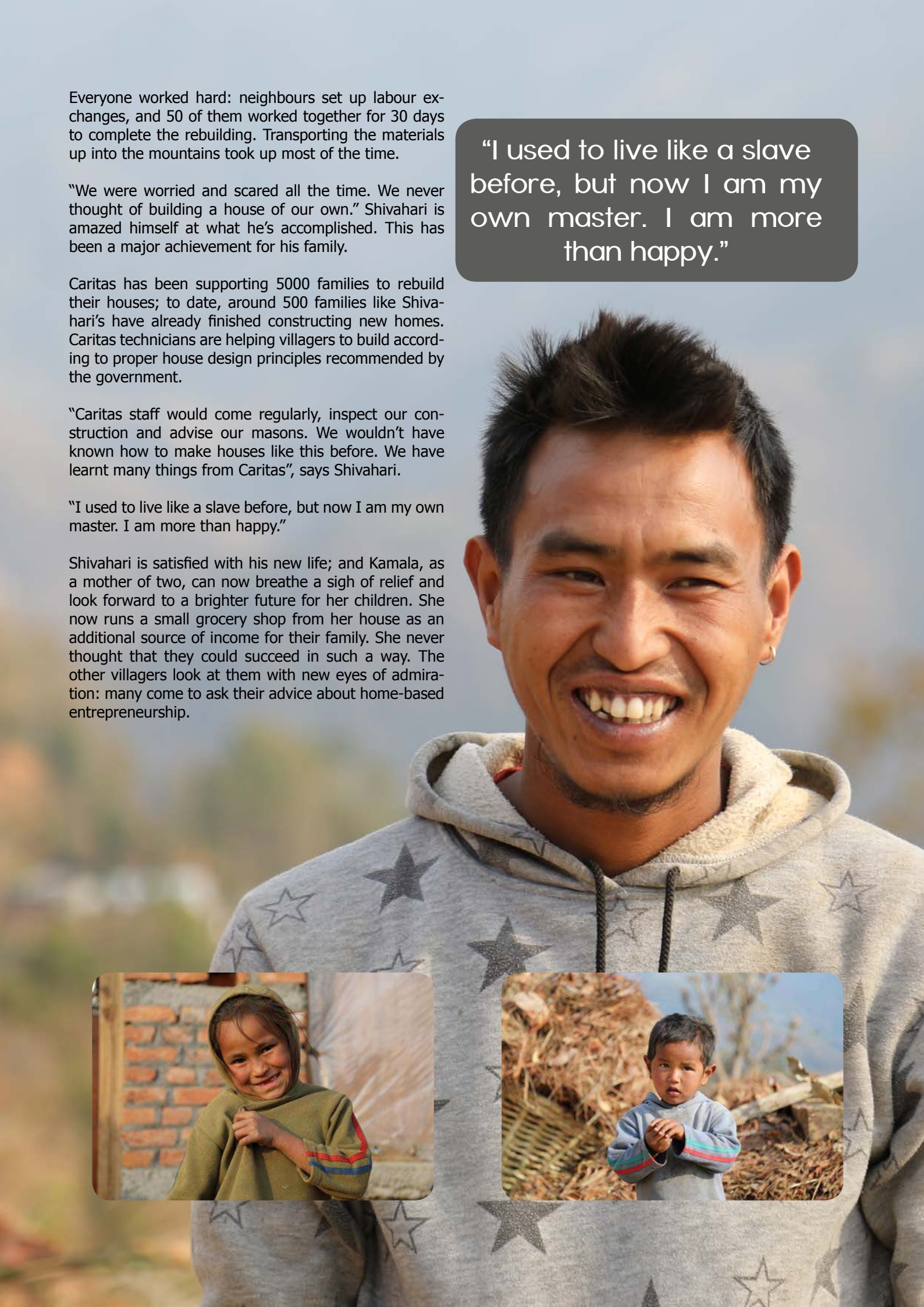
Caritas has been supporting 5000 families to rebuild their houses; to date, around 500 families like Shivahari's have already finished constructing new homes. Caritas technicians are helping villagers to build according to proper house design principles recommended by the government.

"Caritas staff would come regularly, inspect our construction and advise our masons. We wouldn't have known how to make houses like this before. We have learnt many things from Caritas", says Shivahari.

"I used to live like a slave before, but now I am my own master. I am more than happy."

Shivahari is satisfied with his new life; and Kamala, as a mother of two, can now breathe a sigh of relief and look forward to a brighter future for her children. She now runs a small grocery shop from her house as an additional source of income for their family. She never thought that they could succeed in such a way. The other villagers look at them with new eyes of admiration: many come to ask their advice about home-based entrepreneurship.

"I used to live like a slave before, but now I am my own master. I am more than happy."



“Our hope was lost, but now it’s restored”

The family earnings have doubled: they earn around Rs.20-25,000 a month altogether, enough for them to live in the village and send their children to school. This is a major change in their lives: before the earthquake, Shivahari used to make just Rs.10-12,000 a month as a labourer.

“Our hope was lost, but now it’s restored,” Kamala says with satisfaction.



Her Excellency Ms. Rensie Teerink, Ambassador, European Union Delegation to Nepal, and Mr. Andreas Roettger, Head of Cooperation, European Union Delegation to Nepal visit Bathali in Kavre, one of the target locations for the Earthquake Recovery Programme, with Caritas Nepal Programme Manager Mr. Manindra Malla.

## Caritas Member Organisations in Nepal



www.caritas.org



## Partner Organisations



To find out more about Caritas Nepal and our work



@caritasnep



@caritas\_nepal



Caritasnep



caritas@mail.com.np

**Caritas Nepal**  
Dhobighat, Lalitpur  
GPO Box 9571  
Contact: 5538172  
Fax: 5538484

## **Caritas Nepal**

Dhobighat, Lalitpur GPO Box 9571  
Contact: 5538172  
Fax: 5538484  
Email: [caritas@mail.com.np](mailto:caritas@mail.com.np)  
[www.caritasnepal.org](http://www.caritasnepal.org)  
[www.caritas.org.np](http://www.caritas.org.np)