United Nations Development Programme

Socio-technical Facilitation Services to Nepal Housing Reconstruction Project (NHRP) in Gorkha district

CDRMP/UNDP

Final Evaluation Report

Evaluation timeframe: November-December 2021

Evaluators:
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December 2021

Acknowledgments

The Evaluation Team would like to express its gratitude to UNDP Nepal for entrusting us this valuable and interesting assignment of conducting final evaluation of Socio-Technical of Nepal Housing Reconstruction Project in Gorkha District supported by the Government of India.

The team expresses its deep sense of gratitude to the people of the study area who willingly shared their experiences, knowledge, and concerns with the team. Elected office bearers and officials of Gaun Palika and Nagarpalika, government offices, private organizations, partner organizations, frontline staff of the project, both men and women, eloquently and candidly shared their views and concerns. Without their willing cooperation we would not have got to the crux of this study.

We thank the officials of the CDRMP, especially Kedar Babu Dhungana and Naresh Nidal for their excellent management in conduction of the field study and for sharing their candid insights into the project. We are grateful to Mr. Dinesh Bista, RBM Analyst of UNDP, for his constant support and tremendous efforts to finalize this evaluation report.

The Evaluation Team

Project and evaluation information detail

Project title	Socio-technical Facilitation Services to Nepal Housing Reconstruction Project (NHRP)	
Atlas ID	00107348	
Corporate outcome and output	UNDAF/CPD Outcome 3: By 2022, environmental management, sustainable recovery and reconstruction, and resilience to climate change and natural disaster are strengthen at all levels. CPD Output 3.5: Improved capacities of communities and governments for resilient recovery and reconstruction.	
Country	Nepal	
Region	Asia Pacific	
Date project document signed	8 March 2018	
Project dates	Start	Valid period
	08-03-2018	31-12-2021
Project budget	USD 8,799,300	
Project expenditure at the time of evaluation	USD 8734092. 8	
Funding source	Government of India	
Implementing party	SEEEDS India, UNNATI India, Hunnarshala India, and CEDAP India; two local NGOs: SSICDC Gorkha and SCDC Gorkha; and eight local governments of Gorkha and Palungtar municipalities; and Arughat, Ajirkot, Dharche, Gandaki, Shahid Lakhan, and Siranchowk rural municipalities	
Evaluation information		
Evaluation type	Project evaluation	
Final/midterm review/ other	Final	
Period under evaluation	**Start:** 08-03-2019	**End:** 31-12-2021
Evaluators	Dr. Gobinda Bahadur Basnet and Er. Gopal Kharel	
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Evaluation dates	**Start:** 13-11-2021	**End:**31-12-2021

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

ANS	Awas Nirman Sathi
BPS	Building Permit Studio
BSS	Beneficiary Status Survey
CDO	Chief District Officer
CDRMP	Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Programme
CEDAP	Centre for Ecocentric Development and Peoples
CF	Community Facilitator
CLPIU	Central Level Project Implementation Unit
CPD	Country Programme Document
CTT	Core Technical Team
CR	Containment Reinforcement
DAC	Development Assistance Committee
DCC	District Coordination Committee
DLPIU	District Level Project Implementation Unit
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DUDBC	Department of Urban Development and Building Construction
EoI	Embassy of India in Nepal
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GESI	Gender Equity and Social Inclusion
GMALI	Grant Management and Local Infrastructure
GoI	Government of India
GoN	Government of Nepal
GP	Gaun Palika
IEC	Information, Communication and Education
KII	Key Informant Interviews
MoHA	Ministry of Home Affiars
MoFAGA	Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration
MoUD	Ministry of Urban Development
MTC	Mobile Technology Clinic
NBC	National Building Code
NHRP	Nepal Housing reconstruction Project
NP	Nagar Palika
NPC	National Planning Commission
NRA	National Reconstruction Authority
ODR	Owner Driven Reconstruction
ODRC	Owner Driven Reconstruction Collaborative
PA	Participation Agreement
PDNA	Post Disaster Needs Assessment
PDRF	Post Disaster Recovery Framework
PMT	Project Management Team

PwD	People with Disability
RM	Rural Municipality
RMIS	Reconstruction Management Information System
SDSC	Systems Development Service Centre
SFDRR	Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction
SSICDC	Swanra Saghan Integrated Community Development Centre
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
VDC	Village Development Committee

Executive Summary

Context:

This report describes the findings of the final evaluation of the project the 'Socio-technical Facilitation Services to Nepal Housing Reconstruction (NHRP)' which was implemented in 42 wards of two municipalities (*Nagar Palika)* and six rural municipalities (*Gaun Palika),* the local governments of Gorkha district, in the aftermath of the 2015 earthquake in Nepal. The project was started in March 2018 and ended in December 2021. The Project was designed and implemented to provide socio technical facilitation to reconstruct 26,912 houses with the support from the Government of India to the Government of Nepal.

The key areas of intervention of the project are providing social facilitation for administrative procedures, providing technical advice and guidance, and capacity strengthening for housing reconstruction. The project was designed following Owner Driven Reconstruction approach and had six interrelated components of i) Facilitating administrative procedures regarding inclusion, grant release, and certification; ii) On-site technical advice and guidance on construction technology, design options, disaster resistant features, government norms, material procurement and construction management; iii) Technical services of design drawings, preparation for building permit process; iv) Capacity building of all project participants, particularly house owners and masons; v) Concurrent monitoring and quality assurance; and vi) Facilitating use of Appropriate Disaster Resistant Technologies.

The project was implemented in partnership with Owner Driven Reconstruction Collaborative (ODRC) of India. The project also partnered with two district level NGOs.

The project was implemented through the project teams based at different levels: The Municipality Facilitation Team working at local level; District Support Team leading coordination, management of the project; Core Technical Team providing necessary technical guidance and handholding to the project teams. At Central level, the Project Management Team provided overall guidance and managerial support. Altogether 175 staff members (32 females and 143 males) were mobilized to implement the project. The total approved budget for the project was USD 8.7 million. Three Palika also leveraged some financial resources through Reconstruction Revolving Fund.

Evaluation purpose and methodology

The purpose of the evaluation was to assess the results achieved and lessons learnt from the project implementation and to make specific recommendations for future course of actions for any such similar interventions. The evaluation aimed to provide a comprehensive understanding on how it responded to the pre-identified needs, and the extent of services provided to the house owners that would lead to disaster resilient construction of houses and to document the achievements of project interventions and lessons learned. The evaluation aimed to assess the project in relation to the criteria of relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, impacts, human rights, and Gender and Social inclusion.

The primary audience of this evaluation are UNDP, Government of India (represented through Embassy of India) as the funding agency, the relevant government agencies of the Government

of Nepal, Local Governments, Project implementing partner organizations from India and Nepal, humanitarian agencies, and organizations working in the disaster risk management sector.

The evaluation adopted a mixed approach integrating quantitative and qualitative methods and techniques for data collection and analysis. Methods followed for evaluation included review of project documents and relevant national policies and plans, focused group discussion, key informant interviews, and participatory observation of the activities. Field observations and consultations were conducted from November 20 to 29, 2021. Altogether 11 FGDs (including two with landless households, one with Dalit households, two ethnicity households, and two with female masons) were conducted to capture the wider voices of the beneficiaries. Altogether a total of 83 individuals (44 females) participated in these FGDs. Key informant interviews were conducted with 51 individuals.

Evaluation findings

The project successfully provided socio-technical facilitation to reconstruct 26,912 households as planned. The six integral and interrelated components acted synergistically to achieve this project result. The summary findings in terms of the evaluation criteria are presented below:

Relevance: The project was highly relevant as it was designed to address the pressing needs of house reconstruction (41% of the total in the district) in the aftermath of the 2015 devastating earthquake in Nepal. The six components of the project were designed and implemented successfully to meet the house reconstruction needs of 26,912 households in Gorkha. The project aligned with the 14th and 15th National Development Plans which emphasized the reconstruction of the houses. The project also aligned with the SDG goals particularly contributing to targets 1.5, 11.5 and 13.1. The project activities were designed and implemented in line with the priorities set by the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, 2015-2030. The project is also congruent with National Policy for Disaster Risk Reduction 2018, which is also in line with the Sendai Framework. The project is contributing to outcome 3 of UNDP Country Programme Document (CPD) 2018-2022.

Coherence: The project design and implementation is aligned with national guiding policies such as PDNA and coherent with UNDP's Country Programme 2018-2022 and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022, especially the output 3.5 'improved capacities of communities and governments for resilient recovery and reconstruction. Internally, the components and activities are complementary to one another. The activities also aligned with the local government's priority of housing reconstruction. Collaboration with private finance institutions in mobilizing the resources, formal collaboration with community organizations such as women's groups and youth groups could be improved.

Effectiveness: The project achievement was highly effective as all the planned houses were built ensuring quality of construction meeting fulfilling the building codes. The expedition of tranches release, intense social and technical facilitation focused at individual households, capacity strengthening of house owners and masons, provision of building design services and wider dissemination of information were highly effective. Comprehensive attention to other hazards

could have improved the effectiveness. Special attention placed on addressing the barriers faced by vulnerable households in reconstruction made it possible for those households to reconstruct houses. Effective coordination with the local governments helped to leverage the resources through Reconstruction Revolving Fund. The coordination expanded beyond the realm of reconstruction to dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. Some areas for improvement to make the project effective are incorporating safety measures to other hazards such as lightning and fire; facilitating for opportunities for female masons.

Efficiency: The human resources were mobilized efficiently considering the local contexts. Larger human resources were mobilized in remote areas and in places with larger number of houses to be reconstructed in municipalities during the peak of implementation and later scaled down as the project activities tapered off. Effective coordination and adaptive management were practiced as in conducting concurrent monitoring and quality assurance through independent group of experts, remodeling training of masons. Project design of RIMS, concurrent monitoring and quality assurance enhanced the efficiency through providing effective feedback mechanism for readjustment in implementation. Leveraging of resources from the local governments also enhanced the efficiency. The financial resources were efficiently utilized as the management expenses accounted for 21.42% of the total expenses.

Sustainability: The high quality and adherence of safety measures ensured during the construction will contribute to sustainability of the houses. Factors like continued presence of trained technical human resources developed through project intervention, strong ownership by the local governments will contribute in sustainability of the effects of the project. Reconstruction work did not have any significant negative environmental impact on resources like sand/stone, forest resources. Social justice promoted through focused attention on vulnerable groups will enhance social cohesion. These social capitals will contribute in sustainability of the project results. Attention to multiple hazards, engagement of local service providers in design and drawings could have enhanced the sustainability.

Impact: The safe houses built provide immense sense of safety and self-esteem of the local people. The large base of trained human resources (masons and ANS) including female masons spread through-out the project area will help to promote and ensure safe construction in future beyond the project municipalities. Initiation of service providing enterprises by some of the trained human resources will help promote entrepreneurship in the district. The local government's capacity and confidence in managing large scale initiative has been enhanced which will have far reaching effects on the future socio-economic development activities. The effects social justice promoted by the project, social capital built will start percolating in future development initiatives The majority of housing typology followed will require extension work (such as kitchen), addition of false ceiling. Many households incurred loans to build houses which may create financial troubles to the households in future

GESI: The project emphasized on enhancing gender equity and social inclusion issues. Women (also focusing on single, senior citizen), landless households, people with disability, minors were provided additional support in coordination with local governments. GESI issues were integrated

in different components of the project such a as in providing support for administrative procedures, training, IEC materials etc. Dedicated trainings were provided to female masons. Gender issues were taken into account in staff management as well. Some cases of differential wages in reconstruction work based on gender were found in Gorkha Municipality. Database system could be improved with better disaggregation among different categories.

Human Rights: The project has given high priority to address the differential concerns of vulnerable groups. Vulnerable households were provided individual attention. Landless households, Dalits, people with disability were provided additional support in and house construction. The effects of project intervention are felt more intensely by the vulnerable households than other households. Conduction of mason trainings in the houses of vulnerable groups helped in saving parts of the expenses and enhancing their self- worth The empowerment of the Dalits and landless households through housing reconstruction will help in minimizing the prevailing discrimination.

The overall performance of the project is 'satisfactory. The project performance score/rating following 'a five-point scale' against the evaluation criteria is given in below table.

Criteria	Rating/Score	Performance
Relevance	1	Highly relevant to post disaster context to fill recovery gaps as identified by PDNA
Coherence	2	Very strong external coherence with the scope of improvement for Collaboration with private finance institutions, and community organizations.
Effectiveness	2	Highly effective in achieving the results. Comprehensive attention to other hazards could have improved the effectiveness.
Efficiency	1	Highly efficient as the human resources were mobilized efficiently. Local governments leveraged resources through revolving fund.
Sustainability	2	The overall sustainability is satisfactory Attention to multiple hazards, and engagement of local service providers in housing design could have enhanced the sustainability.
Impact	3	Moderately satisfactory as the project results and effects will lead to safer construction in the district. There is a high risk that many house owners may fall in debt burden in the absence of economic improvement initiatives.
Human Rights	2	Satisfactory, as the project targeted single elderly women, person living with disabilities, Dalits, Landless households
Gender and Social inclusion	2	The project emphasized on enhancing gender and social inclusion issues. Data base system could be improved with better disaggregation among different categories.
Overall	2	

Scale: 1: Highly satisfactory, 2: Satisfactory, 3: Moderately satisfactory, 4: Somehow satisfactory, 5: Not satisfactory

Conclusions

The project successfully achieved its objective of helping 26,912 house owners in the planned time. The six interrelated components of the project with specific activities worked synergistically to achieve this result. It has developed a well capacitated a strong base of well-trained 4,000 masons and Awas Nirman Sathi including 420 female masons. This strong base of well

capacitated human resource can play a vital role ensuring application of safety measures in future construction work in district. At the community level, large scale reconstruction of safe houses has created a sense of safety from disasters among the house owners. People with disability, single elderly women who would not have imagined of reconstructing a house without the project support, a landless individual owning a house would feel the impact of project immensely. The capacity and confidence of the local governments (Palika and ward officials) have been boosted in managing large scale reconstruction work. A large-scale comprehensive initiative for economic prosperity will be required to address the potential economic problem and also to empower the local communities. Overall, the performance of the project is satisfactory.

Recommendations

- The Ward and Palika Offices should maintain and update the database of technical human resources such as Masons, ANS, and CFs. The local governments could give priority to retain them for relevant work as they could provide valuable services in applying disaster safety measures in future construction work in the district.
- A digital network or platform of these technical human resources should be developed at the district level and linked with other development initiatives that might take place in the district. This will keep the network vibrant and contribute in building a strong social capital.
- A comprehensive data base of reconstruction, which could be easily accessed, should be developed and maintained at the Ward, Palika, and the District Coordination Committees. These databases could be linked with the Local Disaster Management Committees.
- Palika and ward officials should update the database of female masons in their jurisdiction in priority basis and link these female masons with development partners and construction agencies. This initial support will galvanize the skills learned and build up the confidence of the female masons.
- Many households (as in Dharche) were found to use houses those were partially damaged with minor repairs. However, these houses pose future risks until they are strengthened with retrofitting. A survey of use of such houses should be conducted and local governments should encourage retrofitting.
- Safety measures against other hazards such as lightening, fire should be incorporated in already built and future houses as well. Measures such as earthing and construction of ponds where feasible, filling of pit holes around the house, etc. should be promoted.
- The successful housing reconstruction work has provided the local communities and the local governments knowledge, skills and confidence in the management of large-scale development initiatives. This is a social capital which needs to be cashed on future development initiatives.
- Efforts should be made to launch initiative to promote comprehensive economic prosperity upgrading from livelihood improvement focused initiative. This is of utmost importance considering the fact that many of the households had incurred debt while building the houses.
- Design of future programs should be more comprehensive considering multiple hazards such as land slide, fires etc. It should also take into account the emerging socio-economic (such as change in sex ratio, emerging economic opportunities) and environmental processes (such as change in water availability, wildlife damage etc.)

1. Introduction

This report presents the findings from the final evaluation of the 'Socio-technical Facilitation Services to Nepal Housing Reconstruction (NHRP)' which was implemented in two Municipalities and six Rural municipalities (Local Governments) of Gorkha district from March 2018 to December 2021. The project was designed to provide socio-technical facilitation support for reconstruction of houses which were damaged by the 2015 earthquake in Nepal. The purpose of the evaluation was to assess the results achieved and lessons learnt from the project implementation and to make specific recommendations for future course of actions for any such similar interventions. As the project came to an end in December 2021, UNDP commissioned the final evaluation to provide a comprehensive understanding on how it responded to the pre-identified needs, and the extent of services provided to the house owners that would lead to disaster resilient construction of houses and to document the achievements of project interventions and lessons learned. The Project was started in March 2018 and ended in December 2021, including the period from March 2021 extended due to restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic during the project implementation. The key areas of intervention of the project are providing social facilitation for administrative procedures, providing technical advice and guidance, and capacity strengthening for housing reconstruction.

The primary audiences of this evaluation are UNDP, Government of India (represented through Embassy of India) as the funding agency, the relevant government agencies namely Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration, Ministry of Finance, National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority, Local Governments, Project implementing partner organizations from India and Nepal, humanitarian agencies, and organizations working in the disaster risk management sector. The results, recommendations and learning from this project will be useful in designing measures to sustain the effects of this project and to design the similar projects in the future.

This report is organized into six chapters. The first chapter covers brief introduction of the evaluation with rationale. The second chapter describes the intervention to be evaluated and the third chapter describes the purpose and scope of the evaluation. The evaluation approaches and methods including data collection methods, data analysis is described in chapter four. Detail findings of the evaluation are presented in chapter five. The sixth chapter presents conclusion, recommendations, and lessons learnt. Finally, the report has an Annex section at the end.

2. Descriptions of the intervention

2.1 Background and context

The 2015 Earthquake in Nepal caused massive destruction to 700,000 houses, damaging another 250,000 houses, and devastating lives, livelihoods, basic services and infrastructure across 31 districts, of which 14 were declared as "severely affected". In the aftermath of 2015 earthquake, UNDP has been actively and intensively engaged in supporting the Government of Nepal (GoN) and affected communities in reconstruction and recovery efforts. UNDP supported GoN to coordinate the Post Disaster Needs Assessment and Post Disaster Recovery Framework processes. The Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Programme (CDRMP) of UNDP has assisted the GoN's efforts in speedy earthquake recovery by partnering with several donors.

Among several initiatives, the GoN aimed at reconstruction of safe houses through Nepal Housing Reconstruction Project (NHRP) with the support of several donors. The Government of India offered to support the Government of Nepal to reconstruct houses of 50,000 house owners in Gorkha and Nuwakot districts. In this NHRP project, UNDP has partnered with the Government of India in providing socio-technical facilitation support to construct 26,912 houses in Gorkha district as identified by the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA).

GoN's strategy for housing reconstruction is based on recognition that rural housing in Nepal is largely an owner-led self-build process, hence Owner Driven Reconstruction (ODR) approach has been undertaken as a primary approach in housing reconstruction. The ODR approach places emphasis on Socio-Technical facilitation including social mobilization, effective communication, special considerations for social inclusion, and grievance redressal to ensure that the households from all socio-economic strata are able to undertake reconstruction in a reasonable time frame.

The National Reconstruction Authority had already begun the reconstruction work in the district before the initiation of the project. However, for several reasons the reconstruction work had not picked the momentum and 18% of the house owners had not yet started reconstruction and 42% were either stuck or had halted construction midway.

Against this backdrop, the project 'Socio-Technical Facilitation Services to Nepal Housing Reconstruction Project' was implemented from March 2018. The project signed on March 8, 2018 was initially planned for three years but was later extended up to December 2021 as the project implementation was adversely affected by COVID-19 pandemic.

The project had the objective of providing socio-technical facilitation services in compliance with the Government policies through enhancement of homeowners' awareness, ensuring adequate skill building of artisans, enabling house owners to incorporate disaster resistant features in the house and comply with the government norms.

The Project was designed to provide socio-technical facilitation services to 26,912 house owners of eight municipalities in Gorkha district in order to reconstruct their houses through Owner Driven Approach.

In the frame of UNDP's Nepal Country Programme 2018-2022 and United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022, the project contributes to the outcome 3 as "By 2022, environmental management, sustainable recovery and reconstruction, and resilience to climate change and natural disaster are strengthened at all levels.' The Country Program's output 3.5 includes "Improved capacities of communities and government for resilient recovery and reconstruction". The cross-cutting issues addressed through the intervention are human rights, GESI (gender equality, vulnerability, disability, social inclusion) are well addressed in design as well as implementation.

The Project was implemented soon after the election of local governments after the hiatus of over 15 years, following the promulgation of the 2015 constitution. The absence of elected officials at the local and district levels at the time the earthquake hit adversely affected the rescue and recovery work. Disaster response was not well planned in the turmoil of political transition. The frequent changes of leadership in NRA reflects the fluidity in political will to address the disaster response needs. The promulgation of the 2015 constitution and restructuring of the country into federal system has set Nepal in a sail through uncharted water. However, the new path, formation of new governments at local level, and holding of election after over a period of one and half decade set pretty much a euphoric milieu wherein the optimistic local leadership could take up the challenges of reconstruction.

The project launching time was filled with the reconstruction scenario characterized by public grievance over NRA assessment of eligible households for the reconstruction grants from the government, inadequate awareness of the house owners about the government policies and procedures for reconstruction, inadequate trained human resources for reconstruction, and public grudging over the slow pace of reconstruction work. The project wedged through an environment of optimism and euphoria set by new governance set up and difficulties at the initial phase of reconstruction.

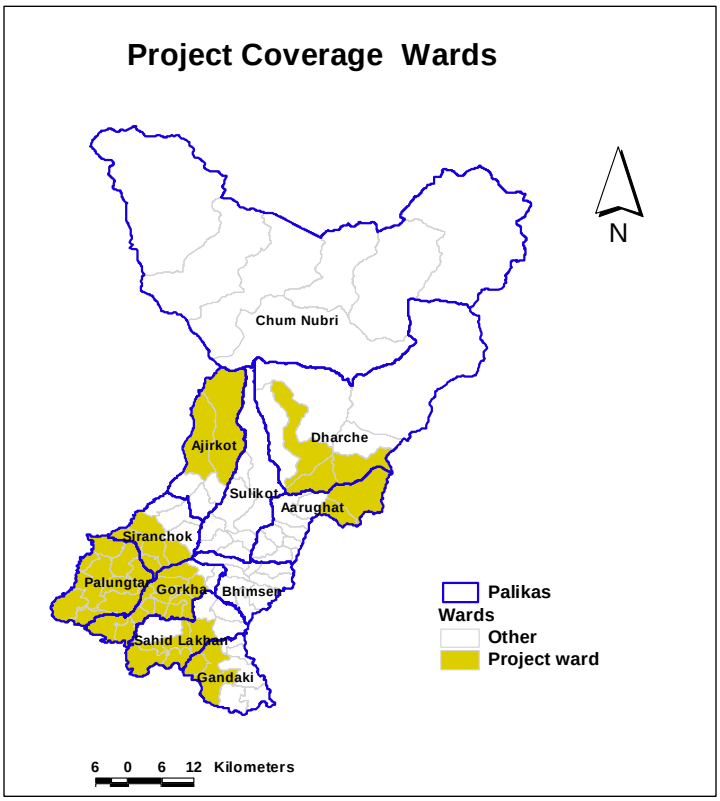
2.3 The Project intervention

The Project was signed with the Embassy of India in March 2018 with the objective of reducing future risks through reconstruction of safe houses for the affected families who have lost their houses in the 2015 earthquake. The project aimed to construct 26,912 houses in Gorkha district. The households were identified by NRA. The beneficiaries' households (HHs) include 1,482 HHs of single woman, 2,275 HHs having family members with disability, 344 HHs of landless, 428 HHs with elderly people, 80 HHs of orphan children and 2,938 HHs of Dalits.

The project had six components of: i) Facilitating administrative procedures regarding inclusion, grant release, and certification; ii) On-site technical advice and guidance on construction technology, design options, disaster resistant features, government norms, material procurement and construction management; iii) Technical services of design drawings, preparation for building

permit process; iv) Capacity building of all project participants, particularly house owners and masons; v) Concurrent monitoring and quality assurance; and vi) Facilitating use of Appropriate Disaster Resistant Technologies.

The design of the six components is consistent with GoN's strategy for housing reconstruction which recognizes that rural housing in Nepal is largely an owner-led self-build process. The design of the Project adopted Owner Driven Reconstruction (ODR) approach. The ODR approach places emphasis on Socio-Technical facilitation including social mobilization, effective communication, special considerations for social inclusion, and grievance redressal to ensure that the households from all socio-economic strata are able to undertake reconstruction in a reasonable time frame.



The project was implemented in 42 wards of six rural municipalities: Dharche (Wards 5 to 7), Arughat (Wards 1 and 2), Ajirkot (Wards 1 and 2), Siranchok (Wards 2 to 6), Gandaki (Wards 1, 2 and 6), and two Municipalities: Palungtar (Wards 1 to 10), and Gorkha (wards 3 to 14) as shown in the map.

The project has partnered with Owner Driven Reconstruction Collaborative (ODRC) of India. The Collaborative comprises four organizations: i) Hunnarshala Foundation, ii) UNNATI – Organisation for Development Education, iii) SEEDS Technical Services; and iv) Centre for Ecocentric Development and Peoples' Action (CEDAP). The SEEDS functioned as ODRC Secretariat. It has also partnered with two local NGOs: Swanra Saghan Integrated Community Development Centre (SSICDC) and Systems Development Service Centre (SDSC) in Gorkha district. These two NGOs have partnered with the project to manage human resources.

The project was implemented through the project teams based at different levels: The Municipality Facilitation Team working at local level; District Support Team leading coordination, management of the project; Core Technical Team providing necessary technical guidance, mentoring, and handholding to the project teams. At Central level, the Project Management Team provided overall guidance and managerial support including liaison, coordination, reporting to the Government of Nepal and India. Altogether 175 staff members (32 females and 143 males) were mobilized to implement the project. Rural municipality Facilitation Team were placed in 12 places (2 each in Nagarpalikas, 3 in Dharche, and one each in remaining Rural municipalities). Two Building Permit Studios were established, one each in Municipality. The Reconstruction Information Management Systems was managed by the Microsoft Innovation Centre.

The project has been supporting in expediting the reconstruction process by facilitating all stages and aspects of reconstruction, including banking, administration, documentation, technical support, inspection, certification, etc. Leaving No One Behind has been the core principle of the project, providing tailored support to the vulnerable households or those at risk of being left behind in the reconstruction process. All of the 26,912 Households were supported on tranche release issues while more than 16,500 HHs were provided with technical support for planning, costing and resources mobilization. Likewise, 1,023 HHs were supported for Participation Agreement (PA) signing process, more than 4,000 HHs were supported for building permit process and 344 HHs were facilitated for land related issues. During the project period, more than 126,493 HH level visits were carried out by the project staff. The project has trained more than 6,800 masons, of which 524 were women masons. The project conducted 431 mobile van campaigns, 211 socio-cultural events and developed and broadcasted 164 radio programme episodes. The project also carried out five large scale and 13 small scale exposure visits, including one visit to Bhuj, India.

The project has also carried out a number of initiatives at national level in close coordination with NRA and other relevant agencies and institutions, which include, but not limited to Toll Free service under NRA, establishment of Shock Table demonstration facility at Tribhuvan University, Institute of Engineering (TU IoE) at Pulchowk, learning exposure initiatives, initiatives of knowledge management and learning documentation, etc. UNDP has also carried out initiatives on several additional areas that have added value to the project, such as enhancing resilience of the habitations, particularly related to landslides in 16 different sites, support for community infrastructure, training of communities on managing risks through enhanced preparedness, among others. While these activities were not directly covered within the ambit of the project, UNDP, with its own resources, attempted to bring some of these elements through various other projects that worked in some of the same areas as the housing project. These were additional activities contributing to the broader spectrum of resilient reconstruction and recovery.

The project commenced in March 2018 with a planned end date of March 2021. However, the project implementation was directly impacted by the lockdown and travel restrictions imposed by the government to contain the spread of COVID-19. Hence, the project was extended through a no-cost until 31 December 2021. Thus, the total duration of the project is 45 months, between March 2018 – December 2021. The total approved budget for Socio-technical facilitation component of the project was USD 8.7 million.

2.4 Project implementation approach

At federal level, the project worked closely with NRA, MoUD, MoHA and other relevant stakeholders. At the municipal level, the project activities were being implemented in close coordination with the local governments, including the elected representatives and government officials. The Project was also closely working with social structures at community level, for example Tole Lane Organizations (TLOs), women's groups, population receiving Social Security Fund (SSF), and Dalit communities, etc.

The project adopted a strategy of enabling owners to reconstruct their houses with adequate information, knowledge, guidance and handholding support on administrative and technical aspects through assigning appropriate personnel at community, local, district and national level. In delivering this, the project focuses on HH level engagement on a regular basis. Each of the beneficiary HHs is provided with all required technical and administrative support, with a number of on-site visits to the houses under construction. Awas Nirman Saathi (ANS), skilled masons are assigned to look after the HHs in a cluster/settlement basis throughout the house reconstruction process starting with their agreement process at local government level. Any administrative and social issues are addressed engaging social mobilizers at HH levels, connecting the HHs with their ward and municipal local government offices, with trained masons and others related to the reconstruction issues. ANS and masons are guided by engineers and sub-engineers. Field/cluster staff are further backstopped by district teams.

To deliver effective and high-quality socio-technical facilitation services, UNDP has partnered with the Owner Driven Reconstruction Collaborative (ODRC). ODRC is a network of registered institutions in India working to support national and state governments in instituting and facilitating the owner driven housing reconstruction process. ODRC in Nepal includes four participating organisations from India: i) Hunnarshala Foundation, ii) UNNATI – Organisation for Development Education, iii) SEEDS Technical Services; and iv) Centre for Ecocentric Development and Peoples' Action (CEDAP). All four organisations are collectively referred as ODRC.

3. Evaluation Scope and Objectives

3.1 Evaluation scope

The evaluation assessed the project results in terms of the criteria of relevance, effectiveness, coherence, efficiency, impact and sustainability of the project interventions for socio-technical facilitation services in Gorkha district. In addition to these criteria, the assessment was also done against the criteria of human rights and Gender and Social Inclusion. The evaluation also assessed whether the project results were in the right direction towards contributing its overall goal and purpose of the owner driven safer housing reconstruction. The evaluation assessed the external factors like COVID-19 pandemic beyond the control of the project that have affected it negatively or positively and the approaches applied in fixing hindrances. The evaluation assessed how and to what extent gender equality and social inclusion (GESI), disability, and human rights (as cross-cutting themes) were integrated into the overall reconstruction process and benefit-sharing.

3.2 Evaluation objectives

The overall objective of the final evaluation was to assess the results achieved and lessons learnt from the project implementation delivered by the Socio-Technical Facilitation (STF) services to NHRP in Gorkha district. It intended to assess the results achieved against targets, effectiveness of the implementation approaches, in contribution to higher level outcome results and identify and document the challenges, lessons learnt and good practices, and make specific recommendations for future course of actions for any such similar interventions.

The specific objectives of the evaluation were;

- To assess the relevance and effectiveness of the socio-technical facilitation support provided to earthquake affected house owners in rebuilding their houses in Gorkha district as part of the NHRP.
- To assess the relevance and effectiveness of the approaches adopted, focusing on owner-driven private housing reconstruction.
- To assess relevance, effectiveness and sustainability of different capacity building initiatives carried out by the project at different levels.
- To assess effectiveness of partnerships of the NHRP with local governments (municipalities and rural municipalities), NRA (including its district level establishments), and national level government agencies and associated institutions, and other key stakeholders.
- To assess the effectiveness of the project's assistance to vulnerable households including women, Dalit and people with disability for their housing reconstruction.
- To assess the effectiveness of information management and outreach activities carried out by the project.

3.3 Evaluation criteria and questions

The evaluation followed the OECD-DAC's evaluation criteria viz. relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact along with cross-cutting criteria of human rights and GESI including disability. The guiding questions are outlined in evaluation matrix in Annex 1.

4. Evaluation methods and approach

4.1 Approach

The evaluation was conducted in accordance with the UNDP Evaluation Guidelines 2019**.** Evaluation adopted a mixed approach by integrating qualitative and quantitative methods and techniques for the data collection and analysis.

The evaluation steps included (i) desk review, (ii) prepare inception report, (iv) field visits to project's sites, (v) data analysis and interpretation, and (vi) evaluation report writing and finalization. In order to cover the scope and spirit of the ToR, the evaluator integrated both qualitative and quantitative tools and techniques for the data collection.

The evaluation adopted an approach that recognized that the communities are not homogenous but comprise multiple actors with differentiated capabilities and interests. It considered that the communities are heterogeneous differentiated by the axes of differentials such as gender, caste, age, disability, vulnerability in terms of effect felt and coping capacity. Recognition of such differentials in approach entails that sampling and field study capture the diversity existing in the society.

The cross-cutting issues of human rights and GESI (gender equality, vulnerability, disability, social inclusion) were studied at both from cross-cutting as well as stand-alone perspective. Adoption of the approach of recognizing diversity entails that information on GESI and human rights is

collected and analysed in all aspects of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impacts and sustainability criteria as well. The inquiry through field methods like FGD and KII was designed to probe into the cross-cutting themes. The cross-cutting themes were not considered as *additional* themes but rather as *integral* part of the inquiry. This was achieved through various steps: formulating specific questions in defining the criteria for evaluation, designing checklists for FGD and KII, developing criteria for site selection for field study (for example purposively including single elderly women, persons with disability for KII, conducing FGDs with female masons and dalits etc.), checking the level of segregation of data base, in analysis of the results etc.

Another approach of the methodology was to reach to the maximum possible number of communities/stakeholders within the given time of field study. Planning for field study was done in a way that will ensure to cover all the Palikas while covering the diverse groups of beneficiaries. This approach would also make the evaluation study more efficient. The evaluation combined both the qualitative and quantitative methods based on secondary data and generating primary data and conclusions drawn based on the evidence collected through multiple methods (review of documents, Focus Group Discussions, Key Informant Interviews).

4.2 Data collection methods

Document review: Relevant documents such as Project /proposal; Annual Progress Reports, Beneficiary Status Survey Report, Quality Assurance Reports were reviewed to understand the project design and achievements. Other Documents such as Documents developed by the project such as case stories, IEC materials were also reviewed. Another set of documents related to broader policy and plans in the national context were reviewed to understand the project in the broader context. These included Post Disaster Needs Assessment, Post Disaster Recovery Framework, the Fourteenth and the Fifteenth Plans prepared by the National Planning Commission; Sustainable Development Goals, Annual Reports published by Ministry of Home Affairs; Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030; United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022 and UNDP Nepal Country Programme 2018-2022.

Tools Development: An evaluation matrix (annex 1) was developed following OECD-DAC's revised evaluation criteria namely relevance, effectiveness, coherence, efficiency, impact and sustainability along with cross-cutting criteria of GESI and human rights. Checklists for Key Informant Interviews and Focus Group Discussions (annex 5) were developed, and field tested.

Field Study: The field study was conducted in all the municipalities where the project was implemented. Various axes of differentials such as gender, caste, ownership of land, disability was identified as important factors on the part of beneficiary communities impacting on the overall project achievement. Thus, these differentials were taken into account while developing criteria for selecting the field sites. Following criteria were used for selecting the field study sites.
All the municipalities were covered in the study. However, since a large number of beneficiaries are located in Gorkha and Palungtar municipalities, more field study sites were selected in these municipalities.

(i) Within these municipalities, wards were selected based on the number of housing units built in the given spatial unit (to include both high density and low-density construction

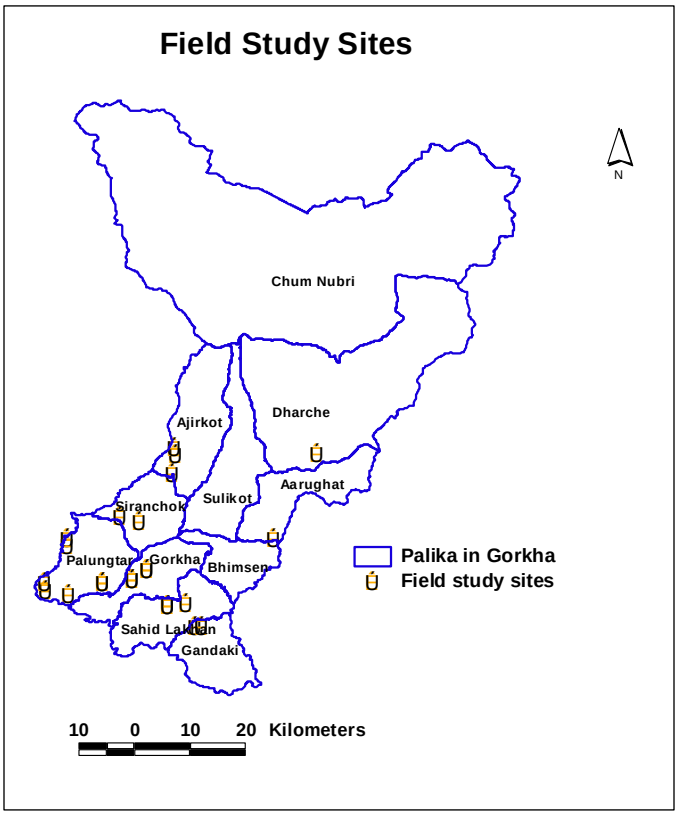
area), ethnic diversity of the beneficiary communities (to include different ethnic groups and minority groups)

(ii) Inclusion of different technological intervention (reconstruction technology and retrofitting)

(iii) Purposive inclusion of specific groups such as landless people, Dalits

(iv) Purposive inclusion specific groups such as people with disability, single women etc.

The field study was conducted from November 20 to November 29, 2021. The sites are shown in the map.



The field methods included Focused Group Discussions, Key Informant Interviews (KII), and direct observation of the activities.

Focus Group Discussion: Altogether 11 FGDs (including two with landless households, one with Dalit households, two Janajati households, and two with female masons) were organized in 7 municipalities. FGD with beneficiary households was not organized in Arughat rural municipality considering the time required to reach to the project wards. Altogether a total of 83 individuals (44 females) participated in these FGDs. The list of people reached through FGDs and KII is in annex 6.

Key informant interviews: were conducted with representatives of various stakeholders such as municipal officials (Mayors and Chairpersons, Ward chairs, municipality Engineers and Administrative officers), District level officials (DCC chairperson, Engineers of DLPIU, Controller of District Treasury), Private Organizations (Manager of Bank, Micro finance), representatives of partner organizations, staff members of the project (Administrative and Logistic Officer, CF, ANS, Sub engineers), journalists, community members (single women, people with disability, masons, members of radio listeners club) were interviewed. Altogether a total of 54 individuals were interviewed. In addition to the KII in the field, few KIIs were also conducted in Kathmandu with other stake holders (annex 6)

Most of the interviews, group meetings were audio recorded with prior information and these records were transcribed. These audio records helped in authentication and triangulation of information generated.

Direct observation: Direct observation of field activities will be done in participation of the stakeholders just prior or after the FGDs/KII. The direct observation focused on technical aspect of housing construction in addition to social dimension. The technical assessment focused on construction compliance with the minimum requirements (MRs) as per the Nepal National Building Code (NBC) and the inspection checklists provide by NRA. The different issues observed were: Site Selection, Shape and size of building, Materials used and Quality of Materials, Foundation of building, Plinth beam, Vertical Members, Wall and Opening criteria, Horizontal Bands (Sill band, lintel band, stitches, roof band), and Roof. Different building typology such as stone masonry, brick masonry, retrofitting will be observed.

4.3 Performance Rating

Performance rating was based on 'a five-point scale' against the DAC evaluation criteria to assess the performance of the project.

Highly satisfactory (1): The project performed well overall against each of the evaluation questions.

Satisfactory (2): The project performed well overall against majority of the evaluation questions but there were room for improvement.

Moderately satisfactory (3): The project performed moderately against almost half of the evaluation questions and there were rooms for improvement.

Somehow satisfactory (4): The project performed poorly overall against majority of the evaluation questions and there were immediate and major steps that could have been taken for improvement.

Not satisfactory (5): The project performed poorly in almost all the evaluation questions and there were immediate and significant steps that could have been taken for improvement

4.4 Stakeholder participation

Relevant stakeholders such as house owners, front- line staffs, government officials were participated in this evaluation during data and information collection. They were treated as key informants. Communications were made throughout the evaluation process for their quality time, and their inputs.

4.5 Ethical consideration

The evaluation was carried out with serious consideration that none of the caste, creed, religion and social class was intentionally pointed. It has ensured strict adherence to human subject research ethics related to anonymity, confidentiality, and informed consent during the evaluation. Evaluators adhered the UNEG Code of Conduct throughout the evaluation implementation.

4.6 Background information on evaluators

Two independent evaluators- Dr Gobinda Bahadur Basnet and Mr. Gopal Kharel jointly completed this evaluation. Dr. Basnet is an Environmental Anthropologist with over 20 years of experience on general project management and evaluation of projects related to Disaster Risk Reduction led this evaluation. Mr Kharel is a Geotechnical Engineer with academic background on civil engineering as well has over seven years of experience on project design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation in reconstruction and development sectors. Mr. Kharel contributed

through his expertise on engineering dimension of housing reconstruction while Dr Basnet focused more on overall project management. Their experience and expertise complemented in conducting this evaluation.

4.7 Data Analysis

Information generated through multiple sources applying multiple methods was collated to assess the specific questions of different criteria. Information falling on one category might help to answer more than one questions while more than one category of information might be required to answer single question. The validity of information was cross-checked to the extent possible based on the factors like number of sources reporting it, formal documentation, and juxtaposition with the overall information.

4.8 Major limitations

The timing of the field study happened to coincide with several activities going on in the project site making it difficult to organize the planned meetings. Local people were busy harvesting crops and also the period coincided with wedding ceremonies in the field. The time also coincided with the local and national level conventions of political parties which affected in reaching to the elected officials of wards and Municipalities. Similarly, since the project has been formally completed and staff members have already left the project, it was also difficult to reach to the front-line staffs. Some of the planned KIIs as outlined in the inception report could not be carried out.

5. Findings

This section describes the project performance against the set evaluation criteria.

5.1 Relevance

Relevance of the project is assessed in terms of the need for the project activities and alignment with the national policy context.

Relevance in addressing the needs

The need for housing reconstruction is viewed against the context of damage the housing sector accounted for as a result of the earthquake. The 2015 Earthquake in Nepal caused massive destruction to 700,000 houses, damaging another 250,000 houses, and devastating lives, livelihoods, basic services and infrastructure across 31 districts, of which 14 were declared as "severely affected". The Post Disaster Needs Assessment carried out in the immediate aftermath of the earthquake revealed that housing and settlement sector accounted for about 50% of the earthquake destruction. The Private sector has sustained about 3.3 times the value of damages and losses in comparison with the public sector. Against this national scenario, private house reconstruction was of utmost importance which this project intended to address.

In Gorkha district, about 70,000 houses were identified needing reconstruction. The 26,912 houses this project provided socio-technical facilitation to reconstruct account for about 41% of the total houses to be reconstructed in the district. The huge proportion of the houses built through provision of socio-technical facilitation vouches for the relevancy of the project. Although the Government of Nepal had already initiated the housing reconstruction work, it was progressing at

slow pace and the local people had started showing resentment. The Beneficiary Status Survey conducted at the initial phase of the project implementation revealed that 18% of the house owners had not yet started reconstruction and 42% were either stuck or had halted construction midway. House owners awaiting their first, second, and third tranches were 4.8%, 38% and 81% respectively. The three key issues identified by the house owners as barriers for rebuilding their houses are: i) financial constraints, ii) lack of adequate information, and iii) navigating through administrative procedures. This project addressed the needs by helping in removing those barriers by facilitating for expediting tranches release, navigating through administrative procedures, providing on-site technical guidance and supervision, linking with trained masons, and facilitating for with added focus to the vulnerable households. Against the backdrop of need for reconstruction of a large number of houses, the pace of the reconstruction until the project launching, the barriers faced in reconstruction, and the activities through which the project helped to remove those barriers the project is highly relevant as it addresses those issues.

The challenges in reconstruction faced by house owners and ability to resolve them varied by the gender, caste, age, and special conditions like disability and landlessness. These challenges include accessing the administrative procedures and financial institutions, lack of awareness on the processes, difficulties in mobilizing enough labor forces, accessing the land (in the case of landlessness) among others. The number of households falling into these categories include: 1,482 HHs (single women), 344 HHs (landless), 2,275 HHs (family members with disability), 428 HHs (elderly people), 80 HHs (orphan children) and 2,938 HHs (Dalits). As such, they needed focused approach in resolving the challenge and the project adopted focused approach to help these households in reconstruction.

Relevance of the Project Design

The Post Disaster Need Assessment and Post Disaster Recovery Framework defines the recovery needs and reconstruction framework for the Government. The project largely followed the issues identified in PDNA in the design of the project. The Government's strategy on housing reconstruction is based on the recognition that rural housing in Nepal is almost exclusively an owner-led self-build process. Hence, Owner Driven Reconstruction has been followed in design of this project. The ODR approach places a great emphasis on social mobilization, effective communication, special considerations for social inclusion, and grievance redressal to ensure that the households from all socio-economic strata are able to undertake reconstruction in a reasonable time frame. The project thus had six well defined interrelated and reinforcing components as: i) facilitating administrative procedures regarding inclusion, grant release and certification; ii) on-site technical advice and guidance to house owners; iii) technical services of design drawings, preparation for building permit process; iv) capacity building of all project participants, particularly house owners and masons; v) concurrent monitoring and quality assurance; vi) facilitating use of appropriate disaster resilient technologies. These six components formed a comprehensive package with one component complementing another. This feature also made the project design highly relevant. The implementation modality of placing field offices considering the extent of houses to be built in a given political administrative unit and the difficulty/ easiness in accessing the given unit (for example three field offices in Dharche) made the project design highly relevant.

In terms of design of the houses, the project focused exclusively on ensuring safety from earthquake as mandated. However, the review of disaster reports in Nepal (Disaster reports of 2013 and 2017 of Ministry of Home Affairs) reveal that hazards of fire and lightning are also important threats considering the extent of causalities and damage caused. Although these issues were covered in IEC materials, the house design could have incorporated safety measures from these hazards as well.

Although the project sites (particularly the wards) were selected by NRA, selecting only a few wards in a given Palika (such as Gandaki and Shahid Lakhan) and leaving out other wards created some concerns in left out wards as house owners in those wards did not get the intensive socio-technical facilitation. Since the human resources are already present in the Palika, it would have been more efficient to work in additional wards in the same Palika. This is also evident from the fact that, the project provided socio-technical facilitation in other wards as well in Gandaki Gaunpalika upon the request of the Palika. Such requests were also coming from other Palika (such as Bhimsen, outside the project coverage) but could not be entertained.

Relevance in relation to the existing policies and plans

The Project activities are guided by and aligned with several national policies and plans. The Fourteenth Plan (2016/17-2019/20) of the government has clearly acknowledged the anxiety and resentment of the house owners over the delay in reconstruction. This reflects the needs for urgency in speeding up the reconstruction work. The Plan identified the priority activities for reconstruction as updating the assessment of damage, speeding up reconstruction and retrofitting, adoption of the concept of comprehensive disaster risk mitigation, provision of government grants and facilitation for loan among others. Similarly

The Fifteenth Plan (2019/20-2023/24) formulated, while the project was being implemented, also placed the reconstruction work in priority. The plan has emphasized on developing ownership of the reconstruction on the local governments and gradually handing over the responsibility to these governments. The local governments took ownership of reconstruction in this project. Among the major challenges listed in the plan are management of grievances of earthquake victims, and difficulties in mobilizing the grants received from the development partners. The objectives and design of the project squarely fit with the issues in these national plans and as such the project is highly relevant.

Another important national document guiding the overall development path in the country is Sustainable Development Goals. The Project activities would directly contribute in meeting several targets such as target 1.5 (aiming to build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situation and reduce their exposure to vulnerability to climate related extremes events and other economic and environmental shocks and disasters); target 11.5 (by 2030 significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and decrease the economic losses relative to GDP caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor people in vulnerable situation); target 13.1 (strengthen the resilience and adaptive capacity to climate related hazards and natural disasters). One of the indicators related to building resilience is the proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction

strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategy. Importance of governance in disaster risk reduction is also highlighted by the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, 2015-2030. The priorities areas set by the Sendai Framework are: understanding disaster risk, strengthening disaster risk governance, Disaster preparedness for effective response and 'build back better and Investing on Disaster Risk resilience. The project is also congruent with Policies such as National Policy for Disaster Risk Reduction 2018, which is also in line with the Sendai Framework.

The project aligns with and is grounded on major policy approaches Post Disaster Needs Assessment 2015 prepared in the immediate aftermath of the 2015 Earthquake and the Post Disaster Recovery Framework 2016-2020. The PDNA has suggested the approach so that the recovery of the housing sector would be based on the principles of equity, inclusion and community participation through an owner driven reconstruction (ODR) approach to build back better. It also stated that a socio-technical facilitation team should be in place to provide interface between the owners and the government-assisted reconstruction programme that includes awareness programme, concurrent monitoring and quality assurance. Against these national priorities the project was highly relevant.

The project is in line with the UNDP GESI Policy 2017. The policy emphasizes the participation of women, Dalits, Adibasi/Janajatis, persons with disability and excluded communities in the formulation, implementation, monitoring of the activities. The women and socially excluded groups participated in designing and implementation of activities through Tol Reconstruction Committees. The social facilitation activities of the project had emphasized on addressing the challenges and tailoring the activities focused to individual house owners.

5.2 Coherence

External coherence

The overall project design, component activities, and implementation were coherent with the national policies for house reconstruction. The project was largely grounded on the framework of Post Disaster Needs Assessment and Post Disaster Recovery Framework. These documents have emphasized the need for socio-technical facilitation in owner driven reconstruction. The project design has followed the overall framework outlined in these documents. It also aligns with the UNDPs' program framework such as United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022 and Nepal Country Programme 2018-2022 has identified Resilience and Reconstruction as one of the three pillars for supporting the Government of Nepal.

In the aftermath of the earthquake, several donor organizations worked in the reconstruction sector in the district. These organizations include Save the Children, CARE Nepal, CRS, Save the Children, CARITAS Nepal among others. Some of these organizations such as CRS, JICA had an important component of training masons. This project also worked with those masons trained by other organizations and vice versa. Such complementary efforts contributed in capacity strengthening and also in timely delivery of reconstruction.

Internal Coherence

The six components' activities, described earlier, are essential parts of the project acting jointly to achieve the project result of housing construction. Each component complemented another component creating synergy for the whole project. During the course of implementation, some issues were identified and addressed to make the delivery of the project more effective. For example, it was realized that the concurrent monitoring and quality assurance being done internally by the project would be better if it is done by a team outside the project. The independent monitoring and quality assurance was initiated from November 2019. Similarly, the Reconstruction Information Management System which provided real time information to the project management, a vital component for the management, was privately managed.

5.2 Effectiveness

Overall achievement

Overall, the project was effective as all the planned houses were built (Figure 5.1). The expedition of tranches release, intense social and technical facilitation focused at individual households, capacity strengthening of house owners and masons, provision of building design services, and wider dissemination of information all were effective and collectively contributed in achieving the overall objective. Although the project was initially planned to complete by March 2021, the restrictions imposed because of COVID-19 pandemic, it was extended until December 2021.

Effectiveness of key component activities

Effective implementation of different components jointly led to achieving the planned objective. The following section briefly discusses the effectiveness of different components. Overall achievement of the project in different component is listed in annex 2.

Facilitating administrative procedures regarding inclusion, grant release, and certification

The house owners were supported in administrative procedures, and in complying with the government norms and objectives to mitigate disaster risks. Specifically, the support included facilitation for tranche release, facilitation in signing of Participating Agreements, facilitating in accessing land for reconstruction, meeting with Ward and Palika (municipality) level and support for vulnerable households.

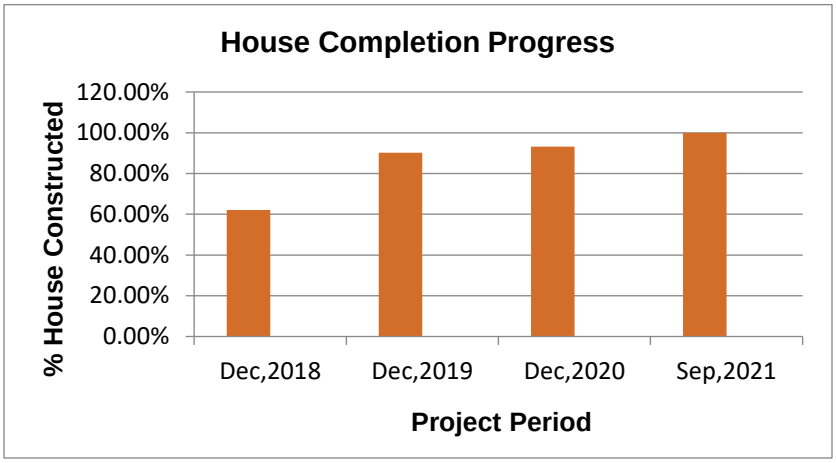


Fig 5.1: House completion Progress of the NHRP Project

At the initial phase of the project implementation, the delay in tranche release was one of the major grievances of house owners. The project facilitation in processing of files at the local levels, liaising with the NRA engineers for verification and certification, processing of files in DCC/DLPIU, and coordinating with banks had greatly expedited the tranche release fulfilling NRA minimum requirements. The project liaised with the District Level Project Implementation Units (DLPIU) for release of 30,356 tranches and have facilitated house owners with banking process, linking them with the local banks. The project had set a milestone of 28,700 tranche release facilitation the project period which was achieved with 105% results. The project team had built close coordination with NRA engineers that had contributed in speeding up the on-site verification, and 25,984 inspection and certification were facilitated for timely release of the tranche. In fact, this expedition in tranche release which was reduced from about three months to one month was highly appreciated by the house owners contributing in rapport building as well. The expedition in tranche release also developed confidence among the house owners thereby improving the reconstruction pace. The table shows the percent of tranche release over the project period.

Facilitation was provided to those eligible house owners who had not yet signed the Participation Agreement and were left out of the reconstruction to enter into the reconstruction process. A total of 996 house owners were facilitated to sign Participation Agreement.

Table 5.1: Percentage of tranche released in over the project period

Tranche Type	Commencement of the NHRP project	Dec,2018	Dec,2019	Dec,2020	Sep 2021
1st tranche rereleased	95.2%	97.5%	99.5%	100%	100%
2nd tranche released	62%	77.63%	92.8%	94.9 %	100%
3rd tranche released	19%	40.2%	85.5%	90.5%	100%

The project also facilitated in close coordination and leadership of Palika/Ward chairs to acquire the land for reconstruction for landless beneficiaries. A total of 344 house owners have been provided with land related facilitation support. The government provided a support of NPR 200,000 to each of the landless household to buy the land for building house. The Community Facilitator (CF) mobilized provided door to door administrative support, sensitizing the house owners with updated rule and regulations related to reconstruction and addressing the issues faced by households or communities. The facilitatory role played by CFs was highly appreciated in Gorkha and Palungtar Municipalities. In Palungtar, a new settlement of 10 landless households was established where Dalit and non- Dalit households (3) had built houses adjoining to one another. This could also set an example for minimization of caste-based discrimination and enhance social harmony. In the case of Gorkha Municipality, cases were found that landless households which availed of the facility and built the houses had yet to shift to the new house and were still living in the land owned by a school.

The reconstruction process incorporated community approach in mobilizing and facilitating the community of house owners. Ward /Tol level Reconstruction Action Plan were formed through ward level meetings. Issues related to individual house owners would be discussed resolution

would be facilitated through in Tol meetings. The ward level meetings were held once a month. These meetings were found very effective in developing community feelings and measures for labor management (sometime through labor exchange), and coordination of other activities. Such meetings were very effective to bring affected population together and identify pragmatic solutions to issues hindering private housing reconstruction. A total of 175 Palika level meetings, 918 ward level meetings and 1,981 Tol level meetings were organized by the project.

Although only 695 households were identified as vulnerable households following the stricter NRA standards, a total of 8,021 households were categorized as vulnerable following the Beneficiary Status Survey. The project gave extra attention in supporting vulnerable households in agreement signing, initiating construction, banking, tranche release and information sharing of deposited installment. The 'intense interaction' with the house owners was very effective.
The socio-technical facilitation support being provided by the project had helped build confidence of the respective Palikas and other government agencies in taking the housing reconstruction initiative further ahead so that no one was left behind in absence of basic information and assistance. During the period of field visit by the evaluation team, the Chairs of local government bodies were highly satisfied with project interventions.

On-site technical advice and guidance to house owners on construction technology, design options, disaster resistant features, government norms, material procurement and construction management

Initially, the Beneficiary Status Survey (BSS) identified 14,246 house owners requiring technical support for planning, costing and resources. By the completion of the project, a total of 16,537 households were provided support for planning and costing. A team of Engineers, sub-Engineers, Awas Nirman Sathi (ANS), and trained mason had collectively assisted the house owners to choose appropriate construction technology, building typology as per their needs, capacity and resources, material costing, and time of construction. The on-site technical advice and guidance was constantly provided during the reconstruction process to ensure that safety measures and standards were properly followed. Technical issues that arose during the reconstruction process were also resolved. As reported during the field study, there were several cases when the technical supervision during the construction forced workers to redo some phases of the work to ensure the quality. A total of 299,696 door-to-door visits and guidance were provided to the house owners by engineers, sub-engineers and ANS. The online reporting and updating practiced by the project helped in prompt monitoring and providing technical services.

House owners were connected with trained masons which accelerated the momentum of reconstruction. This linkage process includes providing orientation to identified masons on earthquake safe construction practices and quality assurance including role of the masons and their engagement until house reconstruction is completed. The building typology, tentative cost, time frame for reconstruction, materials required, etc. were also discussed by the house owners with the masons with facilitation from project staff. A total of 16,175 house owners were provided such support.

Technical services of design, drawings, and preparation for building permit process

The Building Permit Studios (BPS) established in Palungtar and Gorkha municipalities provided services to the house owners in designing and drawing of houses at no cost. Al together 3,969 households had been supported by BPS, among them 190 were exclusively supported for structural analysis. This service was very effective and well appreciated by the Mayors and Engineers of the municipalities. The process includes linking house owners with building permit studios; on-site facilitation for building permit process; design and drawing services for house owners; and services supporting municipalities. This was achieved through a set of activities that include household level consultation and social mobilization, technical assessment of the site and building proposed. This service has enabled the house owners to comply with required building standards and administrative procedures in the municipal areas. The quality of services provided by the BPS was highly effective setting a benchmark for the municipalities. The provision of services by BPS unit was not only limited to GoI-supported beneficiaries but also extended to the non-GoI beneficiaries, affected by the 2015 earthquake.

Capacity building of all project participants, particularly house owners and masons

Project built a large base of well-trained masons for undertaking reconstruction work. Altogether 4,000 masons were trained for 13,966 mason days. Special attention was paid to train women masons as well and this included 420 female masons. Development of trained human resources to undertake massive reconstruction work is critical part for the success of the project. Initially it planned to provide five-day package training to masons. However, during the implementation it was realized that it would be much effective to train the masons in different phases of short training. The trainings were provided on various construction typologies- such as RCC with brick, SMM/C, BMC, CR, AAC Block and Retrofitting; critical aspects of safer construction, prevalent common mistakes and technical issues observed throughout the project duration. However, because of the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19, by the time dedicated training was conducted for female masons most of the reconstruction work as completed leaving little time for them to apply the knowledge and skills learned. Many of the masons trained by the project were also trained by other development agencies working in reconstruction sector in the district. Thus, the development of human resources was further reinforced by multiple agencies. The large network of the trained human resource will have positive impact in promoting safe construction in future as well.

In addition to masons, training was also given to various other groups of stakeholders such as Engineers of NRA and Palika as well. The project team (engineers, CFs, and ANS) were also trained on reconstruction on social mobilization. Since ANS and CFs are based in the district, this would also add to the human resources strength in the district. Training was also given for 25 media persons on disaster and resilience reporting. The training was helpful in reporting multiple issues related with housing reconstruction. As reported by a reporter, during the field study, the training proved helpful later during the reporting of COVID-19 pandemic as well.

A conspicuous absence of training was for the consultancies engaged in design and drawing of houses in two municipalities. Capacity strengthening of these service providers could have help in continued provision of better design in future as well.

Concurrent monitoring and quality assurance

Concurrent monitoring and quality assurance audit was an integral part of the project conducting periodic monitoring of reconstruction work. The Quality Assurance (QA) helped to ensure compliance to the technical norms of NRA for earthquake safe construction, which is based on independent concurrent monitoring of the on-going work that enables timely corrective or remedial actions and identification of any gaps in knowledge and skill of the masons and house owners, to be addressed by customizing project activities and approaches. The QA team adjusted its activities during the COVID-19 pandemic restriction to online system to provide the feedback to the project management team. Until October 2019, the QA was done internally by the Centre for Ecocentric Development and Peoples (CEDAP) and later an independent team of three experts were hired to enhance the quality assurance. The QA team would provide feedback to Core Technical Team, Project Management Team, and District Support Team on all the components of the project. There were several cases of incorporation of suggestions of QA in revising the project work. Some examples include, adjustment in roofing system of houses, vertical alignment in building wall, cost minimization of finishing work by working from outside the wall; development of building typology in Nepali language, revision of training materials in Nepali which could be well communicated, materials on extension of buildings among others. This helped project in timely improvement and the quality assurance was very effective.

The Reconstruction Information Management System (RIMS) was very effective in providing information system for the project management team. The field staff would update the information on real-time basis greatly enhancing the effectiveness of service delivery.

Facilitating use of appropriate disaster resistant technologies

Most of the activities under this component focused on Information, Education, and Communication. This focused on communicating reconstruction related messages, mostly with the house owners, local authorities and stakeholders. They were broadly grouped as for house owners and masons; other beneficiaries along with house owners, and for mass awareness. Different activities like socio cultural events, mobile technology clinic, IEC materials, different co-ordination meetings, exposure visits Radio program, Radio Listeners' Clubs and use of different social media had collectively contribute to achieve this project objective. The project conducted 431 mobile van campaigns, 211 socio-cultural events and developed and broadcasted 164 radio program episodes. These awareness raising activities helped in understanding the procedure for housing reconstruction, tranche release, safety issues etc. The most important contribution of such events is creating a conducive environment for the reconstruction. The project also carried out five large scale and 13 small scale exposure visits, including one visit to Bhuj, India.

IEC materials that respond to the need of audiences at Gaupalika/ Nagarpalika, district and central level, with main focus on home owners, communities, the gaupalika officials and ward representatives were developed. Also, recognizing the critical importance of the role of masons in guiding and influencing house owners for construction work, their capacity building was a key

component, where they were trained in new construction as well as retrofitting and corrective measures.

One important activity that contributed in research and development of earthquake resistant building construction was the establishment of Shock Table Testing Facility at the Institute of Engineering, Kathmandu. The Facility was established with a tripartite MOU signed among Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC), Institute of Engineering (IOE) and the UNDP. The benefit of such initiative will accrue in future.

Palika and ward chairpersons opined that the socio-technical facilitation for house reconstruction was very critical for the overall reconstruction work in the district and they said had it not been for the project many people would have been left behind and the quality and pace of work would not be like what it han been with the project.

Effectiveness of coordination

The coordination and facilitation with the Palikas created synergy and helped in mobilizing additional resources from the internal sources of Palika. For example, the Palungtar municipality provided a support of more than 1.3 million NPR to build access road and drinking water facility to build houses for landless community in a newly established complex. Without such additional support it would have not been possible to settle the landless households and build the houses. Similarly, the initiation of municipalities (in Arughat, Shahid Lakhan, and Palungtar) to create Reconstruction Revolving Fund to facilitate the reconstruction by the needy house owners also helped greatly in timely reconstruction. The number of individuals accessing revolving fund was as high as 100 in Shahid Lkahan Gaun palika. The Ward/Tol Reconstruction Committees formed under the leadership of Ward Chairperson also provided institutional base at the community level for pushing forward the reconstruction work. The Engineers of Building Permit Studios in the municipalities provided technical support to the municipalities in other construction work as well. The human resources support provided to DCC and DLPIU in facilitating documentation of housing construction.

Although the government policy aimed at facilitating to avail the financial resources from financial institutions such as banks, private banking sector in the district did not contribute much in providing housing loans as transpired from the interaction with a bank manager. The private micro-finance organizations who are working at community level have provided loans to the house owners. Usually, the actual interest paid for the loans provided by the microfinance is high and this might create debt trap. The project has not been on direct contact with these microfinance companies. The local level community organizations such as women's groups, youth groups as such were not directly interacted.

The coordination with Palika and the District Level Offices (such as District Administration Office) expanded further during the COVID-19 pandemic period. The project provided some material supports like thermal guns to the Palika and maintained its presence in the field during the lock down period too. The project resorted to adaptive management and made use of online network to deliver the services. A vibrant communication channel was developed using social media to

create several groups to interact with Engineers, ANS, CF, masons and house owners to keep the project activities ongoing during the restrictions as well.

Effectiveness beyond project components

Going beyond the success in achieving the targets and effectiveness of individual components, there are some concerns which have got more to do with the overall house reconstruction in the country yet applicable to Gorkha reconstruction too. Shifting of some households to safer building places could not be achieved. As reported in the interaction with officials from Dharche, some houses were built in landslide vulnerable areas. The houses built, though earthquake resistant, are not very convenient for the daily life. The house owners had to build the kitchen annexed to the new house or a makeshift kitchen separately. In the longer run, it is not very convenient for the community. Similarly, the largely practiced roofing of corrugated galvanized iron sheet was found by house owners inconvenient especially in hot and cold seasons, especially in a single story house. Adoption of traditional architecture, which is reflective of local culture, was largely ignored though it would have incurred additional cost while ensuring the safety.

Although safety against risk of earthquake was the priority, other hazards were not equally considered in building these houses. Safety measures against lightening which has become one of the major causes of fatalities among the different hazard types, safety measures against fire in areas where many houses have been built in close vicinity are not well integrated.

The female masons who received dedicated training on safe construction, could not get opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills gained as most of the construction works have already completed by the time they received the training. The timing of training was affected by the restrictions imposed because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Beneficiaries' satisfaction

Altogether 11 FGDs were conducted participated by 83 people (44 females) and 51 individuals (8 females) were interacted through Key Informant Interviews. All the participants of FGDs expressed high level of satisfaction with the project achievements. The issue of dissatisfaction expressed by them was related with NRA assessment of eligible households for grant support from the Government. In the case of respondents of key informant interviews out of 51 reached 7 individuals expressed moderate level of satisfaction and expressed that coordination capacity strengthening of multiple stakeholders could be improved. Rest of the participants expressed high level of satisfaction towards the project achievement.

5.3 Efficiency

The efficiency of the project was assessed in terms of project design, implementation and human resource mobilization.

Efficiency of design

While assessing the efficiency, the status of reconstruction at the initial phase of the project implementation will contextualize the efficiency of project implementation. The Beneficiary Status

Survey conducted in May 2018 revealed that 18% of house owners had not yet started reconstruction and 41.97% were either stuck or had halted construction midway. House owners awaiting their first, second or third installment to be released were 4.8%, 38%, and 81% respectively. Although three years had already elapsed since the earthquake hit, the housing reconstruction had not gained much momentum. The project design had to address the barriers faced by the house owners in undertaking reconstruction like accessing to trained technicians and construction materials, mediating through administrative procedures, and financial resources.

The six components of the project were designed to make them mutually complementary. The social facilitation helped in reaching out to individual house owners and resolving the barriers faced by them. Improvement in the availability of technicians through training of masons; On-site technical advice and guidance helped in providing socio-technical facilitation at the doorstep of the house owners. The Concurrent monitoring and quality assurance and Reconstruction Information Management System helped in identifying the need for adjustments, remedial measures, issues to be resolved etc. The Information, Education, and Communication was designed for proper communication, developing relevant materials. The socio-technical facilitation support being provided by the project has helped build confidence of the respective Palikas and other government agencies in taking the housing reconstruction initiative further ahead so that no one is left behind in absence of basic information and assistance. The design was grounded on PDNA.

Efficiency in implementation

The administrative facilitation greatly expedited the release of tranches from almost three months to one month. The project management facilitated from the ward, Palika to district level in expediting the tranches release. This also helped in building the rapport with and the confidence of the communities in the reconstruction process besides helping to enhance the implementation efficiency.

The coordination meetings conducted at the Wards, Palika, and district level helped in making the project activities more efficient. For example, the intervention of Chief District Officer for timely tranches release from the Banks, and compliance of safety and building codes by the building contractor helped in project performance. Coordination with NRA engineers has contributed in speeding up the on-site verification, inspection and certification of construction progress, timely release of tranche, and hence, expedited reconstruction. The regular coordination between NRA and UNDP at national level and also with national offices engaged on the post-earthquake housing reconstruction such as CLPIU-GMALI, CLPIU-Building, has contributed in smooth implementation of the project.

The Feedbacks obtained from concurrent monitoring and quality assurance in different components of the project were keenly implemented which helped in enhancing the efficiency. Similarly, the updates from RIMS used in everyday management of the project.

The project followed adaptive management adjusting to the needs and learning as the implementation progresses. The Concurrent Monitoring and Quality Assurance, which was

carried out internally within the project team, was later done through an independent team of experts. This helped in improving the cohesion and better adoption of feedback obtained from the monitoring. The modality of mason training was also changed reflecting the ground needs. Initially, the project planned to conduct a five- day package of training for masons. However, the field interaction revealed that it would be more effective to train masons in different phases and the module was changed accordingly. One of the challenging moments during the project implementation was the lockdown imposed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Project adopted some measures like interacting with the beneficiary households, masons and staffs though online means such as face book groups, zoom meetings etc.

Efficiency in human resource mobilization

The project mobilized its human resource of the project was efficiently taking into account the local context. At the initial phase of the project implementation, the staffs were mobilized from the 15 offices established in the district taking into account the accessibility of the project area and the volume of the work in a given spatial unit. Three field offices were established Northern Gaunpalika of Dharche as the houses are scattered in inaccessible areas. Similarly, two offices were set up each in two Nagarpalikas as the number of houses to be reconstructed are much higher in the Nagar palilkas. In remaining Gaun palikas one field office was established in each Palika. As the number of houses to be built started declining after two years of the project activity, the project was scaled down with the reduced number of field offices and staffs, which shows that human resources were efficiently mobilized. The number of staffs at the end of 2018, 2019, and 2020 were 175, 146 and 91 respectively. The number of offices set up in the district were 15 in the years 2018 and 2019. In 2020, the field offices were maintained at 13 places. By 2021 September, when most of the field activities have to closing stage, field offices were maintained in eight places with 22 staff members. At the initial phase the project also supported DCC and DLPIU with a staff member to expedite the tranche released.

Efficiency of financial management

Table 5.2 Financial update of the project

SN	Activity	Total Budget Project Budget (in USD)	Expenditure as of 15 December 2021	Expenditure percentage of total expenses
1	Programme Budget - Socio Technical support to House owner , IEC, Quality Assurance ,Design & Technology Development	6,237,000.00	6,216,123.00	71.17
2	Project Management Team , Project Coordination and Managemenet Offices / Infrastructure and Logistic.	1,910,500.00	1,871,000.00	21.42
3	General Management Services (GMS 8%)	651,800.00	646,969.84	7.40
4	**Total**	**8,799,300.00**	**8,734,092.84**	**99.99**

Evidence gathered during the evaluation consultations revealed that the project successfully utilized its human, material and financial resources to achieve results. Good coordination and collaboration among the project, partner NGOs, project municipalities and wards, and users' committees helped it to achieve results in a timely fashion despite the impacts of the pandemic. Project's records revealed that around 21% of project budget was spent as management cost whereas the programe expenses accounted for 71.17%. The total expenditure of the project as of December 15, 2021 was 99.9% which proves the efficient use of the resources.

5.4 Sustainability

Sustainability of the project results are viewed in relation to technical, financial, environmental, and institutional dimension of project results laid against the overall socio-political economic context.

Technical

Technical facilitation and constant supervision/monitoring during the construction phase helped to ensure the quality of construction and adherence/compliance safety standards. These will greatly contribute in the sustainability of the project results. Similarly, the nature and level of technology used (the building typology, construction materials, and methods) in construction of the houses is manageable at the local level. The assurance of high quality of construction through constant technical guidance supervision will reduce the future repair and maintenance cost.

Another important feature contributing to the sustainability of the project result is the development of a network of trained masons. Over 4,000 masons including 420 female masons were capacitated and they are locally based. Services of these trained human resources could be availed of when required in future. The local governments should maintain the database of these trained human resources and engage them in future constructed related works so the capacity of the local human resources is further strengthened and their quality service is made easily available.

Institutional

Reconstruction of houses was an activity of top priority of the local governments, and they took strong ownership of the whole reconstruction implementation. This ownership felt and exhibited by the elected officials toward housing reconstruction provided strong institutional base for the sustainability of the project. Besides the ownership by the local government, they gained - hand experience in managing such programs and enhancing skill and confidence of the officials. They have prepared Local Disaster Management Plans. Some municipalities are already in the process of publishing the achievements and learning of the housing reconstruction in their respective municipalities aiding to enhancing institutional memory. All these contribute to providing institutional base for the overall sustainability of the project effects.

The role of local NGOs who partnered with the project was limited to the sphere of providing human resources for project implementation. Although the capacity of the human resources

employed by the project, who are also linked with the NGOs, has been strengthened immensely in social and technical aspects of housing reconstruction and disaster risk management, the capacity of the partner NGOs as such was directly enhanced.
The effectiveness of service delivery and quality of the results led to satisfaction of the beneficiaries and public at However, there are a few aspects, consideration of which could have aided in the sustainability. The Building Permit Studios in two municipalities provided the quality service at no cost to the house owners in designing and drawing of houses, and this component was highly appreciated by the elected officials of the municipalities. However, this has deprived the local service providers (engineering consultancies) of getting hands-on design and drawing of earthquake resistant houses as it was done by BPS. This would challenge the sustainability as after completion of the project, the BPS units have ceased to exist no such services will be available now although Palika technical officials are familiar with this. Training of these service providers and could have helped in continued availability of quality services in design locally.

Development of Comprehensive data base of reconstruction work in the Municipality is not yet well developed. They are expecting such data base from the National Reconstruction Authority which will also contribute in sustainability of the Project. Some of the Gaunpalika and wards like Dharche, Gandaki, and shahid Lakhan have already started preparation for publishing the achievements and learnings of housing reconstruction.

Environmental

The reconstruction work did not create significant negative impact. The construction materials like sands, stones (where stones were used), timber were not extracted from a single source creating environmental impacts. The materials from the damaged houses were used to the extent possible. By and large, the timbers from damaged houses were used to the extent possible or bought from the market so pressure was not exerted on forest. There were not much disposals to create the environmental hazard. In some places as in Gorkha 9, house reconstruction was delayed because of the limited availability of water.

The roofing of the houses reconstructed, mostly the CGI sheet will have limited insulating capacity especially in the heat and cold seasons and thus might require adjustments in future.

Social

The social capital built through network of trained human resources, enhanced social harmony by addressing of vulnerable groups (focused support to single women, senior citizen, Dalit, landless people and households with members with disability) will contribute in overall sustainability of the project results. As discussed earlier houses of Dalits and non-Dalits were built adjoining to one another on their own insistence. Such examples will help in social harmony ultimately contributing to sustainability.

5.5 Impact

The large number of safe houses built in the communities generated the sense of safety at community level. The level of confidence and self-esteem is a social capital which could be cashed on future large scale development initiatives.

The larger network of technical human resources (in construction work) in the local contexts provide huge opportunities for development works that will be undertaken by the local governments and other development partners. Presence of these trained human resources will contribute in safe building in future as well and as a result safety landscape will be improved.

Some of the ANS have already started enterprises related to construction work and agriculture. The knowledge, skill, and network they have developed through the project have helped in creating such enterprises. This in the long run will help influence the overall socio-economic landscape.

The project's efforts helped to empower the vulnerable groups such as landless households, dalits, and single and elderly women. Houses of Dalits and non-Dalits of landless households were built adjoining to one another (as in Belbot of Palungtar). Dalit masons had unhindered access to build the houses of non-dalits. Such empowerment will in the longer run help in minimizing the discrimination.

Almost all of the house owners who built two or more roomed houses had to invest additional financial resources for the construction. Some of the such additional financial resources were met through loan from various sources including micro finance working in the areas. The BSS revealed that 73% of the households have borrowed money for construction. There is a risk that these households would fall in debt trap.

The houses built through this project had issues with the compatibility with the existing livelihood practices. The houses are not very convenient for storing grains, traditional type of cooking etc. As such, there will be a larger need of extensions. However, these issues are more related with the overall house design as practiced by NRA rather than this particular project. Besides, in most of the places, the new design has ignored the traditional design.

5.6 Human rights

The project has given high priority to human rights issues. The project developed information of the individual households during the Beneficiary Status Survey with enough consideration on vulnerability criteria (such as ethnicity, disability, old age etc.) and landless households. Out of the total households surveyed, 8,021 households were identified as vulnerable households. However, following stricter guideline of NRA, 695 households were identified as vulnerable households. These vulnerable households needed additional socio technical support in addition to the additional financial grant (of NPR 50,000) received from the government. Some of the mason trainings were conducted in these households upon the recommendation of the Ward Chairs so that the burden on construction materials and labor cost could be minimized. A total of 344 landless households were supported through facilitation with the Local Governments in getting additional grant from the government to secure the land. The CF and ANS regularly

followed up these households in understanding the difficulty faced by them to undertake the reconstruction. The empowerment of the Dalits and landless households will help in minimizing the prevailing discrimination.

Safety measures of the workers during the construction time (such as using protective gears) were promoted. Use of such gears was found to be limited. For example, Gum boots were widely used whereas helmets and gloves were not used as extensively. Although no unfortunate incidences took place, these workers were not insured. All the ANS, CF and other project officials however were insured.

5.7 Gender and Social Inclusion

The project has emphasized on incorporating gender and social inclusion issues as an integral part in project implementation. Information on single and elderly women, people without support in the house, people with disability, Dalits was initially gathered through Beneficiary Status Survey and later updated in RIMS so that specific needs related to housing reconstruction could be addressed. Project staff made special efforts to reach out to these households. These measures helped in incorporating gender and social inclusion issues in the project implementation. The beneficiary included 1,482 households of single women, 428 households of elderly people, 80 households of orphan children, and 2,938 households of Dalits and 2,275 households having members with disability.

The gender and social inclusion issues were incorporated in different components of the project such as in providing support for administrative procedures, training, IEC materials etc. Although database with detail information requiring gender and social inclusion consideration of individual house owner is maintained in the Reconstruction information management system (RIMS), the reporting system used did not specifically develop specific category of such households. The project management also took into account the gender issues in staff management especially in facilitating mobility.

Some cases were observed (as in Gorkha 9), where the females would get less wage for the construction work than the males for similar types of work by about Rs. 200 a day. However, in other places both males and females would get same level of wages for the similar type of work. Such instances of difference in wages for similar works, though not common, shows the need for continued focus on GESI issues. Although 420 females were trained as masons, they were engaged mostly as support staff rather than as a mason. The female masons interacted during the field study worked only as help workers.

6. Conclusions, Recommendations, and Lessons Learnt

6.1 Conclusion

The project successfully achieved its objective of helping 26,912 house owners in eight Palikas of Grokha district by providing effective socio-technical facilitation. The six interrelated components of the project with specific activities worked synergistically to achieve this result.

In the course of achieving this eventful objective, it has developed several features which form the social capital for future resource mobilization and safe reconstruction in the district. Among these important social capitals is a strong base of well-trained four thousand plus masons and Awas Nirman Sathi including over 400 female masons. This strong base of well capacitated human resource can play a vital role ensuring application of safety measures in future construction work in district, besides providing technical services for maintaining the reconstruction work carried out by the project.

At the community level, large scale reconstruction of safe houses has created a sense of safety from disasters among the house owners. The level of benefits felt and realized by different groups of house owners vary. People with disability, single elderly women who would not have imagined of reconstructing a house without the project support, a landless individual owning a house would feel the impact of project immensely and differently than an average house owner who also had to reconstruct a house. The project made special arrangement to reach out to those vulnerable groups of house owners.

The capacity and confidence of the local governments (Palika and ward officials) have been boosted in managing large scale reconstruction work. They have already taken initiative to documents and achievements and publish them. The knowledge and skill gained through implementation of this project will provide a strong base for undertaking other comprehensive development initiatives in future.

The education materials produced by the project, especially those related with technical aspects of construction work will be very helpful in future as well for the technicians.
In spite of several such highly positive aspects of the projects, there are of potential concern. Many households (the survey conducted by the project revealed 73% of the house owners) had to borrow money for reconstruction. This will potentially create a huge debt problem in the society. A large-scale comprehensive initiative for economic prosperity will be required to address the potential economic problem and also to empower the local communities. Similarly, attention should also be paid to reconstruction safe from hazards like lightning and fire.

6.2 Evaluation Rating

The summary findings in terms of the evaluation criteria are presented in the table below. This table also shows the project performance score/rating following ‘a five-point scale’ against the DAC evaluation criteria. The overall performance of the project is ‘satisfactory’.

Criteria	Rating/Score	Performance
Relevance	1	The project is highly relevant as it was designed to address the pressing need of house reconstruction (41% of the total in the district) in the aftermath of the earthquake. The six components of the project were essential to meet the overall objective of house reconstruction. The project is also aligned with the National plans (fourteenth and fifteenth plans) and SDG.
Effectiveness	2	The project achievement was highly effective as over 99.9% of the planned houses were built. The expedition of tranches release, intense social and technical facilitation focused at individual households, capacity strengthening of house owners and masons, provision of building design services and wider dissemination of information all were very effective and collectively contributed in achieving the overall objective. Some trainings could not be done in time for the participants to apply the skills learned in the training.
Efficiency	2	The human resources were mobilized efficiently considering the local contexts. More offices were established in remote areas (three in Dharche) and Palikas with higher number of houses to be built (Gorkha and Palungtar) and later scaled down as the number of houses to be built declined. Mechanisms were set to constant monitoring of field issues and staff mobilization. Effective coordination with district level agencies helped in enhancing the efficiency.
Sustainability	2	The high quality and adherence of safety measures ensured during the construction will contribute in sustainability of the houses. Factors like continued presence of trained technical human resources, strong ownership by the local governments will contribute in sustainability of the project. Some aspects like strengthening of the local service providers (in design of houses) could have been improved the sustainability.
Impact	3	The safe houses built provide immense sense of safety and self-esteem of the local people. Similarly, the local government's capacity and confidence has been enhanced to undertake major development initiatives. These factors will have far reaching effects on the future socio-economic development activities. Many households incurred loans to build houses which may create financial troubles to the households.
Coherence	2	The project design and implementation is aligned with guiding policies such as Post Disaster Need Assessment and Post Disaster Recovery Framework. Similarly, it is coherent with United Nations

		Development Assistance Framework and UNDP Country Nepal Programme. The component activities are complimentary to one another and helped in achieving the target.
Human Rights	2	The project has given high priority to address the differential concerns of minorities. Vulnerable households were identified and provided individual attention. Landless households, Dalits, people with disability were provided additional support in capacity strengthening and house construction.
Gender and Social inclusion	2	The project emphasized on enhancing gender and social inclusion issues. Women (also focusing on single, senior citizen), landless households (344 in no.), people with disability, minors were provided addition support in coordination with local government. Dedicated trainings were provided to female masons. Gender issues were taken into account in staff management as well. Data base system could be improved with better disaggregation among different categories.
Overall	2	

scale: 1: Highly satisfactory, 2: Satisfactory, 3: Moderately satisfactory, 4: Somehow satisfactory, 5: Not satisfactory

6.3 Recommendations

Following recommendations are made to galvanize the achievements of the project and continue the benefit streams in future as well.

- The Ward and Palika Offices should maintain and update the database of technical human resources such as Masons, ANS, and CFs. The local governments could give priority to retain them for relevant work as they could provide valuable services in applying disaster safety measures in future construction work in the district.
- A digital network or platform of these technical human resources should be developed at the district level and linked with other development initiatives that might take place in the district. This will keep the network vibrant and contribute in building a strong social capital.
- While maintaining and updating the database of trained masons, the Ward and Palika offices should also update the database of trained female masons and they should be linked with other development partners and construction agencies on priority basis. Such initial support by the officials would help to sustain the capacity of the trained female masons which later will sustain on their own.
- A comprehensive data base of reconstruction, which could be easily accessed, should be developed and maintained at the Ward, Palika, and the District Coordination Committees. These databases could be linked with the Local Disaster Management Committees.
- Many households (as in Dharche) were found to use houses those were partially damaged with minor repairs. However, these houses pose future risks until they are strengthened with retrofitting. A survey of use of such houses should be conducted and local governments should encourage retrofitting.

- Safety measures against other hazards such as lightening, fire should be incorporated in already built and future houses as well. Measures such as earthing and construction of ponds where feasible, filling of pit holes around the house, etc. should be promoted.
- The successful housing reconstruction work has provided the local communities and the local governments knowledge, skills and confidence in the management of large scale development initiatives. This is a social capital which needs to be cashed on future development initiatives.
- Efforts should be made to launch initiative to promote comprehensive economic prosperity upgrading from livelihood improvement focused initiative. This is of utmost importance considering the fact that many of the households had incurred debt while building the houses.
- Design of future programs should be more comprehensive considering multiple hazards such as land slide, fires etc. It should also take into account the emerging socio-economic (such as change in sex ratio, emerging economic opportunities) and environmental processes (such as change in water availability, wildlife damage etc.)

6.4 Lessons Learnt

Following important lessons could be taken from the successful implementation of this project"

Social facilitation is crucial in getting the beneficiaries on board the project. Individual beneficiaries/households have different barriers, concerns shaped by factors like gender, caste, social status, age etc. and relating those into project implementation greatly enhances the project effectiveness as well as empowering the beneficiary. The social facilitation of the project was geared towards reaching out to individual households to understand the barriers and to motivate them in housing reconstruction rather than they seeking to meet the project. This perspective in social facilitation was crucial in making the project effective.

Working with/through local governments (Palika/ wards) makes the project implementation more effective, in resolving the issues that might arise during the project implementation and aiding in enhancing legitimacy. The capacity of local governments is also strengthened, and their ownership will help in leveraging additional resources and contributing to sustainability of the project effects. The Reconstruction Revolving Fund created by the Paliaks was very helpful in generating resources for reconstruction for the resource poor house owners.

Effective Coordination with multiple stakeholders is essential for effective implementation. Informal channel of coordination is sometime even more effective than the formal channel of coordination. The informal form of coordination greatly helped in expediting the tranche release. Informal coordination was constantly maintained with the Ward officials, Chief District Officers, NRA engineers, GMALI, and Banks to expedite the different steps in tranche release.

In-built system of effective communication helps to promote internal cohesion and effective delivery. The real time data updating in Reconstruction Information Management System by the front line staff helped the management to take appropriate steps. Similarly, the independent concurrent monitoring and quality assurance system in built in the project design helped in improving the pace and effectiveness of the implementation and in adopting corrective measures.

Scale of the project matters: The large scale adoption in terms of number of activities being implemented in a given geographic unit influences the community psyche getting them motivated to get involved in the project. As reflected by several informants, the reconstruction work undertaken by neighbors, relatives and cohorts has created a sense of urgency for them to speed up the work.

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Evaluation matrix

Evaluation criteria	Key questions	Indicators	Information required/source of data	Data collection methods/tools
Relevance	• How relevant were the overall design and approaches of the project in the overall socio-political context of the nation and the project area? • To what extent was the project in line with national development priorities, country programme outputs and outcome, the UNDP Strategic Plan, and the SDGs? • To what extent the project was able to address the needs of the earthquake impacted target groups in the evolving contexts of disaster risk, political administrative dynamics and, COVID-19 pandemic? • To what extent were the objectives of the project design (inputs, activities, outputs and deliverables) logical and coherent? Did the project contribute to the outcomes and outputs of the UNDP CPD; reconstruction efforts of the NRA? • To what extent has the project been able to adapt to the needs of the different target	Relationship established between the project and the national priorities, SDGs, UNDP strategic plan Comprehensiveness of the Project activities designed to meet the objectives Consideration of need of diverse groups of beneficiaries in the project design and execution	General Socio-political context and severity of the disaster in the district Priority local needs in the context of disaster General list of priority as spelled out in the country policies, UNDP strategies, and the district level priorities List of activities planned to achieve the objectives	Review of national policies and plans, UNDP Strategic Plan, SDGs with focus on disaster risk and juxtaposing the project proposal to the national priorities Consultation with the NRA officials, Project Team, District level officials

	groups (including promoting the gender equality and social inclusion aspects) in terms of creating enabling environment for inclusive, affordable and people-centered reconstruction policies and actions?			
Effectiveness	• To what extent the project activities were delivered effectively in terms of quality, quantity and timing? • What factors have contributed to achieving or not achieving the intended outputs? • To what extent were the project results inclusive in terms of gender, vulnerable groups, and persons with disability? • What were the lessons learned and how were feedback/learning incorporated in the subsequent process of planning and implementation? How effective has the project been in enhancing the capacity of the communities and local governments to create enabling environment for inclusive post-disaster reconstruction management? To what extent the different project components were effective? To what extent was the implementation approach and management effective in delivering the project output?	Extent of target achieved against the planned time Quality of the work delivered The degree of appreciation of the work by the beneficiaries Level of participation of different group of people Nature and extent of capacity enhancement of different groups of beneficiaries Nature of adaptive management followed Degree of geographical coverage of the project in a given ward (percentage of houses covered)	Time series achievement of the target Quality data Level of beneficiary satisfaction Participation of different groups of beneficiaries in different phases of the project Types of capacity enhancement measures undertaken and level of capacity enhanced of individuals and institutions Measures for ensuring transparency and accountability Adaptive management practices	Review of the progress reports; minutes of the local construction committee, Quality Assurance reports Consultation with project team, front line staff, officials of partner organizations beneficiaries (differentiated by gender, caste, disability, proximity to market/vulnerable area); local government officials Observation of the activities undertaken Review of Reconstruction Management Information System

Efficiency	• How efficiently were the resources including human, material and financial, used to achieve the project results in a timely manner? • To what extent was the existing project management structure appropriate and efficient in generating the expected results? • To what extent has the project implementation strategy and its execution been efficient and cost-effective? • To what extent was the project management adaptive to the changed contexts COVID-19 pandemic	Administrative and financial management Use of resources Staff turnover Synergy generated Effective monitoring Coordination and partnership Adaptive mechanism to cope with the difficulty in implementation during and after the COVID pandemic	Administrative and financial management guidelines Financial reports and assessment of program and admin expenses Nature of synergy	Review of reports (technical and financial) Review of Management Information System Consultation with Project Management Team; Implementing Partner organizations; Local government officials
Sustainability	• To what extent the project results achievements are likely to sustain? • To what extent measures (institutional, social, technical, financial) were implemented to sustain the project results? • What could be potential new areas of work and innovative measures for sustaining the results? • To what extent the project contributed in in strengthening the institutional base (of local governments, community organizations) to building capacities at local level, including of local governments? • To what extent have lessons learned been	Level of Technical and financial requirement for operation and maintenance to continue the benefit stream of the project results Available technical human resource after the completion of the project Unintended impact on environment Local Institutional basis for sustaining the project benefit stream	Institutional arrangements for sustaining the project effects Availability of technical human resources for repair and maintenance The level of adverse environmental social impacts (if any) Intensity of the need to undertake the project	Observation of field activities Review of reports, minutes of local level meetings Consultation with the Project Management Team, technical human resources Consultation with local government leaders, officials

	documented by the project on a continual basis to inform the project for needful change? • What could be done to strengthen exit strategies and sustainability of the project? • What are the plans or approaches of the local authorities to ensure that the initiatives will be continued after the project ends? • How has project contributed towards replication of initiatives at the local level?	Ownership of the project by beneficiaries, or local organizations		
Impact	• To what extent the project initiatives indicate that intended impact will be achieved in the future?	Potential longer- term wider effects on different spheres (economic, social, environmental) on the socioecological system	The list of changes already brought about by the project intervention (both material and non-material) Potential wider effects of the changes brought about by the project intervention List of changes in status quo	Consultation with the different groups of beneficiaries, Local government officials, Project Management Team
Coherence	• To what extent the intervention was coherent with Government policies, UNDP strategies, and Local political economic context? To what extent the different components of the project are complementary/supplementary? • How well the intervention fit in changed contexts like COVID-19 pandemic?	Relationship/matching of project activities with the national priorities, and contribute to meet the aspirations in local context Harmony between different components Synergy effects	Project design (objective, activities, implementation arrangement) contribution in meeting objectives List of complementary/ supplementary effects	Review of the project proposal, Progress Report, National policies, plans Consultation with the project team

Human Rights	• To what extent have Dalit, ethnic minorities, people with disability, women, senior citizen and other excluded and vulnerable groups benefitted from the work of the project and with what impact? • To what extent have the project integrated a Human Rights Based Approach in the design, implementation and monitoring of the project? • Have the resources been used in an efficient way to address Human Rights in the implementation (e.g. participation of targeted stakeholders, collection of disaggregated data, etc.)?	Human Rights based measures adopted Proportion of disadvantaged group members reached out/benefitted List of measures followed (such as safety, insurance etc.)	List of Human Rights based measures adopted in project design and implementation process List of measures adopted in project design, reporting format (provision for disaggregated data) List of Changes/achievements as a result of adoption of measures	Review of the project proposal, progress reports, RMIS Consultation with the project team Focused discussion with the targeted group members
Gender equity and social inclusion	• To what extent the project approach was effective in promoting gender equality and social inclusion - particularly focusing on the excluded and the poor through technology transfer, mass awareness including media and social campaigns, planning, orientation and training? • To what extent have gender equality, the empowerment of women and social inclusion been addressed in the design, implementation and monitoring of the project? • To what extent has the project promoted positive changes of women and excluded groups, including persons with disabilities?	Incorporation of GESI issues on Project Design, implementation, and monitoring Consideration of GESI issues on Staff hiring and management Adoption of GESI issues in the local governments	List of GESI-guided activities and results; monitoring framework Evidences of empowerment of excluded and minority groups as a consequence of project intervention	Review of the project proposal, progress reports, RMIS Consultation with the project team, front line staff Focused discussion with the targeted group members

Disability	• Were persons with disabilities consulted and meaningfully involved in programme planning and implementation? • What proportion of the beneficiaries of the project were persons with disabilities? • What barriers did persons with disabilities face to effectively benefit from the project?	Evidences of consideration of people with disability in the project design and implementation Proportion of people with disability benefitted from the project	Measures for consideration of people with disability in design, implementation, reporting	Review of the project proposal, progress reports, RMIS Consultation with the project team, front line staff Focused discussion with people with disability

Annex 2: Project Achievements in numbers

S.N	Activities	Number
1	Total houses reconstructed	26,912
2	Tranche released (I, II, III)	26,912
3	Construction completed Hhs	26,886
4	CR house Constructed (number)	88
5	Households covered in Verification Survey	26,803
6	PA sign Facilitation	996
7	Vulnerable house Supported	8,021
8	Land related Facilitation Support	344
9	Liaison with DLPIU for Tranche release	30356
10	Facilitation for banking process	31115
11	Technical support for planning, costing & resources	16,537
12	Connecting available Mason with house owner	16,175
13	On-site technical advice and guidance(Door to Door visit)	299,696
14	Coordination with NRA engineers(Site Verification, inspection and Certification)	27,980
15	Tole Level Meetings	1983
16	Ward level Meetings	918
17	Palika level Meetings	175
18	Handholding for building permit to Hhs	3,969
19	As-built drawings of already constructed	836
20	Structural Analysis	190
21	Support to municipality for structural assessment and archiving	147
22	Facilitation for material procurement / production (hh)	13,818
23	Facilitation for land, if needed	344
24	Supporting house owners for relocation and subsequently reconstruction	54
25	On-site technical support on correction for houses that have failed inspection	643
26	On-site technical support on retrofitting for houses of GOI beneficiaries	103
27	Testing of retrofitting models demonstration	1
28	Support for Establishment of Revolving fund (palikas)	3
29	Grievance reporting and follow up through Toll Free Service (number of calls)	44760
30	Radio Programmes (number of broadcasts)	595
31	Mobile Technology Clinic (no of events)	431
32	Number of people reached through Mobile Technology Clinic	21373
33	Use of Social Media for awareness/outreach (number of people reached)	8,042
34	Social Cultural Events	211
35	Number of people reached in socio cultural events	16,575
36	Number of house owners reached for retrofitting	6,379
37	Printed ICE materials (types)	35
38	Exposure visits	15
39	ICE activity of maintenance and risk mitigation (no of hh reached)	26,912
40	Training of Masons (man days)	13,966
41	Training of NRA Engineers (no of events)	14
42	Workshops	18
43	Trained Masons	4000
44	Number of female masons trained	420
45	MIS and Progress Tracking	All
46	Concurrent monitoring and quality assurance reports	9
47	Satisfaction survey and testimonials (hhs reached)	24,966
48	Completion Certificate issued (hhs)	26,846

Annex 3: Field visit itinerary

Date	Venue	Time	Activities
Nov 15, 2021	Kathmandu, CDRMP Office	14:00	Meeting with Reporting Monitor Officer
Nov 16, 2021	Kathmandu	11:00	KII with Team Coordinator/Engineer
Nov 20,2021	Kathmandu-Palungtar, Gorkha	7:00	En route
	Palungtar-7,Biruwatar	13:00	Meeting with Mayor of Palungtar Municipality
	Paluntar-5,Belbot	16:00	FGD with Landless community & observations of house
	Thanipokhari,Palungtar	17:15	Interaction with CF and ANS
Nov 20,2021	Palungtar-8	8:30	KII with ANS
	Palungtar-8	9:30	Meeting with Ward chair of Palungtar Municipality ward-8
	Palungtar-8,Ratamate	10:00	FGD with Dalit Community
	Palungtar-8	11:15	Observation of Retrofitted house
	Palungtar-7	12:15	KII with a person with disability
	Palungtar-7,Khatritar	13:05	KII with ANS
	Paluntar-9,Kayapani	14:30	FGD with Female Masons
	Palungtar-9,Aaptari	15:10	KII with Ward Chair of Palungtar Municipality ward-9
	Palungtar-5,Thatipokhari	17:00	KII with Engineer of Palungtar Municipality
	Dumre, Tanhu	18:30	Night Stay
Nov 21,2021	Siranchowk-5,Bhattagaun	9:00	FGD with Brahmin/Chhetri Community
	Siranchowk-3,Harmi	11:00	KII with Ward Chair of Sirnchowk R.M. ward-3
	Siranchowk R.M.-Chitrepokhari	12:45	KII with Engineers & Administrative Officer of Siranchowk R.M.
	Ajirkot R.M-Bhachchek	15:00	Meeting with Engineer of Ajirkot R.M.
	Ajirkot-3,Lapsibot	16:00	FGD with non-project beneficiary
	Ajirkot-2,Kharibot	17:00	FGD with Brahmin/Chhetri Community
	Bhachchek	19:00	Night Stay
Nov 22,2021	Dharche-7,Lapubesi	12:40	FGD with Janajati Community
	Dharche-7,Pandrangaun	13:15	Observation of Stone Masonry houses
	Dharche-7,Pandrangaun	13:30	KII with ANS
	Aarught R.M, Aarught Bazzar	16:15	KII with Administrative Chief of Aarughat R.M
	Aarught Bazzar	16:45	KII with Ward Chair of Dharche R.M. ward-6
	Aarught Bazzar	17:30	Night Stay
Nov 24,2021	Sahid Lakhan-6,Ghairung	9:30	KII with Palika Chief of Sahid Lakhan R.M
	Sahid Lakhan-6,Ghairung	10:20	KII with old age single woman & house observation house
	Sahid Lakhan-6,Ghairung	10:50	KII with ANS of Sahid Lakhan R.M.
	Gandaki R.M-yangdi	12:30	KII with old age single woman
	Gandaki-2,Tanglichowk	13:15	KII with ANS of Gandaki R.M-2
	Gandaki-2,Tanglichowk	14:00	FGD with Janajati Community
	Gandaki-2,Tanglichowk	14:35	Observation of CR house and retrofitted house
	Gandaki-2,TalloYangdi	14:40	KII with guardian of minors supported for housing
	Sahid Lakhan-5,Maskechhap	17:00	FGD with Janajati & Dalit Community
	Sahid Lakhan-5,Maskechhap	17:30	Meeting with ANS of Sahid Lakhan R.M.-5,observation of block house
	Gorkha M-Gorkha	20:00	Night stay

Nov 25,2021	Gorkha M-Gorkha	10:00	KII with DCC Chief of Gorkha
	Gorkha M-Gorkha	11:15	Meeting with District Treasury Controller
	Gorkha M-Gorkha	12:00	KII with DLPIU, Building Engineer
	Gorkha M-Gorkha	14:00	KII with Journalist
	Gorkha M-Gorkha	15:00	Meeting with Human Resource and Logistic Officer of Project
	Gorkha M-Gorkha	17:00	Night Stay
	Gorkha M-Gorkha	8:30	Meeting with the News Chief of Radio Gorkha
Nov 26,2021	Gorkha M-Gorkha	10:30	KII with Branch Manager of NMB bank
	Gorkha M-Gorkha	11:15	KII with Branch Manager of Chhimek Laghubitta Sastha
	Gorkha M-Gorkha	13:00	KII with Chief Engineer of Gorkha Municipality
	Gorkha M-Gorkha	15:00	KII with CF of Gorkha Municipality Cluster
	Gorkha M-Gorkha	16:00	KII with Draft person of BPS unit Gorkha
	Gorkha M-Gorkha	17:00	Night Stay
Nov 27,2021	GorkhaMunicipality-9, Dalvanjyang	11:00	FGD with Landless community
	Gorkha Municipality-9, Dalvanjyang	13:00	KII with a woman with disability & observation of CR house
	Gorkha Municipality-11, Majhagira	13:35	FGD with beneficiary
	Gorkha Bazzar	15:00	KII with Ward Chair of Gorkha Municipality-11,13
	Gorkha Bazzar	16:00	KII with Sub-Engineer of Gorkha Cluster
Nov 28,2021	Gorkha Bazzar	17:00	Night Stay
	Gorkha Municipality-3, Hulakdanda	8:00	KII with Female Mason
	Gorkha Municipality-3, Nareshwor	9:00	Discussion with radio listener club
	Gorkha Bazzar	16:30	KII with admin & Finance officer of Swara Saghan Gau Bikas Kendra
	Gorkha Bazzar	17:00	KII with Officials of Paddhati Bikash Kendra
Nov29,2021	Gorkha Bazzar	18:00	Night Stay
	Fisling, Chitwan	10:30	KII with Palika Chief of Gandaki R.M and C.F.
	Gorkh-Kathmandu	12:00	Back to Kathmandu
Dec2,2021	Kathmandu		KII with SEEDS, Hunnarshala & Unnati Officials
Dec 12.2021	CDRPM, Lalitpur	13:00	KII with Structure Engineer of BPS unit Gorkha
Dec13,2021	CDRMP,Lalitpur	13:00	KII with QA Consultant
Dec14,2021	Mobile Call	9:00	KII with DST Engineer
Dec15,2021	Zoom Meting	16:30	KII with District Project Coordinator
Dec17,2021	Singh Durbar,Kathmandu	11:00	KII with Deputy Spoke Person/Information Officer, NRA
Dec17,2021	Zoom Meting	17:30	KII with Senior Project Officer of the project

Annex 4: Documents Reviewed

1. UNDP 2017. Proposal for Socio-Technical Facilitation Services to GOI-Supported Housing Reconstruction in Gorkha District, Nepal
2. UNDP 2018. Socio-Technical Facilitation Services to GOI-Supported Housing Reconstruction in Gorkha District, Nepal; Nepal Housing Reconstruction Project Annual Report (March-December 2018)
3. UNDP 2019. Socio-Technical Facilitation Services to GOI-Supported Housing Reconstruction in Gorkha District, Nepal; Annual Report (January-December 2019)
4. UNDP 2020. Socio-Technical Facilitation Services to GOI-Supported Housing Reconstruction in Gorkha District, Nepal; Annual Report (January-December 2020)
5. UNDP 2018. Beneficiary Status Survey and Quality Assurance Report for Government of India supported Nepal Housing Reconstruction Project.
6. UNDP 2021. Socio-Technical Facilitation Services to GOI-Supported Housing Reconstruction in Gorkha District, Nepal; Monthly Progress Reports Annual Report (January-September 2021)
7. UNDP 2018 to 2021 Socio-Technical Facilitation Services to GOI-Supported Housing Reconstruction in Gorkha District, Nepal. Quality Assessment Reports
8. United Nations Country Team Nepal (2017), United Nations Development Assistance Framework for Nepal 2018-2022: United Nations: United Nations
9. UNDP 2017. Nepal Country programme
10. United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015): Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030). Geneva: United Nations
11. OECD-DAC (2019): Better Criteria for Better Evaluation: Revised Evaluation Criteria, Definitions and Principles for Use. OECD DAC Network on Development Evaluation
12. NPC 2017. Sustainable Development Goals Status and Roadmap: 2016-2030. National Planning Commission (NPC), Government of Nepal.
13. NPC 2015. Nepal Earthquake 2015: Post Disaster Needs Assessment: Key Findings. Vol. A. Kathmandu: National Planning Commission, Government of Nepal.
14. NPC 2015. Nepal Earthquake 2015: Post Disaster Needs Assessment. Kathmandu: National Planning Commission, Government of Nepal.
15. NPC 2020. The Fifteenth Plan (2019/20-2023/24). Singdurbar, Kathmandu
16. NPC 2017. The Fourteenth Plan (2016/17-2019/20). Singdurbar, Kathmandu
17. Ministry of Home Affairs 2018. National Policy for Disaster Risk Reduction 2018. Kathmandu Nepal
18. NRA. 2016. Nepal Earthquake 2015: Post-Disaster Recovery Framework, 2016-2020. Kathmandu: National Reconstruction Authority, Government of Nepal,

Annex 5: Checklists for Interaction meetings

A. With DCC, Palika officials (chairpersons, Vice Chairpersons, Mayors, Deputy Mayors and Ward Chairs)

1. Context of the earthquake damage
    a. No. of people who became disabled after the earthquake
    b. Houses damaged within the given spatial unit
    c. Damage of community/productive infrastructures (irrigation system, schools, health posts, market infrastructures etc.)
2. Major Reconstruction works before the Project initiation
    a. Reconstruction initiatives undertaken post-earthquake till March 2018 (when the project was launched)
    b. Prioritization of housing reconstruction if any (location, degree of household vulnerability, availability of construction materials, human resources)
    c. Initiatives of the district and local governments (including erstwhile VDCs) for reconstruction work (human resources development, institutional arrangement, financial resource allocation)
    d. Extent of housing reconstruction
    e. Extent of community infrastructures reconstruction
    f. Major factors contributing to delay in reconstruction in the first three years after the disaster (financial, technical, human resources, administrative etc.)
3. Reconstruction works after the launching of the project
    a. Priority setting [locality, vulnerable households (Dalits, women-headed, senior citizens etc.), ethnic groups etc.]
    b. Additional arrangements in this phase set by the local governments to facilitate the housing reconstruction (such as revolving fund, human resources, administrative, Reconstruction committees etc.)
    c. Consideration of gender and social inclusion, disability in provision of additional support, priority
    d. Extent of the housing reconstruction (including from other funding resources if any)
    e. Types of houses built (technical)
    f. Conflicts if any (and the resolution process)
    g. Community infrastructure rehabilitated
    h. Availability of construction materials (and its impact on environment)
    i. New community infrastructure built
    j. Measures adopted for ensuring transparency
4. Effects of housing reconstruction and project activities
    a. Safety issues
    b. Compatibility / appropriateness of livelihood system (eg. Storing agricultural products), convenience for running household chores
    c. Enhancement of Social harmony/conflict
    d. Empowerment of vulnerable households (eg. Participation in social functions, change in social status etc.)
    e. Financial impacts (household level debts, employment generation, inflation)
    f. Other changes
    g. Most important capacity strengthening activities/exposure visits (How will those capacity help in future work)

5. Opinion about the features of the project
    a. Aspects that helped most in expediting the reconstruction (administrative facilitation, capacity building, human resources development, IEC material/MTC etc.)
    b. Future role (employment, enterprises) for technical staffs (ANS, masons)
    c. Institutional arrangement made for sustaining the project effects/results
6. Lessons learnt (in terms of project design, implementation process, general management, institutionalization etc.)
    a. What were the conducive/enabling factors for facilitating the project?
    b. What were the detracting factors constraining the project implementation?
    c. In retrospect, what could have been improved for more effective outcome?
    d. How would the effect of the project be sustained?
    e. Some key specific examples of achievements/outcomes (Beneficiary groups, locality etc.)

B. Focus Group Discussion with Beneficiaries (General)

2. General context in the aftermath of the earthquake
    a. Extent of houses damaged in the settlements
    b. Extent of disability caused in the settlements
    c. Damage of community infrastructure in the settlement (Loss of property, agricultural land etc.
    d. Infrastructure (irrigation canals, water supply system, schools, healthpost, other)
    e. Average housing types before the disaster
3. Preparatory phase in Reconstruction
    a. Reasons for delay in the reconstruction before March 2018
    b. Steps followed in reconstruction
    c. Reconstruction committee and its role
    d. Community Action plan
    e. Available choices for different designs
    f. Factors contributing to selecting a particular design
    g. Conflict if any within the settlement in relation to construction
    h. Orientation, exposure
4. Construction
    a. Financial arrangement (average expenses incurred, grant from the government, timeliness in receiving tranches
    b. Labor management (exchange of labor, social capital etc.)
    c. Arrangement/procurement of construction materials
    d. Technician arrangement
    e. Average time taken for the reconstruction
5. Changes felt since the reconstruction
    a. Convenience features of the new house (sanitation, insulation to weather extremes etc.)
    b. Appropriateness of the new house in relation to livelihood option
    c. Difficulties/inconvenience with the new houses
    d. Change in social dimension (increase/decrease of conflict, empowerment,
7. Lessons learnt and suggestions

C. Focus Group Discussion with Beneficiaries (Dalits and Homeless groups)

1. General context in the aftermath of the earthquake

a. Average housing type (size) damaged
b. Average land area of houses before the earthquake
c. Extent of disability caused in the settlements
d. Damage of community infrastructure in the settlement (Infrastructure (irrigation canals, water supply system, schools, healthpost, other)

2. Preparatory phase in Reconstruction
    a. Reasons for delay in the reconstruction before March 2018
    b. Formation/participation in Reconstruction Committee
    c. Selection of a particular design among different options (including reasons)
    d. Process of land acquisition/access (ownership)
    e. Conflict if any in the process
    f. Additional support from the government (other than for common houses) if any

3. Construction
    a. Average area of the building site (who is the formal owner of the land in the family)
    b. Financial arrangement (average expenses incurred, grant from the government, sources of fund, timeliness in receiving tranches,
    c. Labor management (exchange of labor, hiring etc.)
    d. Arrangement/procurement of construction materials (collectively/individually, convenience, support from government agencies)
    e. Technician arrangement
    f. Average time taken for the reconstruction

4. Changes felt since the reconstruction
    a. Convenience features of the new house (sanitation, insulation to weather extremes etc.)
    b. Appropriateness of the new house in relation to livelihood option
    c. Difficulties/inconvenience with the new houses
    d. Change in social dimension (increase/decrease of conflict, empowerment, social status, sense of security
5. Lessons learnt and suggestions

D. Group Meeting with Masons

1. General features
    a. Number of masons in the given spatial unit (male, female, ethnic group)
    b. Previous experiences in the construction sector
    c. Different types of housing reconstructed
2. Participation in housing construction
    Training received (no., length, skills)
    Average number of houses built by a mason
    Average time required for building a house
    Risk of injury (incidences of injury, insurance if any)
    Safety measures/guidelines followed
    Formal/informal mechanism for cooperation/coordination among the masons
    Labor pulling
    Types of housing built in the given settlement
    Major issues during the construction
    Features of the project that contributed in effectiveness of the project

Major beneficial features/weakness of the current housing

3. Personal benefits
    Average remuneration from building a house
    Average total earning as a mason
    If any significant achievement from the earning
    New skill and knowledge
    Current application of knowledge and skills gained (employment, business etc.)
    Changed Social network
    Future potential
4. Lessons learned and suggestions

E. Key informant interviews with women-headed, households, senior citizens, people with disability

1. General context in the aftermath of the earthquake
    a. Type of house (size) damaged
    b. Other damages
    c. Number of people of the similar type (women headed, people with disability) in the settlement
2. Preparatory phase in Reconstruction
    a. Reasons for delay in the reconstruction before March 2018
    b. Type of encouragement/support received from the project
    c. Selection of a particular design among different options (including reasons)
    d. Additional support from the government (other than for common houses) if any

3. Construction
    a. Average area of the building site (who is the formal owner of the land in the family)
    b. Financial arrangement (average expenses incurred, grant from the government, sources of fund, timeliness in receiving tranches,
    c. Labor management (exchange of labor, hiring etc.)
    d. Arrangement/procurement of construction materials (collectively/individually, convenience, support from government agencies)
    e. Technician arrangement
    f. Average time taken for the reconstruction
    g. Formal ownership of the house
4. Changes felt since the reconstruction
    a. Convenience features of the new house (sanitation, insulation to weather extremes, appropriateness for disability etc.)
    b. Appropriateness of the new house in relation to livelihood option
    c. Difficulties/inconvenience with the new house
    d. Change in social dimension (increase/decrease social status, participation in social functions, independency offered)
    e. Other changes/benefits

5. Lessons learnt and suggestions

Annex 6: List of People Interacted

A. Kathmandu

S.N	Name	Gender	Position
1.	Manohar Ghimire	Male	Deputy Spoke Person/ Information Officer (Under Secretary) ,NRA
2.	Dipak Tripathi	Male	SEEDS Technical Services
3.	Mahabir Acharya	Male	Hunnarshala Foundation
4.	Kirit Perma	Male	Unnati- Organization for Development Education
5.	Kedar Babu Dhungana	Male	Reporting Monitoring Officer,NHRP
7.	Pragya Pradhan	Female	Senior Project Officer,NHRP
8.	Ram Sapkota	Male	District Coordinatort,NHRP
9.	Milan Bagale	Male	QA Consultant,NHRP
10.	Pragati Manandhar	Female	Project Assistant,NHRP
11	Swarnim Shrestha	Male	Then BPS Unit,Gorkha
12.	Naresh Nidal	Male	Engineer
13.	Bibash Dahal	Male	Engineer

B. Focus Group Discussions

S.N.	Name	Gender	Position/Representation
I	20 Nov, 2021 with Landless Community, Palungtar M. 5, Belbot, Gorkha		
1.	Ram Saran Bista	Male	Palungtar M. 5, Belbot
2.	Bishnu Kumar B.K.	Male	Palungtar M. 5, Belbot
3.	Nar Bd. Giri	Male	Palungtar M. 5, Belbot
4.	Kham Bd. Chawan	Male	Palungtar M. 5, Belbot
5.	Jamuna B.K	Female	Palungtar M. 5, Belbot
6.	Bindu Kumari Chawan Chhetri	Female	Palungtar M. 5, Belbot
7.	Sudip B.K.	Male	Palungtar M. 5, Belbot
8.	Harka Bd. B.K.	Male	Palungtar M. 5, Belbot
9.	Dal Bd. B.K	Male	Palungtar M. 5, Belbot
10.	Santhosh B.K.	Male	Palungtar M. 5, Belbot
Ii	21 Nov,2021, with Dalit community, Palungtar M. 8, Ratamate, Gorkha		
1.	Laxmi Pariyar	Female	Palungtar M. 8, Ratamate,
2.	SusmaPariyar	Female	Palungtar M. 8, Ratamate,
3.	Hari Maya Pariyar	Female	Palungtar M. 8, Ratamate,
4.	MainaPariyar	Female	Palungtar M. 8, Ratamate,
5.	SantosiPariyar	Female	Palungtar M. 8, Ratamate,
6.	Goma Devi Kami	Female	Palungtar M. 8, Ratamate,
7.	Hari Kami	Male	Palungtar M. 8, Ratamate,
iii.	21 Nov,2021, with Female Masons		Palungtar M. 9, Kaya Pani,Gorkha
1.	Krishna Maya Tamang	Female	Palungtar M. 9, Kaya Pani,
2.	Usha Tamang	Female	Palungtar M. 9, Kaya Pani,
3.	Kanchhi Maya Tamang	Female	Palungtar M. 9, Kaya Pani,
iv.	22 Nov, 2021, with Chhetri /Bhraman Community Siranchowk-5, Bhattagaun, Gorkha		

1.	Dinnath Bhatta	Male	Siranchowk-5, Bhattagaun
2.	Narayan Prasad Pokharel	Male	Siranchowk-5, Bhattagaun
3.	Min Bd. Lamichhane	Male	Siranchowk-5, Bhattagaun
4.	Bishal Lamichhane	Male	Siranchowk-5, Bhattagaun
5.	Prakash Lamichhane	Male	Siranchowk-5, Bhattagaun
6.	Srijana Lamichhane	Female	Siranchowk-5, Bhattagaun
7.	Sarmila Pokharel	Female	Siranchowk-5, Bhattagaun
8.	Jhalak Bd. Lamichhane	Male	Siranchowk-5, Bhattagaun
9.	Surya Bd. Lamichhane	Male	Siranchowk-5, Bhattagaun
10.	Bhojraj Parajuli	Male	Siranchowk-5, Bhattagaun
11.	Kamala Maraththa	Female	Siranchowk-5, Bhattagaun
12.	Pursotam Maraththa	Male	Siranchowk-5, Bhattagaun
13.	Hari Prasad Maraththa		
v	22 Nov, 2021 (Adjoining Project area) with Brahmin Chhetri Community Ajirkot R.M.-3,Lapsibot, Gorkha		
1.	Tulsi Adhikari	Female	Ajirkot R.M.-3,Lapsibot
2.	Chet Bd. Dawadi	Male	Ajirkot R.M.-3,Lapsibot
3.	Laxmi Adhikari	Female	Ajirkot R.M.-3,Lapsibot
4.	Krishnajung Ghimire	Male	Ajirkot R.M.-3,Lapsibot
5.	Chandra Kumari Adhikari	Female	Ajirkot R.M.-3,Lapsibot
6.	Tuknath Adhikari	Male	Ajirkot R.M.-3,Lapsibot
7.	Santa Adhikari	Female	Ajirkot R.M.-3,Lapsibot
8.	Sita Ghimire	Female	Ajirkot R.M.-3,Lapsibot
9.	Narayan Neupane	Male	Ajirkot R.M.-3,Lapsibot
vi	22 Nov, 2021 with Brahmin,Chhetri Community Ajirkot R.M.-2, Kharibot, Gorkha		
1.	Kamala Bhatta	Female	Ajirkot R.M.-2, Kharibot
2.	Liladhar Ghimire	Male	Ajirkot R.M.-2, Kharibot
3.	Radhika Pokharel	Female	Ajirkot R.M.-2, Kharibot
4.	KalikaDhital Chhetri	Female	Ajirkot R.M.-2, Kharibot
5.	Januka Bhatta	Female	Ajirkot R.M.-2, Kharibot
6.	Ganga Bhatta	Female	Ajirkot R.M.-2, Kharibot
7.	HaribhaktaDhital	Male	Ajirkot R.M.-2, Kharibot
8.	Aasis Koirala	Male	Ajirkot R.M.-2, Kharibot
9.	Dal Bd. Ghimire	Male	Ajirkot R.M.-2, Kharibot
vii.	23 Nov, 2021with Janajati Community, Dharche R.M-7,Pandrang,Gorkha		
1.	Kale Gurung	Male	Dharche R.M-7,Pandrang
2.	Paschim Gurung	Male	Dharche R.M-7,Pandrang
3.	Mamata Gurung	Female	Dharche R.M-7,Pandrang
4.	Sunmaya Gurung	Female	Dharche R.M-7,Pandrang
5.	Kumali Gurung	Female	Dharche R.M-7,Pandrang
vii	24 Nov, 2021,with Janajati Community, Gandaki R.M.-2,Yangdi, Gorkha		
1.	Uma Thapa	Female	Gandaki R.M.-2,Yangdi
2.	Nir Maya Thapa	Female	Gandaki R.M.-2,Yangdi
3.	Mina Thapa	Female	Gandaki R.M.-2,Yangdi
4.	Hasta Maya Thapa	Female	Gandaki R.M.-2,Yangdi
5.	Hom Bd. Thapa 'A'	Male	Gandaki R.M.-2,Yangdi
6.	Kumar Thapa	Male	Gandaki R.M.-2,Yangdi
7.	Jagannath Khanal	Male	Gandaki R.M.-2,Yangdi
8.	Hom Bd. Thapa 'B'	Male	Gandaki R.M.-2,Yangdi
viii	24 Nov, 2021with Dalit, Janajati Mixed Community, Sahid Lakhan R.M.-5, Maskechhap,Gorkha		

1.	Tej Bd. Damai	Male	Sahid Lakhan R.M.-5, Maskechhap
2.	Ram Bd. Thapa Magar	Male	Sahid Lakhan R.M.-5, Maskechhap
3.	Jem Bd. Thapa Magar	Male	Sahid Lakhan R.M.-5, Maskechhap
4.	Nanda Bd. Magar	Male	Sahid Lakhan R.M.-5, Maskechhap
5.	Gaja Maya Thapa Magar	Female	Sahid Lakhan R.M.-5, Maskechhap
6.	Dol Bd. Thapa Magar	Male	Sahid Lakhan R.M.-5, Maskechhap
7.	Keswati Pariyar	Female	Sahid Lakhan R.M.-5, Maskechhap
Ix	27 Nov,2021with Landless Community, Gorkha M.-9,Dalbhanjyang, Gorkha		
1.	Bhumika Thapa	Female	Gorkha M.-9,Dalbhanjyang
2.	Phulmaya Thapa	Female	Gorkha M.-9,Dalbhanjyang
3.	Hum Kumari Thapa	Female	Gorkha M.-9,Dalbhanjyang
4.	Chandra Maya Dhega Magar	Female	Gorkha M.-9,Dalbhanjyang
5.	Man Kumari Adhikari	Female	Gorkha M.-9,Dalbhanjyang
6.	Lal Bd. Kami	Male	Gorkha M.-9,Dalbhanjyang
x	27 Nov,2021with Mixed Community Gorkha M.-11,Majhigaira, Gorkha		
1.	Netra Bd. Ramtel	Male	Gorkha M.-11,Majhigaira
2.	Amrit Bd. Basnet	Male	Gorkha M.-11,Majhigaira
3.	Santosi Ramtel	Female	Gorkha M.-11,Majhigaira
4.	Sunita Shrestha	Female	Gorkha M.-11,Majhigaira
xi	28 Nov,2021with Female Mason		Gorkha M.-3,Nareshowr, Gorkha
1.	Asha Bishow Karma	Female	Gorkha M.-3,Nareshowr
2.	Sarita Nepali	Female	Gorkha M.-3,Nareshowr
3.	Nirmala Baram	Female	Gorkha M.-3,Nareshowr
4.	Krishna Maya Bishwo Karma	Female	Gorkha M.-3,Nareshowr
5.	Kopila Sunar	Female	Gorkha M.-3,Nareshowr
6.	BimalaBishwo Karma	Female	Gorkha M.-3,Nareshowr
7.	Suk Maya Nepali	Female	Gorkha M.-3,Nareshowr

C. Key Informant Interviews conducted in the field study

S.N	Name	Gender	Position/Representation
1.	Dipak Babu Kandel	Male	Mayor, Palungtar Municipality
2.	Hari Krishna Bistha	Male	Community Facilitator, Palungtar
3.	Kajiram Nepali	Male	ANS, Palungtar Municipality-8
4.	Shankar Raj Kandel	Male	Ward Chief, Palungtar Municipality-8
5.	Kishor Bahadur Bhandari	Male	Retrofitted House Owner
6.	Birbal B.K	Male	Vulnerable Group
7.	Bipin K.C	Male	ANS, Palungtar Municipality
8.	Kra Lama	Male	ANS, Palungtar Municipality-9
9.	Bhesh Raj Pandey	Male	Ward Chief, Palungtar Municipality-9

10.	Anup Devkota	Male	Engineer, Palungtar Municipality
11.	Bir Bd. Thapa	Male	Ward Chief, Siranchowk Rural Municipality-3
12.	Sudip Baral	Male	Engineer, Siranchowk R.Municipality
13.	Amrit Wasti	Male	Engineer, Siranchowk R.M.
14.	Ahamad Miya	Male	Administrative Chief, Siranchowk R.M.
15.	Sujan Parajuli	Male	Engineer, Ajirkot R.M.
16.	Siring Gurung	Male	ANS, Dharche R.M.
17.	Eka Dev Khanal	Male	Administrative Chief, Aarughat R.M.
18.	Dhan Kumar Ghale	Male	Ward Chief, Dharche R.M-6
19.	Ramesh Babu Thapa	Male	Palika Chief,Sahid Lakhan R.M.
20.	Sanjog Thapa Magar	Male	ANS, Sahid Lakhan R.M.
21.	Lal Maya Thapa	Female	Single Woman (Vulnarable Group), Sahid Lakhan R.M.-6,Ghairung
22.	Krishna Panta	Male	ANS, Gandaki R.M
23.	Jagannath Khanal	Male	Care takers of Minors
24.	Nanda Bd. Magar	Male	ANS,Sahid Lakhan R.M
25.	Ashok Kumar Gurung	Male	Chief of DCC ,Gorkha
26.	Mahendra Prasad Bhandari	Male	Chief of DTCO, Gorkha
27.	Sanjay Nayak	Male	Focal person DLPIU, Building, Gorkha
28.	Yubak Shrestha	Male	Engineer, DLPIU, Building, Gorkha
30.	Kishor Jung Thapa	Male	Ex-Chief of Federation of Nepalese Journalist, Radio Gorkha
31.	Manisha Kunwar	Female	Human Resources and Logistic Officer
32.	Bikash Marhatta	Male	Reporter, Radio Gorkha
33.	Keshab Regmi	Male	Branch Manager NMB Bank ,Gorkha
34.	Madan Raj Joshi	Male	Chhimek Laghubitta Sastha,Gorkha
35.	Prakash Dhakal	Male	Chief Engineer Gorkha Municipality
36.	Mandira Basnet	Female	Community Facilitator, Gorkha M.
37.	Prakash Shrestha	Male	Draft Person, BPS unit, Gorkha M.
38.	Shankar Khadka	Male	Sub-Engineer, Gorkha Cluster
39.	Shree Maya Sarki	Female	Woman headed Household
40.	Suraj Mal Mul	Male	Son of Shree Maya Sarki
41.	Ram Bd. Thapa	Male	Ward Chief, Gorkha Municipality-11
42.	Hari Bd. Khanal	Male	Ward Chief ,Gorkha Municipality-13
43.	Bikram Baram	Male	Radio Listener Club
44.	Bandana Parajuli	Female	Administrative and finance officer, SSICDC

45.	Kamala Lamichhane	Female	ED. System Development Service Center
46.	Sunil Neupane	Male	Focal Staff, System Development Service Center
47.	Prasanna Shrestha	Female	Account Chief , System Development Service Center
48.	Hom Bd. Rana	Male	Palika Chief of Gandaki R. Municipality
49.	Rinka Gurung	Male	Community Facilitator, Gandaki R. M.
50.	Ram Kaji Shreemal	Male	Beneficiary, Gorkha M.-7,Mandre Dhunga
51	Dil Kumari Gurung	Female	Gandaki -2

Annex 7: Terms of Reference

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Programme (CDRMP)

Final Evaluation of Socio-technical Facilitation Services to Nepal Housing Reconstruction Project (NHRP)

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1. Introduction

1.1 Background and context

Since 2011, the Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Programme (CDRMP) has been part of the Strategic Partnership Framework signed between the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR) and UNDP, and in accordance with the Nepal Risk Reduction Consortium. The CDRMP aims to strengthen the institutional and legislative aspects of Disaster Risk Management (DRM) in Nepal, by building the capacities of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), other ministries, and local governments. The CDRMP also establishes strategic linkages between DRM and development sectors. The programme's interventions in the areas of climate risk management, community-based DRM, and emergency preparedness and response will strengthen the overall system of DRM in Nepal. CDRMP integrates gender equality, women's empowerment and social inclusion issues for sustainable DRM.

After the 2015 earthquakes, UNDP has been intensively engaged in supporting the Government of Nepal (GoN) and affected communities in reconstruction and recovery efforts. UNDP helped to coordinate the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) and Post Disaster Recovery Framework (PDRF) processes, supported development of disaster resistant technologies and articulation of compliance norms, and undertook large scale information education and communication campaigns through various means like TV, radio and mobile vans. UNDP also provided support through expert resource persons for strengthening the institutional setup of the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) and the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) at national and district level to implement reconstruction programmes. CDRMP, through its ongoing projects, aims at addressing the last mile connectivity issues facing the owner-driven reconstruction in the earthquake affected districts. Building disaster resistant houses is essential to minimize the loss of lives and overall impact from disasters on socio-economic well-being of people.

The GoN has committed to a speedy earthquake recovery with support from various donors, including the Government of India (GoI), with an objective of reducing the impact of future risks through reconstruction of safe houses for the affected families who lost their houses in the 2015 earthquakes. The GoN's reconstruction initiative was aimed at supporting about 700,000 affected households in the 14 most affected districts from across the country to rebuild their houses. Among them, the GoI had committed to support 50,000 house owners to reconstruct their houses in two districts of Gorkha (26,912 houses with UNDP) and Nuwakot (23,088 houses with UNOPS). In the Nepal Housing Reconstruction Project (NHRP), UNDP has partnered with the GoI in providing socio-technical facilitation support to house owners constructing their houses in Gorkha district. It was envisaged that the houseowners would satisfactorily complete the construction within a three-years period with available financial assistance and socio-technical support.

1.2 Project location, beneficiaries, duration and budget

Under the GoI- funded NHRP, UNDP has been providing socio-technical facilitation support for housing reconstruction to 26,912 house owners identified by NRA, from two municipalities and six rural municipalities of Gorkha district. The beneficiary's households (HHs) include 1,482 HHs of single woman, 2,275 HHs having family members with disability, 116 HHs of landless, 428 HHs with elderly people, 80 HHs of orphan children and 2,938 HHs of Dalits. The project has been implemented since March 2018 and will be completed by December 2021. Since March 2018, a team of about 160 staff have been mobilized to provide socio-technical facilitation support to 26,912 house owners and implement activities under the six major projects components, that are:

a) Facilitation of administrative procedures regarding inclusion, grant release and certification.

b) On-site technical advice and guidance on construction technology, design options, disaster resistant features, government norms, material procurement and construction management.

c) Technical services of design drawings, preparation for building permit process.

d) Capacity building of all project participants, particularly house owners and masons.

e) Concurrent monitoring and quality assurance.

f) Facilitation of use of appropriate disaster resistant technologies.

The project has been supporting in expediting the reconstruction process by facilitating all stages and aspects of reconstruction, including banking, administration, documentation, technical support, inspection, certification, etc. Leaving No One Behind has been the core principle of the project, providing tailored support to the vulnerable HHs or those at risk of being left behind in the reconstruction process. Three years after the project was initiated, over 99% of the households have completed reconstruction. At Gorkha level, all of the 26,912 HHs were supported on tranche release issues while more than 16,500 HHs were provided with technical support for planning, costing and resources mobilization. Likewise, 1,023 HHs were supported for Participation Agreement (PA) signing process, more than 4,000 HHs were supported for building permit process and above 350 HHs were facilitated for land related issues. During the project period, more than 126,493 HH level visits were carried out by the project staff. The project has trained more than 6,800 masons, of which 524 were women masons. The project conducted 431 mobile van campaigns, 211 socio-cultural events and developed and broadcasted 164 radio programme episodes. The project also carried out five large scale and 13 small scale exposure visits, including one visit to Bhuj, India.

The project has also carried out a number of initiatives at national level in close coordination with NRA and other relevant agencies and institutions, which include, but not limited to Toll Free service under NRA, establishment of Shock Table demonstration facility at Tribhuvan University, Institute of Engineering (TU IoE) at Pulchowk, learning exposure initiatives, initiatives of knowledge management and learning documentation, etc. UNDP has also carried out initiatives on several additional areas that have added value to the project, such as enhancing resilience of the habitations, particularly related to landslides in 16 different sites, support for community infrastructure, training of communities on managing risks through enhanced preparedness, among others. While these activities were not directly covered within the ambit of the project, UNDP, with its own resources, attempted to bring some of these elements through various other projects that worked in some of the same areas as the housing project. This could also be considered in the evaluation noting that these were additional activities contributing to the broader spectrum of resilient reconstruction and recovery. The project interventions have accumulated learnings and best practices through various inputs provided, processes undertaken, and outputs achieved that would be fruitful for any similar future initiatives.

The project commenced in March 2018 with a planned end date of March 2021. However, the project implementation was directly impacted by the lockdown and travel restrictions imposed by the government to contain the spread of COVID-19. Hence, the project was extended through a no-cost until 31 December 2021. Thus, the total duration of the project is 45 months, between March 2018 – December 2021. The total approved budget for Socio-technical facilitation component of the project was USD 8.7 million. As the project comes to an end on 31 December 2021, UNDP is planning to commission a final evaluation to identify and document achievements and project results, challenges, lessons learned and best practices. The findings of the final evaluation will provide way forward for any future course of action. Thus, the final evaluation report is expected to include specific recommendations for future interventions.

The project information is summarized in the below table:

PROJECT/OUTCOME INFORMATION		
Project/outcome title	Socio-technical Facilitation Services to Nepal Housing Reconstruction Project (NHRP)	
Atlas ID	00107348	
Corporate outcome and output	**UNDAF/ CPD Outcome 3:** By 2022, environmental management, sustainable recovery and reconstruction, and resilience to climate change and natural disaster are strengthen at all levels ***CPD Output 3.5:*** Improved capacities of communities and government for resilient recovery and reconstruction.	
Country	Nepal	
Region	Asia Pacific	
Date project document signed	08 March 2018	
Project dates	Start	Valid period
	08-03-2018	31-12-2021
Project budget	USD 8.7 million	
Project expenditure at the time of evaluation	USD XX (will be updated during the evaluation)	
Funding source	Government of India (GoI)	
Implementing party	Owner Driven Reconstruction Collaboratives (ODRC) Members: SEEDS India, UNNATI India, Hunnarshala, India and CEDAP India, and two local NGOs: SSICDC Gorkha and SCDC Gorkha. This includes eight project implementing local governments, including: Gorkha and Palungtar municipalities; and Aarughat, Ajirkot, Dharche, Gandaki, Sahid Lakhan and Siranchowk rural municipalities	

1.3 Project implementation approach

At federal level, the project works closely with NRA, MoUD, MoHA and other relevant stakeholders. At the municipal level, the project activities are being implemented in close coordination with the local governments, including the elected representatives and government officials. The Project is also closely

working with social structures at community level, for example Tole Lane Organizations (TLOs), women's groups, population receiving Social Security Fund (SSF), Dalit and Muslims communities, etc.

The project adopts a strategy of enabling owners to reconstruct their houses with adequate information, knowledge, guidance and handholding support on administrative and technical aspects through assigning appropriate personnel at community, local, district and national level. In delivering this, the project focuses on HH level engagement on a regular basis. Each of the beneficiary HHs is provided with all required technical and administrative support, with a number of on-site visits to the houses under construction. Awas Nirman Saathi (ANS), skilled masons are assigned to look after the HHs in a cluster/settlement basis throughout the house reconstruction process starting with their agreement process at local government level. Any administrative and social issues are addressed engaging social mobilizers at HH levels, connecting the HHs with their ward and municipal local government offices, with trained masons and others related to the reconstruction issues. ANS and masons are guided by engineers and sub-engineers. Field/cluster staff are further backstopped by district teams.

To deliver effective and high-quality socio-technical facilitation services, UNDP has partnered with the Owner Driven Reconstruction Collaborative (ODRC). ODRC is a network of registered institutions in India working to support national and state governments in instituting and facilitating the owner driven housing reconstruction process. ODRC in Nepal includes four participating organisations from India: i) Hunnarshala Foundation, ii) UNNATI – Organisation for Development Education, iii) SEEDS Technical Services; and iv) Centre for Ecocentric Development and Peoples' Action (CEDAP). All four organisations are collectively referred as ODRC.

Human Resource Mobilization: Overall management of the GoI-funded project falls under CDRMP and apart from CDRMP's regular staff, there is a dedicated project team for the NHRP at the central level in Kathmandu (one Technical Specialist, one Project Coordinator, one Senior Programme Officer, one Admin/Finance Officer and one Assistant). This team is also supported by two international housing experts. At day-to-day delivery level, there are district level and Municipal teams put in place comprising certain staffing structures, which totalled 160 staff. The types of staff include technical specialists on housing, engineers, sub-engineers, retrofitting experts, Awas Nirman Saathi, social mobilizers, social experts, building permit experts, draft persons and structural engineer/s. The district and municipal teams are mainly responsible for effective and efficient implementation of project activities in close coordination with the local governments, district level authorities and other stakeholders. The municipal teams in each municipality are supported through District Support Team (DST).

1.4 Covid-19 situation and its impact in project implementation

As Gorkha district itself also suffered from COVID-19, the NHRP had to be delivered in the COVID-19 contexts, including several lockdowns imposed by the federal and district authorities. With the months' long lockdowns in 2020 and 2021 respectively, field movements of the project staff within and outside the district were limited. The project identified some alternate mechanism and means, mostly reorganized staff mobilization approach and assigned local staff to the HH levels while engineers provided distance guidance through virtual means. Some of the capacity building training activities, mostly for the project staff, were also carried out virtually during the lockdown periods. Regular coordination was done with district and municipal authorities in easing transportation of construction materials by house owners. Health specific safety measures were thoroughly applied, including awareness-raising, availing enough number of protective masks, sanitizers and fever measuring thermal guns. The health personal protective equipments were also provided to municipal offices and their health service units. Some resources from the project were mobilized in purchasing these facilities and services.

2. Purpose and objectives of the Evaluation

The overall purpose of this final evaluation is to assess the results achieved and lessons learnt from the project implementation delivered by the Socio-technical Facilitation (STF) services to NHRP in Gorkha. The final evaluation should assess the results achieved against targets, effectiveness of the implementation approaches, in contribution to higher level outcome results and identify and document the challenges, lessons learnt and good practices, and make specific recommendations for future course of actions for any such similar interventions. The evaluation will focus on key aspects of the project, such as i) reflection on the need identified, design and structure of socio-technical facilitation services, ii) inputs provided or process of service delivery, and iii) outcome of services – to provide a comprehensive understanding on how it responded to the pre-identified needs, and the extent of services provided to the house owners that would lead to disaster resilient construction of houses.

The specific objectives are:

- To assess the relevance and effectiveness of the socio-technical facilitation support provided to earthquake affected house owners in rebuilding their houses in Gorkha district as part of the NHRP.
- To assess the relevance and effectiveness of the approaches adopted, focusing on ownerdriven private housing reconstruction.
- To assess relevance, effectiveness and sustainability of different capacity building initiatives carried out by the project at different levels.
- To assess effectiveness of partnerships of the NHRP with local governments (municipalities and rural municipalities), NRA (including its district level establishments), and national level government agencies and associated institutions, and other key stakeholders.
- To assess the effectiveness of the project's assistance to vulnerable households including women, Dalit and people with disability for their housing reconstruction.
- To assess the effectiveness of information management and outreach activities carried out by the project.

3. Scope of work

The final project evaluation should assess the relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact of the socio-technical facilitation and institutional supports provided by the project at different levels. In addition, the evaluation should indicate if the produced results are in the right direction towards facilitating the owner driven safer housing reconstruction. Particularly, the evaluation should cover at least the following areas.

- Relevance of the project: review the progress against its purpose, objectives and deliverables as per the project documents and its components, mostly related to Building Permit Studios (BPS), socio-technical support, retrofitting, capacity building trainings, IEC, support to excluded and vulnerable groups, toll-free numbers, etc.
- Effectiveness and efficiency of implementation approaches: review project's technical as well as operational approaches and deliverables, quality of results and their impact, alignment with national priorities and responding to the needs of the 2015 earthquake impacted HHs and stakeholders.
- Review the project's approaches, in general and with regards to mainstreaming of gender equality and social inclusion, with particular focus on women and excluded groups, including people with disability.

- Review and assess the risks and opportunities (in terms of resource mobilization, synergies and areas of interventions) related to future interventions.
- Review external factors like COVID-19 pandemic beyond the control of the project that have affected it negatively or positively and the approaches applied in fixing hindrances.
- Review planning, management and quality assurance mechanisms for the delivery of the project interventions.
- Review coordination, communication, dissemination and visibility processes and mechanisms with the stakeholders and beneficiaries.

4. Evaluation Criteria and guiding questions

The evaluation will follow the six OECD-DAC evaluation criteria - Relevance, Coherence, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Sustainability and Impact. Human rights and gender equality and social inclusion, including disability, will be added as cross-cutting criteria. The guiding questions outlined below should be further refined by the consultant and agreed with UNDP.

Criteria	**Evaluation Questions**
Relevance	• How relevant were the overall design and approaches of the project? • To what extent was the project in line with national development priorities, country programme outputs and outcome, the UNDP Strategic Plan, and the SDGs? • To what extent the project was able to address the needs of the earthquake impacted target groups in the changed contexts like political dynamic, COVID19 pandemic? • To what extent were the objectives of the project design (inputs, activities, outputs and deliverables) logical and coherent? Did the project contribute to the outcomes and outputs of the UNDP CPD? • Did the results contribute well in facilitating the reconstruction efforts of the NRA in the project areas? • To what extent has the project been able to adapt to the needs of the different target groups (including promoting the gender equality and social inclusion aspects) in terms of creating enabling environment for inclusive, affordable and people-centred reconstruction policies and actions?
Effectiveness	• To what extent the project activities were delivered effectively in terms of quality, quantity and timing? • What factors have contributed to achieving or not achieving the intended outputs? • To what extent were the project results achieved, considering men, women, and excluded and vulnerable groups, including persons with disability? • What were the lessons learned and how were feedback/learning incorporated in the subsequent process of planning and implementation? • How effective has the project been in enhancing the capacity of the communities and local governments to create enabling environment for inclusive post-disaster reconstruction management? • To what extent the project interventions, such as Revolving Fund and in-kind support including on-site training activities, were effective?

	• To what extent the project's adaptation to the COVID-19 context was effective?
Coherence	• How well the intervention fit in changed contexts like COVID-19 pandemic? • To what extent the intervention was coherent with Government policies
	• To what extent the intervention addressed the synergies and interlinkages with other interventions carried out by UNDP or Government of Nepal? (internal coherence) • To what extent the intervention was consistent with other actors' interventions in the same context or adding value to avoid duplication of the efforts? (External coherence)
Efficiency	• How efficiently were the resources including human, material and financial, used to achieve the project results in a timely manner? • To what extent was the existing project management structure appropriate and efficient in generating the expected results? • To what extent has the project implementation strategy and its execution been efficient and cost-effective?
Sustainability	• To what extent did the project interventions contribute towards sustaining the results achieved by the project, ensuring ownership of the local governments? • What could be potential new areas of work and innovative measures for sustaining the results? • To what extent the project contributed in building capacities at local level, including of local governments? • To what extent have lessons learned been documented by the project on a continual basis to inform the project for needful change? • What could be done to strengthen exit strategies and sustainability of the project? • What are the plans or approaches of the local authorities to ensure that the initiatives will be continued after the project ends? • How has project contributed towards replication of initiatives at the local level?
Impact	• To what extent the project initiatives indicate that intended impact will be achieved in the future?
Human rights	• To what extent have Dalit, ethnic minorities, people with disability, women, senior citizen and other excluded and vulnerable groups benefitted from the work of the project and with what impact? • To what extent have the project integrated a Human Rights Based Approach in the design, implementation and monitoring of the project? • Have the resources been used in an efficient way to address Human Rights in the implementation (e.g. participation of targeted stakeholders, collection of disaggregated data, etc.)?

Gender equality and social inclusion	• To what extent the project approach was effective in promoting gender equality and social inclusion - particularly focusing on the excluded and the poor through technology transfer, mass awareness including media and social campaigns, planning, orientation and training? • To what extent have gender equality, the empowerment of women and social inclusion been addressed in the design, implementation and monitoring of the project? • To what extent has the project promoted positive changes of women and excluded groups, including persons with disabilities?
Disability	• Were persons with disabilities consulted and meaningfully involved in programme planning and implementation? • What proportion of the beneficiaries of the project were persons with disabilities? • What barriers did persons with disabilities face to effectively benefit from the project?

5. Methodology

The evaluation methods provided here are indicative only. The consulting team should review the methodology and propose the final methods and data collection tools as part of the inception report. The methods and tools should adequately address the issues of gender equality and social inclusion, human rights and disability issues.

The evaluation should include a mix of qualitative and quantitative processes and methodologies. The consulting team must provide evidence-based information that is credible, reliable and useful. The consulting team is expected to follow a participatory and consultative approach ensuring close engagement with government counterparts, project team including PMT, UNDP Country Office and other key stakeholders, including project beneficiary households. Therefore, the team will work closely with the UNDP Country Office team to undertake the evaluation adopting at least the following methods:

- **Document review**: review of project document/proposals, project's periodic progress reports (monthly, quarterly and annual), concurrent monitoring/quality assurance reports, JPMC update presentations and reports, IEC, visibility and media coverage, published papers/articles/blogs/stories, case stories and testimonials, RIMS data, project extension documents and other relevant documents. As the documentation is robust with various knowledge projects developed in past three years, the consultant should conduct thorough desk review of the available documents before planning for the field visit.
- **Consultations** with UNDP/CDRMP programme staff, local authorities (Municipalities and Wards) of the project areas, officials of NRA, District Level Programme Implementation Unit (DLIPU), Grant Management and Local Infrastructures (GMALI), DUDBC/MoUD, institute of Engineering (IoE), NDRRMA and other stakeholders as per the need.
- **Field observations, interactions** (structured, semi-structured) and consultations with the beneficiaries (project supported vulnerable households, trained masons, contractors). Due to COVID situation, the team may also need to plan for virtual interactions and meetings, in case if in-person meetings and field visits are restricted.
- **Briefing and debriefing sessions** with UNDP CO and Project team as well as with other partners will be organised.

- **Data review and analysis** of monitoring and other data sources and methods. To ensure maximum validity, reliability of data (quality) and promote use, the evaluation team will ensure triangulation of the various data sources.

Gender, inclusion and human rights lens: All evaluation products need to address gender, inclusion, and human right issues. The process/steps mentioned above should ensure that the most appropriate and relevant data are gathered for the above-mentioned objectives. Care must be taken to ensure the voices of women, minority and vulnerable groups are captured. Based on the analysis and findings, the recommendations should be provided for future direction of the initiatives.

The final methodological approach, including interview schedule, field visits, evaluation matrix and data to be used in the evaluation should be clearly outlined in the inception report and fully discussed and agreed with UNDP. The evaluator should select the respondents using an appropriate sampling technique. While selecting the respondents, the evaluator should ensure gender balance and social inclusion. Findings of the evaluation must be based on evidence (and not just opinion of the people).

The consultant will have to submit the final full report in English. The structure and content of the report should meet the requirements of the UNDP Evaluation Guideline. The final report must meet the IEO's Quality Assessment (QA) criteria. Multiple reiterations may be required until the final report is approved.

6. Implementation arrangement

The principal responsibility for managing this Evaluation resides with the UNDP CO in Nepal. The UNDP CO will contract the consultant and ensure the timely provision of logistic arrangements for implementation of the evaluation. The consultant will directly report to Evaluation Manager, i.e. RBM Analyst in this case.

RBM Analyst/Evaluation Manager will assure smooth, quality and independent implementation of the evaluation with needful guidance from UNDP's Senior Management. The Project team will be responsible for providing required information, furnishing documents for evaluation to the consultant in leadership of Portfolio Manager of the Resilience portfolio. They will also be responsible for the logistic arrangements of the evaluation, for setting up stakeholder consultations and interviews as needed, arranging field visits, coordinating with the governments and development partners, etc. For travel related cost (fare and DSA), UNDP will cover travel costs as per the UNDP's rules and regulations.

The evaluation will remain fully independent. The consultant will maintain all the communication through the Evaluation Manager. The Evaluation Manager should clear each step of the evaluation. The final evaluation report will be signed off by Deputy Resident Representative (DRR).

A mission wrap-up meeting will be organized during which comments from participants/stakeholders will be noted for incorporation in the final report.

The evaluation team will be briefed by UNDP upon arrival on the objectives, purpose and scope of the Final evaluation. Key relevant project documents mentioned in Annex 13.1 will be provided to the consultant after signing the contract. The consultant should review the relevant documents and share the draft inception report before the commencement of the field mission. The consultant should revise the methodology, data collection tools and evaluation questions. The final methodology and instruments should be proposed in the inception report including the evaluation schedule and evaluation matrix which guides the overall implementation of the evaluation.

7. Expected Deliverables

The evaluator should submit the following deliverables:

- **Inception report** detailing the reviewer's understanding of what is being evaluated, why it is being evaluated, and how (methodology) it will be evaluated. The inception report should also include a proposed schedule of tasks, evaluation tools, evaluation questions for each evaluation criteria and interviewee, activities, deliverables and the final report proposed structure.
- **Evaluation matrix** includes key criteria, indicators and questions
- **Evaluation debriefing**- immediately after completion of data collection, the evaluator should provide preliminary debriefing and findings to the UNDP.
- **Draft Evaluation report** for review and comments.
- **Evaluation Audit Trail** – The comments on the draft report and changes by the evaluation consulting team or in response to them should be retained by the consulting team to show how they have addressed comments.
- **Final evaluation report** within stipulated timeline with sufficient detail and quality by incorporating feedback from the concerned parties.
- **An exit presentation** on the evaluation findings and recommendations.

8. Team composition and required competencies

The evaluation will be carried out through a team of two national consultants. The persons involved in any way in the design, management or implementation or advising any aspect of the intervention that is the subject of the evaluation will not be qualified. The team composition should be gender inclusive to the extent possible. The evaluator will be selected by UNDP CO. The two consultants are expected to work as a team. In case of difference of opinion, the Team Leader will make the final decision.

The draft division of time among team members is given in below table. The consultants are expected to work in parallel as a team and the total of estimated persons days to complete the evaluation should not exceed 50 days (30 days for Team Leader and 20 days for Team member).

Deliverables/ Outputs	**Estimated Person days to Complete**	**1 Team Leader- National consultant (30 days)**	**1 Team Member- National consultant (20 days)**
MTR inception report (including final methodology, data collection tools and questions, proposed schedules, evaluation matrix etc)	7 days	5	2
Data collection and analysis	22 days	12	10
MTR draft report	11 days	6	5
Debrief on draft findings and recommendations to the management	2 days	1	1

Incorporation of comments and submission of the Final Evaluation Report	8 days	6	2
Total	**50 Days**	**30**	**20**

8.1 Team Leader:

Responsible for overall lead and management of the final evaluation. S/he should be responsible for the overall quality and timely submission of the evaluation reports and briefing to the UNDP, and for ensuring a gender and social inclusion perspective is incorporated throughout the evaluation work and report.

Major roles and responsibilities:

- Finalizing and designing the detailed scope and methodology for the evaluation
- Ensure appropriate division of tasks within the team
- Ensure GESI perspectives are incorporated throughout the evaluation process and final report
- Gathering and review of relevant documents
- Prepare inception report, evaluation matrix including the evaluation questions, data collection instruments, etc.
- Conduct field visits in selected communities and conduct interviews with the selected target groups, partners and stakeholders
- Facilitate stakeholders' discussion and focus groups to collect, collate and synthesize information
- Analyse the data and prepare a draft evaluation report in the prescribed format
- Incorporate the feedback and finalize the evaluation report
- Coordinate with UNDP CO for evaluation related information **Qualification and Competencies:**

- At least Master's degree in International Development, Development Economics/Planning, Economics, Engineering, Statistics, Social sciences or other relevant subjects;
- Demonstrated experience in designing and leading similar kinds of evaluations of development projects related to DRR/reconstruction/EQ safety or related areas
- At least seven years' experience in development projects including in earthquake-affected areas, with particular emphasis on recovery needs, resilient community infrastructures building including Disaster preparedness and Risk Reduction
- Excellent analytical and report writing skills in English
- Excellent command in different data collection methods including FGDs, KIIs and Social surveys
- Adequate knowledge on GESI sensitive evaluations and human rights issues;
- Adequate knowledge and experience of disability inclusion in development projects.
- Adequate knowledge and experience in other cross-cutting areas such as equality, disability issues, rights-based approach, and capacity development
- The consultant should not be involved in designing, executing or advising any aspect of the intervention that is the subject of the evaluation

Language requirements

- Excellent English and Nepali communications and writing skills

8.2 Team member (Engineer):

Responsible for reviewing documents; analysing the progress, issues and challenges, particularly technical aspects of the project. S/he should support the team leader for overall implementation of the evaluation including finalizing the methodology, drafting, editing, supplementing, correcting and/or revising selected chapters of the evaluation report as assigned by the Team Leader; and assisting the Team Leader to ensure the overall quality and timely submission of the final evaluation report to UNDP.

Major roles and responsibilities:

- Gathering and review of relevant documents
- Provide technical inputs to the team leader in designing the final evaluation including finalizing methodologies and data collection instruments
- Conduct field visits in selected municipalities and conduct observations of the houses reconstructed consultations and interviews with the selected target group, partners and stakeholders
- Facilitate stakeholders' discussion and focus groups to collect, collate and synthesize information especially related to technical aspects of the intervention.
- Analyse the data and support the team leader in drafting, editing, correcting and/or revising selected chapters of the evaluation reports
- Assist the team leader in finalizing the report and sharing it with stakeholders

Qualification and competencies

- At least Master's Degree in an Engineering discipline: Structural/architectural, earthquake engineering
- At least 5 years demonstrated experience of conducting similar evaluations of projects related to post-disaster reconstruction and recovery, earthquake safety or related areas
- Demonstrated work experience in the field of project implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and/or project design in reconstruction and development sectors
- Demonstrated experience and understanding of gender-sensitive methodologies for conducting mapping, assessments and/or analyses of vulnerable groups.
- Excellent command in different data collection methods including FGDs, KIIs and Social Surveys.
- Strong analytical and report writing skills in English
- Adequate knowledge on gender equality and human rights issues;

9. Evaluation Ethics

This evaluation will be conducted in accordance with the principles outlined in the UNEG 'Ethical Guidelines for Evaluation'. The consultants must safeguard the rights and confidentiality of information providers, interviewees and stakeholders through measures to ensure compliance with legal and other relevant codes governing collection of data and reporting on data. The consultants must also ensure security of collected information before and after the evaluation and protocols to ensure anonymity and confidentiality of sources of information where that is expected. The information, knowledge and data gathered in the evaluation process must also be solely used for the evaluation and not for other uses without the expressed authorization of UNDP and partners.

Planned Activities	**Tentative Days**	**Remarks**

Desk review and preparation of design (home based)	2 days	
Finalizing design, methods & inception report and sharing with reference group for feedback	3 days	UNDP needs at least 3 days to review and provide feedback on the inception report
Stakeholders' meetings and interviews in Field and Kathmandu (Virtual and/or field based)	12 days	
Analysis, preparation of draft report shares for review	7 days	UNDP needs at least 10 days to review and provide comments on the report
Incorporate comments and submit final report	6 days	
Total	**30 days**	

The consultants will be held to the highest ethical standards and are required to sign a Code of Conduct upon acceptance of the assignment.

10. Timeframe

The duration of the evaluation will be maximum 30 days during September – November 2021. This will include desk reviews, primary information collection, field work, and report writing. The tentative schedule will be as follow.

11. Use of Evaluation Results

The findings of the evaluation will be used to analyse the lessons learned and way forward for future course of actions. Therefore, the evaluation report should provide critical findings and specific recommendations for future interventions.

12. Application submission process and criteria for selection It will be mentioned in Request for Proposal (RFP) document.

13. Annexes[1]

(i) List of relevant documents: Project Document, Annual Work Plans, Periodic Progress Report, Financial Reports, Knowledge products, Event reports, Monitoring reports, Communication products and tools, relevant government policies and plans, etc.

(ii) List of key agencies, stakeholders and partners for interview/consultation

i) <u>UNDP & Development Partner</u>

- UNDP Policy Advisor, DRR and Resilience Portfolio
- UNDP Portfolio Manager, DRR and Resilience Portfolio
- CDRMP Project Manager and other relevant Project staffs as needed
- Official/s at Embassy of India in Kathmandu

ii) <u>Stakeholders:</u>

- Official of NRA (also including NRA's CLPIU)
- Official of MOUD
- NRA structure at district level; DLPIU, GMALI

[1] These documents will be provided after signing of the contract.

- Project municipalities (2)/rural municipalities (6) and ward offices
- District Coordination Committee (DCC)
- District Disaster Management Committee c/o District Administration Office (DAO)
- Project staff at national, district and municipal levels, also includes international experts engaged
- Officials/experts at Institute of Engineering, Pulchowk
- Local NGO partners
- Any other relevant stakeholders

(iii) Inception Report Contents Outline
(iv) Evaluation matrix
(v) Format of the evaluation report

(vi) Evaluation Audit Trial Form
(vii) UNEG Code of Conduct

14. Copyright of Publication and Production of Materials

All developed products and reports under this ToR will belong to UNDP and the Consultants will not have any right to publish or share them in full or in part in any form/forum/print material.

Annex 8: UNEG Code of Conduct signed by the consultant

UNEG Code of Conduct signed by the evaluators

Annex 2: United Nations Evaluation Group Code of Conduct for Evaluation in the US System

Evaluation Consultants Agreement Form

To be signed by all consultants as individuals (not by or on behalf of a consultancy company) before a contract can be issued.

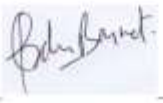
Agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct for Evaluation in the UN System, 2008

Name of Consultant: **Gobinda Bahadur Basnet, PhD**

Name of Consultancy Organization (where relevant): Independent Consultant

I confirm that I have received and understood and will abide by the United Nations Code of Conduct for Evaluation in the US System, 2008.

Signed at (Place) on (date): 15th November 2021, Kathmandu

Signature: 

UNEG Code of Conduct signed by the evaluators

Annex 2: United Nations Evaluation Group Code of Conduct for Evaluation
in
the US System

Evaluation Consultants Agreement Form

To be signed by all consultants as individuals (not by or on behalf of a consultancy company) before a contract can be issued.

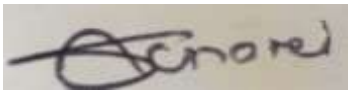
Agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct for Evaluation in the UN System, 2008

Name of Consultant: **Er. Gopal Kharel**

Name of Consultancy Organization (where relevant): Independent Consultant

I confirm that I have received and understood and will abide by the United Nations Code of Conduct for Evaluation in the US System, 2008.

Signed at (Place) on (date): 15th November 2021, Kathmandu



Signature: _____