

Earthquake Emergency Project (EEP) DanChurchAid with Norwegian Church Aid

Project Background

Nepal is a small landlocked country with extremely diverse topography. It is located along the most active and fragile mountain range in the world, which makes it one of the most disaster prone countries. Nepal has a record of experiencing earthquakes of magnitude 7.8 to 8 Richter scales every forty years and above 8 Richter scale in every 80 years. The latest big tremors that hit the country was on April 25th and May 12th in the year 2015, with magnitude of 7.8 and 7.3 Richter scales respectively. Thirty five out of the seventy five districts of the country were affected. Over 8,800 people lost their lives and millions were rendered homeless.

DCA, together with Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) and Church of Sweden (CoS) and the ACT Alliance have been responding to the disaster's aftermath and working towards building a sustainable recovery.

The response focused on Gorkha, Dhading, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur, which were amongst the worst hit districts. Interventions during the emergency phase of the project, which began within hours of the initial earthquake on the 25th of April, followed the guidelines of the ACT Alliance Appeal. We provided support for shelter reconstruction in the form of multipurpose cash grant, food security (mainly through food baskets for affected households), WASH (including water schemes, household toilet construction, and school latrine construction) and also psychosocial (PSS) assistance to help the people recover from the trauma of the disaster.

Overall Objective

To save lives during the emergency period right after the earthquake and contribute in early recovery of 20,000 quake-affected households.

Thematic areas

- Shelter
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)
- Food Security and Livelihoods
- Psychosocial Support
- Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

Specific Objectives

- **Objective 1 (Shelter):** Distribution of cash for shelter and emergency tents and tarpaulins in the immediate aftermath of the crisis
- **Objective 2 (Water):** Construction of temporary and permanent water supply systems
- **Objective 3 (Sanitation):** Construction of temporary and permanent latrines in institutions and at household level
- **Objective 4 (Hygiene):** Distribution of sanitation kits and provision of education on hygiene
- **Objective 5 (Food Security):** Distribution of emergency food packages and (from October 2015) provision of early recovery livelihood schemes

Key Activities

Shelter

- Distribution of cash for shelter to over 11,000 households across the four districts
- Trainings to masons and carpenters (according to the district shelter model) and also in accordance with government training requirements
- Trainings to individuals to allow them to manage for the reconstruction of their own houses
- Production and dissemination of IEC materials on shelter

WASH

- Installation of temporary emergency community and school latrines
- Construction and repair of completely and partially damaged household toilets
- Construction of completely destroyed school toilets
- Temporary water trucking
- Installation of temporary/permanent water tanks and water pumps
- Repair/rehabilitation of water distribution networks (pipelines, pumps, water tanks, etc.)
- Consultation and community mobilization through participatory approach.
- Repair/rehabilitation/construction of permanent family latrines
- Assessment and monitoring of construction work and maintenance of facilities.
- Distribution of sanitation kits (including buckets, scoops, water purification tablets, toothpaste, toothbrushes and feminine hygiene products). The buckets and scoops were also designed as handwashing facilities at latrines
- Training of hygiene promotion team and carrying out hygiene awareness activities during the distribution of NFIs

Food Security and Livelihoods, utilizing cash transfer programming

- Distribution of food packages to those affected within the first few weeks of the earthquake
- Training on livelihood framework and potential livelihood options to community people
- Cash distribution to community people (7500 NRS x 2 installments)
- Post distribution monitoring
- Follow up refresher training on livelihood to community people
- Second cash distribution to community groups (7500 NRS)

Community Based Psychosocial Support (CBPSS)

- Emergency counselling to communities affected by the disaster including the following forms of counselling:
 - Group counselling
 - Women's group counselling
 - Counselling to school children
- Training was also conducted to the following groups to facilitate psychosocial recovery after the disaster
 - Community leaders
 - Teachers
 - Community groups
- As the project has moved into the early recovery phase, the focus has shifted to training on conflict mediation and rebuilding community cohesion. To do this the project is training community focal points to become conflict and psychosocial mediators in their community. These CBPS focal points will be able to:
 - Identify the earthquake induced psychosocial issues occurring among survivors, which are worse in certain cases (e.g. gender based violence cases, conflicts, social exclusion, unequal relief distribution, lack of community participation, etc.)
 - Provide conflict mediation in these cases
 - Suggest psychosocial methods that help restore community networks and links and stimulate peer-support
 - Facilitate community discussions regarding these issues and provide advice for better solutions
 - Alleviate conflicts during the allocation of aid
- Community CBPS focal points facilitate community discussions regarding identified PSS issues
- CBPS focal points plan and implement community based PSS activities
- Supervision visits by CBPSS officers to guide community CBPS focal points
- Production and dissemination of IEC materials

Disaster Risk Reduction(DRR)

- Establishment and/or strengthening of VDMCs at village level and link to LDMC at VDC level
- HVCA's at the ward and VDC level
- Creation of disaster management plans at the VDC level
- Simulation drills at the VDC/ward level
- Production and Dissemination of IEC materials

Project Duration – 26 April 2015 – 25 April 2016

Total Budget – 7.5 Million USD

Impact Group – 20,000 earthquake affected households in Gorkha, Dhading, Bhaktapur and Lalitpur

Working Areas/Project : Gorkha,Dhading,Bhaktapur,Lalitpur

Our Partners from April 2015 to 15th October 2015

- Women's Rehabilitation and Economic Cooperation (WOREC) (psychosocial partner) – Bhaktapur and Lalitpur
- FAYA Nepal (all sectors) – Dhading
- Pourakhi (psychosocial partner) – Dhading
- Environmental and Child Organization (ECO) Nepal (all sectors) – Gorkha
- Friends Service Council Nepal(FSCN) (all sectors)– Bhaktapur & Lalitpur

Our Partners from 15th October 2015

- FAYA Nepal - Dhading
- Pourakhi – Dhading
- ECO Nepal – Gorkha
- Friends Service Council Nepal(FSCN) – Bhaktapur & Lalitpur

Donor : ACT Alliance

About DanChurchAid (DCA)

DanChurchAid is an international humanitarian and development organization with its roots in Denmark. We work in Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Latin America. Our work is based on Christian view of humanity with respect for every individual's rights and equal worth, but is active wherever the need is highest, regardless of religion, gender, political beliefs, race, national or ethnic origins, disability or sexual orientation. In Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan and India; its work focuses on humanitarian response; disaster risk reduction and climate change; resilient livelihoods and food security; active citizenship and migrants rights.