

REBUILDING RESILIENT NEPAL

PHOTOBOOK | 2023





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REBUILDING RESILIENT NEPAL

On 25 April 2015, a devastating earthquake of magnitude 7.8 struck Nepal with its epicenter in Gorkha. Immediately after the earthquake, the Government of Japan and JICA provided emergency relief and since then, JICA has been providing assistance to Government of Nepal in reconstruction and recovery based on the principle of Build Back Better (BBB). JICA also contributed to capacity development through its various programs to build a resilient country and people. JICA's BBB - based reconstruction and recovery support has covered various sectors, such as housing and school reconstruction, cultural heritage restoration, infrastructure reconstruction, livelihood recovery, DRR education and recovery planning, and disaster preparedness.

Japan International Cooperation Agency helps to coordinate Official Development Assistance (ODA) on behalf of the Government of Japan. It has a network of over 96 offices and has operational projects in more than 150 countries. It runs with the objective of promoting international cooperation through social and economic growth in developing countries.

“Rebuilding Resilient Nepal” is a photo book that aims to showcase the various efforts and achievements by the Government of Japan and JICA that have taken place in the eight years since the earthquake. It further highlights how JICA's efforts have significantly contributed to the reconstruction process in Nepal showcasing its achievements and its journey towards this endeavor, thus, using these as a springboard to build a resilient nation in the future.



Barpak, Gorkha



JICA quickly rehabilitated damaged Kathmandu-Bhaktapur Road and Sindhuli Road, and the Government of Japan also provided Emergency Grant Aid by supporting their ongoing humanitarian assistance along with recovery and reconstruction efforts including 184 classrooms in three districts namely Gorkha, Dhading and Nuwakot.

EMERGENCY RELIEF

The government of Japan was one of the first international responders to act quickly by sending a team of experts to the field. Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) team which included the Rescue, Medical, and Self Defense teams arrived in Nepal to provide assistance. Emergency relief supplies were sent through JICA, which included tents, blankets and other essential items to the people affected by the disaster.



Emergency relief materials from Japan



JDR team performing health checkup at affected areas



JDR team in search operation at Kathmandu Durbar Square

EMERGENCY HOUSING RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT (EHRP)

JICA played a significant role in Nepal's reconstruction and recovery efforts after the earthquake. One of JICA's key initiatives was the Emergency Housing Reconstruction Project (EHRP), funded with the Government of Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan. The project was designed to use earthquake-resistant standards to reconstruct houses and help people rebuild their lives.



House under construction at Sangachowk, Sindhupalchowk



Housing reconstruction training being provided to masons in Sindhupalchowk



Newly reconstructed house in Barpak, Gorkha



EHRP's Achievements:

Financial Assistance - Around 35,000 beneficiaries

Technical Assistance - Around 95,000 beneficiaries

JICA also took the initiative to design earthquake-resistant houses and provided trainings to engineers, house owners and masons to ensure they are equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to construct earthquake-resistant buildings in the future.

The Community Mobilization Program was introduced to directly involve the community in the housing reconstruction process. Through EHRP, JICA provided financial and technical assistance for the housing reconstruction in Gorkha and Sindhupalchowk.

Reshma Binita Bhujel, Sindhupalchowk

“I lost my house and my husband in the same year. We lost our small house when the earthquake hit, but luckily, all our lives were spared. For three years, we lived in a shed.

The mobile masons helped us to build our house brick-by-brick, which is stronger and will not collapse even if another earthquake hits.”



Masons at work in Sindhupalchowk



Reshma Binita Bhujel with her children in her newly reconstructed house

EMERGENCY SCHOOL RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT (ESRP)

With the aim of contributing to the overall recovery and development of earthquake affected communities, particularly in the area of education, JICA provided ODA loan to implement the Emergency School Reconstruction Project (ESRP).



Shree Bal Kalyan Lower Secondary School, Chyangli, Gorkha



Students in their newly reconstructed classroom in Gorkha .



Patan Secondary School, Lalitpur

ESRP was implemented based on designs and structural guidelines developed by JICA. Under the project 274 schools were re-constructed and handed over across six districts - Gorkha, Rasuwa, Nuwakot, Dhading, Makwanpur and Lalitpur.



Children playing in their newly reconstructed school in Gorkha

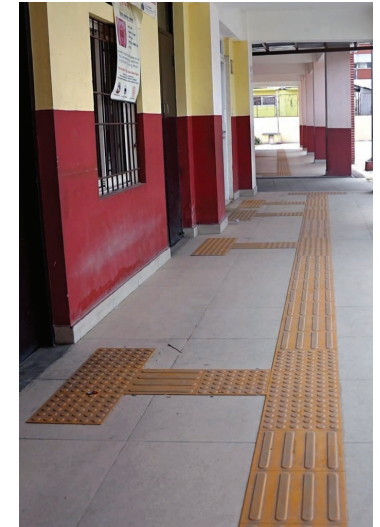
Patan Secondary School and Namuna Machhindra Secondary School in Lalitpur were reconstructed with special designs where Namuna Machhindra Secondary School was reconstructed focusing on providing a conducive learning environment for visually impaired students.

Rohan Khanal, Class 9, Namuna Machhindra School

“The reconstructed school has better facilities such as tactile paving for us to walk on, comfortable tables and benches and the school has more open space.”



Rohan Khanal, Class 9, Namuna Machhindra School



Tactile Paving at Namuna Machhindra School



Path Pradarshak Higher Secondary School, Badikhel, Lalitpur



Jyoti Secondary School, Hetauda, Makwanpur

REHABILITATION AND RECOVERY FROM NEPAL EARTHQUAKE (RRNE)

The Project on Rehabilitation & Recovery from Nepal Earthquake (RRNE) was launched only two months after the earthquake and provided multi-dimensional support for Nepal and its people. Three regions; Gorkha, Sindhupalchowk, and the Kathmandu Valley were targeted for re-construction and rehabilitation of infrastructures.

JICA's Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) played a vital role in the immediate recovery of Gorkha and Sindhupalchowk districts by reconstructing government buildings, bridges, health posts and hospitals in Sindhupalchowk and Gorkha.



Newly constructed Ghatte Bridge in Gorkha



People walking across a newly constructed bridge in Gorkha



Newly constructed Barpak Women's Community Center in Barpak, Gorkha

Ampipal hospital in Gorkha, Palungtar is one of the 22 priority public facilities built in Gorkha and Sindhupalchowk.

**Ms. Sabitra Dhakal, Head Nurse,
Ampipal Hospital, Gorkha**

“We are now able to provide city like service in a rural hospital. If any disaster hits in the future, we believe the new building can be an emergency center for the people from the surrounding areas.”



Ms. Sabitra Dhakal, Head Nurse at work at Ampipal Hospital, Palungtar, Gorkha



Reconstructed Paropakar Maternity and Women's Hospital, Kathmandu



Police Station in Palungtar, Gorkha

Through JICA's grant assistance, the reconstruction of Bir Hospital and Paropakar Maternity & Women's Hospital in Kathmandu was carried out.



LIVELIHOOD RECOVERY

JICA supported the communities through livelihood enhancement training programs such as vegetable growing, quality seed production, and goat raising. Building upon JICA's past recovery and reconstruction efforts, JICA launched the Project for Participatory Rural Recovery (PPRR) in order to increase the capacity of local governments and community groups.



Vegetable farming training for livelihood recovery, Sindhupalchowk



Goat raising training to support in Livelihood Recovery in Barpak, Gorkha.



The Project for Participatory Rural Recovery (PPRR) has succeeded in incorporating communities' needs in the annual and periodic plans of local governments.

Samjhana Rokka, Sindhupalchowk

“Before, we had to work for somebody else on minimum wage, but after JICA’s 100 day training on leather making, we are able to work on our own and support our family.”



Samjhana Rokka, Helambu, Sindhupalchowk



Strengthening community resilience and income generation through handicraft production in Palungtar, Gorkha.



Tunnel farming training for livelihood recovery in Phalate, Sindhupalchowk.

CULTURAL HERITAGE

JICA dispatched Japanese experts to the Department of Archaeology to support the rehabilitation of the Shiva temple and the Agamchhen temple in Kathmandu Durbar Square, and the Degu Taleju temple in Patan Durbar Square.



JICA expert surveying artifacts in Shiva Temple, Kathmandu Durbar Square



Ongoing rehabilitation work in Degu Taleju Temple, Patan Durbar Square, Lalitpur



Agamchhen Temple, Kathmandu Durbar Square

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DRR)

JICA's reconstruction assistance is gradually shifting its focus from post-earthquake reconstruction to disaster risk reduction, transforming to projects for building a disaster resilient country and preparing for future disasters.



Master Training of Trainers (MTotT) program for Engineers by NBCC project

JICA is supporting the Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC) to improve the compliance mechanism of the Nepal National Building Code through the “Project for Promotion of Nepal National Building Code Compliance for Safer Building Construction (NBCC)”.

JICA is currently supporting to strengthen capacity of National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) through the “Project for Strengthening Disaster Risk Governance for Resilience in the Kathmandu Valley (REKV)”



Survey for Flood Assessment of REKV Project



Training participants of REKV Project visiting flood affected site in Japan



Training participants of NBCC Project visiting a facility in Japan

Mr. Anil Pokhrel | Chief Executive Officer | National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA)

“ Reflecting on the reconstruction and recovery experience, what we've learned is that we need to invest in disaster risk reduction so that we can avert such disasters in the future. JICA is helping the NDRRMA through two significant technical assistances, first a project called REKV, which looks into the risk governance within Kathmandu Valley particularly from earthquakes and the second project PPRR is on recovering livelihood. During our lifetimes, we might experience perhaps even a larger earthquake like 2015 or even more than that, in that case if we can invest more on disaster risk reduction we will be able to avoid the loss of human lives and also loss of assets across the whole nation. ”



Mr. OKUBO Akimitsu | Chief Representative | JICA Nepal

“ We have held the Build Back Better concept for the last eight years. Build Back Better means if you are recovering from the damage of the disasters, the structures, for example, the building should be more resilient and much better than before. So by that when we are going to face another disaster, then we can prevent and avoid the damages we have had. With this concept, we try to incorporate the concept of build back better into our projects. Lastly, let me say that JICA is determined to support the efforts of the Government of Nepal for DRR to make a more resilient country. ”





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Japan International Cooperation Agency Nepal Office
Lazimpat, Kathmandu, Nepal

 450, Kathmandu, Nepal
 +977-1-4425636
 +977-1-4425658
 www.jica.go.jp/nepal/english
 www.facebook.com/jicanepal