



JICA's five years of
Building Resilient Nepal



Ampipal Hospital, Palungtar

JICA has contributed towards building stronger, more resilient structures that will serve as the foundation for the redevelopment of Nepal

Japan International Cooperation Agency helps to coordinate official development assistance (ODA) on behalf of the government of Japan. It has a network of over 100 overseas 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.

Five years have passed since the devastating earthquake of April 2015 that upturned the nation's development by causing major destruction of infrastructures and a huge loss of lives and livelihoods. JICA's extensive support in earthquake reconstruction and rehabilitation has helped Nepal utilize these five years as an opportunity to **"Build Back Better"**.

By using Japan's experience in disaster management and technical expertise in seismic-resistant construction, JICA has contributed towards building stronger, more resilient structures that will serve as the foundation for the redevelopment of Nepal.

Assistance in the reconstruction of housing, school and public infrastructure were prioritized by keeping in mind their impact on the development of physical as well as cultural, economic, educational, institutional and social aspects of the communities.



Newly reconstructed house in Sanghachowk, Sindhupalchowk

Housing Reconstruction

JICA has supported almost **56,000 households** Beneficiaries

Technical Assistance for 92,000 people on the reconstruction of earthquake resilient houses.



House under construction in Sanghachowk, Sindhupalchowk

JICA has supported almost 56,000 household beneficiaries in Gorkha and Sindhupalchowk by providing technical assistance and financial help in building seismic-resistant houses. Under JICA's Community Mobilisation Programme, Mobile Masons, also known as local engineers, received expert training in seismic-resistant building and supervised the construction of houses in the two districts.



"I lost my house and my husband in the same year. When the earthquake hit, we lost our small house but luckily, all our lives were spared. We were struggling to feed ourselves when my husband met with an accident. Suddenly I was a widow, a single mother and the sole breadwinner of a family of five. For three years, we were living in a shed and it was difficult to feed my children with the little money I made.

It was a relief to be selected by JICA as a vulnerable household beneficiary. The mobile masons helped us to build our house brick-by brick, which is stronger and will not collapse even if another earthquake hits. I can work for almost 5-6 days a month and receive a monthly allowance from the government. All my children go to school everyday; I am hopeful that they will study till high school and secure a job in the future."

- Resham Binita Bhujel
Sanghachowk, Sindhupalchowk

Family in house built by mobile masons

When the earthquake hit, our old house which was made of only mud and stones was crushed to the ground. When our children came running through the dust, we were very relieved to have lived through the disaster, but worried about not having a shelter anymore. I lost my job and had no way to feed my family of six.

When JICA began the mobile mason training, I trained to become equipped with the knowledge of building earthquake-resistant houses. I began working as a mobile mason and rushed to complete the construction of my house to shelter my family. Since then, I have helped to build almost two dozen houses in my village. We now have a disaster-proof house, a stable source of income and our children also go to schools built by JICA, which makes us confident about their safety.

- Man B. Ghale
Mobile Mason
Barpak, Gorkha



Mobile mason with family



Children playing in safe school grounds

School Reconstruction

JICA has handed over

178 School Buildings

Total of 236 schools will be constructed under the project for improving the quality of education.



Earthquake resistant school built by JICA

JICA has rebuilt over 178 school buildings in the six districts of Gorkha, Rasuwa, Nuwakot, Dhading, Makwanpur and Lalitpur. Beside the school building Jica also supported in building science labs, computer labs, libraries, separate toilets for boys and girls which are disability friendly.



"In remote villages like ours, it is difficult to maintain the attendance of students as they regularly skip classes and repeat grades a number of times. To add to that, the 2015 earthquake demolished a huge part of our old school buildings. It was very difficult to run the school for almost three years as many parents were worried about the children's safety and withdrew them from schools.

Since earthquake resistant schools were handed over, parents all over are assured about their child's safety at school. The students are also excited about studying in complete schools which have facilities like separate toilets for boys and girls, science and computer labs which are disability-friendly. The attendance levels have drastically improved, rising from 60% to 90% within the short span of a year."

- Purna B. Gurung
Headmaster,
Simjung, Gorkha

Students attending classes in Shree Jeewanjyoti School building, Gorkha

“The school’s education has improved a lot after the new building was built. When the earthquake hit, I thought that everything was going to end. Our old school looked like a shed and it was very unsightly. Now, when I look at our new school building, I am proud and it makes me want to come to school more. I never knew how to use a computer before the new building along with computer lab was built.

It makes me very excited to be able to learn in the new science rooms, computer rooms and libraries. I think our juniors will benefit even more from learning about computers and science labs, as I believe it is better to understand these subjects from a young age. Why should we send our students to the city for education when we have such a big, well-equipped school with proper education in our own village?”

- Bishal Magrathi
Student,
Bidur, Nuwakot



Shree Sulakshana Secondary School’s students enjoying various facilities



Paropakar Maternity and Women's Hospital, Thapathali, Kathmandu

Public Infrastructure

JICA undertook

Infrastructure reconstruction projects

for rehabilitation and recovery of livelihoods and essential service delivery in the affected areas.



Palungtar Police Station

JICA undertook infrastructure reconstruction projects through grant aid, including the reconstruction of Paropakar Maternity and Women's Hospital and Bir Hospital in Kathmandu, and construction of five bridges in Gorkha. In addition, 24 quick impact projects including reconstruction of police stations, healthcare posts and community centres were undertaken for improved service delivery in the beneficiary areas.



“Our hospital was one of the most hard-hit hospitals in the whole nation. Our old hospital building was established in 1959 and was in use for 50 years. It was in need of reconstruction when the earthquake left it completely unusable.

For one among the top 10 maternity hospitals globally, one-third of our patients gave birth on the floor for more than one year. The new building constructed by JICA has solved most of our problems. It is clean, hygienic and structurally better than the old building. It is also disability-friendly, which makes it easier for us to treat patients of all capabilities within the premises.”

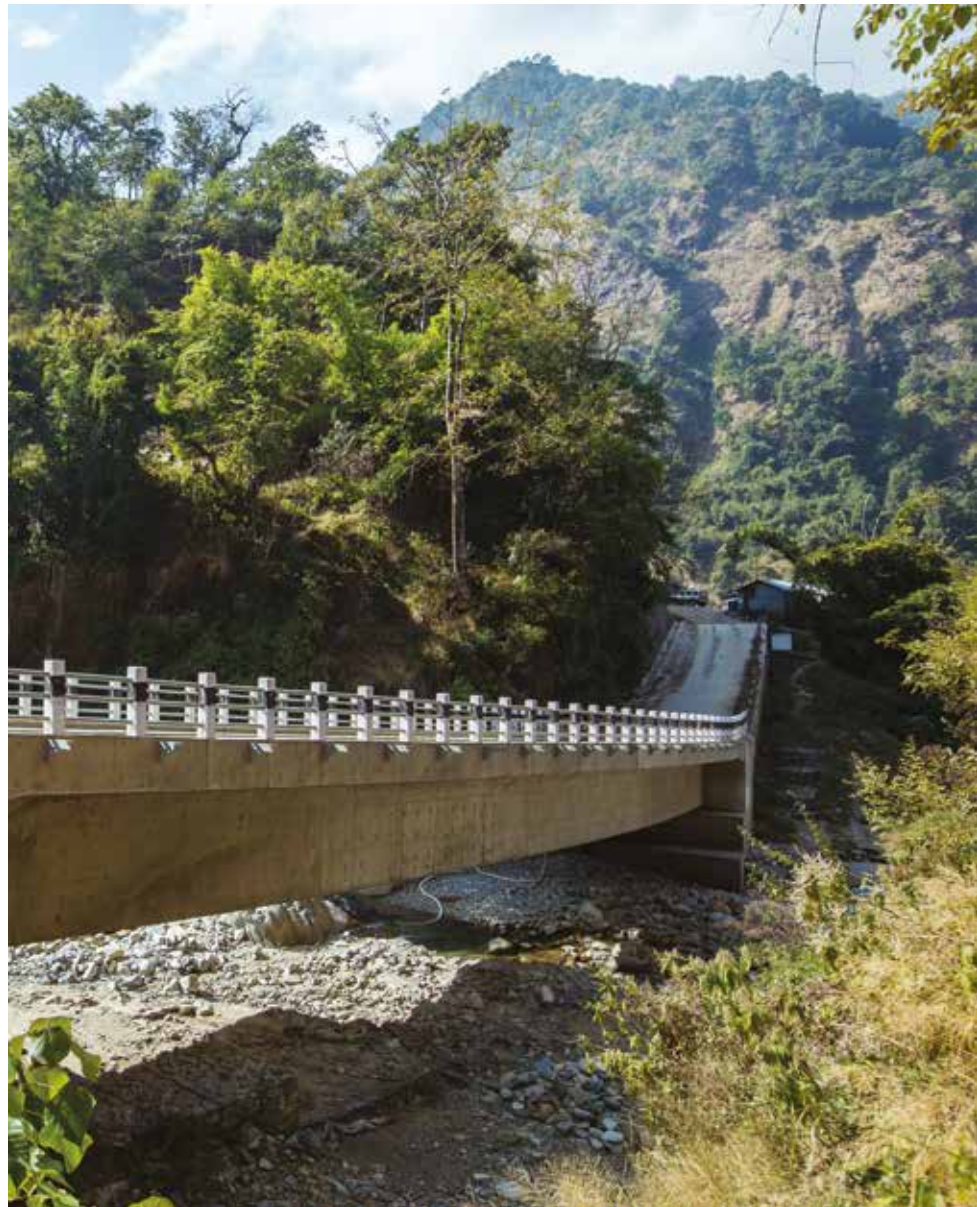
- Dr. Jageshwar Gautam,
Director of Paropakar
Maternity and Women's
Hospital
Thapathali, Kathmandu

Mother with new born baby in hospital ward

"JICA has not only built schools and houses, but also bridges and roads that lead to our villages. Our villages are remote, and it was very difficult for vehicles to travel to such places due to poor road conditions in these regions. During the rainy seasons, all activities would come to a halt due to floods. People were forced to carry loads on foot through the hills.

After the bridges were built, tractors could reach the villages and have helped many households in reconstruction by transporting raw materials. Where it would have taken people one entire day of walking, now it only takes one hour. Businesses and emergency services have also improved at a rapid pace, thanks to JICA's bridges."

- Prakash Bhatta,
School Management
Committee Chair
Mobile Mason
Taple, Gorkha



Rangrung Bridge constructed by JICA




Japan International Cooperation Agency

Nepal Office


 Lazimpat, Kathmandu, Nepal

 450, Kathmandu Nepal

 +977-1-4425636

 www.jica.go.jp/nepal/english

 www.facebook.com/jicanepal

 +977-1-4425658