



JICA REKV News No.1

THE PROJECT FOR STRENGTHENING DISASTER RISK GOVERNANCE
FOR RESILIENCE IN THE KATHMANDU VALLEY

2021



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October 2021

1 Introduction & Project Summary



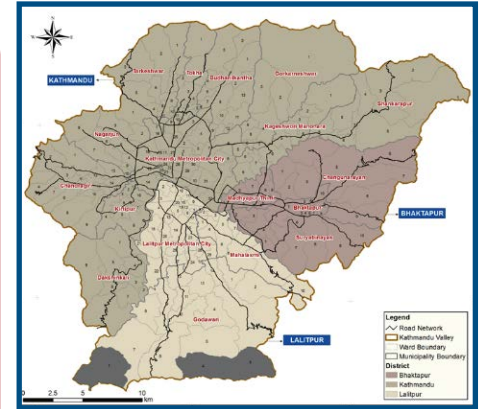
Introduction

The Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, located in the area where the Indian and Eurasian plates hit, the Kathmandu Valley (KV), which includes the capital city of Nepal, has experienced several disastrous earthquakes, and the Gorkha earthquake that occurred on April 25, 2015, caused extensive damage. JICA's technical cooperation initiative "The Project for Assessment of Earthquake Disaster Risk for the Kathmandu Valley in Nepal (2015-2018)" (ERAKV) conducted the seismic hazard and risk assessment in KV, results of which show the possibility of significant damage to public facilities, bridges and major roads.

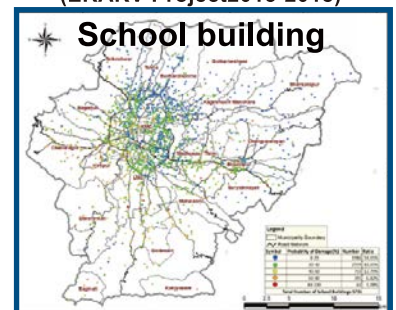
In order to address the concerns regarding Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), the Government of Nepal (GoN) established the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) as the central agency responsible for DRR in 2019. The Government of Japan was requested to provide technical assistance to strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Home Affairs (current NDRRMA) to implement this Project.

The Project contributes to strengthen the capacity of the NDRRMA and to establish a DRR investment system in allocating government funds in critical infrastructure, such as public facilities and major roads, to reduce disaster risks and strengthen the resilience (pre-disaster investment) before a disaster occurs.

Target Area[Kathmandu Valley]



Results of Earthquake Risk Assessment (ERAKV Project 2015-2018)



Overall Goal

Disaster resilience is enhanced by implementation of DRR investment

Project Purpose

Disaster Risk Governance for promoting investment in DRR is strengthened

Project Output

- Output1: The institutional capacity for DRR is developed in the NDRRMA
- Output2: The fundamental mechanism for investing high priority DRR projects in the KV is developed
- Output3: DRR mainstreaming is promoted in the Local Levels

Duration

Jan 2021 ~ December 2024 (Tentative schedule)

Implementation Agency

- 1)Responsible and Implementing Agency : NDRRMA
- 2)Collaborating Agencies: MoHA
Coordinating Agencies: MoFAGA, MoUD
- 3)Other Related Agencies: Concerned Ministries and 18 Local Levels in KV



Surveying target sites

Outline of the Project

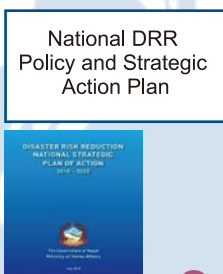
Output2

Development of fundamental mechanism for investing high priority DRR projects in the KV

Collaboration

Output3

DRR mainstreaming in the Local Levels (LLs) in the KV



Utilization of past outcomes (Seismic Risk Assessment, Resilience Plan)

Prepare a list of Priority DRR projects,
Prepare financing options and develop financing models

Annual Work Plan of concerned ministries

Budgeting

Implementation of High Priority DRR Projects

DRM Planning(DRR part)
Operation of DM Fund

Budgeting

Output1

The institutional capacity development in the NDRRMA



Institutional Development and Human Resource Development as a central DRRM agency through the coordination/monitoring of the projects

Achievement of Project Purpose

2 Progress of the Project



Overall Progress

Project commencement

The situation with COVID-19 did not allowed Japanese experts to travel to Nepal since the procurement of Japanese experts. In this circumstance, the Project has commenced from January 12, 2021 since the JICA's Knowledge Co-Creation Program "Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction" has been remotely implemented.

Then the JICA Expert Team travelled to Nepal in March to April 2021 firstly when the infection situation was improved.

First Joint Coordinating Committee(JCC)

The first JCC was held on April 7, 2021.

Due to the impact of COVID-19, the number of face-to-face participants was limited, and the remaining participants participated online meeting. The contents of the Work Plan were explained by the JICA Expert Team.



JCC participants online



Both parties are signing

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

GESI is a cross-cutting issue that keeps an eye on vulnerable population such as women, the elderly, children, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, etc. It is particularly important in terms of Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) area since disasters impact these groups more seriously. NDRRMA and JICA Expert Team confirmed that all three project outputs take GESI aspect in their activities. Currently, the project is preparing the Resource Book on GESI in DRRM, which includes GESI good practices in Nepal and the world. It aims at providing basic knowledge and good practices on GESI to relevant government officials, especially local level.



One of the good practices on GESI that a women mason worked for rebuilding house after a disaster.

Output-1: Institutional Capacity Development in the NDRRMA

Development of Institutional Development Plan

The JICA Expert Team is working on development of Institutional Development Plan, which would support NDRRMA to be a pivotal government agency for DRR in Nepal. The JICA Expert Team specifically reviewed each of the 24 items on the functions, duties, and powers of NDRRMA which are stipulated in the DRRM Act 2074 and worked on Contextual Analysis with NDRRMA to identify current situations, expected situations, and the necessary interventions to fill the gaps. For further discussions on Contextual Analysis, a meeting with NDRRMA officers including Chief Executive, Joint Secretary and Under Secretaries was organized on 29th September 2021. At the meeting, the following issues were discussed.

NDRRMA needs;

- To become an organization with the capacity to conduct disaster risk assessment based on scientific evidence.
- Staff with specialized knowledge on the above evidence-based risk assessment.
- Promotion of the development of disaster information database (BIPAD) in collaboration with the line ministries of the federal government and the provincial/local governments.
- Strategy to facilitate establishing DRR departments in provincial/local governments, so that NDRRMA can promote DRR policies and measures with local authorities under the federal system.
- To develop coordinating mechanisms to effectively facilitate implementing DRR policies and budget plans of the line ministries and the provincial/local governments.
- Plan on how to inherit the achievement and legacy of National Reconstruction Authority (NRA), of which its mandate will expire in December 2021.



The meeting on September 29

Contextual Analysis of NDRRMA's Role, Duty and Right

Contextual analysis is a tool for diagnosis of institutional capacity of public organization. It is a basis for preparation of institutional development plan (framework) for NDRRMA. This matrix shows (A) current situation and (B) expected situation in the future by each item of the roles, duties and rights of the NDRRMA which given in the section 11 of the DRRM Act 2074 B.S. We can identify the gaps between current and future situations of organization. To fill the gaps, we will suggest institutional and organizational interventions. It is important to fill the matrix by stakeholder' participation.

Role, Duty and Right of NDRRMA, given by the DRRM Act 2017	Assessment of Current Situation		B. Expected Situation in the Future	C. Suggested Interventions and Actions to fill the Gaps between A. and B.
	Guiding Questions	A. Current Situation Including Issues and Problems		
(a) Implementation of approved plans, programs and decisions made by council and Executive Committee,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify approved plans, programs and decisions made by the National Council and Executive Committee. - What are the roles and responsibilities of NDRRMA for implementation of approved plans, programs and decisions made by the National Council and Executive Committee? - What are the roles and functions of NDRRMA as secretariat of the Executive Committee? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DRR strategic plan of actions 2018-2030 - Owner driven reconstruction and resettlement procedure 2021. - Disaster Risk Financing Strategy, 2021. - Monsoon Preparedness and Response Plan - Response Plan against Cold Wave - Other relevant decisions and some guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -NDRRMA, as the Secretariat of the DRRM National Council, will coordinate with relevant ministries and consolidate their set of requests on DRR projects. - It will have well capacity to convene all stakeholders and convince them to follow it for DRR activities. 	<p>NDRRMA will report the requests on DRR projects to the National Council and Executive Committee.</p> <p>The set of requests will be included in the DRR Annual Report of Nepal which will be reported to the Parliament after passing through the Cabinet.</p>

Output-2: Fundamental Mechanism for Investing High Priority DRR Projects in the KV



Prepare a list of priorities for DRR projects in the KV

Target Facility:

In this project, three major facilities are focused on; (1) Building comprising government offices, school and hospital, and (2) Civil Engineering facilities composed of Bridge and Road.

Progress:

(1) Building comprising government offices, school and hospital

In this project, three major facilities are focused on; (1) Building The JICA Expert Team started reviewing the existing hazard and risk assessment and identifying public buildings which need to be reconstructed or retrofitted as follows.

	Public health facility buildings	Government buildings	Public school buildings
Building Inventory	254	478	1,669
Screened by Risk Assessment	57	72	594
Shortlist	47	30	154

(2) Bridge

145 bridges were listed and assessed in the ERAKV. By using these outcome, a long list for priority project for bridges has been formulated. In order to further narrow down of the list, the JICA Expert Team focused on 21 candidate bridges located on the important road network within the KV, comprising Araniko and

Trivban highways, Ring Road, and the Primary Emergency Transportation Roads. Due to a lack of design and construction information, which was confirmed with DoR, the JICA Expert Team conducted the additional site survey on the damage level and construction year for the candidate bridges in parallel to the additional literature reviews, which resulted in a finding that bridges designed by the design codes before 1980th are less aseismic capability against the future large earthquake. As a result of the additional studies mentioned above, the team identified 7 vulnerable bridges, 4 on the Ring Road, and 3 on the Primary Emergency Transport Roads. This result shall be the based of a discussion with relevant organizations, DoR and MoPIT.

(3) Roads

For priority projects for roads, liquefaction and slope failure were focused in the ERAKV. For the total 5,810km of 80,000 road sections listed in the ERAKV, the JICA Expert Team prepared a tentative shortlist of road sections for the priority project from the whole road network in the KV by extracting ones with "High Risk" (374km of the tentative road section list, comprising 275km for liquefaction and 99 km for slope failure).

However, due to a lack of site observation data and geological data for studying the countermeasures against the above two factors, the further study has been suspended at present because there are various methods against the two factors depending on the site situations, which causes the variety of construction costs by method.

Output-3: DRR Mainstreaming in the Local Levels in the KV

Review the contents of DRR for Local Disaster and Climate Resilience Plan (LDCRP) /Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan (DPRP) of LLs in the KV

The JICA Expert Team has visited to all 18 LLs from January to March 2021 to collect the LDCRP/DPRP, the local DRRM Act and relevant information. The follow up survey is being conducted. Current LDCRPs have been reviewed based on the "8 Steps the Practical Guide for Developing Local DRR Strategies/Plans" (JICA's 8 Steps) which JICA developed. This JICA's 8 steps is the practical and feasible method to develop and improve a local DRR strategy/plan with step by step methods to promote investment and the steady implementation of measures to reduce risks.

Review and update the DRR of the Guidelines for formulation of LDCRP/DPRP

LDCRP guideline formulated by the MoFAGA, and the DPRP guideline formulated by the MoHA, both guidelines were reviewed by the JICA Expert Team. Based on the these results, the Guidelines for formulation of DRR plan of local level is being updated/developed utilizing the JICA's 8 steps and hazard/risk information.

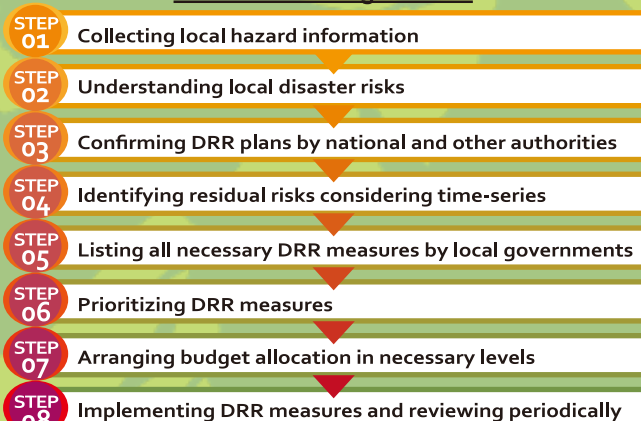
Visit to Kathmandu Metropolitan City



Formulation status of LDCRP/DPRP and relevant information

S.N.	Major information on DRR	Yes	In process	No	To be confirmed	Total
1	Periodic Development Plan (PDP)	2	4	9	3	18
2	DRRM Act	14	1	2	1	18
3	LDCRP	4	-	8	6	18
	LDRMP	1	-	-	-	18
4	DPRP	1	1	8	8	18
5	Disaster Management (DM) Fund	17	-	-	1	18
6	DM Fund Operation Guideline	15	-	3	-	18

JICA's 8 Steps the Practical Guide for Developing Local DRR Strategies/Plans



3 Further Schedule

Second JCC to be held by next April 2022:

Progress has been slow due to COVID-19, but the Project is planning to hold the second JCC by next April. Main agenda will be to discuss the list of priorities for DRR projects in the KV.