



# JICA REKV News No.4

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



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March 2023

# 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.

## 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)

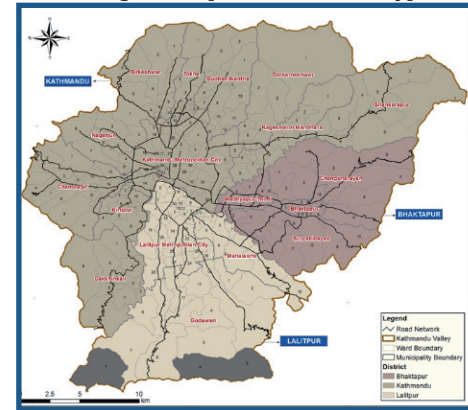
## Implementation Agency

- 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

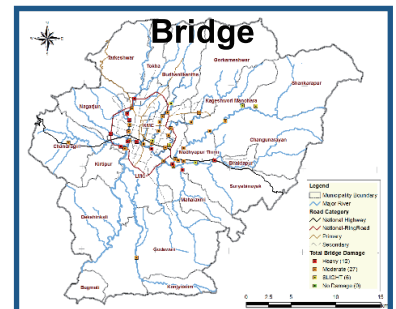
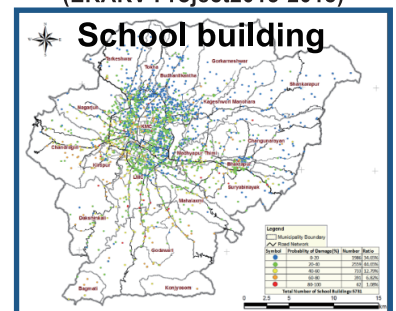


Surveying target sites

Target Area[Kathmandu Valley]



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



## 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

National DRR Policy and Strategic Action Plan

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

DRM Planning (DRR part)  
Operation of DM Fund

Budgeting

Implementation of High Priority DRR Projects

### 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

### Counterpart Training in Japan (February-March, 2023)

The first Counterpart Training in Japan named of “DRRM system and plan” was held for 2 weeks from February 27 to March 10 2023. The following 8 persons participated in the training.

#### [Participants of the training (Number of participants)]

National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) (2)  
Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) (1)  
Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA) (1)  
Local Levels (4) (Each one person from Kathmandu Metropolitan City, Suryabinayak Municipality, Chandragiri Municipality, Kageshwori-Manohara Municipality)



Cabinet Office (CAO)



Honjo Life Safety Learning Center

The main objectives of the training are as follows.

#### [Objectives of the training]

To be able to consider the measures to strengthen the DRR administrative system in Nepal by learning the systems, roles and responsibilities of the national, prefectural and municipal governments related to Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Management in Japan

#### Site-visit of landslide measures in Nagano prefecture

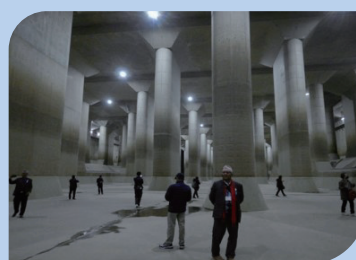


To be able to formulate the practical DRR plans (LDRF) that promote to the implementation of DRR investments by understanding local DRR plans based on the hazard and risk assessments

To be able to consider the measures to promote budgeting and implementation of DRR projects by recognizing the importance of DRR investment

The Mayors of the three municipalities participated in this training and visited the Cabinet Office (CAO), the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT), the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, Nagano Prefectural Government, etc., and learned about the DRRM systems and DRR investment of

the national and local governments in Japan. The participants also visited landslide countermeasure sites, river embankment reconstruction sites, research facilities, public awareness facilities, etc.



Metropolitan Area Outer Underground Discharge Channel

## Output-1: Institutional Capacity Development in the NDRRMA

### Institutional Development Plan (IDP)

Works were continued to formulate the Institutional Development Plan (IDP), which commenced in 2021. A preliminary draft of the IDP has been presented and discussed in the 2nd Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC) held on 30 March 2022, under the presence of representatives from the relevant Ministries and Departments of the Federal Government. The contents were explained and the general framework of the preliminary draft was endorsed.

The following were taken in pursuant to the discussions in the JCC.

Reconfirming the future vision of the NDRRMA

The preliminary draft IDP has speculated the Expected Situation of the NDRRMA based on existing legal and policy documents of the GoN which relate to the DRR sector. This was further consulted with DRR Champions who have been closely working in the DRR governance of Nepal to confirm its legitimacy.

#### 2) Reinforcing the legal backbone of the IDP

A national expert together with the JICA Expert Team has been engaged to review the IDP from the viewpoint of the legislative framework of Nepal. Inputs were provided to strengthen the IDP's backbone, including legislation not directly related to DRR. An updated draft IDP has been prepared based on the above and submitted to the NDRRMA on 8 September 2022. In January 2023, the NDRRMA shared the drafted IDP with the relevant government agencies for their feedbacks.

Developing basic administrative skills for service delivery	Promoting disaster preparedness
Developing basic knowledge on DRRM	Strengthening emergency response operations
Developing Interorganizational networking and coordination	Hazard monitoring and Impact based early warning
Supporting to develop DRRM related policy	Assisting recovery and reconstruction
Providing technical inputs for disaster resilient structures	Strengthening capacity of human resource on DRR
Developing financial mechanism for DRRM	Developing multi-hazard risk assessment

#### Identified Competencies in HRDP required to achieve the IDP

### Human Resource Development Plan (HRDP)

Works for the preparation of the Human Resource Development Plan (HRDP) were continued with the aim of elaborating the required human resources development activities to achieve the Expected Situation of the NDRRMA as stipulated in the IDP. The concept of Competencies, which is defined as “a combination of skills, knowledge and behaviors that are important for the success of the organization to achieve its goals” were applied for the preparation of the HRDP.

The 91 actions indicated in the draft IDP were reviewed and 12 competencies were identified as those required for the NDRRMA officers to carry out these actions. The competencies were then allocated to the 11 sections of the NDRRMA as proposed in the draft IDP. The results of the activities were explained to and discussed with the NDRRMA on 6 July 2022, where it was confirmed that the project shall further continue the preparation of the HRDP building on top of the conducted works.

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

## Prepare high priority DRR projects in the KV

### Target Facility:

In this project, three major facilities are focused on: (1) Building comprising schools, health facilities and government offices, and Civil Engineering facilities composed of (2) Bridge and (3) Road.

### Progress:

#### (1) Building comprising schools, health facilities and government offices

The JICA Expert Team adopted the public building inventory prepared by the ERAKV as a long list and prepared a short list based on the risk assessment conducted by ERAKV and current status of buildings. The relevant ministries and municipalities identified the high priority DRR projects. The JICA Expert Team prepared the high priority DRR project profile and shared it with the ministries and municipalities. NDRRMA asked ministries to include high priority projects in their Annual Work Plan & Budget by letter. Even though the ministries confirmed necessity of the projects, the projects are not included in the Budget. NDRRMA and the team will continue to find out the financing options through discussion with the relevant organizations.

#### (2) Bridge

4 bridges have been recommended as the priority DRR projects from 145 candidate bridges in KTM valley, which was listed and assessed its vulnerability against the future predicted earthquakes in the ERAKV by the criteria on structural features, construction year, the existence of alternative route if collapsed and the location of the bridges on the higher class of Emergency Transportation Road Network. Those proposed DRR bridge list was accepted by DoR and MoPIT on 4th Feb. 2022, and also approved in JCC meeting on Mar. 2022

In order to establish the implementation mechanism of the DRR projects, although JICA Expert team has been arranging a series of meetings with MoPIT and MoH, we are facing to the difficulty to incorporate them into the annual budget plan so far. The team will continue the further consultation with relevant ministries, while considering other alternative mechanism for implementation.

#### (3) Roads

For priority projects for roads, liquefaction and slope failure were focused in the ERAKV. For the total 5,810km of road sections listed within Kathmandu valley in the ERAKV, the JICA Expert Team prepared a long list of road sections for the priority project by extracting ones with "High Risk" (374km of the tentative road section list, comprising 275km for liquefaction and 99 km for slope failure). For the slope failure, it has been further narrowed down to prepare the shortlist by using the proposed Emergency Transportation Network Class, resulting in 4.9km road section for slope failure. The team has already recognized the difficulty to formulate the project due to no geological data, which is an essential data to determine the countermeasures against the said two risks. Accordingly, the team will plan to the site visit to the shortlisted road section to judge the continuation of the DRR preparation.

In addition, Although the alternative method for project formulation on the slope failure, such as using satellite data, has been studied, it was declined because it also can not study the countermeasures without geological data, even though the higher risk areas of slope failure are identified by the said satellite data at present.

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

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

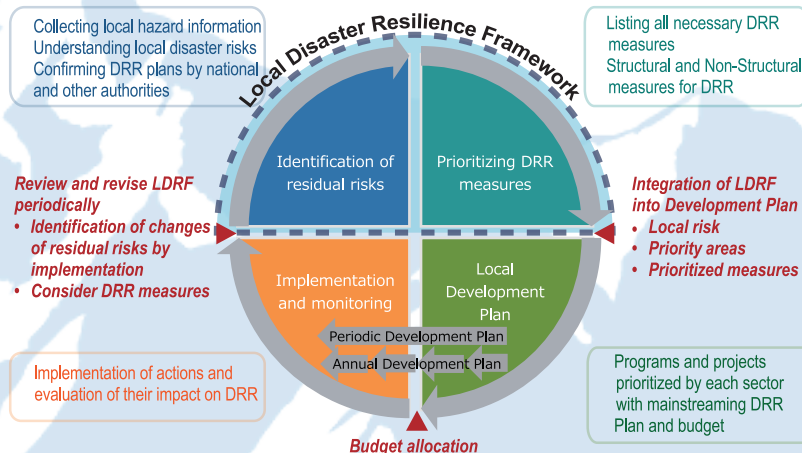
LDCRP (Local Disaster Climate and Resilience Plan) guideline formulated by the MoFAGA, and the DPRP (Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan) guideline formulated by the MoHA, both guidelines were reviewed by the JICA Expert Team. Based on these results, "Guideline for the Formulation of Local Disaster Resilience Framework (LDRF) for the Urban Municipalities" has been developed. The Guideline will be approved and the workshops for municipalities to formulate the LDRF will be held.



LDRF Municipal meeting (December 21, 2022)



LDRF Task Force meeting (December 18, 2022)



Linkage between LDRF and Development Plan

## 3 Further Schedule

The 3<sup>rd</sup> JCC meeting will be held on April 18, 2023. The JICA Expert Team will explain and both Nepali and Japanese sides will discuss the progress of each output, especially IDP, implementation of high priority projects both building and bridge, and LDRF guideline.