



JICA REKV News No.5

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



Contents

1. Introduction & Project Summary
2. Progress of the Project
 - Overall Progress
 - Output 1: Institutional Capacity Development in the NDRRMA
 - Output 2: Development of Fundamental Mechanism for Investing High Priority DRR Projects in the KV
 - Output 3: DRR Mainstreaming in the Local Levels in the KV
3. Further Schedule

September 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 ~ March 2025 (Tentative schedule)

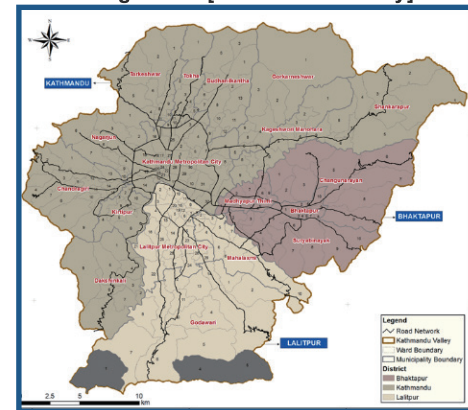
Implementation Agency

- 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

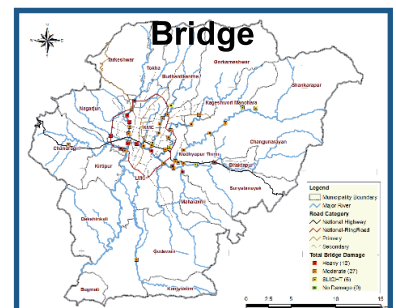
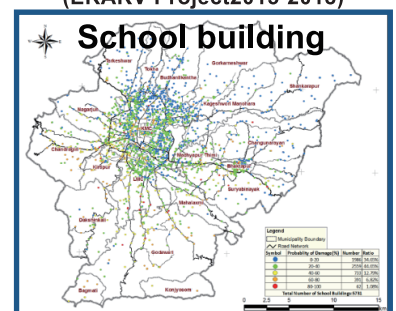


Surveying target sites

Target Area[Kathmandu Valley]



Results of Earthquake Risk Assessment (ERAKV Project2015-2018)



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

3rd Joint Coordination Committee Meeting (April, 2023)

The third (3rd) JCC of this project was held at the NDRRMA hall on April 18, 2023.

More than 40 people from relevant ministries and agencies participated in the JCC and the progress of each output and the revision of the Project Design Matrix (PDM) were discussed.

Additionally, the list of high priority DRR projects identified in Output 2 was approved by the JCC members.



Photos of 3rd JCC (April 18, 2023)

Counterpart Training in Japan (August, 2023)

The second Counterpart Training in Japan named of "DRRM system and plan" was held for around 2 weeks from August 22 to August 31, 2023. The following 8 persons participated in the training.

[Participants of the training (Number of participants)]

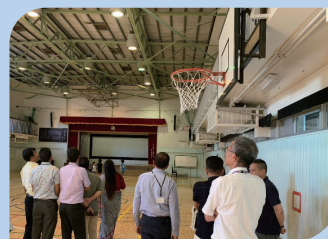
National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) (2)

Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) (1)

Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA) (1)

Local Levels (4) (Each one person from Tarakeshwar, Madhyapur Thimi, Mahalaxmi and Godawari Municipality)

The Mayor of Godawari Municipality and the Deputy Mayor of Mahalaxmi Municipality participated in this training and visited the Cabinet Office (CAO), the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT), the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, Yamanashi 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, high-densely built-up wooden housing area and school with seismic retrofitting, etc.



School with seismic retrofitting



Sabo(Debris Flow) Dam



Cabinet Office (CAO)



Field Trip Exercise

Output-1: Institutional Capacity Development in the NDRRMA

Approval of Institutional Development Plan (IDP) is imminent:

The objective of the IDP is to illustrate the required actions and interventions for the NDRRMA so as to contribute to its institutional development for playing its role as the central lead agency for substantiating comprehensive DRR in Nepal. It identifies necessary actions and interventions by analyzing the gaps between the NDRRMA's current and expected situations, in order to formulate a road map for the institutional development of the NDRRMA.

The Human Resource Development Plan (HRDP) forms part of the IDP, which aims to elaborate the required human resources development activities to achieve the Expected Situation of the NDRRMA as stipulated in the IDP. 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 IDP.

The IDP together with the HRDP is now under the final review and approval process for its implementation.

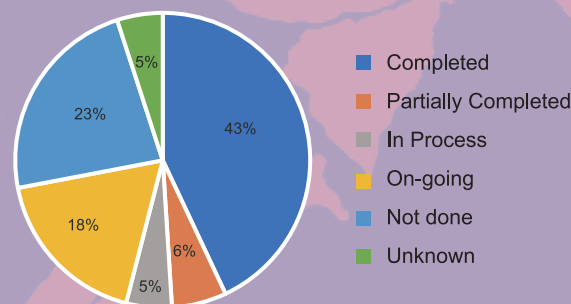
Monitoring process of DRR-NSPoA has just started:

The Disaster Risk Reduction National Strategic Plan of Action 2018-2030 (DRR-NSPoA) has been enforced by the sanction of Executive Committee as per the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act 2017.

DRR-NSPoA consists of 4 Priority Areas, 18 Priority Actions and 270 Strategic Activities.

According to the acts and rules, the Executive Committee is primarily responsible for the monitoring the DRR-NSPoA. The NDRRMA, as the secretary of the Executive Committee, will prepare an annual report for the monitoring of DRR-NSPoA by compiling the inputs provided after each fiscal year by the stakeholders. The annual report will then be presented to the Executive Committee and the Council by February every year, and then made public.

The Project is supporting NDRRMA to implement this annual monitoring and reporting cycle. In February 2023, a trial exercise was launched, and the status of 61 out of total 270 strategic activities were reported (response rate: 23%). Initial results indicates that about 43% of the strategic activities have been completed to date.



Results of trial monitoring of DRR-NSPoA

The Project launched the formal monitoring process in August 2023 after the end of the fiscal year in mid-July 2023. The results will be presented to the Executive Committee and the Council in February 2024.

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 prepare 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. Instead NDRRMA confirmed that some of the high priority DRR projects were planned to be implemented by the local governments by their own budget. Once the high priority DRR projects are approved by MoHA and confirmed by MoF, the high priority DRR projects will be introduced to other donors.



Current Status



Completion image

Godawari H-1 (Primary Health Care Center)

(2) Bridge

4 bridges have been recommended as the priority DRR projects from 145 candidate bridges in KV 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 formulate the implementation mechanism of the DRR projects, JICA Expert team has arranged a series of meetings with MoPIT, MoHA and municipalities. However, there were no positive reply from them to incorporate them into the annual budget plan so far.

(3) Roads

Liquefaction and slope failure along roads were focused on typical damages by earthquakes and the total 5,810km of road sections were listed within KV in the ERAKV, the JICA Expert Team prepared a long list of road sections for the priority DRR project by extracting ones with "High Risk", totaling 374km of the road sections, comprising 275km for liquefaction and 99 km for slope failure, and further narrow down to 4.9km road section by using the proposed Emergency Transportation Network Class.

However, through the such process, the team had recognized the difficulty to formulate the project due to no detailed geological data, which is an essential data to determine the countermeasures against the said two risks. In addition, although the site visit for the selected road sections were conducted, it was observed no vulnerability of the road sections against neither liquefaction and slope failure.

Accordingly, the team finally judged not to formulate a DRR project for roads, although the alternative method on the slope failure, such as using satellite data, has been examined, which is useful to monitor the movement of slope surface but not appropriate to formulate countermeasures for the DRR project.

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

Development of LDCRF guideline

The NDRRMA and the JICA Expert Team have been developing "Guideline for the Formulation of Local Disaster and Climate Resilience Framework (LDCRF)".

After the draft was formulated, the guideline has been revised many times based on discussions with NDRRMA, relevant ministries and agencies, and experts. The NDRRMA established a task force team consisting of the relevant ministries, such as MoFAGA, NPC, etc., and the many times of meetings were held for finalization of the LDCRF.

The task force team has finalized the draft final of LDCRF guideline as the end of August 2023. Currently, the NDRRMA and the JICA Expert Team are proceeding with the procedures for approval by the Executive Committee.



LDCRF Task Force meeting
(July 27, 2023)

Trial workshop in the 2nd counterpart training



Discussion in the 2nd counterpart training
(August 25, 2023)



In the second counterpart training, the JICA Expert Team developed the training materials and conducted a simple trial for the formulation of LDCRF in the form of practical training. Specifically, the trainees including NDRRMA and MoFAGA was divided into two groups (Godawari municipality and Mahalaxmi municipality), and the trainings was conducted following the steps in the LDCRF guideline in case of earthquake as the target disaster. A series of steps were carried out, including creating a municipal profile, identifying hazard/risk areas, and selecting priority projects based on risk.

3 Further Schedule

The invitation program in Japan for high-level officials will be implemented at the beginning of November. The Guideline for the Formulation of Local Disaster and Climate Resilience Framework (LDCRF) will be approved soon.