



JICA REKV News No.7

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

2024



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September 2024

1 Introduction & Project Summary



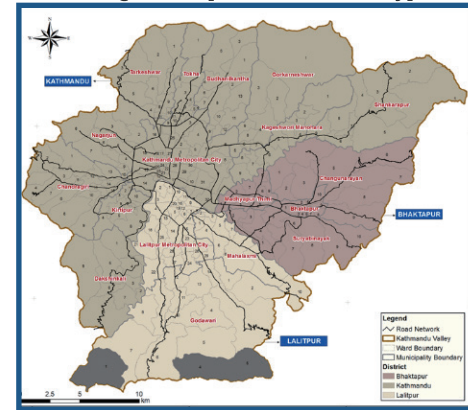
Introduction

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.

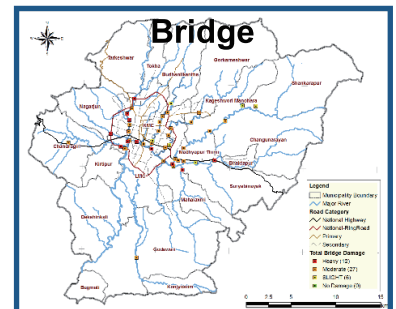
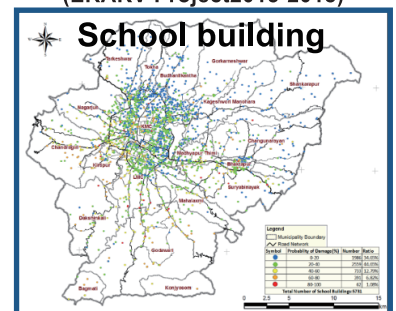
In order to address the concerns regarding Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), the Government of Nepal (GoN) established the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) as the central agency responsible for DRR in 2019. The Government of Japan was requested to provide technical assistance 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 Project2015-2018)



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 ~ 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

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

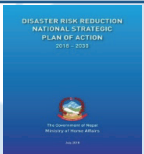
Implementation of High Priority DRR Projects

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



Output-1: Institutional Capacity Development in the NDRRMA

DRR-NSPoA monitoring process for FY2023/2024 now launched

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

The Project is supporting NDRRMA to implement the annual monitoring and reporting process of DRR-NSPoA. A trial exercise was launched in February 2023, and the first formal process was initiated in August 2023 for the activities in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022/2023. The NDRRMA with the support of the Project started the second monitoring cycle in July 2024 for FY2023/2024. As one of the improvement measures based on the lessons learned from the previous cycle, a focal person workshop was held on the 19th of July 2024.



Scenes from the Focal Person Workshop held on July 19, 2024

Nearly 70 persons from the activity owners of the DRR-NSPoA, i.e. focal persons in the ministries and authorities, as well as municipalities in the Kathmandu Valley, were present in the workshop.

Mr. Arjun Kumar Bam, Joint Secretary of NDRRMA / Project Director, opened the workshop in the presence of Mr. Anil Pokhrel, CE of NDRRMA, Mr. Bhisma Kumar Bhusal, Joint Secretary of Disaster and conflict management division of MoHA, and Mr. Dipak Risal, Mayor of Gokarneshwor Municipality.

Mr. Bhisma Kumar Bhusal highlighted the role and responsibility of the concerned agencies of the three tiers of the government regarding the DRR implementation. DRR activities and good practices should be highlighted for the funding possibilities from the government and non-governmental agencies.

Mr. Dipak Risal presented the good examples of the drainage management, landslide protection and bio engineering work in his municipality. He also mentioned that the road accident is the major challenges in Kathmandu Valley and the country.

Mr. Anil Pokhrel closed the workshop thanking to all participants and requesting them to prepare the monitoring reports. He mentioned, this was the first time that all the stakeholders gathered for the purpose of the DRR-NSPoA monitoring. DRR-NSPoA is one of the key plans prepared for the DRR implementation, following the Sendai Framework for DRR and SDGs. Now it's the time of midterm review of the document.

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 was 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 many times of meetings were held for the finalization of the LDCRF.

The task force team has finalized the draft final of the LDCRF guideline by the end of August 2023. The final draft of the LDCRF guideline has been submitted to the relevant ministries officially as a formal circular to obtain feedback. A meeting was held with NDRRMA and MoHA for two days, February 28th and 29th, to confirm the results of responses to feedback, and a final agreement was reached.

[Decisions by the 22nd Executive Committee Meeting]

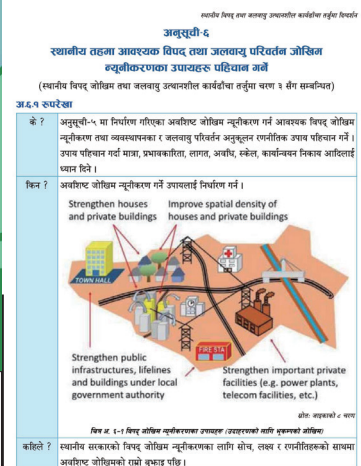
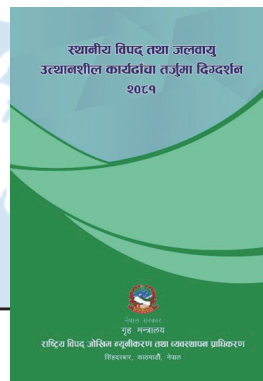
Proposal 5: Regarding Local Disaster and Climate Resilience Framework Preparation Guideline, 2024.

Decision no 5: Approval of Local Disaster and Climate Resilience Framework Preparation Guideline, 2024 prepared with the aim of integrating the various plans and documents related to disaster management and climate change adaptation currently in practice at local level and mainstreaming disaster risk reduction and management and climate resilience planning into the overall development system of the local level and with the objectives to guide the preparation of local disaster and climate resilience framework.

Approval of LDCRF Guideline by the Executive Committee

Finally, the Guideline of LDCRF has been approved by the 22nd Executive Committee Meeting, chaired by the Home Minister, on 3rd May 2024.

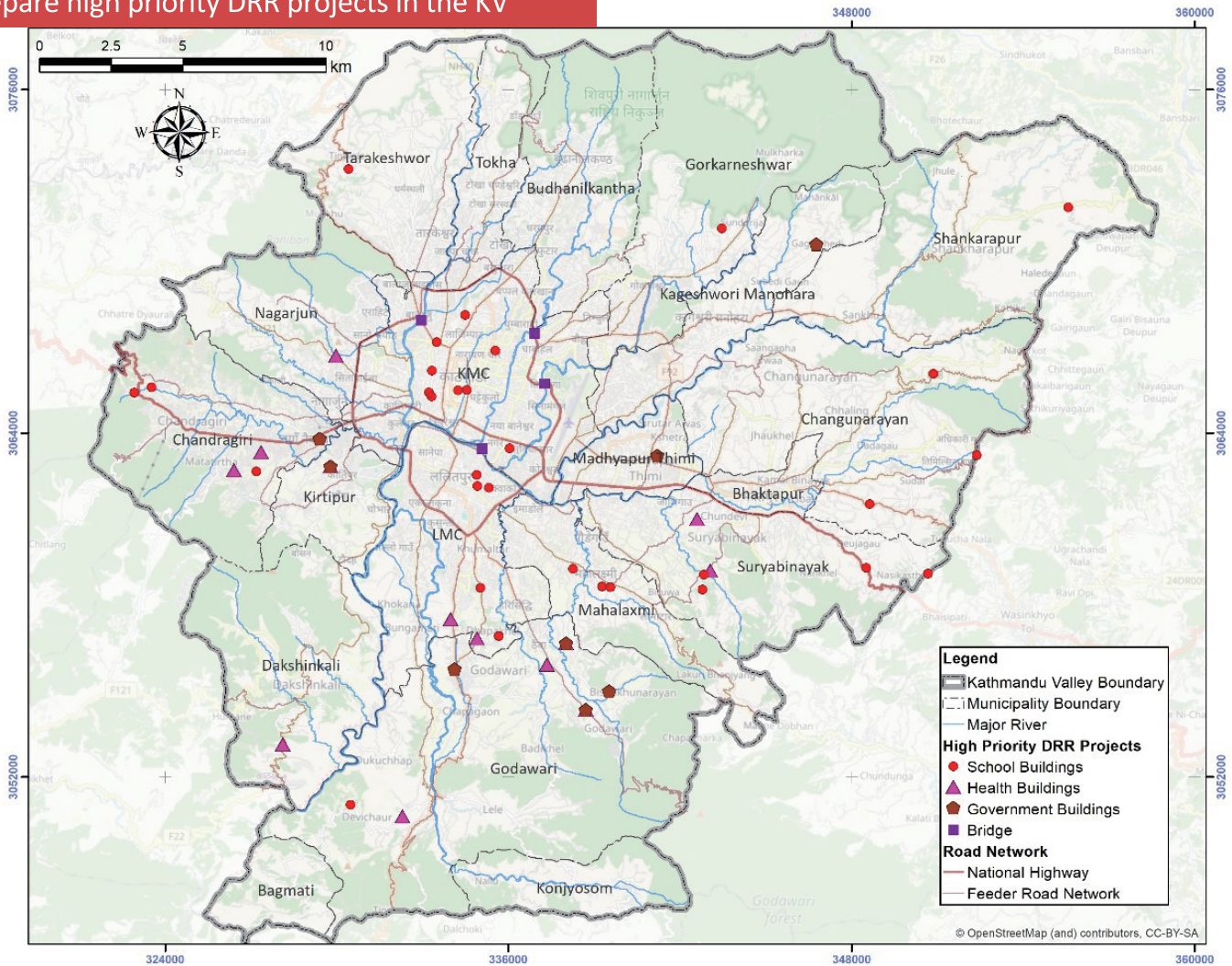
Currently, the NDRRMA and the JICA Expert Team are proceeding with the printing out of the guideline.



LDCRF Guideline

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.

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. Instead NDRRMA confirmed that some of the high priority DRR projects were planned to be implemented by the local governments by their own budget (13 projects are being planned/implemented in 7 LLs (FY 2023/2024 – 2024/2025)).

The high priority DRR projects were approved by the 21st Executive Committee on April 15, 2024. The high priority DRR projects will be introduced to other donors while consulting with NDRRMA, MoHA and MoF.

② Bridge

4 bridges have been recommended as the priority DRR projects from 145 candidate bridges in KV, which was listed and assessed its vulnerability against the future predicted earthquakes in the ERAKV by some criteria including 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 in Mar. 2022 and officially in Executive Committee chaired by the Home Minister on April 15, 2024. Following the approval of the high priority DRR projects, although NDRRMA with JICA expert team visited the DoR and MoPIT to promote the incorporation of the DRR project in the budget for the coming fiscal year, it was too late at the timing when the budget application by the ministry had been already completed. Accordingly, the NDRRMA and the JICA expert team started with an action plan for facilitating the incorporation of the DRR projects in next year's government budget.

3 Further Schedule

Workshops will be held for formulating the Local Disaster and Climate Resilience Framework soon.