1. Situation Update

The 46th General Assembly of Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) was held in Sindhuli district on 9-10 April 2017. More than 300 people including Central Executive Committee members, governance volunteers from 75 districts, key staff of NRCS and representatives from Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in-country partners had participated in the Assembly. The Assembly approved plan and budget of NRCS for 2074 (2017/18).

Likewise, second year commemoration of the devastating earthquake was marked in districts and headquarters through different activities on 25 April 2017. "Moving Mountain: the awakening" documentary about safer shelter construction was released along with press conference and photo exhibition.

Under earthquake response operation (ERO), significant progress has been made in shelter construction, drinking water supply schemes (DWSS) construction, toilet construction, health and hygiene promotion and livelihood support. Similarly, trainings and orientations were conducted to build capacity of community and NRCS staff and volunteers. Main objective all these interventions is to support the target communities to recover from the devastating earthquake and develop safer and resilient community. This report provides major progress of the operation as of 30 April 2017.

2. Sectorial Progress

2.1 Key Figures (Cumulative figures)

- 6,426 households received first tranche of shelter cash grants and 1,096 families received second tranche of shelter cash grants.
- 44 drinking water supply schemes completed.
- 986 families constructed household toilets.
- 67,554 people reached through sanitation and hygiene promotion activities.
- 10,475 families received cash grant for livelihood activities.
- 3,589 people benefited by cash for work activities.
2.2. Shelter
As of 30 April 2017, NRCS has supported 6,426 households with first tranche, 1,096 households with second tranche and four households with third and fourth tranches of shelter cash grants. VDC/municipality wise progress has been presented in chart 1.

NRCS plans to support 7,000 households for shelter construction in seven districts namely: Sindhupalchok, Ramechhap, Okhaldhunga, Sindhuli, Nuwakot, Makwanpur and Rasuwa.

NRCS had conducted a quick survey to know why the remaining families did not receive first tranche of cash grant. It was found that:
- Approximately, 30% of them had no ownership paper;
- About 20% house owners were out of country for employment
- Around 12% house owners faced problem because their name in citizenship card does not match with enrolment list for shelter grant

Following the shelter cash grant, 1,886 households completed construction of damp-proof course (DPC) band level and 613 households completed their house construction. While, more than 600 households are waiting for certification from Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC) for second tranche and more than 500 households for third tranche. It usually takes around 5-7 days for household to receive the cash grant for shelter construction in their bank account once the construction is certified by DUDBC and NRCS transfer the cash to bank. Because of this reason, 11 beneficiaries out of 1,221 certified by DUDBC for second tranche and 60 out of 177 certified by DUDBC for third tranche of shelter construction were not able to receive support in April.

2.3. Water and Sanitation
In April 2017, 20 DWSSs were completed, eight in Gorkha, five in Dolakha, two each in Kathmandu and Lalitpur and one each in Makwanpur, Dhading and Nuwakot district. Likewise, construction of 25 DWSSs is in progress, 16 in Gorkha, two each in Ramechhap Sindhuli and Nuwakot and one each in Makwanpur, Dhading and Kathmandu districts. The chart 2 shows district wise details. In addition, prefeasibility study of 17 DWSSs was completed in this month.

Similarly, a total of 153 households completed toilets in April 2017. Chart 3 shows district wise progress of toilet construction. Total number of toilet constructed in Sindhupalchok district is higher comparing to other districts as the district chapter had distributed toilet construction materials comparatively to more households than other districts in December 2016 and January.
2017. NRCS does not have shelter cash grant support in Nawalpur, Badegaun, Kunchok VDCs and Melemchi Municipality Ward No. 12 and 13. Also there is high demand of support for toilet construction. Therefore, the National Society has been

2.3. Health facilities
As of 30 April 2017, the four health posts of Sindhupalchok have provided health service to 1,423 people from the community. Chart 4 shows the number of people (disaggregated by sex) served by four health posts in Sindhupalchok district in April 2017.

In addition, two health posts of Dolakha were supported with basic health equipment such as weighing machine, height measuring tape, digital bold pressure measuring set, digital thermometer, foetus cope, timer for pneumonia and examination bed, mattress and water proof pillow. The objective of equipment support was to make primary health care and health post functional and effective in terms of health care delivery and services.

2.4. Livelihood
In April, a total of 1,596 families received support for livelihood activities. Number of families receiving support for livelihood interventions has been presented in chart 5. One member of each of these families had received training or orientation on selected livelihood activities such as livestock rearing, small enterprise development and agriculture.

The progress made by Bhaktapur chapter is significant in this month whereas it is moderate in other districts. It is because of first phase of local election and its code of conduct, Bhaktapur district chapter scale up the livelihood support distribution.

3. Trainings/orientations and Volunteer Mobilization

3.1. Trainings and orientations for community
In April, more than 80 orientations/trainings were conducted as part of capacity building of community in the programme area. Health remained the major sector with 40 trainings/orientations for 1,227 in Kavre, Nuwakot, Sindhuli, Bhaktapur and Makwanpur.

Similarly 11 events of livelihood support training were conducted in Okhaludunga, Kavre, Ramechhap, Rasuwa and Sindhuli districts. Purpose of the trainings/orientations is to capacitate community with livelihood skills which will contribute to improve their economic status. Likewise, 22 events of WASH related trainings were conducted for 692 people in Dhading, Gorkha and Bhaktapur districts to orient them on importance of sanitation and hygiene as well as proper utilization of resources to ensure sustainability of infrastructure such as DWSSs supported by Red Cross.
In addition, one event of two-day CBDRR refresher training was organized to train 22 people from nine community disaster management committees in Kavre district. The training focused on disaster risk reduction and their roles and strategies for disaster preparedness and response in the communities. Chart 6 provides summary of number of people trained/oriented in different sectors in different districts.

3.2. Training and orientations to NRCS staff and volunteers
In April, a total 130 staff and volunteers were oriented/trained as follows:

- A total of two events of first-aid trainings were conducted to 66 staff and volunteers of Nuwakot and Sindhuli districts. NRCS will mobilize the trained staff and volunteers to provide first-aid services in the community. In addition, one event of community-based health (CBH) training was conducted in Makwanpur for 24 staffs and volunteers. The trained staff and volunteers will also be mobilized to promote awareness related to pneumonia, diarrhoea, reproductive health and neo-natal care.
- Similarly, one event of 3-day epidemic control volunteer (ECV) training was conducted for 25 staff and volunteers in Okhaldunga district. The trained staff and volunteers will conduct epidemic control volunteer sessions in community.
- Likewise, one event of water quality test training was conducted for 15 staff and volunteers of Kavre district to provide knowledge on safe water and protection of water source, water testing methods, drinking water risk assessment, sanitary inspection of water scheme, remedy for contaminated water and Water safety plan. Chart 7 provides the summary of number of staff and volunteers trained/oriented in different sectors in different districts.

3.3. Volunteers mobilization
The NRCS has integrated recovery programme in 465 wards (communities). In the reporting period, 330 volunteers were mobilized for the delivery of service to the community. The most of the volunteers were engaged on shelter construction support as compared to the other sector.

4. District highlight
This section includes the district-wide highlights which had not been included in other sections.

Dolakha

- Sanitation and first aid materials were supported to four schools namely Lamanagi lower secondary school and Sundrawati lower secondary school of Suspa Chhamawati VDC and Balambu lower secondary school and Janajyoti secondary school of Lapilang VDC.
- A total of eight flex boards with health and hygiene message were installed in Suspa and Lapilang (4 in each VDC).
- Sanitation items such as dustbin and water filter were supported to VDC office Suspa Chhamawati and Lapilang VDCs. In addition 13 schools of the VDCs were supported with dustbin and seven dustbin were installed in public places including Dolakha bazar. Dustbins were supported in various places to promote proper waste disposal practices in the community.
- The log frame of Dolakha is being revisited.

Gorkha

- Completed 39 hand washing sessions reaching to 861 people including 661 female from the community. It is expected that with the cases diarrhoea and other preventable water borne diseases will decrease during the monsoon.
- Conducted 13 events of ward-WASH-coordination committee training with the participation of 214 W-WASH-CC members including 101 female members.
- Completed construction of 32 goat sheds in Harmi VDC. NRCS support was extended for shed construction. The families were selected through vulnerability assessment together with ward citizen forum and VDC.
- Completed construction of three model houses in Harmi, Thalajung and Shreenathkot VDCs.

Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur
- Distributed mother baby kit to 165 mothers who have child/children below one year in Kathmandu district (60 kits) and Lalitpur district (105 kits).
- Completed debris clearance of seven households of Bhaktapur district.
- Distributed 212 cooking stoves in Kathmandu district (159 in Nagarjun Municipality and 53 in Sankharapur municipality).
- Oriented 706 households of Lalitpur (646) and Bhaktapur (60) district on safer shelter construction and distributed Participatory Approach for Safer Shelter Awareness (PASSA) booklets to the same families.

Sindhupalchowk
- Conducted health and psychosocial support related sessions in schools and communities reaching out to 532 people from the community. These sessions were conducted by psychosocial support and community based health trained staff and volunteers in November 2016. In line with findings from home visits conducted by volunteers and focus group discussions conducted by district chapter survey, PSS was badly needed in the programme communities.
- Conducted one animal health camp held in Kunchok VDC. During the camp 4171 livestock of 289 households were benefitted from medical support and health check-up facility.

Dhading
- Altogether 14 waste bins (13 in Kalleri VDC and 1 in Katunje VDC) were constructed and installed in the community and schools as according to the need identified by Village-WASH-Coordination Committee mass meetings.
- Reached out to 576 people including 449 female (340 people including 261 female in Kalleri VDC and 236 people including 188 female in Katunje VDC) through hand washing demonstration/practice sessions in community and schools.
- Conducted 11 hygiene and sanitation classes in the community and schools of Kalleri VDC. A total of 310 including 208 female reached by the activities.

**Most Significant Change Story**

Livelihoods Support - Meat shop, Dharmasthali, Kathmandu district

Maila Maharjan 34, lives with his wife and 5-year-old son. In the earthquake Maila’s house was badly damaged and his son was seriously injured, suffering fractures to both legs. The family spent around three months in temporary shelter living under a tarpaulin. Traumatised by the earthquake, Maila struggled to find work.

Six months ago, the family rented a room and started their own business selling chicken meat. Every day Maila would sell around 10kg of meat – some days he could have sold more but he didn’t dare prepare more meat than he knew he could definitely sell; if meat went unsold at the end of the day he would have to throw it away, costing him money he could not afford to lose.

When Maila found out he had been selected to be included in the NRCS Livelihood Support Programme, he and his family began thinking about how they could spend the money to build their business. He attended an orientation about how to develop a business plan, which he felt was like holding a mirror up to his business. The training boosted his confidence to develop the business and, alongside the first tranche of the NRCS cash grant, Maila also took out a loan. With this money the family invested in their butchers shop, buying a refrigerator, a new chopping block, a crate to keep eggs in and other equipment. They began selling eggs and goat meat as well as chicken, and cleaned and decorated, putting up a big new sign which says Maila Cold Store above the shop.

While Maila used to only sell 10kg of meat each day, thanks to his new fridge and improved shop, he is now able to sell 25kg. Because the shop is cleaner and smarter more customers come to buy from Maila, and he can afford to gamble on how much meat he can sell in a day, thanks to the fridge he can keep any left-overs fresh for sale the following day.

**Why was the story selected as the most significant?**

- Investing in the fridge means that his increased income will be sustainable as he will continue to be able to store and sell more meat. We can already see the impact on the income generation of the beneficiary in his increased income.
- As he has purchased the freeze, the meat hygiene has also increased. This impacts the whole community.

**Collected by:**
Aakriti Basnet, social mobilizer,
Kathmandu district
Nuwakot, Makwanpur and Rasuwa

- Conducted two events of psychosocial support sessions in Thaha municipality reaching out to 39 people including 34 female from the community. In addition conducted eight events of community health awareness sessions reaching out to 80 people including 63 female from the community of Makwanpur district.
- Conducted community based health related household visit reaching out to 238 people from the community including 132 female.

Okhaldhunga, Ramechhap and Sindhuli

- Oriented 497 households of Ramechhap district on safer shelter construction and distributed ten key messages for safer shelter awareness booklets.
- Reached out to 972 people from the community of Ramechhap district with community based disease prevention and health awareness activities such as orientation on communicable disease, diarrhoea. These sessions were conducted social mobilizer and volunteers who were trained in ECV in April 2017.
- Completed construction of 20 goat sheds. As of 30 April 2017, a total of 126 goat sheds were constructed in the programme area of Ramechhap district.
- Conducted hygiene promotion activities such as soap distribution, hand washing, water purification, and community cleaning reaching out to 774 people including 543 female.
- Conducted hand washing campaign reaching out to 121 people from the community of Sindhuli district.
- Completed four hand washing demonstration sessions in Harkapur VDC and Siddhicharan Municipality Ward No.1 reaching out to 215 people including 88 female. In addition to that, two hoarding boards showcasing hand washing messages were installed at Prapcha and Harkapur VDCs.
- Provided first aid service to 42 people including 14 female in community by the Red Cross volunteers who were trained on first aid in November 2016.
- Conducted under 5 nutrition status screening on 365 children including 162 female to identify the status of stunting and wasting among children in Okhaldung district. The result shows that none of the screened children were suffering from either stunting or wasting.

Kavre

- A total of seven WASH related messages are being aired through Namobuddha FM, the local FM station. It is being aired as part of public service announcement, and early monsoon forecast from department of meteorology. Some of the messages are: critical times of hand washing, construction and proper use of toilet to prevent communicable disease. These messages are expected to raise awareness of community people on hand washing and proper use of toilets necessary for diarrhoeal disease prevention.
- Distributed 150 Kg of Tiosenti grass seeds to 453 households of Kharelthok VDC with an objective to improve the income generation activities for earthquake affected households.
- Conducted sanitation promotion activities such as community sanitation, cleaning of water sources and school sanitation reaching out to 1494 people including 482 female of Dolalghat and Kharelthok VDCs.
5. GESI and CEA

5.1. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

Gender equality and social inclusion is one of the cross cutting issues of Earthquake Response Operation. NRCS has implemented GESI guideline along with the implementation of child protection policy and anti-harassment policy. Following are the major activities completed in the month of April 2017.

- Orientation on NRCS GESI guideline was conducted for participants of NRCS General Assembly held in Sindhuli in April 2017. In addition to that, NRCS child protection and anti-harassment code of conducts were signed by approximately 300 participants and GESI pocket card were distributed to the same participants.
- Established revolving fund (Sathi Sahayog revolving fund) with NPR 1,00,000 at district level. It will be mobilized by district GESI committee in line with the revolving fund mobilization guideline. The fund can be used as loan for livelihood support for women, people with disability and senior citizen. In addition, grant support up to NPR 3,000 can be provided to the children of vulnerable families. Likewise, direct fund with the same name was also established with NPR 20,00,000 at headquarters.

5.2. Community Engagement and Accountability

Street drama, IEC materials dissemination and orientation

- Completed seven mural related to WASH in Kavre district with an objective to promote awareness on fire and its preventive measures, communicable disease and its preventive measures and water sanitation and hygiene awareness in the community
- Conducted five events of street drama in Lalitpur district to provide information about Red Cross and earthquake response operation activities and Pneumonia prevention messages to the community. Approximately 1,000 people from community had observed the drama events. At the end of each event, audience were allowed to provide feedback about the drama. It was found that majority of the audience enjoyed and understood content of the event.
- Conducted three events of KIOSK in Lalitpur district reaching out to 229 people including 149 female from the community. Information on sanitation and hygiene activities such as hand washing demonstration, and methods of water purification were disseminated along with information on earthquake response operation, Namaste Red Cross Hotline 1130.

Namaste Red Cross Hotline- 1130

In April, a total of 64 calls were received. Number of calls per sector has been provided in chart 8. The highest number of calls (14 calls) was about the enquiries related hotline service itself followed by the calls (10 calls) about Red Cross general enquiries such as job vacancies, and the least number of calls was about Red Cross health activities.

In relation to ERO activities, the most common enquiries were related to livelihoods and was mostly from Kathmandu and district shelter from Makwanpur district. In case of livelihood, majority of feedback were related to timing of cash grants and selection criteria, while for shelter the main issue was around when the second and third tranches of the grants would be distributed.
All of the 64 calls, mostly queries, received in Nameste Red Cross Hotline were resolved. The process of resolving queries includes; hotline team try to resolve the queries immediately and if they cannot, the team passes the question to respective sector and district. As soon as the hotline team were provided with answer, they will call back with answer.

Radio Programme
Three episodes of radio programme on reconstruction were aired through Red Cross Radio programme (Together for humanity) in April 2017.

Newspaper columns
Three inserts were about earthquake response operation in Annapurna post the national daily newspaper in April 2017.

Facebook Page Likes
The social media visitors of Nepal Red Cross Society page have increased by 5,000 in compared to the previous month. In the months of April 2017, total likes of NRCS page has reached to 140,000. Most popular post for April was Moving Mountain: The Awakening promotion reaching out to 566,704 people with 2,202 likes and 212 shares.

6. Our Partners


For more information about the report:
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