Earthquake Response Operation June 2017 update

1. Summary

Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) has been implementing Earthquake Response Operation (ERO) in coordination with Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners primarily targeting 14 of the worst affected districts by the devastating earthquake in 2015. Shelter, water sanitation and hygiene (WASH), health, livelihood and institutional capacity building (ICB) are the thematic components of the operation.

Major achievements of this month include construction of infrastructure (shelter, toilet, drinking water supply scheme-DWSS and irrigation canal), health service and awareness activities, hygiene promotion and livelihood support. Similarly, emphasis was provided in the cross cutting issues. Gender equality social inclusion (GESI) and gender based violence trainings were conducted. Toll free hotline service was continued and survey was conducted to assess why some of the households who received first tranche of cash grants has not started shelter construction.

This report provides major progress of the operation as of 30 June 2017.

2. Sectorial Progress

2.1 Key Figures (Cumulative figures)

- 6,535 families received first tranche of shelter cash grants and 1,710 families received second tranche of shelter cash grants.
- 62 drinking water supply schemes completed
- 1,170 families constructed household toilets
- 94,519 people reached through sanitation and hygiene promotion activities
- 12,175 families received livelihood support
- 3,759 people benefited by cash for work activities
2.2. Shelter
As of 30 June 2017, NRCS has supported a total of 6,635 households with first tranche, 1,710 households with second tranche and 328 households from Ramechhap, Sindhuli and Rasuwa districts received third tranche of shelter cash grants. VDC/municipality wide progress has been presented in chart 1.

Following the cash grant, 2,297 households have completed construction of damp-proof course (DPC) band level, and 1,199 families have completed the house construction. While 4,518 households are waiting for certification from Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC) for second tranche and more than 1,402 households for third tranche. NRCS plans to support 7,000 households for shelter construction in seven districts namely: Sindhupalchok, Ramechhap, Okhaldhunga, Sindhuli, Nuwakot, Makwanpur and Rasuwa. The graph clearly shows that there is a wide gap among the families receiving first instalment and number of families receiving second instalment of shelter support. NRCS has conducted a systematic survey in Sitalpati VDC of Sindhuli district to analyse the gap. In the reporting period, response of 329 respondents was analysed with following three questions:

- When do you plan to start construction?
- What are the main reasons for not starting the construction?
- Do you need any support?

A total of 75.08% of respondents stated that they will start the construction after a month where as 3.34% of respondents have no any plan to construct the house. Likewise, 49.85% of respondents stated that due to lack of masons and carpenters, they are not able to start construction yet, 44.38% have no family members to follow up construction and 41.34% stated that due to lack of enough water they are not able to start shelter construction. In terms of support needed, 44.77% stated the need of mason support, 40.43% stated the need of water management support and 38.91% stated the need of technical support from Red Cross.

2.3. Water and Sanitation
In June 2017, 14 DWSSs were completed in Nuwakot, Rasuwa, Makwanpur, Lalitpur, Dhading and Sindhupalchok districts. Likewise, construction of seven DWSSs is in progress; two in Bhaktapur, two in Ramechhap and three in Sindhupalchok districts. The chart 2 below shows district-wide details. In addition, prefeasibility study of four DWSSs was completed this
Likewise, 114 households constructed toilets in Kavre and Sindhupalchok districts. Chart 3 shows district-wise progress of toilet construction. Total number of toilet constructed in Sindhupalchok district is higher as compared to Kavre. Sindhupalchok district chapter have distributed toilet construction materials to 665 households in December 2016 and January 2017. In addition to that, in Nawalpur, Badegaun, Kunchok VDCs and Melemchi Municipality Ward No. 12 and 13, NRCS is not carrying out shelter support activity. Instead, NRCS is supporting toilet construction in Badegaun, kunchok, Nawalpur and Melemchi Municipality, Ward No. 12 and 13.

2.3. Health Facilities

In June, four health posts of Sindhupalchok have provided health service to 1,493 people from the community. Chart 4 shows the number of people (disaggregated by sex) served by four health posts in Sindhupalchok district in June 2017.

The chart shows that the number of female is comparatively higher than the number of male taking health services from health posts. One of the main reasons is that women are the one to receive health facilities regarding ante-natal and post-natal care and family planning services. In addition, according to health post in-charge of Banskharka VDC male migration for employment is fairly high as compare to female so the number of female in the VDC is higher than male.

2.4. Livelihood

In June 2017, a total of 1,249 families were supported with first instalment of livelihood support in Okhaldunga (113), Kavre (31), Lalitpur (830), and Kathmandu (275). Likewise, 632 families from Sindhuli, Rasuwa, Nuwakot and Kathmandu were provided with second instalment of livelihood support for livestock rearing, small enterprise and agriculture support. Number of families supported with livelihood interventions is given in chart 5.

The progress made by Lalitpur district chapter while distributing first instalment of livelihood support is significant in this reporting period in compare to other districts. It is due to the on-time cross verification of business plan submitted by the households and on-time coordination with government stakeholders and sub-chapters. As of 30 June 2017, a total of 923 identified beneficiaries from Kathmandu district have received livelihood support including 365 in June. Among which 275 have received second instalment of livelihood support. As of June 2017, a total of 245 households of Lachyang and Chaturale VDC of Nuwakot district have...
received first and second instalments of livelihood support including 130 in the reporting period. Similarly in Rasuwa, 235 families of Laherapauwa and Bhorle VDCs have received first and second instalment of livelihood support. In Sindhuli a total of 135 families have received first instalment of livelihood support, 27 households in December 2016 and 108 families in March 2017.

3. Training/orientations and Volunteer Mobilization

3.1. Trainings and orientations for community
During the reporting period, more than 50 orientations/ trainings were conducted as part of capacity building of community in programme area. Health remained the major sector with 32 events of orientations for 1,000 people in Kavre, Sindhuli, Ramechhap and Nuwakot districts. A total of 405 people from the community were reached out through 13 events of pneumonia and acute respiratory infection orientation in Kavre district. The orientations were conducted by Red Cross volunteers and female community health volunteers in each of the 27 wards of working VDCs of Kavre district.

Similarly, 13 events of water and sanitation related orientation/trainings were conducted for 390 people in Gorkha, Nuwakot, Sindhuli, Dhading and Kavre districts. A total of 209 water user committee members of Manakamana, Harmi and Mirkot VDCs were oriented on proper utilization of resources ensuring sustainability of Red Cross supported infrastructures such as drinking water supply schemes.

In addition, three trainings/orientations related to livelihood was conducted for 315 people of Rasuwa and Ramechhap districts. Purpose of the training/orientations is to capacitate community with livelihood skills which will contribute in to improve their economic status. 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 June 2017, total 188 staff and volunteers were oriented/ trained. Two events of first-aid training and two events of community based health training were conducted to 142 staff and volunteers of Nuwakot, Makwanpur, Lalitpur and Sindhupalchok districts. NRCS will mobilize the trained staff and volunteers to provide first-aid services and to conduct community based health sessions in the community.

Similarly, one event of community based psychological support facilitator's training was conducted for 18 staff and volunteer of Sindhupalchok district. One event of acute respiratory infection orientation was conducted in Kavre district for 20 staff and volunteers. The orientation was conducted based upon the need identified by the community people during focus group discussion conducted by Red Cross staff. In addition to that, eight Red Cross volunteers from Sindhuli district were oriented in communicable diseases. Following the training, the volunteers will conduct orientations on communicable diseases, mode of transmission and
preventive measures. Chart 7 provides summary of number of staff and volunteers trained/oriented in different sectors in different districts.

3.3. Volunteers mobilization
The NRCS has been implementing an integrated recovery programme in 465 wards (communities). In the reporting period, 210 volunteers were mobilized for the delivery of service to the community. Most of the volunteers were engaged on shelter construction.

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

Gorkha
- Conducted two animal health camps in Jaubari and Gankhu VDCs. During the camp, 938 livestock of 435 households were benefitted from medical support and health check-up facility. Red Cross is supporting to organize animal health camp for protection and improving livelihood target communities.
- Completed construction of three irrigation canals, two in Manakamana VDC and one in Bakrang VDC.

Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur
- Marked sanitation week reaching out to 621 people from Bhaktapur (200), Lalitpur (93) and Kathmandu (328). As part of celebration, hygiene promotion activities such as hand washing demonstration, oral rehydration solution preparation demonstration, and water purification methods and preventative measures on cholera and diarrhoea and cleaning campaigns were carried out.
- Oriented 18 staff and volunteers of Lalitpur district chapter on sanitation and hygiene. Following the orientation, they conducted 12 events of health and WASH awareness sessions reaching out to 537 people including 499 female from the community. Considering the fact of monsoon season and possibility of outbreak of water borne diseases, the sessions were conducted. At the end of the session, the participants were provided with five pieces of soap and oral rehydration solution.

Sindhupalchwok
- Reached out to:
  - 316 people of 168 households of programme area with safe motherhood, nutrition and WASH related messages.
  - 133 school students with menstrual hygiene sanitation messages while commemorating World Menstrual Hygiene Day.
  - 268 people including 164 female of programme area through injury awareness sessions. In the end of the sessions, the participants were provided with antiseptic liquid and medicated cotton.
  - 911 people including 529 female in community with hygiene promotion activity based upon application of participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation tools step 1-3.
- Conducted four animal health camp in Badegaun VDC. During the camp 4,859 livestock of 1,084 households were benefitted from medical support and health check-up facility. Red Cross is supporting to organize animal health camp for protection and strengthening of livelihood aspect of community.
- Visited 900 households with technical advice on shelter construction and 600 households with 10 key message on safe shelter construction.
Kavre

- Conducted 1-day Participatory Approach for Safe Shelter Awareness (PASSA) orientation reaching out to 485 people from Dolalghat and Kharelthok VDCs. The main purpose of the orientation was to relay the safe shelter construction messages to the people from the community.
- Completed construction of 76 household level toilets of Jyamdi Mandan and Dolalghat VDCs.
- As part of Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation implementation, 133 households of Jyamdi Mandan and Kharelthok VDCs constructed drying rack, 197 households of Kharelthok VDC constructed cloth drying rope, and 177 households constructed waste collection pit.
- Conducted 1-day awareness session relating to family planning, means, and its availability in local health facilities and with female community health volunteers. A total of 25 people from the community participated in the session.
- Conducted 1-day adolescent sexual and reproductive health orientation reaching out to 24 participants including social mobilizers, school teachers and volunteers. The trained teacher will be providing sessions on adolescent sexual and reproductive health among the school students of their respective schools.

Okhaldhunga, Ramechhap and Sindhuli

- Distributed toilet construction materials for 266 households.
- Conducted hand washing demonstration sessions at Rajya Laxmi Secondary school reaching out to 126 school students while celebrating national sanitation week of Okhaldunga district.
- Provided medical equipments such as oxygen concentrator (2 sets), needle destroyer (3 pieces), Pulse oximeter (4 pieces) electro-cardiogram (1 piece), glucometer (4 piece), ultrasound pocket fetal doppler (15 sets), ENT (1 set), endotracheal incubation (2 set), nebulizer machine (15 sets), domestic refrigerator (2 sets), neonatal photo therapy machine (1 set) to district hospital and Raniban primary healthcare centre.
- Provided first-aid services to 36 people including 21 female in the community by first aid trained Red Cross Volunteers of Okhaldunga district. Similarly, 23 people including 11 female of Ramechhap district were provided with first aid services for bleeding occurred during house construction and while conducting daily chores such as fodder collection and cooking.
- Conducted screening of 345 under 5 children of programme VDC of Okhaldunga district to identify malnutrition status. The screening shows that none of the screened children were malnourished.
- Installed nutrition demonstration corner in Shree Bhimeshwor Secondary School of Rampur VDC, Ramechhap district. The corner was basically set up to inform about macro and micro nutrient and it’s importance for overall development of body. Its theme was “Harek Baar Khana Char”, this encapsulate that each day a person have to consumed proper diet containing four nutrients, protein, carbohydrate, fat & vitamin.
- Reached out to 887 people including 588 female of programme area through community based disease prevention and health awareness sessions in Ramechhap district. A total of 30 sessions of proper nutrition, family planning, epidemic control and menstruation hygiene were conducted.
- Constructed six waste bins (two in community and four in schools) in Rampur VDC of Ramechhap district. The bins were constructed based upon the request made by VDC secretary and local leaders.
- Reached out to 551 people including 285 female through awareness sessions on water borne diseases and nutrition in Sittalpati VDC of Sindhuli district. The sessions were conducted by social mobilizers, school teachers and volunteers trained on community based health, first aid and epidemic control for volunteers.
- Distributed one water filter, 50 packets of ORS, 70 pieces of soap and 1 water purification banner to each of the eight school of Sittalpati VDC. The materials were distributed to improve the hygiene status of the school students.
- Conducted mushroom farming technique training to 15 people including six female from the programme VDC of Sindhuli district. The training aims to enhance their income generating activities through developing new skills and technique.

Nuwakot, Makwanpur and Rasuwa

- Distributed toilet construction materials to 370 households of Lachyang VDC of Nuwakot district.
- Provided stretchers to 95 female community health volunteers of eight VDCs of Nuwakot district.
• Handed over the outreach clinic materials to 10 health posts of Rasuwa (7) and Nuwakot (3) VDCs to operate the outreach clinic once a month to ensure accessible health service to the community people.
• Conducted four events of school sanitation and hygiene education sessions reaching out to 172 school students of four schools of Nuwakot district.
• All of the programme VDCs of Rasuwa were declared as fully immunized VDCs.
• Distributed school sanitation materials including dustbin, soap, broom and dust pan in five schools of Bhorle and Saramthali VDCs of Rasuwa district. The materials were distributed to promote sanitation and waste management in school premises.
• Provided 50 stretcher to 50 female community health volunteers of four programme VDCs, and one municipality of Makwanpur district.

Dhading
• Completed construction of two waste bins in two school of Kalleri VDC. The bins were constructed based upon the need identified through V-WASH-CC meeting.
• Conducted eight events of hand washing demonstration and practice sessions reaching out to 183 people including 121 female from the community at Kalleri VDC.
• Conducted four hand washing competition while commemorating national sanitation week. During the competition participants demonstrated how to wash hand in six steps and explained critical condition of hand washing with soap at Kalleri VDC. Altogether 174 people including 105 female reached by the events.
• Conducted 12 hygiene and sanitation classes in community and schools of Kalleri VDC to share knowledge regarding methods of oral rehydration solution preparation and water purification, need and importance of toilet, washing platform and utensil dryer along with to raise awareness on cause of diarrheal disease as well as hygiene promotion activities at individual and community level. A total of 328 including 241 female reached by the activities.
• Conducted four events of sanitation campaigns in community and school of Kalleri VDC an objective to sensitize people on importance of sanitation where participants collected the waste materials and disposed by classifying it. Altogether 228 people including 126 female were reached by the activity.
• Completed construction of washing platform in 15 households of Katunje VDC with the financial support from NRCS. With the construction of washing platform, community people can collect and manage the waste water from washing utensils and utilize it for kitchen garden.

5. GESI, CEA and PMER

5.1. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
• Conducted one event of 1-day Gender Inclusion and Child Protection orientation in Bhaktapur district. A total of 52 participants including district chapter and sub-chapter governance volunteer were oriented and took oath and signed in code of conduct of child protection and anti-harassment policy of Nepal Red Cross Society.
• Conducted community based integrated violence prevention training of trainer for 24 participants including headquarter staff and district chapter staff. Following the training, the participant will trained the district chapter staff and volunteers. Kavre district chapter have already conducted the training in the reporting period.
• Completed finalization and circulation of district level "Sathi Sahyog" revolving fund and central level "Sathi Sahayog special fund" in all of the 14 ERO districts. The fund 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.
• Translated, published and disseminated 500 pieces of "Minimum Standard Commitment to Gender and Diversity" in all of the ERO VDCs. In addition, it is planned to disseminate the book throughout the country.

5.2. Community Engagement and Accountability
Community engagement and accountability (CEA) is one of the three cross cutting issues of earthquake response operation. Components of CEA include toll free hotline facility, street drama, murals, IEC materials distribution through which community are engaged in programme activities.
Namaste Red Cross Hotline- 1130

In June, a total of 140 calls were received. Number of calls per sector has been provided in the chart 8. The highest number of calls (39 calls) was about the enquiries related hotline service itself and NRCS general information followed by the calls (20 calls) about shelter and 18 calls were about livelihood. In relation to ERO activities, the most common enquiries were related to shelter and was mostly from Sindhuli 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 about the second and third tranches of the grants would be distributed. All of the calls were from Gorkha district as livelihood support will be provided to selected households of programme area.

All of the 140 calls, mostly queries, received in Namaste 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 questions to respective sectors and district chapter. As soon as the hotline team were provided with answer, they call back with answer.

Street drama, Murals, IEC materials and orientation

- Distributed 163 pieces of Participatory Approach for Safe Shelter Awareness information communication and education materials in Jyamdi Mandan, Dolalghat and Kharlehtok VDCs.
- Provided 2,000 pieces of WASH related information communication and education materials to Kathmandu district, which will later be distributed to the people from the community.

Murals

With the objective of communicating community problems pictorially ‘Community Mural, Film and Art Workshop’ was conducted in ward 15 of Tarkeshwor Municipality of Kathmandu district on 25 - 27 June 2017.

Radio Programme

Two episodes of radio programme on livelihood and reconstruction, one episode of World Environment Day and one episode of World Blood Donor Day was aided through Red Cross radio programme: “Together for Humanity” in June 2017.

Newspaper columns

Three inserts were about earthquake response operation in Annapurna post; the national daily newspaper in May 2017.

Facebook Page Likes

The social media visitors of Nepal Red Cross Society page have increased by 864 in compared to the previous month. In June 2017, total likes of NRCS page has reached to 142,000. Most popular post for June was Red Cross Orientation for students of Sushama Koirala Memorial Nursing Campus reaching out to 13,932 people with 613 likes and 17 shares.
5.3 Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

- Conducted monitoring survey of 237 households of Changunarayan Municipality Ward No. 9 and 11. It was found that 236 households were eligible for second instalment. The remaining one household was found out to be involved in other activity than what was presented in business plan.

- Piloted shelter survey in Sindhuli district to assess why people have not started shelter construction after receiving first tranche of cash grants. Preliminary findings of the study have been presented under shelter section, page number 2 of this update.

6. Our Partners


For more information about the report:

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Nepal Red Cross Society