

ASIA SHELTER FORUM 2021

REPORT

25-27 November 2021

Kathmandu, Nepal



INTRODUCTION

ASIA SHELTER FORUM



The Asia Shelter Forum is an informal forum for exchange of ideas and lessons learned for humanitarian shelter & settlement practitioners in Asia and Pacific. The Forum is established with the objective of coordination, collaboration, learning and sharing of the experiences on the shelter sectors and to inform, provide updates on various on-going initiatives on shelter interventions in areas of disaster response, recovery, and preparedness to address particularly identified needs based on successes and lessons during implementation in the field.

In the previous Second Asia Shelter Forum that was held in Indonesia, the half day virtual workshop drew the attention of Government, international practitioners and donor agencies on the lessons and experience of recent disasters as well as the wider experience of shelter response in the region. The workshop was able to explore the best practices in achieving safe, adequate, dignified implementation of shelter programs that supports community engagement, community driven shelter initiatives and also for bringing global participants in an Asia Shelter Forum in April 2021.

Report by:



Copyright 2022. All rights reserved

The third Asia Shelter Forum was hosted by Nepal and was led by the HRRP for coordination with higher level officials and executives of Government of Nepal, delegates of international countries, authorities of multilateral, and bi-lateral donors, and the representatives of different I/NGOs within and outside the country.


The fourth ASF 2021 was concentrated on “Regional Learnings and Collaboration in Shelter and Settlements” and the discussion sessions were largely focused on shelter response mechanisms, shelter recovery needs and shelter management learnings across the Asia region. The emerging issues in long term shelter recovery of disaster impacted people were at the core of the discussions in fourth ASF 2021.



Get Involved!

Visit the ASF website
shelterforum.info/category/asia/

Like our Facebook page

 @asiashelterforum



25–27 November 2021
Kathmandu, Nepal

“ Documented lessons learned and way forward for the Asia Shelter Forum as the regional platform to exchange innovative and localized housing solutions. ”

Organizers:



Government of Nepal
Ministry of Home Affairs
National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority
Singha Durbar, Kathmandu, Nepal



Government of Nepal
Ministry of Urban Development
Singha Durbar, Kathmandu
Nepal

Supported by:



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Global Shelter Cluster
ShelterCluster.org
Coordinating Humanitarian Shelter

Organizing Committee Members:



February 2022

ASF 2021 Team Members

ASIA SHELTER FORUM 2021



Lead Facilitator & External Communication

1. Er. Minar Thapa Magar, HRRP

External Communication

1. Er. Reshma Shrestha, CRS
2. Er. Ranjan Dhungel, NSET

Internal Comm. & Government Coordination

1. Mr. Ruplal Aidi, HRRP
2. Mr. Rijan Gajurel, HRRP

Admin, Logistics & Operations

1. Mr. Rahul Pratap Singh, HRRP
2. Mr. Roshan Phuyal, CRS
3. Mr. Bibek Rai, HRRP
4. Mr. Sushil Subedi, CRS
5. Mr. Ram Maharjan, CRS
6. Ms. Suku Maya Tamang, HRRP

Technical Lead & Branding Supervision

1. Mr. Sachin Malego, HRRP

Communication and ICT Team

1. Mr. Yubaraj Bhandari, HRRP
2. Mr. Saujan Shrestha, CRS

Note Takers

1. Ms. Ambika Amatya, HRRP (Lead)
2. Ms. Arunima Rajkarnikar, CRS
3. Ms. Danu Darai, HRRP
4. Ms. Sabina Bhandari, HRRP
5. Mr. Keshab Shrestha, HRRP

Technical Associate & Supervision

1. Ms. Katherine Price, CRS

Organizing Committee Members

1. Ms. Katherine Price, CRS
2. Mr. Prajwal Acharya, IFRC
3. Mr. Manish Timsina, NRCS
4. Ms. Rachel Wolff, CARE
5. Mr. Nilkantha Acharya, CARE
6. Ms. Christy Stickney, Habitat for Humanity (HfH)
7. Mr. Yuban Malla, HfH
8. Mr. Sanjeev Hada, HfH
9. Mr. Rupendra Basnet, HfH
10. Ms. Ruchi Thapa, UN-IOM
11. Mr. Navin Dahal, UN-IOM
12. Mr. Arjun Bhattarai, NGO Federation
13. Mr. Triratna Bajracharya, NEA
14. Mr. Minar Thapa Magar, HRRP
15. Mr. Sachin Malego, HRRP
16. Mr. Ruplal Aidi, HRRP

Report Compilation

1. Ms. Ambika Amatya, HRRP

Design and Layout

1. Mr. Sachin Malego, HRRP

Abbreviations

ASF	Asia Shelter Forum
BBB	Build Back Better
BIPAD	Building Information Platform Against Disaster
CB	Caritas Bangladesh
CBA	Community-based Approaches
CBOs	Community-Based Organizations
CCCM	Camp Coordination and Camp Management
CoP	Community of Practice
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
CSEB	Compressed Stabilized Earth Blocks
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CVA	Cash and Voucher Assistance
DLPIUs	District level Project Implementation Unit
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DRRM	Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
FCDO	Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office
FY	Fiscal Year
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
GoN	Government of Nepal
GSC	Global Shelter Cluster
HfH	Habitat for Humanity
HRRP	Housing Recovery and Reconstruction Platform
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
ICNR	International Conference on Nepal's Reconstruction
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
MoFAGA	Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration
MoHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
MoUD	Ministry of Urban Development
MSDA	Monitor for Disaster Strategic Action Plans
NBC	Nepal Building Codes
NDRF	Nepal Disaster Resilient Framework
NDRRMA	National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority

Abbreviations

NEA	Nepal Engineers' Association
NEOC	National Emergency Operations Center
NFI	Non-Food Items
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NPC	National Planning Commission
NPDRR	National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
NPR	Nepali Rupees
NRA	National Reconstruction Authority
NRCS	Nepal Red Cross Society
NSC	Nepal Shelter Cluster
NSET	National Society for Earthquake Technology
NSHF	Nepal Shelter and Housing Forum
PDNA	Post-Disaster Needs Assessment
PDRF	Post-Disaster Recovery Framework
SAG	Strategic Advisory Group
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SCN	Shelter Cluster Nepal
SNFI	Shelter and Non-Food Items
UCPVA	Underlying Causes of Poverty and Vulnerability Analysis
UKAid	UK Aid Direct (funded by FCDO)
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	US Dollars
WB	World Bank

Table of Contents

1. Executive Summary	1
2. Introduction	3
2.1 Objectives	3
2.2 Program Brief of ASF 2021	4
3. Welcome and Inauguration Session	6
3.1 Welcome to Participants	6
3.2 Opening Ceremony	7
4. Remarks by Chief Guest and Special Guests	8
5. Key Thematic Sessions	13
5.1 Sustainable Solutions in Shelter	13
5.2 Recovery, Reconstruction and Resilience	22
5.3 Environment, Inclusion and Shelter Innovation	31
6. Key Panel Sessions	39
6.1 Global and Nepal Technical and Coordination Leaders	39
6.2 Government of Nepal Technical and Coordination Lead Agencies	42
6.3 Nepal Coordination Mechanisms	46
6.4 Capacity Strengthening of Local Organizations for Humanitarian Response	49
7. Featured Session	52
Lessons, Challenges and Future in Shelter Response and Recovery in Asia	
8. Key Presentations	58
8.1 NRA Nepal Post-Earthquake Recovery and Reconstruction	58
8.2 Regional Shelter Cluster Initiatives and Working Groups	60
9. Nepal Asia Shelter and Housing Forum 2021 Declaration and Commitment	63
10. Conceptualizing Nepal Shelter and Housing Forum	65
11. Closing Ceremony	67
11.1 Appreciation and Token of Love distribution by Chief Guest	67
11.2 Handover of ASF Responsibility from Gov. of Nepal to Gov. of Bangladesh 2022	68
11.3 Closing Remarks from Chief Executive of NDRRMA, Mr. Anil Pokhrel	69
12. Field Visits	72
13. Participant's Feedback and Reflection Analysis	74
ANNEXES	77
A. Questions and Answers (Q&A)	78
B. Feedback as received in Mentimeter	82
C. Budget Expenditure and Income Details	87
D. Schedule	88



#ASF2021

ASIA PACIFIC FORUM 2021
WELCOME TO ALL THE NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL DELEGATES & PARTICIPANTS
THIS WAY TO HIMALAYA HALL

ASIA PACIFIC FORUM 2021
WELCOME TO ALL THE NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL DELEGATES & PARTICIPANTS
THIS WAY TO HIMALAYA HALL





01

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Asia Shelter Forum (ASF) is a regional forum initiated by shelter practitioners in 2015 in Bangkok that aimed to localize the UK Shelter Forum, global annual shelter meetings, and other global shelter forums. ASF aims to improve coordination, collaboration, share learnings and best practices among countries in the Asia region by engaging governments, donors, development partners, shelter cluster mechanisms and humanitarian organizations and partners. ASF has followed the practice of forming an organizing committee within the designated host country comprising leadership from the concerned government ministry. The same practice was followed for ASF 2021. Funds were allocated using a pool funding mechanism among stakeholders through the organizing committee.

Nepal hosted the ASF 2021 meeting at Hotel Himalaya in Kathmandu from 25–27 November 2021, led jointly by the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) and the National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Authority (NDRRMA) on behalf of Government of Nepal (GoN) with the support of the ASF Organizing Committee, represented by Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Nepal, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), CARE Nepal, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Nepal Engineers' Association (NEA), Habitat for Humanity-International (HfH), NGO Federation of Nepal, and Housing Recovery and Reconstruction Platform (HRRP). HRRP acted as the Secretariat for ASF 2021. The ASF 2021 International Conference was supported by USAID, UKAid, Global Shelter Cluster and ASF Organizing Committee members. A pool fund of USD. 32,682.72/- was raised to organize a three-day international

conference with the theme “*Regional Learnings and Collaboration in Shelter and Settlements*” and sessions focused on shelter needs and related long-term impact on disaster-affected families.

Major points of discussion included: the learnings from 2015 Nepal earthquake housing reconstruction in Nepal, the shelter management learnings from Bangladesh on Rohingya refugees camp management, shelter response mechanisms applied in various disaster events in the Philippines, and global efforts in shelter and DRR localization. Overall, the emerging issues in long term shelter recovery of disaster impacted people were at the core of the discussions in ASF 2021. The five panel sessions comprising three key thematic technical parallel sessions included 21 presentations, which encouraged greater collaboration and coordination among shelter practitioners.

The plenary highlighted the need for a coordinator to fill the gap in bridging government efforts and the efforts of civil society and humanitarian actors. This role could be filled by the ASF. The panelists representing five countries in Asia (Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, Philippines, and Vietnam) suggested several mechanisms to respond post disaster, including an area-based approach to forward support in disaster response, synergetic involvement of government bodies from provincial to local levels in response and recovery, a commitment from governments to ensure housing for all affected people, and ensuring that reconstruction undergoes proper settlement and land use plans. A total of eighteen thematic parallel sessions were conducted using engaging, participatory methods. Speakers/Presenters shared research outcomes, case studies, best practices, challenges, and lessons learned focusing on earthquake reconstruction, recovery, capacity strengthening, localization, vulnerable beneficiaries, private engagements, social solutions, and technologies. Feedback was provided via Mentimeter surveys.

An emerging issue in shelter recovery was sustainable approaches to shelter recovery in early recovery of disaster impacted people. Points of emphasis included: to incorporate innovations in shelter, to promote the green shelter, to promote lessons learnt & collaborations, to apply the common learnings, and to strengthen housing and shelter community of practice. The assembled development practitioners influenced the attention of the government and its stakeholders by highlighting the need to work constructively and to use their influence to strengthen regional learnings.

Through the rigorous discussions undertaken during the first and second days of ASF 2021, shelter recovery practitioners from various development partner organizations and GoN demonstrated their commitment towards shelter emergency response and multi hazard housing recovery and resilience by strengthening collaboration to ensure safer and dignified shelter, settlement, and housing for affected families. Nepal Shelter and Housing Community of Practice will effectively coordinate with the GoN to ensure that local governments and communities are equipped with knowledge, systems, resources, and empowered to lead timely and appropriate responses. To achieve this goal, the assembled shelter practitioners and experts representing various countries of the Asia region agreed to meet at least annually, aiming to institutionalize engagement by scaling up on the existing coordination mechanisms.



02

INTRODUCTION

This report documents the proceedings of ASF 2021 International Conference organized during 2021 in Kathmandu, Nepal. This report includes the major highlights of the discussions and presentations during different thematic learning and sharing sessions, and the experience of experts, dignitaries in the forms of remarks and the final declaration. ASF is a regional forum initiated by shelter practitioners in 2015 in Bangkok that aimed to localize the UK Shelter Forum, global annual shelter meetings and other established shelter forums. The ASF aims to improve coordination, collaboration, share learnings and best practices among countries in the Asia region by engaging governments, donors, development partners, shelter cluster mechanisms and humanitarian organizations and partners.

2.1 Objectives

The primary objective of the ASF 2021 International Conference was to draw on the lessons and experiences of recent disasters and the wider experience of shelter response in the region. It aimed at exploring best practices in achieving safe, adequate, dignified shelter for disaster affected households with active community engagement.

The Regional event further aimed at featuring wider discussion on sustainability of longer-term shelter recovery and focuses on:

- i. Bringing together shelter and settlement practitioners across the Asia region for discussion and

way-forward on issues across the region, creating a strong network of shelter Community of Practice (CoP).

- ii. Sharing knowledge, experiences, and best practices in the shelter CoP at all levels (local, national, regional, and global level).
- iii. Advocating and promoting the formation of a National Shelter and Housing Platform (NSHP) in each country to bring about effective coordination mechanisms amongst various shelter practitioners and government agencies.
- iv. Supporting government Ministries to address shelter issues by providing strategic directions for shelter and settlement issues in the region for long-term ownership and sustainability.

2.2 Program Brief of ASF 2021

There were about **538** participants (**224** in-person, **314** virtual). Of the total in-person attendees, **22.3%** female and **77.7%** male participants attended the conference. Of total virtual attendees, **32.2%** female and **67.8%** male participants logged in from around the world in hybrid settings consisting of virtual participants (ZOOM and Facebook), following COVID-19 safety protocols. The ASF



2021 International Conference started with a welcome video message from ASF founders and ASF 2021 organizing committees on both days. Official inauguration of ASF 2021 was conducted by the Hon. Minister of MoUD Ms. **Ram Kumari Jhakri**. Hon. Minister Jhakri stated that the Government with the collaboration of provincial governments is helping the citizens with housing construction at different districts through the People's Housing Programme, thereby ensuring the right to housing of poor communities affected by multi-hazards. Sessions on the first day were chaired by Joint Secretaries of MoUD and NDRRMA respectively.

Video message by ASF Originators: <https://youtu.be/-TtZuf1a-D8>

Video message by ASF Organizing Committee: <https://youtu.be/YLZjFuf-kmM>

There were **five technical panel sessions** in the event:

- Global and Nepal Technical and Coordination Leaders
- Government of Nepal Technical and Coordination Lead Agencies
- Nepal Coordination Mechanisms
- Capacity Strengthening of Local Organizations for Humanitarian Response
- Lessons, Challenges and Future in Shelter Response and Recovery in Asia

The **three main thematic sessions** of the two-day event, during which best practices shared were:

- Sustainable Solutions in Shelter
- Recovery, Reconstruction and Resilience
- Environment, Inclusion and Shelter Innovation

The first day was regarded as National day during which technical panel sessions and parallel sessions on sharing best practices, lessons and challenges on shelter and settlement issues and interventions from Nepal were conducted.

Regional event of the second day was focused on discussing achievements across the Asia region and prioritized the sharing of shelter and settlement practices through presentations and group discussion sessions.



“ I call upon individual citizens to make humanity our common cause. Challenge your leaders to make decisions that uphold and safeguard people’s humanity. ”

- Ban Ki-moon
 United Nations Secretary-General
 From his report for the World Humanitarian Summit



03

WELCOME AND INAUGURATION SESSION

3.1 Welcome to Participants

On the first day of ASF 2021 International Conference, National Coordinator of HRRP, Er. **Minar Thapa Magar** shared warm greetings and graciously welcomed all the invited guests and participants including all invited esteemed guests and dignitaries from the Government of Nepal, Government of Bangladesh, Government of Indonesia, Government of Philippines, Government of Vietnam, delegates coming from all around Asia and the globe, distinguished participants from donors, participants from I/NGOs, participants who were present physically and virtually from all around the world, media personnel and staff at large for their participation in this hybrid model of the Fourth Asia Shelter Forum 2021.

The first day of ASF included four panel sessions and nine technical parallel sessions where the shelter practitioners jointly agreed on Nepal's commitment towards shelter and emergency response and multi-hazard housing recovery and resilience. On the second day of ASF, Joint Secretary of NDRRMA, Ms. **Anita Niraula** expressed warm greetings and



welcomed all invited shelter practitioners from the Asia region, all distinguished national and international participants joining physically and from online sources. Second day of ASF was regarded as the regional day which consisted of nine technical sessions in addition to regional government level panel discussion, which carried a message of documented lessons learned and a way forward to strengthen Nepal Shelter and Housing Community of Practice.

Key goals of ASF 2021 International Conference were stated as:

Goal Day 1: *To discuss emerging issues in shelter recovery issues, to find bright solutions and to promote lessons learnt & collaborations, strengthen housing and shelter community of practice.*

Goal Day 2: *To document lessons learned and provide a way forward for the ASF as the regional platform to exchange innovative and localized housing solutions is the goal of the second day.*

3.2 Opening ceremony

The conference was inaugurated by the Hon. Minister of MoUD Ms. **Ram Kumari Jhakri** by lighting the traditional lamp. As per Nepali culture and tradition, lighting of the lamp is the symbol of knowledge, which rules over darkness, and we bow to knowledge as the greatest wealth of existence.



A recorded video message delivered by concerned ASF 2021 Organizing Committee members was displayed as part of the welcome program. Through this message, the ASF Organizing Committee Members informed that ASF emerged firstly as a common platform in the Asia region a few years back which have now taken the shape of a regional platform to have open discussions with gathering of all concerned actors in the region. The motive of ASF is scaling up with an assembly of frontline team members active in disaster preparedness and shelter response across different humanitarian organizations. It is a regional group with a common agenda to talk about the difficulties and challenges in shelter recovery. The community of ASF is growing day by day; the forum has in fact gained interest from practitioners across the Asia region. Each year many have shown interest to participate in the forum, which has evolved into a valuable platform for regional collaboration and cross learning among practitioners in the region.





04

REMARKS BY CHIEF GUEST AND SPECIAL GUESTS

4.1 Opening Remarks by Special Guest, Deputy Director General of MoUD Er. Surendra Mohan Shrestha

Deputy Director General of MoUD Er. **Surendra Mohan Shrestha** shared his vote of thanks by requesting active participation in ASF International Conference by all the invited guests representing the concerned ministries of GoN, national and international dignitaries, donor representatives, participants from different I/NGOs, and other invited stakeholders. He encouraged participants to engage interactively in the discussions during these two days on various topics of safer housing solutions, best practices, lesson learned, innovative ideas and technical solutions to shelter recovery and resilience.



4.2 Remarks by Chief Guest, Hon. Minister of MoUD Ms. Ram Kumari Jhakri

The Hon. Minister of MoUD Ms. **Ram Kumari Jhakri** in her congratulatory remarks mentioned that the majority of attendees are looking forward to the interactive discussions about humanitarian response and

shelter approaches adopted in countries of the Asia region and expressed extreme hopes that through vibrant reflections over lessons learned and best practices, development practitioners in Nepal will capture breakthrough insights.

Hon. Minister Jhakri mentioned to the Forum that GoN is conscious about rehabilitation and recovery of disaster affected people. Therefore, through the People's Housing Program (*Janata Awas Karyekram*), since FY 2009-10, the government in collaboration with provincial governments has been helping the citizens for housing reconstruction in different districts. This will be enhanced throughout the country where shelter needs are critical for disaster affected people by implementing Right to Housing as a fundamental right as mentioned in the Constitution of Nepal 2015. Similarly, the Safe Citizens Shelter Program initiated in FY 2018-19 by MoUD has decided to increase the grant amount to NPR. 75,000/- citing that earlier scheduled NPR. 50,000/- was not adequate for replacement of thatched roof with zinc sheets. Also, through the Safe Citizens Shelter Program, partnership agreements have already been conducted with 11,300 out of 16,800 selected beneficiaries and this will be expanded to 35,000 more beneficiaries.

Through People's Housing Program, till now, more than 24,000 housing units have completed construction. Around 35,000 housing units are in the construction phase in several districts of seven provinces for which province governments has been provided grant approval authority from FY 2018-19. Integrated Settlement Development Program has also been effectively ongoing since FY 2019-20 to safeguard lives and properties of communities that are vulnerable to multi-hazards and displacement. Hon. Minister Jhakri added that a series of program activities will be designed to promote safer construction practices and safe relocation of disadvantaged & marginalized communities. Furthermore, the 15th Plan of the National Planning Commission (NPC) has formulated work plans to design new cities with the motive of inclusive and safer communities. Hon. Minister Jhakri applauded that through ASF 2021, GoN wants to assure that we are equally committed to safeguard housing rights of poor people and has envisioned safer cities and homes & communities in the manifesto as well.

4.3 Remarks by Special Guest, Chief Executive of NRA, Er. Sushil Gyewali

Er. **Sushil Gyewali** stated through ASF in Asia Region, NRA has been able to capture insights of learnings and has replicated them into our local national context. This forum has imparted confidence among like-minded practitioners in shelter reconstruction and recovery. Asia is home to



many kinds of disasters; therefore, careful planning is required for provision of housing needs and housing rights as basic needs. Housing is the fundamental right of the people and Constitution of Nepal 2015 has ensured the provision of housing to its citizens. We need to design special legal, institutional, and regulatory frameworks, and special nationwide programs to institutionalize provision of housing rights to every citizen of the country. Through engagement of all 3 levels of government this provision can be made successful.

Time has come to reflect on the accomplishments of the housing reconstruction and settlements program that were launched in the past 6 years by NRA. Vigorous learnings have been achieved over the past six years, with success of more than 700,000 houses being reconstructed using owner-driven models. Out of 18,000 vulnerable beneficiaries, 14,000 have received their 3rd tranche and have returned to their reconstructed homes safely. Similarly, landlessness issues of more than 12,000 beneficiaries have been solved by providing land and safe housing through relocation. Innovative initiatives of integrated settlements were adopted.

Owner-driven shelter reconstruction approach, engagement of local people in reconstruction user committees, grievances handling mechanisms through appellate court, engagement of elected local bodies in reconstruction, recruitment of more than 3,000 technical engineers and training of large number of masons with skill-based training on resilient building construction initiatives are the results of integrated housing program. Documentation of learnings of NRA's reconstruction programs has been published through various publication sources nationally and internationally. On the verge of exit, NRA is handing over its responsibilities and knowledge bank to concerned ministries and departments. NRA is going to review and reflect on the learnings and accomplishments through the International Conference on Nepal's Reconstruction (ICNR) 2021 in December. NRA in cooperation with NDRRMA is supporting to formulate Nepal Disaster Resilient Framework (NDRF) 2030 which will remain instrumental in envisioning Nepal Disaster Board.

4.4 Remarks by Special Guest and Chief Executive of NDRRMA, Mr. Anil Pokhrel

Chief Executive of NDRRMA Mr. **Anil Pokhrel** proudly stated that NDRRMA jointly with MoUD has undertaken an honorable opportunity to host Asia Shelter Forum International Conference 2021 in Nepal and have become part of this global family in the endeavor of ensuring safe, dignified, and cost-effective shelter and settlement solutions for



the people we serve. Countries in the Asia Pacific regions face multiple disasters that affect the lives and livelihoods of millions of people. Nepal also has experienced many kinds of natural hazards; monsoon floods, and landslides are very common, as well as earthquakes. The GoN has established NDRRMA in

consideration of the importance of disaster risk reduction management, which can only be done through effective collaboration and coordination with federal, provincial, and local governments including partners and donors. Since its establishment, NDRRMA has been trying to encompass all the stakeholders for joint efforts to address the multi-hazard risk reduction in Nepal. It is high time that every government needs to think of mitigating disaster risks through application of sustainable policies and strategies, contributing to strengthening the resilience of the people.

Several remarkable examples were set by NRA through formulation of Nepal's housing recovery policies in terms of reconstruction and retrofitting, land purchase, vulnerable support policies etc., which were able to set standards for reconstruction stakeholders including the housing beneficiaries - thereby improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the recovery process and recovery outcomes. NDRRMA has taken learnings from NRA to develop a housing grant policy for monsoon and fire affected victims. The collaborations and meaningful engagements through these kinds of regional platforms will strengthen partnerships among all interested stakeholders and agencies in channeling common and joint efforts for disaster preparedness, response, and reduction of losses during the crisis.

4.5 Closing Remarks by Session Chair and Joint Secretary of MoUD Er. Ram Chandra Dangal

On behalf of MoUD, Session Chair and Joint Secretary of MoUD Er. **Ram Chandra Dangal** in his closing remarks of the inauguration session thanked the gracious presence of the Chief Guest and participants from around the world, from government, and from development sectors for the cause of disaster and shelter response. Er. Ram Chandra Dangal highlighted The Article 37 (1) of the Constitution of Nepal, 2015 and The Right to Housing Act, 2018 that earnestly mentioned Right to Housing is a fundamental right and says that every citizen shall have the right to appropriate housing, and such right shall be respected, protected, and fulfilled. Er. Ram Chandra Dangal further added the theme of day 1st ASF's focuses on "**To strengthen Nepal Shelter and Housing Community of Practice**" is appropriate in the current context of Nepal. The 15th five-year plan of Nepal has set different goals for the Housing and Shelter development work. To fulfil the goals, MoUD has been implementing different programs such as the Safe Citizen Housing Program, Public Housing Program, Integrated Settlement Development Program and Joint Housing programs in different parts of Nepal.



The Acts and Laws of housing and shelter development of Nepal have a good deal of provisions that empower the local bodies to take steps in achieving the cherished goals. The federal and provincial governments are required to allocate budgets and arrange human resources, in negotiation with federal governments, that is required to enforce the provisions with all other associated services in hand, while

the responsibility to implement the law lies on local bodies. Globally, the right to adequate housing has been recognized as a sacrosanct human right in scores of legally binding human rights instruments. In this context, the interactions arranged by the ASF in association with different government and non-government agencies of the Asia region will be able to set a milestone of practices to enforce housing rights of the needy people, most primarily of disaster affected one. Er. Ram Chandra Dangal expressed hope that housing and shelter development work of Nepal will run smoothly in joint co-operation by tackling situations of COVID-19 pandemic.



“ We need innovation in humanitarian and development action. Humanitarian needs will shrink decisively when and where more sustainable development is achieved. ”

– Helen Clark
Administrator
UN Development Programme



05

KEY THEMATIC SESSIONS

5.1 Sustainable Solutions in Shelter

Six parallel discussion sessions were conducted by experts and teams from various development partners domestically and across the Asia region. The objective of this session was to interact regarding experiences and success stories in forwarding sustainable solutions in shelter such as localized practices of addressing multi-hazard shelter and settlements response across Nepal and the Asia region.

5.1.1 National Perspectives: Capacity Strengthening of Local Organizations for Humanitarian Response



<https://bit.ly/36mJsOL>



<https://youtu.be/H0Roj2GtNd0>

This parallel session discussed best practices of capacity strengthening of the local organizations for humanitarian response and shed light on strategic recommendations for strengthening localization efforts for disaster management initiatives. Mr. **Prajwal Acharya** from IFRC, Mr. **Arjun Bhattarai** from NGO Federation, Mr. **Anup Pokharel** from CARE Nepal



and Ms. **Pramila Subedi** from START Fund together facilitated the session. Participants were divided into four groups to brainstorm over **four pillars** of humanitarian response including **partnership, capacity strengthening, financing/resource mobilization, and coordination & linkages**.



The group discussions tracked out its best practices, areas for improvement and appropriate future strategies on the four pillars. Four groups discussed and made recommendations on partnership as working with network-based organizations to reach the communities and utilizing the local capacity through headstrong strategic partnership for boosting locally led responses. Improvement in governance, amendments of donor compliances, and feasibility of budget on overhead operations were recommended for enhancing partnerships with the local organizations. On the Capacity Strengthening pillar, the discussions underscored interventions by local organizations with the local governments, thereby updating their capacities. Institutional development strategies for improving internal governance, social inclusion of internal staff, archiving information management processes for retaining knowledge, optimization of local skills, alignment with national plans, and development of financial strategies to cover operational costs were recommended for building capacities in local organizations. The Financing/Resource Mobilization pillar group discussed the provision of staff funds for locally led funding. Provision of 25% direct fund support by donor towards local partners was recommended through initiatives by INGOs. Government funding support to local NGOs was regarded as an appropriate strategy for the future, to assure resource mobilization. Pillar of Coordination and Linkages focused on scaling up robust linkages among local, national, and international levels including civil society strengthening for improved influence and responses.



Overall, the key takeaway messages from this group work focused on building strategic partnerships with local organizations and local governments for knowledge and technical partnership, developing internal governance mechanisms for local organizations, capacity enhancement through information management, guidelines and orientations for knowledge retention, establishment of funding mechanism, budget allocation for program and operations, and mainstreaming of DRRM in all plans and programs.

5.1.2 International Perspectives: Capacity Strengthening of Local Organizations for Humanitarian Response



<https://bit.ly/3CLjHDA>



<https://youtu.be/pGDA8FfR3FQ>

The objective of this session was to understand the opportunities and barriers for national staff and organizations to increase leadership in humanitarian response. Mr. **Meshba Uddin Ahmed**, Caritas Bangladesh (CB) facilitated the session supported by Er. **Ranjan Dhungel**, HRRP and Mr. **Deni Kurniawan**, Human Initiatives, Indonesia. Mr. Deni presented the accomplishments of Human Initiatives, Indonesia, which has a strong history of supporting local disaster affected people in Indonesia and with advancements in capacity has supported other international organizations, donors, and countries in humanitarian response.



Best Practices: Human Initiatives, Indonesia

Human Initiatives is a not-for-profit national NGO, headquartered in Jakarta, Indonesia, started in 1999, operating locally with limited knowledge and capacity in humanitarian response activities in Indonesia. Around 2004, realizing its potential, the organization became more organized and continued to strengthen its capacities, and partnerships with local, national and international donors. Since 2010, the organization started expanding its operations to support other international organizations, donors and countries in humanitarian response. It has managed to extend support to other countries like Somalia, Nepal, Philippines, and Myanmar.

The milestones achieved by Human Initiatives is one of the exemplary efforts of local organizations contributing internationally. Human Initiatives has 3 principled programs pillars: Disaster management; Community empowerment; and Children. It has a partnership with CRS in the Homes and Communities (H&C) Project. Human Initiatives set other milestones by establishing shelter standards for vulnerable children and safeguarding policy applicable for Human Initiatives and other local stakeholders. It also promoted revised policy documents of shelter with H&C approaches and conducted several webinar series on H&C initiatives. From promotion of build back safer practices at the community level to rolling out trainings to other local actors for enhanced diffusion and adoption, Human Initiatives has gained trust in Indonesia as a professional national organization in humanitarian response.

Mr. **Mohamed Hilmi**, Senior Technical Advisor, InterAction Sri Lanka, mentioned that there is an optimum need to develop effective and principled response leadership and coordination among local and national organizations, local governments, and regional collaborations. Examples set by Human Initiatives are showing the way forward for locally led responses. Improved networks, communication, sharing lessons, financial, technical, and human resources are essential. There are opportunities to develop a regional platform where capacity enhancement training and local coordination can be discussed, shared and implemented. The key takeaway message of the session emphasized that the national stakeholders should take strong leadership, take influential roles and build local strategies, and focus on capacity strengthening of local organizations in preparedness, response, and recovery.

5.1.3 Engagement of Private Sectors in Response and Recovery



<https://bit.ly/3i890SI>



<https://youtu.be/tzrzglwsORU>

The objective of this session was to discuss how the government, INGOs and private sector build a model that can effectively respond to humanitarian response. The session was led by Mr. **Bjorn**

Soderberg, Build Up Nepal Engineering and presentations were shared by Er. **Suresh Kawan**, Gorkha Eco Panel and Mr. **Jeevan Adhikari**, Kalyani Construction and CSEB (Compressed Stabilized Earth Blocks) industries Pvt. Ltd.

Er. Kawan explained that Gorkha Eco Panel is manufactured by International Green Developers Nepal Pvt. Ltd., since 2014, an ISO 9001:2015 certified company. Gorkha Eco Panel is expandable polystyrene and cement based lightweight prefabricated sandwich panel which has both physical benefits of light weight, earthquake, fire, termite, water resistant material. This eco panel was widely utilized in reconstruction work after the Gorkha earthquake, especially in school and government buildings where quick construction was required. The technology is eco-friendly and energy efficient. Its carbon emission is 10 times lower during production than that of bricks.

Mr. Adhikari, owner of Kalyani Construction and CSEB Industries Pvt. Ltd. shared that his enterprise was established to support vulnerable people affected by the 2015 Gorkha earthquake, to build cheap and beautiful houses and provide awareness and employment to local people. Kalyani Construction and CSEB Industries has created a sub-contractor group and conducted construction training for



them, cross-sharing visits and provided technical support and linkages with local government bodies. Using CSEB technology, the enterprise has built 300 houses and constructed 5 commercial buildings, 2 restaurants, 1 birthing center, 15 women group community buildings, and 11 residential RCC structures.

The session on private sector engagement imparted a thought-provoking message on success of engaging local enterprises and entrepreneurs through the promotion of alternative and environmentally friendly technologies. Production of CSEB is more effective in Nepal in comparison to other countries, where the technology was used at individual level

Best Practices: Build Up Model

Build Up Nepal is a social business that promotes building housing that is low-cost, disaster resistant, eco-friendly and creates jobs locally. Working for 6 years, Build Up Nepal has now partnered with almost 292 enterprises/communities, built 6,100 houses, created 2,600 jobs and saved 27,600 tons of carbon dioxide till now. Build Up Model has been set up to support interested entrepreneurs. Support commences with buying machines. Training is provided on making CSEB, conducting lab tests for ensuring quality control, training of local masons, engineers, and business skills. Proven results are earthquake resistant houses for the vulnerable, lower construction cost, financially sustainable enterprises, new jobs and economic development, and reduced carbon dioxide emissions. Build Up Nepal has found the production of CSEB more effective in Nepal in comparison to other countries, where the technology was used at an individual level.

5.1.4 Retrofitting for Improved Resilient Structure and achievements in retrofitting during 2015 reconstruction work



<https://bit.ly/3u0JbsW>



<https://youtu.be/oremfIXuCWA>

The objectives of this session were to provide a brief overview on the importance of retrofitting for improved resilient structures and the achievements

in retrofitting during 2015 reconstruction work. The session was led by Dr. **Ramesh Guragain**, NSET by involving noted experts as panel members while Mr. **Bipin Kumar Gautam**, DUDBC, CLPIU (Building & Housing) conducted the presentation.



The subsequent panel discussions focused on the fact that retrofitting of the houses increases the seismic resilience of the buildings and therefore the technology must be expanded beyond earthquake affected districts to achieve larger coverage of achievements. Ms. **Liva Shrestha**, Build Change Nepal stated that incremental retrofitting is affordable, and it can prevent the collapse of buildings by conducting retrofitting of the critical part of the building first. Ready to use simple design on retrofitting can be accepted by many

willing rural households. It needs to be backed by a systematic supply chain of retrofitting materials to address the increased price of materials. Mr. **Ranjan Dhungel**, HRRP shared that the untrained human resources and difficulty perceived in convincing the house owners on retrofitting remained the biggest challenge, the success of which lies in the effectiveness of social mobilizers while market intervention is necessary to make the retrofitting



materials available. Ar. **Rajesh Thapa**, SONA added that maintaining the originality of the traditional building and preserving the original material should be the prime factor of the retrofitting process. Prof. Dr. **Gokarna Bahadur Motra**, IOE stated, offered a possibility of developing retrofitting as a core course in the curriculum of bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering in order to have abundant supply of equipped technical forces.

Best Practices: Retrofitting as solution to increase seismic resilience of buildings

NRA-CLPIU Building and Housing undertook retrofitting initiatives that led to the identification of 78,033 earthquake affected households in the retrofitting category which was later reduced to 47,906 (due to provision of change in beneficiary from retrofitting to reconstruction). So far 2,230 private houses have been retrofitted among which majority are rural buildings with low strength masonry buildings. NRA has garnered huge milestones on retrofitting of historical buildings like Singh Durbar, Hanumandhoka Gaddhi Baithak, Kaiser Mahal, Babarmahal, etc.. NRA has developed technical guidelines and norms on seismic retrofitting through which human resources like masons and engineers have been trained. Retrofitting is a technical solution towards risk reduction of buildings and promising mitigation measures against future disaster. Despite exciting achievements, limited risk awareness among house owners is still prevalent with lower grants for retrofitting provided by the government as compared to reconstruction. The existing documents and guidelines are inadequate to scale up retrofitting while comprehensive awareness and campaign at all levels is necessary to promote retrofitting.

5.1.5 Multi-hazard Shelter and Settlements Response



<https://bit.ly/3q8Y7E2>



<https://youtu.be/g1YOcqIRjIE>

The session included sharing of experiences and best practices in responding and mitigating multi-hazard in shelter and settlement sectors and to analyze the current response mechanism, strategies, and approaches. Facilitation of this session was led by Mr. **Ariel Sadural**, CRS Philippines along with Ms.



Urmi Das, IFRC Bangladesh, and Ms. **Kimberly Go Tain**, IOM Philippines. Four presenters shared their findings from the programs implemented across the Asia region. Ms. **Karolina Brach**, IOM Bangladesh; Ms. **Nguyen Thi**, CRS Vietnam; Mr. **James Glenn G Evangelista**, IOM Philippines and Mr. **Jose Da Costa**, CARE International Timor Leste.



Ms. Brach shared learning and best practices from the shelter and settlement preparedness programs to resist monsoon in the Rohingya Refugees Camp in Bangladesh. Shelters are exposed to cyclic monsoons and face risks of floods, landslides, fire, and cyclones every year in the Rohingya Camps, leading to efforts annually to ensure shelters are ready to withstand monsoon and wind. Site safety schemes with slope protection and retention walls, roof tie down, bracing, and flooring safety schemes of slope elevation, proper drainage with use of sand and cement were adopted in the camp to ensure the safety of shelters but better solutions are still being sought. To ensure strong bamboo connection in shelters, metal nuts were used that allowed tightening of joints and are more durable than dowels.

Ms. Nguyen on behalf of the National Shelter Working Group shared the key highlights from Shelter Response in 2020 Central Flood in Vietnam. A total of 211 houses were reconstructed and 5,325 houses were repaired as part of the Shelter Response program by eight humanitarian agencies through financial and in-kind support. The presentation focused on the identified good practices, lesson learnt, e.g., need a paradigm shift from single risk approach to intersected risk approach (climate impact, natural disasters, epidemics), as well as recommendations from Shelter Working Group to the i) national agencies, ii) sub-national agencies, iii) international humanitarian actors, and iv) local humanitarian actors to inform the way forward in the coming time for Vietnam's emergency response in the shelter sector.

Mr. James discussed a 3-stage process in disaster shelter response including emergency, transitional and temporary shelters. Despite challenges of space availability, accessibility, funds and cultural context, the multi-hazard response program in the Philippines has garnered success by coordinating with Barangays government and involving affected communities.

The presentation by Mr. Jose focused on the findings of community driven shelter approaches in Timor-Leste Flood Response of 2021. Gender shelter assessments were taken as complementary assessment and part of program strategy whereby supporting families with top up materials and cash support and awareness on future disaster.

The sharing by four speakers emphasized major consideration over engaging communities for their mutually accepted designs in shelter response and recovery. For wider community acceptance and

sustainability, community-led construction should be promoted by engaging people in action planning and participatory budgeting. Best practices are perceived through the sound coordination forwarded among national, sub-national government agencies and development partners.

5.1.6 Cash-based Shelter Solution and Housing Finance



<https://bit.ly/3qWA3vh>



<https://youtu.be/UYFUB93JTrA>



The objective of this session was to highlight best practices, lessons learnt and challenges from housing finance and cash based programmatic areas. The discussions were focused on unpacking the various initiatives and procedural aspects of cash-based interventions for earthquake- and disaster-affected communities in the Asia region. Mr. **Sanjeev Hada**, Habitat for Humanity, Asia facilitated the session while Mr. **John Rezel Day** from CRS Philippines was the co-lead.

Mr. **Saiful Islam**, IOM Bangladesh gave an overview on the challenges and opportunities of engaging women in cash for work. Women comprise the majority of extremely vulnerable individuals and have inadequate opportunities to generate income. Realizing the various risks of involving women in cash programming, IOM Bangladesh adopted several approaches to reduce risk in order to gain the scheduled outcomes. Key community leaders were reached in the community for community awareness of involving women in cash programs. Training packages were developed by involving women-only groups and by avoiding male supervision while suitable activities were proposed that women can undertake in their homes or in nearby locations to their community.

Mr. **Sunil Khanal** from Habitat for Humanity Nepal shared the key highlights of their research study and programming effort in the housing microfinance sector, which is regarded as an opportunity to uplift the living standard of low-income families in Nepal. The study indicated the need for appropriate and affordable housing loans targeted to low-income families in which microfinance institutions hold opportunities to offer group guarantee-based loans as well as collateral-based loans to low-income and vulnerable families. So far, people are accessing housing microfinance loans which are mainly utilized for home repairs, new construction, tube-well/water installation, toilet construction, purchase of homestead land and for electricity installation.

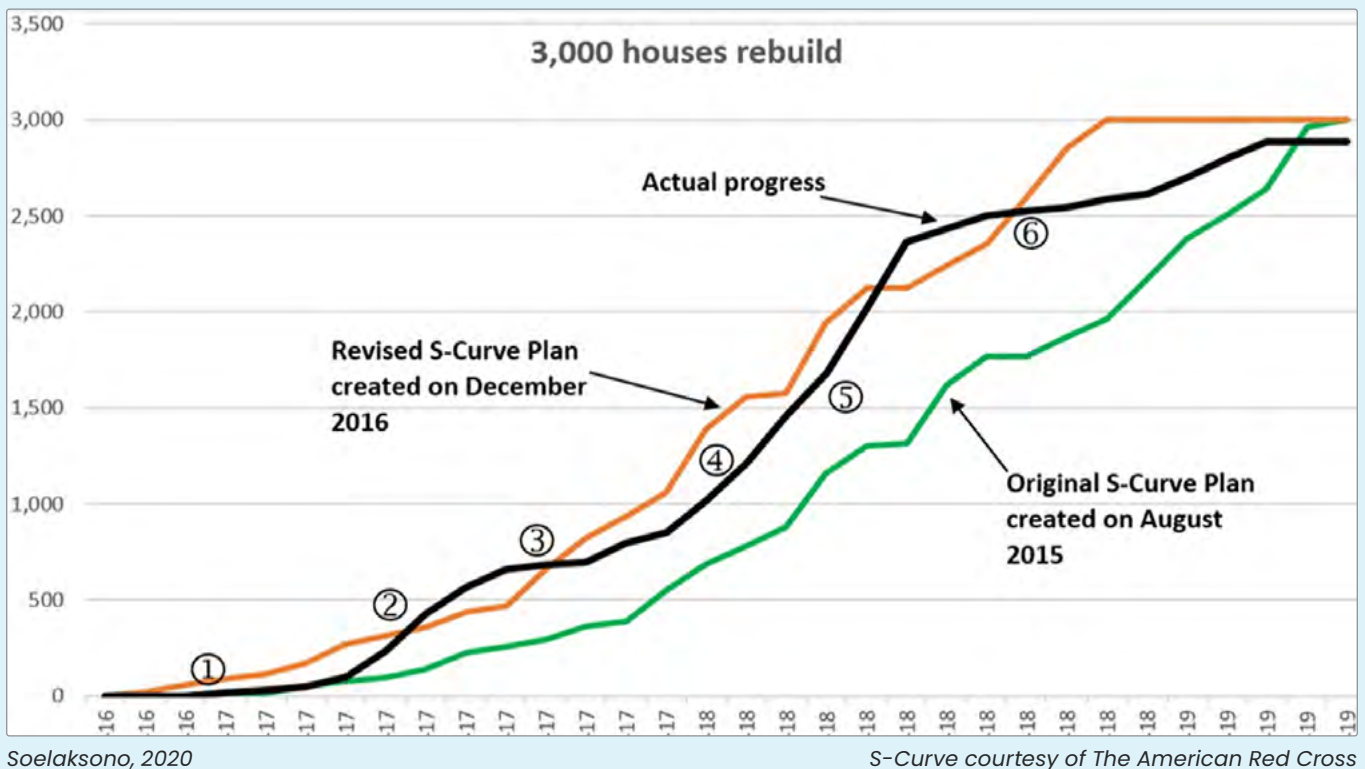
Ms. **Juncel Jamila**, from Philippines Red Cross shared the collaborative experience of three best practices from cash-based interventions in shelter programming. The mentioned best practices were: importance of Barangay Recovery Committee in the community and cash transfer programming; linking shelter programming with livelihoods programming through cash for work; and partnering with local suppliers

and service providers. In the past 15 years, Philippines Red Cross has managed to conduct 23 Shelter Operations using cash transfer programming with a total of 85,466 houses repaired and built through shelter cash transfers. Also, 37 Chapters have successfully trained more than 20 staff and more than 400

Case Study

Mr. Arwin Soelaksono, Humanitarian Shelter and Settlements Practitioner based in Indonesia shared the findings of a research study on ‘Ecosystem of Safer Housing Recovery with Cash Transfer Programming (CTP) Support’. According to the study, CTP has proven great support of the owner-driven housing recovery model which was analysed through S-curve, a project management tool used to assess construction works globally. The study findings depict the success of the Nepal reconstruction program that supported 3,000 earthquakes affected HHs from Nuwakot, Makwanpur and Rasuwa districts of Nepal through analysis by a steep S-curve. The study analysed the four enabling factors as strong ecosystems present in the reconstruction cycle that promoted the productive reconstruction in the community. These favourable factors revealed by study were - rising community awareness level with deployment of technical engineers at Ward level, door-to door social mobilization done through local bodies along with frequent communications, and similarly with existence of trained masons in local areas and sound combination of supply and demand of construction materials. Without the existence of a favourable recovery ecosystem, the CTP is likely to face a challenging situation which is depicted by a flat S-curve. The S-curve has portrayed the success and challenges during the housing reconstruction process in Nepal; the steep S-curve reveals that within 8 months almost 1700 houses were rebuilt and around 6000 top up cash support through bank transfer to each house were provided.

Understanding challenges and success of Nepal recovery by S-curve:



plus volunteers to implement cash transfer programs.

Ms. **Girlie C. Lopez** from Build Change, Philippines shared the experiences of Build Change in financing disaster resilient housing for low-income households in the Philippines. This included experiences with interventions in housing construction, house strengthening, awareness-raising, and the appropriate financial products used for the interventions. The financial products included were components of homeowner-driven designs based on capacity to repay, incremental or one time building with the appropriate amount to complete within a certain timeframe. Build Change continues to work for low-income and vulnerable communities providing financial services focusing on improving access to capital and overseeing the scaling of housing finance loans in partnership with financial service providers.

Examples from across the Asia Region highlighted community-based approaches in beneficiary selection to be the crucial part of cash transfer programming to ensure transparency and accountability. Livelihoods of most targeted families in program areas were impacted by disaster and the COVID pandemic. Therefore, anchoring shelter projects with cash programming in coordination with concerned actors of community and local level governments has proved effective. Innovative solutions were adopted throughout that included beneficiaries as part of the shelter construction team, hiring of local masons and strategic partnering with local vendors and cash distribution through post offices. There is opportunity to make micro finance institutions as part of cash-based mechanism support in shelter recovery.

5.2 Recovery, Reconstruction and Resilience

Six parallel discussion sessions were conducted by speakers and experts including from various development partners working in shelter reconstruction and disaster recovery. The objective of the session was to present the insights of interventions implemented in housing recovery for the vulnerable households, discuss urban recovery processes in heritage conservation, and to track the resettlement and land use plans to solve reconstruction issues.

5.2.1 Housing Reconstruction of Vulnerable Households



<https://bit.ly/3JxJ7Y4>



<https://youtu.be/6KGzhB93wnw>

This session provided highlights of relevant approaches forwarded by CARE Nepal, CRS, and Caritas Nepal on several housing reconstruction efforts for vulnerable beneficiaries, discuss the challenges, opportunities and suggest a way forward so that no one is left behind in vulnerable support programs. The sessions were led by Ms. **Radha Verma**, FCDO, with Dr. **Uttam Paudel**, CRS co-leading the discussions. Various organizational approaches in support to vulnerable households were shared by Mr. **Nilkantha Pandey**, CARE Nepal; Mr. **Manindra Malla**, Caritas Nepal and by Dr. Uttam Paudel, CRS.



Ms. Radha kicked off the discussions by informing that NRA has left no stones unturned to facilitate support interventions to vulnerable earthquake beneficiaries by formulating 'Vulnerable Identification and Support Guideline', May 2018 which highlighted providing top up support to the vulnerable beneficiaries. In the same flow, NRA has identified 18,505 HHs as vulnerable, requiring additional support to have safe shelter. The 'Revised NGO Mobilization Guidelines by NRA' elaborates that in addition to NPR. 300,000/- housing grant, financial top up support up to NPR 50,000 along with transportation support services were to be provided.

Best Practices

Caritas Nepal's Approach: Caritas Nepal carefully applied owner-driven construction and community-led approaches with emphasis on social protection to ensure all vulnerable households would reconstruct houses in targeted project areas. Local communities were organized in shelter groups and protection committees to proactively identify and support vulnerable households to commence reconstruction through accumulation of construction materials and helped each other build houses through labor sharing - 'perma'. Social mobilizers, masons and engineers conducted the household visits for support and guidance to vulnerable households. Caritas Nepal helped 4,631 households to build earthquake resistant houses (with financial and social technical support) among which 779 were vulnerable households. Through a suitable technology transfer model, it managed to enable vulnerable communities in Orang of Bigu Rural Municipality, Dolakha to become the first ward level village to fully reconstruct houses after 2015 earthquake in Nepal. Similarly, 120 HHs in Thokarpa village of Sunkoshi Rural Municipality, Sindhupalchowk were enabled to utilize CSEB technology to rebuild houses, among which 67 HHs belonged to vulnerable and marginalized indigenous group 'Paharis'.

CARE Nepal's Approach: CARE Nepal's owner-driven, and transformative social mobilization approach reached 1,325 HHs with support in Gorkha, Sindhupalchowk and Dhading. It adopted 'Underlying Causes of Poverty and Vulnerability Analysis Tool' to select beneficiaries that proved effective to identify disparities among the community members and has invested efforts in developing locally skilled human resources that added value to the program by acting as responsible communicators of reconstruction information. A tripartite agreement signed among local government, community and beneficiaries were strategically forwarded for ensuring timely reconstruction.

CRS Nepal's Approach: CRS Nepal carried a critical case management approach that was used to provide assistance on top-up support, material-labor, transport/cash and building of cost-effective model houses. Identification of vulnerable HHs were done based on vulnerability status of family and status of housing reconstruction. So far CRS has supported 6,000 vulnerable HHs through case management approach and coordination at national, local and community levels with transparent communication as buy-in efforts to ensure support to vulnerable communities.

The session revealed the experiences that shelter reconstruction efforts in Nepal provided an opportunity to engage on issues related to vulnerability. The criteria defined by the government were limited to physical ability to rebuild but in principle they were a good entry point. However, experience suggests that engaging and defining vulnerability should happen at the start of the process (not an afterthought) throughout to make it more inclusive and cost efficient through strong engagement of local governments. NRA was successful in responding to landlessness, relocation where people were identified as living in high geohazard areas – this momentum needs further carrying on via NDRRMA and other stakeholders to ensure no one is left behind in the process and in terms of future resilience to disasters.



5.2.2 Urban Recovery with Heritage Conservation



<https://bit.ly/3ioL4tW>



<https://youtu.be/YInvIZCoqPI>

The objectives of this session were to discuss lessons learnt from urban recovery initiatives by sharing efforts of urban recovery through heritage interventions linked with tourism and sharing on local level holistic approaches implemented at heritage areas for urban recovery. Lead of the session was Ms. **Lajana Manandhar**, Lumanti and Co-lead was Ms. **Reshma Shrestha**, CRS. Mr. **Prabin Bajracharya**, UNHabitat; Mr. **Ramesh Maharjan**, Mayor of Kirtipur Municipality and Er. **Suresh Raut**, Bhimeshwor Municipality shared the experiences and best practices from housing reconstruction in heritage recovery patterns. The speakers highlighted that holistic planning, community participation and awareness and additional provisions to private houses are the motivational elements to boost reconstruction and recovery efforts in historical places. With ever-increasing concerns for urban recovery, NRA managed to prepare *Sampada Basti* Bylaws in 2019 that further scaled up private housing reconstruction in identified quake damaged core urban settlements while maintaining heritage recovery. However, many houses were reconstructed before NRA *Sampada Basti* Bylaws were effective, therefore houses in core urban settlements faced non-compliance issues. The speakers shared that *Sampada Basti* (Heritage Settlements) itself is a campaign that stresses the linkage of cultural heritage with



livelihood opportunities along with appropriate policy formulation and implementation. The way forwards for solid recovery in urban heritage areas includes imparting skill development training on eco-tourism that adds value to heritage conservation, internalizing urban regeneration projects by provincial and federal government, and construction investment in heritage settlements. Networking, cross pollination and involvement of the private sector are additional assets to community focused recovery programs.

Best Practices

Promotion of Eco-Tourism and Intangible Heritage through Housing Reconstruction in Lalitpur

Bungamati has gone through progressive private housing reconstruction after it was hit hard by the Nepal earthquake and has reconstructed many important monuments with heritage and cultural importance. UNHabitat Nepal led the SWITCH Asia Grants Program on 'Parya Sampada Project' that was envisioned through New Urban Agenda- Clause 37 (HABITAT III). This project adopted approaches of Green Re-Building of Settlements via major five plans i) Heritage Settlement Recovery Plan, ii) Comprehensive Settlement Recovery and Physical Infrastructure Development Plan, iii) Technical assistance in private housing reconstruction for building drawing, iv) Technical assistance and rebuilding of public infrastructure and v) Provide know-how on green technologies that can be adopted in house design. The project has significantly capacitated communities of *Bungamati* and *Pilachhen* in Lalitpur through a tourism-based entrepreneurship development plan.

Housing Reconstruction in Kirtipur Municipality, Kathmandu

Kirtipur Municipality has achieved sound housing reconstruction with emphasis on conserving intangible heritage and boosting eco-tourism. It has made provisions to waive up to 90% fees during building drawing approval process of houses made after earthquake. Land ownership problems were solved during the reconstruction phase following guidelines of the NRA. Provision of additional grants were provided to private houses with heritage model and design. Similarly, 25 public and cultural heritage infrastructures have completed reconstruction while 10 more are under construction. In coordination with the Nepal Tourism Board, Kirtipur Municipality has taken steps to preserve intangible heritage and in revamping tourism. Vulnerable HHs are provided an additional NPR. 50,000/- grant as support for reconstruction.

Dwalkha Urban Regeneration Plan, Bhimeswor Municipality, Dolakha

Historical evidence suggests that Dwalkha city in Dolakha district, Nepal is older than Kathmandu Valley. Bhimeswor Municipality prepared Dwalkha Urban Regeneration Plan in 2016 with a major focus on private housing reconstruction and recovery of cultural heritage. So far, 338 houses have completed reconstruction with maintaining heritage features, while 9 public heritages have been rehabilitated. Documentary covering heritage sites and reconstruction is available. Bhimeswor Municipality has provisioned policy intervention by formulating separate bylaws for private houses following NRA's guidelines, which has provided proper way forward for reconstruction of private houses. The municipality has successfully provided provision of additional NPR 50,000 for heritage settlements.

5.2.3 Resettlement and Land Use Plan



<https://bit.ly/3IClrLX>



<https://youtu.be/Btx2d54hFKM>

The objectives of this session were to provide a brief overview on the outcomes of research study that comprises land use issues and resettlement of earthquake-affected beneficiaries. The session was facilitated by Mr. **Jagat Basnet**, CSRC Nepal and Mr.



Gaurav Thapa, People in Need and noted experts as panel members whereas Ms. **Barsha Shrestha** and Dr. **Sanjay Uprety** from IOE, Nepal jointly conducted the presentation.

Case Study

The research study conducted by the speakers from IOE, Nepal observed the housing and land use plan in three settlements Norbuling and Thankle in Sindhupalchowk district and Panipokhari in Dolakha district. Literature review, case study collection, sample survey, focused group discussions and key informant interviews were taken as research methodology. The study results show that out of 64 government-approved integrated settlements, 30% settlements have been completed while remaining is ongoing in various stages. The perceived results were that acceptance of housing design requires meeting demands of beneficiaries from physical, social, cultural, and environmental aspects. Policy of 'one size fits all' led to dissatisfaction over housing designs among most users' (house owners') that propelled modification of spaces and services to suit their requirements as well as abandonment of houses. Field visits during the research have found the rebuilt houses were mostly vacant and abandoned. Similarly, the interior spaces planning of the integrated settlements in question of research lacked PWD-friendly designs and lacked cultural consideration which propelled some house owners to modify according to their need. On top of this, beneficiaries have not received land titles due to lack of cadastral verification.

The research study gave ample space for discussions. Among other important dimensions of housing reconstruction, house owners' participation needs to be emphasized in all major stages such as in resettlement conceptualization, design, construction, and benefit sharing for successful resettlement planning. The study raises utmost concerns of prioritizing proper multi-hazard and geological study as a planning prerequisite during the relocation of people displaced by disasters.

Jointly presenting, Ms. Barsha and Dr. Sanjay began by providing an overview of disasters in Nepal. Nepal is listed amongst the 20th most disaster-prone countries in the world, where it is ranked in the 11th position in seismic hazards and in 30th position in the flood hazards. In 2020, Nepal recorded 48,000 new disaster displacements and they are mostly triggered by monsoon rains, mainly flooding and landslides. The speaker defined resettlement as a planned, assisted, and permanent relocation of the displaced

population when voluntarily consented by the affected population. Resettlement involves either relocation or repopulation. Resettlement is not merely reconstruction of houses but a process of introducing an entire new built environment to the people. The speaker provided a brief synopsis of resettlement in Nepal, that includes three approaches being practiced in Nepal for the resettlement, namely-relocation, mixed-system, and integrated settlement. This resettlement practice came into the spotlight after the Gorkha Earthquake 2015, which accounted for massive loss of lives and property across thirty-two districts. The report of Post Disaster Need Assessment (PDNA) shows that 22,256 vulnerable households are rendered homeless, and 4,720 families require resettlement.

5.2.4 Multi-hazard Shelter Recovery and Resilience



<https://bit.ly/3ww9Qk6>



<https://youtu.be/BwjKuNjgxwE>

The objectives of this session were to share experiences and best practices in responding to and mitigating multi-hazard in the shelter and settlement sector and to analyze the current response mechanisms, strategies, approaches and then identify ways for improvement. Facilitators of the session were Mr. **Ariel Sadural**, CRS Philippines along with Ms. **Urmī Das**, IFRC Bangladesh and Ms. **Kimberly Go Tain**, IOM Philippines. Four speakers of this session were Mr. **Kamrul Hassan**, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS); Ms. **Sanzida Akhter**, Caritas Bangladesh; Ms. **Monica Sans Duran**, Awasuka Program Nepal, and Mr. **Mohammad Shoukat**, Japan Emergency NGO, Pakistan



Mr. Kamrul and Ms. Sanzida shared highlights of programs implemented in the shelter response of Rohingyas Refugees. Collective programs were implemented by BDRCS and IFRC Bangladesh in responding to Typhoon Amphan of 2020, and the multi-hazard context of the Rohingya Refugees Camp located at Cox's Bazar and during several other disasters. Community-based approaches involving local communities and beneficiaries were widely adopted as preparedness activities to safeguard from multi-hazard disasters in Rohingya's refugee camps of Chittagong Hill Tracts by CB/CRS Bangladesh jointly.



Ms. Monica elaborated on the achievements of Awasuka (Habitat Improvement Program) that implemented construction of earthquake resistant houses (prototype approved by NRA) including smokeless kitchens to reduce indoor air pollution. Building meaningful relations with locals, involving them thoroughly from

project design to implementation and developing awareness activities through music and arts were regarded as effective strategies for the connection.

Mr. Mohammad offered valuable lessons perceived from the shelter assistance program launched in Kurram district of Pakistan whereby introducing energy efficient shelter or housing design or stoves and NFIs to save nature forests and trees.

Best Practices: Community-based Approach for Shelter Programming of Rohingya Refugees

Since 2017, Bangladesh has one of the largest forcibly displaced Rohingya refugee settlements in Cox Bazar. The Settlement hosts more than 1 million Rohingya. CB/CRS has decades of experience on Community based Approach (CBA) shelter programming to build resilience and learning from the very first CBA Pilot project in 2018 at Cox's Bazar and Community Led Disaster Risk Reduction programs in other host community areas. In Cox Bazar Rohingya Response, CB has kept the community centered in the response along with household level site improvement and shelter response within the framework of Government and SNFI (Shelter and Non-Food Items) sector technical guidance during the piloting & for each shelter activities. Later, the piloting result was widely accepted & adopted by other shelter partners in the Rohingya settlements. CB/CRS is presently piloting a CBA in 3 different contexts of Bangladesh including Chittagong hill tracts to further build evidence and scale up the approach. To accelerate recovery and address the core problems of climate change and forced displacement, CB/CRS follows CBA that consists of the following nine key steps: Preparation, Introduction, Organization & Coordination, Assessment & Mapping, Planning & Design, Tenure & Rental/Hosting Document, Cash Transfer, Implementation, Operation & Maintenance, DRR. The overall shelter response approach is coupled with a strong understanding of the community, local context, materials, and culture. For better understanding study is ongoing to gain an in-depth understanding of local building culture of 11 ethnic communities in Chittagong Hill Tracts in Southern Bangladesh. Chittagong Hill Tracts is 30 years behind in development compared to the rest of Bangladesh due to post conflict context. Chittagong Hill Tracts are vulnerable to landslide, floods, cyclone, and fire hazard. CB/CRS is trying to find local solutions considering local culture, materials, techniques, and context. Additionally, Bangladesh has 5,000 multi-purpose disaster shelters in the floods and cyclone prone areas. With lack of systematic maintenance and operations, they are not well maintained leading to poor state during and after the emergency. CB/CRS is collaborating with other partners to better identify gaps and potential solutions. Till date CB supported 450,000 household with low-cost shelter support. CB continues support by following protection and gender mainstreaming in the shelter-related activities and by respecting local culture and context along with the best use of local techniques, materials, capacity and resources to improve living conditions and reduce risks against hazard & protection risks.

The four speakers emphasized that ensuring participation of communities and beneficiaries in design construction creates a sense of ownership as well as stimulates to address the issues of protection, gender mainstreaming and contributes to awareness raising too.

5.2.5 Urban Settlements Recovery



<https://bit.ly/36q6O6a> / <https://bit.ly/3wyT9V8>



https://youtu.be/1oOul6wNu_M

The objective of this session was to discuss the nexus of urban settlements along with its risk-informed shelter recovery processes after post-earthquake in urban areas of Asia Region. The session was led by Ms. **Reshma Shrestha**, CRS Nepal and co-lead

by Mr. **Meshba Uddin Ahmed**, Caritas Bangladesh. Presentations were shared by Mr. **Rupesh Shrestha**, Research Fellow, Technical University of Kaiserslautern in Germany and by Mr. **Shah Zahidur Rahman**, Shelter Specialist, Disaster Response and Recovery Facility (DRRF) UNDP Bangladesh.



Mr. Rupesh shared key highlights about open spaces in urban settlements of Kathmandu valley linking them to opportunities for recovery and resilience. Kathmandu valley is dominated by traditional settlements with the presence of tangible and intangible heritage, making these ancient cities unique in and of themselves. Mr. Rupesh further elaborated, that open spaces in core city parts of Kathmandu valley carry multiple advantages and opportunities for stimulating social cohesion. Right after the Nepal earthquake 2015, numerous open spaces around Kathmandu valley and beyond were occupied by shelters for many days which has cultivated the importance of open spaces. For long-term community resilience, open spaces should be considered for recovery efforts through collaborative efforts between three tiers of government. This should be followed by community sensitization. Mr. Shrestha also focused on the use of nature-based solutions for the health and well-being of citizens. Furthermore, he highlighted the need of promoting community engagement and enhancing social cohesion.

Mr. Shah Zahidur Rahman shared his experience from the project on “Community Based Disaster Management in Asia, Phase-II (2015-2018)”. The project was designed to formulate a community-based earthquake contingency plan for Ward no 14 of Mymensingh Municipality, Bangladesh through single-hazard risk assessment technologies. Shelter management was one of the components. The assessment included detailed engineering assessments of 10 buildings including visual survey of 735 buildings through rapid visual screening method for technical understanding of physical vulnerability of structures. The assessment also collected people’s perceptions about earthquake vulnerability of their buildings and risk exposure to their socio-economic context.

Through the presentation, the speakers identified the needs and availability of open spaces in the core urban settlements. The assessment studies have tracked the availability of evacuation routes to safe locations and prepared a contingency plan where shelter management was the major component. They have also offered household preparedness planning for responding to likely disasters.

5.2.6 Localization of Shelter Response and Recovery



<https://bit.ly/3tvputz> / <https://bit.ly/3umskRu> / <https://bit.ly/3Nh71t1>



https://youtu.be/r_JilvQYFMk

The objectives of the session were to share how initiatives related to localization have met success in sound shelter response of the beneficiaries across Bangladesh and Philippines. The session was led by Ms. **Bai Maroudz Ibrahim**, CRS Philippines and co-led by Ms. **Sajina Sherpa**, CRS Nepal.

Ms. **Jaime Glenn G. Evangelista**, CRS Philippines shared the practices of localization in shelter response programs. The Philippines, one of the most vulnerable countries, has experienced complex disasters out of manmade and natural activities. The localization program by CRS Philippines embraced approaches of promotion of BBB and safer shelter strategies for which capacity building of locals/beneficiaries in the planning and implementation of shelter program was subtly launched in all project areas. Promotion of local and indigenous materials in shelter reconstruction was promoted for boosting the local economy.

Mr. **Kamal Mostafa**, CRS Bangladesh elaborated the Grand Bargain and localization initiatives in Bangladesh. Localization of humanitarian action has been an important focus in Bangladesh in recent years. Bangladesh has been selected as one of the first “demonstrator countries” for the Grand Bargain Localization Work Stream Field Mission. And the Government of Bangladesh has regarded the Humanitarian Response and Recovery Plan as



one of prime initiatives in Bangladesh for Localization in Humanitarian Response. Speaker sharing and presentations revolved around the need to create a robust structure at institutional and organizational level to facilitate & strengthen various aspects of localization action and monitor progress along with extending opportunities for local and national actors to respond to disaster synergistically.

Best Practices: SDG Model Village

Mr. Mohammad Sharifur Rahman, Bangladesh shared key highlights of SDG Localization program that primarily aimed to implement SDG Model Village in Bangladesh, where achievements pertaining to 17 goals are visible, measurable, reportable and verifiable. SDG Model Village program has been conducting action research jointly through MoU signed between Gov. of Bangladesh Prime Minister’s Office with Curtin University Sustainability Policy (CUSP) Institute, Australia on localization of SDGs. So far 4 SDG Model villages in cities of Pabna, Cummilla, Dhaka North, and Narayanganj have been targeted. SDG Model Village promotes use of eco-friendly housing materials while promotion of local partnership in holistic coordination with all concerned actors of the community at large has been taken as strategic success to attain goals of model village.

5.3 Environment, Inclusion and Shelter Innovation

Six parallel sessions were conducted in Environment, Inclusion and Shelter Innovation Theme that basically revolved around sharing of sustainable innovation as shelter solutions. The objective of this session was to share proven practices, lesson learnt, and challenges and opportunities in contributing to procedural aspects of shelter recovery and resilience.

5.3.1 Technological Innovation in Disaster Risk Communication



<https://bit.ly/3qua3An>



<https://youtu.be/zqX-mNyU63o>

The objective of this session was to highlight lessons learnt, need, importance and challenges in the use of technological innovations for disaster risk communication and the use of disaster data for

better decision making and stimulate a transformational change of actions based on the learnings from the session. The shared presentations also focused on demonstrating the community-based examples of use of technology.



Ms. **Angela Tamrakar**, Youth Innovation Lab, led the discussions in the session while Mr. **Birendra Bajracharya**, ICIMOD; Mr. **Nilkantha Pandey**, CARE Nepal; Ms. **Sharmila Karmacharya**, Nepal Red Cross Society and Mr. **Ranjan Kumar Dahal**, Tribhuvan University (TU) shared presentations from their experiences.

Best Practices: Better disaster governance

Ms. Sharmila in her sharing elaborated the use of technology by NRCS for better disaster governance. From 1963 onwards NRCS incepted operations focusing on disaster relief activities and was later broadened to disaster preparedness, both at the organizational and community level. NRCS has prepared 10 modules which have been disseminated at community level, which includes initial rapid assessment, development of Mobile App for data collection, data storage and security perspective too. NRCS mobilizes its volunteers within 24 hours to collect data after which the collected data is analyzed and then it works collectively for generation of reports which are disseminated widely. These modules were also applied for tracking of information during COVID-19 situation that proved very effective. It also contains a mechanism for feedback and hotline management.

Ms. Sharmila in her sharing elaborated the use of technology by NRCS for better disaster governance. From 1963 onwards NRCS incepted operations focusing on disaster relief activities and was later broadened to disaster preparedness, both at the organizational and community level. NRCS has prepared 10 modules which have been disseminated at community level, which includes initial rapid assessment, development

of mobile App for data collection, data storage and security perspective too. NCRS mobilizes its volunteers within 24 hours to collect data after which the collected data is analyzed and then it works collectively for generation of reports which are disseminated widely. These modules were also applied for tracking of information during COVID-19 situation that proved very effective. It also has the mechanism of feedback and hotline management.



Mr. Nilkantha highlighted that the VisRisk tool adopted by CARE Nepal for risk communication and decision-making were very effective to visualize risks to integrate into DRM planning and inform the decision-making process for early and response actions. The piloted VisRisk in Sindupalchowk district, this tool has helped to understand the susceptibility of hazards, exposure to settlements and critical infrastructure and vulnerability of the people and map out the overall level of risk and anticipate early warning about the future disaster. The tool can be helpful to reduce disaster risk, and equally can complement risk-informed local planning– risk-sensitive land use plans/ and in multi hazard risk planning.

Mr. Birendra Bajracharya shared that the SERVIR Hindu Kush Himalaya program has been implemented with major focus on applications of Earth observation and geospatial technologies on thematic areas of agriculture, hydroclimatic disasters, land use and land cover, and weather and climate. The program has developed several applications including flood forecasting and early warning, mapping of flood inundation, crop mapping and drought monitoring. It has been reaching out to communities for information literacy. Convergence of this type of technology requires essentials such as customization and demonstration, improved information literacy through capacity building at different levels, linkages with local and national initiatives, and multi-sector collaboration.

Mr. Ranjan Kumar Dahal urged participants that disaster preparedness is not possible without disaster risk communication, in which the role of academia in research is vast to support data-driven decision-making. Mr. Ranjan shared a positive example of risk communication applied during the Melamchi flood 2021. The evacuation was completed on time, and it resulted in no casualties. Disaster risk communication shapes people's perceptions of disaster risk and influences their actions with respect to disaster preparedness and disaster response.

The session enlightened on the application of emerging technologies for sound DRRM at community level. The presenters exchanged the examples from their organizational experiences that the technologies help the communities largely to prepare for future hazards which is equally informative for policy level inputs from local to national level. Use of technological tools for risk communication will contribute to a better decision-making process, providing valuable insights and strengthening disaster risk governance.

5.3.2 Green and Climate Sensitive Shelter Response



<https://bit.ly/36Hpn5S>



<https://youtu.be/4kXPTh2kDCQ>

The session objective was to provide a brief overview on practices adopted in shelter response by using green and climate sensitive materials. Mr.

Manish Raj Timsina, NRCS and Ms. **Tripti Mahaseth**,

Habitat for Humanity Nepal (HfH) led the session and shared their presentations. Ms. Tripti elaborated the term green response by referring to reducing damage and impact to environment and climate by using locally available green construction materials and to contribute to national adaptation policy. Improving the environment as part of shelter response is the motto of promoting green materials. Shelter designs can be made green and climate sensitive based on material used in sourcing of material depending upon use of technology and site planning. HfH has purposefully preferred the use of renewable materials such as bamboo and compressed stabilized earth block which are sourced locally. To reduce expenses, focus prioritized on new construction technology like rat trap bonds and hollow concrete blocks, as these inputs help to reduce the amount of material significantly. Similarly, strengthening of the treated bamboo supply chain was undertaken to reduce the scarcity during the reconstruction period. The main stakeholders of this program by HfH are GoN, MoUD/DUDBC and Ministry of Forests and Environment accompanied by Shelter Cluster Nepal, Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC), private sector and individuals. 74% families were satisfied with treated bamboo as a construction material, which largely signifies the need for further advocacy in mainstreaming and accreditation of treated bamboo as construction material.

Mr. Manish provided brief highlights of activities of NRCS on Green Shelter Response. NRCS has contributed to the production of 'Shelter Response Country Profile' which has a series of profile descriptions on shelter construction attributes of interested HHs, the core of this document is the "Learning from Local Building Cultures" that elaborates on hazard-resistant practices and improvable construction practices. Similarly, NRCS contributed to publications such as 'Production of Environment Profile', supported by the Australian Red Cross. This profile contains several important information relevant to the environment profile of shelter and settlements programming. NRCS widely applied PASSA and PASSA Youth tools for ensuring proactive community engagements with a target towards greening the shelter response and on safer shelter awareness.

The learning from this session aspires that community acceptance and affordability is crucial while any alternative modes of green technologies are introduced. If green materials such as bamboo could be sufficiently mainstreamed and made accessible as low-cost and climate-friendly green materials, then there are better chances of more acceptance of bamboo as a regular housing material, which can further support local economy and boost local micro-enterprises in bamboo trading.



5.3.3 Disability, Accessibility, and Inclusion in Shelter Response



<https://bit.ly/3JxOsP2>



<https://youtu.be/c9X2g8mj30s>

The session objectives focused on understanding the gaps in accessibility of resources for people with disabilities and in understanding Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in DRRM. The session was lead

and presented by Mr. **Kusmakhar Neupane**, Sr. Programme Officer –Resilience, Handicap International along with Ms. **Shakti Gurung**, Center for Disaster Management Studies.



Mr. Kusmakhar mentioned that mainstreaming disability into the post-2015 development agenda began after UNCRPD and its concept of accessibility to persons with disabilities. Major barriers to accessibility include lack of rehabilitation and equipment, physical barriers, and attitudinal barriers. The legal provision for accessibility plays a crucial role in disability inclusion on a social level. For full participation of persons with disabilities, all the barriers should be removed ensuring rehabilitation and equipment support, accessibility, attitudinal change of society and service providers. It is important to discuss ways to increase disability-inclusion through accessibility, creating an enabling environment for participation, and building shelter in a barrier-free way. Only through mainstreaming GESI at all levels of the DRRM cycle can we truly achieve goals of SDG and DRRM. “Making your social media posts accessible is the right thing to do to be more inclusive to the people with accessibility needs,” added Mr. Pralhad Gairapipli, Regional Communications Officer for Handicap International’s India, Nepal and Sri Lanka Program.

Ms. Shakti mentioned that GESI in DRRM is necessary as hazards are gender-neutral, but their impacts are different to different groups/people of the society. The impact of disasters is more pronounced for women, elderly, children, persons with disability and other marginalized groups. Socio-economic factors have great influence on disaster impact. Women, children, elderly, persons with disabilities face more challenges during disaster thereby increasing their vulnerability to further risk. Several study reports have revealed the increased number of gender-based violence cases during the COVID-19 pandemic period and during post-disaster times, which reflects ample ground that there is a need for collective and rational actions to reduce and put an end to gender based violence during disasters.



The session emphasized that the key barriers to GESI sensitive DRRM are: DRR policy structures that are not

gender sensitive and inclusive; lack of consultation and participation in risk assessment process; lack of budgetary control position held by women representatives in local levels; and social barriers that inhibit direct access to opportunities and information. Hence, access must be understood through a system that enables gender sensitive and socially inclusive participation of vulnerable populations in all spectrums of DRRM. Further to assure GESI sensitive disaster response; the preparedness and response plan must be prepared through discussion with all groups of communities on their needs. Local levels must have disaggregated data on disability and marginalized population and must prepare stockpiling of necessary materials considering the need of the vulnerable groups such as stockpiling of assistive/mobility devices, neonatal care materials, etc.

5.3.4 Green Shelter Response in Shelter and Settlements Programming in Asia & the Pacific



<https://bit.ly/3qonqSP>

<https://youtu.be/WusbYdsNpU8>

The session was led by Ms. **Sayed Rubiya Hossain**, IOM Bangladesh and co-led by Mr. **Ranjan Dhungel**, HRRP in which Ms. Rubiya shared presentation on green shelter response interventions undertaken in



Rohingya Refugees camps in Bangladesh. Ms. **Clara O' Reilly**, from Arup shared achievements of cool roofs programs. Ms. Rubiya explains about the use of bamboo as green and sustainable materials in shelter response interventions in Rohingya refugee camps in various parts of Bangladesh by IOM Bangladesh. Rohingya support response has entered the fifth year and currently 907,766 refugees are living in 34 camps located in the hilly terrain. Shelters are most likely exposed to cyclic monsoons and face risk of floods, landslides, fire, and cyclones. Temporary materials such as bamboo and tarpaulin have a limited capacity to resist weather impacts, and thus require regular repairs and replacement; therefore, bamboo treatment has emerged as a durable, cost-effective, and green material solution for sustainability.

Best Practices: Use of treated bamboo as nature-based solution in shelter response

IOM Bangladesh introduced treating of bamboo through a bamboo treatment facility where metal/RCC footing is used for bamboo posts and bracing that improves longevity of bamboo and therefore reduces impact on the Bangladeshi bamboo reserves. Open holes in bamboo allow moisture to get inside the bamboo, increasing risk of deterioration and infestation. Use of metal nuts allow for tightening of joints and are more durable than dowels. Besides shelter construction, the already utilized bamboo is reused and promoted to utilize effectively as standee support for crawling vegetables, for promoting slope stabilization, in bio-char production, and to make handicrafts. The bamboo treatment facility is providing work to locals, especially women, providing an environment-friendly solution (as the treatment solution used for soaking are reused). IOM Bangladesh has secured an environmental license secured from the government and steps forwards for its replication with other partners.

Best Practices: Cool roofs as shelter inputs to safeguard from climate change and heat stress

Arup, an engineering professional service provider based in London, United Kingdom, collaborated with two non-profits housing units operating in Mexico—Echale and New Story to implement cool roofs techniques. Ms. Clara O’ Reilly presented outcomes of a case study from Mexico that were related to making cool roofs accessible to people most at risk from heat stress. Service provider Arup conducted research which revealed heat stress threatens the health and wellbeing of communities around the world and the poorest members of society are the most vulnerable resulting in adverse health effects, even death. Arup started a multi-year collaboration with Echale and New Story in Mexico and constructed tens of thousands of homes for low-income families. A cool roof is a roof painted with a reflective white paint which reduces the amount of heat absorbed from the sun and emits heat that is inside the building. Arup performed a series of technical studies to compare the effectiveness of different passive strategies on single-story homes in the seven climate zones of Mexico. In every location, cool roofs were the single most effective intervention, and they were even more effective when used in combination with external blinds to block the sun and larger windows to improve natural ventilation. To catalyze systemic change, Arup identified funding pathways to make large-scale uptake of cool roofs viable, and results were disseminated to support a network of local partners across the public and private sectors.

The session imparted key messages on the importance of having a strategic document on area -based green or environment profile, that can be taken as a tool to inform nature-based solutions towards shelter and settlement programming. Promotion of green shelter solutions in fact contributes to the improved environmental face of an area, while also promoting local livelihoods and generates incomes.

5.3.5 Fire Safety in Shelter and Settlements



<https://bit.ly/3tGSVtv>



<https://youtu.be/lyOrgh2PTmM>

Ms. **Karoline Barch**, IOM Bangladesh led the overall session, while the speakers were Ms. **Danielle Antonellis**, Founder & Executive Director based in USA, Ms. **Shegufta Newaz**, IOM Bangladesh, Mr. **Najmul Huda**, IOM Bangladesh; Mr. **Paul Chamberlain**, Emergency Preparedness and Response Specialist, Migrant Offshore Aid Station.



The objectives of these sessions were to interact over the fire safety measures undertaken in shelter and settlements for policy level intervention and lessons learnt. The session focused on how site planning and GIS can support a fire response and the application of state of art for fire safety in humanitarian settlements.

Ms. Danielle Antonellis raised the burning issue that fire undermines humanitarian progress in South Asia. Humanitarian clusters can address fire safety. An important study could be conducted to understand the status of fire safety knowledge, practices, and resources in humanitarian sectors. The speaker shared some highlights of “Fire Risk Reduction Advocacy, Policy and Guidance” jointly developed by USAID, GSC and UKAID in Bangladesh. The Fire Safety Guidance has been instrumental in forwarding strategies in reducing harm to displaced populations and to the environment from uncontrolled fire.

Joint sharing by three speakers shared some facts of the fire outbreak in Cox’s Bazar Rohingya Refugee Camps in March 2021. The site planning through use of GIS maps showed that fire response is based on the portable water supply system, community mobilization, and capacity of the fire extinguisher. Now fire hydrants and proper water points have been located, volunteers and community people are sensitized on fire safety and coordination with all concerned stakeholders has been done to reduce the impact of fire. Fire safety and management requires adoption of state-of-the-art mechanical technologies such as portable fire trucks and lightweight water pumps.

5.3.6 Accessibility, Gender and Inclusion in Shelter and Settlements



<https://bit.ly/3wuGLp3>



https://youtu.be/a3dWS_6M4lc

This session was co-hosted by Mr. **Wahyu Widayanto** (Shelter Cluster Coordinator, Indonesia) and Ms. **Sneha Malani** (Shelter NFI sector, CRS Bangladesh) with technical support from Ms. **Leeanne Marshall** (Shelter Technical Lead-International Programs, Australian Red Cross). This session presented two case studies which showed different examples of inclusive practice in Nepal and Bangladesh.

The presentation on “Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction” by Mr. **Pallav Pant** from Atulya Foundation elaborated the need for integrating disaster inclusive DRR in Nepal. He shared some challenges during the crisis/emergency in Nepal, from the limited awareness and minimal sensitization of the first responders to the needs of persons with disabilities. He raised the point that often persons with disabilities are not aware of their rights and the kinds of assistance they can access. He shared the first of its kind ‘Disability Inclusive Get-Ready Guidebook’ published by Attulya Foundation, outlining steps for disaster preparedness and response for persons with disabilities and for their caretakers. The guidebook is available through this link: <https://bit.ly/37pjtDz>



Ms. Sneha focused on inclusion in the Rohingya camps, highlighting the SNFI Sector's challenges and successes in mitigating GBV and accessibility issues through shelter and NFI interventions. The Sector has developed various technical standards and cash for work modalities to address issues of access. Participants discussed that inclusion should be considered from the planning stage (and throughout the program cycle) and should be budgeted for as part of this planning.

There should be advocacy around additional funding for more inclusive programming. Agencies and staff identified a need for more awareness building and training on accessibility and inclusion prior to disasters and to ensure this is included as a minimum standard in activities and programs. There needs to be a paradigm shift from inclusion being perceived as an expensive add-on to an integral and fundamental part of shelter projects.



“ Public housing is more than just a place to live, public housing programs should provide opportunities to residents and their families. ”

– Carolyn McCarthy



06

KEY PANEL SESSIONS

6.1 Global and Nepal Technical and Coordination Leaders



<https://youtu.be/exiS8Ej0YAE>

Session Lead: Ms. **Dipti Hingorani**, Regional Shelter and Settlements Coordinator, IFRC Asia- Pacific & Global Focal Point for Technical Coordination, Global Shelter Cluster.



An interactive panel discussion with the Global and Nepal Technical Leaders was conducted that played a key role in humanitarian coordination and played a critical role in the Nepal Earthquake 2015 Response Operation. Three coordination leaders from three different organizations were assembled to open a discussion so that they can discuss perspectives on the critical issues around coordination, highlight key considerations and suggest opportunities further as way forwards for future disaster preparedness and response.

Panelist:

Mr. **Brett Moore**, Chief of Shelter & Settlements, UNHCR and Co-lead of Global Shelter Cluster

Mr. Brett Moore informed the participants that Global Shelter Cluster (GSC) showed solidarity in conducting immediate humanitarian works to earthquake affected people of Nepal in 2015. GSC, convened by IFRC, is an inter-agency shelter coordination body that has contributed to shelter emergency responses that supports people affected by natural disasters across the globe. GSC and its all-member partners are working in 46 countries with a total of 1.4 million billion dollars supported through the clusters. From the past 16 years, 30 billion USD per year has been invested in the region through a cluster system that has in fact brought enormous learnings working with disaster affected people. Personally Mr. Brett has served people of Nepal during earthquake 2015 in 4 districts fully and in many other locations. Mr. Brett expressed that plenty of things have changed since earthquake 2015 as reconstruction and recovery processes have gained momentum, aspirations and spirit of people and communities have risen from rubles to recovery and were exhibited through their involvement in owner driven housing programs. Mr. Brett informed the participants that global humanitarian response processes have moved from international to national level that let the international community to stand by the needy people in the regions for responses. Mr. Brett stressed that the built-in capacity that was instilled in Nepal reconstruction processes is critical for future in terms of national level achievements, in manifestations of aspiring leaders and in active involvement of organizations and communities at large, which are the driving forces for promising recovery. There is a need to further replicate the best practices in humanitarian and recovery efforts where involving local communities and local leaders should be in priority for successive recovery process.



Panelist:

Mr. **Anil Pokhrel**, CEO, NDRRMA

Mr. Anil Pokhrel shared that the groundwork for investing in the disaster response and preparedness began from 2005 in Nepal. Following the Hyogo Framework of Action, MoHA charted out the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction for the first time, which clearly identifies the need to bring effectiveness in identifying common understanding over priority areas like building capacities and accumulating resources and facilities to support people affected by disaster. These ground works have worked as milestones to form National Coordination Mechanism in 2010 led by MoHA including key development partners of Nepal such as World Bank (WB), Asian Development Bank, Nepal Resident Mission (ADB) etc and identified key areas of interventions in which disaster preparedness was major flagship areas. To strategize the roles of Armed Police Forces and Nepal Army in disaster management and to develop humanitarian staging area at Tribhuvan



International Airport (for conducting drills, simulation and preparedness activities, establishment of warehouse of response materials) was among the major areas of Nepal Coordination Mechanisms. These development milestones alarmed GoN to take proper response mechanisms in big disasters in Nepal, from floods, landslides to earthquakes. Mr. Pokhrel further elaborated that under the leadership of MoHA, many kinds of humanitarian interventions were conducted. Nepal earthquake 2015 acted as a triggering event that propelled NDRF to take shape with proper identification of roles of organizations during the time of disaster response. National Emergency Operation Center (NEOC) and subsequent formation at provincial and local level is the advanced implementation of NDRF. All this preparedness has led to more effective larger response mechanisms in 2015 earthquake and beyond in other disasters, with 3 security forces in place, committed humanitarian organizations to support, and large number of volunteers trained as responders with systems and equipment in place. The self-spontaneous mechanisms of communities have remained as the supportive factor in creating a conducive environment for the coordination efforts in 2015 and beyond.

Currently NDRRMA is working vigorously to devise a new organizational structure with 4 divisions in which one division will specifically look after response mechanisms in order to make effective responses in future disasters. Needful coordination will be enhanced at all levels of governments. NDRRMA values the strength of volunteers therefore, a Volunteer's Bureau will be established at all 3 levels of governments which will reflect the collective work. GoN Office of Prime Ministers and Council of Ministers will remain as apex body to guard the disaster initiatives taken by NDRRMA.

Panelist:

Prof. Dr **Triratna Bajracharya**, President, NEA.

Dr. Bajracharya shared that the Nepal Engineers' Association (NEA) is an independent nonprofit organization of Nepalese engineers established in 1962. Till date, it represents 26,840 engineers, belonging to various engineering disciplines. NEA's mandates include promoting fellowship, goodwill, and cooperation assistance among the Nepalese engineers, safeguarding their rights and interests and promoting the development of science and technology. In the aftermath of the disastrous 7.8 magnitude earthquake of April 25, 2015, NEA had been instrumental in massive mobilization of around 3,500 engineers to conduct Rapid Visual Damage Assessment of more than 65,000 affected buildings free of cost. This inspection was undertaken to assess whether the affected houses, government buildings, educational and health institutions are in livable condition or not. Further, during the destruction caused by hailstorm in Bara district two years back and during 2021 Sindhupalchowk flood, the permanent inspection committee at NEA conducted detailed study and provided practical conclusions to GoN. Through the partnership with the GoN, UNDP and other academic institutions and professional societies, the NEA Centers for Continuous Engineering Education



has been contributing towards enhancing the professional skills of engineers for undertaking post-seismic assessment, repair, and strengthening of damaged buildings. NEA is also engaged in supporting the reconstruction efforts by engaging in mason training on earthquake-resistant construction and design competition for suitable model housing designs.

The panelists proposed following policy inputs for expediting responses through cluster system:

- Need for sophisticated humanitarian response investment and prioritize reduction in duplication.
- Acknowledgement of people's complexity in responses is required where government's role in sensitizing its citizens towards risk awareness should be a regular process.
- Organize common sharing platform annually to hear success stories from local responders and bring cluster groups together for continuous dialogue.
- Technical forces of engineers can be mobilized for digital innovation in disaster risk monitoring, early warning systems and in disseminating disaster information through digital platforms.
- Establish an award system to honor disaster recovery hero of the year for encouragement and imparting awareness messages at the community level.
- Delineate the roles and responsibilities in the federal context of Nepal with authority mandates divided into 3 tiers of governments.
- Local governments need to be well informed and strengthened to address the differential scales of small to big disasters by coordinating with partners and with three security agencies.
- Current and future preparedness mechanisms require educating large numbers of people and their communities about disasters.

6.2 Government of Nepal Technical and Coordination Lead Agencies



https://youtu.be/yHzrC_36fRA



Session Lead: Er. **Minar Thapa Magar**, National Coordinator, HRRP. A panel session involving government stakeholders emphasizing on tracking reflections, experiences and lessons learned to explore ideas for effective coordination and collaboration for localized shelter response and recovery and disaster preparedness, was organized. The session features to convey how critical effective coordination with government leadership is, share perspectives on the issue, highlight the challenges, and suggest opportunities for more effective coordination and localization agenda.



Panelist:

Dr. **Chandra Bahadur Shrestha**, Member Executive Committee, NRA

NRA have been able to achieve success by making a model of exemplary through executing the largest owner-driven approach of reconstruction in the whole world. This model has been equally successful in promoting resilience and enormous learnings have been gained in which NRA worked



out to document from 2019 onwards. 43 scientific papers have been published in Elsevier Resource which is mainly for the international community. Similarly, corporate learnings of NRA have been published through a Corporate Paper – a compendium has been published which reflected the voices from independent authors' voices. NRA is going to organize ICNR 2021 in December in which many kinds of learnings and procedural achievements will be presented. Throughout these periods, NRA has been able to gain 3 major learnings – formation of one special provisioned vehicle or institution to handle the disaster and recovery was very important; majority of our settlements are vulnerable and systematic handle is not possible; and lastly the recovery processes in urban areas requires series of linear planning than an abrupt plan from the top and make our infrastructures resilient and live able through quality inputs. There have been massive achievements through NRA's owner driven approach, the crux of which lies in involvement of local governments and communities. More than 3000 engineers were recruited in reconstruction works and local level social mobilisers and mobile masons were hired to reach communities. Community users' committees and their involvement were prioritized during cultural and heritage reconstruction that also gained maximum success. School management committees were involved in reconstruction of schools. Challenges of the owner driven approach include addressing vulnerable beneficiaries, as it requires separate hand holding to deal with their challenges. In heritage recovery, community user committees should be involved from early planning phases, as they are a crucial part of their living heritage where local sentiment adds value to the success of heritage recovery.

Panelist:

Er. **Padma Kumar Mainalee**, Director General, DUDBC – MoUD

MoUD DUDBC started working on the NBC Damage Assessment nearly 25 years back which turned out to be very helpful in conducting Rapid Damage Grade Assessment works when the Nepal earthquake 2015 happened. This NBC channelized Rapid Damage Grade Assessment has detailed know-how on the



color-coding system used in the inspection of houses. The experts and senior technical and non-technical personnel deserve sincere thanks. Their hard efforts have paid off well when this knowledge was applied in real grounds immediately after the Nepal earthquake. Initiatives on CCCM and Shelter Cluster worked out well – though thousands of people were still left behind in terms of preparedness knowledge. However, the preliminary work that kicked off dated 2005 onwards proved successful in which MoUD gave attention to bring improvements and updates in technology in line with implementation of NBC in real grounds. There have been inadequate linkages of Nepal reconstruction works with the Urban Development Strategy. Urban Recovery is a complicated nexus where abundant land rights issues and community cohorts are unresolved. Urban Development Strategy has initiated debates and discourses on urban renewal which requires a revitalized lens of local development. The updated plans and policies of urban recovery such as house pooling, land pooling, settlement development etc., must be manifested by local elected heads and by parliamentarians so that feasible projects can be developed especially designed for local level which could be new avenues for local governments.

Safety and security of citizens at large is the motive of NBC endorsement by GoN/MoUD. However, formulating laws is not enough, its implementation at local community level and acceptance by citizens lies in the success of NBC endorsement. There is a need for strong 3 tiers of coordination for systematic implementation of NBC. NBC's know-how must be interacted with at the community level massively for its successful implementation. Morphology of the unique old techniques such as Gol Ghar, vernacular roof shapes etc., are losing its mark from our communities. Thus, such best practice techniques have to be studied, researched and documented. MoUD is open to interacting with international partners in several aspects of learning documentation.

Panelist:

Ms. **Anita Niraula**, Joint Secretary, NDRRMA

Formation of NDRRMA only passed barely 23 months, however in a short timeframe, we have envisioned working plans up to 2030, which will be made more workable and effective by continuous revision and review. NDRRMA is on the verge of formulating NDRF



2030 in which NRA is providing technical inputs. Through this NDRF, avenues for multi-hazard management will be explored where focus on how to make out settlements more resilient and stronger will remain in the center. The focus on disaster response only is not effective when disaster strikes, therefore the shift towards making our settlements and shelters stronger and more resilient remain as the crux of our interventions so that our future shelters are able to withstand the minimum extent of disasters.

NDRRMA have managed to develop 'Monsoon Induced Private Housing Reconstruction and Recovery Grant Disbursement Procedural Guidelines 2077' and 'Fire Affected Private Housing Reconstruction and Recover Grant Disbursement Procedural Guidelines 2077'. The guideline orientation is ongoing to local governments on shelter reconstruction to the fire affected victims and to monsoon affected communities. We need a one door policy therefore we have regarded NDRF will be a one integrated single guideline that will address integrated policy matters, from ensuring sound relief to conducting proactive response, inclusive beneficiary identification to reliable grant management and solid social protection schemes as well. Relocation of vulnerable beneficiaries affected by disaster is another avenue NDRRMA will investigate, where 3 tiers of governments will be mainstreamed for a common understanding in disaster risk reduction initiatives.

Disaster risk financing is another avenue where NDRMAA will work. The Executive Committee of NDRRMA has already passed involving private sectors through insurance mechanisms so that burden upon the state will be reduced to some extent. NDRRMA will take technical inputs from the Ministry of Finance-GoN so that the target is for long term planning in disaster risk financing and risk recovery. NDRRMA has managed to bring guidelines on the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR) that largely focuses on cluster mechanisms during disaster response. NDRRMA has been showcasing the disaster response and recovery works of various international development partners through Monitor for Disaster Strategic Action Plan (MSDA) BIPAD Portal (msda.bipad.gov.np). NDRRMA is open to cooperation with like-minded donors which calls for regularization of partners work through NDRRMA where 3 tiers of government will be engaged in program designing.

Restructuring of NDRRMA will be done precisely in forthcoming days to mainstream and streamline the working procedures. Communication strategy is in similar line of formulation that will guide the communication and information management aspects. Volunteers' management guideline is also underway. All these preparatory works have contributed to capacity building of NDRRMA which will be influential to forward a one door policy in DRRM works.

The Panelists provided a way forward for translating these actions into further level:

- The know-how and technical facts of the guidelines on shelter reconstruction, recovery and resilience produced by NRA, by MoUD and beyond needs to be passed to the planning mechanism of local bodies in its day-to-day operation works at provincial and local level.
- Local bodies are the real implementers of Urban Development Strategy therefore our plans &

projects should focus on mobilizing local governments in achieving the goals of urban renewal.

- One door policy has always been a top priority, therefore NDRF 2030 will be regulated as one integrated single guideline for initiatives of DRRM.
- Three tiers of GoN mechanisms will be mainstreamed for developing common understanding in disaster risk reduction initiatives.

6.3 Nepal Coordination Mechanisms



<https://youtu.be/RsYz8pHAWQM>



Session Lead: Mr. **Ruplal Aidi**, Technical Coordinator- GESI, HRRP. A panel session on review and reflection over shelter/housing coordination mechanisms prioritized by humanitarian and development partners working for greater impact to meet the needs of vulnerable populations, was organized. The objective of this session exclusively focused on to understand and strengthen current existing Nepal Shelter/Housing Coordination mechanisms in Nepal and to take way forwards for expanding further coordination in the humanitarian sector.



Panelist:

Mr. **Manish Raj Timsina**, Shelter Coordination Officer, NCRS

Mr. Timsina gave an overview of the emergence of the Shelter Cluster in Nepal (SC) which was started after the Koshi Flood 2001 as one of the clusters in humanitarian cluster coordination. International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC) has been leading the Shelter Cluster Forum globally whereas MoUD

has been leading SC in Nepal. Through IFRC, SC in Nepal, has been supporting the government to enhance its accountability for emergency responses and contributes to early recovery phases and reconstruction. The core functions of the cluster include: i) Coordinated Assessments, ii) Strategy and Planning, iii) Technical Coordination and Information Management, iv) Monitoring and Reporting, v) Advocacy vi) Preparedness Activities, and vii) Accountability to Emergency Response. The shelter cluster has the main objective of fulfilling lifesaving needs with dignity, well-coordinated and appropriate support to the affected population, and support to the most vulnerable in disaster response. SC in Nepal has been supporting the government to enhance its accountability for emergency response and is also involved in reconstruction and recovery initiatives. SC conducted research on the ground realities in Nepal, and is involved in producing Environment Country Profile, Shelter Profile, the Risk Hazard Assessment and Contingency Plan, which helps to analyze, guide, coordinate and operate the preparedness and response activities to meet the needs of vulnerable people.



The SC in Nepal has started engagement with the provincial governments with an initial meeting held in Janakpur and the process for expanding the mechanisms of Shelter Cluster at province level is on-going. After the federal restructuring of the country's geographical division, seven different organizations (IOM, World Vision International, HRRP, CRS, NRCs, Save the Children and Mercy Corps) have mutually agreed to support shelter cluster coordination in the province represented in ascending order from Province 1 to Province 7. Mr. Manish stressed that the strategy of Shelter Cluster needs reinvigoration and dissemination among the public through various means. Resource utilization is effective when coordination is systematic. Nepal is facing several multiple hazards of differential magnitudes which largely demands for collective action plans for effective response. It was stated that active engagement needs collaborative approaches and good strategies with regular coordination with three tiers of governments - federal, provincial, and local level. Furthermore, all concerned organizations working in shelters should holistically work together for joint localized efforts, such as collaborating with volunteers' groups, women's groups, with local bodies and most importantly to reach locals through communities of practice.

Panelist:

Er. **Minar Thapa Magar**, National Coordinator, HRRP
 Er. Minar shared how HRRP evolved following the 2015 Nepal Earthquake and has largely focused on assuming the coordination of post-earthquake housing reconstruction when the Nepal Shelter Cluster returned to its pre-earthquake format as a



standing cluster. The platform provides coordination services for the NRA, MoUD, MoFAGA, CLPIUs, DLPIUs and other relevant government authorities, and housing reconstruction partners.

Er. Minar stated each organization under the Shelter Cluster has different mandates to respond to disasters. There is a need to find the linkage among response, recovery, and development programs. Furthermore, after the earthquake, around 200 organizations have provided emergency responses where HRRP provided coordination services to all partners through a single platform. He stated that more concerted effort is required to influence governments to adapt a clear strategy and roadmap from emergency to reconstruction to development as the partners have diminished gradually in the recovery and reconstruction sector.

Er. Minar added after six years of long work in the housing recovery and reconstruction program led by NRA, together with partners, HRRP has envisioned following efforts to institutionalize the lessons to prepare for the next future disaster: i) Consolidate the learnings and extend commitment to support local government in leading the disaster response and reconstruction; ii) Expand learnings from the 2015 earthquake response in policy formulation, technical and info management to other hazards DRR and recovery. Access to information and best practices, lessons learned documents in case of another disaster; iv) Preparedness and readiness will reduce damage and loss and provide an efficient way to be resilient; and v) Longer term localized and joint planning exercises.

The Panelists provided way forward for maintaining vibrancy of shelter cluster and coordination mechanisms:

- Need to align every organization's objective with the motive of Shelter Cluster for coherence.
- Decentralize the planning and budget estimation authority and responsibility to provincial level for boosting shared accountability.
- Collective funding should be prioritized towards localization and capacity enhancement of local leadership for influencing local DRRM.
- Influence Government to develop 'Shelter Strategy', as a strong guidance towards disaster preparedness and response.
- Need of paradigm shift in coordination and collaboration that has to cascade down from central to provincial, regional, municipal and ward level.
- Formulation of framework that guides different stakeholders to respond to disasters in a three-pronged timeline of before, during and after.

“ You can spend the money on new housing for poor people and the homeless, or you can spend it on a football stadium or a golf course. ”

- Jello Biafra

6.4 Technical Panel Session: Capacity Strengthening of Local Organizations for Humanitarian Response

 <https://youtu.be/H0Roj2GtNd0>



Session Lead and Panelist: Mr. **Anup Pokhrel**, CARE Nepal. A panel session adhered on by objectives of sharing and unpacking the current best practices in localization of humanitarian responses, opportunities and challenges faced on its execution was organized that also reflected on capacities of local organizations for emergency humanitarian responses.

Nepal Localization Framework has been submitted to MoFAGA and MoHA which covers 7 main dimensions such as Funding, Partnerships, Capacity, Policy Influence, Coordination Mechanism, Participation Revolution and Visibility. Localization is about transfer of power and transformation of existing humanitarian architecture. There are discourses going on regarding how to design local humanitarian response mechanisms. In the context of Nepal, work of localization is in progress. The Constitution of Nepal and DRRM has envisioned devolving power to local authorities, so there is a good opportunity to strengthen local bodies.



Mr. Anup shared that the CARE's approach to localization was mainly achieved through the Humanitarian Partnership Platform, which started in western Terai region, and focuses on strengthening the capacity of CSOs for coordinated humanitarian response, co-creation and advocacy. It also promotes working

with the local government bodies for coordinated and principled humanitarian response and integrates components such as GESI and multi-stakeholder engagement. Mr. Anup elaborated that Grand Bargain is an institutional document that has emphasized on more support and funding for local response, putting local and national actors at the center of humanitarian response. Localization Working Group has been formed to facilitate further works on localization workstream that contributed to co-create localization models which needs financial support for execution. StartUp Fund approach is one such effective ongoing mechanisms.

Panelist:

Mr. **Prajwal Acharya**, IFRC

Mr. Prajwal added that networks of NCRS have been working closely with vulnerable communities, enabling them to partake in decision-making and linking Community-based Disaster Risk Reduction to local governments. It also promotes working closely with municipal authorities and a wide range of volunteers or first responders. NCRS and IFRC have been closely working together with member organizations in strategy and policy formulation from national to local levels and promoting joint local response systems in coordination with municipalities. NCRS was also engaged in managing staffing and prepositioning of WASH and shelter materials in proximity to the communities. Overall, 3 headstrong sectors as preparedness measures are adopted by NCRS were -Policy and guidelines, Material resources, and Human resources.



Panelist:

Ms. **Pramila Subedi**, StartUp Fund

Ms. Pramila explained that StartUp Fund has been a locally led and very swift mechanism to localization, which reaches needy communities within 72 hours. It is a very quick mechanism in Nepal that is easily accessible to all stakeholders. The StartUp Fund has local members, which makes coordination with the local government easy and accessible. They also promote locally initiated and led financial mechanisms.



Panelist:

Mr. **Hum Bahadur Bhandari**, NGO Federation

Mr. Hum informed us that NGO Federation of Nepal, umbrella organization of entire NGOs in Nepal, has



four major roles and mechanisms at different levels – i) capacity building of CSOs, ii) creating enabling environment and space for CSOs, iii) CSOs mobilization for action and iv) documentation, visibility and advocacy. NGO Federation have been trying to set local government mechanisms and mobilize the CSOs through institutional structures of NGO federation. Some of their upcoming priorities includes building linkages among local, national and international levels, strengthening of civic space, and ensuring the civil society space is acknowledged with the capacity building of CSOs at the heart of that process.

The Panelists jointly raised key concerns to pave way forward for capacity strengthening

- Promotion of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) has been another important effort to promote localization.
- Focus on strengthening the capacity of CSOs for coordinated humanitarian response, co-creation and advocacy.
- Energetic participation by all the national and local organizations to take forward the Start Fund's swift mechanism.
- Scaling up a vibrant coordination mechanism for better response along with coherence in quality relationship partnership, effective coordination, policy engagement and financing are very important for capacity strengthening of local responders.



“ The problem with this world cannot possibly be solved by sceptics or cynics whose horizons are limited by the obvious realities. We need people who can dream of things that never were. ”

- John F. Kennedy



07

FEATURED SESSION

Lessons, challenges and future in shelter response and recovery in Asia

The panel session on capturing lessons, challenges and future in shelter response and recovery in Asia was facilitated and led by Mr. **Marc D' Silva**, Regional Director, CRS Asia. The main goal of this panel session was to hear from the five different countries that have faced a considerable number of disasters including the key challenges and lessons learnt while forwarding various disaster response and recovery initiatives; and, to identify where their governments would be interested to collaborate with ASF, and what we could be doing differently in this forthcoming partnership.

Panelist:

Mr. **Le Quang Tuan**, Deputy Director, Vietnam Disaster Management Authority (VNDMA)



The Vietnamese government policy was to support poor households to build houses safe from flood and landslide, through a safe house program under the Prime Minister's decision that commands disaster management at the national level. In Vietnam, provisions are allowed to provide loans to HHs for safe and disaster resistant houses in coastal provinces. There is also an investment program to build flood proof residential clusters. The government has also been investing in building new residential clusters. A community development project with the aim of building residential structures, a safe housing project was started in 2005. Government of Vietnam has received good responses from international partners such as UNDP, ADB, Caritas, CRS, GCF, IOM etc. during multi-disaster events where they implemented various programs for safe house programs, retrofitting with BBB model, shelter repair in-kind and cash-based support, and capacity building of communities and local governments for disaster resilience. Government has encouraged private sectors to join to rebuild new residential clusters in 8 provinces of Vietnam. Under decisions of Vietnam's Prime Minister, some legal bases on natural disaster risk reduction and activities to support building safe houses against natural disasters have been formulated, one of the major milestones includes the National Strategy for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control to 2030, with a vision to 2050. Mr. Le recommended a need for an on-the-spot/area-based approach for support. Joint effort whereby keeping the community at the center of communication and coordination is necessary. Similarly, on the spot supply & logistic arrangements, adaptation to climate change, promotion of participation of domestic and international organizations, promotion of local skills, materials and strengthening of local markets are important factors to be considered in area-based support. Mr. Le stated that platforms like ASF can help in establishing technical support groups and information exchange channels with concerned humanitarian practitioners and organizations throughout Asia region ASF.

Presentation: <https://bit.ly/3D8PEGj>

Panelist:

Mr. **Drs. H. Iyan Kusmadiana**, M. Si- Director of Social Protection for Natural Disaster Victims, Ministry of Social Affairs, Republik of Indonesia.



Soon after any disasters such as earthquake, volcanic eruption or tsunami, the Government of Indonesia formulates programs to respond to disaster victims by formulating funds for reconstruction and rehabilitation of disaster affected homes and communities in the affected areas. To respond to disasters, the Government of Indonesia is also supported by several development partners and local organizations by contribution of funds to create projects like Community-Based Settlement Rehabilitation and Reconstruction where the approach is to assure safe and dignified shelters to the affected people. Involvement of development organizations has pioneered in humanitarian responses in Indonesia where shelter reconstruction is organized based on clusters and promotes community action planning approach. Local organizations implement programs to prepare guidelines for community

mapping and community action planning.

Local organizations' approach has centered in Indonesia as key players in humanitarian response. Local institutions such as Human Initiatives have gained momentum and are expanding humanitarian response not only in Indonesia and its local level, but also to other countries of the world. Private sector actors in Indonesia are also responding to humanitarian support and the Government of Indonesia is positive about involving private sector in shelter response with hopes of their acceleration in future too.

Mr. Kusmadaina informed about provision of inclusive shelter for disaster affected people was taken as the first requirement by the Government of Indonesia. This process in fact has imparted lessons of need-based support for rehabilitation and recovery of disaster affected people in Indonesia. Further to engage with platforms like ASF, Mr. Kusmadaina recommended that ASF should strategically engage with countries in the region to expand localization approaches in disaster response as well as to find practical solutions in engaging private sector actors in housing sectors.

Panelist:

Ms. **Rowena P. Dineros**, Director, Public Housing and Settlement Service, Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD), Philippines



Disaster has hit hard Philippines many times including earthquake, tsunami, volcanic eruption. One of the approaches used by the government in Mauri region was to form a task force for early response. Profiling of affected families in most affected areas was done and most of them now have already moved to permanent shelters. Another approach used in Tal region was developing an inventory of housing with the collaboration of the national housing agency. 600 families were moved into settlement areas, and 2500 families identified are yet to be relocated.

Ms. Rowena stated there is a need for collaboration among INGOs, donors and government. The principles of 4 Ps: Public Private People Participation should be applied. There is also a need to plan ahead for local shelter, which is a roadmap of any government unit. We conducted situational analysis, affordability analysis and vulnerability assessment to identify families prone to multi-hazards. A local shelter plan has been developed, which is a 9-year plan prepared in-line with the government plan. The Philippines has less than 1 percent budget allocated to housing, so there is a need for allocating more funds to it.

Ms. Rowena insisted that platforms like ASF could contribute in finalizing the post disaster recovery framework for the Philippines which is currently assisted by the World Bank. Further, platforms like ASF should also reach to many donors to conduct similar forums in upcoming years from national to regional

level so that walk the talk are materialized through rich discussions and joint actions ASF can help the government in financing mechanisms to implement its relevant recovery focused programs.

Panelist:

Mr. **Md. Atiqul Haque**, Director General, Department of Disaster management, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Bangladesh



The Government of Bangladesh is going to construct 1 million disaster resistant housing shelters for homeless people. The government will act plans for disaster management to provide home and other facilities for landless and homeless people. The government is taking necessary action and has allocated sufficient funds for this purpose. The government has already constructed more than 1 lakh and 50 thousand houses and remaining construction work is on-going. Emphasis has been given towards building environmentally friendly houses using blocks. Local and international organizations have also been supporting the government. This approach has successfully addressed this settlement issue. Households are also provided with other facilities like water, electricity etc. so they can stay soundly in the houses that are sustainable.

Mr. Atiqul stated that the government should work collectively as per the commitment of houses for all to set examples in the region. Identification of the right beneficiaries is crucial in the process. There is a need to emphasize on needs and interests of affected local people in the recovery process, so that accordingly the government, NGOs, leaders should address their needs and interests inclusively

Mr. Atiqul mentioned that platforms like ASF can act as a phenomenal role to bridge and coordinate among government and all interested development partners calling for a holistic approach.

Panelist:

Mr. **Pradip Kumar Koirala**, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs - Government of Nepal



Nepal achieved 88% success in reconstruction of private housing. After the Gorkha earthquake, the government introduced some policy changes, like the Special Act, which helped streamline the reconstruction process. NRA was set up to focus on reconstruction, with dedicated human resources for reconstruction. All these factors helped achieve 88% completion of private houses. However, one of the issues is getting accurate data for reconstruction in a

developing country like Nepal. People tend to spend the money/tranche given for reconstruction for other purposes, so there is a need to monitor properly. Another critical part is ensuring the quality of constructed houses. There is also a need to ensure if there are proper roads, electricity, and other facilities. These are some of the critical learning points. There are also fewer examples of reconstruction of public buildings, and more successes in private housing.

Mr. Pradip stated that there is a need for a separate policy on disaster risk management plans. He said that disaster should be like science, but it has been treated like art. We need to analyze whether a place is suitable for reconstruction or not. Reconstruction should be done with proper resettlement and land use plans. Reconstruction is just an action for the government, but it is a whole life for those who lose their houses. There is also a need to address the psychological, livelihood and cultural aspects while doing reconstruction.

Mr. Pradip recommended that platforms like ASF could play a role in advocacy and a platform for sharing knowledge and boosting learnings. It can also help in documentation of good examples for other countries, which could also be used for advocacy. Many funds are not provided despite commitment from the donors, so ASF can also help in the lobbying and advocating for funding support with donors. ASF could also advocate for the creation of some agencies or give clear direction on how reconstruction should be taken ahead with clear responsibilities. Overall, ASF can support advocacy at international and national levels.

Panelist:

Mr. **Brett Moore**, Chief of Shelter and Settlements, UNCHR and Co-lead of Global Shelter Cluster

Asia and South-east Asia are at the epicenter of a very volatile present and future of natural hazards. Let's not forget the floods in Pakistan and Tsunami had affected multiple countries. There is a collective bonding experience around disaster. Through bodies like clusters and events like shelter forums, knowledge and learnings are shared, but its more than that; these platforms also help institutionalize those learnings and formulate policy from the agencies to the practitioners to community levels. 7 percent of the GDP in Asia is impacted by disasters, which is a huge economic impact. There are also political impacts, which are inseparable. One of the important aspects is strategic planning at national level and tactical planning/implementation at local levels; the cycle between national and local level is very important, along with keeping inclusion at center. There is a need to leverage the strengths of the government and INGOs at the local level. There should not be any hierarchies. We are going into a future of endless needs, so we should be prepared not only for now but also for the future; we need to learn and agree now, as we do not have much time for too much discussion.



There is a need for allocation at central level and distribution at household levels. Livelihood should be an integral part of housing support. The capacities and nature of urban settlements are different, so effective shelter response must be rapid and affordable. There is also a need for regional packages. The average level of income, education, incidence of gender-based violence, and health situation is much better in families that receive adequate and timely housing support.

Key takeaways messages concluded from this regional panel session were:

- Development of reliable mechanisms needs to be emphasized to forward coordination, collaboration, and share resources for sustainable shelter solutions that are timely, adequate, and efficient to meet the needs of the vulnerable populations and the communities we serve.
- Standing by the priority of Sendai framework, the forum has triggered common collaborations for enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction.
- The law provides ample opportunity for the provincial governments to negotiate with the federal government for the allocation of the budget as well as human resources, however, especially provisioned coordination mechanisms can provide a way forward to channelize these opportunities.
- The appropriate housing refers not only to a combination of a plot of land and a BBB provisioned building, but also equally important is associated services such as water supply, sanitation, energy, inclusion, livelihoods upliftment and more importantly now also access to the information and technology.

 <https://youtu.be/iiAY5FOHFWQ>





08

KEY PRESENTATIONS

8.1 Post 2015 Gorkha Nepal Earthquake: Retrospective Perspective of Recovery & Reconstruction, Dr. Chandra Bahadur Shrestha, Executive Member, NRA



<https://bit.ly/3iCkAFe>



<https://youtu.be/jhaDqw2qds0>

The purpose of this presentation was to give highlights of achievements of the NRA over the time period of 6 years. Dr. Chandra provided key accomplishments in private housing, public buildings reconstruction, heritage reconstruction and in the livelihood sector through income generation. During the last six years, the NRA has seen many challenges, from having to train masons to build the homes in the rural areas to sustaining the tempo of reconstruction and rehabilitation even during the current coronavirus pandemic that has been raging across the country for the past 18 months. The experiences that the NRA has been able to gather over the years should be a big help in carrying out similar rehabilitation and reconstruction activities in the country. NRA proposed an owner driven approach to reconstruction of private houses whereby formulating several compelling guidelines to facilitate the beneficiaries and to mobilize local stakeholders in reconstruction works. Through the BBB model, NRA has adequately



achieved success in enhancing awareness on building codes and hazard resilient norms while transfer of government grant through the banking system has imparted transparency and empowered the beneficiaries. Dr. Chandra reports the progress made by NRA until Mid-March 2021, among which 84.77% private houses are about to complete out of 829667.

The NRA has made provisions to relocate families who were living in vulnerable areas to safer places or allowed landless beneficiaries to buy land to build a house. Those landless beneficiaries and beneficiaries living in vulnerable areas who have not been able to buy land for various reasons have also been asked by the NRA to complete land acquisition work as best as possible. The NRA could not achieve much progress in retrofitting, as acceptance level



at communities' level with poor finances resulted in knee jerk reaction. However, the knowledge base for future intervention is ready as NRA has invested in training human resources and local masons on retrofitting technologies. Similarly, NRA has been able to ensure justice in grievances handled through appellate court while special focus was given to addressing vulnerable and marginalized households. Local elected bodies were involved in the verification model as methodology of housing grants. Till Mid – March 2021, out of 920 monuments, 586 are rehabilitated (63.7%); 195 are under construction (21.2%) and 112 are yet to be started (12.5%). Strong engagement with local communities were encouraged by revitalizing local users' committees in heritage reconstruction. 93.72% of public buildings were reconstructed. NRA made breakthrough achievements by providing skill-based training to 77 thousand masons - among which 16% were women. Line Ministries and partners reached out to 460,000 households investing NPR 20 billion. NRA's impartial work in Nepal reconstruction has amplified key messages that special purpose vehicles like NRA are essential for special types of work, like disaster management/recovery with high preferences in fast-track decision making in which autonomy in authority and funding is required. As a way forward, NRA is committed towards strengthening of NDRRMA, as successor of NRA, to take over national leadership for disaster preparedness, rescue & relief, and post-disaster reconstruction and recovery. As parting message, NRA is committed to influence government and concerned agencies to initiate national campaigns on retrofitting for private as well as public buildings. Furthermore, NRA has always and will continue to conduct advocacy for enabling local governments to handle pre, during and post disaster compliances.

The learning and experiences from the post-earthquake reconstruction and rehabilitation has created a basis for achieving the national goal of building a disaster-resilient Nepal, the vast learnings of which is targeted to share by NRA among all supportive donors, national and international delegates, involved concerned stakeholders, development partners, government line agencies, media and public at large by conducting ICNR from 7-9 December 2021, in Kathmandu.

8.2 Regional Shelter Cluster Initiatives and Working Groups, Ms. Dipti Hingorani, Regional Shelter and Settlements Coordinator, IFRC Asia-Pacific & Global Focal Point for Technical Coordination, Global Shelter Cluster and Mr. Alberto Alcalde, Programme Officer (Shelter/NFI)- IOM Bangladesh



 <https://bit.ly/3qsiRH9>

 <https://youtu.be/WusbYdsNpU8>

The purpose of this presentation was to inform participants about the GSC mechanism and Regional Shelter Cluster Initiatives along with some good examples of shelter projects in the Asia Region. Ms. Dipti started the session highlighting the GSC, which is an IASC coordination mechanism that supports people affected by conflict with the means to live in safe, dignified, and appropriate shelter. The GSC has two co-leads. IFRC is the convener for disaster emergencies and UNHCR is the lead for conflict emergencies. There are around 40 plus partners of the GSC including NGOs, Red Cross Red Crescent, and UN Agencies and Donors.

It was stated that the GSC has a management approach that allows participation and at the same time streamlines decision making process which has been informed by the experience of country-level shelter clusters since 2006 and recommendations by the sub-working group on the cluster approach in implementing the transformative agenda. It is guided by global partnership and includes a diverse network of operational, technical, and academic organizations, donors, and other stakeholders with a shared objective of strengthening humanitarian shelter and settlement response.

It was explained that the GSC has an elected 11-member Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) as a permanent body to advance GSC strategic direction and overall workplan which is further supported by global support team, regional focal points, donor consultation group, working groups, community of practice (CoP) followed by country-level shelter clusters for coherent and effective humanitarian shelter response following disaster events.

It was stated that there is a regional coordination team led by IFRC and Red Crescent Societies in accordance with its global shelter mandate, priorities, provision of support to country-level clusters across the Asia-Pacific according to their specific needs and much of the support is provided to national governments who are responsible for humanitarian response in their countries.

It was mentioned that the GSC strategy 2018-2022, which aims to strengthen shelter and settlements responses to build resilient communities, is framed on improving coordination, advocacy, evidence-based response and strengthening shelter capacity to address ongoing and emerging challenges. It was also

mentioned that the functions of shelter cluster at the global level focus on providing a global coordination platform, developing, maintaining and providing support to county-level cluster, policy & advocacy and capacity building to professionalization of the shelter sector, whereas country-level shelter coordination focuses on coordinated assessments, technical coordination and information management, advocacy, strategic planning, monitoring & reporting including preparedness activities among others.

It was noted that the Shelter Cluster in Asia has nine active working groups that are task oriented and time bound. The nine active working group include: Construction Standards Working Group, Inclusion of Person with Disabilities in Shelter Programming, NFI Practice Self-Recovery (promoting safer buildings) Working Group, Settlement Approaches in Urban Areas, Shelter Projects, Shelter Vulnerability Classification, State of Humanitarian Shelter & Settlements and Working Group on Diaspora Engagement in Shelter Response.



It was stated that the GSC team has been expanded by additional human resources through USAID and ECHO funding and includes the following positions: global focal point for advocacy, global focal point for research, global focal point for environment, roving cluster coordinators and roving information managers to support country clusters and its operations.

Shelter projects in the Asia-Pacific Region were briefly elaborated. Interagency publication started in 2008, led by IOM and supported by Bureau of Humanitarian Aid (BHA) and has been able to compile case studies from different agencies, contexts, and crisis with the objective of sharing and learning from past experiences and build evidence for the shelter sector in Asia-Pacific Region. The Regional Cluster has been able to develop 12 key messages drawn from more than 250 case studies as part of Shelter Project Essential and is aimed at a broad audience including local and national governments, humanitarian, and development practitioners, environment practitioners, academia, and civil society groups. It is anticipated that it will be a useful tool for raising awareness and supporting advocacy on good shelter programming to help to improve future responses. Click on this link www.sheltercluster.org for more information.

Mr. Alberto Alcalde from IOM-Bangladesh presented a shelter case study of Bangladesh, Rohingya Refugee Camp, one of the biggest camps in the world, which has been in existence since last 25 years. He provided the difference between the current refugee camp, located in the hill-top areas, against a small-scale extension, constructed in the valley for safety reasons. It was stated that the current extension of the refugee camp has been constructed systematically following the standard shelter construction practices for the average household members of 5 (although 20% of the current refugee household has family size of 6+ members) in consultation with the Government of Bangladesh. The extension of the shelter construction site has been exceptional as it has been assessed from an engineering viewpoint

using drone technology for site selection. Adequate investment has been made in site planning and site development, with considerations given to road access, drainage system, WASH, health facilities, community learning centers etc. in coordination with other sectors. The improved shelter construction has been appropriately designed with a standard size of 25 square meter (5m x 5 m) and appropriate use of rafters, beams, and columns along with chemical treatment of bamboo to increase its longevity and cement plaster on the cooking-wall to avoid fire hazards. He stated that only 700 of these shelters have been built, although there are more than 100 thousand shelters in IOM area of responsibility, and he required positive engagement with all actors for continued support for the cause of dignified life and living conditions of refugee populations.



“ The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising everytime we fall. ”

- Nelson Mandela



09

NEPAL SHELTER AND HOUSING FORUM 2021 DECLARATION AND COMMITMENT

The Nepal Shelter and Housing Forum 2021 was regarded as an opportunity for governments, I/NGOs, and community-based organizations (CBOs) to share and identify the most appropriate housing solutions for safe and dignified homes for vulnerable households through improved collaboration and networking. This Regional Forum has boosted robust dialogues between governments, non-governmental organizations, CBOs, and practitioners to ensure sustainability and institutionalization of best practices. The conference has escalated the promotion of forming the National Shelter and Housing Forum for collective coordination among shelter practitioners and government agencies.

Through the rigorous discussions undertaken on the national day of ASF 2021, the shelter recovery practitioners, institutions engaged in shelter and settlements, development partners and government agencies have expressed commitments towards Shelter Emergency Response and Multi Hazard Housing Recovery and Resilience. Government ministries, professional experts, I/NGOs, organizing committee members and donor partners hereby reaffirm our commitment to the communities across Nepal that we will strengthen our collaboration to ensure safer and dignified shelter, settlement, and housing to affected families. This Nepal Shelter and Housing Community of Practice will effectively coordinate with

the Government of Nepal to ensure local governments and communities are equipped with knowledge, systems and resources and empowered to lead timely and appropriate responses. To achieve this goal, we agree to meet at a minimum for an annual event but will aim to institutionalize engagement by building on existing coordination mechanisms.





10

CONCEPTUALIZING NEPAL SHELTER AND HOUSING FORUM

National Reconstruction Authority (NRA), which has been phased out since December 2021, was able to raise awareness of earthquake affected beneficiaries in earthquake affected districts through its socio-technical assistance and grant support program. After the phase-out of NRA, NDRRMA, and MoUD have been entrusted to continue building disaster resilient shelters and other public infrastructure, leading to building disaster resilient communities. In this regard, it is important that partners engaged in the disaster risk reduction, management, and climate change sector coordinate and collaborate with NDRRMA, MoUD and other government agencies to make synergetic efforts while fulfilling the gaps and addressing the needs of local populations especially of populations who are living in mountain areas vulnerable to multiple disasters such as earthquakes, landslides, floods, fire, and other multi-hazards. Climate change induced erratic and extreme rainfall pattern has exacerbated the vulnerability of settlements, which requires either relocation to safe locations or the immunization of existing locations with adequate preventative measures.

In this context, coordination efforts are essential, and strengthening vertical linkages among federal, provincial, and local governments including adoption of earthquake resilient technologies are of utmost importance.

Acknowledging given circumstances, all partners attending national day events of ASF 2021 have commonly agreed to strengthen the capacity of NDRRMA and local governments so that communities at large can benefit from the services provided by government institutions in the long run.

Therefore, it is anticipated that the National Shelter and Housing Forum (NSHF) will be a common platform of shelter practitioners, and shelter and housing agencies regularly communicate and to strengthen National Shelter and housing community practices for sustainability. It will continuously strive towards strengthening existing coordination and communication functions (Shelter Cluster, Housing Recovery and Reconstruction Platform), information management system, policy advocacy along with capacity building of stakeholders involved in the post-disaster housing recovery and reconstruction through collaboration. The NSHF will be a loose platform to engage and collaborate with government, I/NGOs, donors, and private sector working in DRR, Shelter Emergency Response and Housing and Settlement Recovery and Reconstruction to have meaningful engagement with beneficiaries on the ground, for sustainable owner driven housing solutions with increased capacity and technical solutions at hand in times of crisis and throughout normal times. The NSHF will also engage with other regional and global networks in terms of sharing knowledge, skills, and best practices in the field of shelter and settlements for continuous learning and improvement in this sector. The NSHF will be organized in Nepal in 2022 by local agencies to continue the collaboration and build on the joint commitment made during ASF 2021 to work together to build resilient homes and communities in Nepal.



“ When you change your thoughts, remember to also change your world. ”

- Norman Vincent Peale



11

CLOSING CEREMONY

National Coordinator of HRRP, Mr. **Minar Thapa Magar** facilitated the closing session using a Mentimeter survey. The results of participants' feedback were focused around subject areas of localized coordination, disaster financing, reconstruction and recovery, community engagement, involvement of government, capacity enhancement, vulnerable support, green shelter support, and disaster preparedness.



The key aspirations of all the sessions have been documented and shared with lessons learned and way forward in the ASF Proceeding Report (both hard copy print and electronic copy) with a larger aim to strengthen the Nepal Shelter and Housing Community of Practice. The conference has featured discussions on longer-term recovery and added value to create a network of shelter and settlement practitioners across the Asia-Pacific.

11.1 Appreciation and Token of Love distribution by Chief Guest

Chief Executive of NDRRMA, Mr. **Anil Pokhrel** handed over the appreciation and token of love to each

country's representatives on behalf of the Government of Nepal. Similarly, a certificate of appreciation was also provided to organizations of ASF Organizing Committee by Mr. Pokhrel.



11.2 Handover of Asia Shelter Forum 2022 responsibility from Government of Nepal to Government of Bangladesh

Chief Executive of NDRRMA, Mr. **Anil Pokhrel** gracefully passed the handover of ASF 2022 organizing responsibility from GoN to the Government of Bangladesh in which Mr. **Md. Atiqul Haque**, Director General, Department of Disaster Management, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Bangladesh assumed the handover responsibility to organize ASF 2022 in Bangladesh.

Sharing the handover speech, Mr. **Md. Atiqul Haque** on behalf of the Government of Bangladesh expressed warm congratulations and gratitude to the GoN and ASF Organizing Committee for organizing the ASF 2021 International Conference successfully. Mr. Md. Atiqul Haque stated that various best practices in shelter recovery were discussed, learned, and shared during ASF 2021 which equally signifies that shelter is one of the



most crucial aspects of human life especially during times of disaster. Further, Mr. Haque mentioned that the ASF has certainly achieved a milestone regarding documenting best practices, capturing learnings and building networks, and will continuously strive to share best practices, enhance knowledge and instill

lesson learning for assuring meaningful participation in the shelter response and recovery sector. It is through better preparedness that stakeholders and citizens can respond to future disaster. Therefore, knowledge sharing and its application as a disaster risk reduction tool – by involving communities in response and recovery – is imperative. Government of Bangladesh is thankful to GoN to receive handover certificate of organizing ASF 2022 in Bangladesh and we are confident that ASF 2022 will continue to contribute to the Asia Pacific Region by sharing ideas and lesson learnt in the region, building a stronger network in the region, and contributing to the Global Shelter Forum. The Government of Bangladesh is happy to share the excitement that ASF 2022 will be organized with technical and coordination support from CARITAS Bangladesh, CRS Bangladesh, and other shelter-based organizations.



11.3 Closing Remarks by Chief Executive of NDRRMA, Mr. Anil Pokhrel

Chief Executive of NDRRMA Mr. **Anil Pokhrel** offered a vote of thanks on behalf of the Government of Nepal. He delightfully praised that NDRRMA jointly with MoUD are proud to announce the successful completion of ASF 2021 International Conference in Kathmandu Nepal. He expressed thanks to all participants and stakeholders who traveled from far away countries to spend time in sharing their country's experiences and for the energetic involvement in discussions encircled around disaster recovery.

Similarly, Mr. Pokhrel raised the hard work put forward by the organizing committee, facilitators, concerned officials of MoUD, NRA and NDRRMA who were involved thoroughly in countless meetings to contribute to provide excellent shape to ASF 2021 and continued the legacy of excellent sharing platform on shelter recovery in the Asia region. He mentioned that the technical team in ASF support also deserves sincere thanks for their endless technical help.

Further, he congratulated the Government of Bangladesh and the dignitaries' representatives for taking

responsibility for the next ASF in their country. He expressed that GoN would like to assure participation as well as support and coordination to the organizing committee of the next ASF.

Sharing of the country's experiences and best practices will continue to be instrumental in advocating for providing safe housing to the people in actual need of shelter, and to formulate relevant livelihoods-based initiatives.

Mr. Pokhrel emphasized that we cannot wait until next year to solve and follow up on issues of the shelter and settlement issues of the vulnerable population. We need to act promptly and need to better collaborate and enhance our partnerships, and we need to efficiently respond to shelter needs of the people who are living in disaster prone areas by applying BBB principles. We have to use multiple resources by remaining intact with minimum baseline standards of partnership, sustainability and participation.

The Asia region lies in the disaster fault zones, so we must use multiple resources and we are committed to take these reflections, knowledge resources, lessons learned, best practices, challenges, opportunities not limited to national level but from provincial to local level.







12

FIELD VISIT

The third day (27 November) of the fourth ASF International Conference was especially set aside for field visits to observe the exemplary practices in public buildings reconstruction and retrofitting and the private housing reconstruction. The field visits were participated by ASF Secretariat team, national delegates and by international delegates from Asia region.

Field visit on third day was conducted in Kathmandu valley to observe the ongoing retrofitting of government buildings in Singha Durbar, the main administrative sector of GoN. Similarly, the visit was conducted in central part of Kathmandu to observe the completed reconstruction of Dharahara and later taken to observe the shelter reconstruction and recovery in heritage settlements in Bungamati, Ward no. 22, Lalitpur Metropolitan City. With the aim of conserving heritage settlements through sustainable tourism thus by empowering women, youth and conserving culture and heritage, UNHabitat Nepal as key lead of SWITCH Asia Grants Program, PARYA SAMPADA Project has been implemented to support reconstruction efforts taking place in Bungamati area.





“ Strength does not come from winning your struggles develop your strengths, when you go through hardships and decide not to surrender that is strength. ”

- Mahatma Gandhi



13

PARTICIPANT'S FEEDBACK AND REFLECTION ANALYSIS



13.1 Feedback

Tremendous learning and knowledge have been received by participants through the vigorous discussions throughout the ASF. The knowledge and learnings accumulated from the ASF conference is vital to rigorously apply in developing suitable initiatives for addressing future disaster events. There is a need for integrated efforts at the field level for recovery support to those unreached people from housing to livelihoods extension.

Moreover, a huge diversity of participants, from regional to national government delegates along with experts and professionals working in shelter response, disaster risk management and cross cutting sectors have attended the ASF International Conference in both hybrid and physical mode. Some local government bodies and frontline workers also came forward to present their accomplishments in housing reconstruction. Such success stories have highlighted the proactive roles of local bodies in recovery efforts. The interactions in the conference have also addressed how the nature-based solutions are critical for the sustainability of recovery processes. Speakers put untiring efforts to showcase the outcomes of the focused program initiatives in disaster recovery and shelter response across many parts of the Asia

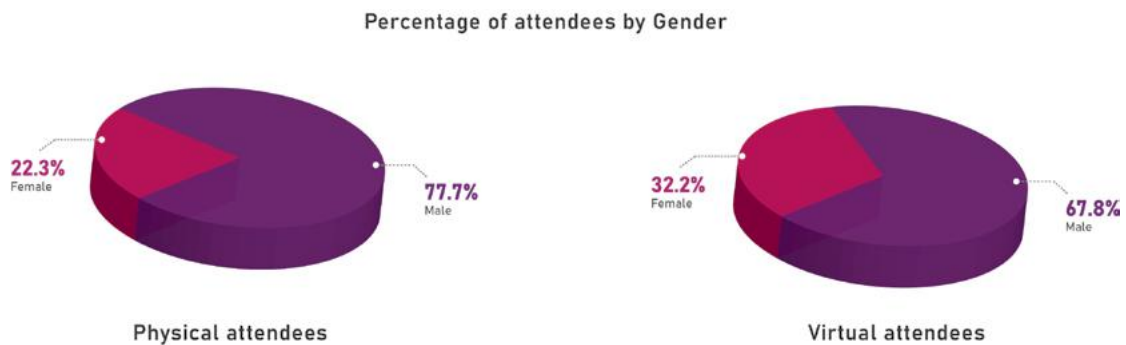
region. Speakers have stressed the importance of mass sensitization and citizens’ acceptance towards the recovery programs that revolve around following the policies and technologies that ensure strong and resilient homes and communities. Majority of the issues and inputs put forward by participants emphasized the need for active special provisioned mechanisms, be at national or provincial level, or at local level and at individual organizational level so that disaster preparedness initiatives can be executed systematically.

13.2 Reflection Analysis

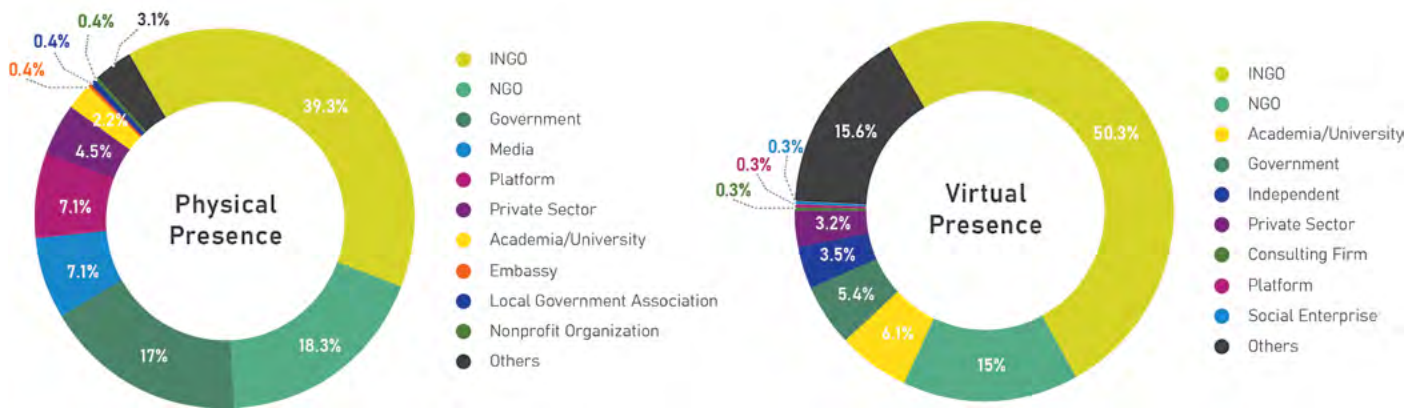
- Cross learning and sharing from one other about reliable shelter response and recovery practices across countries in the Asia region is the main highlight of this kind of platform.
- The regional mechanisms such as Asia Shelter Forum and other technical working groups under various thematic issues have certainly improved needful coordination among all shelter actors, thereby promoting better shelter practices including through information-sharing at all levels from regional level to country level, contributing to global shelter forum.
- This kind of forum continues to have meaningful engagement with government partners including donor and development partners for joint initiatives to respond around shelter and settlement issues for sustainable solutions focusing on recovery and livelihoods of vulnerable populations.
- Interactive forums are needed to cascade from national to regional and local levels, and to facilitate lively dialogue as often as possible to mitigate, promote and share innovative ideas to respond to shelter needs of the vulnerable and disaster affected people.
- Parallel thematic sessions have resulted in productive outcomes with increased understanding on thematic issues for continuous collaboration and partnership among all the regional stakeholders.
- Coordination has been underscored as important and as the prerequisite element in all phases of disaster response, so that relevant support clusters remain lively and respond with prompt actions where support is critical.

13.3 Participants/Attendees Activity Analysis

Of the total **538** participants, **224** (**22.3%** female; **77.7%** male) participated in-person, while **314** (**32.2%** female; **67.8%** male) joined via a virtual medium (ZOOM). In-person and virtual conference participants represented more than **87** organizations from **40** different countries. Additional participants who joined via social media platforms (Live through Facebook and YouTube) has increased the total number of participants to about **600**.



Presence by type of organizations



ANNEXES

- A. Questions and Answers (Q&A)**
- B. Feedback as received in Mentimeter**
- C. Budget Expenditure and Income Details**
- D. Schedule**

A. Questions and Answers (Q & A)

Q: How is the Shelter Cluster planning its mechanisms at the provincial level?

A: Shelter Cluster is planning to develop a strategy from federal to province to local levels, and involvement is flourishing. IOM is leading in Province 1, CRS in Gandaki province, Save the Children in Karnali province and Mercy Corps in Far West. One meeting was held in Janakpur, Province 2 with the provincial government. Expansion of engagement mechanisms at province level is progressing.

Q: How is HRRP planning to take forward its humanitarian response in longer terms?

HRRP is in the restructuring phase and shifting its coordination roles from NRA towards NDRRMA. The changed context might involve renaming of HRRP and will be rescoped to work with the government strategically in multi-sectoral hazards on a long-term basis. As a coordination platform, it will continue working with various organizations having varied roles and responsibilities.

Q: What are the challenges faced by private entrepreneurs' sector in eco-panels while working with government or other stakeholders in reconstruction?

There are policies. However, significant gaps persist in implementation from government sectors. Practically the price of eco-panels increases due to the higher custom duty rates of raw materials as compared to the rates of finished goods. The Eco-panel technology is more expensive than prefabricated as the final product is of a quality that doesn't require plastering. Currently, Gorkha Eco-Panel Company has fifteen outlets through dealers and the company has already sent products to sixty districts where rural communities are empowered through timely training.

Q: CSEB technology has been there for 50 years. But what has been preventing the technology to take-off from peoples' level?

People in Nepal are so accustomed to bricks. Therefore, it is still challenging to change their perspectives in adoption of alternative technologies like CSEB. However, since the enterprise works with local micro enterprises in scaling up the technology, it is more effective in Nepal in comparison to other countries where the technology is being used only at the individual level. There is a challenge to advocate and lobby with the government for approval of Norms Specification on CSEB technology.

Q: How much retrofitting is feasible in Nepal, and how can people's confidence in retrofitting be gained?

Retrofitting is technically feasible and minimum life safety of houses can be achieved with minimum cost. Retrofitting is applicable in vernacular buildings also with successful models in place. Demonstration by retrofitting model houses in each district is the best way to learn and convey public messages in retrofitting. Interested people will adopt retrofitting if the cost is reduced, which can be done through the introduction of simple and affordable tools for retrofitting, reducing the cost of material through market intervention as there is more profit margin in the market, and the contract process must be simplified.

A. Questions and Answers (Q & A)

Q: It is very important to have partnership with academia. How could decision-makers use the data and research results that are gathered by academics for scientific decision-making?

We need to convince the government that the data we are generating is important. Some shifts in political mindset are also necessary.

Q: What is the situation of digital literacy in the community? Can communities understand the huge data that is being generated?

We need to build the capacity of stakeholders and communities to understand and engage with huge data that is being generated. NDDRMA has established a portal to upload all data and has been trying to localize the effort by building capacity of local communities to use that data.

Q: What was the perception of local communities towards the different tools used by ICIMOD?

ICIMOD's initial effort was to make communities understand about tools, through training for local stakeholders so that they can understand and translate it to their context.

Q: What are disaster preparedness activities undertaken by Kirtipur Municipality?

Kirtipur Municipality has cooperated with organizations such as Lumanti and Oxfam in disaster related programs started before the 2015 Nepal earthquake. The Municipality have conducted disaster vulnerability assessment in many core wards and mock drills were also conducted regularly during the project period. These preliminary works have contributed to setting up of stockpiling of response materials in the municipality.

Q: How were fire safety improvements conducted in Rohingya refugees' camps?

Three tiers of sectoral government, disaster management committee, cyclone management committee and skilled volunteers from the Rohingya community worked out together for managing fire safety in the refugee camps. Door to door visit in Rohingya refugees were done in order to inform to improve their traditional cooking practices in the camps to reduce risk of fire. This was done by introducing safer cooking stoves and by conducting fire safety awareness raising in the camps and settlements.

Q: How to create an inclusive early warning system and tailor ours to assure GESI sensitive DRRM?

Different early warning systems are in place. However, mechanisms are required to access that information. For example, forecasts through radio are not accessible for people with hearing disability, so we need to have alternative systems as well. Early warning task forces can be created that generate data of vulnerable people, especially people with disabilities, so that these task forces can reach out to vulnerable populations. Some interactive tasks could be – discuss with communities regarding their needs, have data on disability and marginalized populations, and prepare for any disaster through stockpiling of essential materials.

A. Questions and Answers (Q & A)

Q: Cost of bamboo construction: per piece around USD 5.90. After 3–6 years' service life of bamboo, can its life be increased? Or what can be done afterwards?

We are yet to explore this in a pilot intervention, which was started in 2019. If there is any damage, the bottom part can be cut, and the rest can be used for other purposes such as bracing instead of post.

Q: What is the status currently in terms of building local capacity in humanitarian response?

It varies per country and context. However, there is a need for more coordination and strategic engagement. We need to explore more opportunities for fundraising in a smooth humanitarian way. We are at the early stage of exploration, and answers should come from local actors; strategies and answers should be developed at the local level.

Q: How do we ensure coordination of various cluster mechanisms?

We need to enhance information sharing and have to conduct communication frequently to boost coordination, which is the first step towards the realization of being part of a cluster. Environmental and social assessment, monitoring and evaluation are also other important aspects of program-based coordination.

Q: Are there any lessons to share from Bangladesh, Vietnam, or Indonesia on retrofitting to be used for shelter response?

Retrofitting is quite important in Vietnam. There are some retrofitting projects, but there is a need to link it with the government and donors. The government also organized some competition in vulnerable areas for promoting retrofitting.

Q: How do you see the ways that the governments can start collaborating with each other?

In Vietnam, the government is trying to work with many higher associations. Indonesia supports conferences in Asia to promote cross learning, expertise support, capacity building, partnership with the private sector and exploration of funding solutions. ASF could also be a platform for these countries to facilitate the knowledge sharing process throughout the year such as in sectoral knowledge enhancement and in exchange of experiences. ASF could play a facilitative role or initiate expertise sharing or conduct subject specific exchange programs among countries. There is a need to build mutual understanding through learning, experience sharing and strict law enforcement.

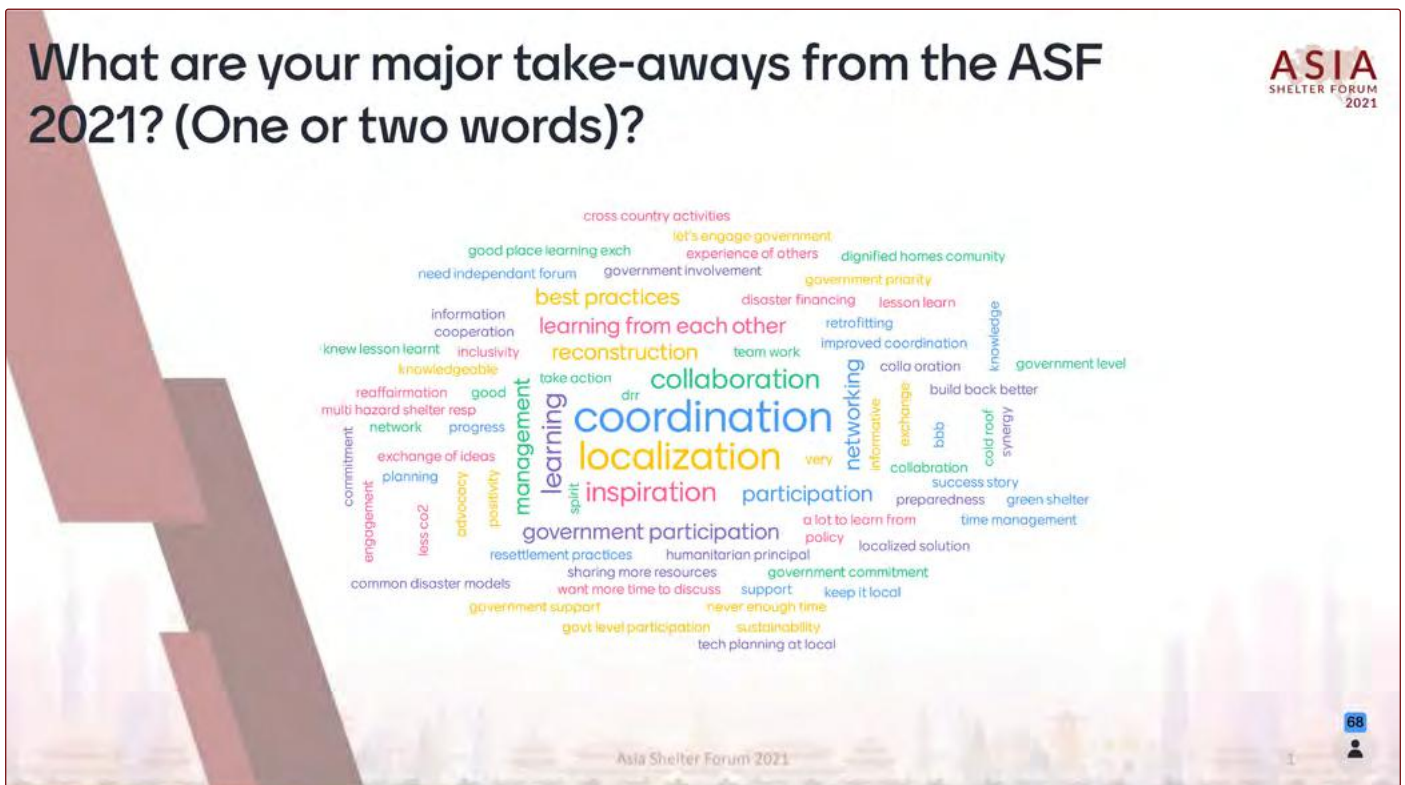
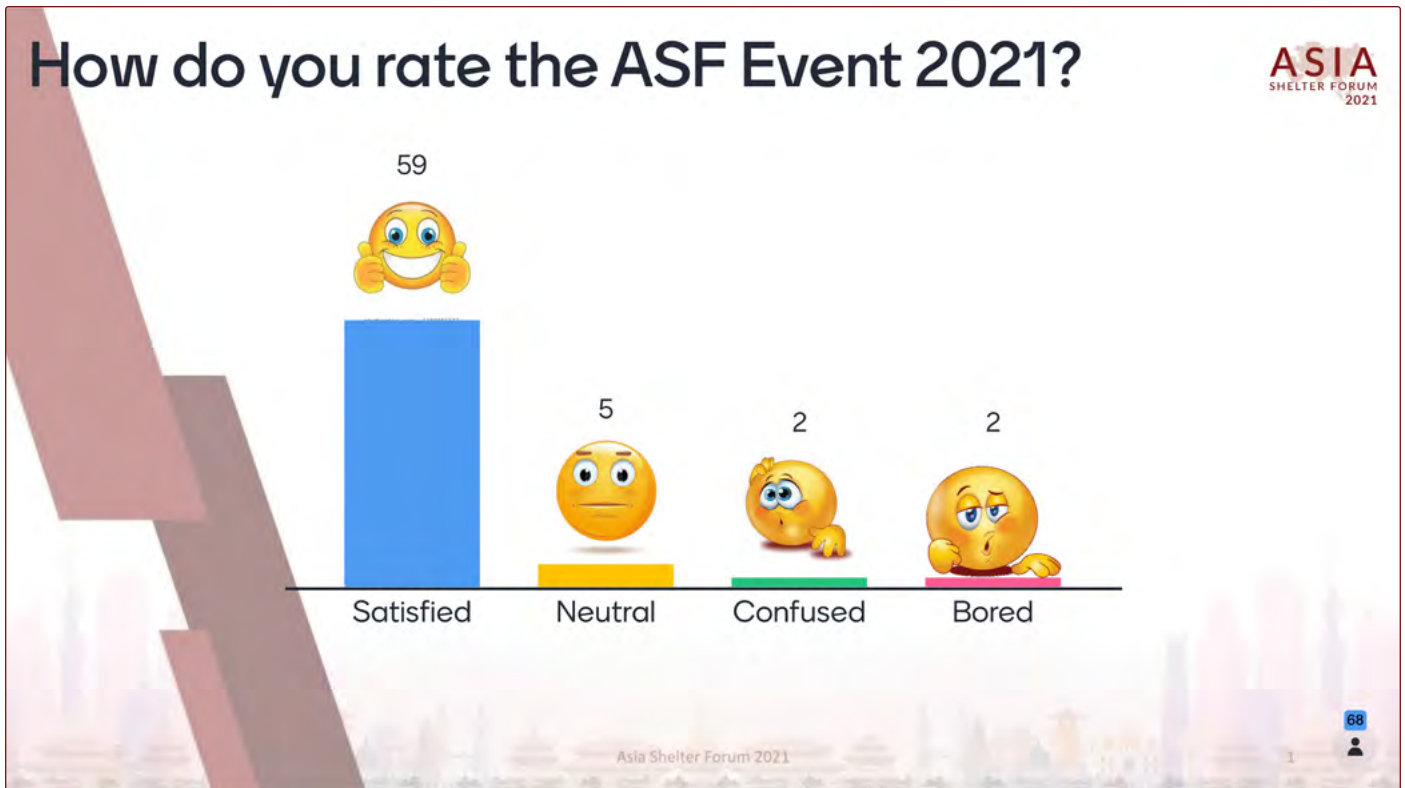
Q: Why does the government and its response mechanisms react when disaster events occur suddenly? Why are relevant preparatory measures not taken before disaster occurs?

Preparatory work to implement measures of NBC commenced 15 years back. Those proved instrumental during their ground level application in the Nepal earthquake 2015. For example, the color-coding system of damage grade assessment was already developed in 2005. The Government's preparatory path

towards these interventions were not publicized. The translation of policy from top towards the local level is a must factor in localization, and system strengthening should go parallel at the local level to adopt the policy implementation.

B. Feedback as received in Mentimeter

Final evaluation of the event



B. Feedback as received in Mentimeter

Final evaluation of the event

Which topic would you like to include in next ASF 2022?

ASIA SHELTER FORUM 2021

disaster financing	Inclusion	Green shelter recovery
Resettlement	Bamboo treatment	Community engagement
Housing finance	Localization	Fire Safety for all

Asia Shelter Forum 2021

Which topic would you like to include in next ASF 2022?

ASIA SHELTER FORUM 2021

Risk insurance	Housing finance	Disaster risk communication
Refugee Resettlement	Concrete localization	forecast based financing
Local Preparedness	Localization	Achievements per ASF 2021

Asia Shelter Forum 2021

B. Feedback as received in Mentimeter

Final evaluation of the event

Which topic would you like to include in next ASF 2022?

ASIA SHELTER FORUM 2021

Urban poverty	Data driven culture	Durable solutions
Protection principle for shelter settlement	Hosting ASF in Nepal	Disaster management, vulnerable support
Localization	Localization	Community engagement

Asia Shelter Forum 2021

67

Which topic would you like to include in next ASF 2022?

ASIA SHELTER FORUM 2021

Disaster financing	Education & Communication Strategies	Budgetting for Inclusion
Inclusiveness	Buildback safer	More on GESI
Partnership	Inclusion	Quick construction

Asia Shelter Forum 2021

67

B. Feedback as received in Mentimeter

Final evaluation of the event

Which topic would you like to include in next ASF 2022?

ASIA SHELTER FORUM 2021

- Strategies for securing land for resettlement
- Localization
- Coordination with government regarding reconstruction
- risk insurance
- Digital means for Drr information- vizrisk
- Reducing carbon in shelter. Rapid urbanisation and it's implications on shelter
- World green
- Community based approach
- GESi mainstreaming in shelter

Asia Shelter Forum 2021

Which topic would you like to include in next ASF 2022?

ASIA SHELTER FORUM 2021

- Case studies on localization
- Localization of housing response
- Disaster financing
- Local Capacity Enhancement
- Multi-sector inclusion streamlined to shelter solutions
- Climate chage impact in shelter
- More technical Cash Voucher Assistant modalities sharing session
- post occupancy evaluation
- Green shelter response with specific inputs

Asia Shelter Forum 2021

B. Feedback as received in Mentimeter

Final evaluation of the event

Which topic would you like to include in next ASF 2022?

ASIA SHELTER FORUM 2021

Inclusive shelter developments	Green shelter	Durable solution
Environment friendly programme	Disaster finance	Migration
sustainable shelters	Green shelter	MORE TIME FOR SHELTER PRACTITIONERS TO TALK ABOUT PRACTITIONERS ISSUES. Not dominated by lecturers from governments, agencies and cluster agendas

Asia Shelter Forum 2021

67

Which topic would you like to include in next ASF 2022?

ASIA SHELTER FORUM 2021

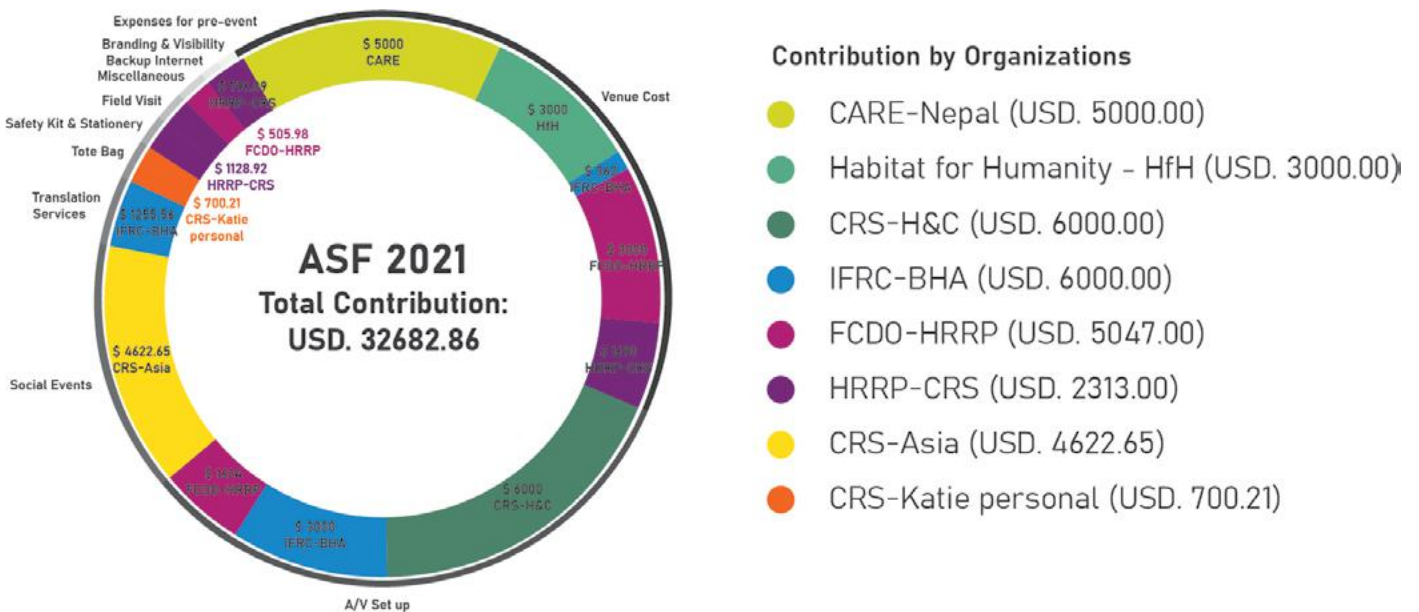
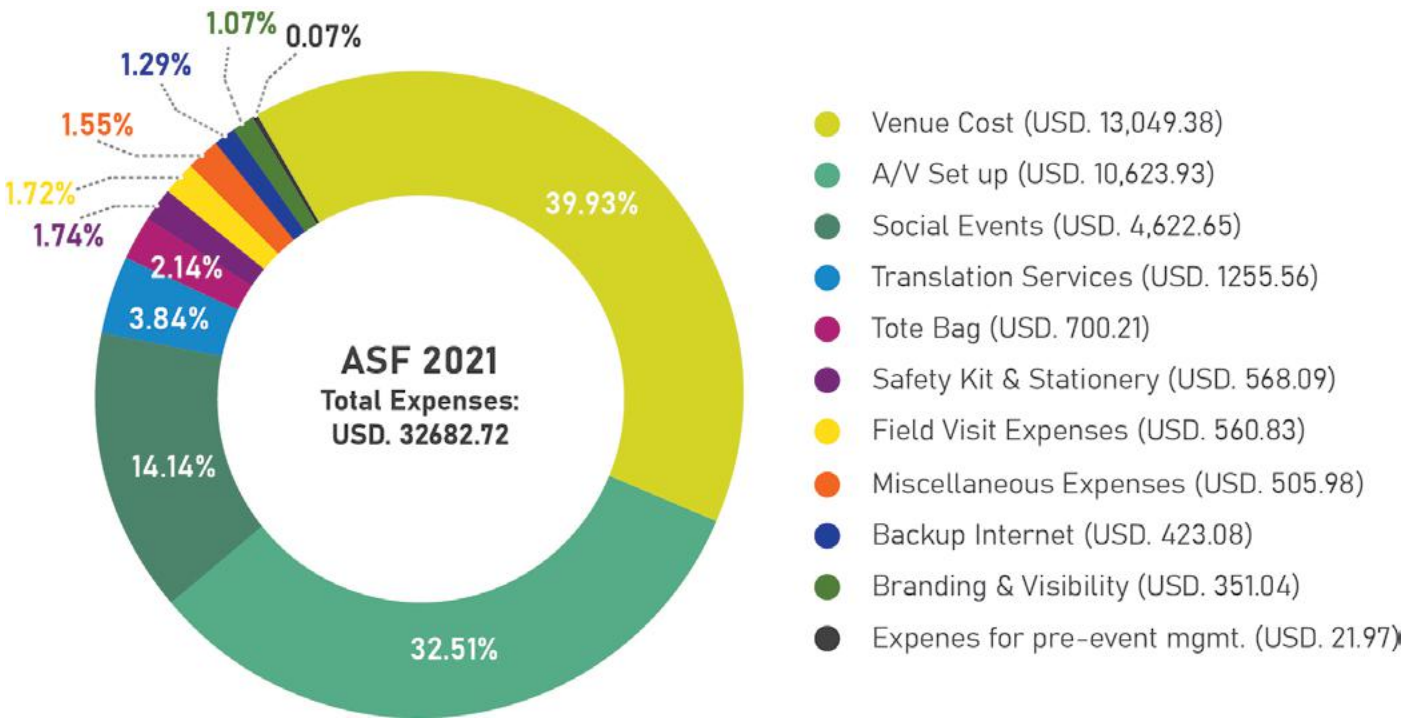
localization	Inclusion	Market based solution for Shelter
localization - roles of homeowners association in disaster management & development		

Asia Shelter Forum 2021

67

C. Budget Expenditure and Income Details

The total expense of 32,682.72 USD was made to organize the Asia Shelter Forum 2021. This doesn't include the HRRP, and the organizing committee members time allocated to design, plan and implement the event.



D. Schedule

Day 1: National Day, 25 November 2021



Day 1 Goal: Documented lessons learned and way forward to strengthen Nepal Shelter and Housing Community of Practice					
Session	Time	Mins	Session Topic	Facilitator	
Registration	8-8:45	45 min	Breakfast & Registration and Visit the Market Stalls	Mr. Rahul Pratap Singh, HRRP	
Government of Nepal Comments	9-9:25	25 min	Session Chair, Dr. Ramesh Prasad Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) Chief Guest, Hon. Minister, Ms. Ram Kumari Jhakri, Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD)	Er. Minar Thapa Magar, HRRP	
			Welcome video from the ASF Organizing Committee Members		
			Welcome remarks by Er. Ram Chandra Dangal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD)		
	Panel: Global and Nepal Technical and Coordination Leaders				
	9:25-10:05	40 min	Panelist: Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Chief Executive, National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA)	Ms. Dipti Hingorani, Regional Shelter and Settlements Coordinator, IFRC, Asia-Pacific & Global Focal Point for Technical Coordination, Global Shelter Cluster	
			Panelist: Prof. Dr. Tri Ratna Bajracharya, President, Nepal Engineers Association (NEA)		
			Panelist: Mr. Brett Moore, Chief of Shelter & Settlements, UNHCR and Co-lead of Global Shelter Cluster		
	Panel: Government of Nepal Technical and Coordination Lead Agencies				
	10:05-10:45	40 min	Panelist: Dr. Chandra Bahadur Shrestha, Executive Member, National Reconstruction Authority (NRA)	Er. Minar Thapa Magar, HRRP	
			Panelist: Er. Padma Kumar Mainalee, Director General, Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC)		
Panelist: Ms. Anita Niraula, Joint Secretary, National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA)					
Government of Nepal Remarks					
10:45-11:15	30 min	Guest: Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Chief Executive, NDRRMA	Er. Minar Thapa Magar, HRRP		
		Special Guest: Mr. Sushil Gyawali, CEO, National Reconstruction Authority			
		Chief Guest, Hon. Minister, Ms. Ram Kumari Jhakri, Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD)			
		Session Chair, Dr. Ramesh Prasad Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD)			
Break	11:15-11:35	20 min	Meeting participants over Tea and Visit Market Stalls	Mr. Rahul Pratap Singh, HRRP	
Technical Sessions	Panel: Nepal Coordination Mechanisms				
	11:35-12:00	25 min	Panelist: Mr. Manish Timsina, NRCS, Shelter Cluster Coordination Support	Mr. Rupal Aidi, HRRP Nepal	
			Panelist: Er. Minar Thapa Magar, National Coordinator, HRRP Nepal		
12:00-12:25	25 min	Capacity Strengthening of Local Organizations for Humanitarian Response	Mr. Anup Pokhrel, CARE Co-lead: Mr. Hum Bdr. Bhandari, NGO Federation, Mr. Prajwal Acharya, IFRC, Ms. Pramila Subedi, StartUp Fund		
Break	12:25-13:15	50 min	Discussion with participants over Lunch and Visit Market Stalls	Mr. Rahul Pratap Singh, HRRP	
Technical Sessions	Parallel Sessions: Sustainable solutions				
	13:15-14:15	60 min	Group 1 (Main Hall): Capacity Strengthening of Local Organizations for Humanitarian Response	Lead: Mr. Prajwal Acharya, IFRC Co-lead: Mr. Arjun Bhattarai, NGO Federation	
			Group 2 (Rato Baithak Hall): Engagement of Private Sectors in Response and Recovery	Lead: Mr. Bjorn Soderberg, Build up Nepal	
			Group 3 (Sky Line Hall): Retrofitting for Improved Resilient Structure	Lead: Dr. Ramesh Guragain, NSET	
Parallel Sessions: Recovery and Reconstruction					
14:15-15:15	60 min	Group 1 (Main Hall): Housing Reconstruction to Vulnerable Households	Lead: Ms. Radha Verma, PCDO Co-lead: Dr. Uttam Paudel, CRS		
		Group 2 (Rato Baithak Hall): Urban Recovery with Heritage Conservation	Lead: Ms. Lajana Manandhar, Lumanti Co-lead: Ms. Reshma Shrestha, CRS/HRRP		
		Group 3 (Sky Line Hall): Resettlement and Land Use Plan	Lead: Mr. Jagat Basnet, CSRC Co-lead: Gaurav Thapa, PIN Ms. Barsha Shrestha, IOE		
Break	15:15-15:35	20 min	Discussion with participants over Tea and Visit Market Stalls Parallel Session: Head of Organizations Meet & Greet by Pool Area	Ms. Katherine Price, CRS	
Technical Sessions	Parallel Sessions: Shelter Innovation				
	15:35-16:35	60 min	Group 1 (Main Hall): Technological Innovation in Disaster Risk Communication	Lead: Ms. Angela Tamrakar, YIL	
			Group 2 (Rato Baithak Hall): Green and Climate Sensitive Shelter Response	Lead: Mr. Manish Timsina, NRCS Co-lead: Ms. Tripti Mahaseth, HHH	
			Group 3 (Sky Line Hall): Disability, Accessibility and Inclusion in Shelter Response	Lead: Mr. Kusmakh Neupane, HI	
Government of Nepal Remarks					
Gov. Housing Remarks	16:35-16:45	10 min	Participants feedback through mentimeter (Live Poll)	Mr. Rupal Aidi, HRRP	
	16:45-16:55	10 min	What's Next for Nepal's commitment towards Shelter Emergency Response and Multi Hazard Housing Recovery and Resilience		
	16:55-17:00	5 min	Closing Remarks by Er. Ram Chandra Dangal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD)		

25-27 November 2021

Asia Shelter Forum 2021

D. Schedule



Day 2: Regional Day, 26 November 2021

Day 2 Goal: Documented lessons learned and way forward for the Asia Shelter Forum as the regional platform to exchange innovative and localized housing solutions				
Session	Time	Mins	Session Topic	Facilitator
Registration	8.00-8.45	45 min	Breakfast & Registration and Visit Market Stalls	Mr. Rahul Pratap Singh, HRRP
Keynote / Opening Session	9.00-9.15	15 min	Welcome video from the ASF Organizing Committee Members	Mr. Ruplal Aidi, HRRP
			Session Chair, Ms. Anita Niraula, Joint Secretary, NDRRMA	
	9.15-9.40	25 min	Presentation: NRA Nepal Post-Earthquake Recovery and Reconstruction Presenter: Dr. Chandra Bahadur Shrestha, Executive Member, NRA	
	9.40-10.00	20 min	Presentation: Regional Shelter Cluster Initiatives + Working Groups Presenter: Ms. Dipti Hingorani, Regional Shelter and Settlements Coordinator, IFRC Asia-Pacific & Global Focal Point for Technical Coordination, Global Shelter Cluster	
Parallel Sessions: Sustainable solutions in shelter				
Technical Sessions	10.00-11.00	60 min	Group 1 (Main Hall): Multi-hazard Shelter and Settlements Response	Lead: Mr. Ariel Sadural, CRS Philippines Co-lead: Ms. Urmi Das, IFRC Bangladesh
			Group 2 (Rato Baithak Hall): Capacity Strengthening of Local Organizations for Humanitarian Response	Lead: Mr. Meshba Uddin Ahmed, Caritas Bangladesh Co-lead: Mr. Deni Kurniawan, Human Initiative Indonesia Mr. Ranjan Dhungel, NSET Nepal
			Group 3 (Sky Line Hall): Cash based Shelter Solution and Housing Finance	Lead: Mr. Sanjeev Hada, Habitat for Humanity Asia Co-lead: Mr. John Rzezl Day, CRS Philippines
Break	11.00-11.20	20 min	Introduction with participants over tea and Visit Market Stalls	Mr. Rahul Pratap Singh, HRRP
Parallel Sessions: Recovery and Resilience				
Technical Sessions	11.20-12.20	60 min	Group 1 (Main Hall): Multi-hazard Shelter Recovery and Resilience	Lead: Mr. Ariel Sadural, CRS Philippines Co-lead: Ms. Urmi Das, IFRC Bangladesh
			Group 2 (Rato Baithak Hall): Urban Settlements Recovery	Lead: Ms. Reshma Shrestha, CRS Nepal Co-lead: Mr. Meshba Uddin Ahmed, Caritas Bangladesh
			Group 3 (Sky Line Hall): Localization of Shelter Response and Recovery	Lead: Ms. Bai Maroudz Ibrahim, CRS Philippines Co-lead: Ms. Sajina Sherpa, CRS Nepal
Parallel Sessions: Environment, Inclusion and Innovation				
Technical Sessions	12.20-13.20	60 min	Group 1 (Main Hall): Green Shelter Response in Shelter and Settlements Programming in Asia & the Pacific	Lead: Ms. Rubiya Hossain, IOM Bangladesh Co-lead: Ranjan Dhungel, HRRP
			Group 2 (Rato Baithak Hall): Fire Safety in Shelter and Settlements	Lead: Ms. Karolina Barch, Shelter/NFI sector, IOM Bangladesh
			Group 3 (Sky Line Hall): Accessibility, Gender and Inclusion in Shelter and Settlements	Lead: Mr. Wahyu Widayanto, IFRC, Shelter Cluster, Indonesia Co-lead: Ms. Sneha Malani, Shelter/NFI sector, CRS Bangladesh
Break	13:20-14:20	60 min	Discussion with participants over Lunch and Visit Market Stalls	Mr. Rahul Pratap Singh, HRRP
Panel: Lessons, challenges and future in shelter response and recovery in Asia				
Technical Sessions	14.20-15.50	90 min	Panelist: Mr. Le Quang Tuan, Deputy Director, Vietnam Disaster Management Authority (VNDMA)	Mr. Marc D' Silva, Regional Director, CRS Asia
			Panelist: Mr. Md. Atiqul Haque, Director General, Department of Disaster Management, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Bangladesh	
			Panelist: Ms. Rowena P. Dineros, Director, Public Housing and Settlement Service, Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD), Philippines	
			Panelist: Drs. H. Iyan Kusmadiana, M. Si - Director of Social Protection for Natural Disaster Victims, Ministry of Social Affairs, Republik of Indonesia	
			Panelist: Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs	
			Panelist: Mr. Brett Moore, Chief of Shelter & Settlements, UNHCR and Co-lead of Global Shelter Cluster	
Break	15.50-16.10	20 min	Discussion with participants over tea and Visit Market Stalls	Mr. Rahul Pratap Singh, HRRP
Government of Nepal Remarks				
Event Closing	16.10-17.00	50 min	Participants feedback through mentimeter (Live Poll)	Er. Minar Thapa Magar, HRRP
			Appreciation and Token of Love Distribution by Chief Guest	
			Handover of Asia Shelter Forum responsibility form Government of Nepal to Government of Bangladesh for 2022.	
			Closing Remarks by Chief Guest Hon. Home Minister, Bal Krishna Khand	
			Event Closing by Session Chair, Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Chief Executive, NDRRMA	
Immediately following			All Asia Shelter Forum 2021 participants invited to Dinner Reception at Hotel Himalaya Courtyard	Mr. Roshan Phuyal, CRS Nepal

D. Schedule

Day 3 Schedule

Day 3: Field visit
When: Saturday, 27 November 2021 (08:30AM - 16:30PM)
Why: Retrofitting work of Singha Durbar is special importance in Nepal's reconstruction and preserves every aesthetic of cultural heritage. Likewise, Dharahara Tower carries the live history of Nepal's reconstruction. Bungamati is among the 6 important site highlighted by NRA to develop as model cities of reconstruction, has gone through progressive private housing reconstruction and has many important monuments with heritage and cultural importance.
How: Participants tour the Singha Durbar retrofitting works followed by Dharahara Tower to observe Kathmandu city. The tour will start at 8:30 by visiting Singha Durbar, Dharahara Tower and then move to Bungamati, starting the travel tentatively from 11.15 AM onwards till 4.00 PM around (with local lunch break in Bungamati).
Who: NRA-CLPIU-Building - for retrofitting works of Singha Durbar and NRA-PMU for Dharahara Tower followed by UN Habitat Nepal - for Heritage and cultural recovery along with housing reconstruction in Bungamati area, Ward no. 22, Lalitpur Metropolitan City.
Number of int'l participants only: 29 , No. of national participants: 12 = 41 (31 M, 10 F)
Field visit Itinerary
Minimum requirements by participants: Walking shoes, cap, sunblock, full sleeve proper clothes, camera, personal water bottles and sanitation kits
HRRP Responsibility: Overall coordination with NRA, CLPIU-Building, Project Management Unit (PMU) and UN Habitat, for briefing guide including logistics arrangement such as vehicle, voice walker, covid safety kits, 1 box mineral water bottles, lunch box, team of 4 HRRP staffs and management aspects (logistics, media person etc)

Schedule of Field visit

Time	Tentative time	Travel description	Remarks
"8.30 AM (maintain punctuality)"	total 15 min. pickup time	Hotel Himalaya (key assembly area) and pick up point of participants	Ensure participants arrive at assembly point @ Hotel Himalaya from their respective accommodations. Admin HRRP to ensure
8.30- 8.45 AM	15 min	Briefing about the field visit: Mr. Ruplal Aidi (Team Lead for field visit plan)	Key HRRP staffs standby throughout the visit (Minar, Ruplal, Ranjan, Ambika, Admin team etc)
8.45 - 9.00 AM	15 min	Travel to Singh Durbar area	key traffic hours could effect the travel slightly
9.00 AM - 10.00 AM	60 min	Register at entrance & conduct tour of Singha Durbar. Participate in the briefing on retrofitting work by CLPIU-Building	Observation of Retrofitting Works in Singha Durbar premises
10.00 AM - 10.15 AM	15 min	Travel time to Dharahara Tower	Key traffic hours could effect the travel slightly
10.15 AM - 11.15 AM	60 min	Participate in briefing of Dharahara reconstruction, its history including observation of Dharahara View Tower led by NRA-PMU	
11.15 AM - 12.00 PM	45 min nearly	Participants assemble towards vehicle and move to Bungamati	30 min travel time to Bungamati. Traffic hours could slightly effect
12.00 - 12.15 PM	15 min	Participants are welcomed in Bungamati at Dhoka pini entry point	UNI-habitat and Ward no. 22 Office to LEAD in welcoming the guest in Bungamati
12.15- 1.15 PM	60 min	*First half of heritage walk * Dhoka pini - entry point to Bungamati heritage walk * Chohel nani - showing the temporary shelters, the scars of Nepal earthquake * De pukhu - showcase the newari culture (pukhu means pond in Newari language) * Bungamati Museum -rehabilitation of the meseuem (pioneering the reconstruction)"	UNI-habitat to LEAD & MANAGE the field visit in Bungamati & conduct briefing with focus on heritage settlements, its recovery and housing reconstruction
1.15-2.15 PM	60 min	Break for lunch with traditional local Newari cuisine at courtyard of Bungamati Museum	Light newari cuisine will be served. Sabah Nepal take charge of lunch coordination
2.15- 3.30 PM	75 min	Second half of heritage walk *Machhindrabahal - ongoing reconstruction of Bunga dyo (community based reconstruction) *Prathampur Vihar - significance of heritage and culture (Interaction with local community in between)	UNI-habitat to lead the field visit briefing with focus on heritage settlements, its recovery and housing reconstruction
3.30- 3.45 PM	15 min	Debriefing session (Mr. Ranjan to lead)	All participants contribute
3.45 - 4.00 PM	15 min	Social time, networking and group photos	
4.00 -4.30 PM	30 min	Assemble and Travel back to hotel	key traffic hours could effect the travel slightly

* Subject to be slightly change as per traffic situation

Organized by



Supported by



Organizing Committee Members



25-27 November 2021

Asia Shelter Forum 2021



Photo by: Sagar Mali

Organizers:



Government of Nepal
Ministry of Home Affairs
**National Disaster Risk Reduction and
Management Authority**
Singha Durbar, Kathmandu, Nepal



Government of Nepal
Ministry of Urban Development
Singha Durbar, Kathmandu
Nepal

Supported by:



Organizing Committee Members:

