

Learning Sharing National Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction  
(NCDRR)

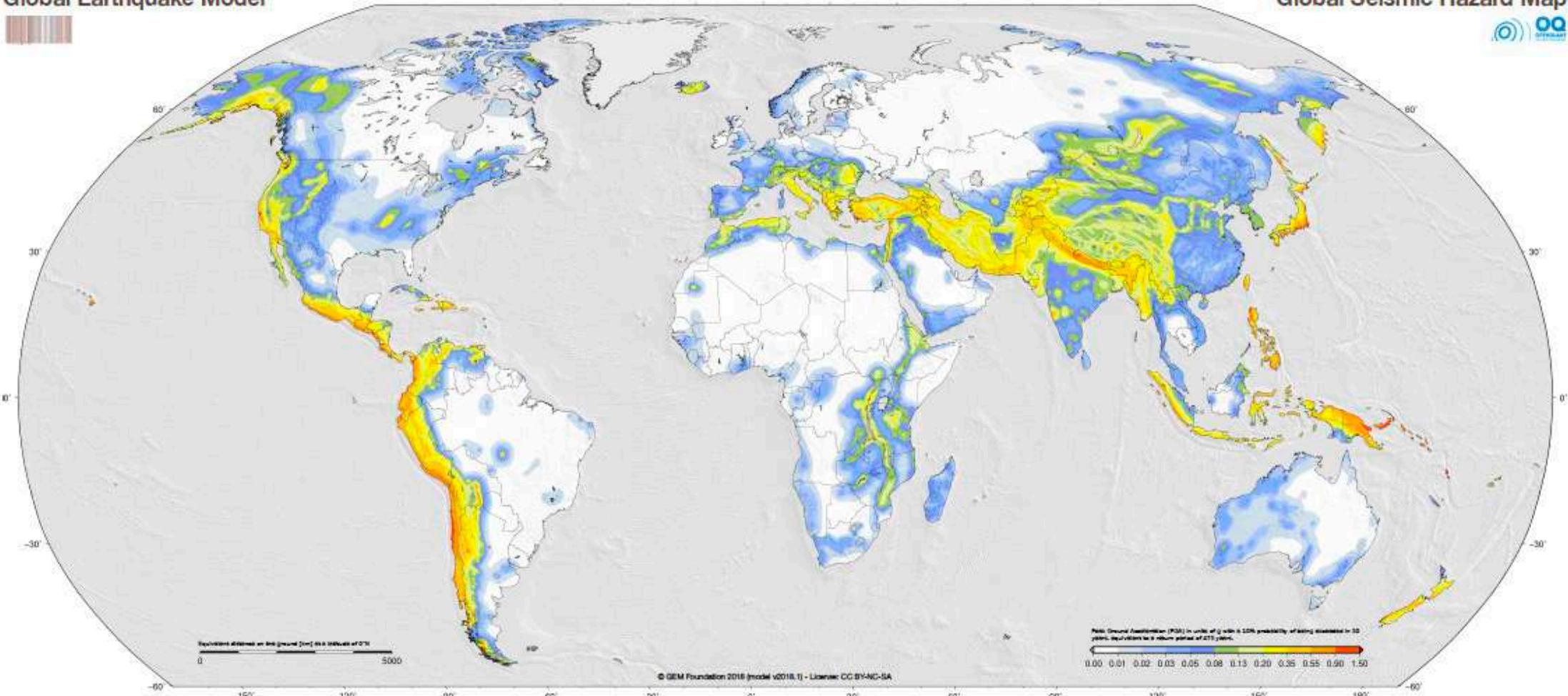
**Technical Session C: Understanding & Managing Disaster Risk**

February 25, 2022

# **Earthquake Risk Management in Nepal: Key Approaches and Lessons**

Surya Narayan Shrestha  
Executive Director, NSET

- **Brief on Hazard Scenario of Nepal**
- **Key Approaches and Efforts in Last two and half decades**
- **Lessons**
- **Way Forward**



Global Earthquake Model (GEM) Global Seismic Hazard Map

The Global Earthquake Model (GEM) Global Seismic Hazard Map (version 2018.1) depicts the geographic distribution of the Peak Ground Acceleration (PGA) with a 10% probability of being exceeded in 50 years, computed for reference site conditions (linear wave velocity,  $V_{s0}$  of 760 m/s). The map was created by collating maps computed using national and regional probabilistic seismic hazard models developed by various institutions and projects, and by GEM Foundation scientists. The OpenQuake engine, an open-source seismic hazard and risk calculation software developed principally by the GEM Foundation, was used to calculate the hazard values. A weighting methodology was applied to harmonize hazard values along the model borders. The map is based on a database of hazard models classified using the OpenQuake engine data format (OSQD). These models originally implemented in other software formats were converted into OSQD. While transferring these models, various checks were performed to test the compatibility between the original results and the new results computed using the OpenQuake engine. Overall the differences between the original and translated model results are small, notwithstanding some diversity in modeling methodologies implemented in different hazard modeling software. The hazard values in the map (by themselves) are currently not covered by a hazard model. The map and the underlying database of models are a dynamic framework, capable to incorporate newly released hazard models. Due to possible model limitations, regions highlighted with the hazard map still experience probability changing earthquakes. The GEM Foundation plans to release future updates of the hazard and risk maps and the underlying content are available at <http://www.globalquakemodel.org>.

**How to use and cite this work**  
Please cite this work as: M. Poggi, J. Garcia-Prados, R. Diaz, K. Johnson, J. Poggi, R. Rogers, G. Woodhall, M. Benavente, D. Vignoli, L. Davoli, G. Muscatelli (2018), Global Earthquake Model (GEM) Seismic Hazard Map (version 2018.1) - December 2018, DOI: 10.13139/978-92-9249-0394-0 (ISSN: 92-9249-0394-0). This work is licensed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License (CC BY-NC-SA). <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

**Disclaimer**  
This map is the result of a collaborative effort and extensively relies on the evaluation and contribution of various organizations and projects to identify areas and capabilities. The creation of this map could not have been possible without the support provided by many public and private organizations during GEM's second implementation phase (2013-2018). These key contributions are particularly acknowledged. Some of the results have been possible without the extensive support of all GEM Foundation staff. The map was plotted using the ArcGIS Mapping Tools software (Peters et al., 2011).

**Contacts**  
GEM (Global Earthquake Model) Foundation  
Via Padova, 1 - 37139, Verona, Italy  
[info@globalquakemodel.org](mailto:info@globalquakemodel.org)  
More information available at  
[www.globalquakemodel.org/](http://www.globalquakemodel.org/)

Contributing models

- 1. Mexico (GEM) 2018**  
Description: The Mexico Seismic Hazard Map is a product of the GEM Foundation. It is the result of a collaborative effort between the GEM Foundation and the Mexican Government. The map is based on a database of hazard models classified using the OpenQuake engine data format (OSQD). These models originally implemented in other software formats were converted into OSQD. While transferring these models, various checks were performed to test the compatibility between the original results and the new results computed using the OpenQuake engine. Overall the differences between the original and translated model results are small, notwithstanding some diversity in modeling methodologies implemented in different hazard modeling software. The hazard values in the map (by themselves) are currently not covered by a hazard model. The map and the underlying database of models are a dynamic framework, capable to incorporate newly released hazard models. Due to possible model limitations, regions highlighted with the hazard map still experience probability changing earthquakes. The GEM Foundation plans to release future updates of the hazard and risk maps and the underlying content are available at <http://www.globalquakemodel.org>.
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- 4. United States (GEM) 2018**  
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- 5. Europe (GEM) 2018**  
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- 9. South America (GEM) 2018**  
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Global Earthquake Model (GEM) Foundation

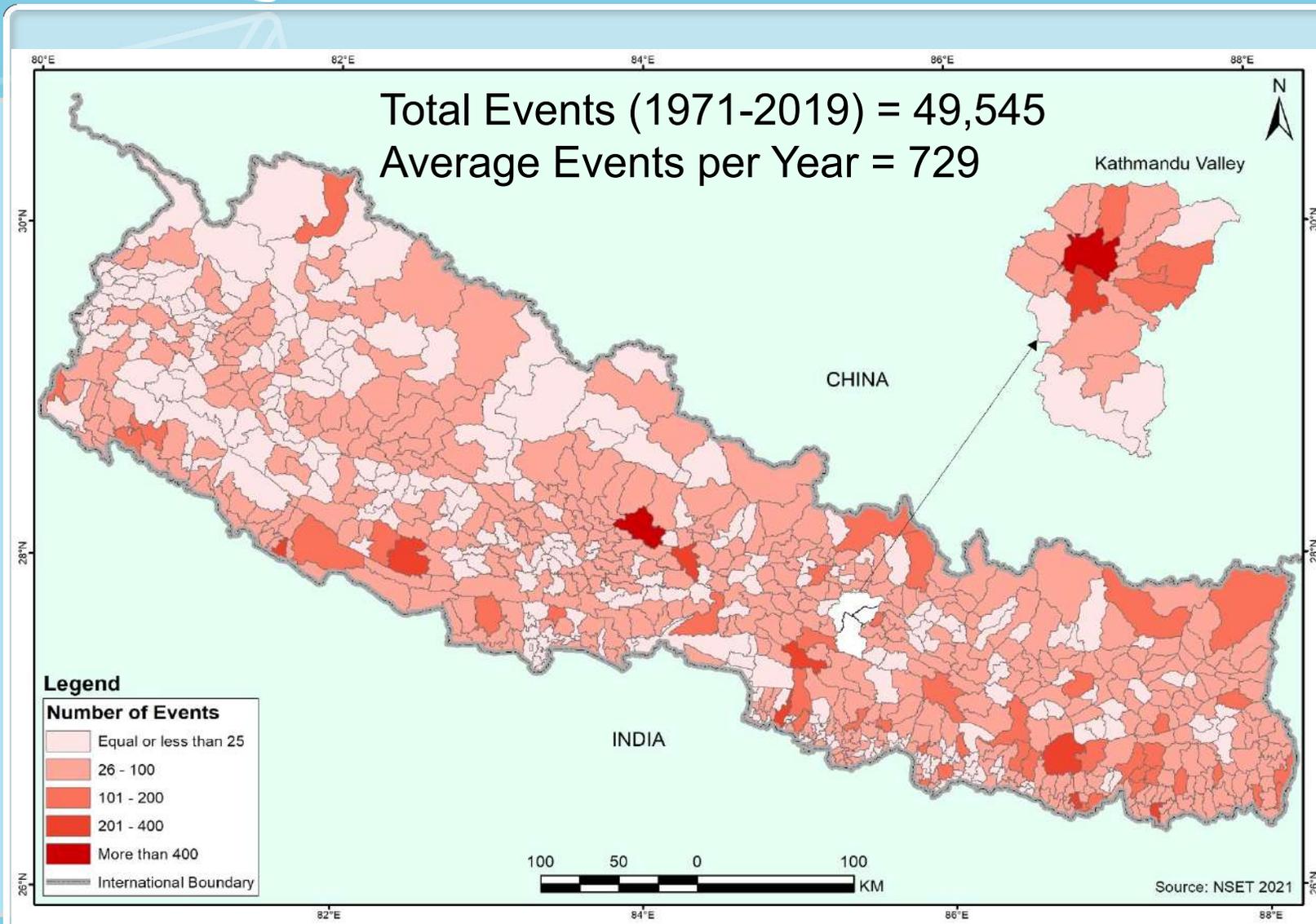
The GEM Global Seismic Hazard Map is a product of the GEM Foundation, initiated by the GEM Foundation (GEMF) in 2009. GEMF was formed in 2009 as a non-profit foundation in Padua, Italy, funded through a public-private partnership with the Italian Government. The mission of GEMF is to coordinate and support the development of a global seismic hazard model. GEMF is a collaborative effort of scientists in 2009 in support of the UN International Decade of Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR). GEMF's collaborative network comprises more than 70 public and private institutions representing more than 30 regions, national and subnational projects. Drawing its core values of collaboration, transparency, openness, equality and serving the public good, the GEMF initiative includes the scope of work of IDNDR in the risk domain, providing a traditional framework for continuous updates and leading global applications to risk reduction and prevention projects. GEMF's OpenQuake platform (<http://openquake.org>) provides access to data, models, tools and software behind the map. GEMF's OpenQuake OpenQuake engine enables probabilistic hazard and risk calculations worldwide and at all scales, from global down to regional, national, local, and site-specific, in a single software package. The Seismic Hazard for Disaster Risk Reduction (SHDR) calls for "decision-making on disaster risk reduction to be based on solid and openly accessible scientific work". GEMF supports the SHDR call by continuing openly accessible products for hazard and risk assessment and capacity development for risk reduction projects. GEMF also serves as a flexible and complete for the development of a disaster risk reduction framework for risk assessment in support of a bottom-up and participatory approach to disaster risk reduction.

Legal statements

This map was created for dissemination purposes. The information included in this map must not be used for the design of earthquake-resistant structures or to support any structural decision-making for the safety and resilience and emergency preparedness. The values of seismic hazard in this map do not constitute an alternative nor do they replace building codes defined by national building codes. Readers seeking this information should consult national authorities. The hazard map is the contribution of authors computed using 20 hazard input models covering the world majority of countries. These models represent the best information available, and the GEM Foundation recognizes their credibility and authoritativeness. The hazard map results from an iterative process that is subject to the responsibility of the GEM Foundation.



# Recorded Disaster Events in Nepal



Earthquake,  
Flood,  
Landslide,  
Epidemic,  
Fire, ....

29 Different  
types, All events  
Human Loss or  
Property Loss

# Continue existence of high hazard and risks

- **The hazard is still there**
- **We have high vulnerabilities (buildings, structures, urban planning), and lower level of preparedness**
  - We are continuously increasing the vulnerabilities
- **Hence, the risk is still very high, and risk is increasing day by day**

**Potential of large earthquakes - 2015 Earthquake was just an alarm**

**Potential of many day-to-day hazards**



# Three Categories Vulnerability

Anderson and Woodrow (1989)

## ◆ **Physical/material vulnerability**

- ◆ inherent weakness of the built environment and lack of access to resources, especially of poor section of the population

## ◆ **Social/organizational vulnerability**

- ◆ inherent weakness in the coping mechanism, lack of resiliency, lack of commitment, Policy and legal environment, Governance, Religious, Economic, health status

## ◆ **Attitudinal/motivational vulnerability**

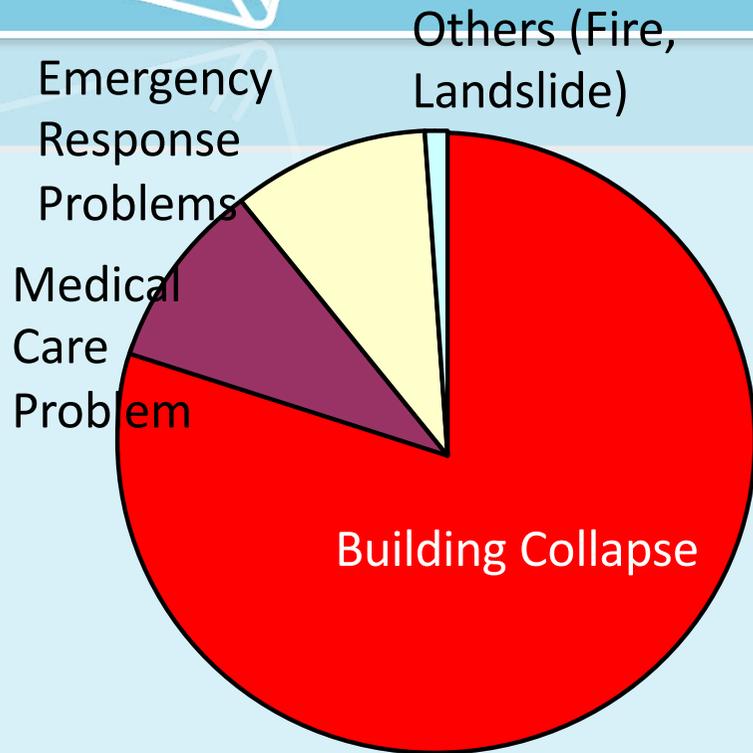
- ◆ fatalism, ignorance, low level of awareness



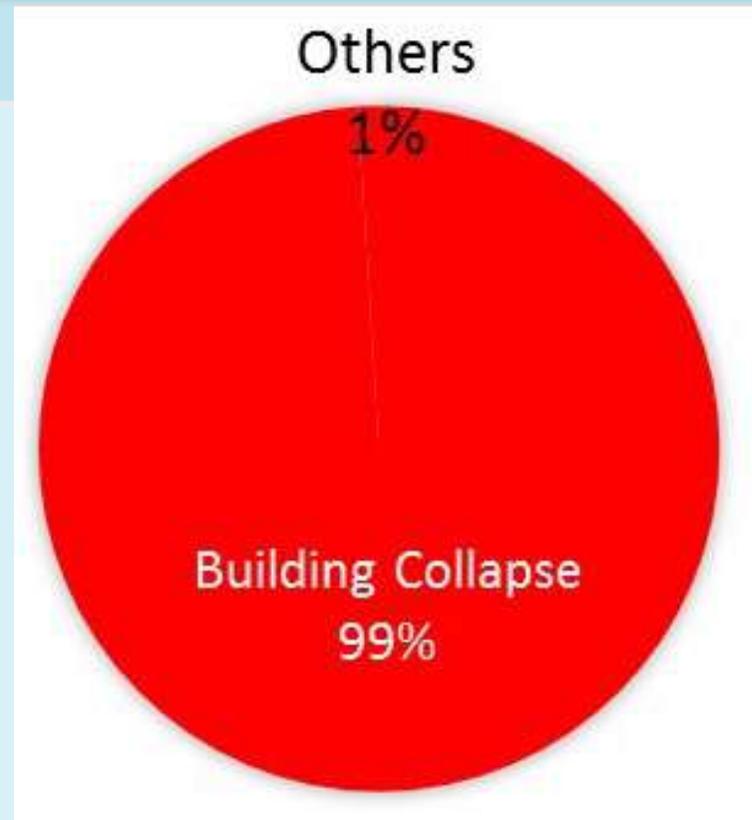
# Factors Contributing to Earthquake Vulnerability of Built Environment in developing Countries

- ◆ **Large Settlements already in Seismic Areas**
  - Poor buildings in terms of material strength, maintenance, age factors etc.
  - 50 million people in the urban settlements at the foot of the Himalayan Range (Bilham et al. 2001 )
  - Most of the people subject to such high level of vulnerability are unaware of the earthquake
- ◆ **Prevalence of Non-Engineered Constructions**
- ◆ **Erosion of the traditional wisdom in building construction**
  - Timber bands running all over the walls, wooden pins, very strict selection of quality materials, adequate thickness of the walls, and obviously high level of craftsmanship are regarded as the positive elements in old construction in Kathmandu Valley

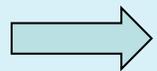
# Sources of Earthquake Risk



(GESI, 2003)



(April 25, 2015 Gorkha Earthquake)

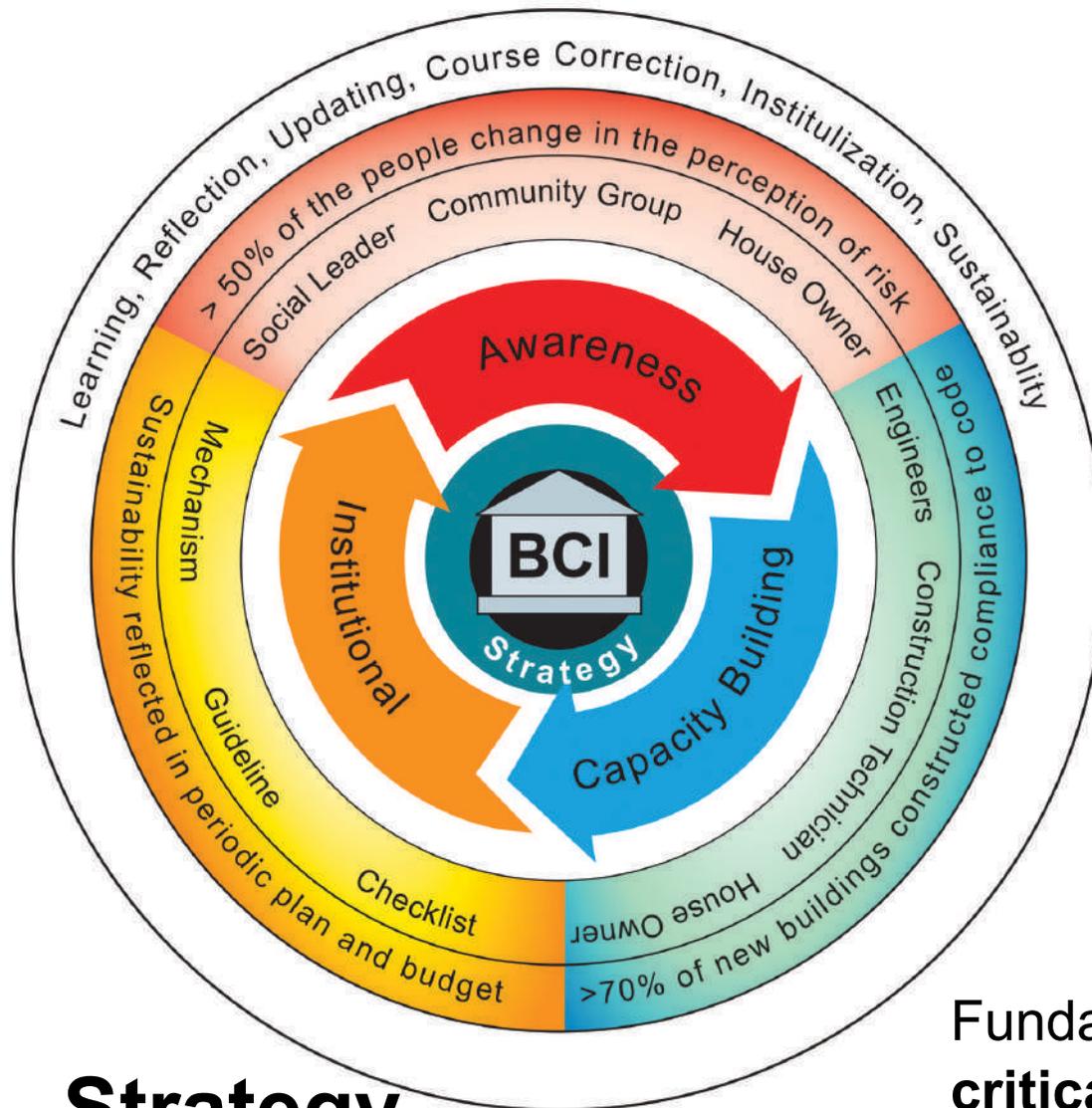


**Only way of Reducing Casualty: Safe Buildings**

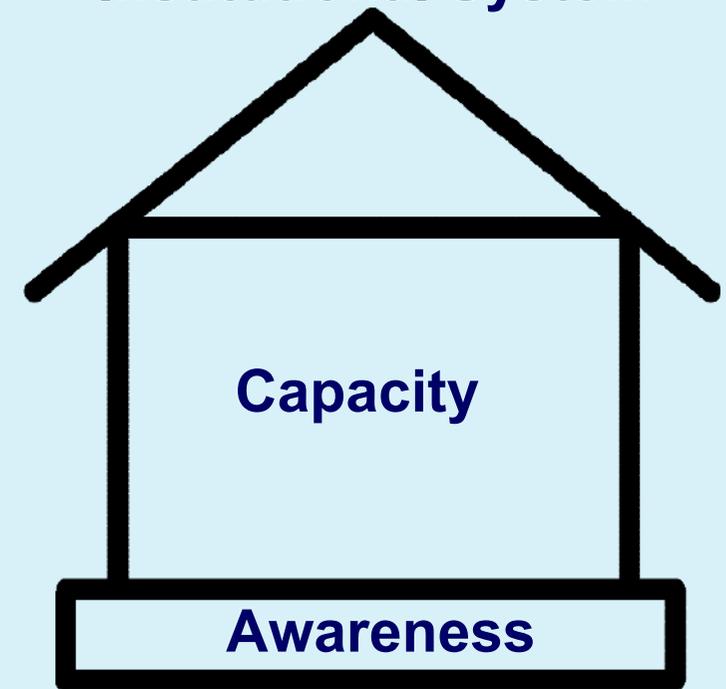


**Earthquake Risk Reduction**

# Approach of Earthquake/Disaster Risk Reduction



**Institutional System**



Fundamental is - we need to reach to a critical mass/number of people

**Strategy**

# Use of Innovative Tools on Awareness Raising

## Shake Table Demonstration for Awareness Raising



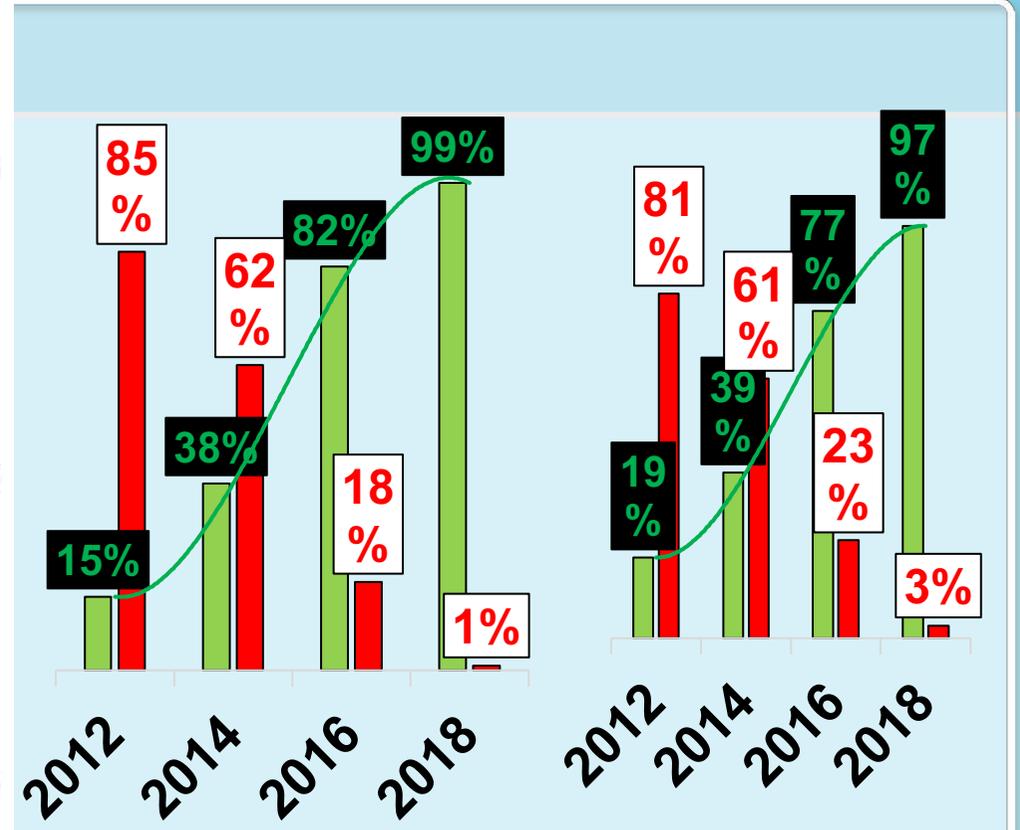
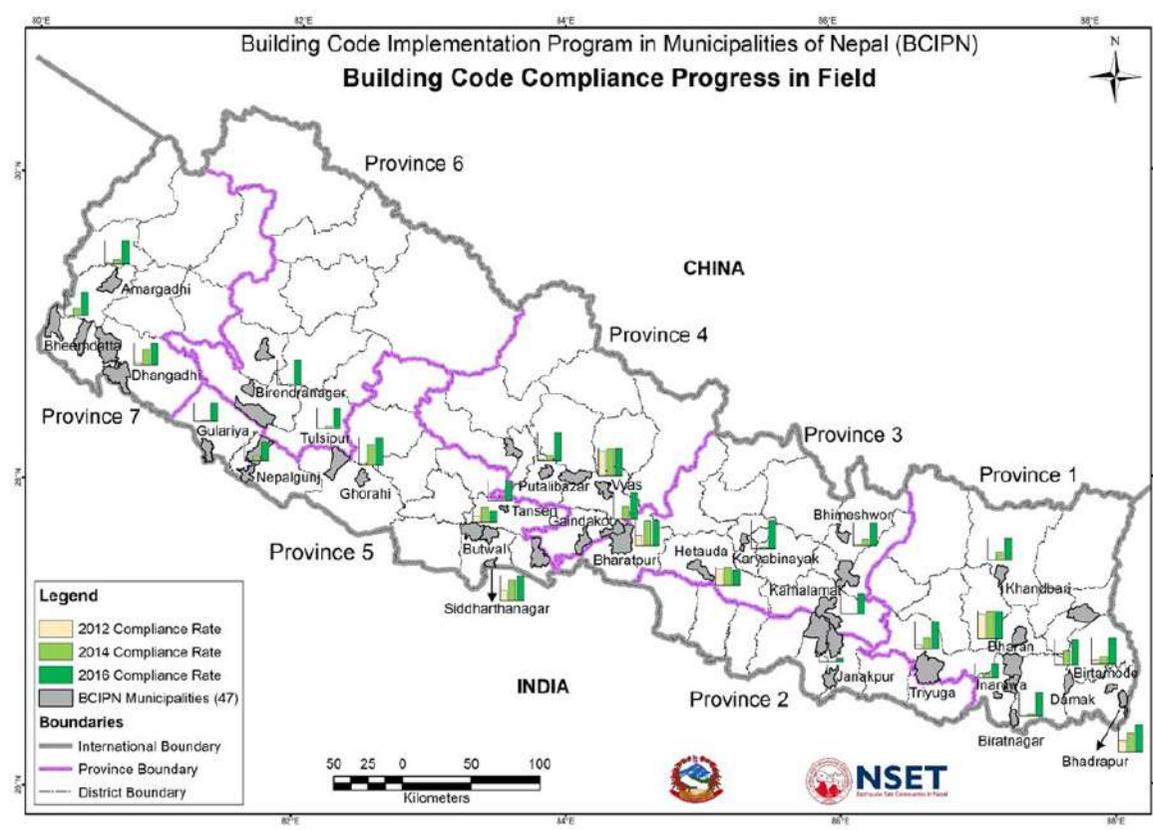
**Seeing is Believing!**

Shake Table  
Demonstration for  
awareness in schools  
and communities

**Award Winning Tool**



# Building Code Implementation: Journey from Awareness to Institutionalization



- Around 60 municipalities only with proper code compliance system
- Need to reach to all 753 local governments
- **Retrofitting of existing vulnerable buildings**

Drawings

Buildings

Compliance ■  
 Non-Compliance ■

Total no. of assessed drawings : 5796

Total no. of assessed buildings : 5045



**NSET**  
Earthquake Safe Communities in Nepal

# School Earthquake Safety Program; School to Resilience Community



Approaches:

- School Retrofitting
- Mason Training
- Training of Teachers and Students
- Community Awareness, Engagement
- Involvement of Government/Institutionalization

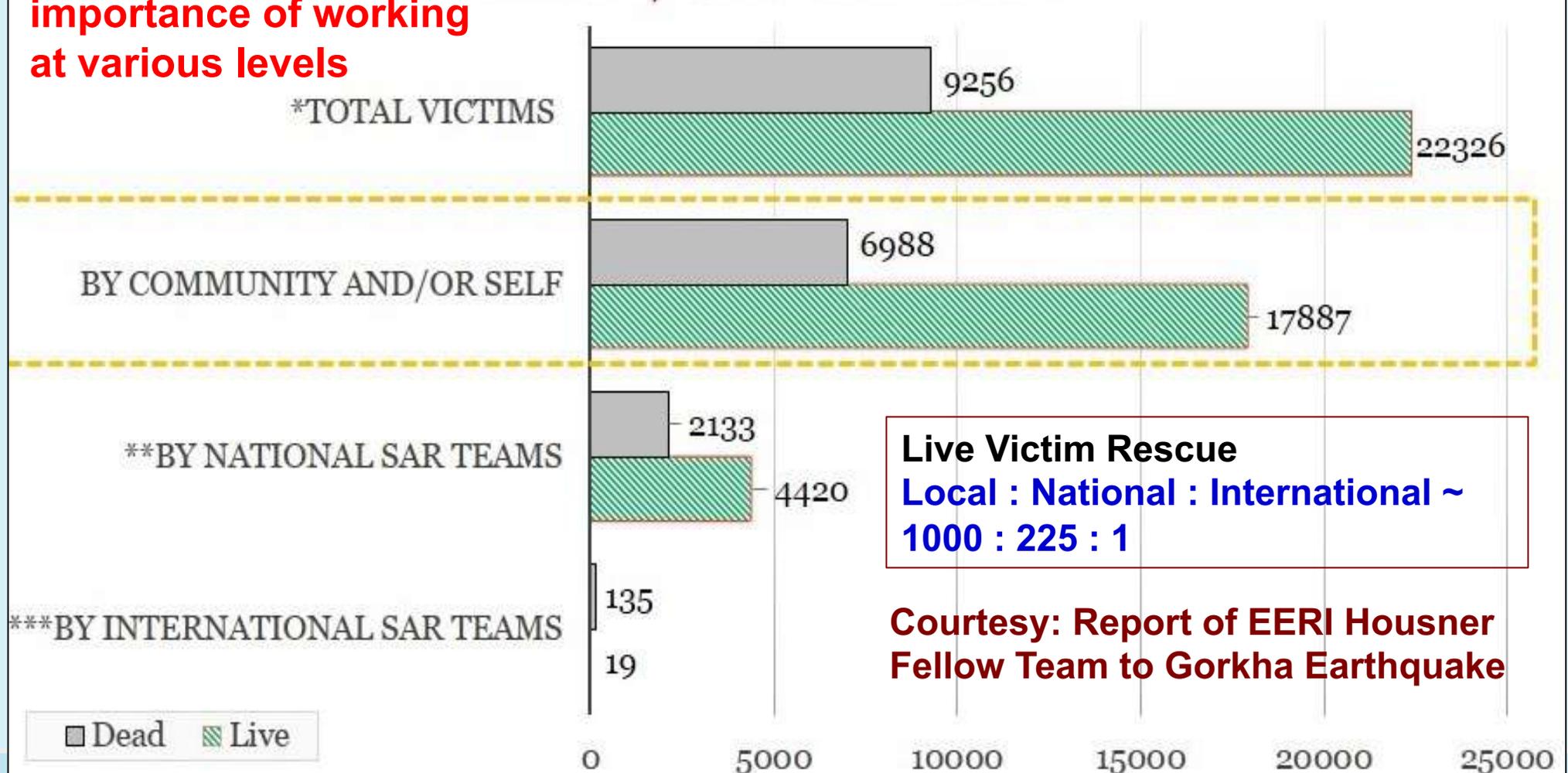
**Less than 1,000 school buildings retrofitted so far**



# Improving Emergency Response Capacity; 2015 Search and Rescue

**Lesson - the importance of working at various levels**

Rescued/ Recovered Victims





**NSET**  
Earthquake Safe Communities in Nepal

# Core Emergency Response Training Courses under PEER



**Community Action for Disaster Response (CADRE)**



**Collapsed Structure Search and Rescue (CSSR)**



**Medical First Responder (MFR)**



**Hospital Preparedness for Emergencies (HOPE)**



**Swift Water Rescue (SWR)**

**PEER Graduates so far  
~ 2,400  
Instructors ~ 600**

**Equivalent community level training courses are to be massively conducted  
BEMR, CSAR, DAT etc.**

# Prepositioning Emergency Supplies

<b>Emergency supplies</b>				
	<p><b>Go Bag (Earthquake Go Bag)</b></p>	<p><b>HH Kit (Household Emergency Kit)</b></p>	<p><b>CSAR (Community Search and Rescue)</b></p>	<p><b>PPERS (Pre-positioned Emergency Rescue Store)</b></p>
<b>What?</b>	<p>A bag with emergency supplies which lets an individual survive for at least 3 days during an emergency.</p>	<p>A rescue box around with 25 various rescue items in different numbers as per need</p>	<p>A container around with 72 various rescue items in different numbers as per need</p>	<p>A large container around with 100 various rescue items in large numbers.</p>
<b>For Whom?</b>	<p>Individual purpose</p>	<p>One Family</p>	<p>Neighborhood/ small community/Institution</p>	<p>Larger Community/ ward</p>

# Earthquake Reconstruction to Resilience Building

## Lessons and Good Practices of Reconstruction – Need to go throughout the country



- 2,700 Engineers Trained (100% targeted completed)
- More than 16,000 Masons
- More 400 Social Mobilizers
- More than 900 New Masons (through OJT)
- More than 50,000 Houses made safer (in 4 districts)
- Influence and contribution in making all reconstructed houses safe (more than 80% compliant)

# Scientific Collaboration for the Multi-Hazard Risk Reduction

## Risk-Informed Landslide Management in Nepal's Hill Areas; प्रतिबद्ध

### Principal Objective:

To increase the resilience of communities in rural hill areas of Nepal through the effective mitigation and management of landslides.

### Specific Objective:

Local disaster risk management in Nepal's highly- exposed rural hill areas will be strengthened through participatory risk- informed landslide management.



Live Demonstration



Interaction with Local Authorities: collaboration and cooperation

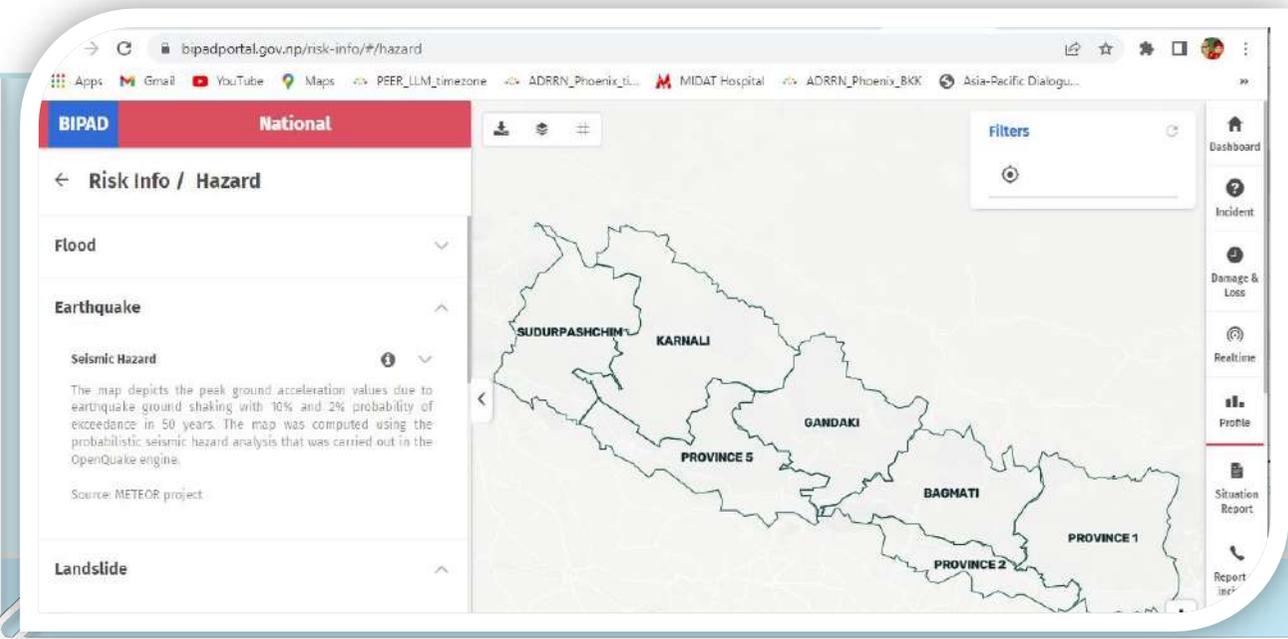


Community Engagement; Participatory 3D Mapping

# Scientific Collaboration for the Multi-Hazard Risk Reduction

## METEOR

- Delivery and use of open-source national-scale exposure datasets for multiple hazard analysis by Nepal, Tanzania and Global stakeholders
- Innovative methodology for exposure development with EO-based imagery to identify development patterns of buildings and use stratified sampling to characterise building pattern
  - EO and detailed field observation building characteristics for distribution of building types
- Create open protocols to develop critical exposure information from EO data
  - Uptake to develop critical exposure information from EO data



Contribution on National Disaster Database: BIPAD Portal

<https://bipadportal.gov.np/risk-info/#/hazard>

# SAFER : Seismic Safety and Resilience of Schools in Nepal

A holistic and multi-disciplinary program for improving the earthquake-related safety of school buildings and the resilience of educational communities in Nepal.



**Experimental Lateral Load tests for Unretrofitted and Retrofitted stone in mud masonry walls with Welded Wire Mesh (Jan, 2020)**



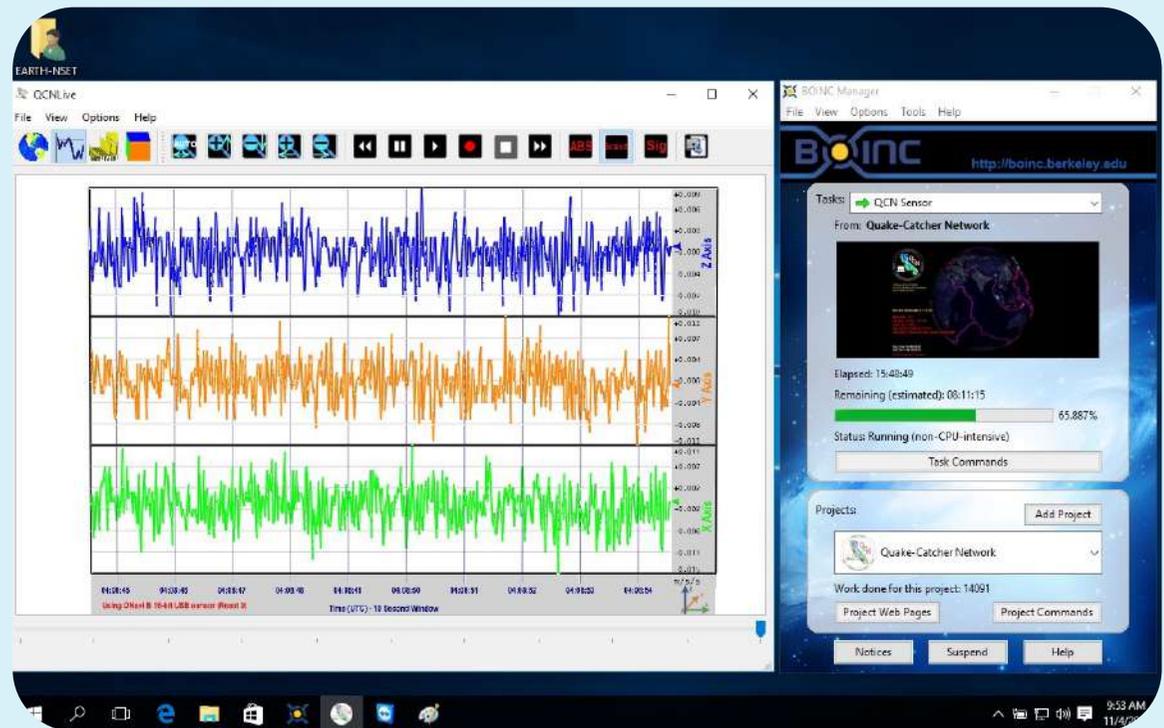
# USGS and NSET Collaboration N-SHAKE

**N**epal  
**S**haking  
**H**azard  
**A**ssessment of  
**K**athmandu &  
**E**nvironment

- A collaborative Scientific Study of Earthquake Hazard
- Network of low-cost accelerometers and few Net-Quakes
- Capacity Enhancement of Nepalese professionals

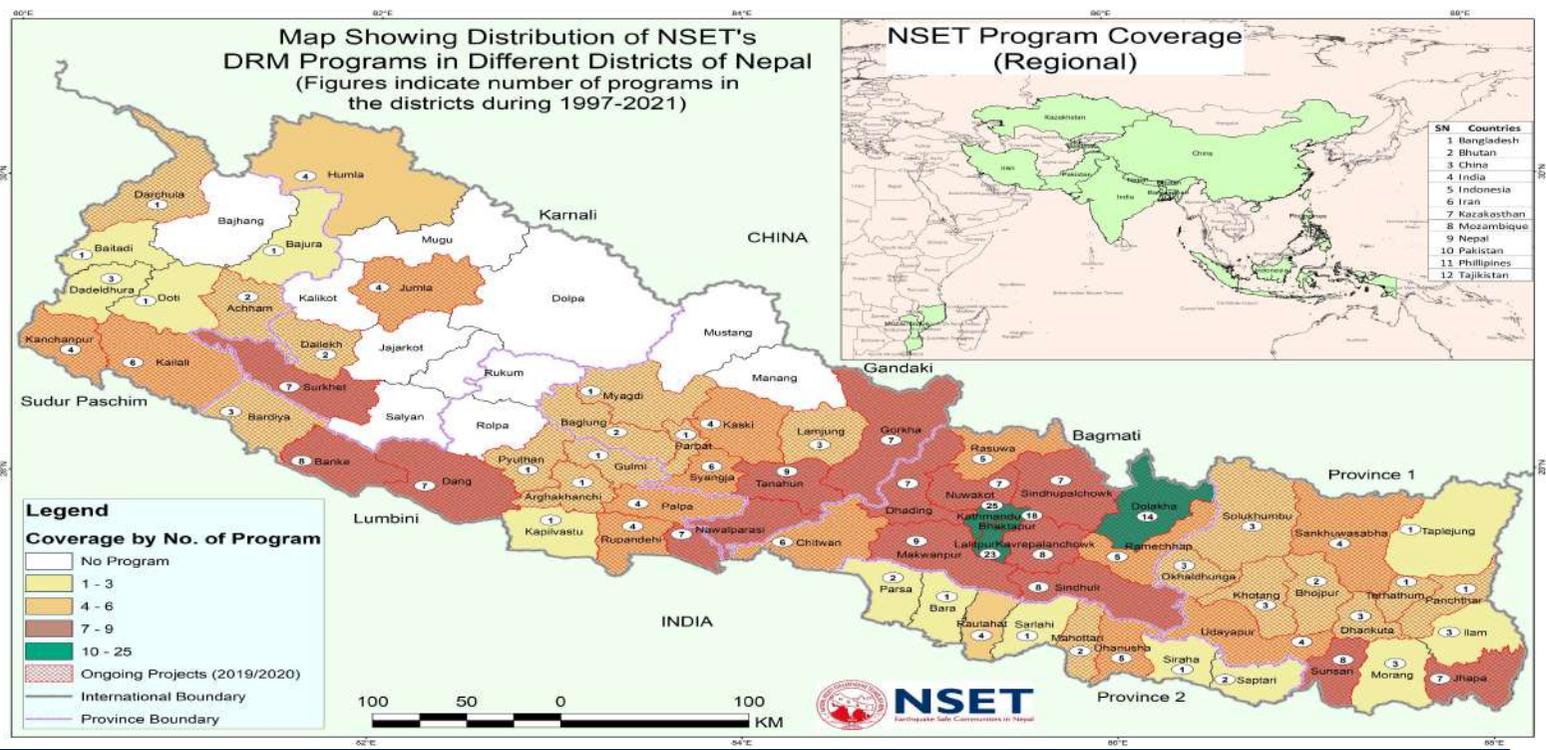


Installation work



# Achievement of last Two and Half Decades Effort

## All OUR WORK for Achieving VISION & MISSION



10,482 (2020-2021)  
813,578 (1994-2021)

**प्रत्यक्ष लाभग्राही**  
**Direct Participants**



600,916 (2020-2021)  
4,665,071 (1994-2021)

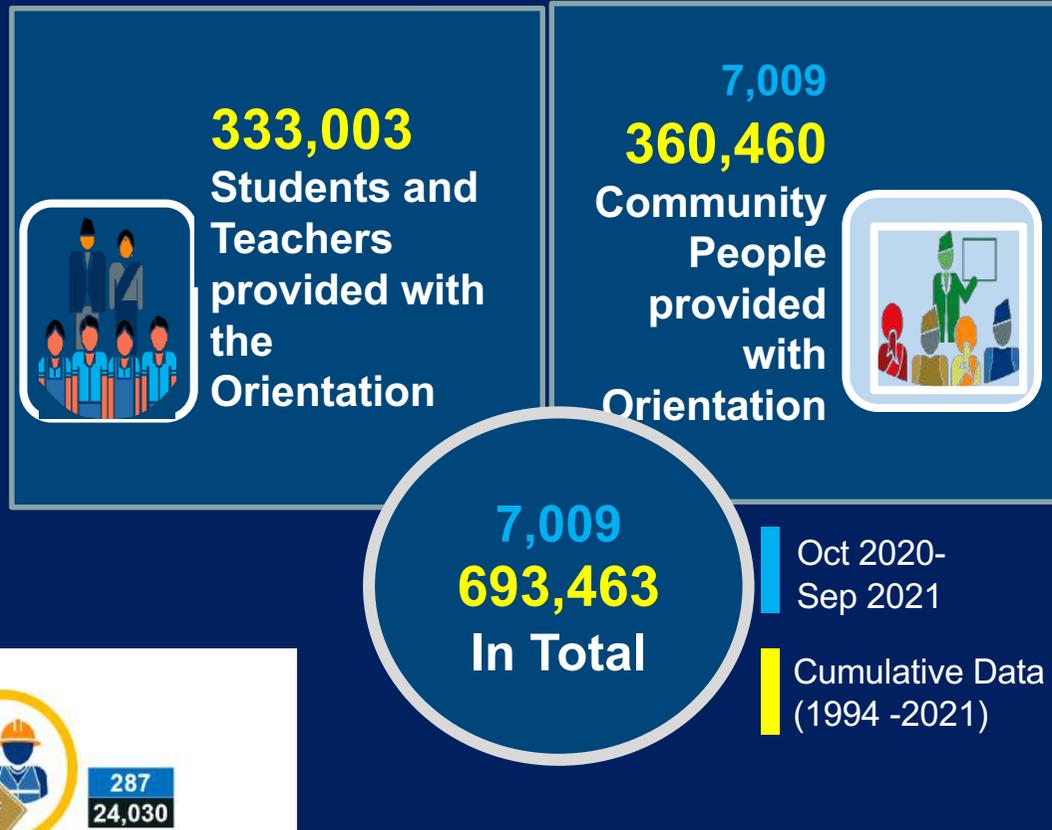
**अप्रत्यक्ष लाभग्राही**  
**Indirect Participants**



Oct 2020-Sept 2021

# Orientations on Disaster Safety and Safer Construction

## Number of People Provided with Orientations on Disaster Safety and Safer Construction

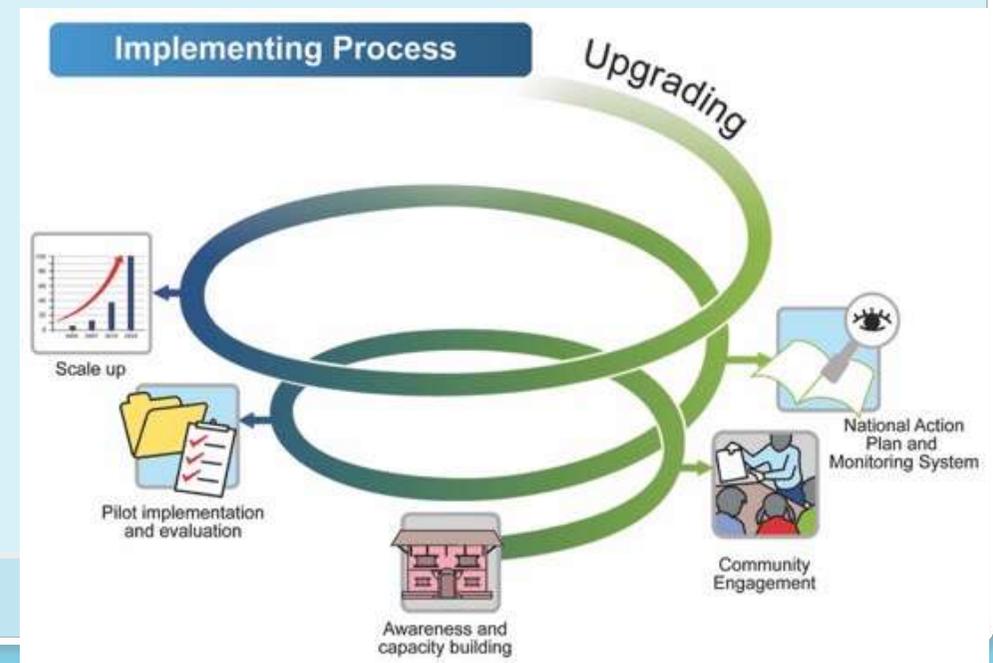


## Capacity Building on Disaster Safety and Safer Construction



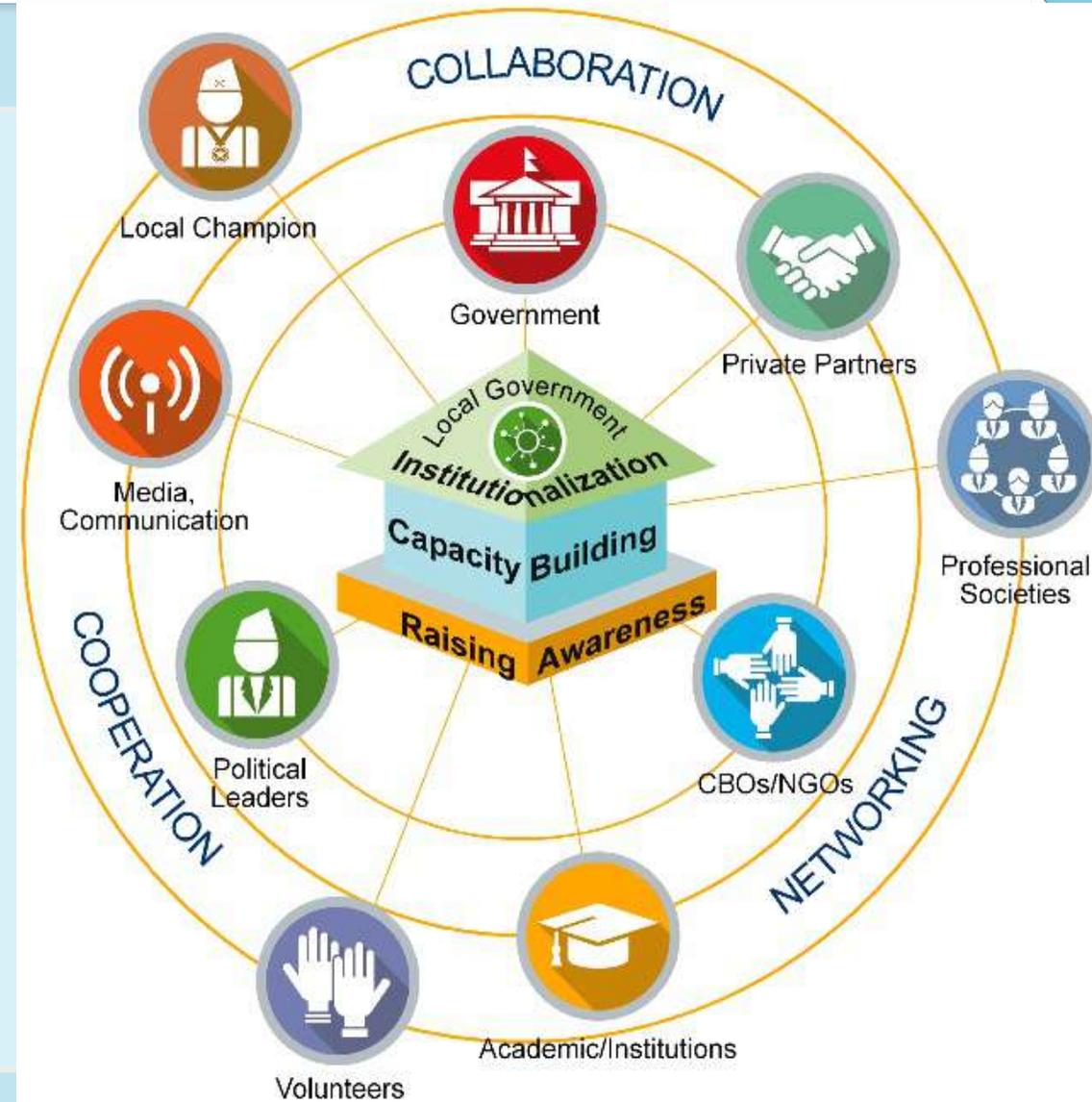
- Continued and persistent long-term efforts
  - core - to establish the feasibility of disaster risk reduction and resilience
  - persistency in efforts
- Work with Champions
- Awareness – Capacity - Institutionalization
- Critical mass of people - Different Thresholds for Different Target Group
  - 30% People
  - 50% Masons/Engineers
  - 20% Municipalities

**There is No Short-cut! Organic Growth is Sustainable**



# Way forward

- **Consolidation and Standardization**
- **Scale-up of established methodologies and approaches**
- **Start work on new areas**
  - Critical infrastructures



# Thank You!