Enhancing Coordination for Effective Implementation of DRR Policies

Dr. Raju Thapa Vice Chair, DPNet

Disasters can also present opportunities

- When one door closes, another door open
- After a storm comes a calm
- There is no education like adversity
- Diamonds are made under pressure
- In the middle of the difficulty lies opportunity
- Never let a crisis to waste
- Turn your wounds into wisdom

Disasters can also present opportunities

- Floods in Bangladesh enhance agricultural productivity by depositing fertile silt and sediment.
- Wildlife-related challenges can be turned into business opportunities by transforming these areas into tourist zones.
- Nepal's 2015 earthquake helped unify political parties, resulting in the creation of a new constitution.
- This constitution, informed by the earthquake's aftermath, now includes comprehensive disaster management provisions.
- The earthquake prompted legal reform, replacing the Natural Calamity Relief Act with the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2017, generating numerous subsequent policies.

Floods of Policy!

- Constitutional Provision
- Legal Provision including DRRM Act, 2017
- DRR Strategic Plan of Action
- DRR Policy
- DRR Regulations
- Other dozens of Guidelines, Framework, Procedure, Standards
- Directly or indirectly DRR related dozens of policy in Province and Local Government

Case study of Sampled Municipality

Around two dozen policies directly related to Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), and numerous others that are indirectly related

Let's only consider plan

- Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan (157 Pages)
- Local Disaster and Climate Resilient Plan (143 Pages)
- DRR Strategic Plan (80 Pages)
- Risk Sensitive Land Use Plan (66 Pages)

Could it be time to rethink and consolidate these numerous policies for greater conciseness and effectiveness?

Policy Abundance and Outcomes

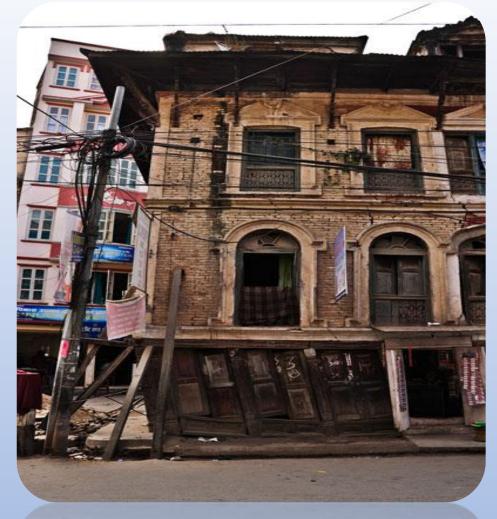
Indicator	Baseline Average 2015	2022	Mid Term Target 2025
Annual average disaster mortality	900	1519	300
Annual average mortality by roads accident	2000	2883	1200
Annual average number of injured	1800	3700	1100
% of population evacuated to safe places after receiving early warning	25%		100%

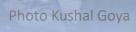
DRR National Strategic Plan of Action and Progress

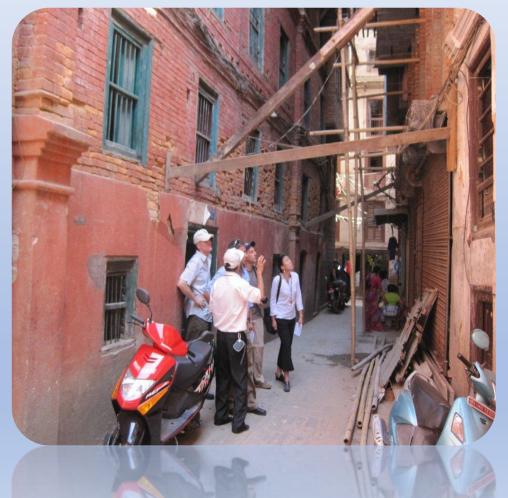
Policy Abundance and Outcomes

- Current data indicates we are struggling to meet even the baseline average, let alone approach our set goals.
- Despite the presence of extensive DRR structures and policies, our performance is no better than before these were established.
- Given this scenario, it's crucial to evaluate whether existing policies and structures are effective.
- There is an urgent need to rethink and redesign our approach to DRR
- Let's explore some examples that highlight why our governing bodies are experiencing vulnerability.

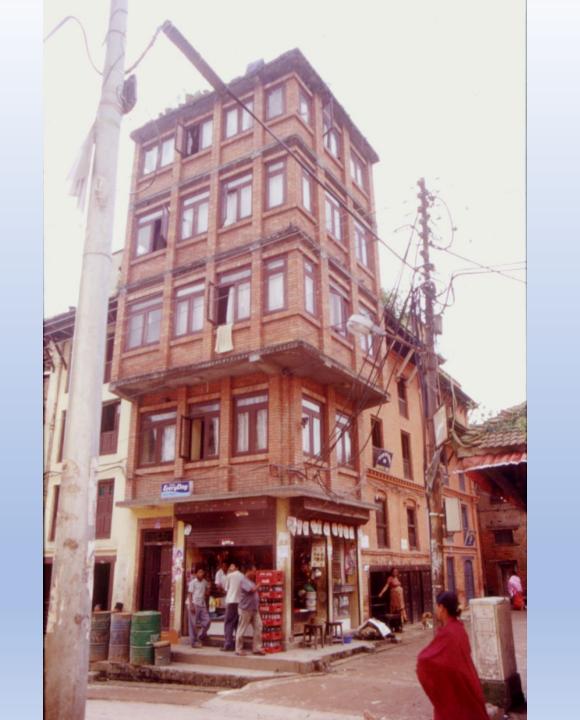






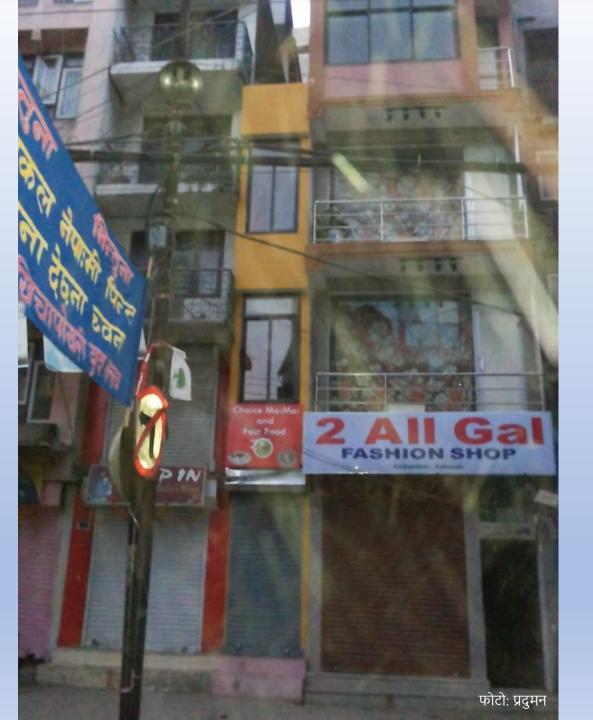






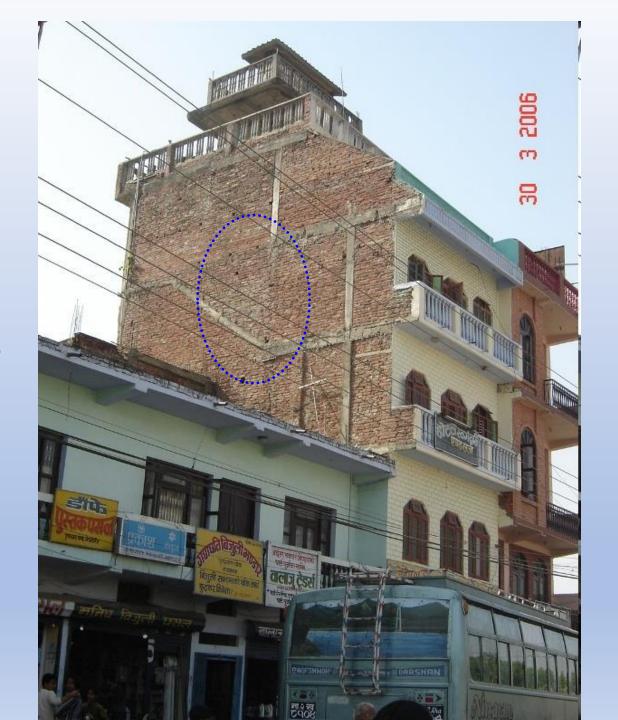


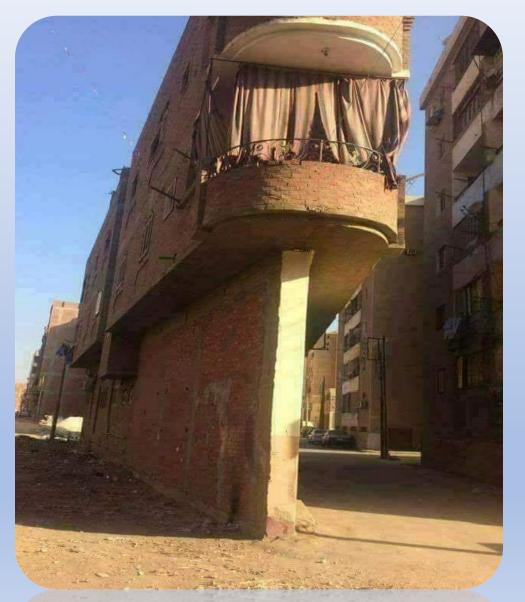
फोटो: प्रदुमन

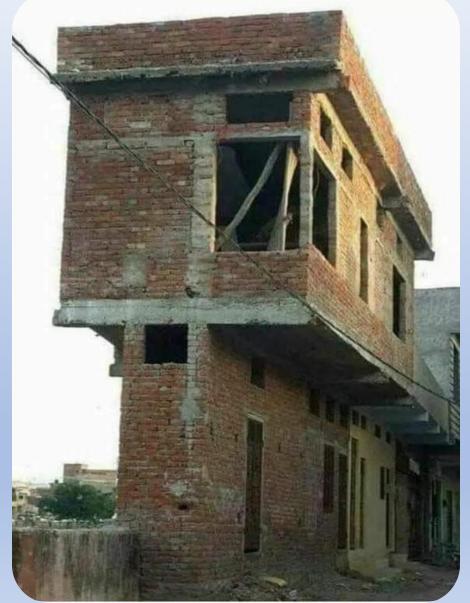


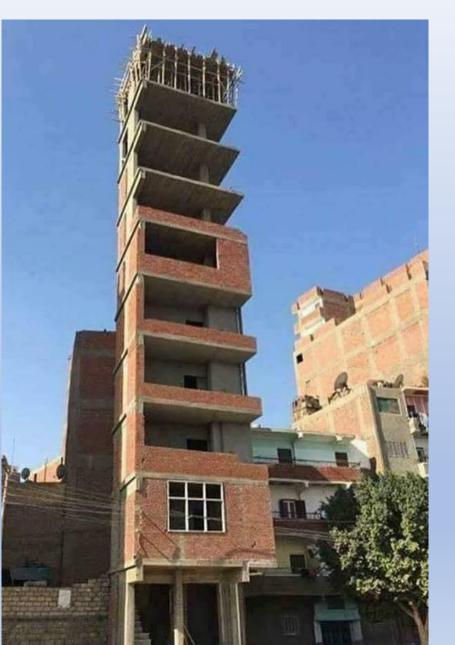
चेपिएका घरहरु

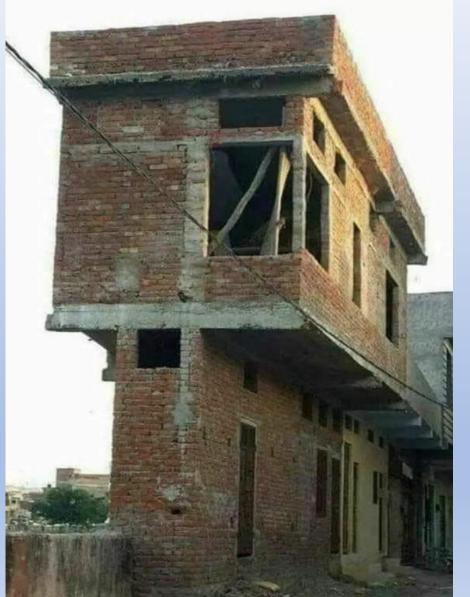
पिल्लर राख्न भुलिएका घरहरु





















मान्छे हिड्ने बाटो हो

ट्रान्स्फोर्मेर राख्ने तथा पसलको बिज्ञापन गर्ने थलो



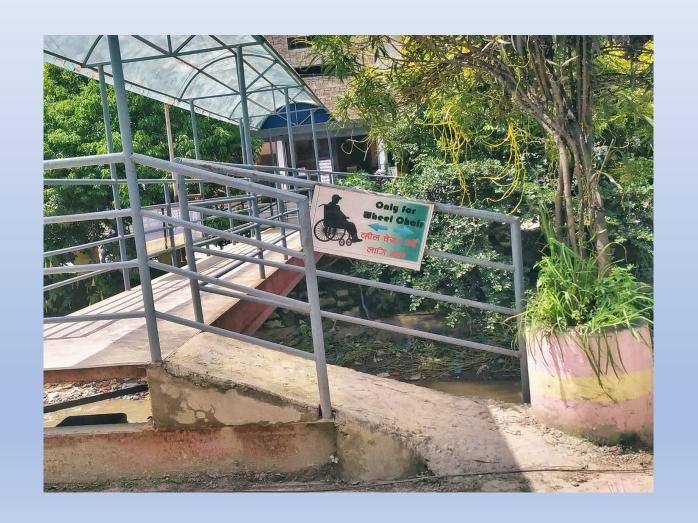




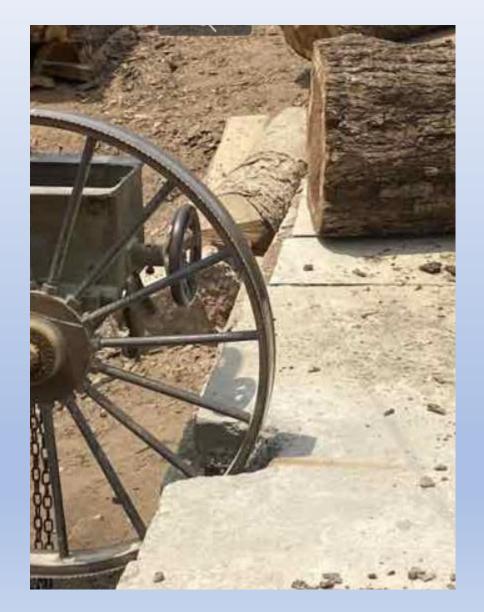


धोबिखोला काठमाण्डौमा अपाङ्गतामैत्री पुलको निर्माण

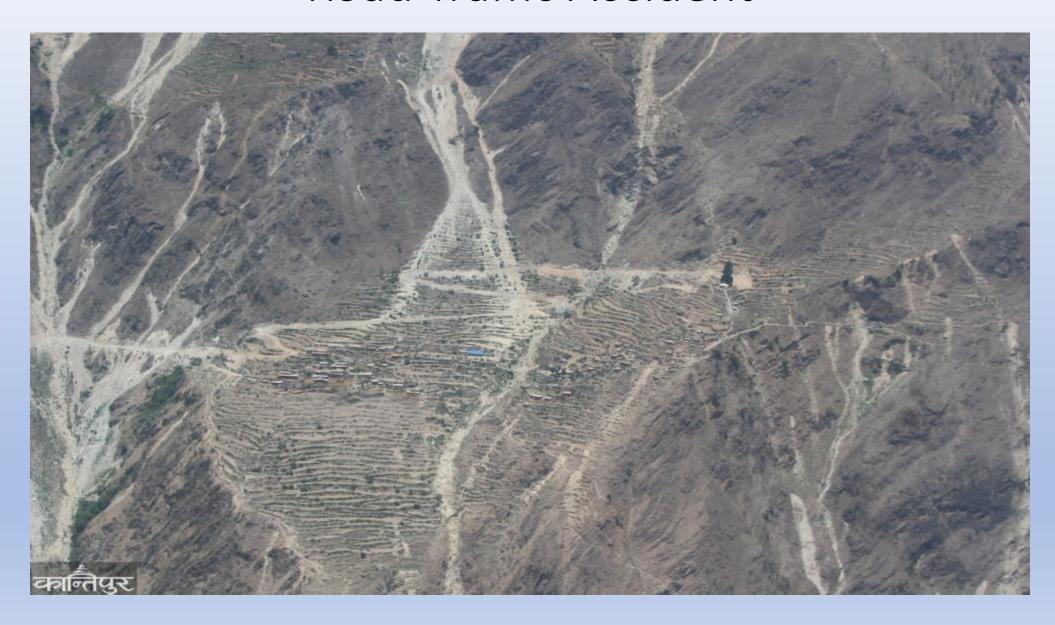
तर अभा के कुरामा सुधार गर्ने सिकन्छ ?



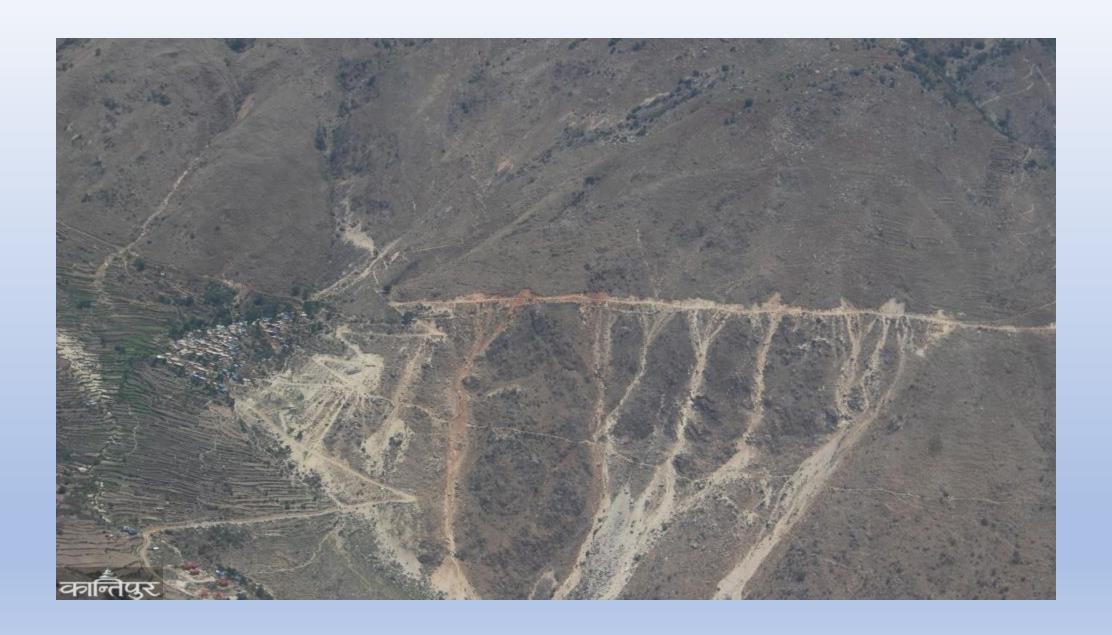




Road Traffic Accident













तस्वीर आफै बोल्छ



समुदायको बुभाई

रुख रोप्दा सेप लागेर बालि उत्पादन घट्छ



3 people including Sudurpaschim minister and his wife killed in road accident

The minister's vehicle travelling from Dadeldhura to Chainpur, fell some 50 metres from the road in Dharchada.





With preparedness and effort, we can achieve better results.

Disaster	Average deaths of the	Average death of	Change in %
	years 2015, 16, 17,	the years 2020, 21,	
	18, 19	22	
Flood	71	41	-42%*
Landslide	111	193	+74%

^{*}Due to development in EWS and precise weather forecast

Preparedness

- By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail Benjamin Franklin
- Hope for the best, but prepare for the worst
- The more you sweat in normal time, the less you bleed in disaster

What is our current situation? (Representative Example)

- The Supreme Court of Nepal directed the government in 2015 to establish an Earthquake Early Warning System.
- Many geologists and activists have been advocating for its implementation since then.
- Last year, the government allocated 20 million rupees for this project, but it was insufficient for equipment purchase and remained unutilized.
- This year, the government did not allocate any budget towards this initiative.
- Choices lie with the government on whether to invest in other projects like view tower or allocate funds to disaster preparedness, including early warning systems.

Prioritizing Preparedness: Are We Doing Enough?

दुर्गमका ६३ खाद्यान्न बिक्री केन्द्रमा छैन अनाज

असार १३, २०८०, कान्तिपुर

- चालु मनसुनमा विपद्को कारण लामो समय सम्म सडक मार्ग अबरुद्ध भएमा के होला?
- हामीले कहील्यै खाद्य संस्थानलाई विपद् ब्यवस्थापनको सरोकारवाला ठानेका छौ ?



Prioritizing Preparedness: Are We Doing Enough?

काठमाडौँ उपत्यकाका पहाडमा १९८ पोखरी निर्माण गरिने

- आबस्यक अध्ययन अनुसन्धान बिना नै गर्न लागिएको यो कार्यले, भूकम्प लगायतका कारण संरचनामा क्षती पुगेमा, समग्र काठमान्डौमा वाटर बम्ब जस्तो धमाका हुन सक्ने बिज्ञहरुको चेतावनी
- यस्ता विपद्को दृष्टिकोणबाट सम्वेदनिशल संरचनाहरु बनाउदा विपद् ब्यवस्थापन प्राधिकरणसँग समन्वय गर्ने गरीएको छ की छैन ?
- दुर्गमका गोदाम घर रित्तीएको बिषयमा प्राधिकरण लगायतका निकायले कसरी कार्य गरीरहेका छन् ?

मननीय कविता

चंगा चित्त छदै, उमेर रहदै, पैसा छदै हातमा

ब्याधिले नछुदै र आयु रहदै बर्गत छदै गाथमा
आफ्नो श्रेय पछि हुने धन्दा छिनी हाल है

आगलागि घरमा भएपछि कुवा खन्दा हुने छैन है

गुणरत्नमाला, जगन्नाथ गुरागाई

Issues related to coordination

- The problems discussed are deeply intertwined with the issue of effective coordination.
- In Nepal, everyone wants coordination but no one wants to be coordinated.
- Individuals and organizations often act independently, ignoring the potential benefits of coordination.
- Given this scenario, it's crucial to enhance coordination efforts. The National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR), consisting of government and semi-government agencies, UN and donor bodies, international and local NGOs, media, academia, the private sector, and disaster-affected communities, is a key player.
- Structure like NPDRR should strive to improve collaboration among all stakeholders to yield better results and support disaster-affected communities.

धन्यवाद्