

Earthquake Safety

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR EARTHQUAKE TECHNOLOGY-NEPAL



भूकम्प प्रविधि
राष्ट्रिय समाज-नेपाल

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Students' Summit on Earthquake Safety 2009



During Students' Summit rally at Hetauda

Amid series of interactive sessions of idea sharing, brainstorming & public advocacies, **Students' Summit on Earthquake Safety 2009** has proclaimed **Hetauda Resolution-2009** renewing their vigour and commitments to keep schools safe from earthquake. The residential 3-day Summit held during 3-5 August 2009 at Hetauda, Nepal drew a total of **125 participants** including **66 students** and **32 teachers** from **30 public schools** in **18 districts** of Nepal, **10 participants** from various disaster management committees, a delegation of **17 Japanese participants** including 2 teachers and 10 students from **Maiko High School of Kobe** and **3 delegates** from **Support for International Disaster Education (SIDE)** - a Japanese NGO created by previous students of Maiko High School and 2 delegates from **Osaka University**.

As a part of the **School Earthquake Safety Program (SESP)** being implemented by **National Society**

for Earthquake Technology (NSET), the School Physical Improvement Program, being implemented by Department of Education (DOE), and as part of the **Disaster Education Program** of Maiko High School, Kobe, Japan; the **Students' Summit for Earthquake Safety-2009** was organized jointly by the three institutions in close collaboration with ActionAid Nepal, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Save the Children Alliance Nepal, UNICEF, and USAID. The 3-day Summit program included physical exercises and games, cultural programs, earthquake drills, lectures and discussion on various aspects of earthquake and preparedness, and practical exercises on improving earthquake preparedness in schools. During the program, the participants happily engaged in all activities. Presence of Japanese students and teachers was extremely motivating. The Summit ended with a "Hetauda Resolution 2009" in which the

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Japanese and Nepali Students participating summit



16th NSET Day 2009

National Society for Earthquake Technology - Nepal (NSET) celebrated its 16th Anniversary in a gala event organized in its office premises at designated institutional area of Bhainsepati Awas Chhetra, Lalitpur. Accompanied by a gracious presence of invitees among from NSET's partners, well wishers & community people; together-with NSET Founders, Board Members & Office Staffs, President of NSET Mr. Shiva Bahadur Pradhanang officially dedicated newly built building facilities of Community Earthquake Learning Center (CELC) to the Nation. In his historical note, Mr. Pradhanang declared CELC as an autonomous and financially self sustained public institution to operate under the management of NSET. On the auspicious occasion, General Secretary and Executive Director of NSET Mr. Amod Mani Dixit briefed about the various features of the Center. CELC has been envisioned to serve as a Centre of Excellence in general for Disaster Risk Management and in particular for Earthquake Risk Management in Nepal. It will facilitate practical researches in specific problem areas and provide physical facilities for earthquake disaster awareness and education for specific target groups, such as children, artisans. It will have a museum for transferring the lessons learned from past earthquakes to the current and future generations. The building structure is visualized to serve as a model of earthquake resistant construction, use of various forms of alternative energy like solar/wind



'Safer Society' and 'Newsletter' unveiled

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Comparative Risk Assessment in Humla District of Nepal

National Society for Earthquake Technology - Nepal (NSET) with support from Mission East Nepal is conducting a comparative risk assessment in Humla district with an objective to identify and map the areas/villages more at risk of multiple hazards in selected VDCs of Humla district and review the present risk

assessment procedure and model in order to adapt it to Nepali context.

This will be achieved through field data collection, data entry and analysis of approximately 35 villages in Humla district. The data will be entered into an Excel database designed by Mission East to identify level of vulnerability, hazard and risk

for each surveyed village. GIS map with hazard, vulnerability / ability and risk information for the area covered by the survey will be prepared and finally needs assessment report outlining: findings and recommendations, including a list of recommended communities for intervention will be prepared.

Pull Down Test for Existing Mud Mortar Masonry Building

Most of the loss of life in the past earthquakes was due to collapse of non-engineered masonry buildings. Such non-engineered masonry buildings are widely available in Nepal. Knowing the seismic risk of such widely available masonry buildings and identifying possible improvement measures is of utmost importance for reducing the overall seismic risk of the country. Realizing this, a pull down test on an existing

building has been planned in Nepal as part of the Regional Program of Earthquake Risk Reduction and Recovery Preparedness Program (ERRRPP). NSET is providing the technical assistance needed for the pull down test and the test is being funded by ADRC.

An existing mud mortared masonry building in Bhaisepati area of Lalitpur has been identified for conducting the test. The symmetrical mud mortar

masonry building was chosen to convert into two different similar structures. One part of the structure is proposed to test for the pull down in as-it-is condition while the other part is proposed to test for the pull down load after seismic retrofitting.

The pull down test of the existing building is scheduled for October 15 and the test of the retrofitted building for October 26, 2009.

Continues Students' Summit ...



Rally for Earthquake Safety

students, the teachers, the activists committed to work further to ensure 1) all schools to be made earthquake safe, 2) to promote inter-school and international collaboration in school earthquake safety, and 3) proposed to expand the summit outreach to other seismic countries of the Asia.



Drill Program exercised

Campaign theme of the Summit was "Let's Keep Our Schools Safe from Earthquakes".

Objectives of the Summit were:

- Raising earthquake awareness of participating schools and institutions by sharing of knowledge and experience

among schools of Nepal and between Nepalese schools and Maiko High School of Japan

- Promote in Nepal international good practices including rich experience of Japan on earthquake safety, especially after the Kobe Earthquake of 1995.
- Provide a common platform for cultural exchange among school children nationally and internationally and for discussing methods of developing and implementing School Earthquake Preparedness and Evacuation plan.
- Develop understanding and fraternity among school students of different parts of Nepal and with students from Kobe, Japan.

The program commenced on 3rd August in the early morning at 7:00hrs with a rally carrying placards of various awareness slogans to keep schools earthquake safer. Around 500 people from various corners of society, including students from Nepal and Japan in large, walked around the city covering key areas of the locality. The rally was addressed by District Education Officer Mr. Cholendra Kumar Pandit and other speakers from organizing partner organizations.

The summit was then formally opened by Chief Guest of the opening ceremony, Mr. Hari Prasad Mainali,



Inaugural session of Students' Summit

Chief District Officer, Makawanpur in the midst of a mass of participants, observers, media-persons and organizers assembled at Seminar Hall, Hotel Avocado, Hetauda. In his keynotes, he emphasized on the importance of the summit in developing earthquake safety in day to day life of people.

Representatives of the collaborating institutions referred to the high casualty of school-going children and teachers during recent earthquakes in the region, critically evaluated the programs in Nepal, highlighted the



Japanese Students Performing Cultural Program

immense potential contribution of the students in achieving earthquake safety in community by carrying the message from schools to family and ultimately to the community. A consensus opinion was the necessity of expanding the outreach of disaster safety message to all households and to all communities of Nepal. The speakers endorsed the efforts made so far in the country and tasked NSET to continue the School Earthquake Safety Program including creative advocacy at policy-makers level.

PEER 3 Regional Planning Meeting

- The Regional Planning Meeting (RPM) held on July 27-29, 2009 in Bangkok was the launching pad for PEER Stage 3. The meeting was a good platform to present the scope of the program and ensure common understanding by all beneficiary countries. Highlights include review of accomplishments in PEER Stage 2, presented by NSET; and visioning by the PEER nodal agencies/NDMOs (National Disaster Management Organizations) and other partnering

groups (health ministries and Red Cross societies) how to proceed on the emergency response enhancement within Stage 3 and beyond. Country planning meetings will then be conducted after the RPM to strategize PEER roadmap of the project countries.

- Nepal Country Planning Meeting for Objectives 1 and 2 was held on August 27-28, 2009, in Kathmandu, led by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of Nepal. NSET and ADPC will



Mr. A.M. Dixit, ED - NSET in small group discussion with delegates from Bangladesh

proceed to meet with other PEER-member countries in the coming months.

ORIENTATION PROGRAMS

Orientation Program on Earthquake Risk Reduction and Preparedness

- July, 2009: On request from Nepal Heritage and Culture Concern (NHCC), an orientation program on earthquake preparedness was conducted for their staff and volunteers at NHCC premises, Lalitpur.

- August, 2009: An orientation program on earthquake preparedness and an earthquake drill was conducted at Kendriya Vidyalaya, Embassy of India.

- August, 2009: On request from Plan Nepal, an orientation program on earthquake preparedness was conducted for the staff members of Plan at Plan Nepal Country Office.

HETAUDA RESOLUTION – 2009



Participating students working in session

We, the participants of the **Students' Summit For Earthquake Safety, 2009**, comprising 125 students and teachers from Nepal and Japan, together with our mentors from NSET, Maiko High School, SIDE, and Osaka University

Having met for 3-days under the Summit Campaign theme "Let's Keep Our Schools Safe from Earthquakes"

Having been inspired by the ongoing School Earthquake Safety Program of NSET, School Physical Improvement Program under Education for All (EFA) program of DOE, the Disaster Education Program of Maiko High School, international efforts made by the Support for International Disaster Education (SIDE), Japan, and disaster research programs of Osaka University

Having been inspired by the endorse-

ment of the SUMMIT objectives and program by officials of Ministry of Education Nepal, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), USAID, UNICEF, ActionAid Nepal, Save the Children Alliance Nepal, and Women and Children Development Forum (WCDF); and encouraged to continue our efforts

Having been encouraged by the focus on Safer Schools by several international initiatives such as Hyogo Frameworks of Action 2005-2015, the International Decade for Education for Sustainable Development, and by national disaster risk management strategies of Nepal, Japan and other countries,

Having been enthused by the build-up of friendship, mutual understanding, and confidence on the potentials of making a difference in our countries and the region during Summit,

We the participants collectively resolve, hereby, that WE WILL:

1. Consolidate the knowledge and lessons of earthquake safety gained during the summit and contribute to disseminate that to our schools and communities,
2. Continuously learn about natural hazards and ways of achieving



Drill exercise

safety from them by formal and informal education,

3. Be actively involved in making our school buildings strong against natural hazards,
4. Assist in developing and implementing school disaster preparedness plan including evacuation drills in our schools,
5. Assist our parents, teachers, community leaders and government officials to make our schools gradually safer against natural hazards,
6. Listen to the advice of and collaborate with benevolent organizations in the implementation of school disaster reduction programs,
7. Advocate for expanding outreach of the summit to other schools of Nepal and other disaster prone countries of the region, and
8. Express our gratitude to the various organizations that supported us through this Summit.



Drill exercise



Mr. S.N. Shrestha, DED - NSET briefing on summit from Radio Makawanpur FM, Hetauda

School Safer Against Earthquake

Under NERMP with the support from USAID/OFDA, School Earthquake Safety Program (SESP) has been implemented in Mahendra Adarsha Higher Secondary School, Imadol, Lalitpur; Sakala Devi Lower Secondary School, Kadambas, Dibyapuri, Nawalparasi; and Kali Devi Higher Secondary School, Kavresthali, Kathmandu. NSET has implemented Disaster Risk Reduction through School Project (DRRSP) in four districts, Kathmandu, Makwanpur, Rasuwa and Banke with support from DFID through partnership with Action Aid Nepal. Also, NSET has been developing National Strategy for improving seismic safety of schools in Nepal



Teachers & students' orientation on earthquake safety in Nawalparasi under GFDRR/World Bank

- Trainings for teachers, students, community and local masons at Janakalyan & Mahendra Secondary School, Banke under SESP/DRRSP of Action Aid Nepal from 2-8 June 2009
- 3-day Students Summit on Earthquake Safety 2009- 3 to 5 August 2009, Hetauda, Nepal
- Training on disaster safety to students & teachers by Support for International Disaster Education (SIDE, Kobe) at Bal Bikash Secondary School, Alapot on 12 August 2009
- New construction of Mahendra Adarsha School, Imadol under SESP/NERMP underway
- New Construction of Sakala Devi L.S. School, Nawalparasi under SESP/NERMP underway
- Retrofitting work for ground floor at Buddha Jyoti L.S. School, Balaju, Kathmandu completed and new construction for first floor under SESP/DRRSP of Action Aid Nepal ongoing
- New Construction of Bal Kumari Secondary School, Sunakothi, Lalitpur under SESP/DRRSP of Action Aid Nepal ongoing
- Bansha Gopal H.S. School and Churiya Mai Secondary Schools at Hetauda, Makwanpur under SESP/DRRSP of Action Aid Nepal completed
- New Construction of Seti Bhoomi L.S. School at Rasuwa completed and Shyame Wangfel Secondary School, Rasuwa under

SESP/DRRSP of Action Aid Nepal ongoing

- New Construction of Janakalyan Secondary school at Banke under SESP/DRRSP of Action Aid Nepal ongoing
- Foundation work at Kali Devi H.S. School, Kavresthali, Kathmandu under SESP/NERMP underway
- Retrofitting work at Churiya Mai Secondary School, Hetauda under SESP/DRRSP of Action Aid Nepal underway
- Construction above the plinth level is ongoing at Bagishwori Secondary School, Bichaur, Lamjung under GFDRR/World Bank
- Orientation for teachers, students and mason at Bagishwori Secondary School, Bichaur, Lamjung under GFDRR/World Bank
- Orientation for teachers, students and community at Shanti Higher Secondary School, Kuncha, Lamjung under GFDRR/World Bank
- Earthquake Resistant RCC School building construction and masons training at Kalika Higher Secondary School at Gaidakot, Nawalparasi under GFDRR/World Bank ongoing



Construction of first floor at Buddha Jyoti Bal Udhyan LSS, Balaju, Kathmandu under SESP/DRRSP/Action Aid Nepal

under the financial support from World Bank/GFDRR since August 2008. Pilot project has been implemented at Nawalparasi and Lamjung District under which different level of training programs on school preparedness have been completed and survey of almost all of the public school buildings is in progress.

Activities accomplished so far

- Trainings for teachers, students, community at Kalidevi Higher Secondary School, Kavresthali, Kathmandu under SESP/NERMP on 4th Sep, 2009



During Cross sharing workshop at Hetauda on 17th May 2009 under SESP/DRRSP/Action Aid Nepal

EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING RESEARCH & TRAINING DIVISION (EERT)

Activities carried under the EERT Division of NSET

- Qualitative and quantitative seismic vulnerability assessment and retrofit design of buildings possessed by various organizations that include the

buildings of British Embassy and American Embassy

- Preparation of tender document for implementation of retrofitting work in two buildings of British Embassy.



Wall jacketing for retrofitting

NSET Activities Outside Nepal

Comprehensive Disaster Management Program (CDMP)

Under the Comprehensive Disaster Management Program (CDMP) Bangladesh, Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC) jointly with National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET) with other partners are facilitating different trainings and awareness activities such as the process of technology transfer, information sharing and establishing a system for continuing the activities in future.

As a part of the series of trainings and awareness activities planned and implemented, training to planners and decision makers on the process of earthquake risk assessment at city level, use of risk assessment tool/s, develop updating process and

mechanism and use of risk maps for earthquake risk reduction and contingency planning for effective emergency response has been organized.

A five days training on Earthquake Risk Assessment and Planning Using HAZUS Tools was conducted in Dhaka for the planners and decision makers under the Training, Advocacy and Awareness component conducted in Dhaka from August 18-22, 2009. The main aim of the training is to impart knowledge and skills of the participants on the process of earthquake risk assessment at city level, use of selected risk assessment tool/s, develop updating process and mechanism and use of risk maps for

earthquake risk reduction and contingency planning. There were around 26 participants at the training from Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet cities. The participants represented from different departments of Government line agencies, City Corporation & University.



Participants of training, Bangladesh

NSET in Country

Workshop on "Modern Methods in Seismic Hazard Assessment"

The Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) and U.S Geological Survey (USGS) in close coordination with National society for Earthquake Technology - Nepal (NSET) organized a week long workshop on "Modern Methods in Seismic Hazard Assessment" during



Glimpse of the Workshop

8-12 June, 2009 at Club Himalaya, Nagarkot, Bhaktapur.

The workshop provided an overview of modern seismic hazard assessment, with emphasis on freely available software tools. The workshop also included a series of lectures by participants as well as workshop leaders on key issues associated with regional seismic hazard assessment techniques.

There were 13 Pakistani participants from seven different organizations and 5 Nepalese participants from 3 different organizations who were benefited from the workshop.

The Participating Institutions were ; NESPAK, Islamabad, NED University, Karachi, Berkeley Associates, Lahore, University of

Peshawar, Ishfaq Ahmad Research Laboratories, University of Balochistan, Quetta, Geological Survey of Pakistan, Institute of Engineering, Lalitpur, Nepal, Department of Mines and Geology, Nepal and National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET) .

TEMPEST EXPRESS 17

With an aim to build capacity and improve ability of representative organizations to work together for disaster victim for more rapid and more effective response, a workshop MPAT (Multinational Planning Augmentation Team) Tempest Express - 17 (TE-17) was organized from 26 August to 4 September 2009 at Hotel Yak and Yeti, Kathmandu.

The MPAT is a multinational program established in early 2000 to plan and execute coalition operations. The MPAT program includes military planners from all interested nations and also incorporates expertise from International & Non-governmental Organizations and the UN. The primary focus of MPAT is to improve multinational interoperability at the operational level of command in emergency response.

The major objectives of the workshop were to

- Support Government of Nepal (GON) efforts to develop an integrated "whole of government" approach to disaster relief planning, preparedness and response
- Improve coordination between NA and civil agencies and amongst civil agencies involved in HA/DR
- Support implementation of UN,

National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET) and other organizations' recommendations that have been accepted by the GON.

- Support initial development of basic procedures/checklists to maximize whole of government unity of effort
- Support the development/refinement of international, multiagency disaster management and emergency response mechanisms complimentary to existing procedures
- Conduct a disaster relief workshop that supports the Government of Nepal's capability to respond to extensive disasters in the Kathmandu Valley/Terai regions
- Test MNF SOP procedures relevant to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief missions and civil-military coordination
- Improve civil-military coordination and staff planning skills to deal with rapid onset disasters

The program was basically a simulation exercise based on earthquake scenario for Kathmandu and it was the 17th workshop of the MPAT series. There are 31 MPAT member countries at present and out of that 25 had participated in the workshop. NSET had provided technical support at organizational level for the construction of the exercise.

NSET professionals, Mr. Ram Chandra Kandel, Director SESP, and Ms. Bhubaneswari Parajuli, Gender, Social and Env. Mgmt. Specialist participated in the Tempest-17.

Kathmandu District Level Disaster Risk Reduction Program

NSET is providing technical assistance to the program, Kathmandu District Level Disaster Risk Reduction Program organized by District Development Committee (DDC), Kathmandu. The major objective of the program is the Management of Natural Disaster Risks specially emphasizing in the Earthquake risk reduction in Kathmandu. Its specific objectives are to: i) Institutionalize the Metropolitan city, municipalities and 57 VDCs under Kathmandu DDC with respect to disaster risk management; ii) conduct orientation and training program in the respective municipalities and Village Development Committees (VDCs) for the enhancement of capacity building regarding the DRR and iii) conduct the community based awareness program about the earthquake and its preparedness

Under the program a series of



Orientation Program on DRR, Thankot, Kathmandu

orientations were provided for the DDC/VDC staff of Kathmandu DDC such as;

- Orientation Program for DDC staff
- Orientation Program for VDC staff (36) of Dahachowk, Balambu, Badbhanjyang, Thankot and Mahadevsthan, and representatives of political parties, NGOs at Thankot on 24 June 2009.
- Orientation Program for VDC staff (43) of Shesh Narayan, Talku Duda Chaur, Chhaimale, Dakshin Kali, Chalnakhel, Seti devi and representatives of political parties, NGOs on 25 June 2009.

- Orientation Program for VDC staff (48) of Pukhulachhi, Nanglebhare, Lapsiphedi, Suntol, Bajra Yogini, and representatives of political parties, NGOs at Pukhulachhi

KMC Risk- Sensitive Land Use Planning

Started with Cross Cutting Capacity Development (3cd) program- 2005, NSET now is providing assistance to Kathmandu Metropolitan City (KMC with the funding from German Committee for Disaster Reduction (DKKV) to support the two components i) Risk Sensitive Land Use Planning for Kathmandu Metropolitan City (KMC); ii) Emergency Management system in KMC.

In this course a Participatory Validation of the KMC Profile and Situational Analysis Workshop was conducted on 15 July 2009 and further a Multi stakeholder Workshop on Visioning, Goals and Objectives Setting was conducted from 16-17 July 2009 at NSET meeting hall Bhainsepati, Lalitpur.

Other Activities

- As a part of the capacity building of the NSET professional an interactive lecture on photography was conducted at the NSET meeting hall on July 22, 2009. The lecture was delivered by one of the energetic-practicing-professional-photo-journo Mr. Min Bajracharya on the theme of capturing events or moments in camera more nicely with the view to enhance the work quality in keeping records of various NSET activities more in point of fact. The session remained much interactive in terms of sharing practice-based ideas and techniques.
- An "Orientation Program on Yoga" was organized for the staff of NSET at the YOGA Hall, CELC/NSET on Monday August 31, 2009. Mr. Kiran Shankar Yogacharya (Swami Shivalingam Saraswati), Chairman of Society of Hydrologists & Meteorologists-Nepal delivered his insightful lecture on it.
- With the objective to test emergency response capability of the various elements of the response plan designed by ICIMOD in case of earthquakes and to raise staff's awareness about the earthquake preparedness, an Earthquake Drill Exercise was conducted in ICIMOD on 30th June 2009 with the technical facilitation of NSET.
- NSET professionals, Mr. Ganesh Jimée, Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager and Ms. Bhubaneswari Parajuli, Gender, Social and Env. Mgmt. Specialist participated in a two-day Shelter Cluster workshop organized by UN Habitat on 20-21 July 2009 at Hotel Malla, Lainchaur. It was the third workshop of its series for the development of Contingency Plans for emergency shelter. The main objective of the Contingency Plan is to support the Government of Nepal (GoN) to undertake preparedness activities in collaboration with all agencies and organizations involved in disaster management to meet the emergency shelter needs during emergencies and to promote cooperation and coordination among the relevant organizations in providing emergency shelter required for the people rendered homeless by disasters.

The workshop had the following two agendas:

- Finalizing for all agencies the agreed specifications and quantities, facilitating uniformity for emergency interventions when approaching donors for funding, session led by IFRC, NRCS and UN Habitat
- Reviewing and Revising the Sphere handbook and minimum standards for shelter, settlement and NFI's, session led by Red R India

NSET Intern

Ms Catalina Jaime from Colombia joined NSET as an intern for a period of 3 months, July-September 2009. Ms. Jaime is a student of the NOHA Mundus Master Program in International Humanitarian Action, specialized in Conflict, Disaster and Peace Building, from Deusto University in Spain and Uppsala University in Sweden. As according to her interest in the comprehensive analysis of the key role of a national NGO in DRM she is involved in analyzing the Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) Program in order to carry out an impact evaluation of CBDRM projects at NSET.



TRAININGS

- 26 Masons from Bhaktapur District were provided training on Earthquake Resistant Construction of Buildings during 7-11 June 2009. The training was conducted by NSET with support from Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC), Division Office Kathmandu and Thimi Municipality.
- NSET in association with DUDBC Division Office, Dhanusha conducted a Training Program for Masons on Earthquake Resistant Construction of Buildings during

11-14 June 2009 at Janakpur. 29 masons from Mahottari, Dhanusha and Sarlahi took part in the 4 day training program.

The mason training program was followed by a Shake Table Demonstration which was done in front of Ram Janaki Mandir, Janakpur on June 15, 2009 with the participation of more than 200 observers.

- NSET professionals, Mr. Bijay K. Upadhyay, Mr. Surya P. Acharya and Mr. Ganesh Jimjee attended the 5-day training program on “Essentials of Humanitarian



Participants of Mason training, Janakpur

Practice” Training for building capacities on Emergency response, organized by RedR India during 1-5 July 2009 at Dhulikhel Nepal.

MOU

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between Central Department of Geography (CDG) and National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET) on July 31, 2009 with an aim to pool information, expertise and human resources to contribute to effective earthquake risk management in Nepal.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED) and National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET) on August 2009 in order to establish collaboration between disaster database initiatives in Asia, in order to strengthen their quality and improve the interoperability between them.

International Day for Disaster Reduction

In 1989, the United Nations General Assembly designated the second Wednesday of October International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction (resolution). The International Day was observed annually during the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, 1990-1999.

In 2001, the General Assembly decided to maintain the observance of the International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR), as a vehicle to promote a global culture of natural disaster reduction, including disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness.

The Disaster Reduction Day is celebrated every year, to mark the series of events and efforts that led to formulation of the international strategy on disaster risk reduction (Hyogo Framework for Action on DRR) as well as to reiterate the commitment of communities at local, national and international levels, including governments, donors and other stakeholders to achieving the objects outlined in the HFA document.

The theme of the International Day for Disaster Reduction and campaign for 2008-2009 focuses on making “Hospitals Safe from Disasters”.

As in previous years, this year also Nepal is celebrating the Disaster Reduction Day with an objective to seek and underline commitment to enactment of the DM policy by relevant policy makers in the country and further enabling people to raise their voice and seek adequate policy measures to address their rights so as to reduce vulnerabilities. Some of the key stakeholders in DRR in Nepal including DIPECHO partners, AIN, DPNet, NDAC, DiMAAN have decided to join hands to mark 2009 ISDR Day with series of programs during 13-14 Oct 2009.

QUAKE MONITOR (International)

Year	Magnitude	Location	Remark
23/06/09	6.7	New Ireland Region, Papua New Guinea	No reports of damage or casualties
01/07/09	6.4	Crete, Greece	No reports of damage or casualties
09/07/09	5.7	Yunnan, China	One person killed, 336 people injured and severe damage in the Yao'an area
15/07/09	7.6	Off West Coast of the South Island, New Zealand	No reports of damage or casualties
03/08/09	6.9	Gulf of California	No reports of damage or casualties
09/08/09	7.1	Izu Island, Japan Region	No reports of damage or casualties
10/08/09	6.6	Santa Cruz Islands	No reports of damage or casualties
10/08/09	7.5	Andaman Islands, India Region	No reports of damage or casualties
10/08/09	6.4	Near the South Coast of Honshu Japan	One person killed, 123 people injured and 5,192 buildings damaged in the Shizuoka area. One road damaged at Tokyo
12/08/09	6.6	Izu Islands, Japan Region	No reports of damage or casualties
16/08/09	6.6	Kepulauan, Mentawai Region, Indonesia	Five people were injured from a collapsed escalator in north Padang. Four other people were injured, two from collapsed fences.
17/08/09	6.6	Southwestern Ryukyu Islands, Japan	No reports of damage or casualties
28/08/09	6.8	Banda Sea	No reports of damage or casualties
28/08/09	6.2	Northern Qinghai, China	No reports of damage or casualties

Source: USGS

QUAKE MONITOR (Nepal)

Date	Time (UTC) (NST = UTC + 5:45:00.00)	Magnitude (ML)	Epicentre
2009/05/14	20:13:15.45	4.2	Sankhuwasava
2009/07/12	13:35:49.65	4.3	Jata Pokhari, Dolakha
2009/08/02	10:04:06.42	4.0	Karman, Rasuwa

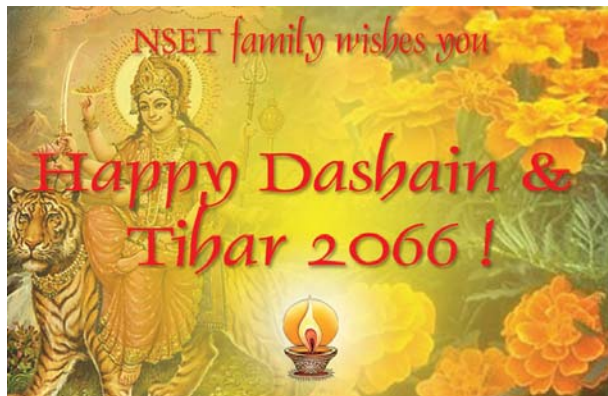
Source: www.seismonepal.gov.np

Continues 16th NSET day ...

energy for water heating and wind energy, back-up power for some equipment, and environment friendly and energy efficient building. Nearly 200 invitees including representatives from government offices, diplomatic missions, Academic institutions, NGOs, INGOs, CBOs, Consulting firms, Funding Agencies, and other many civic sectors observed the newly built facilities.

This year's program included the unveiling of NSET decade book 'Safer Society and Annual Report 2008' along with June issue of NSET Newsletter. Group of senior people including NSET President Mr. Shiva B. Pradhanang, Litterateurs Mr. Shanta Das Manandhar and Mr. Dinesh Raj Pant, Journalist Mr. Shreeram Singh Basnet, Mr. Indra Bahadur Shrestha, Director General, DUDBC, Mr. Vijaya Singh, Assistant Resident Representative - UNDP, Mr. Badan Lal Nyachho, Director- Multi Disciplinary Consultants Pvt. Ltd, Mr. Ramesh K. Sharma, Former Chairman Nepal Red Cross, Mr. Prayag Raj Singh Suwal, Former Minister and member of school management committee, Vidyodaya Primary School and Mr. Keshab Man Amatya jointly released the publications. Safer Society is an aperture to peer what NSET aims to pay its efforts and has been paying since more than a decade to foster the advancement of science and practice of earthquake engineering & technology for mitigating the earthquake risk and increasing the seismic safety, to enhance professionalism, professional engineering and scientific ethics and to further the objectives of the International Association for Earthquake Engineering as applicable to Nepal. Safer Society is published as a composition of NSET journeys. Safer Society is thus a self-assessment of NSET activities or it's the way of looking-self-in-mirror so that forthcoming activities and strategies could be more accurately designed towards meeting targeted goals.

The program was followed by a Reception Party. Later in the evening, families of NSET Founders, Board members and Staffs also joined the occasion participating in the various entertaining and fun events which concluded with a family dinner program.



FOR TIPS ON EARTHQUAKE RISK MITIGATION TUNE IN TO...

Radio Sagarmatha (FM 102.4) at 7.30 PM, Tuesday
Radio Annapurna (FM 91.8) at 7.30 AM, Wednesday
Capital FM (FM 92.4) at 8.00 AM, Every Morning

WATCH ...

Nepal Television every Saturday 8:25 am
"Bhukampa Bisesh" section on Janachaso Program

Think about making your home Earthquake-Resistant
Attend our House Owners Consultation Program
"Every Friday: 2-5pm"

FRIDAY FREE EARTHQUAKE CLINIC
at NSET Office

PROFILE

Ramesh Guragain

Director, EERT Division

**National Society for Earthquake
Technology – Nepal (NSET)**



Mr. Ramesh Guragain joined NSET in April 2000 as Structural Engineer, then served as Senior Structural Engineer during 2002 -2006; and was promoted to the position of Director for Earthquake Engineering, Research and Training (EERT) Division of NSET in Oct 2006. Before joining NSET, he was working for TAEC Consult P. Ltd. as Site Engineer for a road construction project. Mr. Guragain holds Master's Degree in Earthquake Engineering from Tokyo University (2006) and Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from Tribhuvan University (1998).

As one of the senior technical professionals of NSET, Mr. Guragain has led several projects as Team Leader as well as Resource Person. Some of the significant projects that he led are: Seismic Vulnerability Assessment of Hospitals in Nepal (2003); Development of Guidelines for Seismic Vulnerability Assessment of Hospitals (2004); Program for Strengthening Capacities for Disaster Risk Management in Iran (2006-2007); Technical Support for Thimpu Valley Earthquake Risk Management Project in Bhutan (2007 -2009); Earthquake Vulnerability Reduction and Prepare-dness Program in Pakistan (2007-2009); Comprehensive Disaster Management Program in Bangladesh (2007-2009)

Besides, Mr. Guragain has served as one of the key members of NSET Team for the implementation of various projects such as Structural Vulnerability Assessment of Hospitals in Kathmandu Valley in 2001 (WHO/DHS-GoN); Seismic Vulnerability Assessment of Water Supply System of Kathmandu (UNICEF); Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan for Safe Drinking Water in the Kathmandu Valley (UNICEF); Municipal Earthquake Risk Management Program; and School Earthquake Safety Program.

Mr. Guragain has also provided his professional input as one of the Resource Persons for Earthquake Resistant Design Training to Engineers in Pakistan under TSERR Project as well as for First, Second and Third Regional Training Course on Earthquake Vulnerability Reduction for Cities organized in Nepal and Bangladesh. He was one of the course developers for Multi-Hazard HOPE course for PEER.

As a Director of EERT Division, he is successfully supervising his staff members and giving his technical guidance on earthquake engineering technology, research work as well as building assessment and building retrofit works being carried out by NSET. Mr. Guragain has also represented NSET in various international and national workshops, conferences and seminars. He is a Life Member of NSET and Nepal Engineers' Association and Member of Nepal Engineering Council.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON

Earthquakes and NSET's efforts towards earthquake risk reduction log on to www.nset.org.np



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