

Brief Report on Disaster Risk Management Planning Workshop in Dhangadi and Bhimdutta Municipalities

Introduction

National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET) conducted two municipal level disaster risk management planning workshops in the far west one in Dhangadi and the other in Bhimdutta Municipality. The objective of the workshops was to draft a generic Disaster Risk Management (DRM) master plan for the municipalities. These events were organized by the respective municipalities in association with local NGO, OXFAM and technical support from NSET. FAYA Nepal and NEEDS were the local NGO assisting to conduct the DRM planning workshops in Dhangadi and Bhimdutta Municipalities respectively. This report is prepared to document the activities and outcome of both the workshops.

Background

FAYA Nepal and NEEDS had assisted to form Ward Disaster Risk Management Committees (WDRMC) in all the wards of Dhangadi and Bhimdutta Municipalities respectively with support from Urban Disaster Risk Management (UDRM) Program of OXFAM Nepal. Municipal Disaster Management Committee (MDMC) has been formed in Dhangadi Municipality in accordance with the Local Disaster Risk Management Planning (LDRMP) guidelines implemented by Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MOFALD). Bhimdutta Municipality has already initiated the formation of MDMC and will be formed in near future. WDRMCs of both the municipalities had carried out Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA) in line with the LDRMP guideline with support from the respective municipalities, local NGO supporting them and OXFAM Nepal. Cold wave, earthquake, epidemic, fire and flood have been identified as five major hazards of Dhangadi Municipality according to the VCA. Similarly earthquake, epidemic, fire and flood are listed as four major hazards of Bhimdutta Municipality by the VCA. The outcome of the VCA was made public in the sharing meeting organized by the municipalities one day before the DRM master planning workshop in Dhangadi and Bhimdutta municipalities.

Dhangadi Workshop

24 persons representing Municipal Disaster Risk Management Committee (MDRMC) Dhangadi, Ward Disaster Risk Management Committees and Dhangadi Municipality along with the political leaders attended the three day workshop conducted from 9 - 11 May 2013 in Sapana Hotel Jhakhori Tal of Dhangadi Municipality. The inaugural session of the workshop was chaired by Mr. Di Raj Bhatta Engineer of Dhangadi Municipality. Disaster focal persons from District Administration Office Mr. Dal Bahadur Bohora and Kailali District Development Committee Mr. Yogendra Chand

along with Mr. Karna Shah central member of Federation of Nepalese Journalist attended the session as guest of honor. Mr. Dhanapati Dhungel, President of FAYA Nepal welcomed the guests and participants. The inaugural session was conducted by Mr. Tanka Bista an officer from Dhangadi Municipality.

After the inauguration the first day of the workshop was followed by an interactive sessions on earthquake risk reduction.

Interactive presentations on National Building Code and fire were covered before lunch of the second day. The post lunch activities of the second day were done in five different groups dealing with the five hazards prioritized by the VCA.

As an initiation of the group work, members of each group prepared a list of affects that could be caused by the hazard their group was dealing with. Then the groups came up with the actions that needed to be done before, during and after the disaster to minimize the listed potential affects. The group work on the second day ended with the identification of primary key actor responsible to carry out the activities before, during and after the disaster. The identified key actors as identified by the groups were Dhangadi Municipality, Municipality Disaster Risk Management Committee, Ward Disaster Risk Management Committees and Civil Society.

The third day started with analyzing strength and weakness of the identified four key actors in carrying out the activities listed by the groups to minimize the effects of disasters. Each group also looked into the opportunities and examined threats to the key actors in planning and conducting the disaster risk reduction activities. After the Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Threat (SWOT) analysis an interactive presentation was made on the planning process. Yonmenkaigi System (YMKS) a planning tool developed and piloted by Disaster Prevention Research Institution (DPRI), Kyoto University in Japan was also introduced in the presentation. In the post lunch session of the third day the participants used Yonmenkaigi System (YMKS) to draft the DRM plan for each group. Five groups came up with five different Yonmenkaigi charts for each disaster that the groups were dealing with since the previous day. Each chart has all the list of activities to meet the objective set jointly by the four key actors including the time line of each activity.

Bhimdutta Workshop

36 persons representing Ward Disaster Risk Management Committees and Bhimdutta Municipality along with political leaders attended the three day workshop conducted from 14 -16 May 2013 in Hotel Opera Mahendranagar of Bhimdutta Dhangadi Municipality. The inaugural session of the workshop was chaired by Mr. Pradeep Raj Adhikari Chief and Executive Officer of Bhimdutta Municipality. The Chief guest of the of the program was Mr. Krishna Raj Joshi, Chief District Officer of Kanchanpur District. Mr. Himlal Singh Air welcomed the guests and participants.

First day of the workshop after the inauguration had an interactive sessions on earthquake risk reduction including the introduction of National Building Code.

Interactive presentation on fire was covered at the first hour of the second day. The activities of the second day were done in four different groups dealing with the four hazards prioritized by the VCA. As an initiation of the group work, members of each group prepared a list of affects that could be caused by the hazard their group was dealing with. Then the groups came up with the actions that needed to be done before, during and after the disaster to minimize the listed potential affects. The group work on the second day ended with the identification of primary key actor responsible to carry out the activities before, during and after the disaster. The identified key actors as identified by the groups were Dhangadi Municipality, Municipality Disaster Risk Management Committee, Ward Disaster Risk Management Committees and Civil Society.

The third day started with analyzing strength and weakness of the identified four key actors in carrying out the activities listed by the groups to minimize the effects of disasters. Each group also looked into the opportunities and examined threats to the key actors in planning and conducting the disaster risk reduction activities. After the Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Threat (SWOT) analysis an interactive presentation was made on the planning process. Yonmenkaigi System (YMKS) a planning tool developed and piloted by Disaster Prevention Research Institution (DPRI), Kyoto University in Japan was also introduced in the presentation. In the post lunch session of the third day the participants used Yonmenkaigi System (YMKS) to draft the DRM plan for earthquake, fire and flood each group. Five group came up with five different Yonmenkaigi charts for each disaster that the groups were dealing with since the previous day. Each chart has all the list of activities to meet the objective set jointly by the four key actors including the time line of each activity.

Outcome of the Workshops

The DRM Planning workshops have come up with the list of actions that needs to be done to make the municipalities disaster resilient. They have also identified the key actors for the activities to be carried out including the timeline for each activity for each disaster identified as major hazards existing in the municipalities.

Future Plan

NSET is in the process of analyzing and compiling the outcome of actions required for the risk reduction of each prioritized hazard. The compilation will be done so as to draft a generic DRM master for one for each municipality. This draft master plan will be shared with the concerned municipalities before finalizing the plan. The final plan then will be endorsed by the municipal council and implemented as per the LDRMP guideline.

NSET handed over sample of earthquake go bag and 15 sets of relevant publication to be kept at the information center of both the municipalities as a token of support to both the municipalities. NSET also presented a Go bag for two WDRMCs in both the municipalities that have been selected by UDRM to continue Disaster Risk Reduction Activities for the next few years.