



PEER NEWS BULLETIN



PEER Phase II, Year 6, January-March 2009

No. 12, March 2009

PEER PHASE II AT A GLANCE

The Program for Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER) is a regional training program initiated by the United States Agency for International Development, Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA). PEER is directed towards strengthening and institutionalizing capacities in emergency and disaster response in the six participating Asian countries, namely, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan and the Philippines.

PEER Phase 1 (1998-2003) was managed by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), Bangkok, Thailand. PEER-I targeted four of Asia's earthquake-prone countries, namely, India, Indonesia, Nepal and the Philippines.

PEER Phase II (2003-2009) is managed by NSET-Nepal, at no cost extension on the sixth year of implementation. PEER-II includes the four initial member countries, with the addition of Bangladesh and Pakistan.

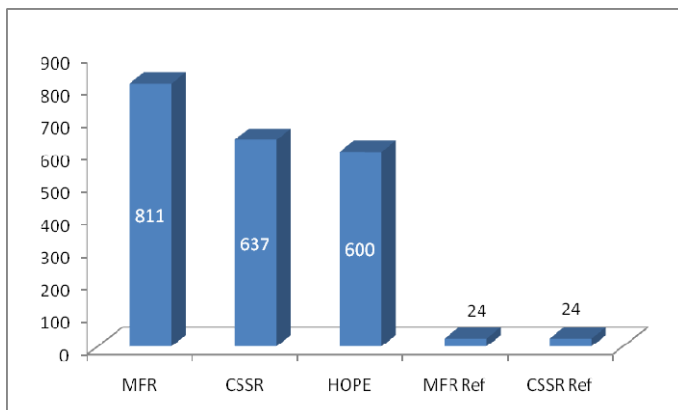
PEER's overall goal is to reduce mortality in mass casualty events and increase the survival rates of disaster victims. The three program objectives are: 1) Emergency Response Training; 2) Institutional Strengthening; and 3) Networking and Coordination.

The above program objectives are accomplished through the conduct of PEER core courses, i.e. MFR, CSSR and HOPE; developing and maintaining a cadre of PEER instructors through instructor development trainings, and strengthening coordinating network of emergency responders through the planning meetings, networking meetings, and instructors' conferences.

The number of graduates and instructors for various courses, in the region and per PEER country are shown below:

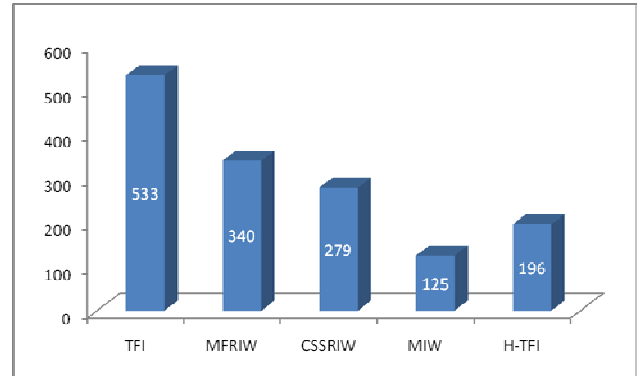
PEER Core Courses and IW Graduates in the Region

As of March 31, 2009, PEER has developed a pool of 811 graduates for Medical First Responder (MFR), 637 for Collapsed Structure Search and Rescue (CSSR), and 600 for Hospital Preparedness for Emergencies (HOPE); Refresher Test Courses for MFR and CSSR had 24 participants each, as illustrated in the figure below:



PEER Core Courses Graduates in the Region (Phases 1 and 2, as of March 31, 2009)

PEER has developed a pool of 533 graduates for Training for Instructors (TFI), 340 for MFR Instructors Workshop (MFR IW), 279 for CSSR Instructors Workshop (CSSR IW), 125 for Master Instructors Workshop (MIW) and 196 for HOPE TFI (H-TFI).



PEER IW Graduates in the Region (Phases 1 and 2 data, as of March 31, 2009)

PEER Core Courses and IW Graduates per Country

Below is a summary of PEER graduates from each of the six PEER countries (data as of March 31, 2009):

PEER Countries	Core Courses				
	MFR	CSSR	HOPE	MFR Ref	CSSR Ref
Bangladesh	89	72	90	2	2
India	135	97	102	-	-
Indonesia	123	81	37	2	1
Nepal	123	110	156	2	2
Pakistan	125	92	117	-	-
Philippines	216	185	98	18	19

The figures below represent the number of PEER IW graduates from each of the six PEER countries:

PEER Countries	IW Courses				
	TFI	MFR IW	CSSR IW	MIW	H-TFI
Bangladesh	54	34	34	13	9
India	101	81	71	59	84
Indonesia	62	36	29	17	1
Nepal	133	70	45	17	45
Pakistan	43	41	37	-	23
Philippines	140	78	63	19	34

Other PEER achievements during Phase II include - HOPE course development, adaptation of MFR and CSSR courses in each PEER country, translation in Hindi (India), Bahasa (Indonesia), Urdu (Pakistan); translation in Nepali (Nepal) and Bengali (Bangladesh) are on the process of completion; development of H-TFI for HOPE instructors, MIW, HOPE multi-hazard curriculum and MFR and CSSR Refresher Courses.





ESD highlights HOPE Impact in Nepal

Nepal celebrated the 11th Earthquake Safety Day (ESD) on January 2009. The ESD is an annual activity to commemorate the 1934 Earthquake which caused thousands of casualties in Nepal.

One of the highlights of the month-long celebration is the **National Symposium on "Experiences in Disaster Risk Reduction and Response,"** held on January 13-14, 2009, at Kathmandu, Nepal. The impact of PEER's Hospital Preparedness for Emergencies (HOPE) course in promoting safety and preparedness of hospitals in Nepal was underscored in **Session E: Thematic Discussion on Earthquake Safety of Hospitals in Nepal**, of said symposium.

Professor (Dr.) Pradeep Vaidya, Department of Surgery, Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital, discussed about the 'Disaster Preparedness of Teaching Hospital and Institutionalization of HOPE. In his presentation, he emphasized the importance of promoting hospital disaster preparedness through trainings such as HOPE course. The Government of Nepal, through the Institute of Medicine, showed support in the advocacy of safe hospitals through funding of national HOPE courses and institutionalizing HOPE in the medical curriculum of Nepal. Since its inception, HOPE has influenced participating hospitals in the development of their hospital disaster plans. Professor Vaidya also pointed out that for disaster plans to be improved and effective, regular drills should be done. Further, he stressed on the following goals of TUTH, in the context of HOPE institutionalization: 1) All hospitals should be HOPE-certified; 2) Networking at the national level, and 3) To assist in the region, whenever necessary, i.e. in six PEER countries.

Dr. Rajesh Gongal, Medical Director, Patan Hospital, presented the 'Disaster Preparedness of Patan Hospital.' In his presentation, he shared the outcome of Patan Hospital's vulnerability assessment. With reference to this, the hospital started to adhere with the new building code in the construction of its new buildings, built new ramp, establishment of two back-up generators, fuel storage capacity up to 16000L and an underground water tank that will be good for a 7-day supply of water for the hospital should regular water supply is cut off during a disaster. He also stated recommended points for action such as a national level disaster preparedness plan, further promote safe hospitals and be included in the agenda of the government, and to further educate hospital staff through trainings like HOPE course.

Col. (Dr.) Naresh Giri, Army Hospital, presented the 'Disaster Preparedness of Army Hospital.' In his discussion, he talked about the location of Army Hospital, that it is situated in a densely populated area. Consequently, the hospital will also attend to civilian casualties when access roads are blocked in times of emergencies or disasters. Army Hospital institutionalized the Incident Command System (ICS), one of the important concepts taught in HOPE course.

Professor Pradeep Vaidya, Dr. Rajesh Gongal and Col. (Dr.) Naresh Giri are HOPE course recipients. Drs. Vaidya and Giri are also HOPE instructors, both active in the conduct of HOPE courses in Nepal and in the region.

Mr. Amod Mani Dixit, NSET Executive Director and PEER Chief of Party, delivered the conclusions of the symposium and 'What Next?' His message highlights the need to continue with the initiatives on disaster risk reduction and the challenge is left to the people of Nepal to get the strategies done as a national document and put more impetus to the implementation of disaster risk reduction initiatives.



Mr. Amod Mani Dixit, NSET Executive Director and PEER Chief of Party, presented the conclusions of the symposium and 'What Next?' (11th Earthquake Safety Day 2009, Kathmandu, Nepal, January 14, 2009)

NSET/PEER conducts MFR-CSSR Refresher Test Courses

NSET/PEER conducted the MFR and CSSR Refresher Test Courses on January 12-16, 2009 and January 21 to 24, 2009, respectively, at Amity Public Safety Academy (APSA), in Bacolod City, Philippines.

MFR and CSSR Refresher Courses are the newest in the chain of course programs for MFR and CSSR graduates. Both refresher courses target PEER graduates who are inactive with the PEER system for 2 years or more.

These refresher courses aim to upgrade the knowledge and skills of inactive PEER graduates on key concepts like Basic Life Support (BLS) and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) for MFR; and International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) Guidelines, for CSSR.



Participants strapping the patient on a long backboard in preparation for transporting the patient. (MFR Refresher Course, January 12-16, 2009, Philippines)





Selected course developers, regional and national instructors facilitated these courses. With the experience and recommendations gained from the test course, NSET/PEER further aims to refine the curriculum to achieve a more effective delivery of both refresher courses and ensure a more efficient learning for participants. Participants to the test course were selected from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal and the Philippines.



There were 24 participants who completed MFR and CSSR Refresher courses.

Practical session on lifting and moving loads. (CSSR Refresher Course, January 21-24, 2009, Philippines)

HOPE Newsbits

NSET/PEER and Ministry of Health and Population-Government of Nepal Organized H-TFI at Kathmandu

NSET/PEER in coordination with the Ministry of Health and Population conducted the HOPE Training for Instructors (H-TFI) on February 23-27, 2009, at Kathmandu, Nepal. A total of 20 participants from various health institutions in Nepal completed the course successfully. These make up the 45 H-TFI graduates from Nepal, as of March 31, 2009.

HOPE Final Review conducted on March 5-6, 2009

NSET/PEER completes the finalization of multi-hazard HOPE course materials on March 5-6, 2009, at Kathmandu, Nepal. Professor Pradeep Vaidya (Nepal), Professor Teodoro Herbosa (Philippines), Professor Suresh David (India), and Director Ramesh Guragain (Nepal) composed the course development team for the new HOPE curriculum. In the process of further refining the course materials, the two-day final review and meeting with the course developers served as a good venue to re-examine the recommendations received from the conduct of national HOPE courses.

PEER Member Countries, Nodal Agencies and Partnering Organizations

NSET and USAID/OFDA extends its appreciation for the support and cooperation extended by the following six member countries, through the nodal agencies and partnering organizations, in the advocacy and implementation of PEER Phase II:

PEER Countries	Nodal Agencies	Partnering Organizations
Bangladesh	Ministry of Food and Disaster Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Health and Family Welfare National Institute of Preventive and Social Medicine (NIPSOM) Fire Service and Civil Defence

India	Ministry of Home Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Disaster Management Authority Border Security Force (BSF) Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)/National Industrial Security Academy (NISA) Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)/Central Training College-II (CTC-II) Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)
Indonesia	Badan Koordinasi Nasional Penanggulangan Bencana dan Penanganan Pengungsi (BAKORNAS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Health Ambulan 118 Fire Service Badan Search and Rescue Nasional (BASARNAS)
Nepal	Ministry of Home Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Health and Population Institute of Medicine Nepal Police/Nepal Police Academy Nepal Army Armed Police Force Nepal Red Cross Society
Pakistan	National Disaster Management Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Health - Health Services Academy Punjab Emergency Services (Rescue 1122) Military College of Engineering
Philippines	Office of Civil Defense-National Disaster Coordinating Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Health Bureau of Fire Protection/Fire National Training Institute Amity Public Safety Academy

Erratum

NSET/PEER would like to apologize and hereby rectifies the dates written in PEER Newsletter No. 11, as follows:

- HOPE Course Bangladesh was conducted on November 24-27, 2008.
- HOPE Course Pakistan was conducted on December 15-18, 2008 (photo caption).

Share your stories, feedback or send questions through email: peer@nset.org.np

Announcement:

Effective April 1, 2009, NSET/PEER office will move to its new location:

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Information

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