NEWSLETTER

Earthquake Safety

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR EARTHQUAKE TECHNOLOGY-NEPAL

NSET
भूकम्प प्रविधि
राष्ट्रिय समाज-नेपाल

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An Inimitable Endeavour towards Earthquake Risk Reduction-

The Community Earthquake Learning Centre (CELC)

3D model building of CELC

NSET has been continuously involved in awareness raising, advocacy and capacity building for managing earthquake risk through various programs since its establishment. Because of the continued efforts of NSET and other partners working in this field, there has been remarkable change in the general awareness about earthquake and earthquake risk. It has further increased the demand for information about earthquake risk reductions. In view to these overgrowing awareness concerns of the people, it has become a must for the establishment of a learning center where people at national and regional level can visit, learn and get trained on different aspects of earthquake phenomenon. For the continuation and sustainability of earthquake risk management activities and for the operation as a focal point for earthquake risk management in Nepal, the construction of a center has become a must.

To fulfill such higher demands, NSET is on its way to construct a Community Earthquake Learning Centre (CELC). Establishing a Community Earthquake Learning Centre is to build a community space where people enlighten themselves about various aspects of earthquake and earthquake risk reduction, explore their ideas and share knowledge to others. The center will provide educational and training facilities where children and community people of Nepal and the adjoining region can receive valuable information on earthquake hazard and risk, together with preventive and protective techniques against earthquake disaster. The center will have national as well as regional importance for being an institution of earthquake risk management.

The overall goal of CELC is to improve earthquake resiliency of communities by imparting the knowledge for better understanding of earthquake phenomena and helping to enhance their capacity for reducing earthquake risk. Its specific objectives are:

- To help raise public awareness on earthquake risk and preparedness
- To provide opportunity for children to learn about earthquake safety
- To provide training facilities for masons and construction workers on earthquake-resistant construction technology
- To serve as a resource center for earthquake risk management
- To serve as a fully resourced NSET office

Features of the Learning Center

The learning center will be located in Ward No. 4 Ka, Sainbu Aawas Ayojana, Lalitpur District, Kathmandu Valley (2 km from Lalitpur Sub-Metropolitan City, Ring Road), Nepal.

Construction of CELC in prgress

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Resource Facilities

The Learning Centre will provide facilities for greater awareness of earthquake risk reduction and preparedness as well as provide office space for NSET to function its daily activities on earthquake awareness raising, capacity building, advocacy, researches etc.

The center will have following resource facilities within it.

Earthquake Museum and Community Earthquake Learning Center:

- Information on National/Regional cooperation, policies, legislations, programs in Disaster Risk Management
- Display of photographs of past earthquakes of Nepal- 1934, 1988 earthquakes
- Photo, description about earthquake Monuments of Nepal (Bhugol Park, Mangal Bazaar, Dharan)
- Photos of earthquake disaster around the world (Kobe, Pakistan, Gujarat, Tsunami, Mexico etc).
- Maps, photos showing earthquake hazard, risk of Nepal, Kathmandu
- Display of earthquake survival kits(Go Bag, Rescue kit)
- Display of models of earthquake phenomena, earthquake resistant construction

Community Disaster Mitigation Library & Media Center:

- Approximately 10,000 no. of books/ documents in earthquake hazard, earthquake engineering, risk reduction, preparedness
- Approximately 500 monographs
- Annual subscription of around 10 Scientific journal
- Around 1000 video documents
- Reading space for minimum 8 researchers at a time with full accessibility to the internet

Children Earthquake Learning Center:

- A minimum of 9 m^2 shaking room for demonstrating the affects of earthquake
- Simplified models/ display of how to be safe during earthquakes
- Touch screen computers with the information on earthquake
- Model/Kits for demonstrating physical phenomena e.g. liquefaction, earth spread, landslide, flood, cloudburst, glacier lake outburst flood (GLOF), fire and other natural hazards
- Program for hazard hunt, non-structural mitigation etc
- Disaster games such as "risk land."
- Children publication, videos

Mason Training Workshop:

- A live workshop for masons and construction workers
- A place for conducting masons training and training for mason trainers on a regular basis
- Models of earthquake resistant construction, building elements.
- Facility for working and learning
- Tools and equipment
- Shaking Table facility

Emergency Operation Center (EOC) cum Meeting Room

The room will be equipped with satellite telephone connection (to outside world), Broadband Global Area Network (BGAN) - mobile communication service, wireless LAN connection with mobile units and units located in other offices such as KMC, LSMC etc. and internet connection to districts to serve as emergency communication/operation centre. The space will be utilized for conducting public hearing, orientation lecture to community, seminar, workshop, audio visual etc. for around 36 persons.

Dormitory for Scientists and Young Researchers

For two Senior Researchers and around eight student researchers

Yoga and Meditation Center

Approximately 40 staff can practice Yoga and Meditation simultaneously. The room will be equipped with a cache of workout machines.

Office space for NSET

- Meeting rooms
- Work space for management professionals
- Work space for technical professionals
- Reception, server, stores etc.

Parking space for 14 vehicles Model construction of

- Earthquake resistant construction
- Rainwater harvesting
- Optimum heating and cooling.
- Solar and wind energy collection for lighting and water heating

These bold and visionary plans for the future will certainly reinforce CELC's unique endeavor to provide for the future of our people, a community-based earthquake learning centre for risk reduction.

REGIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM

PEER Courses in the period

The Program for Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER) implemented by NSET under a cooperative agreement with USAID/OFDA is conducting a number of training events in six countries of the region (India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, Philippines and Pakistan) to develop instructors for various emergency responder courses. Following events were organized during February 2008 to April 2008.

PEER EVENTS FEBRUARY-APRIL 2008

Events	Event Level	Date
Pakistan		
CSSR	PFAP	February 1-9
MFR	PFAP	February 13-29
MFR Adaptation Workshop	National	March 18 – 20
CSSR	PFAP	April 17 – 25
HOPE	PFAP	April 23 -26
Indonesia		
CSSR	PFAP	Jan 30-Feb 7
India		
MIW	National	April 21-25
Nepal		
MHHCBM	Regional	February 4-5
MHHCDW	Regional	February 6-8
MHHCFW	Regional	April 26-27

PFAP- Partial Funding Assistant Program
CSSR- Collapsed structure search and Rescue
MFR- Medical First Responder
HOPE- Hospital Preparedness for Emergency
MIW- Master Instructor Workshop
MHHCBM- Multi Hazard HOPE Course Brainstorming Meeting
MHHCDW- Multi Hazard HOPE Course Development Workshop
MHHCFW- Multi Hazard HOPE Course Finalization Workshop

Comprehensive Disaster Management Program – Bangladesh

The Comprehensive Disaster Management Program (CDMP) of the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) is being implemented by the Ministry of Food and Disaster Management (MoFDM) of Bangladesh and is supported by United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Department for International Development- Bangladesh (DFID-B) and the European Commission (EC). CDMP is designed to strengthen the Bangladesh Disaster Management System and more specifically to achieve a paradigm shift from reactive response to a proactive risk reduction culture.

National Society for Earthquake Technology- Nepal (NSET) in partnership with Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC) together with Oyo International Corporation (OIC)-Japan, Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)-Thailand and Bangladesh Disaster Preparedness Centre (BDPC) has been engaged under the CDMP project to provide technical services for the execution of;

- Seismic hazard and vulnerability mapping of Dhaka, Chittagong, and Sylhet City Corporation areas
- Training, advocacy and awareness with regards to earthquake and tsunami hazard
- Contingency Planning for Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet city corporation areas

The objectives of the assignments under this projects are; to develop seismic hazard and corresponding vulnerability maps for the critical structures as well as the building stocks of Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet City Corporations including their area and further extensions ; to develop a comprehensive geo-hazard risk reduction ; to develop trainings, drills, advocacy and awareness in different cross-section of the people from government officials to community level in Dhaka, Chittogong and Sylhet City Corporation including their area under future expansions respectively.

Under this Comprehensive Disaster Management Program of Bangladesh, NSET professionals participated in various preparatory meetings, contingency planning meeting and discussions along with other participating institutions. They further assisted in the ongoing survey/ building assessment works being carried out by local team as a part of Hazard, Vulnerability and Risk Assessment Component of CDMP.

"Earthquake Vulnerability Tour"

Vulnerability Tour is one of the several efforts of NSET towards enhancing level of awareness and also for educating people on the need of investing in earthquake vulnerability reduction initiatives in Nepal. It is a guided tour in a defined route or a defined location to observe different vulnerability factors**.** The Earthquake Vulnerability Tour is an innovative awareness tool initiated by NSET. The tour aims to point out how vulnerable the city's buildings and critical facilities such as the schools and the fire stations are to earthquakes. This tour will help to know the ground reality of our cities which may help different stakeholders to work together to reduce the level of earthquake risk in Kathmandu Valley. The tour is conducted with an objective to convince common people to the policy/decision makers and the international community on urgency of urban earthquake vulnerability reduction initiatives and to help develop perception of existing seismic vulnerability of building structures, life line structures and their combination.

The participants of the tour are encouraged to take part in the discussion on existing vulnerabilities along the route and their potential remedies. A range of hazards, primary as well as secondary is considered and discussed for the locality. Likewise, all the phases of disaster, from the onset of the event to the problems of rescue and response, rehabilitation, reconstruction and the necessity of introducing mitigation in the reconstruction, are talked about during the tour at appropriate moments. The discussion is mostly informal. The tour in fact allows and encourages the participant to identify the vulnerabilities in a neighborhood, to assess the extent of the problem, and to explore possible measures that needs to be promoted and implemented.

The tour has thus turned out to be an effective disaster risk communication tool. It provides the sentimental environment of probable earthquake scenario, which in turn drew more and more buy-in from all sectors in the success of the program. Further the Tour Guidebook was also developed. NSET has organized various such tours for the national and international participants. The entire exercise appeared to make very intense impact on the participants. But still there is a need to develop Volunteers who can develop such tours in their respective communities. Further there should be more informal discussion to get more success and the participants should be encouraged to identify the vulnerabilities in their neighborhood.

Observing and discussing during the vulnerability tour

Orientation Program on Earthquake Risk Reduction and Preparedness

February, 2008: An orientation program on earthquake preparedness was conducted for the staff of Department for International Development (DFID) at British School, Sanepa.

February, 2008: An Orientation program on earthquake preparedness was conducted for GTZ -Health Sector Support Programme staff members at (GTZ) at Dhulikhel

School Safer Against Earthquake

NSET pioneered the School Earthquake Safety Program (SESP) in 1997 when it was included as a direct component of Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Risk Management Program (KVERMP) with the initiative of making schools safer against earthquakes, that not only protects school children, but educates communities to protect themselves.

The program now is one of the successful ongoing programs of NSET in promoting community participation in all components of program activities and to raise earthquake awareness significantly. The masons trained during the program are now spreading the technology of earthquake-resistant construction in their communities and replicating the technology while constructing new buildings. Thus the process of replication (replicating the construction methods employed in school building to construct their private houses) would multiply in future to set a new technological culture in construction.

SESP of NSET has been implemented in altogether 27 schools and Churiyamai Secondary School is the recent one added to the list.

Status of Schools under SESP during the period (February – April 2008)

S.No.	Name of School	Location	Link Project	Current Status
1.	Mahendra Adarsha Secondary School	Imadol	SESP	Architectural Drawing, Structural Design and Estimate completed, Construction in process, columns raised up to plinth level, Backfilling in process
2.	Banshagopal Higher Secondary School	Hetauda	SESP/DRRS	Architectural Drawing, Structural Design and Estimate completed, Construction in process
3.	Churiyamai Secondary School	Hetauda	SESP/DRRS	Architectural Drawing & Estimate final, Structural design underway, Construction in process
4.	Sakala Devi Primary School	Nawalparasi	SESP	MOU, Architectural Drawing and Estimate completed, Structural Design in process
5.	Shahid Smarak Higher Secondary School	Kathmandu	SESP	Existing Architectural Drawing Completed

Further, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed among National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET), Action Aid Nepal, Centre for Policy Research and Consultancy (CPReC), Education Network (ED Net) and Disaster Preparedness Network (DPNet) on 17 January 2007 for their involvement as national partners in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) through School Project. As per the agreement Disaster risk reduction through school is being implemented in 4 districts of Nepal.

NSET, one of the national partners in Disaster Risk Reduction through School Project (DRRS) conducted various activities under the project. The activities conducted during the period are;

Mason training program for the masons of Churiyamai Secondary School, Hetaunda in association with ActionAid and Women and Child Development Forum (WCDF) organized on March 26, 2008.

Hyogo Framework for Action Sensitization Workshop conducted at Hetauda in association with Action Aid Nepal (AAN) and Women and Child Development Forum (WCDF) on February 1 2008.

Interaction program with School Management Committee Members & Teachers on School Safety at Balkumari Secondary School, Sunakothi, Lalitpur conducted on February 15, 2008 in association with Action Aid Nepal and LUMANTI

Interaction with School Management Committee (SMC) members and teachers of Seti Bhoome Lower Secondary School, and Syame Wangefel High School ,Rasuwa on March 19 2008

Meetings with;

- School Earthquake Counter of Banshagopal Higher Secondary School, Hetauda organized in association with Action Aid Nepal, WCDF on March 26 2008
- School family, SMC, Community of Sakaladevi Primary School at Dibyapuri, Nawalparasi organized in association with Room to Read on March 27 2008
- School Management Committee (SMC) members, Disaster Management Committee (DMC) members and teachers of Budha Jyoti Bal Udhyan Lower Secondary School Balaju, in association with LUMANTI on April 21 2008

Childrens' happiest moment during school earthquake awareness program

CONFERENCE/WORKSHOPS

(Februar - April 2008)

Month / Year	Conference/ Workshops	Venue	Participation
February	UNISDR meeting on expanded ISDR Asia Pacific , 12 – 16 Feb,2008	Bangkok	Amod Mani Dixit
February	Second Annual Workshop on Disaster Reduction Hyper base-Asian Application, 21-23 Feb, 2008	Beijing Normal University , Beijing, China	Amod Mani Dixit
April	Regional Consultation of SEAR Member Countries on Keeping Health Facilities Safe from Disasters, WHO/SEARO	New Delhi, India	Amod Mani Dixit
April	Master Instructors Workshop (MIW) organized by NSET/PEER	Hyderabad, India	Amod Mani Dixit
April	"Extensive Disaster Risk-Poverty Workshop organized by UNDP Regional Centre Bangkok in collaboration with UN/ISDR, 21-24 April,2008	Bangkok	Ramesh Guragain

UNISDR – United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
WHO – World Health Organization
SEARO – South – East Asia Regional Office

ACTIVITIES/NSET BRIEFS

NSET Activities outside Nepal

NSET professional invulved in observation of field work

NSET professional preparing and starting GIS mapping in Arc GIS

- Under the Earthquake Vulnerability Reduction and Preparedness Program (EVRP) Pakistan, NSET professional visited Pakistan for generating GIS database for the three cities Muzaffarabad, Mansehra and Peshawar of Pakistan during March 17 - April 12, 2008. The major activities conducted during this trip were; meeting with the UNDP representative, participation in the project coordination team meeting (parti-cipated by Municipal Corporation, EVRP Project Manager, National Disaster Reduction Advisor, Field Coordinators, GTZ and some other NGO/INGOs), Observation of field work, meeting with the GIS personnel, checked the collected information, demonstrated the data entry format prepared by NSET to the students, and entered the collected data in the format prepared and started GIS mapping in Arc GIS.
- Under the Thimpu Valley Earthquake Risk Management Project (TVERM) Bhutan, NSET professionals conducted training program on Building Assessment and Retrofit for the engineering professionals engaged in building design and construction from different agencies of Royal Government of Bhutan and further conducted field survey and verification (Seismic Vulnerability Assessment) of RC building proposed to be retrofitted under the project during their visit to Bhutan from February 11-15, 2008

NSET in Country

Study Tour by Delegates from Bangladesh

International Deligates shared with Nepalese stakeholders

22 delegates from Bangladesh comprising of engineers, government officials, representatives from UNDP Bangladesh, European Union, Ward level representative, representatives from Fire Department, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) and other organizations conducted a study tour of Nepal in the period of March 31 – April 4, 2008 to familiarize with the main concepts, approaches and focus of Earthquake /Disaster Risk Management (ERM) activities in Nepal and evaluate possibilities of replication in Bangladesh. The specific objectives of the tour were to observe some major activities for earthquake awareness raising and risk reduction implemented in Nepal (eg. School Earthquake Safety Program, Building Code implementation at the municipal level, Mason training programs and Community based disaster risk management in Nepal), to share current thoughts, plans programs of Bangladesh in terms of Disaster Risk Management and get suggestions from Nepalese stakeholders.

The study tour was coordinated by NSET as a part of the project Earthquake and Tsunami Preparedness Component of Comprehensive Disaster Management Program (CDMP), Bangladesh. NSET in partnership with Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC) has been engaged under the CDMP project to provide technical services for the execution of; Seismic Hazard and Vulnerability Mapping of Dhaka,Chittagong, and Sylhet City Corporation areas, Training , Advocacy and Awareness with regard to Earthquake and Tsunami Hazard, Contingency Planning for Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet City Corporation areas.

As the team was here to observe and learn from the earthquake risk reduction activities implemented in Nepal, they met the concerned representatives from government and other different sectors, visited the school retrofitting/ reconstruction site, observed the mason training program that have been jointly launched by the government and non-governmental organizations. In addition, they participated in the Experience Sharing Workshop on 'Disaster Risk Management Initiatives in Nepal and Bangladesh' organized by Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of Nepal and NSET in order to discuss, share and learn from the disaster related organizations in Nepal.

Cross-Cutting Capacity Development (3cd) Program

During the workshop

Under the Cross-Cutting Capacity Development (3cd) Program for Disaster Risk Management Master Plan of Kathmandu Metropolitan City (KMC), a team comprising of representatives from Earthquake Mega Cities Initiatives (EMI) visited Nepal during February 2008. During their visit, various programs were conducted which included meetings with Kathmandu Valley Town Development Committee (KVTDC), KMC and other concerned organizations and two different workshops on Emergency Management and Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction in Land Use Planning: Pilot Application in Kathmandu.

During the period another visit was made by the three member team of Makati city officials and EMI. The purpose of the visit was to study about the land pooling and guided land development sites of Kathmandu Metropolitan City and like wise the implementation of land pooling from the Kathmandu Valley Town Development Committee. During the period field visit was conducted and mutual understanding of the land development system was shared among the related professionals. On April 21 2008, a workshop on City to City Sharing on Land use Planning and Disaster Risk Management was organized at KVTDC meeting hall at Anamnagar, where the land use planning issues as well city level disaster management works done by each municipalities were discussed.

Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction Initiative (CBRRI)

The Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction Initiative (CBRRI) is implemented by NSET to initiate a pilot program on participatory disaster risk reduction for the rural communities. It is proposed to initiate the program from ward number 4 of Alapot Village Development Committee (VDC) in Kathmandu and slowly expand to cover entire 9 wards of the VDC. The objective of this initiative is to initiate disaster risk reduction planning process, prepare a framework for ward level disaster risk reduction master plan for ward number 4 and implement one of the first lists of action within one year (31 May 2009). NSET will work as a facilitator and the Ward Level Disaster Management Committee (WLDMC) will take the leading role for all the activities of this initiative with maximum participation from the beneficiary community. Alapot VDC will be considered as one of the "Case Stations" of NSET which is one of the Field Campus within the Case Station and Field Campus (CaSiFiCa) network. Japanese method of participatory planning "Youn-Men-Kaigi" System will be tested for its probable applicability in Nepal. The activities of this initiative are divided into five broad categories Preparation, Institutional Development, Capacity Building, Pilot Project and Phasing Out.

Under this initiative a One day workshop was organized on 18 March 2008 in Alapot Village Development Committee (VDC) as an initial interaction with the local community. The workshop was conducted with following two major objectives;

- Inform the local leaders and the stake holders about the concept of developing Alapot as a Model VDC in carrying out VDC level Disaster Risk Reduction Activities. The outcome of the process of these activities will be replicated in other VDCs with the required adaptations.
- Assess the interest of the stakeholders and relevancy of the concept and initiate strengthening the partnership with the VDC for future action.
- Introduction of "Youn-Men Kaigi System" in Alapot

The workshop was jointly organized by Bal Bikas Lower Secondary School and Alapot Village Development with the technical assistance from NSET. The entire proceedings of the workshop was actively participated by the stake holders from different works of life ranging from school students, teachers, local leaders and the influential persons within the VDC.


Stakeholders attending the workshop

DiMSIS: A Joint Collaboration of Earthquake Disaster Mitigation Research Center (EDM) and NSET

The Earthquake Disaster Mitigation Research Center (EDM) of the National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention (NIED) a Japanese research NGO has initiated a program with NSET to develop IT-based tools for disaster mitigation. The system ST-GIS which is being tested in Nepalese context about the potential use with the possible solution for earthquake risk reduction measures in local level of governance. Municipalities are the main target of the project to test the applicability of the system. The aim of the present initiative is to support local governments to help them master the system, to improve their daily business, to reduce cost, to ensure that the system works in times of disasters, to enhance the capacity of officials, and to create new services for disaster susceptible cohorts. The replication of the system is also aimed to help the local government bodies to reduce the disaster risks. The mitigation measures can be taken appropriately only if there exists quality information. The relevancy of the system in Nepalese contest especially in Kathmandu will be highly applicable upon the success of the initiation.

In regard of implementing the DiMSIS in Nepal, the project team from EDM visited Nepal during March 11-21, 2008. This was their third visit and it focused on discussions on- Improved version of DIMSIS, Bar Code Reader and its use in Community Disaster Management particularly in preparedness and response process, Long Wave Wireless System – useful to school earthquake safety program and further planning to develop conceptual framework and future actions. The activities carried out by the team during the visit were; Presentation on the system, Users training on DiMSIS and Meeting with the officials of Kathmandu Metropolitan City (KMC) and Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC).

Other Activities

NSET professionals attended the video conference workshop on "Earthquake Risk Perception" held on March 5, 2008 to share the results of a survey conducted in 2007/2008 by the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) on the risk perception of residents, government officials, building contractors and masons in Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, Turkey, Fiji, the Philippines, India and Japan. The survey is part of a joint research project on "Dissemination of technologies for safer housing" under the "Collaborative Research and Development Project for Disaster Mitigation on Network of Research Institutes in Earthquake Prone Areas in Asia". NSET is one of the participating organizations of the project.

On March 7 2008, Executive Management Committee Meeting of NSET was held at the NSET meeting hall

Two professionals from Sustainable Environment and Ecological Development Society (SEEDS) of India, Ms Lakshmi Bhombore, National Coordinator Program Support Unit and Mr. Bittu Mallik, Accounts Manager, visited National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET) under the NSET-SEEDS Exchange program to share knowledge and observe/learn the finance and administration system at NSET from 17-19 March 2008.

NSET professional attended the workshop on Contingency Planning to prepare Cluster-wise Contingency Plan organized by Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) at Hotel Himalaya, Lalitpur during February 25-26, 2008

NSET attended the Steering Committee Meeting (National Platform for Disaster Management- Code of Conduct) held at Ministry of Home Affairs on March 27, 2008.

NSET participated in the first consultative meeting on Emergency Shelter organized at the Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC) meeting hall on April 7, 2008.

On request from UNCRD Japan, NSET professionals participated the series of one day workshop on "What if an Earthquake Strikes" organized for the Community Learning Centre (CLC) members and the community members of Bhaktapur, Khokana, Bungmati and KMC ward 18 during April 22- 25, 2008 respectively. In the workshop presentation on Earthquake Risk Management (ERM) and the role of community on ERM was made by NSET.

Meetings

During February – April 2008, NSET had a spate of visitors ranging from representatives from Government of Nepal, delegates from various government and donor agencies, international organization and academic institution from around the world. Some of those who visited NSET during the period are: Military Medical Team from USA, Representatives from United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN), United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and British Embassy.

TRAININGS

- Under the DesInventar program, **"Training on Disaster Inventory/Information Management System in Nepal"** was held during 26-29, February, 2008. The training was jointly organized by Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Local Development (Govern-ment of Nepal), and UNDP-Nepal, with technical support from NSET. There were 18 participants in the training representing from Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Local Development and participants from other districts outside Kathmandu Valley (Syangja, Chitwan, Makawanpur, Sarlahi and Sindhuli). The training was focused on DesInventar Methodology applicable in Nepalese context including basic concepts of Natural Disasters, Disaster Information etc.
- Orientation Training on Earthquake Preparedness and Light Search and Rescue (LSAR).
- NSET professionals conducted an orientation training program on Earthquake Preparedness and Light Search and Rescue on March 5 2008 for staff of International Nepal Fellowship/Worldwide (INF/W) in Lalitpur upon request from the INF/W. The main objectives of the training program were: i) to raise general earthquake awareness by informing them about earth-quake risk of Nepal, earthquake risk mitigation measures, preparedness for earthquakes and do's & don'ts before, during and after earthquakes; ii) to provide general information on basic concept of search and rescue,

During the LSAR training

its types and the process involved; and iii) impart practical skill on some basic techniques required for LSAR. A total of 29 staff of INF/W from different part of the country participated in the training program.

- LSAR focuses on the basic search and rescue skills that can be used by individuals in communities and institutions for immediate rescue of victims in their families and organizations in case of a disaster situation. A similar training was organized for the staff of NSET on March 4, 2008 at NSET office premises.
- A 5 day Mason Training program was organized jointly by NSET and Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC) Kavre at Dhulikhel from 10 - 14 March, 2008. Altogether 20 participants participated the training program where NSET provided technical support.

QUAKE MONITOR

Year	Magnitude	Location	Deaths
03/02/08	5.9	Lac Kivu Region, Dem. Rep. Of The Congo	Fatalities 44, more than 700 injured, thousands of buildings damaged
04/02/08	6.3	Tarapaca, Chile	No reports of damage or casualties
08/02/08	6.9	Northern Mid-Atlantic Ridge	No reports of damage or casualties
10/02/08	6.6	South Sandwich Islands Region	No reports of damage or casualties
12/02/08	6.4	Oaxaca, Mexico	Buildings swayed, Electric power cut off
14/02/08	6.9	Southern Greece	No reports of damage or casualties
20/02/08	7.4	Simeulue, Indonesia	Three people killed and 25 seriously injured
21/02/08	6.0	Nevada	3 people injured, over twenty buildings heavily damaged , seven hundred buildings slightly damaged
23/02/08	6.7	South Sandwich Islands Region	No reports of damage or casualties
25/02/08	7.0	Kepulauan Mentawai Region, Indonesia	No reports of damage or casualties
27/02/08	4.7	England, United Kingdom	One person injured and damage to buildings
03/03/08	6.9	Philippine Islands Region	No reports of damage or casualties
12/03/08	6.4	Vanuatu	No reports of damage or casualties
20/02/08	7.2	Xinjiang-Xizang Border Region, China	Felt strongly and displaced 46,594 people. displaced, up to 2,200 houses damaged
09/04/08	7.3	Loyalty Islands	No reports of damage or casualties
12/04/08	7.1	Macquarie Island Region	No reports of damage or casualties

Source: USGS

TIPS ON EARTHQUAKE SAFETY

During Earthquake if you are indoors

• DROP to the ground; take COVER by getting under a sturdy table or other piece of furniture; and HOLD ON until the shaking stops. If there isn't a table or desk near you, cover your face and head with your arms and crouch in an inside corner of the building.

• Stay away from glass, windows, outside doors and walls, and anything that could fall, such as lighting fixtures or furniture.

PROFILE

Chandan Dhoj Rana Magar

Web/Graphic Designer

National Society for Earthquake Technology – Nepal (NSET)

Mr. Chandan Dhoj Rana Magar joined National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET) in 2000. Since then he is working in the capacity of Web and Graphic Designer and looks after the designing and formatting of all the NSET publications to meet as per the International Visibility Standard. He is also responsible for updating the NSET's website.

Mr. Rana holds Intermediate degree in Fine Art and Graphic Designing from Tribhuvan University (1991). Before joining NSET, Mr. Rana worked as a freelancer and had provided expert professional services as a consultant to NSET from 1997-1999. Mr. Rana has around 18 years of experience in Graphic Designing and Fine Art and 2 years of experience in Web designing. He also has remarkable knowledge in Photography, 2d animation, wood carving and sculpture.

Mr. Rana was awarded first position in National Sketch Competition organized by MAAC Academy in 2006. His paintings were exhibited twice in the group painting exhibition held in Japan under College Student Exchange Program in 1989-1990. Besides that Mr. Rana had participated in the Computer Based Mass Casualty Simulation training program in 2000. Recently Mr. Rana is undertaking the Diploma Course in 3D animation.

A Nepali Citizen, Chandan Dhoj Rana Magar was born on February 2, 1972 and is married and has one daughter.

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON

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

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NSET

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