

# Developing Strategy for Improving Seismic Safety of Schools in Nepal

NSET Information Kit | 030 | 2011



## BACKGROUND

NSET has been providing technical assistance to various schools under School Earthquake Safety Program in collaboration with different institutions. One such joint endeavor was with the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) managed by the World Bank for the implementation of “Developing a Strategy for Improving Seismic Safety of Schools in Nepal”. The program was implemented jointly with the Department of Education, Ministry of Education; Government of Nepal during August 2008 to July 2010. Two districts, Lamjung and Nawalparasi were selected for the implementation of pilot risk reduction activities. The project components included preparing draft National Strategy on School Safety, Preparation of draft curriculum for School education, retrofitting of six school buildings, and training to local mason, teachers, students and community of the selected two districts.



## OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of the project was to develop a strategic framework for improving the seismic safety of schools in Nepal. The intermediate objectives that assist in achieving the overall objectives were as follows;

- Develop and Implement a Comprehensive Pilot Program for School Earthquake Safety in two districts of Nepal.
- Institutionalization of SESP and Formulation of National Strategy for School Earthquake Safety in Nepal



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## ACTIVITIES

Develop and implement a pilot program to identify seismic retrofitting needs of schools and recommend replicable specific retrofitting measures to improve school safety across the country

Develop a replicable agenda and program for mainstreaming DRR at the school level through awareness raising and related capacity building

Develop a pilot program for training of local construction stakeholders in seismic retrofitting techniques

## OUTCOMES

- Improved seismic performance of a total of six public schools in two districts of Nepal
- A group of trained masons
- Trained school teachers, students and parents on earthquake risk mitigation and preparedness
- Preparation of earthquake preparedness plans and conduction of drills in six project schools
- Establishment of District level SESP advisory committee in two districts
- Draft school curricula for including earthquake preparedness in existing curricula of grades 8-10
- A guideline on implementing School Earthquake Safety Program (SESP)
- A strategy paper on implementing school earthquake safety concept throughout the country (strategic framework for improving seismic safety of schools in Nepal)
- Enhanced awareness of government officials, local government officials and other key stakeholders on aspects of earthquake safety of schools, preparedness and mitigation
- Enhanced awareness of school headmasters from all public schools of each district on school earthquake safety
- Improved earthquake awareness of communities around the schools; and systematic disaster risk management initiatives started in these communities

