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Year II | December 2017



NSET
Earthquake Safe Communities in Nepal

Newsletter

Baliyo Ghar striving for safer reconstruction

“Baliyo Ghar Program” is an initiative to support Government of Nepal (GON)’s wider national goal of “Building Back Safer” in the wake of April 25, 2015 Gorkha Earthquake struck in Nepal. With the support from United States Agency for International Development (USAID), NSET is implementing Baliyo Ghar program for the period of Oct 2015-Sep 2020. The program has completed Year II on 30th September 2017. This newsletter covers the activities of Baliyo Ghar program from October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017.

“Baliyo Ghar” program has adopted an owner-driven approach to achieve the objective of promoting earthquake resilient housing reconstruction. The program imparts knowledge, skills and awareness about earthquake resistant building construction technology to house owners and local masons. Furthermore, the program assists GON and its related authorities, and partner organizations to develop standard guidelines, norms and training curricula.

Among 14 severely earthquake affected districts, Baliyo Ghar program is being



Map of Baliyo Ghar program coverage.

implemented in four districts namely, Dhading, Dolakha, Nuwakot and Kathmandu.

From the Year II, Baliyo Ghar program covered all the VDCs and municipalities of Dhading and Dolakha districts from

regular program and OJT surge activities while 9 VDCs out of 61 VDCs in Nuwakot district have been covered from regular program activities and 35 VDCs from OJT surge with total 44 program VDCs.

The major highlights of Year II Program implementation

- On the Job Training (OJT) surge commencement, 67 demonstration houses built through OJT (18 through Program and 49 through vendors)
- Mason Retention Survey done
- National level Learning and Sharing workshop organized
- Interaction with elected political representatives in local bodies done
- Building Compliance Survey conducted
- 3729 masons trained from 122 mason training events
- 594 Engineers/Architects trained from 19 mason ToT events
- 294 social mobilizers' capacity built up through 10 social mobilizers training events
- 28 senior social mobilizers developed as trainers from one SM ToT event
- 56 instructor developed from 2 Training for Instructors (TFI) events
- 6802 household benefitted from door to door technical assistance
- 32492 Persons Benefited through 1524 Community Orientations
- 397 new mason developed from 67 mason OJT events
- 3 types of publications produced and 25000 copies disseminated
- 728 Radio program episodes produced and aired twice a week through 14 Radio stations and 52 Episodes of TV program produced and aired 12 times a week through 4 Television channels



सुरक्षित समुदायका लागि समर्पणको २५औं वर्ष
Silver Jubilee of Dedication to Enhance Resilience

Activities Accomplished in Year II

397 new masons trained through On-the Job Training (OJT)

A total of 397 new masons have been developed to contribute in reconstruction campaign in Dolakha, Dhading and Nuwakot through On-the-Job Training (OJT). Those masons were trained in various phases to build 67 demonstration houses of vulnerable earthquake affected people. Baliyo Ghar program is implementing OJT in all areas of Dolakha and Dhading along with major parts of Nuwakot through its regular program and vendors.

OJT is capacity building training for the persons who are working in construction field though with no skills or interested persons to work in construction works. OJT program intends to produce new masons to help constructing earthquake resistant housings in post-quake reconstruction campaign. OJT varies to the 7-days mason training program which is for the practicing and existing masons. It's a 50-day course where one Lead trained mason teaches new 6 masons while constructing a demonstration house in regular guidance of authorized technical professional. To implement OJT, the house is finalized in coordination with concerned authorities in districts following certain criteria.

As massive number of houses require to be reconstructed in relatively short period of time which is a current need, OJT will help develop new trained masons who could be deployed in earthquake resistant building construction.

3729 existing masons trained with 122 Mason Trainings

In the Year II, Baliyo Ghar program has accomplished 122 mason trainings in the program implemented Kathmandu, Dhading, Nuwakot and Dolakha districts. 3729 existing masons have enhanced their knowledge and skills in building earthquake resistant housings. Enhancing knowledge and skills of masons and construction workers of the earthquake affected areas on the earthquake-resistant construction technology is the main objective of the mason training course. This 7-day training course is meant for already existing skilled construction workers mainly masons (stone-layers, brick-layers), carpenters, and bar-benders. Generally, the existing masons have basic knowledge and skills required for construction of a house, but they do lack knowledge and skills on earthquake-resistant technology. This course helps upgrade their skills to incorporate earthquake-resistant technology.

The course includes common basic contents such as need for earthquake-resistant construction, building configuration, quality of materials, overview of seismic retrofitting etc., and it has specific detailed sessions on either stone wall construction, brick wall construction or reinforced concrete frame construction.

19 Mason TOT accomplished, 594 Technical Professionals benefited

In the second year term of Baliyo Ghar program, 19 Mason Training of Trainers were conducted in Kathmandu, Dolakha, Nuwakot and Dhading in different phases. Trainings were organized to acquaint technical professionals with skills regarding safer construction and also the tools and techniques to disseminate the knowledge to working masons. To enhance the knowledge and application skills on earthquake-resistant construction technology, specially focusing on the mostly prevailing construction typologies and materials and to develop mason training Trainers, 594 technical professionals (Engineers, Architects, Sub Engineers, and Assistant Sub Engineers) were trained.

294 social mobilizers trained for effective social mobilization

To enhance skill of existing social mobilizers to further train other social mobilizers on community facilitation for safer reconstruction, 10 trainings for social mobilizers were conducted in year II. The objective of the training was to equip social mobilizers with technical and social information so as to motivate and facilitate people to choose safer construction practices. 294 social mobilizers from different partner organization including Baliyo Ghar program were trained and mobilized to the society in order to disseminate the technical information about earthquake-resistant construction technology.

Large number of social mobilizers are required to reach out to each and every households in the community to spread the awareness message. Hence, separate training courses for social mobilizers is developed to enhance their skills in facilitating the community, which will include simple modules on key technical aspects for the orientation of the community. This course developed by NSET is a 7-day course, which include simplified technical information about earthquake-resistant construction technology, basic knowledge and skills on effective social mobilization, and information about housing reconstruction program.

Likewise, 28 social mobilizers were trained to be the trainers to conduct social mobilization trainings from a Training of Trainers (ToT) event at Nuwakot district.

32492 people benefited via 1524 community orientations

In order to make the house-owners aware on the need of earthquake resistant construction, a house-to-house awareness campaign was launched and 1524 community orientations were done in this period. A mobile team consisting a technical officer, a social mobilizer and a construction technician were deployed to guide the community people on the proper construction techniques, choice of building typologies, materials to make their houses earthquake resilient.

Through the orientations, 32492 people have been benefitted in acquiring information on earthquake itself, safety and preparedness, earthquake resistant elements in housing reconstruction government process in distributing grants in tranche and reconstruction in all. Among the participants 18833 were males where 13659 were female who were affected by the earthquake.

728 episodes of Radio programs and 52 episodes of TV program produced to get broadcasted

Awareness raising through mass media is one of the major components of the Baliyo Ghar program to help earthquake affected population promote safer reconstruction by sharing and disseminating information, knowledge and ideas on safer construction technologies and also on various aspects of reconstruction process. Baliyo Ghar program is collaborating with media partners (TV and Radio) in program districts and also in Kathmandu Valley for the central and national level media advocacies and campaigns. In the Year II, 728 unique episodes of Radio program have been produced and get broadcasted twice a week (i.e. 1456) through 14 Radio stations and 52 episodes of TV program have been produced and aired 12 times a week (i.e. 624) through 4 TV channels.

Interactive meetings with local government representatives in Dhading, Nuwakot, Dolakha and Kathmandu

NSET-Baliyo Ghar program conducted Interactive Meeting programs with the newly elected local government representatives in program areas of Dhading, Dolakha and Nuwakot. The main purpose of those meetings had been to introduce, share and explore ideas on ensuring effective reconstruction efforts in the areas.

In presence of newly elected Chiefs and Executive Officers, the interaction meeting with the local representatives were conducted at Bhimeshwor Municipality, Kalinchowk Rural Municipality, Bigu Rural Municipality, Sailung Rural Municipality & Tamakoshi Rural Municipality of Dolakha and Kakani, Likhu & Shivapuri Rural Municipality of

Nuwakot. The interactions were held on 22-25th June in Dolakha and 29-30th June in Nuwakot. Likewise, in 20-21 July 2017, a coordination meeting with newly elected members of Dhading was held at Nilkantha Municipality, Sidhalekh Rural Municipality and Galchi Rural Municipality.



Interaction being held with local govt. representatives in Dhading



Interaction being held with local govt. representatives of Likhu Rural Municipality, Nuwakot



Interaction being held with municipality representatives at Kageshwori Municipality in Kathmandu



Interaction being held with local govt. representatives of Tamakoshi Rural Municipality, Dolakha

Dr. Amod Mani Dixit, Executive Director of NSET, Dr. Ramesh Guragain, Deputy Executive Director of NSET, Mr. Ranjan Dhungel, Program Manager of Baliyo Ghar program along with team members

of program were present in the open discussion. Realizing the ground reality of reconstruction in the quake-hit districts, efforts of government, non-government and newly elected local government bodies in promoting safer

reconstruction, relevancy and importance of technical support in reconstruction, managing working environment to ensure better reconstruction were some of the agendas of the discussion.

"Help us build community buildings and include other wards of Municipalities"

In the interaction held at different rural municipalities, the Chiefs urged NSET to help build earthquake resistant community building for the elected local representatives and to include the remaining parts of rural municipalities. Earlier, as some VDCs are merged and divided to form a new rural municipality after the new

federal structure came-in to effect. Hence, some parts have been left uncovered by Baliyo Ghar program within the urban and rural municipalities. Some problems have been faced in the implementation of program as some of the existing VDCs lies in one rural municipality and rest in other.

Dr. Amod Mani Dixit, Executive Director of NSET reminded about the budget and policy constraints in constructing such community buildings. NSET officials reaffirmed their commitment in providing blanket technical support to every household to ensure safer and better

reconstruction even though program will not cover the areas.

In the interaction held at Bhimeshwor Municipality-Dolakha, Mr. Bharat Bahadur K.C, Mayor of Bhimeshwor Municipality, proposed for retrofitting some of the buildings at municipality. According to him, retrofitted house will act as demonstration house as well as there will be capacity built up training for masons too so that they could work in retrofit of other buildings as well.

In the interaction held in Kakani Rural Municipality of Nuwakot, Mr. Man Bahadur Lama, Chief of the rural

municipality pleaded NSET-Baliyo Ghar program to conduct mason trainings in other wards where Baliyo Ghar program is not implemented.

In the interaction held at Nilkantha Dhading, Mayor of Nilkantha Municipality, Mr. Bhim Prasad Dhungana urged to remain in strong coordination in implementing the program activities. He said, "We have lacked coordination to some extent, since our objective is to construct earthquake resistant houses we must work together to produce common results."

Also, there was a coordination meeting between municipality representatives and NSET-Baliyo Ghar in presence of USAID team in Kageshwori Manahara Municipality - Kathmandu on 22nd July 2017. The main agenda of the discussion was about the ongoing reconstruction progress and technical support at Kageshwori Manahara Municipality. Representatives from USAID included Bishnu Adhikari, Andy Golda, Jill Jupiter Jones, Pravaran Mahat and David Fox.



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BaliyoGhar Activities in DOLAKHA

NSET/Baliyo Ghar program is providing technical assistance to 4 rural municipalities and 1 urban municipality (Existing 13 VDCs and 1 Municipality) in Dolakha district for safe reconstruction. And through On-the Job Training (OJT) surge, remaining parts of Dolakha have been covered by Baliyo Ghar program.

On the Job Training (OJT)

With the objectives of building capacities of the persons who are working in construction field though with no skills or interested persons to work in construction works Baliyo Ghar program commenced On the Job Training (OJT) from the Year II of its implementation. OJT program intends to produce new masons to help constructing earthquake resistant housings in post-quake reconstruction campaign. Under the regular activities of Baliyo Ghar program 11 On-the Job Trainings have been accomplished which has produced 66 new trained masons in the district who can contribute in reconstructing Dolakha. Likewise, Training Center Nepal (TCN), working as the vendor of Baliyo Ghar

program has accomplished 25 OJT sites producing 150 new masons in the district. The participants of the OJT are the locals where the demonstration house has been built. To implement OJT and produce 6 new masons, the house is finalized in coordination with the concerned authorities in district following certain criteria.



A view of newly constructed house belonging to Kumar Tamang built as part of OJT of Baliyo Ghar program at Bhimeshor 3 of Dolakha district.

Mason Trainings

In Year II, Baliyo Ghar program Dolakha accomplished 36 mason trainings with the objectives of enhancing the knowledge, skills and capacity of local masons. It is believed the idea of transferring technology to the community is possible through mason trainings. 36 mason training program have been accomplished in Dolakha where 1110 masons including 31 female masons have enhanced their technical capacities to rebuild Dolakha safer and better. After the training, most of the trained masons have been found being engaged in housing construction at the different parts of the district.



Mason's reflection: Confidence has increased a lot

Mrs. Sani Maya Thami, 43, resident of Allampu, Dolakha, has 5 years of experiences as mason labor in housing construction. Mrs. Thami is one of the participants of Mason Training of Baliyo Ghar program at Allampu and now busy in rebuilding the houses of her neighbors in Allampu. As a labor, she used to help male masons to carry stones, mud and water in construction but soon after the participation in Baliyo Ghar program's mason training, she is involved in building walls like other male masons. Earlier, she used to get Rs 250 and less per day and now her wages has been increased to Rs. 600. She

says, "After the training my confidence has increased in a way that, I think I can do all of the construction works in houses like male masons. My confidence and sincerity has made me busy these days to rebuild our community safer."



Mrs. Sani Maya Thami, a trained mason from BaliyoGhar

Community orientations

Likewise, Baliyo Ghar program Dolakha accomplished 517 orientation programs benefitting 10247 community people at 13 existing VDCs and 1 municipality in Dolakha district. The orientation program is not only raising awareness on earthquake safety and preparedness but also changing the perceptions of people on safer housing construction. There is no specific mode in practice for conducting the orientation program at community. Basically, one and half hour orientation or sometimes 2 hours program covers the topic under earthquake safety and preparedness followed by the basic techniques for building the earthquake resistant house. Multimedia, flip-charts and posters and booklets carrying the ten-key messages for safer housing reconstruction are used as communication tools while conducting the orientation program. Some orientation programs were also organized targeting the representatives of different committees like Ward Citizen Forum, Sachetana Kendra, Mothers group, local political leaders etc.

After the completion of orientation program at Magapauwa VDC, Mr. Chitra Bahadur Karki, one of the participants shared, "We are very glad to know about the occurrence of earthquake, preparedness before earthquake, safety measures to be



NSET staff orienting local community members of Chayma in Dolakha

applied during and after the earthquake and the technical aspects of earthquake resistant building construction and thank you very much for coming to our yards to encourage us."

Mason TOT and Social Mobilizer's training

With the objectives of enhancing the capacities of technical professionals and social mobilizers deployed in quake-hit districts, Baliyo Ghar program is organizing trainings for them too. In order to boost the technical knowledge and skills of engineers, sub-engineers, architects and other technical professionals, Mason Training of Trainers (MTOT) is organized and to build the common understanding about

reconstruction and its social and technical dimensions, social mobilizer's training is conducted for social mobilizers mobilized by district authorities and other partner organizations.

Baliyo Ghar program team Dolakha conducted 7 TOT for technical professionals where 222 technical professionals have boosted their technical knowledge and capacities. The

participants were from DUDBC Dolakha /Ramechhap, Partner Organizations and NSET as well.

Likewise, Baliyo Ghar Dolakha organized 4 social mobilizer's trainings to enhance the capacities and understanding of 116 social mobilizers working for different partner organizations, District Development Committee, Ward Citizen forums and NSET as well.



Technical professionals representing DUDBC, NSET getting briefed about RCC structure and masonry structured models at 9th Mason ToT at Simpani, Dolakha



Participants of social mobilizer's training conducted at Charikot, Dolakha

BaliyoGhar Activities in NUWAKOT

NSET is providing technical assistance to 3 rural municipalities (existing 9 VDCs) in Nuwakot district for safer reconstruction through

Baliyo Ghar program. Earlier, only municipality of Nuwakot, Bidur was also working area of Baliyo Ghar, but following the decisions and directives

of NRA, Baliyo Ghar program is now not working in Bidur Municipality.



On the Job Training (OJT)

In the Year II of Baliyo Ghar Program's implementation, team Nuwakot has accomplished 3 OJT trainings producing 13 new masons and they are expected to contribute in reconstructing Nuwakot. The process of OJT implementation through vendor delayed in Nuwakot, hence, the numbers of OJT site are less comparing to other districts of Baliyo Ghar program.

Mr. Prem Prasad Pandey and his wife, resident of Shivapuri Rural Municipality -7 Thanapati, Nuwakot standing in front of their house built as part of Baliyo Ghar OJT

Mason Trainings

Baliyo Ghar program team Nuwakot accomplished 36 mason trainings at 9 VDCs to enhance the skills, capacity and knowledge of 1070 local masons in the Year II. One of the participants of mason training, Mr. Bikram Lamichhane, resident of Kalyanpur, Nuwakot said, "I had knowledge about building homes but not safe homes, I am very delighted to be part of this training through which I could use my skills and knowledge to build safer and better homes. After the training, I am looking forward to use all the earthquake resistant techniques in my sites and now I think I can convince the house owners for safer reconstruction."



Mr. Bikram Lamichhane, a trained mason from Nuwakot district.

To make the local masons participate in the mason trainings, some coordination tasks needed to be done among municipalities, existing VDCs. The masons were informed about the training through municipality personnel. They were also directly informed during the mobile clinic visit by mobile teams. The municipality officials and existing VDC Secretaries were informed about the training and coordinated for each trainings.

Participants of mason training conducted at Sikre of Nuwakot



Community Orientations

In the Year II, Baliyo Ghar program Nuwakot accomplished 434 community orientations to aware the locals for safer reconstruction where 8754 locals were benefited. The orientations were conducted through classroom based power point presentation, using flex in Chautara open spaces and tea shops as well as using flip charts.



Social Mobilizer of Baliyo Ghar program orienting communities of Chaturale, Nuwakot.

Mason TOT

BaliyoGhar program Nuwakot conducted 3 TOT for technical professionals to boost their technical knowledge and capacities. The engineers, sub engineers and assistant sub engineers from DLPIU- Nuwakot and DLPIU- Rasuwa, NSET and other POs participated Mason TOT. The total of 84 technical professionals were trained in the Year II implementation.



Participants preparing slab for testing during TOT organized at Bidur on Dec. 2016

Social Mobilizers Training

To enhance knowledge on social aspects and technical aspects of building the earthquake resistant building, 3 social mobilization trainings were conducted at Nuwakot with total 90 participants. Social Mobilizers deployed from District Development Committee, Nuwakot, Citizen Awareness Center of Nuwakot along with Baliyo Ghar program and other partner organizations participated the 5-day training.



Chief of District Coordination Committee-Nuwakot, NRA, Mr. Ved Prasad Gaudel conducting one of the sessions in Social Mobilizer's training

During the social mobilizer's training organized in Bidur on 15 Dec 2016, Pavitra Adhikari, one of the social mobilizers of Taruka deployed under District Development Committee, said, "I am very pleased to know the scientific cause of earthquake, its risk, safety measures and preparedness. Also, as we are deployed for promoting safer reconstruction at rural areas, we are delighted to learn the technical ideas for building earthquake resistant housings at rural areas too."

Technical support through Mobile Clinics

Lack of knowledge and awareness in house owners and masons about the safe construction practices and policies are major contributors to the construction of unsafe structures. Therefore, providing relevant information regarding safe construction practices to the house owners and masons is quite important task to ensure safer reconstruction. To disseminate the technical information and assist house owners to build earthquake resistant houses, technically and socially sound mobile team conducts mobile clinic in every house holds of Baliyo Ghar Program areas. Baliyo Ghar Mobile Team with the concept of blanket technical assistance, has reached almost every households to support masons and house-owners to ensure safe construction.



Social mobilizers of Baliyo Ghar program visiting a construction site at Samudradevi, Nuwakot (Earlier the under constructed house lacked vertical reinforcements but after mobile clinic it was included)

LDO of Nuwakot said, "Social mobilizers are the champions for reconstruction"



Local Development Officer (LDO) of Nuwakot, Mr. Keshar Bahadur Pandit encouraged social mobilizers of Nuwakot deployed under District Development Committee (DDC) to be the champions of reconstruction. At a closing ceremony of 5th Social Mobilizer's Training under BaliyoGhar program organized at Bidur on 25th Dec 2016, Mr. Pandit said, "This is a historical opportunity that you have got, in terms of restructuring your society, making your community Better and Safer, let other districts see that you have done the best."

He appealed the participants to utilize the knowledge gained through the training to make the communities of Nuwakot; earthquake resilient communities. Invited as the chief guest of ceremony, Mr. Pandit felt his gratitude towards NSET/BaliyoGhar program for organizing the training.

Likewise, Senior Program Officer of DDC Nuwakot, Puskar Sharma stressed, "Unless and until the social mobilizers are not informed well on methodologies and techniques of safer reconstruction, the community people will not be motivated. Hence, what NSET through BaliyoGhar program is doing for reconstruction is quite appreciable."



BaliyoGhar Activities in DHADING

NSET is providing technical assistance at 5 rural municipalities and 1 urban municipality (Existing 11 VDC and one

municipality) in Dhading district for safer reconstruction through Baliyo Ghar program. And other parts of district have

been covered through On-the Job Training is being implemented through vendors.

On the Job Training

Baliyo Ghar program has covered all of the areas of Dhading to implement On-the Job Training. In the program implemented areas, Team Dhading has accomplished 4 On-the Job Trainings in the district through regular program activities and 24 more OJT through vendor. Altogether 168 new masons have been developed through OJT in the Year II.



New masons at work in House of Ram Bahadur Nepali at Jyamrung, Boshi Gaun-Dhading being constructed under Baliyo Ghar OJT Program

Mason Trainings

In the year II, Baliyo Ghar - Team Dhading accomplished 46 mason trainings to enhance the skills, capacity and knowledge of 1438 local masons of the district.

"Before the training provided by Baliyo Ghar program, we all were building houses with our own conventional knowledge and skills. After the earthquake, building earthquake resilient community is goal of the government and it's our need too. We will implement our learnings in building quake safe houses in our communities. During training, instructors tried their best to make us understand and we learnt very well too. We are informed that if we need help they will be available at any time to help and suggest us. Personally I am very much impressed and will have impactful jobs in reconstruction." – Tara Bahadur Rijal, A Trained Mason from BaliyoGhar in Sunaulo Bazar, Nilkantha, Dhading



Comparatively it's easy to conduct mason trainings in the areas with road access and transportation but a lot of efforts needed to be invested while conducting such trainings in the northern part of the district like Sertung and Tipling. Sertung, one of the ward of Ruby Valley Rural Municipality seems isolated in all sorts of contrivances, neither vehicle transportation nor electricity was there earlier. People use mule transportation and porter for their daily consumable goods. It was a great challenge to conduct mason training at that place but due to great support of local people even in the place which lacks electricity, the mason training was conducted using solar power. Altogether 96 households were present at this village where many people works as shepherd and some people earn money by herbs collection and selling them to the buyers. Even though Baliyo Ghar program was conducting 55th series of mason training in a single ward of former Sertung VDC, participants of Hindung were very enthusiastic toward the training and all of them took it as the opportunity towards the construction of earthquake resistant community.

After the training, one of the participants Mr. Shree Purna Bahadur Tamang shared, "We are very thankful for getting opportunity to enhance our skills through this training. It is the great opportunity for



Participants gathering around a dry stone masonry model during mason training in Sertung, northern part of Dhading

the youngsters, since the older people like me can work only few years but youngster can work more to make earthquake resistant houses. We learnt all the basic things required to build an earthquake resistant house. We should build houses

not only for formality to get grant from government but also to make our community resilient."

Now, the impact can be seen clearly in Sertung with number of earthquake resistant buildings being constructed.

Community orientations

Likewise, in the Year II, Baliyo Ghar program Dhading accomplished 549 community orientations to aware the locals for safer reconstruction. 12843 locals benefited by the orientations. The orientations were conducted through classroom based power point presentations, using flex in Chautara and Tea Shops and as well as using flip charts.

Social Mobilizers training

To enhance the knowledge of Social Mobilizers being deployed in Dhading, Baliyo Ghar program conducted 3 social mobilizer's training with 89 participants. The trainings were organized to enhance knowledge on social aspects and technical aspects of building the earthquake resistant building. The training aims in making common understanding on basic information about societal aspects for community development and social mobilization. Similarly, the participants are made familiarized about earthquake safety, preparedness and technical aspects that will assist in safer housing construction.



Orientation for mothers group at Dhuwakot Dhading

Baliyo Ghar activities in KATHMANDU

Baliyo Ghar program is being implemented in one of the municipalities of Kathmandu i.e. Kageshwori Manohara Municipality in the north-east of Kathmandu. It's one of the most-quake-hit area in Kathmandu Valley where 3216 households collapsed during Gorkha Earthquake. The reconstruction process was delayed in the municipality due to delayed survey and late grant distribution.

Till Oct 2017, total number of 3124 households have received first tranche of government grant to rebuild their flattened homes. Baliyo Ghar program is providing technical assistance reaching every households in the municipality with the full coordination with municipality and elected local government representatives.

Mobile team consisting 2 Engineers and 2 social mobilizers of Baliyo Ghar program have been deployed in the municipality in

direct supervision of Head Office. In the year II, Baliyo Ghar Team Kageshwori has accomplished 4 mason trainings producing 111 trained masons. In Kathmandu, 5 mason TOT have been organized to enhance the knowledge and capacities of 162 technical professionals. Likewise, 24 community orientation programs have been conducted in different wards of municipality where 648 beneficiaries have been benefited directly.



Participants of mason training testing a slab at Kageshwori, Kathmandu.



Orientation to the community people of Gagalfedi – Kageshwori Manohara Municipality, Kathmandu



Participant Ms. Smrita Pokhrel of TOT organized in Kathmandu



Interaction being held among USAID, NSET and Mayor of Kageshwori Municipality in Kathmandu.

56 full instructors developed through 2 Training for Instructors (TFI)

In the second Year of program implementation, 2 editions of Training for Instructors (TFI) course have been completed under NSET-Baliyo Ghar program. 56 participants; specifically Engineers and Social Development Officers engaged in post-earthquake activities benefited from the training. Among the participants 45 were from NSET programs, 4 from Housing Reconstruction and Recovery Platform (HRRP) and 7 from Bhimeshwor Municipality, Dolakha, DUDBC/DLPUIs and Kageshwori Manohara Municipality, Kathmandu.

NSET conducted the 1st edition of course during April 25-29, 2017 at DMTC-Kurintaar Chitwan and 2nd edition of course during September 19-23, 2017 at TEWA, Dhapakhel, Lalitpur.

In closing ceremony of the event in TEWA, Spokesperson of National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) Mr. Yamal Bhusal, NSET President Mr. Varun Prasad Shrestha were present to handover the certificate of completion to the participants where Acting Commandant of DMTC and Superintendent of Armed Police Force Mr. Ganesh Thapa, NSET Executive Director Dr. Amod Mani Dixit were present in the event completed at Kurintaar.

Addressing closing ceremony of the second TFI event, Mr. Bhusal encouraged participants to implement the knowledge and skills gained through training in the respective fields. "Traveling to the abroad, I often listen about Nepal is that our country has least number of trained manpower but here comes

the answer," he stressed, "NSET has been explicitly involved in building capacity of Nepali technical and non-technical manpower, its excellent job." He added, "I hope this training has contributed to develop and strengthen professional and personal skills to make the behavioral change which you all graduates have to perform in post-earthquake reconstruction activities."

In the first TFI, Mr. Arjun Timilsina, Deputy Superintendent of Nepal Police and Mr. Ganesh Jimjee, NSET Director acted as course monitor and course coordinator respectively whereas Mr. Kulesh Thapa, Ex-Deputy Inspector General of Nepal Police and Mr. Ranjan Dhungel submitted their reports as course monitor and course coordinator respectively.

TFI is a rigorous 5-day instructor development course. The purpose of the course is to provide the participants with a training methodology and specific personal skills that will assist them in improving their knowledge and skills to develop, present and manage effective training programs. TFI was developed by the USAID/OFDA in collaboration with the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department. NSET used this curriculum and strategy while implementing PEER Stage2 (2003-2009), PEER Stage3 (2009-2014) and PEER Stage4 (2014-2019). The TFI English curriculum has now been translated into Nepali and Bangla under the PEER program.



Promoting safer reconstruction through Mass Media

Awareness raising through mass media is one of the major components of the Baliyo Ghar program to help earthquake affected population promote safer reconstruction by sharing and disseminating information, knowledge and ideas on safer construction technologies and also on various aspects of reconstruction process. Baliyo Ghar program is collaborating with media partners in program districts and also in Kathmandu Valley for the central and national level media advocacies and campaigns.

As a part of reconstruction effort under Baliyo Ghar program, NSET is partnering with 13 FM Radio stations (Initially 14 radio stations) in 4 districts for regular radio programs and messaging. The regular weekly radio programs are 30-minute magazine format where each radio station produce individual episodes. They also air PSAs carrying the messages for safer construction practices and reconstruction processes 10 times daily. In the year I,

BaliyoGhar program partnered with 7 radio stations where 7 more were added in the Year II. Altogether in year II, 728 unique radio programs were produced from 14 radio stations and get them broadcasted twice a week.

Likewise, NSET has also been partnering with All Three Media Ghar, a production agency, to produce and broadcast a Weekly TV program "Baliyo Ghar" from three Television Channels (Initially 4 TV channels) ; Kantipur Television, Avenues TV and News24 Television since May 2016. The regular weekly 30-minute magazine format TV program focuses on policies, practices and technologies for safer reconstruction in Nepal. Weekly half-an-hour TV Magazine program "Baliyo Ghar" has been great platform for learning, sharing and advocating for safer reconstruction.

In Year II, each of the program episodes went on broadcast from 4 National Television Channels weekly 3 times from each. The program covered diverse issues of reconstruction policy

instruments to technology to local practices and various phases and aspects of reconstruction processes. In the Year II, 52 episodes of Television program have been produced and get broadcasted 626 times through 4 channels thrice a week from each.

Also Social media has been one most effective tool and platform these days. Baliyo Ghar program has exclusive pages on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube channel to serve with information, knowledge and ideas on safer reconstruction. Baliyo Ghar Communication is also coordinating with mass media in raising social awareness on reconstruction. Coordinating with National Broad sheets, Radio stations and organizations, local mass media and media personals has also been a regular activity. Writing articles and news report of reconstruction in national media and helping them find cases, stories of the earthquake affected people and achievements in reconstruction are some of the activities done in Year II.



Promo of Radio Program with respective logo of partner radios



Promo of TV programs

Awaking people through IEC Materials

In the year II, Baliyo Ghar program published 30000 copies of different IEC materials and disseminated in the quake-hit areas of program districts to aware beneficiaries about the techniques of safer building construction. Posters, flyers and booklets have been distributed in every wards of program areas and they have turned to be effective means of communication to achieve the purpose. Masons, even after the training take the 10 points poster to their home and look over it when they get confused in constructing earthquake resistant homes. 10 points posters and booklets, carrying the messages of idea and techniques of building safe houses have been used by literate masons, homeowners, school childrens. Posters pasted in public places like Chautara, public gathering areas like tea shops and schools have been seen very effective to aware earthquake beneficiaries.

Mr. Sundar Karki of Sakhine-Bhimeshwar Municipality, Dolakha said, "Posters and booklet regarding 10 points key messages has done a lot support in building our house. The masons involved and even I frequently look over it to be clear on the subject and make our house quite perfect in terms of resisting earthquake. "



Elderly women of Magapauwa-Dolakha reading 10 points poster regarding tips for earthquake resistant building construction distributed by BaliyoGhar

Impact stories of Baliyo Ghar Radio Program

Shiva Khadka, 39, resident of Nagarjun Municipality, Kathmandu was worried about the soft loan government had announced to the earthquake affected people to erect the flattened house. 18 months being in the temporary house, Khadka planned to reconstruct his house but had no enough money. He had the first tranche of government grant worth Rs. 50 thousand in his hand and he was to get Rs. 150 thousand in the near future after the foundation of his house was prepared. But only 3 lakhs amount from government would not be enough to reconstruct his house. Then he thought to seek soft loan that government had proclaimed for the beneficiaries. He was completely unknown about the soft loan, its amount, its procedure and all. He was tuning Mero FM 93.5 at his house and he heard Baliyo Ghar Radio program talking about the safer reconstruction. After the program, he called to the radio station and recorded his queries.



Baliyo Ghar Radio Program reporter of Janasanchar FM 107.9 Bhaktapur preparing field reports in Bhaktapur

On the next episode of Baliyo Ghar Radio program, his queries were addressed by Dr. Bhisma Kumar Bhusal, Deputy-spokesperson of National Reconstruction Authority (NRA). He then proceed for the government soft loan to rebuild his home. He thanked Mero FM, Baliyo Ghar program team for addressing his queries within few days. Now, he is building earthquake resistant house in Nagarjun Municipality.

One of the Baliyo Ghar Radio Program aired through Mero FM 93.5 at Kathmandu focused on the collective work of masons from Lamidada, Dolakha. Reporter from Mero FM had been Lamidada for field reports where she found all of the masons from the village were busy in building the flattened houses simultaneously. All the masons used to build house collectively and move to the next house once the construction completed. Exchanging the labor to build earthquake resistant houses was

very interesting fact of Lamidada, which was later aired through radio with the bytes of masons, house-owners which gained wide feedbacks. The real scenario report touched the hearts of radio listeners, as they said in phone-in program aired soon after the Baliyo Ghar Radio program. Likewise, the program produced in Majhi Settlement of Sindhupalchowk gained the same coverage like of Lamidada.

Gopal Krishna Prajapati, 45, resident of Bhaktapur Municipality -09 had collected Rs. 30 Lakhs to rebuild his flattened house in Bhaktapur. He faintly heard about the government standard to build earthquake resistant house and the process to receive government grants. He was in dilemma, what exactly the building code meant, how to get the engineers to inspect his home during construction. And also, he was unknown about the soft loan that government announced to provide.

Mr. Prajapati is regular listener of Radio Janasanchar 107.9 at Bhaktapur. He used to listen Baliyo Ghar Radio program. One day, he came to radio station for inquiry about the construction of houses that were collapsed during Gorkha Earthquake. Baliyo Ghar Radio team recorded his inquiries and on-aired through radio program along with the answer from NRA officials. Mr. Prajapati was quenched regarding his thirst of making earthquake safe home.

These are the representative stories on impact of Baliyo Ghar Radio program. All of the 14 partner radio stations have helped beneficiaries in connecting with concerned authorities and some beneficiaries have been constructing their houses with information acquired via Baliyo Ghar Radio program aired through local radios in quake-hit districts.

Tasbir's problem solved by Baliyo Ghar Radio Program

Tasbir Bahadur Tamang, resident of Jiri Municipality-9, Thulopatal, Dolakha. He is a sole person to earn in his 6 membered family. Working as a labor in Jiri Municipality, he is providing bread and butter to his old parents, two daughters and his beloved wife. Fortunately, he and his family was survived in Gorkha Earthquake but his house got completely collapsed after which he got strained in living temporary shelter for a year and half. He says, "It was very hard for my family to live under the tents for a year and half year under the zinc sheets. As I had no one to speak in favor of me, I even couldn't get the zinc sheets easily at the time. I would never forget how my daughters were brought up under the temporary shelter."

With the money collected from wages and loan from the neighbors, he managed to build a house for his family in December 2016 without receiving the government grant. He had heard about the government grant but it went in vain as neither saw engineers in his village to facilitate nor he could find somebody to guide for processing to get such grant. Though he visited Jiri Municipality 7 times for the grant, but he was deprived of getting the first tranche of government grant. After the completion of his house, he kept on trying for getting government

grant but he never succeeded. Because no engineers came to his house for inspection and no one helped-in to address his grievances.

One day, in his radio set, he listened a radio magazine Baliyo Ghar being aired through Hamro Radio 103.4 Mhz and program discussing about the reconstruction, problems of the process and collecting the feedbacks from beneficiaries. On June 06, 2017, Mr. Tamang caught a bus to Charikot from Jiri to visit Hamro Radio to make hear his problems.

Among the radio staffs Tasbir briefed about his problem and informed that he was planning to sell his newly built house to pay the loan back if he would be unable to receive the government grant. He insisted that his neighbors who had built the houses after receiving government grant. He says, "Because of lack of personal access, I couldn't get the grant despite using the components to make my house to resist earthquakes."



Tasbir Bahadur Tamang at the office of Hamro Radio Dolakha

Mr. Laxman Khadka, station manager of Hamro Radio says, "Tears rolled down on my face when I heard his story of plight. After recording his grievances, I took up the issues with the government authorities at Charikot as well as Tank Jirel, newly elected Mayor of Jiri Municipality about his trouble in getting government grants. Jirel promised to please Tasbir." The very next week, Hamro Radio produced a radio report about his problems with a message that there would be several stories like that of Mr. Tasbir and authorities should address those grievances without delaying.

After some days, engineers visited his house to examine whether the earthquake resistant elements were used in the house. They advised Mr. Tasbir to submit the application with some corrections in the house. Following the advice of engineers, he

applied for the first and second tranche of government grant. After some days, he found to be very happy because he had 2 lakhs in his hand. He thanked Hamro Radio and Baliyo Ghar program, by which he succeeded to receive the grant. As his house has been completed already, he is now in the process to receive the third tranche of government grant these days.

Hamro Radio 103.4 based in Dolakha is a partner radio of NSET/BaliyoGhar running BaliyoGhar Radio Program on Friday 7:30-8:00PM with repeat on Saturday 7:30 – 8:00AM. With the support from USAID, NSET/BaliyoGhar is partnering with 14 radio stations in quake-hit 4 districts to promote safer reconstruction through media efforts.



Back to the Normal Life: Family of Ganesh Bhujel / Shanti Bhujel in Bigu - Dolakha after completion of EQ. Resistant House

Success Stories from Grassroots

Trained masons became resilient construction promoters and orientation program changed perception of people in Nuwakot

Chaap, one of the villages in the eastern part of Nuwakot district is witnessing the reconstruction activities held within. Even not so far from the capital city Kathmandu, and very near to the district headquarters, Chaap, mainly due to the geographical remoteness, copes with many

mobile team of Baliyo Ghar seeking consultations in every phases of building construction. Mr. Shrestha says, "If I don't apply the knowledge gained in training, I will deceive not only my villagers but also to the coming generations, that's why I am serious and sincere to apply what I gained.



difficulties to please its residents. It's one of the severely hit area by Gorkha Earthquake in 25 April, 2015 and now getting up to renovate its settlement. Bhakta Lal Shrestha, 42, with bitter past and planning for better future lives here.

Mr. Shrestha is one of the participants of mason training conducted under Baliyo Ghar Program at Chap Village. He was the most passionate and desperate learner in the training, conducted for the first time in his locality. He now plans of making his settlement better and safer. He says, "Though I have experienced in masonry works, after the Baliyo Ghar Training, I am confident enough to build earthquake safe homes and now I am dedicated to build safer Chaap."

If get confused, I take the consultations with Baliyo Ghar Team. I have the future of my locality in my hand to make it safe."

Mr. Chatra Man Gurung is one of the masons trained by Baliyo Ghar in Thanapati village. He has been involved in construction works since 1992 and built several houses in Nuwakot district. After the Gorkha Earthquake, he led the construction of 5 houses which now have been disapproved by government engineers and those are not eligible to receive government grant due to some construction errors. In the mid of 2016, Mr. Gurung participated a mason training organized by Baliyo Ghar program at Thanapati. He enhanced his knowledge and skills regarding safe construction practice. He says, "I had no idea about the vertical reinforcements, bands, corner stitches etc. which I now have been applying in houses. Indeed, mason training was a turning point for me to engage myself in safer reconstruction works and have good earnings too. At once, I have been involved in building 5/6 houses as a lead mason with other trained masons, hence less time to speak too." Quite remarkably, the houses built after the mason training have been approved during the inspection. Mr. Gurung is now a well-known mason in that area as he is booked by many house-owners.

Mr. Chaturman BK, earthquake affected house-owner at the area who found very pleased to work with mason Mr. Chatra Man Gurung. "I have received 2 tranches of government grant and house is now almost ready to shift on. Along with my wife Suntali Sunar, we salute Chatra Man for building a strong house for us," – said Chaturman with a sweet smile.



House of Mr. Chaturman BK built by Trained Mason Mr. Chatra Man and team

Mr. Shrestha engages himself implementing his skills and knowledge in building stone-mud masonry buildings in his own village. Soon after the training, received in the beginning days of 2017, he started to build his own flattened house. Now he has been booked by villagers to help construct the nearby houses. Frequently he calls the

"Tipling's Ngasimbo, means Baliyo Tole"



Houses being constructed at Tipling, Northern most part of Dhading district.

Ngasimbo is a tole of ward no. 7, existing Tipling VDC and now part of Ruby Valley Rural Municipality which ignited the reconstruction process and embarked the trend of reconstruction in the area. Majority of the masons of Tipling are from this Tole who had been constructing houses in traditional practice for a long time. Most of the houses faced moderate to extreme damage but did not collapse at all in the Gorkha earthquake and the people stayed under temporary shelter for a long.

They had to build new permanent house but had no idea about the design as they heard the news that houses should comply with building code and only they would receive the government grant. After the Baliyo Ghar mobile team was introduced in the area, the team conducted orientation programs and encouraged the people to construct earthquake resistant buildings to be safe as well as to receive government grant. Mobile team visited frequently to convince and persuade local people to construct quake safe houses, became socially attached providing sufficient technical knowledge, encouraged them and made them realize that mobile team were there for community to provide ideas and knowledge of safer reconstruction.

Some of the masons from the Tole participated in the mason training, gained the technical knowledge but were still in dilemma how to initiate the construction work. Mr. Sombar Ghale took initiation and decided to construct his

house and asked masons from his Tole to help him construct his house.

After construction of one house, the masons got complete idea about the construction technology of earthquake resistant building. Masons then started to build houses on labor exchange basis and in rotation. Masons in a group of 15 from the Tole started constructing houses of one mason one day and the group worked for next mason the next day.

Only few masons were trained in the mason training so rest of the masons felt the necessity of second mason training to gain more and more idea about earthquake resistant building components. As per their request mobile team conducted second mason training in Tipling. Almost all of the masons from the Tole were trained and they continued the

reconstruction process vigorously. The

mobile team visited the Tole frequently and helped the masons in every steps, and provided with solution to every technical problems faced in the sites.

Reusing the stones of damaged building and woods for bands bought from the nearby saw-mill, more than ten houses were constructed within few months. The reconstruction process in this Tole influenced the whole Tipling area and masons from other part of the village realized that it was not a big deal to construct a house if worked collectively. Now masons in the Tole are happy and say in a group, "We not only constructed a **Baliyo ghar**, rather we constructed a **Baliyo Tole** and we have named our Tole as "**Baliyo Tole**".



Houses constructed in parallel to name the settlement as "Baliyo Tole"

"Thank You NSET-BaliyoGhar"

"I am Sambhu Ram Karki. I live in Bhimeshwor Municipality ward-6, Dharamghar. Gorkha Earthquake happened in April 2015 damaged my 3 storey stone mud masonry building completely. Fortunately, earthquake didn't take our lives but it hugely affected our family environment, economy. Staying in GI sheet temporary shelter, is very tedious so to get relief from staying on the temporary shelter, we have started construction of new stone mud masonry building. For this construction, the main problem was the lack of trained masons in this locality. We managed to bring masons from other VDCs and again they were not trained. Due to lack of sound knowledge on building the earthquake resistant house, we started our construction based on some hearings. And right after time of plinth band construction, fortunately we met the mobile team of NSET-BaliyoGhar.

The mobile team of NSET-BaliyoGhar briefed about the important components of earthquake resistant building to me and the masons. According to the technical suggestion we installed vertical reinforcement at the wall corners. Since we have already constructed up to plinth band, we destroyed few of concrete band near wall joints so that vertical reinforcement could be installed. Before this, we didn't know the importance of vertical reinforcement. Similarly, we were unaware about the placement of door/window, importance of corner stitch, importance of vertical reinforcement, importance of double frame door and window.

We are really glad to receive the technical assistance from NSET-BaliyoGhar at the right time. Now, we are aware about the important components used in building earthquake resistant



Technical Officer Mr. Bikesh Kasula talking to Sambhu Ram Karki in his underconstructed house.

building. Likewise, we are also propagating the same messages to our neighbors, who are ready to build the earthquake resistant houses at Bhimeshwor Municipality."



Aalampu of Dolakha being built better and safer.