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## Project Completion Report

### Disaster Risk Reduction at the National Level in Nepal - Phase II

Award ID: 00048953

Award Title: Disaster Risk Reduction at the National Level in Nepal - Phase II

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# Disaster Risk Reduction in Nepal at the National Level – Phase II (DRRNLN - II)

## Project Completion Report



February 2012



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## 1. Project Information

### DRRNLN Phase II

<b>Programme Period:</b> 2008 to 2011 <b>Programme Component:</b> MYFF Service Line 4.5 – Natural Disaster Reduction. <b>Project Title:</b> Disaster Risk Reduction at National Level in Nepal - Phase II (NEP/07/012) <b>Award ID:</b> 00048953 <b>Project Duration:</b> February 2008 to March 2011 <b>Management Arrangement:</b> DIM	<b>Total Budget:</b> US \$ 2,082,988 <b>Allocated resources:</b> US \$ 2,082,988
	<b>Source of Fund:</b> UNDP, BCPR, EU & Aus Aid <b>Donor:</b> EU & Aus Aid US \$ 1,154,471 <b>Other:</b> UNDP & BCPR US \$ 928,517 <b>Government:</b> ---- <b>Regular:</b> ---- <b>Total US \$ 2,082,988</b>

### DRRNLN Umbrella Project

<b>Budget</b>	\$1.25 million (overlapping with DRRNLN Phase 2)
<b>Location</b>	Policy level project
<b>Donors</b>	UNDP (\$421,000), AusAID (\$381,000), European Commission (\$297,000), BCPR (\$100,000), OCHA (\$48,000)
<b>Implemented by:</b>	UNDP
<b>Implementing partners</b>	Ministry of Home Affairs, Disaster Preparedness Network Nepal (DP-NET Nepal)
<b>Other partners</b>	Nine key Government ministries (see list on page 3), the National Planning Commission Secretariat, district development committees, municipalities, Nepal Red Cross Society and NGOs, the media, UN OCHA

## 2. Background

The geographical and topographic dynamics of Nepal make the country vulnerable to a multitude of natural disasters, such as earthquake, flood, landslide, fire, windstorms, hailstorms and Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF). Given the variety and intensity of these natural hazards, Nepal has been listed in the top 20 most disaster prone countries in the world. More people are killed by disasters in Nepal compared to any other country in South Asia<sup>1</sup> with mortalities reaching 27,000 from 1971 to 2007, indicating an average loss of more than 2 lives each day due to natural disasters. In addition to this high mortality risk, more than 50,000 people were reported as injured, about 3,000 people missing and approximately 5 million people affected from 1971 to 2007.

The devastating impact of natural disasters has been a result of Nepal's inability to adequately address the root causes of vulnerability. Lack of awareness, non-compliance of building codes or proper land use planning and an overall strategy that has focused on response rather than mitigation have contributed to the vulnerability of Nepal to natural disasters.

With the approval of the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management on 11 October 2009, the Government of Nepal has demonstrated a commitment to reducing Nepal's vulnerability to natural disasters by focusing on risk

<sup>1</sup>Koirala, et.al. 2002, cited in Kathmandu Valley, Nepal Disaster Risk Management Profile, 2005

mitigation and reduction rather than on response only. By addressing these vulnerability issues, Nepal will be able to strengthen overall development.

In support of the Government of Nepal in disaster risk management, UNDP initiated the Disaster Risk Reduction in Nepal Phase II project from 2007 to 2009, ultimately expanded and extended until March 2011.

### 3. Introduction: DRRNLN II

The second phase of Disaster Risk Reduction at the National Level in Nepal (DRRNLN II) was launched as a follow-up to the first phase. The first phase of the DRRNLN project operated from June 2006 and June 2007. The DRRNLN II was supposed to run from 17 November 2007 to 14 February 2009. However, the Project Executive Board meeting held on 17 December 2009 decided to bring all UNDP's disaster risk management projects under one umbrella project. Thus the DRRNLN II project was extended until March 2011.

#### A. RATIONALE/STRATEGY OF DRRNLN

As a run up to the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR) in 2005, the Government of Nepal prepared, with UNDP support, the National Report on Disaster Management, which was presented at the conference. At the conference, the Government of Nepal made a commitment to implement the Hyogo Framework of Action 2005-2015. UNDP was designated as one of the focal development partners for supporting the Framework in the respective countries, which has extended full support to the Government of Nepal.

The Disaster Risk Reduction at the National Level in Nepal project was designed under this context of supporting the Government of Nepal to fulfil its commitment to the Hyogo Framework of Action 2005-2015. The European Commission Humanitarian Office (ECHO) funded the first and second phases of DRRNLN, which followed a three point strategy aimed at reducing disaster risks in Nepal.

1. Support institutional strengthening of the national government
2. Facilitate coordination with the major civil society players
3. Raise awareness among the general public

This strategy was to be implemented at the national level due to UNDP's unique engagement at the policy level and its key coordination mandate.

On 17 December 2009, the Project Executive Board decided to designate DRRNLN as an umbrella project of the multitude of disaster risk management related projects that are handled by the UNDP. This decision was made in order to streamline the activities of disaster risk management and develop a coordinated and efficient framework.

#### B. OBJECTIVES OF DRRNLN II

The initial goal of the second phase of DRRNLN was to promote disaster risk reduction in Nepal through a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approach. The project would specifically aim to support institutional strengthening with the Government, improved coordination within civil society and awareness generation among the general public to manage and reduce the risks of natural disasters in Nepal. This support was designed to foster partnerships with different ministries of the Government of Nepal as well as with identified members of civil society and selected media agencies.

The goal of DRRNLN as an umbrella project, as designated by the Project Executive Board, was to continue its multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approach in disaster risk reduction while also acting as a coordination mechanism for the scattered disaster risk reduction projects of UNDP.

### C. PROJECT PARTNERS

Given the multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approach of DRRNLN, several partners were actively involved in the overall goal of promoting disaster risk management in Nepal. During the first phase of DRRNLN, a key partnership for the project was with the Ministries of the Government of Nepal, which included all 27 members of the Central Natural Disaster Relief Committee led by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA).

In addition, the project partnered with several civil society organizations in order to strengthen disaster risk management. These organizations include Nepal Red Cross Society for the development of the Disaster Preparedness Network and the Nepal Society for Earthquake Technology for the support in developing a national strategy.

An important partner in disseminating information and promoting active participation among the general public is the media. The DRRNLN project partnered with media houses, such as Outreach Nepal in order to support and develop a mass-media campaign aimed at raising awareness

In the second phase of DRRNLN, government agencies remained key partners. 10 key ministries, including the National Planning Commission led by MoHA, were active in the development of a strong disaster risk management strategy for Nepal.

The DRRNLN-phase 2 also expanded its partnership with media in order to strengthen and reach a wider audience in raising awareness of disaster risk management for the general public. Key outreach and media partners included Outreach Nepal, All Nepal Football Association, Synchro Media, Bagini Group, Community Service Center and First Inclusive Women Sagramatha Expedition (FIWSE).

These partnerships with government, civil society and media outlets confirmed the DRRNLN aim of developing a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approach with the overall objective of supporting disaster risk management in Nepal.

## 2. Expected Outputs

### A. DRRNLN PHASE 2: EXPECTED OUTPUTS

Output 1: The implementation of the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management in Nepal is initiated through sector-wise priority action planning by key ministries

The national level strategy paper to outline the Government of Nepal's direction in the disaster risk management sector was in progress for approval by the Government of Nepal. Upon approval, DRRNLN phase 2 would circulate the strategy document among different government bodies, civil society organizations and relevant district and community stakeholders with appropriate translations of the document made accordingly. The implementation of

the strategy would be initiated by the respective ministries based on their sector-wise priority action planning. Focal points established in each relevant ministry and one pilot initiative based on the strategy implemented.

#### Output 2: Facilitate coordination within major civil society players

This component continued to support the capacity development of DP-Net as initiated by DRRNLN phase 1. DP-Net will provide services to its member organizations as per its established work plan which will be focused on training and events related to DRR, exchanging and accessing information, extending its networks at the district level and publications of various materials.

#### Output 3: Raise awareness among the general public

This component of DRRNLN phase 2 aimed at increasing the awareness on disaster preparedness among the general public and strengthen their understanding of risk management at the personal, family and community level. In order to raise awareness among the general public, the DRRNLN project would adopt a multi-dimensional media strategy that would disseminate messages and information related to disaster risk management.

### B. DRRNLN UMBRELLA PROJECT: EXPECTED OUTPUTS

DRRNLN became the umbrella project of the disaster risk management related projects in UNDP Nepal as a result of the decision of the Project Board Meeting of 17 December 2009. The main goal of the umbrella project was to promote disaster risk reduction in Nepal through a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approach with a specific aim in supporting institutional strengthening within the Government, better coordination within civil society and awareness generation, mitigation and preparedness among the general public to manage and reduce the risk of natural disaster in Nepal. Specifically, the umbrella project incorporated the following projects: Risk Reduction at the National Level in Nepal (DRRNLN - II), Community Based Disaster Management (CBDM), National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC), Preparatory Assistance for Hyogo Framework for Action (BCPR PA), Emergency Grant for Flood and Landslide Response (EGFLR) and Early Recovery Programme (ERP)

The intended output of the project was to enhance the capacities of key ministries, local bodies, civil society organizations and communities for planning and implementation of disaster risk management, emergency response and early recovery in selected districts. The expected outputs of this umbrella project were:

#### Output 1: Implementation of the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management in Nepal (NSDRMN)

With the Government of Nepal approving the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management, attention shifted to implementing the commitments made in the strategy in order to strengthen disaster risk management in Nepal.

#### Output 2: Renovation, strengthening and operationalization of National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC)

The vulnerability of Nepal to natural disasters is exacerbated by a lack of coordination and response mechanisms to adequately respond when a natural disaster strikes. The immediate aftermath of a natural disaster requires a targeted and coordinated response in order to save lives and minimize damages. An important aspect of having an effective coordination and response mechanism is the establishment of a National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC).



The NEOC serves as a central level coordination, communication and management hub for effective response to disasters in Nepal. This allows the government to effectively coordinate among various stakeholders and share information efficiently in order to respond to a natural disaster effectively.

Output 3: Enhancement of the capacities of communities on disaster management, mitigation of flood damage and livelihood promotion

This component under the DRRNLN umbrella project builds upon UNDP's extensive experience in supporting vulnerable communities to reduce their risks to the danger of floods, landslides, earthquakes and other natural disasters.

Output 4: Development of the Early Recovery Programme

In most years, UNDP provides support to victims of recurrent natural disasters in Nepal. In August 2008, thousands of people were displaced from their homes due to the Koshi river basin flood. Many of these people's lives have been seriously disrupted and required a concerted recovery plan. This component aimed to develop an early recovery programme for local communities to recover their livelihoods and for a more coordinated effort at the national and local level for the early recovery of local livelihoods.

Output 5: Capacity Strengthening of Disaster Preparedness Network and its member organizations

Continuing its prior support in the development of DP-Net, this component of the DRRNLN umbrella project aimed to continue the strengthening of DP-Net and its member organizations.

Output 6: Awareness Generation on disaster risk reduction through mass media campaign and outreach programmes and advocacy on HFA and IASC cluster approach

This output aimed to build on the progress made by the previous DRRNLN phase 1 and 2 projects by continuing and strengthening its media campaign to the general public's awareness about disaster risk management. In addition, this campaign began to sensitize the general public on the HFA and IASC cluster approach in order to promote an engaged public on issues relating to disaster risk management.

### 3. Section 2: Achievements of DRRNLN

#### A. DRRNLN PHASE 2: ACHIEVEMENTS

Output 1: The implementation of the National Strategy for DRM is initiated through sector-wise priority action planning by key ministries

With a draft National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management (NSDRM) completed under the first phase of DRRNLN, phase two aimed to capitalize on this development and focus on the implementation of the NSDRM in key government ministries. In order to implement the NSDRM, DRRNLN phase 2 established 10 (above the original target of 7) focal desks on disaster risk reduction in the following key Ministries:

- Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), Ministry of Physical Planning and Works (MoPPW), Ministry of Local Development (MoLD), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MoAC), Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology (MoEST), Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Health & Population (MoHP), Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR), Ministry of Forest & Soil Conservation (MoFSC), and National Planning Commission (NPC).

Each of these ministries established a focal desk for disaster risk reduction with total 26 staff members led by the Joint Secretary and Under Secretary from the respective Ministries. Staff members from these key ministries (MoHA, MoLD, MoAC, MoE, MoWR and MoEST) have participated in regional level training in Bangkok on disaster management, flood disaster, risk management and climate risk management. This regional training will help develop the capacity of staff members in order to implement the NSDRM.

These key ministries have also developed work plans that were implemented on a pilot basis, which includes capacity development, equipment support and implementation of the priority action for DRR as identified by the NSDRM. These pilot based initiatives focused on website management, publication of annual disaster reports a DesInventar trainings, development of flood and landslide mitigation training package, retrofitting of public buildings, identification of disaster vulnerable settlements, development of strategy for climate risk prevention, development of curriculum on DRR and resource manual and training package for schools, non-structural seismic mitigation works, development of disaster management action plans at the local level, development of demonstration plot on DRR in high value crops and the development of a strategy on forest protection.

The culmination of these activities supported the implementation of the NSDRM in its early stages. These pilot-based work plans enhanced the capacities of these key ministries and fostered a culture of disaster risk management based on the NSDRM.

#### Output 2: Facilitate coordination within major civil society players

While the first phase of DRRNLN focused on capacity development of DP-Net in order to strengthen the network of disaster risk management related organizations, DRRNLN phase 2 aimed at enhancing the sustainability of the network. In order to strengthen and develop sustainability of this network, DRRNLN phase 2 focused on capacity building of its member organizations through developing strategies and diversifying partnerships.

In order to develop strategies and diversify partnerships, DRRNLN phase 2 conducted several trainings and workshops for members of the network. These trainings include:

- ❖ 40 participants of member organizations attended a one day partnership meeting on best practices in disaster risk reduction.
- ❖ 187 participants attended in the thematic information sharing workshop on the progress of the HFA priorities in Nepal.
- ❖ District level networking established in two districts with participation of 64 participants.
- ❖ 56 participants from member organizations attended two workshops on formulating strategies for the sustainability of DP-Net.
- ❖ 27 participants from member organizations trained in disaster management with SPHERE.

These trainings and workshops ensured that member organizations developed partnerships and strategies in networking with DP-Net in order to strengthen the network and promote best practices and sustainability. In

In addition to these trainings, the DP-Net Information Platform was continuously updated with relevant disaster risk management information. These updates included status updates with a DRR calendar and publication materials developed and disseminated among member organizations. The Executive and Steering Committee also demonstrated their capacity and sustainability by holding several meetings and making decisions on the network ensuring ownership and responsibility for the network.

### Output 3: Raise Awareness among the general public

DRRNLN phase 2 expanded the communication strategy of phase 1 with a special focus on outreach programmes. By expanding and taking advantage of various communication mediums, the DRRNLN phase 2 project was able to reach a large number of the general public in order to deliver a disaster risk management message. These outreach programmes include:

- ❖ Promoting disaster risk management at a football match in Kathmandu
- ❖ Disaster risk management Dohori song in Surkhet
- ❖ Marathon that highlighted a disaster risk management message held in Pokhara
- ❖ 120 street dramas held in 23 districts
- ❖ 35 hoarding boards placed in 6 districts
- ❖ Press release in national newspaper and television appearances that advertised the Dohari song and a disaster risk management message

Please refer to Annex I for photos on these outreach programmes.

By reaching all major forms of communication, the DRRNLN project was able to ensure that the disaster risk management message was spread to a wide audience. An impact assessment of these outreach programmes found that the use of FM radio and street dramas was the most successful in garnering attention and reaching communities to raise awareness. A brief survey found that the majority of respondents regarded the awareness activities as excellent with 49% stating that their attitudes regarding disaster risk management have changed and 29% of respondents actively taking precautionary measures.

Overall, the DRRNLN phase 2 was able to expand the disaster risk management message to a wide audience using several forms of communication and outreach. These efforts have placed disaster risk management in the public discourse, making people aware of the issues and preparedness measures related to DRR.

## B. DRRNLN UMBRELLA PROJECT: ACHIEVEMENTS

### Output 1: Implementation of the national strategy for disaster risk management in Nepal (NSDRMN)

As an umbrella project, DRRNLN continued the efforts of phase 1 and phase 2 in the implementation of the NSDRM.

In continuation of DRRNLN phase 2, disaster risk reduction awareness was raised in 10 key ministries and two commissions with focal desks being established in each of them for mainstreaming DRR into sectoral plans. MoHA acts as a coordinating ministry that provides advisory support and monitoring the progress of these focal desks. Each of these focal desks have assigned 28 staff members at their own cost, of which, 11 staff members participated

in DRR related training at the regional level. In addition, DRR focal desk staffs were also given national level training on mainstreaming gender into DRR and integrating DRR in the development planning process.

These trainings and workshops include:

- ❖ Two week long training on the 8<sup>th</sup> regional training course on Earthquake Vulnerability Reduction. Participants of this training included three focal desks officials from the National Planning Commission Secretariat, Ministry of Health and Population and Ministry of Physical Planning and Works organized by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Network (ADPC).
- ❖ One week training of trainers on disaster management on rural development sector which was attended by senior officials from the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation and organized by the National Institute of Disaster Management, India.
- ❖ 5 day training on integrating disaster risk management into development planning organized for 27 senior officials from the District Administration Office, District Development Committee, Municipalities and DRR focal desks of key ministries.

These trainings supported UNDP's efforts in embedding disaster risk management into the planning processes of government. With MoHA acting as coordinator, 12 focal desks for DRR were established with work plans prepared and supported by UNDP for implementation. This support has reinforced the capacity building of these DRR focal desk activities in an efficient and effective manner.

This support has also allowed DRR focal desks in 9 key ministries, National Planning Commission, Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS), and the Office of the Prime Minister to implement 17 NSDRM priority actions. These actions include:

- ❖ Vulnerability assessment of Laprak Village
- ❖ Demonstration plot of high value crops
- ❖ Information collection of disaster impact on high value crops
- ❖ Climate change risk adaptation strategy
- ❖ DesInventar data system training
- ❖ Disaster Management Action Plan guideline completed with one disaster management action plan for a district finalized
- ❖ Structural retro-fitting of school planned
- ❖ Seismic vulnerability assessment and retrofitting design and cost estimate of hospital
- ❖ Model site of flood and landslide mitigation
- ❖ Training package on mitigation of water induced disaster
- ❖ Mainstreaming DRR in forestry priority sector report
- ❖ Achievement and best practices of focal desks developed
- ❖ DRR school curriculum developed
- ❖ Community training on DRR for integrated resource management
- ❖ Mainstreaming DRR in national resource strategy
- ❖ 3 different sensitization/trainings on integration of DRR in development planning

UNDP has played an important role in supporting the Government of Nepal and the DRR focal desks of these key ministries in implementing NSDRM priority actions. Technical and financial support was provided to MoHA to organize a National Disaster Preparedness and Pre-Monsoon Planning workshop to order to initiate the development

of District Disaster Preparedness Plans (DDPP) and District Contingency Plan (DCP). District Disaster Preparedness Plans were developed, approved and finalized in 8 districts with District Contingency Plans of 3 districts approved and endorsed.

A Disaster Risk Reduction Tool Kit was developed jointly with MoHA, partners of the DIPECHO program under ECHO, Oxfam GB, Association of INGOs, DP-Net, NRCS and NSET. This toolkit is a professionally designed information package on disaster risk reduction with a specific focus on informing Constituent Assembly members on DRR and sensitizing policy makers on disaster issues in order to promote their involvement and leadership in strengthening the DRR framework in Nepal.

Mainstreaming efforts can also be seen in the government approach paper of three years interim plan (2010-2012) which was prepared by the National Planning Commission and includes DRR issues. In addition, a draft standard guideline for the development of District Disaster Management Action Plans was developed in consultation with local government officials. Once finalized, this standard for Disaster Management Action Plans will support a streamlined and efficient approach to disaster risk management at the district level.

The DRRNLN umbrella project also drafted and developed a new Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Programme (CDRMP) with the support of BCPR. The development of this new UNDP programme was done in consultation with several agencies representing government key ministries, donor, UN agencies, I/NGOs and national organizations.

#### Output 2: Renovation, strengthening and operationalization of National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC)

The development and operationalization of the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) will provide the Government of Nepal a central level of coordination and information dissemination during natural disasters. DRRNLN supported the government's aim in developing a strong and fully functional NEOC.

The initial phases of this project required the identification of land for building a NEOC, a designed layout of the NEOC and identification of equipment and capacity needs. Based on an INSARAG report and consultation with senior management, the capacity and institutional needs of the NEOC were identified. These needs included capacity building of staff members, mobilization of resources, institutionalization of DesInventar system, coordination and cooperation with DRR stakeholders and establishing strong linkages with the National Platform. Land for the construction of the NEOC had been provided by the Government of Nepal free of cost.

Based on the needs assessment, DRRNLN identified relevant training institutions for the training of staff members of MoHA. These staff members were trained on the roles and responsibilities of the NEOC and the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) as developed by MoHA. In addition, specialized equipment (IT and communication) were provided and the DesInventar software was installed with relevant trainings on its use.

Inaugurated on December 17, 2010 the NEOC is built to withstand any major disasters, including a major earthquake. It has the necessary equipment needed to provide essential emergency response operations, communications and information management during emergencies. The NEOC also has fuel storage for emergency use and solar backup system. Since the operationalization of the NEOC, UNDP through the Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Programme (CDRMP) has been supporting the Government of Nepal in establishing

fully functional District Emergency Operations Centre (DEOC) in 16 districts of Nepal in order to initiate the process of a country-wide EOC network.

Output 3: Enhancement of the capacities of communities on disaster management, mitigation of flood damage and livelihood promotion

The Community Based Disaster Management Project (CBDMP) builds on the lessons learnt from the Participatory Disaster Management Programme, the Strengthening Disaster Management Capacity in Nepal and other community led projects initiated by UNDP in Nepal.

The main goal of CBDMP was to enhance the security of women and men vulnerable to natural disasters and protect common property and community resources in select disaster prone districts by appropriate capacity building measures at community, district and central level. It advocated for a clear shift from post-disaster response and relief to pre-disaster mitigation, preparedness and mainstreaming disaster risk reduction in the national development framework.

In accordance to the enhancement of capacities of communities on disaster management, mitigation of flood damage and livelihood promotion, the following achievements were made:

- ❖ Mitigation works have completed in select districts, including 9 structural mitigation works and 6 infrastructure recovery projects.
- ❖ Lessons learned workshop organized with the outcome of identifying the success of CBDMP from the perspective of the cost benefit analysis, poor people, gender and social inclusion and people's participation.
- ❖ Dissemination of disaster management action plan of Syangja District and the publishing of the lessons learned workshop and training for district disaster response teams in 9 districts of the Terai organized by the Danish Red Cross.
- ❖ Emergency action plans for 4 VDCs of Sunsari district prepared with the involvement of women, socially excluded and marginalized communities. More than 50% of the beneficiaries are women who directly benefited from the community based disaster management activities with their participation in planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation.
- ❖ Community based early warning systems established in Sunsari district. This includes 7 sirens and 5 hand held megaphones in addition to the flood mitigation structures constructed in 11 communities of Sunsari, Sarlahi and Banke districts.
- ❖ 28 hand pumps have been constructed in Banke and Sunsari districts which will improve the livelihood of people, especially during flood season. In addition, 1 culvert and 5 emergency shelters have been constructed to protect survivors from flood hazards.
- ❖ An agreement has been reached between Department of Water Induced Prevention (DWIDP) and Department of Soil Conservation and Watershed Management (DSCWM) for the implementation of community based disaster management activities in two districts with upstream and downstream linkages.

These activities highlight the concerted effort on focusing on community level solutions while also creating linkages to national processes. The district disaster response teams and action plans create a sustainable community approach to disaster risk management and enhance the capacities of communities to plan and implement DRR initiatives. The mitigation works and early warning systems provide communities a way to reduce vulnerabilities to natural disasters.

#### Output 4: Development of the Early Recovery Programme

On 18 August 2008, the Koshi River broke through its eastern embankment, changing its course and flooding an area of over 6,000 hectares, directly affecting many and displacing 7,563 households from four Village Development Committees (VDC) in the Sunsari District (Eastern Region) – Haripur, Paschim Kasuha, Sripurjabdi and to a lesser extent, Laukahi. The floods caused Extensive damage to productive and social infrastructures, over 3,000 houses were destroyed or severely damaged, 3,000 hectares of standing crops were destroyed and over 40,000 heads of cattle and poultry died. In addition, temples, mosques and other (livelihood) assets were also destroyed.

As a result of these severe damages, an early recovery programme was required to support the transition from humanitarian assistance to longer-term development. DRRNLN supported the establishment of the early recovery network/cluster within the IASC system. This network acted as a coordination and support hub for early recovery activities conducted by implementing partners.

Prior to an early recovery plan being finalized, a Hazard and Risk Assessment of the Koshi Flood affected areas was conducted and disseminated to relevant stakeholders. Based on these assessments, an early recovery plan was developed, with a focus on labour intensive activities in order to support livelihood of flood victims. The main achievement of this initial work under the DRRNLN umbrella project was the development of the Koshi Early Recovery Programme (KERP).

KERP was designed to assist the local district government agencies for the early recovery coordination and planning in order to help bridge the gap between relief and recovery efforts. KERP, which was directly implemented by UNDP, worked closely with the directly- and indirectly-affected communities, especially those most vulnerable and poor, women and youth, in order to address their most urgent needs, especially those that are not or insufficiently covered by the other stakeholders working in the affected area, in an effort to support the flood affected population and strengthen the overall early recovery process. Though the main project output was to enhance capacities at different levels in disaster risk management, emergency response and early recovery, this initiative also supported energy and livelihood related outputs.

#### Output 5: Capacity strengthening of Disaster Preparedness Network and its member organizations

In continuation of DRRNLN phase 1 and DRRNLN phase2; the DRRNLN umbrella project supported the capacity strengthening of DP-Net and its member organizations. The following achievements were made in relation to this output:

- ❖ Establishment of Information Management system of DP-Net which will allow the network to collect, manage and disseminate information to member organizations in relation to disaster risk management.
- ❖ Capacity and needs assessment of member organizations working in disaster risk reduction completed with the participation of 40 different stakeholders from government and I/NGOs.
- ❖ One day workshop on Disaster Risk Management System in Nepal organized with participation from 90 representatives of government and I/NGOs.

These achievements have contributed to the strengthening of DP-Net's capacity in collecting, managing and sharing information among member organizations. The disaster risk reduction network has been improved as member organizations have actively participated in DP-Net activities and have aligned strategies and built partnerships from this network.

Output 6: Awareness Generation on disaster risk reduction through mass media campaign and outreach programmes and advocacy on HFA and IASC cluster approach

The DRRNLN umbrella project continued efforts at awareness generation on disaster risk reduction through mass media and outreach campaigns. The media strategy continued to use all forms of media (print, radio, television) and outreach programmes such as Earthquake Go Bags (preparedness kit) to spread the DRR message to the general public. A report on the impact of this awareness program was finalized and demonstrated the overall success of the programme.

## 4. Challenges and Opportunities

As a multi-year project that focused on developing a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approach to disaster risk management, DRRNLN inevitably faced certain challenges. The main challenge was working in a period of political transition and turmoil which made it difficult to establish strong relationships with government ministries. As a result of this political turmoil and high staff turnover, it was difficult to organize trainings and build capacities of ministries in regards to disaster risk management in an efficient manner. In addition, the drafting of the NSDRM, which required a concerted effort, would have been difficult to complete and finalize during periods of political transition. Despite these challenges, DRRNLN was able to support the drafting of the NSDRM and assist government ministries in the implementation of the strategy.

Another challenge was obtaining and procuring equipment that were innovative in the field of disaster risk management. The National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) required some equipment that UNDP did not have previous experience in obtaining. This created certain delays and confusion in obtaining and delivering these equipment. Despite this challenge, DRRNLN was able to support the Government of Nepal in developing a fully functional NEOC with all the necessary equipment.

The consolidation of scattered projects related to disaster risk management into the DRRNLN umbrella project identified the opportunities and benefits during implementation of related projects. As a result, the Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Program (CDRMP), which was developed under DRRNLN, serves as a consolidated disaster risk management programme for UNDP in Nepal. This will allow for effective coordination and mainstreaming of the many components of disaster risk management, allowing for maximum effectiveness and efficiency.

## 5. Conclusion and Way forward

The overall objective of DRRNLN was to promote disaster risk reduction in Nepal through a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approach. The project would specifically aim to support institutional strengthening with the Government, improved coordination within civil society and awareness generation among the general public to manage and reduce the risks of natural disasters in Nepal. Each phase of DRRNLN and the umbrella project built and expanded on the work carried out by previous initiatives.

As a result of this continuous effort, DRRNLN supported the development of the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management (NSDRM) and the implementation of this strategy in key ministries, enhanced the capacity of DP-Net and its member organizations and raised awareness of the public through a comprehensive media strategy that took advantage of the major forms of communication. In addition, DRRNLN paved the path for the



Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Programme (CDRMP) to expand upon the work achieved through the project.

The CDRMP will continue with the efforts of DRRNLN and continue to push the efforts of strengthening disaster risk management in Nepal at all levels. Specifically, CDRMP aims to support the following:

- ❖ Strengthening of institutional and legislative systems for disaster risk management
- ❖ Developing strategic linkages with other sectors
- ❖ Climate risk management
- ❖ Support for community based disaster risk management
- ❖ Strengthening emergency preparedness and response mechanisms
- ❖ Development of comprehensive early recovery strategy

## 6. Financial Information

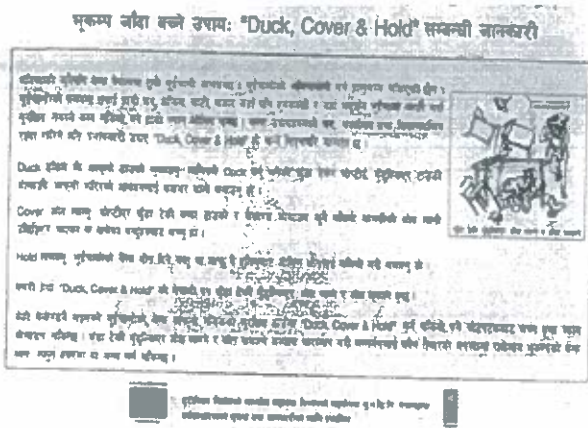
### Provisional Project Financial Summary

Sources of funds	Funds committed (a)	Total cash received (b)	Previous years expenditures (c)	Current year expenditures (d)	Cumulative expenditure to date (e= c+d)	Balance of funds (f= b-e)
UNDP	749,272	749,272	682,296	66,929	749,225	47
Other Resources	1,333,715	1,333,715	1,324,764	5,224	1,329,988	3,727
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,082,988</b>	<b>2,082,988</b>	<b>2,007,060</b>	<b>72,153</b>	<b>2,079,213</b>	<b>3,774</b>

Note: 2011 CDR of 18 Jan 2012.

## 7. Annex I: Outreach Campaign Photos

Sample of Pamphlet



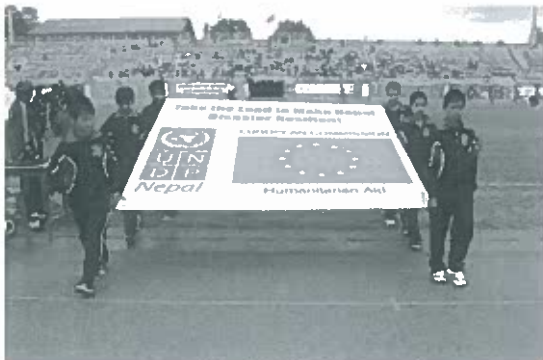
Hoarding Board on alternative measures for reduction of damage and losses from earthquake



Marathon Campaign



Football Match



Dohari Song

