

Ministry of Population and Environment (MoPE)
Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM)
Community Based Flood and Glacial Lake Outburst Risk Reduction Project (CFGORRP)

Field Trip Report

Team Members:

01. Dr. Rishi Ram Sharma, Director General/National Project Director
02. Mr Top B. Khatri, National Project Manager
03. Mr Pravin Raj Maskey, Senior Technical Advisor
04. Mr Shreedhar P Adhikari, Administrative and Finance Officer

Overall objective of the field visit/ mission:

- The main objective of the mission was to have a Consultative Meeting with SNP stakeholders (BZMC, SNP, NA and SPCC) to present the overall plan/activities & progress made by Component 1 to build better relations in the days ahead,
- Observe and monitor CFGORRP/DHM interventions and interact with project beneficiares (Task forces, ECs) en route.

a. Key activities carried out based on the travel itinerary :

Date/ Day	Districts/VDCs visited	Persons/ Groups interacted with	Description of Field visit Program/Activities
Day 1: 21 May 2016	Departure to Lukla by Goma Air Arrived Lukla and after some preparations proceeded towards Monjo and on the way observed project interventions.	Interaction with Dudhkoshi Bipad Karyadal Byabasthapan Samiti Ms. Ang Kanto Sherpa. Interaction with Kusum Khangkaru Bipad Byabasthapan Samiti Mr. Pema Sherpa. In the evening, while an interacted with Chhomolongma Monju Jorsalle Bipad Byabasthapan Karyadal Mr. Ngawang Gele Sherpa, Mr. Kami Dorjee Sherpa, Mr. Khagendra Raj Bastola, Ms. Pasang Rai, Ms. Mingma Dolma Sherpa.	Observed Drinking water tank and toilet facilities at Pemachholing Primary School Evacuation Center. Inquired about the LSAR equipment and its safe custody. Were informed that the equipment were safe at Lama Lodge as interacted with project beneficiaries. Likewise, consultations were done with regard to drinking water and toilet facilities at Shir Odhar open field evacuation center at Benker. The constructed EC was way up from the settlment. The team were briefed that the local communities spent about one month in this shelter during the mega EQ in April and May 2015.

			<i>Overnight stay at Mount Kailash Lodge, Monjo, Chaurikharka.</i>
<i>Day 2: 22 May 2016</i>	<i>After breakfast, visited EC and observed drinking water and toilet facilities constructed at Yuba Barsa Lower Secondary School at Monjo Left for Namche, Arrived Namche at 12 PM. Visited Sagarmatha National Park Headquarter, Namche</i>	<i>Interaction with Chhomolongma Monju Jorsalle Bipad Byabasthapan Karyadal Mr. Kami Dorjee Sherpa and Mr. Khagendra Raj Bastola. Discussion and deliberations with SNP stakeholders including Chief Warden of SNP, Chair of Buffer Zone Management Committee (BZMC), President of Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee (SPCC) and Major, Barah Dal Gulma, Nepal Army, Namche. Detailed Progress sharing of CFGORRP/DHM. Discussion minutes prepared for documentation for upcoming plan and actions.</i>	<i>Interacted and observed drinking water and toilet facilities at Yuba Barsa Lower Secondary School and Gumba Building evacuation center. Interacted with the Park officials, Nepal Army Officials, Chair BZMC & President SPCC shared the overall progress made including the progress related to lake lowering undertaken by Nepal Army. Shared on-going activities related to GLOF hazard management with different Task Forces enroute. Overnight stay at Khumbu Lodge, Namche</i>
<i>Day 3: 23 May 2016</i>	<i>Departure back to Lukla</i>	<i>Followup meeting with Chief Warden of SNP, Chair of Buffer Zone Management Committee, President of Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee, and Major and Captain, Baraha Dal Gulma Nepal Army, Namche officials during breakfast hosted by BZMC Chair. Interaction with Phakding Saamudayik Bipad Byabasthapan Samiti Mr. Tanka Kalikote & Mr. Nawang Thame Sherpa. Proceeded to Lukla</i>	<i>Interacted with the SPCC Chair, BZMC Chair and Chief Warden and Nepal Army Officials. Interacted with Mr. Stan Stevens, University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA on ongoing conservation and development works and community engagement. Interacted and observed drinking water and toilet facilities at Damjo Pakha open field evacuation center. Overnight stay at North Face Resort, Namche.</i>
<i>Day 4: 24 May 2016</i>	<i>Returned back to Kathmandu</i>	<i>Left for Lukla airport and returned to Kathmandu by Goma Air</i>	<i>Arrived Kathmandu at 12:00 PM</i>

b. Major observations/findings made from the field visit/ mission:

- a. *Communication and coordination with SNP/BZMC should be maintained at regular intervals to keep them informed of the ongoing plans and interventions to have their ownership on the long run. .*
- b. *Communication support provided to Task Forces should be replaced/updated with new system and networks,*
- c. *Monitoring of the project supported activities needs to be carried out on a regular basis.*

c. Key Recommendations and conclusions:

- a. *Regular communication and coordination with SNP stakeholders is necessary to keep them informed.*
- b. *CFGORRP/DHM plans and activities need to be discussed and shared prior to their implementation to develop local ownership by buffer zone committee.*
- c. *Equipments and materials provided to Task forces need to be monitored for their effectiveness and value for money.*
- d. *Regular monitoring of the project supported activities to be carried out, at least on a quarterly basis.*

d. Outputs from the Field Visit/ Mission:

- a. *The major output of the visit was to instill a sense of good-will between the project and SNP stakeholders. The team interacted profusely for about 2.5 hours and came up with some understanding on the future course of actions related to Imja lake lowering works. **It was also agreed that upcoming plans and activities will be shared and discussed with SNP/BZMC prior to implementation.** A joint monitoring of the ongoing lake lowering works would be carried out by SNP/BZMC, SPCC and CFGORRP/DHM. A local pooja would be performed prior to the main lake lowering works, although an initial pooja has been done with the engagement of Avatari Lama from Thanygboche monastery. Discussion points and future course of actions have been minuted for further reference. It has been agreed that BZMC would discuss on the agendas minuted during their upcoming BZMC meeting planned for 30th May and would formally inform CFGORRP/DHM.*
- b. *Observed drinking water and toilet facilities at Pemachholing Primary School Evacuation Center. Inquired about the LSAR equipment, and were appraised that the equipment were in safe custody at Lama Lodge, Ghat.*
- c. *Interacted with Shir Odhar open field evacuation center at Benker on the EC and toilet facilities constructed. The constructed EC was far from the community and would take one hour to reach up. As informed, during the mega EQ in April and May 2015, the communities spend around one month in the constructed EQ.*
- d. *Interacted and observed drinking water and toilet facilities at Yuba Barsha Lower Secondary School and Gumba Building evacuation center.*
- e. *Shared on-going activities related to GLOF hazard management with different Task Forces.*

e. Likely Follow-ups that might be necessary after the visit (What Next?):

- a. *A Regular sharing of the plan and activity will be done by CFGORRP/DHM in order to appraise SNP/BZ team of the ongoing works. STA and GSIS will follow-up with the upcoming plans and activities to be undertaken during the mock drill exercise and STA's visit to Imja for quality assurance works.*

f. Major changes observed, if any, since the last field visit made: NA this time.