

Single Form 2021

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-

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02/08/2021

Partner

UNDP-USA

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Duration (months)

24

Partner type

UN

Action title

Strengthening Urban Preparedness, Earthquake Preparedness and Response in Western Region of Nepal (SUPER)

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Humanitarian organisation

UNDP-USA

1.2 Title of the action

Strengthening Urban Preparedness, Earthquake Preparedness and Response in Western Region of Nepal (SUPER)

1.3 Time frame of the action

Start date 02/08/2021 **Duration** 24 months

1.4 Executive summary of the action

The Action, implemented by a UNDP-led consortium with UNICEF and UN WOMEN, will be fully led by municipal and provincial governments who will own and sustain the efforts including by allocating resources. Nepal Red Cross Society is intended as a strategic implementing partner on specific activities. Impending major earthquake/s in Western Nepal portended by various scientific research imbues an urgency for immediate preparedness, particularly as field assessments indicate lack of realization of earthquake risk and potential impacts, and nonexistent or poor preparedness at community, municipal and provincial levels. With a nascent governance structure inexperienced in a major disaster, potential for uncoordinated response is high in a crisis, due to scant resources, services and infrastructure.

This proposal responds to HIP-2021 call for both Earthquake Preparedness in Western Nepal and Urban Preparedness, recognising their interconnectedness and geography (Annex 1.4- Thematic Interdependence). The Action targets provincial and local governments from Sudur Paschim, Karnali and Lumbini provinces with major focus on earthquake preparedness and core urban areas of 3 at-risk cities-namely Dhangadi, Amargadi and Jay Prithvi from Sudur Paschim and Nepalgunj from Lumbini being focus of both earthquake and urban preparedness, while focus at Jay Prithvi will be exclusively on earthquake (and fire) preparedness. The Action aims to: enhance municipal preparedness for urban and earthquake risks; and at provincial levels on impending earthquake risks benefiting entire provincial populations through improved preparedness for effective disaster response. Action will strengthen understanding of risk, preparedness measures and improved coordination among state and non-state stakeholders, clusters/humanitarian actors including private sectors across the provinces and municipalities, also engaging at-risk communities. (Annex 1.5- Consortium Lead; Annex1.3: Start Date)

1.5 HIP / Decision (if known)

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2. Project Data Overview by Country

Countries	Sectors	Total number of unique beneficiaries per sector		Total amount allocated to a sector	
		[RQ/MR] (last favourable data)	[FR]	[RQ/MR] (last favourable data)	[FR]
1. Nepal	1. Disaster Risk Reduction / Disaster Preparedness	45.084	-	2.222.100,06	-
Total				2.222.100,06	-

2.1 Geographical information

2.1 Country (1/1)

Nepal

2.2 Places of intervention (optional for actions in a group of countries and for global actions)

Name of the place of intervention (or name of country in case of actions in "Group of countries")	Upper administrative level (province)	Lowest administrative level (district)	Type
Sudur Paschim Province	Sudur Paschim	-	Both
Lumbini Province	Lumbini	-	Both
Karnali Province	Karnali	-	Both
Ward# 1 & 2 - Dhangadi Sub-Metropolitan City	Sudur Paschim	Kailali district	Urban
Ward # 5 & 7 -Amargadi Municipality	Sudur Paschim	Dadheldhura district	Urban
Ward# 9 & 10 -Jay Prithvi Municipality	Sudur Paschim	Bajhang district	Urban
Ward# 3 & 7 - Nepalgunj Sub-Metropolitan City	Lumbini	Banke district	Urban

2.3 Information on beneficiaries

2.3.1 Number of unique beneficiaries

Gender	[RQ/MR] (last favourable data)	[IR]	[FR]
Total	45.084	-	-
Female	21.846	-	-
Male	23.238	-	-

2.3.2 Number of unique beneficiaries by age and gender (data per gender compulsory at IR/FR stage)

Age	[RQ/MR] (last favourable data)			[IR]			[FR]		
	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male
0 - 59 months	4.162	1.921	2.241	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 17 years	11.395	5.197	6.198	-	-	-	-	-	-
18 - 49 years	23.511	11.713	11.798	-	-	-	-	-	-
50 years and more	6.016	3.015	3.001	-	-	-	-	-	-

2.3.3 Number of unique beneficiaries with disabilities (included in 2.3.1)(data per gender compulsory at IR/FR stage)

Gender	[RQ/MR] (last favourable data)	[IR]	[FR]
Total	3.523	-	-
Female	1.632	-	-
Male	1.891	-	-

2.3.4 Number of unique beneficiaries by profile

Profile	[RQ/MR] (last favourable data)	[IR]	[FR]
Local population	45.084	-	-
Internally displaced	0	-	-
Refugees / asylum seekers	0	-	-
Other persons on the move	0	-	-

Returnees	0	-	-
In camp or camp like	0	-	-

2.3.5 Number of organisations directly targeted and benefiting from the action

Type	[RQ/MR] (last favourable data)	[IR]	[FR]
Local	40	-	-
International	0	-	-

2.4 Country (1/1) - Sector (1/1)

Nepal

2.4.1 Sector

Disaster Risk Reduction / Disaster Preparedness

2.4.2 Places of intervention (optional for actions in a group of countries and for global actions)

- Sudur Paschim Province
- Lumbini Province
- Karnali Province
- Ward# 1 & 2 - Dhangadi Sub-Metropolitan City
- Ward # 5 & 7 -Amargadi Municipality
- Ward# 9 & 10 -Jay Prithvi Municipality
- Ward# 3 & 7 - Nepalgunj Sub-Metropolitan City

2.4.3 Total amount (for this sector)

2.222.100,06

2.4.4 Number of unique beneficiaries (in this sector) (data per gender compulsory at IR/FR stage)

Gender	[RQ/MR] (last favourable data)	[IR]	[FR]
Total	45.084	-	-
Female	21.846	-	-
Male	23.238	-	-

2.4.5 Transfer modalities (in this sector)

Modality	[RQ/MR] (last favourable data)		[IR]		[FR]	
	Amount	Unique beneficiaries	Amount	Unique beneficiaries	Amount	Unique beneficiaries
In cash	0,00	0	-	-	-	-
In vouchers	0,00	0	-	-	-	-
In kind	0,00	0	-	-	-	-
Non-allocated amount	2.222.100,06		-		-	

2.4.6 Explain why cash transfers were not used

Activities are designed for a larger group of population, as well as pockets at high risk and does not focus on direct support to individual beneficiaries

2.5 Eventual comments

The accounted population for the Action is based on the National Census conducted in 2011, which is the official (federal) data and most reliable data available, and the next census will be conducted only in 2021. After federalization, the then Village Development Committees (VDC) have been merged to form the new urban municipalities or the VDCs have been merged into the existing urban municipalities. Hence the population of these VDCs, annexed with the Action municipalities, have been added to derive total population. As the ward wise disaggregated data on age is not available, the ratio of the age group against the total population has been extrapolated to derive ward wise data for the Action wards. The age group disaggregated data in Census is from 5 - 14 and 15 - 49 years. Since the disaggregated data for 5 - 17 years, required in the proposal, is not available, the population under this category has been taken from age group 5 - 14 years in Census. The data on internally displaced, returnees, in camp, refugees and others are not available at the proposal stage and could be updated on inception when Action staff are placed in the field.

3. Humanitarian Organisation in the Area

3.1 Presence in the area

UNDP, UNICEF and UN Women have been present in Nepal since 1963, 1964 and 2012 respectively. UNDP has been working towards sustainable development and resilience with focus on the most remote, poor, vulnerable population across all provinces. Reduction of vulnerability to disaster and climate risks is a core UNDP approach to promote resilient and sustainable development, and has been a key partner to Government of Nepal (GoN) on: Promoting seismic resilience in urban areas, emergency preparedness for better response and recovery, Disaster Risk Reduction & Management (DRRM) Governance, policy and legal issues, climate change adaptation (CCA) and community based DRM. UNDP has been technical partner to GoN on innovations relating to urban resilience, eg: risk sensitive land use planning for urban areas piloting from Kathmandu Valley, promotion of national building codes- in its formulation, building capacity of federal government and municipalities in its implementation and scaling up and in urban Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). UNDP engagement with GoN has been significant in strengthening disaster risk governance, emergency preparedness for better response and promoting early warning and action across Nepal.

UNICEF programmes address the changing needs of children, women and local communities, with the ongoing Country Programme focusing on five Provinces (Province 2, Lumbini, Gandaki, Sudurpaschim and Karnali Provinces) covering 484 (out of 753) municipalities. UNICEF's programmes for 2018-2022 are focused on areas related to health; nutrition; child protection; education; water, sanitation and hygiene; and social protection. Early childhood development, adolescents, disability, gender, DRR and CCA are issues being tackled across sectors in UNICEF. UNICEF has a long history of working in emergencies and humanitarian contexts, with all three tiers of government for upstream policy work and mainstreaming DRR into annual plans and programmes. Child-centred approach on DRR and CCA, focusing on children's inclusion and participation and consideration of their vulnerabilities and special needs during the design and implementation is a strength. UNICEF responded to all medium to large scale disasters in Nepal including, 1988 Earthquake affecting eastern region, 2008 Koshi flood, 2014 floods in Surkhet, 2015 earthquakes, 2017 floods, 2019 floods, and recently COVID 19.

Grounded in the vision of equality enshrined in the UN Charter, UN Women in Nepal, prioritises: a) elimination of discrimination and violence against women and girls; b) empowerment of women; c) achievement of equality between women and men as partners and beneficiaries of development; and d) human rights, humanitarian action, DRR and peace and security. It focuses on the two programmatic areas of gender responsive governance and women's economic empowerment and works to address discriminatory social norms and harmful practices. Inclusive governance also focuses on women's leadership/participation in governance systems, development, monitoring and implementation of gender-responsive laws, plans, budgets and statistics, strengthening of governance mechanisms and the justice system. It emphasizes strengthening technical capacity of key duty bearers, both men and women, and development of dialogue mechanisms to promote agency and voice of vulnerable and excluded groups, providing essential services to victims of violence to strengthen their justice, supporting women, peace and security agenda and gender responsive humanitarian and DRR programs.

UNDP has technically assisted all 7 provincial governments including Sudur Paschim, Karnali and Lumbini provinces in formulation of DRR Policies and Strategic Action Plans (SAP) 2020-2030 in line with national DRR Policy and SAP, as well as 15 other municipalities, including Dhangadi and Birendranagar municipality. UNICEF, UN WOMEN (and Red Cross) have been major stakeholders in this formulation process.

3.2 Synergies, links, complementarity with your other actions

UNDP, UNICEF, UN Women have been working closely and coordinating with GoN line Ministries, NPC, provincial governments, local governments and relevant stakeholders on DRRM. This includes, but is not limited to development of DRRM Act, National Disaster Response Framework, DRR Policy & Strategic Action Plan (SAP) and Frameworks, for proactive disaster preparedness through regular surveillance, and readiness through network of emergency operation centres across Nepal, capacity development for fire, earthquake preparedness and response through security forces, fire brigades, local authorities and at the last mile, beneficiaries or communities at risk. Specifically relevant to the HCT Earthquake Contingency Planning, UNDP and UNICEF are the Provincial Lead Agency for Sudur Paschim and Lumbini Provinces respectively. In the Humanitarian Cluster system in Nepal, of 5 priority sectors identified in this HIP, UNICEF co-leads WASH, Education, Protection (in addition to Nutrition). UNDP co-leads Early Recovery and UN Women serves as the Inter-Cluster Lead for Gender in Humanitarian Action Task Group.

In the new federal structure of the country, provincial and local governments are in place with authority and mandate to lead DRRM activities and mobilizing resources. Accelerating understanding of risk with risk assessment and driving risk reduction, emergency preparedness and response are among their priorities, also stipulated clearly in province level Policies and Strategic Action Plans and at local levels. This consortium will work closely with governments in three western provinces and four municipalities as they take forward their periodic planning, prioritisation and implementation of actions for disaster preparedness with an emphasis on earthquake and fire, with Action focusing on capacitating them for assessing disaster risks, planning and undertaking actions to enhance capacities for emergency preparedness and response including in priority urban areas, contributing to longer-term resilience.

UNICEF's current DRR programme focuses on 50 municipalities of Provinces 2, Lumbini, Karnali and Sudur Paschim Provinces, and nationwide support to other high-risk districts and municipalities prone to natural hazards, experiences and learning from which, particularly, lessons drawn from working with children and child club networks will be replicated in Action areas and vice versa. UNDP has implemented 'Get Airports Ready for Disaster' (GARD) Initiative jointly with DHL covering Kathmandu, Pokhara, Nepalgunj and Dhangadi airports, which identifies several relevant opportunities for strengthening emergency management capacities. UNDP is also supporting Karnali Provincial government to develop a Risk Sensitive Land Use Plan for Karnali that can help the province in prioritising its interventions facilitated by the Action. UNDP is currently implementing the ECHO Action on Urban Disaster Preparedness in 3 municipalities of Bagmati that offers learning on addressing challenges pertaining to urban disaster risks including fire and earthquakes as well as several tools relevant to this Action.

Opportunities for inter-agency and inter-project synergies within the consortium members will be capitalized upon for resources and expertise, eg: Preparedness Pay off Programme supported by FCDO and implemented by UN agencies including UNICEF and UN Women. Synergy will be developed with other UN agencies such as with WFP on logistics readiness, Resident Coordinator Office (RCO) on contingency planning and information management, and with I/NGOs, Provincial and Local Government Support Programme (PLGSP) of GoN, technically supported by UNDP. Action will coordinate with NDRRMA initiative on Disaster Information

4. Needs Assessment and Risks Analysis

4.1 Assessment dates and methodology

Dates:

Meetings, discussions with key provincial/municipal/national stakeholders:

-Municipal representatives & officials (Amargadi, Dhangadi, Birendranagar, Nepalgunj, Jayprithvi): Feb'21. Officials and communities on emergency preparedness at Dhangadi (Sep-Dec'20) during Municipality DRR SAP formulation.

- Ministries of Internal Affairs and Law, Social Development of Sudurpaschim, Karnali, Lumbini: Nov-Dec'20 & Feb'21; & provincial ministries during DRR SAP formulation: Sudur Paschim (Jul'19-Feb'20), Karnali (Aug'19-Feb'20), Lumbini (Aug'19- Mar'20) by UNDP Field Offices

- Consultations, experiences from EU-funded Action on Urban DRR: Jun'19-Mar'21

- Federal GoN officials:DIMS/Monitoring systems associated meetings (Dec'19-Jan'21); Cluster Preparedness (Mar'21)

Data Analysis:Jan-Feb'21

Literature Review:Dec'20-Mar'21

Methodology:

Consultations with municipal/provincial/national stakeholders: conducted meetings with provincial/ municipal leadership, officials, District Administration Office (DAO) on preparedness, issues and needs for effective earthquake/fire response. UNDP organized several meetings with federal officials on preparedness and response priorities. Consultations with municipal/provincial representatives held at all proposed Action areas in Feb'21, built on previous meetings conducted during DRR Policy &SAP formulation in 2020, focused extensively on disaster preparedness priorities. A comprehensive checklist (Annex 4.1.3) covering risk understanding, preparedness/response for earthquake/fire hazards guided discussions- Annex 4.1.2 identified key gaps and needs. Consultations from EU Action on Urban DRR implemented by UNDP, emphasized importance of working with vulnerable population, squatters, floating population, in enhancing their realization of risk (and relative prioritization over pressing day-to-day issues), benefits of local level action, engagement through semi-/in-/formal social structures as well as keen interest, opportunity for resource sharing with municipalities for local level risk reduction. Private sector engagement in urban context is most critical as their preparedness/readiness to respond is minimal despite their ubiquitous role. (Annex 4.1.4)

Consultation meetings with federal government officials: NDRRMA, UNDP organized a workshop in Kathmandu for MoIAL and Chief Minister's office from all provinces which discussed managing information for effective preparedness and response. NDRMMA in other discussions (Jan-Feb'21) stressed provincial needs on strengthening cluster mechanism, contingency planning, risk assessment and volunteer mobilisation for effective response.

At meetings, MOFAGA senior officials prioritized strengthening municipal fire response capacities, standardization of training to fire brigades and enhanced DRR allocations, while National Planning Commission noted provincial/local capacity development for planning, resource allocation and execution of risk reduction priorities identified in their DRR SAPs as gaps. Experiences from GARD are in Annex 4.1.5.

Literature Review: Various reports, guidelines, research papers, national/cluster lessons learnt documents, contingency plans and policies were reviewed to understand earthquake risk in western Nepal, lessons from 2015 earthquake, provincial DRM plans and existing humanitarian architecture, as well as issues relating to urban preparedness with a focus on earthquake and fire hazards.

Annex 4.2 lists literature reviewed

Data Analysis: Information/data/maps on seismic, fire and other hazard occurrences (DesInventar Sendai, DRR Portal), Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Assessment-Durham, urban population distribution, density, transport corridors were analyzed to assess and prioritize Action areas. Annex 4.3 depicts seismic risks analysis, Annex 4.4 illustrates composite data analysis matrix

4.2 Problem, needs and risk analysis

Problem and Needs 1: Lack of realization of earthquake risk and potential impact, and nonexistent preparedness at community, municipal or provincial levels

Nepal ranks 11th on global risk for earthquakes that is omnipresent across Nepal. Scientific studies portend a major earthquake in Western Nepal, due to seismic gap exceeding return period, so is expected to be catastrophic with an unprecedented impact. The massive damage and loss from the 2015 earthquake showed that the entire mid-hill region of Nepal is susceptible to earthquake risk and its amplification due to underlying physical and socio-economic factors.

Despite imminent earthquake threat, most stakeholders in western Nepal do not realise its risks and impact as preparedness actions are almost nonexistent at all levels. With competing priorities, proactive actions necessary for enhancing emergency response critical for saving lives and reducing impact have not been prioritized.

Sensitization of stakeholders at various levels, on building shared understanding of earthquake risk and its impact on life, livelihood, infrastructure and priority sectors and empowering them is essential to create an enabling environment for them to prioritize and collectively mobilize resources to better prepare and respond.

Problem and Needs 2: Governance structure is nascent and untested on various aspects, including DRR and emergency response, hence potential for uncoordinated response is high in a crisis

The DRRM Act was endorsed in October 2017 but its operationalization at provincial and municipal levels has been glacial. With no provincial preparedness and response frameworks, minimal local investment on DRR, relief-centric resource allocation, the Action needs to advocate continuously for increased investment and prioritization of DRR.

The humanitarian sector has to deal with 4 tiers of governance, unlike other sectors, with DAO playing a critical role in emergency response and mobilization of security forces. Hence, there is an evident need in establishing coordination mechanisms for emergency response integrating district structures.

District EOCs had played a critical role in information management and coordination with National EOC in 2015 earthquake and other events like floods. Being new, Provincial/Municipal EOCs lack human and logistics resources, so there is a need to establish/strengthen operation of these EOCs with robust coordination mechanisms between EOCs at 4 tiers, for data collection/management and seamless coordination during crises.

Learnings from 2015 earthquake highlighted that effective response needs a 'whole of the society' approach and significant role to be played by humanitarian cluster mechanisms. The nascent governance structure at provinces and municipalities are not very familiar

with the humanitarian architecture and cluster mechanisms. As Western Nepal was not affected in 2015 earthquake and federal structure was established only in 2017, they have little experience of major disasters- hence, efforts for enhancing preparedness at cluster level and coordination mechanism, are vital for ensuring effective response.

Problem and Needs 3: Resources, services and infrastructure are limited in the region & are pooled on ad-hoc basis and their effective mobilization during crisis is critical for effective emergency response

Municipalities have limited resources (critical infrastructure, services) that are pooled to respond to emergencies in the region, not limited by administrative boundaries. eg: service of fire brigade to neighbouring municipalities, regional airports connecting northern hinterland, hospitals in provincial capitals serving the entire population. An ad-hoc organic system of resource sharing has been practiced without formal cooperation mechanisms.

The strategic location of Action municipalities and their function as connection/ trade/service hub to hinterland has established a system of inter-dependence and interlinkages during normal times, that becomes more critical during crises. Hence, there is a need to strengthen these urban systems and linkages to function seamlessly during crises through formalization of coordination mechanisms at inter/intra provincial levels.

Problem and Needs 4: Reduction of earthquake impacts demands reducing pre-existing vulnerabilities and new risks due to development activities

74% of houses damaged by 2015 earthquake were non-engineered and over 48% (1.6 million) of the 3.3 million similar houses in Nepal are in western region (Annex 4.5), posing urgent need to address this pre-existing vulnerability. Learning from 2015 earthquake shows retrofitting as only solution to strengthen these houses for ensuring life safety and mitigating humanitarian crises. It is a new concept, but with tested solutions replicable in rural context, so a multi-dimensional approach is needed to increase awareness and local human resource capacities to undertake retrofitting coupled with policy intervention for upscaling.

Development activities are not risk informed and enforcement of building code in construction is weak, which creates new risks in urban areas. As failure of development efforts amplify humanitarian crises, interventions that ensure new constructions are risk informed, through enforcement, awareness and capacity building are vital.

Problem and Needs 5: Higher incidences of fire and other hazards in urban areas with accumulation of risks necessitates focused interventions to strengthen preparedness and response capacities. Amidst rapid, haphazard urbanization, fire and other hazards are frequent (30 fire incidents were recorded in 1 day in Nov'20). Urban disasters are compound in nature due to underlying accumulation of risks exacerbated by limited municipal capacity (human resources, equipment, infrastructure) to respond that amplifies impacts. Existing systems risk collapse when faced with multiple or cascading events such as multiple fires or fires during earthquakes. High population concentration in urban areas and increased hazard incidences necessitate urgent capacity building of municipalities and response mechanisms

Based on learning from Urban DP (2019) Action, while urban risks are widespread, risk concentration varies geographically due to underlying factors: vulnerable population, location, socio-economic condition, other structures/amenities. Municipalities need to understand this urban risk fabric to prioritize and undertake tailored structural and non-structural interventions that reduce risks and strengthen preparedness.

2015 earthquake highlighted role of communities, who if better prepared can save more lives than external agencies during crisis. Noting limited municipal capacities, remoteness and access, it is critical to capacitate community volunteers as first responders and institutionalize them in the municipal structure.

Risks

If government systems are not sensitized to prioritize DRRM amongst various pressing needs, it will delay the process of gaining clarity in roles, responsibilities and procedures to respond to any disasters, leading to chaos and challenges in coordination. If understanding of earthquake risk does not percolate to community level, it will lead to continued haphazard physical development, amplifying risks, leading to only top-down approach of DRRM and systemic failure.

Even with shared understanding and anticipation of earthquake and urban risks, if not backed by capacity enhancement and engagement of stakeholders at provincial and municipal levels, leveraging district structures and capacities, effective preparedness and response cannot be ensured. Similarly, in core urban areas, if existing risks due to unplanned urbanization and factors affecting response are not addressed, it will hinder response that is linked with saving lives.

4.3 Response analysis

Government of Nepal bears primary responsibility for preparedness and safety of its own citizens. Understanding risk ownership is the key gap to be tackled through targeted preparedness investment and this gap will be addressed directly by this action by proposing to improve the local DRM governance through enhanced understanding of stakeholders on risks, strengthened systems, mechanisms for preparedness, capacities for cluster coordination and information management for improved response:

1. Enhance understanding of communities & decision makers on their exposure to earthquake risks and potential impacts and vulnerabilities

Building a shared understanding of earthquake risk & impacts is vital for communities, municipal and provincial governments to take proactive preparedness/effective response measures. Hence, Action will support Provincial-, & Municipal-led tabletop exercises at inception workshops based on scenario underpinning HCT earthquake contingency plan for western region as solid foundation to internalize gravity of earthquake threat and system gaps hindering effective response, ensuring their commitment.

Detailed risk assessments led by the 3 Action municipalities in two most dense wards each, will demonstrate context-specific multi-hazard /risk analysis better informing preparedness & response. Participatory mapping of access, open spaces, critical infrastructures with structural assessment of buildings will identify underlying risks, particularly of earthquake and fire, to generate a robust picture. Vulnerable households, who need special attention during emergency response, will be identified for planning tailored responses. Digital champions will be mobilized to collect district level data (includes 3 provincial headquarters), on critical infrastructure and public buildings, connectivity, past events and impacted areas to generate district resource maps. Risk & resource maps will be further used to update initial impact model, to contextualize vulnerabilities/ capacities and develop injects for mid-term table-top simulation exercises that bolsters stakeholders' understanding on their exposure to earthquake risks, potential impacts and their capacity for effective response. IEC materials will be tailored in this process, for building shared understanding of earthquake/urban risks at all levels.

2. Engage with recently formed governments to establish systems, mechanisms with enhanced capacity for effective emergency preparedness and response

Municipal & provincial governments are yet to fully internalize DRRM, so it is not prioritized amongst other competing needs. There is urgency to strengthen the preparedness system for effective earthquake response. Series of capacity building activities will be undertaken for municipal and provincial stakeholders, ensuring their engagement in planning and implementation, thus empowering them in institutionalizing coordination mechanisms, networking of trained Initial Rapid Assessment (IRA) personnel & community volunteers, private sector and allocation of resources for coordinated response. The training will focus on, but will not limit to DRM structure, Act, Policy, humanitarian architecture, Sphere, Sex, Age, Disability, Disaggregated Data (SADDD) standards, gender & inclusion.

Provinces will be facilitated to formulate Earthquake Preparedness and Response (EPR) Framework and Municipalities will prepare EPR plan along with disaster relief guidelines, that provide clarity on roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders.

For effective emergency response, functional continuity of these institutions in earthquake and other disasters is vital to deliver critical services under a fully operational command. Hence, the action will facilitate municipal and provincial governments to formulate business continuity plans also identifying physical and financial resources for functionality of services.

As preparedness and response will not fully reduce loss to property and livelihood, mechanisms will be piloted to transfer residual risk, eg: insurance, so that people and systems can cope and recover from a disaster better.

3. Enhance cluster coordination with established mechanisms for resource sharing within and between provinces for coordinated emergency preparedness and response

Sensitizing provincial stakeholders on humanitarian cluster mechanisms will be the entry point, building on which HCT Provincial Focal Point Agencies will facilitate priority cluster leads (Shelter, WASH, Education, Health, Protection) with technical support from co-leads to contextualize cluster specific contingency plan and establish cluster coordination mechanisms, aided by supply chain for effective and coordinated emergency response.

Likewise, to strengthen existing urban systems and inter-linkages for directing limited resources for effective emergency response, provincial and municipal governments will be supported in formalizing inter / intra provincial coordination mechanisms for pooling resources for effective response.

4. Information management and communication / coordination mechanisms need to be established or strengthened for effective emergency response

Municipal EOCs will be established and existing Provincial EOCs will be strengthened as coordination and communication hub connecting District EOC, for seamless transfer of information and data to National EOC for effective emergency response. EOCs will be institutionalized within respective administrations through their dedicated resource allocations (financial and HR), SOP linked with Provincial Health EOCs.

As information management (IM) is a key responsibility, EOC officials' capacities will be built on robust IM harmonized with national Disaster IMS with data repository of risk, vulnerabilities and capacities, volunteers to guide in crisis preparedness and efficient decision making. The municipal EOCs will be strengthened as command and control center and for citizens to access information and raise complaints on any critical municipal services.

5. Demonstrate interventions that address prevalent risks hindering emergency response or amplifying disaster impacts

The vulnerability of non-engineered housing stock that will amplify earthquake impact has to be addressed to avert humanitarian crises by saving lives. Retrofitting is key to address this but their colossal number and limited knowledge on replicable retrofitting solutions pose a great challenge. Hence, coupled with extensive outreach to households, demonstration of retrofitting solutions will be entry point to sensitize stakeholders & house owners to internalize earthquake risk, vulnerability and available technical solutions, thereby reducing humanitarian impacts. Demonstrations will be a medium for providing practical training to local masons as well as mobilize communities to take up retrofitting.

Action areas are exposed to multi-hazards and unplanned urbanization's intersection with underlying vulnerability has led to concentration of risks amplifying earthquake impacts. So, it is critical to address risks like congestion, inaccessibility, spaces encroachment, unsafe critical infrastructure to reduce impacts and enhance emergency response. Hence, based on assessments, structural mitigation measures will be demonstrated with engagement of private sector to enhance preparedness. Fire being a recurring disaster in all urban municipalities, and a likely cascading impact of earthquake, innovative activities for improving access to water for fire-fighting and capacity enhancement at different levels (community, firefighter, electricians) for effective fire response will also serve as entry point for earthquake risks.

Annex 4.6 presents summary matrix on lessons learned from on-going Urban DP Action that are integrated in proposed Action.

4.4 Have you assessed this project as entailing data protection risks?

No

4.4.1 Details of risk mitigation measures, including details of any planned Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)

The Action is focussed on provincial level and municipal level to support the government to strengthen its own systems to enhance preparedness for effective response covering an entire population of the province or municipality which will not identify individual beneficiaries or reveal identities of any vulnerable populations. At the Ward level, the Action will be supporting the municipal government to identify specific beneficiaries at high vulnerability due to various factors, including location, physical, economic or social, but individual level details will only be updated in the existing database of the municipality's Social Welfare division and its Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) and will not reside with the Action, and hence will be safeguarded and not visible or accessible to any party.

5. Beneficiaries

5.1 Beneficiaries - identification criteria

The Action will work in the Western region of Nepal, as guided by the HIP Call 2021, on earthquake and urban preparedness to imminent earthquake and other disasters. Based on the scientific studies, there is possibility of a major earthquake in the western part of Nepal due to the seismic gap surpassing the return period and with pre-existing vulnerabilities and low level of preparedness it can be catastrophic with unprecedented impact on life, livelihood, assets and structures. Also, the services and resources are pooled with significant inter-linkages and connectivity between the three provinces in the western region that becomes even more critical during the crisis. Hence, the Action will work with the Provincial level government of all three provinces (Sudurpaschim, Karnali and Lumbini), and the provincial level stakeholders of the humanitarian architecture including cluster leads and security forces, who play critical roles in emergency response and relief, directly benefit from the Action. Further, the Action will work in the urban core or the two most dense wards in Jaya Prithvi municipality on earthquake preparedness due to its remoteness and susceptibility of higher impact of earthquake as derived from Durham University research.

The Action will work in the three key urban municipalities of strategic importance in the western region, with the focus on preparedness for earthquake, fire and other urban hazards. The entire population of the three municipalities (Dhangadi and Amargadi in Sudurpaschim; Nepalgunj in Lumbini) will indirectly benefit from the Action and its activities like emergency response plan, relief guidelines and Business Continuity Plans (BCPs). The Action will have intensive engagement in the two most dense wards in each of

these three municipalities, to build their capacity to plan for, and mitigate imminent risk due to earthquakes and most recurring urban hazards like fire, and prepare for effective emergency response at both community and municipal level. Further, community led and inclusive processes will be undertaken at ward and municipal level to focus efforts on the most at-risk and vulnerable population (single women, urban poor/daily wage workers, differently abled, elderly, orphan, squatters with concentration of the marginalized households), who would directly benefit from risk mitigation measures and volunteer training.

5.2 Involvement of the beneficiaries in the design of / and in the action

The UN Consortium partners as well as intended partner- NRCS had series of consultation meetings with provincial level stakeholders particularly DRR focal persons (Ministry of Internal Affairs and Law and Ministry of Social Development) in all three provinces and stakeholders in four target municipalities for understanding their institutional capacities for disaster preparedness and emergency response with focus on earthquake and urban hazards to identify needs and gaps, including mechanisms for coordination. These discussions guided overall design and detailing of results and activities, aligned with their identified needs and prioritized by these stakeholders.

At provincial level, coordination and collaboration mechanisms will be established to encompass a range of stakeholders- elected representatives and government officials including cluster leads/ co-leads, security forces, private sectors in planning and implementation process to build shared understanding of the earthquake risks leading to strengthening of systems and coordination mechanisms for effective disaster preparedness and emergency response.

In municipalities, Action will closely coordinate with all municipal stakeholders to ensure their active participation in planning, implementation, engagement of most-vulnerable households, prioritization of activities and target groups based on risk and vulnerability assessments. Action will continuously engage with them to capacitate for addressing or reducing extant risk of the communities, particularly from earthquake and fire in addition to other frequent hazards. Direct beneficiaries from communities and toles in Action wards and municipal stakeholders will be oriented and engaged in identification of the most vulnerable households, at-risk structures, infrastructure, economic activities and enterprises, through an inclusive and participatory planning and mapping process with involvement of private sector entities/service providers.

Based on the risk assessment and KAP survey, area based approaches and specific interventions will support vulnerable communities to reduce their risk through better preparedness. Focused discussions with vulnerable households will help understand their specific issues/risks and all population at high risk will be engaged through participatory processes for planning and prioritizing risk mitigation measures. As urban environment is complex with multiple stakeholders and varied vulnerability at very high spatial resolution, the vulnerability targeting approach applied in the ongoing urban DP 2019 Action, will be adapted for identification and targeting of the most at-risk vulnerable households (Annex 5.2). Private sector entities will be engaged through their associations or chapters, as well as individual companies during implementation of the action to streamline their support during emergency preparedness and response, including preparation of their own continuity plans. Social protection mechanisms will be integrated in the municipal plan, ensuring inclusion of the most vulnerable in their policies, plans and guidelines.

Individual direct beneficiaries: 40,476 refers to population of: i) 6 working wards of 3 Municipalities- Dhangadi, Nepalgunj & Amargadi- where both earthquake and urban preparedness activities will be undertaken with focus on vulnerable groups amongst them; ii) 4,608 people in two wards will directly benefit through earthquake preparedness actions in Jayaprithvi municipality.

Organizations (44) benefiting from the Action are 3 Provinces: Lumbini, Karnali, Sudur Paschim; 4 Municipalities: Nepalgunj, Dhangadi, Amargadi, Jayprithvi; Chamber of Commerce at provinces & districts (10); fire brigades (4); Security forces (3); District Chapter NRCS (4); DAO (6); Forum of PWD (4); Clusters (6): Shelter/NFIs, Health, WASH, Protection, Logistics, Education (Annex5.1 tabulates # of beneficiaries for results and activities)

5.3 Does the proposed action provide a specific targeted response for groups or individuals with specific vulnerabilities?	No
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6. Gender and Age Marker

6.1 Gender and Age

Q1: Does the proposal contain an adequate and brief gender and age analysis?	Not sufficiently
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Q2: Is the assistance adapted to the specific needs and capacities of different gender and age groups?	Not sufficiently
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Q3: Does the action prevent/mitigate negative effects?	Yes
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Q4: Do relevant gender and age groups adequately participate in the design, implementation and evaluation of the action?	Yes
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Initial mark	1
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6.2 Additional comments and challenges

Proposal highlights distinct needs of women, girls & socially excluded groups. Consultative dialogues with stakeholders of diverse age, gender, social & economic groups, have informed the proposal that builds on work experience of UN Women & partner women and socially excluded organizations. Yet, specific roles, access to resources could not be analysed adequately.

Action will conduct specific GESI analysis on gender discrimination and how inequalities could be exacerbated in communities during disasters and recommend remedial measures in preparedness plans, disaster risk reduction and response. It will also explore gender differential impacts and needs of communities intersecting various identities like gender, age, disability, caste/ethnicity, equity, urban/rural residence, vulnerability, marginalization and other variables.

GESI lens will be applied in design and execution of all activities, including awareness-raising, address GESI needs and capacities, focusing on Protection, SGBV and PSEAH and utilize SADDD monitoring framework, GESI analysis, and lessons learned to serve in

a feedback loop.

Action monitoring framework parameters will ensure participation of women's groups, LGBTIQ+, other excluded groups including disabled, girls, and adolescents in all stages of programme planning, implementation, and monitoring. Action will strengthen capacities of women and their organizations as key local actors in DRRM and in advocating for the specific needs, and priorities of different gender and age group. Gender Audits conducted in the first year will inform advocacy activities.

Activities will facilitate involvement of Departments of Women/ Social units, Women Rights organizations, socially excluded groups in Provincial and District Clusters, DDMCs, ward/ local DRM committees and teams, and for GESI Experts to be part of Rapid Assessment Teams. The proposal is coded 3 as per IASC Gender Age Marker (GAM Reference G786639355)

7. Logic of the Intervention

7.1 Principal objective

Enhanced disaster preparedness and strengthened response capacity of the provincial and municipal governments in Western region of Nepal to lead coordinated and inclusive emergency preparedness and response actions that mitigate risk of the imminent earthquakes and other urban disasters

7.1.2 Specific objective description

Enhanced understanding and shared realization of earthquake and urban risks amongst local and provincial stakeholders leading to increased efforts, capacities and skills at community, ward, municipal, cluster and provincial levels for planning and implementing inclusive earthquake and urban disaster preparedness and emergency response actions through effective coordination mechanisms is the aim.

Several scientific studies apprehend a major earthquake is due in western Nepal expected to be catastrophic with unprecedented impacts on life, livelihood, assets and structures. The 2015 earthquake is testament to the severe damage possible in the entire mid-hill region of which western region is equally if not more, susceptible due to underlying socio-economic vulnerabilities, preponderance of non-engineered housing stock compounded by poor infrastructure and lack of capacities to respond effectively. It also brought to the fore, the need for a robust response system, coordination mechanism, pre-positioning at all tiers of government for effective preparedness and efficient response.

The Constitution of Nepal delineates powers on all aspects of DRRM across the three tiers of government. However, capacities for disaster response are limited and centralized and as yet untested in Western Nepal for a large disaster of the scale anticipated. In this nascent federal context, elected provincial/ local representatives as well as bureaucratic structures are new to DRRM, and with other competing priorities, are yet to put in place plans, structures, systems and gain familiarity with cluster mechanisms that served Nepal well in the 2015 earthquake, which therefore could adversely impact coordinated and effective response.

Recognizing existing interlinkages between Sudurpaschim, Karnali and Lumbini Provinces and their major cities (Birendranagar, Nepalgunj/ Butwal) in terms of connectivity, interdependence for resource/ logistics and sharing of limited infrastructure and services, the Action aims to strengthen their provincial systems and formalise connections for a coordinated and unified response across the Western region. Further, the Action focuses on earthquake preparedness in Sudurpaschim province, with related activities covering its three municipalities- Dhangadi, Amagadhi and Jaya Prithvi- that are strategically important in terms of location, infrastructure and administrative services to establish and demonstrate a capacitated system and well-designed/ exercised coordination mechanisms for effective emergency response. Dhangadi is also the provincial headquarter, Amargadi and Jaya Prithvi- two high-risk municipalities in mid-hill region- serves other municipalities in hinterland, and is one of the most remote municipalities respectively.

To enhance preparedness in key urban municipalities of strategic importance (serving population beyond their jurisdiction, district or province), the action will work with Dhangadi (Wards 1, 2), Amargadi (Wards 5, 7), Nepalgunj (Wards 3, 7) to reduce risk due to imminent earthquakes and recurrent urban hazards like fires, and build their capacity to plan and prepare for effective response at both community and municipal levels. The Action will adopt an area-based approach to work in two densest wards of these urban municipalities to assess risks and demonstrate vulnerability and risk reduction measures for enhancing disaster preparedness.

Provincial and Municipal governments recognise that they need to dedicate human and financial resources for upscaling and sustainability of the activities.

Evidence based approach will be adopted, ensuring gender and socially inclusive engagement of the local and provincial authorities, who along with cluster leads/co-leads, private sector, vulnerable women, girls and socially excluded groups will be empowered to undertake necessary actions and risk informed decisions for effective and coordinated response.

7.2 Indicators

7.2 Indicator (1/3)

% reduction in the number of affected people (experienced, expected or modelled)

Definition

In comments box:

- 1) define "affected people" (injured, evacuated, relocated, with houses damaged/destroyed, deprived of livelihood, crops, etc.);
 - 2) provide absolute numbers;
 - 3) state if the reduction is experienced, expected or modelled.
-

Source and method of data collection

The action will conduct two Knowledge Attitude Practice (KAP) surveys, by using mobile based application, one at the beginning as baseline and another as end line. Trained enumerators will be mobilized for collecting data at provincial, municipal levels and at ward level with households. Both surveys will ensure a statistically significant representative sample size of at least 2,722 people from different backgrounds and at all levels.

KAP survey will be designed and planned to encompass the at-risk or vulnerable households, to assess/measure their experience on reduction in risk to earthquake and urban disasters. The data collected from KAP survey will be verified and triangulated based on the reflection meetings conducted before phasing out, with ward, municipal and provincial stakeholders. The action will conduct 8 ward level (one in each ward), 4 municipal and 3 provincial level reflection meetings.

Baseline**Target value**

Comments on the indicator, baseline and target value

Affected people are residents of 6 Action wards in 3 urban municipalities, identified as vulnerable or at-risk during hazard and vulnerability assessment, who have special needs, are marginalized or deprived of access to services and entitlements, exposure of higher level of risks or requiring specific attention for rescue/response.

Action activities will lead to their reduced risks, that will be assessed through KAP surveys, based on perception of people themselves, whether they have actually experienced reduction in their exposure with improved understanding of risks coupled with knowledge on how to respond to emergencies.

Based on ongoing Urban DP Action, 11.5% of population was assessed to be vulnerable, i.e., 4,655 can be initially estimated to be at-risk/vulnerable, i.e., affected. However, at start of action, assessment will help verify and derive absolute value, and the target would be 50% of identified vulnerable/at-risk population.

End-line KAP survey will include such vulnerable/ at-risk population and will be designed to collect data through both qualitative/ quantitative methods to capture experience in reduction of exposure/risk with target to reduce affected at-risk population (with pre-existing vulnerabilities) by 50%.

The findings of the KAP survey will be shared and verified through consultation and reflection meetings organized at ward, municipal and provincial levels.

7.2 Indicator (2/3)

% of beneficiaries reporting that humanitarian assistance is delivered in a safe, accessible, accountable and participatory manner

Definition

- 1) This indicator is more a process than an outcome indicator; DG ECHO wants to ensure that sufficient attention is given to protection mainstreaming to ensure corrective measures are identified and implemented when required during the action.
- 2) At reporting stage, mention also in the comment section the total number of beneficiaries interviewed.
- 3) Disaggregate the figures (% and absolute numbers) by sex, age and disability.

Source and method of data collection

The data will be collected using mobile data collection with an Open Data Kit (ODK) - based tool on six monthly basis using DG ECHO survey tool. Purposive samples will be taken for administering the survey. The sample of beneficiaries selected for the measurement will adequately represent all community subgroups (in terms of gender, age, disability, and diversity, such as community minorities). The eight mandatory questions suggested by ECHO will be included in the survey. Seven follow-up questions for operational and ethical considerations will also be considered in the identification of effective corrective actions/measures. ODK-based tool will be included in the Excel questionnaire into the database file to link it up with the calculation. The measurement of PM KOI will be embedded within existing M&E processes.

The data will be collected in every 6 months through support and mobilization of Nepal Red Cross Society and other implementation partners.

Baseline**Target value**

Comments on the indicator, baseline and target value

The target is set as 75% of the direct beneficiaries reporting that humanitarian assistance and/or services by the Action were delivered in a safe, accessible, accountable and participatory manner.

The survey will be the means to ensure that different interventions of the Action met quality of standards of protection mainstreaming with sufficient attention given to all four elements of protection mainstreaming including that corrective actions/measures are identified during period surveys and implemented to enhance the Action's process, approach and outputs.

7.2 Indicator (3/3)

Custom

Definition

% increase in expenditure on disaster preparedness from non-project sources which is guided by the relevant DRM plans

Source and method of data collection

Annual fiscal year expenditure (and plans) of the municipality and provinces along with documentation of expenditures (and budgetary allocation) of previous fiscal year cycle and new cycle, will be the base to measure the difference or increase in expenditure on Disaster Preparedness measures by the provinces and municipalities .

This will not count relief related expenditure as such expenditures are dependent on disaster occurrences. Information and data will be collected by the field team, during the process of formulation of fiscal year plan of the provinces and municipalities (April - May of every year) and during the reporting of final expenditure (on conclusion of fiscal year)

Baseline

Target value

0.00

2.00

Comments on the indicator, baseline and target value

The percentage figure refers to the increase in financial expenditure (as proportion of total budget) of the provinces and municipalities as monitored by their periodic (annual) financial plans and budgets towards disaster preparedness actions which are as prioritized by the DRM Plans. Based on the assessment of current allocation towards, the allocation varies from 0.24% to 5% of their annual budget (Only Dhangadi 5%, and rest of the 3 less than 2% - Nepalgunj and Amargadi less than 1%), while expenditures are far less.

So, Action sees opportunity to advocate for increase in DRR spending by municipalities, with current allocation being at least 2% of their total annual budget as per guidelines provided by the National Planning Commission. Baseline is 0 at the beginning of Action period, as the % increase in expenditure on disaster preparedness which is guided by DM plans is not witnessed- with allocations and expenditures being ad-hoc. Before end of the project duration, target value of 2% increase (as proportion of total expenditure) towards disaster preparedness will be advocated with the respective stakeholders to prioritize DRM in their regular planning, budgeting and development process.

7.3 Results

7.3 Result (1/5)

Shared Understanding/ Anticipation for managing earthquake and urban risks

Sector

Disaster Risk Reduction / Disaster Preparedness

Subsectors

Information, communication and public awareness

Other (DRR / DP)

Estimated total amount

413.033,08

Result 1 - Indicator 1

Type / Subsector

Information, communication and public awareness

Indicator

Number of people reached through Information, Education and Communication on DRR

Definition

Information, Education and Communication: community-led awareness campaigns, development and distribution of awareness materials, media campaigns; peer-to-peer awareness, workshops, exhibitions, training of teachers and pupils. In case of mass media campaigns provide explanation on how actual reach was estimated.

Source and method of data collection

KAP survey will be led by local & provincial govt, & commence via meetings with key provincial, local authorities, to identify knowledge gaps on preparedness, needs, problems & barriers to plan & implement interventions for multi-hazard preparedness. Provincial & local authorities leading the KAP survey will be oriented about its importance for implementation of risk communication IEC tools & initiation of capacity building initiatives & consultation workshops, methodology & tools. Digital survey will use KOBO tools through enumerators from local ward selected upon consultation with the ward disaster management committee.

The KAP expert will prepare Baseline KAP survey report capturing existing level of understanding level on disaster risks, across thematic areas & IEC for outreach. In addition, gaps identified from simulation exercises, availability of IEC from current & previous actions, consultation meetings during assessments will guide IEC design. This analysis of IEC materials will be carried out during

implementation of proposed action. To reach wider audience & for ownership, federal & provincial ministries along with local level will lead development & dissemination of IECs. Number of people outreach through various IEC means will be documented through various means: i. attendance sheets of each dissemination events (2 events at provincial & 4 events at municipal level), ii. attendance sheet of each street theatre (16 events at ward level), iii. record & report of print material distribution, which will be a continuous process through door-to-door visits, community meetings etc iv. record book of the volunteers mobilized for outreach at the household level, which will be a continuous process.

Through mobilization of trained enumerators, end-line KAP survey will document coverage & relevance of IEC materials produced that will also be means of verification for data on outreach collected through various means.

Baseline**Target value**

Comments on the indicator, baseline and target value

Baseline KAP data, learnings from simulation exercises, consultation meetings for hazard assessments coupled with analysis of existing IEC will help tailor IEC materials.

Multiple outreach medium- radio, volunteers, print/audio, street theatres, murals and social media including events will innovatively target various groups. Entire population of Action wards are beneficiaries- this activity will outreach 70% of population, i.e. 31,559 people in 8 wards of 4 municipalities. Instructions for use of IECs through various means with a system developed to report IEC material distribution will record progress. For mass media - radio programs, outreach is estimated based on baseline survey conducted by BBC World that 91% of Nepal's population listened to the radio and is considered as preferred source of information. End-line KAP will capture relevance/effectiveness of IEC and the coverage of various IEC activities, rify the results and derive conclusions.

Result 1 - Indicator 2

Type / Subsector

Custom

Definition

% of population benefitted through Hazard and risk assessment mapping and impact modelling

Source and method of data collection

Data will be collected through available secondary sources, as well as primary data through series of consultation meetings at the ward level in all 6 wards. 10 focus group discussions/meetings are planned in each ward, targeting communities from different backgrounds and needs. Data will be analysed and presented through numbers of maps prepared on past hazards and entailed losses with potential future hazards, including mapping of vulnerability, which helps identify population benefitted from the assessment/ mapping.

One-time Rapid Vulnerability Assessment (RVA) will be conducted of 4,000 houses in 6 wards through mobilization of digital champions with technical background, using mobile based application. Output of the RVA overlaid in the GIS map to further enhance the maps with primary data that will help demarcating vulnerable structures and access choke points during fire and earthquake incidents.

Different types of maps produced, database of the buildings collected through RVA on fire and earthquake, attendance sheet of the consultation meetings for data collection and assessment will be the means of verification. The collated data and produced maps will be validated through dissemination events organized at respective ward and municipal levels.

Baseline**Target value**

Comments on the indicator, baseline and target value

Ward level hazard and vulnerability maps, past events and losses, overlaid with secondary data on geo-location of critical infrastructure, vulnerable households, and rapid vulnerability assessment, etc. prepared through inclusive participatory process will be means of verification. Number of consultation meetings are determined by the level of interactions needed to prepare comprehensive maps, and will be disseminated to the community. Attendance sheets of these mapping and dissemination events are means of verification. Structural assessment using RVA tool will cover 4,000 buildings (about 48.5%) in 6 wards identifying individual building at multi-hazard risks. These activities target 75% (30,357 people) of the total population, who are at various levels of risk in 6 wards in 3 municipalities. Mapping of hazards and interaction with critical infrastructure, vulnerable population and enterprises/livelihood is key to make the communities and key stakeholders realize their risk.

Result 1 - Indicator 3

Type / Subsector

Custom

Definition

% increase of population and authorities with enhanced understanding of earthquake and urban risks

Source and method of data collection

Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) survey will be conducted at the beginning and end of the project. The expert will be engaged for framing questionnaire for the KAP that captures the increase in understanding of earthquake and urban risks of the population and stakeholders. Trained enumerators will be mobilized, who will use mobile based application to collect data of statistically significant sample size. The baseline and end-line KAP survey reports will be the means of verification, that will include the analysis to derive the findings.

The reports of the simulation exercises will be the means of verification, that will further support in validating the results of KAP survey.

Baseline**Target value**

0,00

20,00

Comments on the indicator, baseline and target value

KAP survey will be conducted at the beginning of project at provincial and municipal and at ward levels with households, to understand % of population with knowledge on risks and vulnerability. Trained enumerators mobilized in wards with mobile-based e-survey forms will conduct surveys of statistically significant representative sample of 2,722 people at household level and stakeholders at ward, municipality, district and provinces.

End-line KAP will be structured and conducted of similar sample size, also targeting at-risk population, to assess increase in % of stakeholders with enhanced understanding of earthquake and urban risks. Target is for a 25% increase in knowledge of population about disaster risk from baseline. Similarly, Action intends that at least 20% more population will have better understanding/attitude towards risk and over 15% more population will have commitment to bring knowledge to practice.

These values will be reassessed after baseline KAP.

Result 1 - Activity 1

Short description (for the logframe)

Building shared understanding of risk amongst the stakeholders at different levels based on agreed earthquake scenarios led by Provincial DRRM Focal points and Municipal DRRM focal points

Detailed description (if needed)

Initiation of the action at the provincial levels would focus on building a shared understanding of the earthquake risk and its possible impact amongst all stakeholders through:

- 3 provincial level potential impact scenarios developed under Provincial leadership using readily available information will serve as basis for building a shared understanding among all key provincial stakeholders and Action municipalities right at inception stage. This will build on the earthquake scenarios underpinning the HCT Contingency planning for earthquakes in Western Region.
- Kick-off meetings will be led by Provincial and Municipal leadership, organized with participation of the provincial, relevant district and municipal stakeholders to build a shared understanding of the earthquake risk and impact including through table-top exercises along with the extant status of resources and mechanisms in place. The kick-off workshops will be organized in coordination with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Law (MOIAL) at the provincial level with technical inputs from United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office (UNRCO) utilized.
- Outreach by the Action led by Provincial DRRM Focal Points (MOIAL) right at commencement at highest possible level in each of the Action Provinces (i.e. at Office of Chief Minister) and Municipalities (i.e., Office of Mayor) on the basis of the initial impact scenarios will communicate gravity of the earthquake threat and to seek their engagement and involvement in the project inception events conducted at provincial and municipal levels, as well as at key stages of the Action. This will empower the Action to mobilise necessary participation at all required levels in the activities.
- These inception meetings led by Provincial and Municipal leadership will also highlight the learning from current urban ECHO funded Action on Urban Preparedness in response to HIP 2019, (referred hereafter as Urban DP Project- 2019) on the various urban disaster risks and vulnerabilities in relation to earthquake, fire (and climatic hazards such as floods) which will have high impact on the population especially in the urban areas.
- This shared understanding about risk will also be built in subsequent activities in Result 1, using further detailed and primary data based impact modelling conducted for the target urban municipalities based on the risk and vulnerability assessments carried out, that will guide Action activities on emergency preparedness and risk reduction and their demonstration for upscaling of the initiatives by the provincial government in other municipalities.

All subactivities in this Activity and all other activities under this Result will be implemented in a COVID-cognizant manner, ensuring safe physical distancing, use of masks, minimizing gatherings, ensuring availability of easy handwashing/ sanitizing facilities at all events. In event of lockdown or movement restrictions, all activities will be readjusted as per Contingency plan (Section 7.6) to ensure that they can be continued in a manner that is most appropriate to the local context, including via virtual means.

Result 1 - Activity 2

Short description (for the logframe)

Risk and Vulnerability assessment at local levels, using available information, led by Municipal DRRM focal points

Detailed description (if needed)

With rapid, often haphazard, urbanization & development not cognizant of underlying socio-economic vulnerabilities & hazards, there is increasing accumulation of risk, amplifying disaster impacts. It is crucial to help communities & local authorities realize the risks-hazards, socio-economic vulnerabilities & capacities- to prepare for, & mitigate, to reduce impacts. EU Urban DP Action-2019 demonstrated that joint consultations with local/ward authorities & communities including vulnerable population helped them understand root causes of hazards, their underlying risks & vulnerabilities. Similarly, reinforcing communities' knowledge & experiences on past incidents & endured losses has also helped in realization about risk & impacts on life, property & livelihood activities. Building on these learnings, Action will support Action municipalities to:

- Collate available data under leadership of Provincial & Municipal DRRM focal points on past hazards, Sex Age Disability Diversity, Disaggregated Data (SADDD), vulnerable population, GESI Analysis & Profiles, capacity assessment of critical infrastructure, potential threats, particularly earthquake & fire, as entry point. BIPAD portal, DRM SAP, Local Disaster Risk & Climate Resilient Plans, social security fund database & COVID relief recipients etc will be some information sources. Using this information, a series of consultation meetings will be carried out with communities, guided by pre-defined checklist agreed with wards & local authorities, to include additional data on local hazards, vulnerable population, economic losses & indigenous knowledge.
- Action will under lead of municipal social welfare division identify vulnerable population, based on GESI & leaving no-one behind, in a participatory manner to help build understanding of GESI, empowerment approaches & processes related to vulnerable groups. Vulnerability will hinge on access to entitlements, physical abilities, locational factors & other social, economic & other factors such as defined by Common Framework for GESI in Nepal- Dalits, Janajati, other marginalized groups, sexual & gender minorities, person with disabilities, person without citizenship, people living in remote areas, disaster affected population, elderly, single women, child headed households & HIV/AIDs affected persons. Pre-existing societal structures, norms, discriminatory & harmful practices may also create or contribute to heightened risk for some people.
- All information will be cross-referenced (verified) by Municipality with existing databases municipal/ district/ national (municipality, fire brigade, DAO, DDMC, DEOC)EOC. Where available, this would link with existing vulnerability-based social protection system & ongoing pilot initiatives on forecast-based Anticipation, & information can be easily & quickly customised or adopted by local governments for creating required beneficiary lists to launch tailored/ timely emergency responses.
- Building on primary & secondary data, geolocations will be collected under Municipal lead through mobilization of community digital volunteers/champions from wards, who will be trained further institutionalized as champions for similar initiatives within/ beyond the action. GIS based maps will be prepared with information of areas at risk & vulnerable populations.

In current urban DP Action, Municipalities have led this process & replication is demonstrated in Bhimeshwor, Bharatpur. Local authorities are provided at least two days a week by IMO for sustainability, & lead replication in vulnerable wards, & uploading into BIPAD portal of NDRRMA. Kobo tools on geo referencing for past hazards, vulnerable locations, capacities, exposure are used by local level to lead replication in at least 2 wards with technical support from current action.

Result 1 - Activity 3

Short description (for the logframe)

Rapid assessment of accumulated risks in the urban municipalities using innovative tools and methods, led by the Municipal DRRM Focal points

Detailed description (if needed)

The action will under firm leadership of Municipalities conduct rapid assessment of most vulnerable areas with risk concentration, as identified through the participatory mapping process involving all the GESI common framework groups in the target urban municipalities. This is an essential support to municipalities to identify urban facilities / activities / buildings which are at risk, or pose a threat to populations in the vicinity, as a first step to understand accumulated risk and thereby take informed actions to address these risks including through policy measures.

The Rapid Vulnerability Assessment (RVA) tool, that is implemented in current Urban DP-2019 Action, will be used to conduct structural assessment of the buildings using predefined parameters against multiple hazards, including climatic hazards. The rapid visual assessment tools that exist currently are for post-damage buildings, whereas this tool is to identify pre-existing vulnerabilities that pose risks.

- This mobile based RVA tool will under leadership of Municipality be further enhanced through high resolution drone images replacing satellite imageries to provide better clarity and finer details for data collection and for further analysis on vehicular access during emergency (fire, earthquake), evacuation routes, open spaces, distance from flood plains or landslide prone or other hazard-prone areas.
- As illustrated in the data analysis undertaken for this HIP (Annex 4.4) fire is the most frequent hazard in urban areas with short circuit due to old wiring and poor electrification being a major cause, the situation is exacerbated due to unchecked mixed use of spaces including for providing critical services specially hospitals, lack of capacity and preparedness of the critical service providers, petrol pumps, Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) depots / dealers, etc. Hence the RVA tool will under leadership of Municipality be upgraded by integrating fire risk assessment modules for assessing preparedness status of buildings and infrastructure at high-risk areas, based on the fire risk assessment checklists developed under the ongoing Action.
- From the cadre of local champions, those with desired technical background will be trained and mobilized under Municipal lead for data collection using RVA. The outputs from RVA will be overlaid in web GIS maps, identifying structures either at risk or posing risk to surrounding buildings, along with areas with accessibility issues. Similarly, community infrastructures (water supplies, fire brigade, hospitals, open spaces, schools) along with places where impact of disaster could be amplified will be mapped (schools, petrol stations, storages of inflammable materials, LPG depots / dealers, public and mass assembly spaces). Digital champions will be mobilized to collect district level data (includes 3 provincial headquarters), on critical infrastructure and public buildings, connectivity,

Primary role of this activity is to help understand risk through participatory and scientific approach so that it can be prioritized and responded to accordingly, built on a strong foundation for evidence based advocacy in encouraging municipal investments for improving infrastructure and formulation of risk informed policies. Municipalities can formulate informed policies and implement necessary measures to address risks posed to, or posed by facilities assessed if belonging to private sector, eg: fuel depots/ schools/ hospitals/ petrol pumps. For government owned facilities, these measures could be incorporated into their own plans and budgets.

To ensure this is not stand-alone, Action will handover mobile based application and dashboard, whereabouts of the trained enumerators and skilled manpower to MEOC & its IT officer with engineers from local level trained on use of these RVA tools so that it will be continued beyond action & replicated. (Annex 7.1 gives more details)

Result 1 - Activity 4

Short description (for the logframe)

Comprehensive mapping of the risk, vulnerability and extant capacities at municipal level for updating the earthquake impact modelling with primary data, led by Municipal DRRM focal points

Detailed description (if needed)

At the provincial level, the potential impact scenarios will be updated using available scientific information as well as the contextual status, extant mechanisms and systems in place, also using approaches from similar impact modeling by GeoHazard International (GHI), and data from the INFORM initiative led by UN RCO. This will drive the provincial level tabletop simulation exercises under Result 2.

At the Action municipalities, building on the database generated of past disasters, indigenous knowledge, vulnerable populations through the participatory process and the rapid vulnerability assessment, a more detailed risk assessment will superimpose the collated data to identify who & what are at most risk & where. Areas with higher accumulation of risk will be identified through this comprehensive assessment for necessary support through non-structural and structural mitigation measures for disaster preparedness & risk reduction in Result 4. An overarching SADD monitoring framework complemented by necessary GESI Analysis will inform support from Action to the provincial, municipal governments on development of policies, regulations, plans and procedures. Specifically this activity will:

- Assess the extant capacities of the communities, local, district and provincial government in responding to disaster, delivering services, mobilizing human and other resources, including mapping of vulnerable groups, to understand the extent of preparedness. Capacities could be in the form of social capital, pre-existing groups and networks, physical facilities, information hub service delivery mechanisms and critical infrastructure that can be extended or mobilized during any emergency. Both structural and nonstructural service delivery capacity of the critical infrastructure like hospitals (hub and other) will be further assessed based on the collected data. The existing capacities so identified will also be mapped and overlaid to derive comprehensive understanding of risk, vulnerability and capacities.
- Based on the comprehensive mapping and risk assessment, the impact modelling for the earthquake scenario will be further updated for strengthening shared understanding of the risk from provincial down to local levels and vice versa.

The local, district and provincial level stakeholders will lead the process of risk, vulnerability and capacity assessment, engaging representatives from GESI and vulnerable groups throughout, leading to mapping of risks and vulnerabilities and updating the impact modelling. The engagement will also help in advocating for upscaling (& replication) of this process for creating an informed/shared understanding of risk and need for enhanced preparedness for an imminent earthquake in Western provinces, or fire in urban areas and other climatic hazards.

These and other activities in this result focussing on assessment will adopt all applicable systems and software being used by the NDRRMA for their ownership and institutionalization including at local levels & are easily accessible, replicable & affordable. NDRRMA is promoting digital tools such as GIS maps, choropleth / raster maps in documenting any assessment findings, and are compatible to its BIPAD portal. Open quake software has been used for mapping and documenting seismic hazards. BIPAD Portal uses Geoserver software in backend to host spatial / GIS data and files supported are raster files and vector maps, also has uploaded Durham produced seismic and landslides assessment reports. Action will build on this as discussed with NDRRMA during proposal development.

Result 1 - Activity 5

Short description (for the logframe)

Building foundation for increasing awareness and understanding of stakeholders on exposure, vulnerability, response and risk reduction through processes led by Municipal DRRM focal points

Detailed description (if needed)

The action intends to conduct a baseline survey under Municipal/ Provincial lead to understand the existing knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) at provincial, district, local, wards and community level with focus on earthquake and fire preparedness along with other recurrent climatic disaster events.

- KAP Survey findings will be used for identifying specific gaps in understanding of earthquake and fire risks, for tailoring Information, Education and Communication (IEC) tools and approaches, for different target groups to enhance their understanding of disaster risk including accessing services by vulnerable groups pre, during and after disaster, considering diversity in terms of age, disability, gender, location, and vulnerability.
- Hazard, risk and vulnerability assessment maps will be used for outreach and dissemination activities at household, communities and to stakeholders at various levels. Innovative technologies will be used, based on communication advancement, to disseminate information using social media platforms. Community-led awareness campaigns will be organized to effectively outreach and disseminate information using multiple channels like Toilets Organizations (TLO), women's and socially excluded groups and youth groups, including people with disabilities and those without literacy, utilizing print materials, videos and hoardings, radio jingles as appropriate.
- Private sector entities will be engaged through their sensitization on emergency preparedness and response and to position them for coordinated response, alongside local and provincial governments. Particularly, Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI) and its sub-committees, private schools and hospitals associations, will be tapped to ensure

preparedness to mitigate their own risk as well as extend their services for emergency response. The action will also conduct the endline survey to assess the changes in knowledge, attitude and practices of the stakeholders.

- Internalizing the learnings from current Urban DP action identification of vulnerable populations will be carried out through multiple ways, including from available data about population receiving social security support (single women, PWDs, Senior Citizens, LGBTIQ). Geo location will also be mapped for vulnerable groups for assessing risks and hazards they are exposed to. Participatory mapping will be carried out in coordination with TLOs, women groups to identify poverty pockets, urban squatters, Dalits and marginalized community, rental population concentration along with floating population. Ward level authorities will be part of the mapping exercise and municipal authorities will be regularly provided with updates on the process and the progress on regular basis. To identify the marginalized and daily wage earners, COVID-19 (relief supported by local level) data will also be taken into consideration. After the mapping, final categories of vulnerable population will be endorsed at ward and municipal level.
- Vulnerable population or their representatives/umbrella organizations (senior citizens, PWDs, single women) will be invited for discussions starting from inception meeting to simulations. Meetings at community level will be carried out ensuring that voices and issues of the most vulnerable are considered while preparing plans and guidelines. Further, capacity building initiatives will also ensure participation of the vulnerable population mapped by the action. As mobility in the urban population is high the timings of the meeting will be such to ensure their participation, or by coordinating with umbrella organizations to discuss during their regular meetings. Similarly, religious gatherings for old age, skilled development centre for PWDs, informal education classes will be used to reach out urban poor and vulnerable population.

7.3 Result (2/5)

Systems Strengthening at Provincial and Local levels (Coordination Mechanisms, Plans)

Sector

Disaster Risk Reduction / Disaster Preparedness

Subsectors

Contingency planning and preparedness for response

Other (DRR / DP)

Capacity building (DRR / DP)

Estimated total amount

579.925,56

Result 2 - Indicator 1

Type / Subsector

Contingency planning and preparedness for response

Indicator

Number of people covered by early action/contingency plans

Definition

Plans must be developed, tested and have provisions for maintenance.

To include opportunities for anticipation, pre-emptive and early action (e.g. evacuation and shelter in advance of impact; scalability of service to respond to increase in demand; etc.)

Action triggered by plan has to be coordinated, timely and effective.

Source and method of data collection

The minutes of the meetings conducted at the municipal and provincial levels will be the means of verification for engagement of stakeholder in inclusive process to formulate three types of plans: Municipal Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (EPRP), Provincial and Municipal Relief Guideline and Municipal Business Continuity Plan (BCP). The minutes will be prepared and recorded through mobilization of field staff. At least 2 meetings will be conducted for each of the plans. First meeting will be for orientation and data collection, and next one for dissemination of draft to collect inputs.

Experts with relevant background will be engaged in facilitating the meetings along with framing and formulating of these plans through a participatory process. The final report or document as plans / guidelines submitted by the experts, and formal record of concurrence of the respective governments on it will also be the means of verification of the output of the result.

Baseline

Target value

0,00

45.084,00

Comments on the indicator, baseline and target value

EPRP will be prepared based on risk, vulnerability and capacity assessment in 8 Action wards that will provide a base for preparation of municipal EPRP in 4 working municipalities with engagement of municipal, ward officials, vulnerable groups, private sectors, etc. Action will support 3 provinces and 4 municipalities in developing respective Relief Standards for effective response after an incident. Both will serve entire population at municipal and provincial level.

To ensure continued delivery of critical services after an emergency, the Action will support in preparing BCP of the 3 provinces and 3 municipalities. BCP will be a guiding document for the municipalities for continuing function immediately after a disaster.

The ownership of the municipality ensured through their engagement in the formulation process so that it could be further updated based on the changing context and needs. The plans and meeting minutes recorded will be the means of verification.

Result 2 - Indicator 2

Type / Subsector

Custom

Definition

Number of Municipal and provincial EOCs operational with minimal functional benchmark

Source and method of data collection

The Action will support in preparation of Standard Operation Procedure (SOP) of the five EOCs at municipal and provincial levels, based on the standardized framework. The SOP document, one for each EOC, will be the means of verification for the minimal functional benchmark.

The Action will support organize 1 training events, for the key stakeholder or human resources at the provincial and municipal level on operation of EOC, procedures, coordination systems and tools. The report will be prepared by the Action team, to record participation and proceedings of the training event including pre and post training assessment that will be analysed to assess the capacity development of the human resources.

The on-site inspection reports on the physical set-up and the logistics of the EOCs, based on the checklist, and concurred by the respective municipal or provincial stakeholders will be the record verifying establishment of operational EOCs.

Baseline

0,00

Target value

5,00

Comments on the indicator, baseline and target value

Action will support establish/strengthen 3 municipal (Dhangadi, Nepalgunj, Amargadi) and 2 provincial (Sudur Paschim, Lumbini) EOCs. SOP of 3 MEOCs will be prepared outlining roles and responsibilities to undertake actions pre, during and post disaster and operationalization of existing SOP of 2 PEOC including information management with establishing linkages between EOCs at provincial, district and local level. Relevant officials will be trained on information management, procedures for operation and coordination. Five SOP documents and one joint training report will be means of verification. On-site inspection and field verification reports on physical set-up of EOCs against government set benchmarks will be means of verification.

Municipal and Provincial EOCs will be established or strengthened as coordination and control center for disaster preparedness and emergency response with innovative systems for surveillance, two-way communication and information management.

Result 2 - Indicator 3

Type / Subsector

Custom

Definition

Number of Provincial Earthquake Response Framework (PERF) formulated based on the earthquake risk scenario and anticipated impacts

Source and method of data collection

The Action will prepare reports documenting series of simulations exercises conducted to derive inputs and validate output in the form of Provincial ERFs.

The draft PERF will be based on the mid-line simulation exercise conducted with injects developed based on seismic impact modeling derived in Result 1. The expert will be engaged to develop the inject and conduct and document this simulation exercise at the intra-provincial level. The report on inject and mid-line simulation exercise will be prepared for process documentation and the findings will be integrated to draft PERF.

The expert will be engaged to prepare draft PERF and further finalize it through consultative meetings with the stakeholders at respective provincial and municipal levels. The minutes of these consultative meetings will be part of the process documentation.

The final PERF document of each province will be the means of verification and will be used for end-line inter-provincial simulation exercise. The report on end-line simulation will validate the effectiveness of the PERF.

Baseline

0,00

Target value

3,00

Comments on the indicator, baseline and target value

Action will update this initial impact models, based on the primary and secondary data collected at municipal and district levels, and develop scenarios/injects for conducting mid-line simulation exercise at intra-provincial level - one event in 1 province with engagement of stakeholders at provincial, district and municipal levels (Provincial Disaster Management Executive Committees, DAO, Municipal DMC).

Findings and learning of mid-line survey will be derived for drafting PERFs for respective 3 provinces. The draft PREF will be finalized through consultative process. It will be base for conducting end-line inter-provincial simulation - 1 event with engagement of stakeholders: 3 provinces, 5 districts and 4 municipalities. The report on injects and scenarios developed and post-simulation reports, debrief notes and photographic evidence will be the means of verification. The report of the end line simulation itself will validate the quality and effectiveness of PERFs.

Result 2 - Activity 1

Short description (for the logframe)

Experiential formulation of Provincial Earthquake Response framework led by Provincial Government, based on the shared understanding of earthquake risk scenario and anticipated impacts

Detailed description (if needed)

This activity to help provinces (and local levels) implement coordinated response will integrate lessons learned from the 2015 earthquake response through Provincial Earthquake Response Framework (PERF) formulation, which highlight need for a coordinated engagement of multiple state and non-state stakeholders, pre-defined clarity on coordination, command and decision making, mobilization and reporting including information management mechanisms in place. The Action will put required level of focus in ensuring that these and other prerequisites for effective response as gleaned from various learnings documentation available (as in Annex 4.1.1) guide formulation of PERF as well as through specific injects into the simulation exercises. Accordingly the Action will:

- Conduct, in initial months of Action, tabletop simulation exercises led by province govt, engaging the key stakeholders within the provincial structure in Sudurpaschim, Karnali and Lumbini Province and respective districts, cluster leads/co-leads, critical service providers (hub hospitals, airports) and private sector entities, and at target municipalities. This will expose the stakeholders to the current level of preparedness for an imminent earthquake, helping identify gaps and areas for training, capacity development as detailed in Activity 2 of this Result, setting a firm foundation for the provincial (and local) governments to lead earthquake preparedness and response. This simulation will also serve as a baseline for the Action, to build upon.
 - The needs assessment conducted at provincial level (Annex 4.1.2) highlighted necessity of an effective mechanism for structured disaster response. To that end, for formulation of a functional provincial earthquake response framework with engagement of the provincial (and district, municipal) stakeholders a second round of tabletop, intra-provincial simulations will be led by Province govt in 3 provinces, this time engaging all stakeholders from provincial, district and local levels (of Action municipalities) in one combined exercise, within the first year, building on the capacity development initiatives. To derive a realistic earthquake response framework, injects for simulation led by Province will be based on seismic impact modeling derived in Result 1 that will serve to build further understanding of stakeholders on status of humanitarian architecture, role of various stakeholders and critical service providers (hospital, fire brigade, security forces), who will be engaged during the crisis, their extant knowledge, capacities and key gaps.
 - The simulation will also help Provinces to understand the federal-provincial interlinkages including need for inter-provincial coordination for pooling of resources and sharing of services, etc. UNRCO and NDRRMA along with other key stakeholders working in the provinces will be part of simulation exercise to provide necessary technical inputs. At the target municipalities, the simulations will help to understand urban disaster preparedness in the areas where accumulation of earthquake (and fire) risks and vulnerabilities are higher.
 - A technical working group at provinces representing provincial disaster management committee including private sector federation and representatives from women's group and excluded groups to finalise / endorse the Provincial Earthquake Response Framework under Provincial Govt lead, which will be a living document that is continuously updated based on increased understanding of risk and extant capacities throughout Action period. It will also be used for an end line western region simulation by Provincial Government across all 3 provinces. This could serve as a basis for formulation of the Provincial Disaster Response Framework incorporating other hazards in future, and also guide cluster level contingency planning processes as needed at the local level.
-

Result 2 - Activity 2

Short description (for the logframe)

Capacity building of the key stakeholders on Disaster Risk Management for better preparedness and coordinated response led by Municipal and Provincial Governments

Detailed description (if needed)

Key gaps identified in the needs assessment conducted at provincial and local level emphasized limited skills and understanding on DRRM including emergency response, GESI responsive preparedness and response, humanitarian response architecture / standards, which is identified as a constraint for delivering efficient and effective assistance by the government after a crisis, including life saving actions and relief. Municipal and provincial governments are yet to fully internalize DRRM, so it is not prioritized amongst other competing needs. So, a series of capacity building activities under provincial and municipal govt leadership will be undertaken for municipal and provincial stakeholders, to strengthen their understanding and capacities for preparedness system to ensure effective response for the imminent earthquake.

- Hence through this activity, the Action led by Provincial Govts will build capacity of, and continuously engage with relevant stakeholders: Provincial Disaster Management Committees (PDMC) i.e. Provincial Disaster Management Executive Committee chaired by Minister MoAL, District DMC, Local DMC and Ward DMC, DRR thematic committees, women and socially excluded groups to build their capacity on different aspects including but not limited to: disaster management and response planning; their roles and responsibilities; coordination mechanism and information management, Core Humanitarian Standards (CHS) and SPHERE Standards for harmonizing humanitarian standards GESI, SGBV and Protection across the sectoral and cluster planning and implementation.
- Trainings undertaken by the Action under Provincial and Municipal lead will build upon available training materials, eg: the manual prepared by the CHS Alliance, with contextual modification based on the hazards, vulnerabilities and risk identified through the participatory consultation at various levels. Similarly, as USAID through IOM has already conducted training of the key stakeholders in the Action areas on DRM, the activity will aim to supplement their efforts with emphasis on preparedness for better response. Private sector focused awareness raising activities sensitizing them on disaster preparedness and their potential roles and responsibility in emergency response would also contribute to enhancing coordination.
- In addition, a series of orientation sessions led by Provincial and Municipal governments will be carried out to sensitize and orient the stakeholders on prevalent DRRM act, policies, bylaws, strategic action plans and the learnings from 2015 earthquake across various aspects including: i) how the health sector response was effective, across the Kathmandu valley and elsewhere successfully managing the massive case loads and also averting dreaded diseases outbreaks; ii) effectiveness of and need for community first responders; and several other areas as elaborated in Lessons Learned Annex 4.1.1. These capacity building efforts will contribute to build a holistic understanding of disaster risk reduction and management, inclusive practices and need for coordinated actions.

Further capacity building will be part of other Action activities to address gaps identified in the baseline simulation through continuous engagement of the stakeholders at the local, district and provincial levels in the planning and implementation of the activities with vertical and horizontal linkages among different coordination committees /platforms. All subactivities in this Activity and all other activities under this Result will be implemented in a COVID-cognizant manner, ensuring safe physical distancing, use of masks, minimizing gatherings, handwashing/ sanitizing facilities at all events. In event of lockdown or movement restrictions, activities will be readjusted and implemented as per Contingency plan (Section 7.6) in a manner that is most appropriate to the local context, including via virtual means.

Result 2 - Activity 3

Short description (for the logframe)

Supporting under Provincial and municipal leadership, the provincial and municipal system strengthening for enhancing effectiveness of humanitarian preparedness and response architecture

Detailed description (if needed)

With provincial and municipal systems untrained and largely under-prepared, the Action will under Provincial and municipal leadership support strengthening of provincial (and municipal) humanitarian preparedness and response architecture as below:

The Action will help in building a robust understanding of the HCT Earthquake Contingency Plan for earthquake preparedness under leadership of under Provincial and municipal govt agencies, in collaboration with relevant national agencies by engaging with relevant stakeholders, cluster members, private sectors and GESI organizations, along with technical support for its contextualization and implementation at the provincial, district and the local levels. This Earthquake Contingency Plan for the possible earthquake scenario in the Western region is being formulated by HCT in coordination with NDRRMA for possible earthquake scenario in the Western region based on the impact modeling done by Durham University, detailing what the HCT will bring to bear in support of the Government. Whereas, the Provincial Earthquake Response Framework (Activity 1) will serve as a replica of National Disaster Response Framework with focus on earthquake scenario at province level, and help predefine specific roles and responsibilities, decision making process, identify trigger including time bound major action and interventions, mobilization of internal and external capacities and resources including from federal government and international community. Thus it will take advantage of any prior existing plans and tools including the provincial earthquake contingency plan. (Annex 7.2 describes this further)

Cluster Mechanisms : The Action will support Provincial leadership in building further understanding among key stakeholders in the 3 provinces, of the cluster mechanisms and associated coordination and communication channels along with the expected roles and responsibilities of these key stakeholders and critical service providers at different tiers of the government , for its smooth operation for an effective response after any crisis.

Needs Assessment: Keeping abreast and based on outcome of discussions between NRCS and NDRRMA on Assessment and Coordination Team (ACT) in the federal context, the Action aims to equip the provincial, sectoral authorities, municipal and ward level representatives with necessary knowledge and skills required for needs assessments ie Initial Rapid Assessment (IRA) to be carried out in the aftermath of any disaster events. Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) supported by Danish Red Cross (DRC) Action has digitized IRA tools via a mobile application. This activity will support NRCS in conducting trainings as necessary for rolling out the IRA covering various aspects of needs assessment, through scenario based exercises for collection of data, mock demonstration of using IRA in emergency settings, process to be followed after the collection of the data and sharing of data by humanitarian stakeholders. Special focus would be laid on leadership and representation of women and socially excluded groups in DRM committees and teams at ward, municipal and provincial levels.

Relief Guidelines: Aligned with national guidelines and based on learnings from on-going Urban DP- 2019 Action, this action will, under provincial and municipalities' leadership, support to formulate disaster relief standards and guidelines, as well as streamlining

regulatory provisions to ensure that humanitarian relief and services are provided to all regardless of citizenship, land ownership, gender identities and disability and that the ultra-poor and socially excluded get ID cards under social safety nets especially in times of disasters / crisis. Special focus would be on capacity development and facilitation of leadership and representation of women and socially excluded groups in DRM committees and teams at ward, municipal and provincial levels.

Result 2 - Activity 4

Short description (for the logframe)

Business Continuity Plan formulated under Provincial and Municipal leadership for the Provincial administration and municipalities to serve their citizens and the hinterland

Detailed description (if needed)

Lessons learnt from the ongoing COVID-19 crisis highlighted the need for continuity of administrative functions and delivery of critical services by all levels of government at the time of crisis. It is imperative, especially during an emergency, that the key functions of the local and provincial government are not disrupted and the command system and decision-making apparatus continue to operate at full capacity immediately after a disaster.

- The Action, under lead of the Provincial government, will support in development of Business Continuity Plans (BCP) at the provincial (and district) levels, ensuring that the systems at all tiers continue to operate immediately after a disaster, in a crisis with a functional decision making body even by proposing surge mechanisms where additional human resources are needed, and command systems that are operational to provide all essential services, including referral support services during and after disasters.
- The Action, under lead of the Municipal governments, will also support in formulation of municipal business continuity plans of the targeted urban municipalities, which are also strategic being centre of district or provincial headquarters. As they serve its own citizens and also the greater hinterland or surrounding municipalities, in times of crisis, it is crucial that these municipalities continue to function seamlessly after a disaster to provide their key services, extend mobilization or use of critical infrastructure, resources and support without interruption, which the BCP will need to provision for.

These plans will be developed based on participatory and consultative engagement of provincial, district and local level authorities, and provide a comprehensive framework ensuring that municipal, district and provincial services and facilities are able to resume their critical services and functions immediately after a crisis. BCP would be a standalone document aligned with the agreed HCT contingency plans and informed by the risk assessment conducted at the targeted local levels.

- The BCPs will map out key and minimum services to be provided to the citizens and activities that should function for life saving, relief and quick recovery. Roles and responsibilities of the key authorities at the local, district and provincial level including their physical and financial resources, possible surge mechanisms required for the functionality of essential services will also be detailed in the proposed plan which will be endorsed from respective local, district and provincial mechanisms.
 - The Action will also embolden and facilitate local and provincial governments for formulating directives and guidelines to the private sector, GESI groups and other entities who are the key stakeholders in emergency response for developing similar BCPs, including by facilitating and liaising with these stakeholders and encouraging focal person(s) from the provincial or municipal levels to present on BCP at the Board meetings of the key private sector entities and associations.
-

Result 2 - Activity 5

Short description (for the logframe)

Further institutionalization, under Provincial and Municipal leadership, of EOCs as coordination hub and architecture for information management during emergencies in municipalities, district and provinces

Detailed description (if needed)

To strengthen EOCs information management capacities as coordination & disaster preparedness hub, surveillance, and response command pre-/during-/after a crisis, for coordinated decision-making, Action will:

- Build on activities of ongoing EU Action implemented by Red Cross specifically on strengthening of: i) Existing PEOC & new MEOCs in Sudurpaschim province through continuation of Information Management (IM) Officers at PEOCs deployed by Red Cross, SOP, allocation of resources for continued operations; ii) Coordination mechanism set up between EOCs at municipal, district & provincial level in Sudurpaschim (between the inter-provincial EOCs); iii) Links between IRA, vulnerable groups under Shock Responsive Social Protection with national disaster information management system (BIPAD) during its roll out
- Support PEOCs to coordinate with Provincial Health EOCs (PHEOCs) for IM & other aspects- PHEOC coordination & communication mechanism, its strengthening will be considered while formulating SOPs at provincial local level.
- Support EOC to serve as tool for Municipal Disaster Management Committee by being a data repository on risk, vulnerabilities & capacities along with information on trained volunteers (by Action and others) who would be mobilized when needed. Liaise closely with Red Cross to ensure sharing & learning from their support to EOCs.
- As IM is a crucial function, support secondment of IMOs in respective EOCs to establish a coherent system of data management pre-during-post disaster and its reporting by identifying the information needs, availability, filling the information gaps, linked with sectoral & cluster IM & BIPAD. These IMOs will gradually transfer skills to designated officials for sustained capacity building and institutionalization of system throughout action period.
- Facilitate regular coordination among PEOCs, LEOCs & PHEOCs staff as well as the District EOCs to share or exchange information on a bi-monthly basis. This is based on learnings from Danish Red Cross (DRC) implemented EU-funded Actions & Urban DP Project 2019 Action which highlighted need for common standards on IM, linking with National EOC & systematic reporting of incidents at all levels, harmonized with BIPAD.
- Support municipalities to firmly establish Municipal EOCs as control & command point & tool for MDMC, which will enable better coordination with District DMC For ensuring continued operational readiness during normal times as well and sustained govt

funding, MEOCs would be supported to serve as an one-stop center for citizens to access information, raise queries/grievances relating to any municipal services and report any incident.

- Equip MEOCs with VHF radios, toll free services, web/mobile apps linked with existing fire brigade & municipal police, women & child helplines/referral services for ensuring protection of women & excluded groups, for active use even during normal times, and could also be linked with Artificial Intelligence integrated CCTV and drone cameras to monitor activities such as vehicle traffic/road blockages at high risk areas & crowd management during crises. Assessment of EOC equipment needs by Action in line with national EOC guidelines will precede procurement of equipment so it is need-based, & avoids duplication (Annex 7.3.2- Indicative list of EOC equipment). All items will be inventorised as govt assets & entered into provincial/ municipal level stores, with allocation from provincial and local level annual budgets for maintenance and inbuilt in disaster/resilience fund management guideline.

Result 2 - Activity 6

Short description (for the logframe)

Institutional strengthening with systems in place for urban emergency preparedness and response under Municipality leadership

Detailed description (if needed)

Guided by the provincial earthquake response framework, this activity will support the imperative to put in place comprehensive plans/ mechanisms at the local levels that have mandates and authority for risk reduction, preparedness and emergency response. Towards this:

- Activity will support target urban municipalities to prepare Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (EPRP) as they have primary responsibility to manage risk in their jurisdiction, and institutionalize associated mechanisms for its implementation. The plan will be based on the risk assessment, needs of vulnerable households and most at-risk communities identified through the activities in Result 1. EPRP will provide an opportunity to identify and articulate roles of municipalities not just as service provider or responder, but also a recipient of assistance from the provincial or federal governments to implement the planned response activities, consistent with the national procedures and frameworks.
- Noting that Action urban municipalities have contrasting urban characteristics, for example – Nepalgunj is urbanized, with high population density and concentration of urban facilities and Jay Prithivi is still rural in characteristics, demography and service delivery. Based on the learning from 2015 earthquake and through the experience of working in the municipalities the Action will support the provinces and municipalities to address the need of differential approaches necessary between urban and rural areas during emergency response and recovery in their frameworks (PERF and EPRP)
- Action will support through EPRP formulation the identification of interventions for mitigating and responding to risks, particularly earthquakes and fire, through structural and non-structural measures. Structural measures may include GESI-responsive stockpiling for emergency response, retrofitting of critical infrastructure, etc., while non-structural measures may include identification of emergency evacuation routes, clamping of cupboard, trollies, oxygen cylinder in hospitals, awareness raising, response triggering mechanism, coordination and command system, information management and human capacity development such as training of Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers.
- The Action will also support in updating existing DRMP based on the risk assessment by integrating EPRP that provides a comprehensive instrument to urban municipalities for a holistic approach in risk reduction, preparedness and emergency response. This activity will orient, train and capacitate ward and municipal committees through their engagement in the activity to ensure synergy among all relevant stakeholders, leading to enhanced readiness for a coordinated response during and after any disaster.
- The Action will guide local governments to undertake risk informed planning with dedicated budget allocation to mitigate the risk of humanitarian crisis, by utilising the risk assessments and EPRP as an advocacy tool
- Comprehensive mapping will be undertaken to identify private sector stakeholders (corporations, chambers of commerce, cooperatives, and micro, small and medium enterprises), understand their involvement in earthquake/ urban disaster preparedness and response, and study their existing capacities and vulnerabilities as well as potential for contributions across sectors. The study will also identify means for systematic engagement of private sector in disaster preparedness and response, as a part of the EPRP. This is built on 2015 earthquake experiences, where there was substantial support from the private sector in emergency response, but on ad-hoc basis and not streamlined. Such needs to be addressed by local and provincial governments.

Result 2 - Activity 7

Short description (for the logframe)

Create enabling environment for coordinated preparedness and response actions under Provincial and Municipal leadership through institutionalizing and networking of emergency response team, trained volunteers and fire response teams

Detailed description (if needed)

Loss of life could be greatly minimised if emergency response is available immediately during the golden hour(s) and mobilised in a coordinated manner, to address the needs of affected communities on priority basis. During the 2015 earthquake, the search and rescue efforts carried out by the security personnel of Nepal and others was commendable, although there were challenges to reach sites due to remoteness and difficult terrain, compounded by the lack of equipment, road network, transport, and well-trained human resources. On the other hand, the number of successful search and rescues carried out by local communities during the golden hour was exponentially higher than those carried out by the external search and rescue groups, highlighting that in a more scattered region as the Action areas, communities have to play a major role as first responders to supplement the limited human resources, technical capacity and financial resources of the formal mechanisms. However, the community engagement in emergency response could only be ensured if local communities in both rural and urban areas, especially women, girls and socially excluded groups are sensitized and capacitated. Accordingly:

- Municipalities will create an enabling environment with support from Action, to allocate own funding, acknowledge need for volunteers and their incentivization, strengthen network of volunteers and their sustained links with emergency service providers through coordination mechanisms & regular common drills. Municipalities will be supported to formally institutionalize community volunteers, while provincial government will upscale the practice in other municipalities through resource allocation for operation, equipment and regular refresher training.
- Municipalities will formulate volunteers guidelines (aligned with national guideline for volunteer mobilization) with Action support to ensure availability of locally available trained human resources primed for effective response during the golden hours and subsequently.
- Municipal and district stakeholders will institute mechanisms for formal engagement of trained volunteer groups in emergency preparedness and response mechanisms including EOCs, as well as their formal recognition.
- Municipalities, with support from Red Cross and the Action will identify and organise community volunteers as Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) preferably from high risk areas, based on the findings of the risk assessments with engagement of the ward level disaster management committee (WDMC), TLOs, Women and socially excluded groups, private sector entities, in rural & urban areas.
- Further train them in First Aid, Search & Rescue (SAR), Fire Fighting, humanitarian aid and services provision for GESI, SGBV, Violence against Children, PSEA and protection based on impact modelling done in Result 1 for earthquake and fire scenarios.
- Ward and Municipality would be facilitated to allocate resources for continued (and refresher) training to these groups. Roster of the volunteers & GESI experts and local representatives will be prepared and maintained in Municipal EOCs after the training (detailed in result 4) and a hard copy of volunteer diary will be prepared with minimum information of respective volunteers including their skills, training types and dates, whereabouts and contact details, available at the Ward offices.

Annex 7.4 provides further elaboration on the mechanisms for creating, funding & sustainability, learning from ongoing Urban DP-2019 Action, where engagement of communities in identification of risks and vulnerabilities along with extant capacity and gaps has helped communities and municipalities to create sustainable community based emergency response teams, who can play a pivotal role in crisis response complementing trained firefighters and security forces.

Result 2 - Activity 8

Short description (for the logframe)

Addressing residual risks through appropriate means such as risk transfer mechanisms, insurance schemes engaging private sector entities under Municipal and Provincial leadership

Detailed description (if needed)

Various activities planned under different result areas of this Action will contribute towards emergency readiness and reducing disaster risk by preparing communities for future crises. Despite various interventions, there remains potential for impacts due to residual risks from disasters such as fire, earthquakes, landslides, associated with exposure, physical and locational vulnerabilities. Hence, appropriate means for addressing such residual risks through risk transfer particularly insurance becomes essential to reduce humanitarian impacts due to loss of assets, livelihoods and houses/ buildings.

- The risk transfer guidelines prepared in collaboration with Nepal Insurers Association (NIA), the umbrella association of private insurance companies, under current Urban DP project – HIP 2019 provides a strong foundation for Action to support and advocate with municipalities to roll out a risk transfer mechanism based on the risk and vulnerabilities identified in Result 1. This activity will largely outreach and encompass various target groups such as commercial enterprises, government buildings or house owners who with enhanced understanding of risk transfer are incentivized to invest in insurance in coordination with municipal, provincial government as well as the insurance companies and through respective associations.
- At the same time, provincial and municipal authorities will also be facilitated to dialogue with insurance providers for insurance of assets/ buildings of its citizens, incentivize based on mitigation actions undertaken and with particular focus on the vulnerable sections (eg: households headed by beneficiaries of social protection schemes and others based on the assessment).
- Action will also create an enabling environment and advocate with municipal and provincial governments to allocate dedicated resources for life and non-life insurance covering the risks to natural hazards such as earthquakes and fire. Specially at the provincial level, the focus will be to support dialogue with relevant stakeholders to evolve similar appropriate mechanisms in the rural areas, noting that the challenges in access to finance was key factor leading to failure of the subsidised loan scheme for housing reconstruction in 2015 earthquake reconstruction.
- Action will generate awareness of small and medium scale enterprises, women, girls, socially excluded and vulnerable households regarding the benefits of the insurance as a preparedness and risk transfer mechanism utilising IEC materials prepared under Urban DP project - HIP 2019, as well as learnings of other similar initiatives such as good practices in Karnali province to insure all houses in its jurisdiction against earthquake, similarly 1,400 households were insured in Gorkha municipalities for the replication of good practices.

7.3 Result (3/5)

Clusters-specific Preparedness, and Improved coordination and interlinkages between province, local levels and humanitarian stakeholders

Sector

Disaster Risk Reduction / Disaster Preparedness

Subsectors

Other (DRR / DP)

Capacity building (DRR / DP)

Estimated total amount

319.831,00

Result 3 - Indicator 1

Type / Subsector

Custom

Definition

Inter-provincial and inter-municipal coordination mechanism established and formalized

Source and method of data collection

The Action will facilitate series of meetings for formal arrangements between provinces and municipalities for resource sharing and the meeting minutes to record the decisions for formulation of inter provincial and inter municipal coordination mechanisms will be the means of verification. Five meetings are planned for formulating the coordination mechanism, on a monthly basis, once the supply chain mechanisms are identified.

In this process, the Action will also undertake documentation of challenges and prospect in resource pooling between different tiers of the government, in emergency preparedness and response. The report prepared on this documentation will be the means of verification.

Baseline

Target value

0,00

4,00

Comments on the indicator, baseline and target value

With focus on strengthening systems, its inter-linkages and connections, Action will support in formulation of 1 inter-provincial coordination/resource pooling mechanism between 3 provinces: Sudur Paschim, Lumbini and Karnali, for pooling resources between provinces for effective emergency response. Series of meetings will be facilitated, with participation of key stakeholders to formalize the process and meeting minutes recording decisions as means of verification.

Inter-municipal coordination mechanism will be between Action municipalities and other key municipalities in a province to share resources in a systematic manner. 3 such intra-municipal coordination mechanism will be established, one in each province. Meeting minutes, attendance sheets and documentation to record decisions will be means of verification.

During this process, Action will document challenges, bottlenecks and prospects for future cooperation in the form of report as means of verification.

Result 3 - Indicator 2

Type / Subsector

Custom

Definition

Number of cluster members trained to integrate protection issues in the cluster contingency plans

Source and method of data collection

The Action will organize two provincial level training for key stakeholders and cluster members on integration of social protection in cluster contingency planning. The training reports and photographic evidences along with attendance sheet will be the means of verification.

Attest of integration of protection in the cluster/ contingency plan will validate effectiveness of these training including testimonials of the cluster members on integration of social protection and its assurance through development of checklists and safety audits will be the means of verification.

Baseline

Target value

0,00

50,00

Comments on the indicator, baseline and target value

Action will focus on building capacity of cluster leads, co-leads and members, mapped through consultative process, for enhanced capacity in efficient information management at provincial and local levels and strengthened protection integrated cluster coordination mechanisms for emergency preparedness and response. 2 provincial level training with 25 participants in a training (1 in Sudur Paschim, 1 in Lumbini jointly with Karnali) will be organized to reinforce integration of protection across priority cluster and government stakeholders.

Meeting minutes for selection of trainees, attendance sheet and training reports will be means of verification. To measure output, integration of protection in cluster contingency plan will be attested. End line KAP will integrate questions to measure enhanced understanding and capacity of cluster members and their testimonial will be used as mean of verification to generate evidences on integration of protection through various tools.

Result 3 - Indicator 3

Type / Subsector

Custom

Definition

Number of provincial level key clusters specific contingency plans prepared for effective response

Source and method of data collection

The Action through sectoral experts in each cluster will support in preparation of the provincial level cluster specific contingency plan, and the plan as a document formally endorsed by the cluster leads will be the means of verification, and confirmation of its approval for implementation.

The sectoral experts in each cluster will facilitate a participatory process, led by the cluster leads/co-leads, with engagement of logistics cluster, other government line agencies, private sectors, etc. The attendance list of the participants for the preparation of the contingency plan and the minutes of the meetings will be the means of verification of the process undertaken for its preparation, which will be prepared by the project staff for each of the consultation meeting, atleast 2 for each cluster in one province.

Baseline

Target value

0,00

15,00

Comments on the indicator, baseline and target value

Action plans to support formulation of 5 cluster specific contingency plans (Shelter, Health, Education, Protection and WASH) in each of 3 provinces (15 plans). Action will work closely with provincial cluster leads through Provincial Focal Point Agency technically supported by cluster co-leads as sectoral experts, to prepare cluster specific contingency plans for these 5 priority cluster, including cluster specific supply chain mechanisms in close coordination with key stakeholders and with technical support from logistics clusters.

Attendance sheets and minutes of the cluster specific coordination meetings, atleast 2 for each cluster in a province, will be means of verification. Final document as contingency plan, endorsed by government, which will serve to verify output, which is a living document that anticipates disaster incidents and possible impact for planning early action and guiding coordinated, timely and effective response after a disaster.

Result 3 - Activity 1

Short description (for the logframe)

Support Shelter & NFI, WASH, Protection, Health and Education clusters and complement Logistics clusters in enhancing their preparedness for earthquake and urban risks

Detailed description (if needed)

Due to Federalization, district line agencies have been transferred under municipal authorities and new provincial ministries, changing erstwhile district level cluster arrangements. As a result, provincial (and national) cluster leads, co-leads and partner agencies need to be supported to enhance coordination around preparing for, and responding to the anticipated earthquake in Western Nepal.

- Towards enhancing preparedness, the Action intends to provide specific support to Shelter & NFI, WASH, Health, Protection and Education clusters and complement Health and logistics clusters for developing and implementing cluster specific earthquake contingency plans Priority clusters will be supported via cluster co-leads in formulation of necessary cluster specific SoPs at federal, targeted provincial and municipal level, eg: SOPs between Ministries of Women, Children and Social Welfare, Social Affairs and MoIAL for GESI and SGBV responsive preparedness and response. (Annex 7.3 details learnings from previous EU Action on Emergency Health Preparedness implemented by WHO and potential areas for engagement through support to Health Cluster)
- The Action will reinforce the clusters and coordination mechanisms with Cluster co-Leads, NDRRMA and support from UN RCO. Specifically on Health cluster, since a lot has been accomplished (including on coordination mechanisms through previous HIPs) under WHO leadership the Action would aim to complement these efforts. Similarly on Shelter, areas of work supported by the Action via co-lead (IFRC) in addition to cluster contingency planning could be consensus on NFI kit composition, options for shelter designs, cash modalities.
- Action would support these clusters to undertake mapping of partners / agencies in each of the provinces (and municipalities) to agree and facilitate their specific engagement around these priority clusters and to create a shared and common understanding of the cluster actions. The Action will liaise with IOM, who had conducted a mapping of the agencies working under various clusters and their priorities previously.
- The clusters would also be supported to undertake assessment of current capacity and gaps including GESI considerations for responding effectively during the earthquake, leading to formulation of a cluster-specific capacity development plan to be implemented by clusters in coordination with the relevant provincial (and local) stakeholders. The Action will advocate and support for active inclusion and involvement of the Ministry of Social Development, Women and Children Dept / units (where they exist) and Women's Rights Organizations (WROs) in the provincial cluster system.
- The Action, in coordination with logistics cluster co-lead, will support priority cluster co-leads, in strengthening arrangements to meet immediate need of emergency supplies - food stock and essential items - for at least 2 weeks after a crisis, as accessibility via existing roads and trails is expected to be adversely affected. In Action area, Dhangadi has a designated Humanitarian Staging Area (HSA); Nepalgunj and Surkhet as Major Entry Point (MEP), is equipped with Forward Logistics Base (FLB). However, draft logistic cluster earthquake contingency plan highlights issue of limited local storage capacity in municipalities for stockpiling.

- The Action will liaise with relevant Multi-Purpose Center (MPWCs), One Stop Crisis Centers, and shelters to strengthen their operations via public-private partnership for preparedness and recovery, with facilities used for GESI needs by humanitarian clusters, especially protection and referral.
-

Result 3 - Activity 2

Short description (for the logframe)

Support the Clusters in Information Management at the Provincial and local levels

Detailed description (if needed)

Building on the existing work supported by the UN RCO and HCT Cluster Leads, the Action will:

- Support the cluster leads/ co-leads to strengthen the pre-crisis primary and secondary data collection for the priority clusters (Shelter & NFI, Health, WASH, Protection and Education) as identified by the HIP.
- Ensure linkages with the NDRRMA BIPAD Disaster Information Management System (DIMS) and that dedicated stand-by capacity is pre-agreed and budgeted to support local data collection and analytical capacity, particularly around integrating qualitative and quantitative analysis into cluster response.
- Strengthen emergency needs assessment capacity for these key clusters including through training and capacity building to support sector specific analysis that complements the IRA, in collaboration with the Red Cross. IRA capacity developed during previous Action/s is yet largely dependent on Red Cross trained human resources, hence the Action will support building further capacity within local, district and provincial governments. The Action approach will also be to focus on government resources leveraging so that outputs will sustain longer.
- Lessons learned from previous Red Cross Actions on DIMS indicate that some elements in Red Cross developed DIMS that can add value to BIPAD are yet to be integrated into the BIPAD, so their integration will be taken forward by the proposed Action. Best utilization of data collected through IRA, for post disaster response and recovery planning, will also be a key focus of the Action.

All subactivities in this Activity and all other activities under this Result will be implemented in a COVID-cognizant manner, ensuring safe physical distancing, use of masks, minimizing gatherings, ensuring availability of easy handwashing/ sanitizing facilities at all events. In event of lockdown or movement restrictions, all activities under this Result will be readjusted as per Contingency plan (Section 7.6) to ensure that they can be continued in a manner that is most appropriate to the local context, including via virtual means.

Result 3 - Activity 3

Short description (for the logframe)

Support the priority clusters in development of supply chain mechanism for effective response in coordination with the logistics cluster

Detailed description (if needed)

In the likely earthquake scenario, accessibility is expected to be severely impacted in the Western region due to damaged roads, trails and bridges, as per initial assessments of the logistics cluster. Hence the Action, under Provincial Cluster Leadership, will:

- Support priority sectors, as identified by the HIP (Shelter & NFI, Health, WASH, Protection and Education) led by respective government cluster leads in coordination with the logistics cluster to prepare for this eventuality by developing and implementing supply and logistics strategy so that women, girls and socially excluded vulnerable communities can still be provided vital assistance in the immediate aftermath for at least the 4 weeks expected to be needed to repair roads and reconnect access.
- Support these priority clusters. In close coordination with the provincial and local governments, to assess current capacity, identify gaps, design and implement activities to address gaps for stockpiling, storage/warehouse, procurement, delivery/transport engaging province, district and local level governments, humanitarian and private sector stakeholders.
- Support the clusters to engage with private sector entities like Contractor's Association of Nepal (District chapters), transporters associations, wholesalers in the major market hub supplying food and NFIs for this preparedness and also collate this information at different levels including EOCs and the BIPAD portal. GESI lens will be applied in information gathering via pre-disaster Market Assessment from the market before the disaster.

This engagement with local and provincial authorities will reinforce local (and provincial) government understanding of the need for engagement and mobilization of private sector entities for supplies, of at least two to four weeks of the earthquake, as inbound supplies would be affected, making them dependent on these stockpiles.

Result 3 - Activity 4

Short description (for the logframe)

Strengthen the integration of protection as a life-saving intervention across sectors under Provincial leadership

Detailed description (if needed)

Lessons learnt from the 2015 earthquake (Annex 4.1.1) and also witnessed during COVID 19 highlighted the need to strengthen practical understanding and integration of protection strategies in the preparedness phase, to minimize delays in reaching the vulnerable groups, support protection risk mitigation and early identification and response.

Data preparedness, real time monitoring of protection risks and capacity to rapidly identify and refer survivors of violence, abuse, discrimination are critical elements of protection preparedness which both post earthquake and COVID 19 have highlighted as critical protection preparedness components in need of strengthening.

- The simulations envisaged under the Action (Results 1 and 2) will model inclusive and coordinated protection alert, referral and response. The simulations will be used to identify key gaps and limitations to feed into training and ongoing preparedness plans.
- Groups of traditionally under-involved segments of society will be engaged through the Action to ensure their capacities, networks and perspectives are included into government-led preparedness plans. Groups of women, youth, PLWD, the elderly ethnic and sexual minorities in particular will be involved to update alert, referral mechanisms but also strengthen their linkages with disaster preparedness and response mechanisms at all levels.
- Based on lessons learnt, shock responsive social protection training packages will be tailored to the specific phases as well as constituencies including government stakeholders, priority sectors with a focus on health/nutrition, shelter, education. A specific training package targeting protection actors will also seek to enhance their capacity to better articulate protection response with other sectors and support preparedness plans of key duty bearers (local authorities, police, justice.). The minimum package will include components on: (1) Tracking movement, (2) Monitoring protection needs (2) Preventing family separation, (3) Psychological First Aid, (4) Vulnerability assessment and use of data from risk assessment to identify areas and groups most vulnerable, (5) Active Referrals (beyond service promotion) and (6) PSEA Risk Mitigation, Prevention and Response and will be adjusted in line with the gaps identified above in coordination with Protection cluster lead.
- Finally to avoid de-prioritisation of protection needs in the immediate response, a menu of life-saving activities will be defined and developed with local governments and civil society to identify key stakeholders, costs, critical supplies, service delivery adaptation/continuity issues, deployment timelines and pre-conditions. These elements will also be included in post SIMEX exercises and drills.

Result 3 - Activity 5

Short description (for the logframe)

Formalisation of mechanisms to facilitate sharing of essential services and resource pooling between municipalities and between provincial governments

Detailed description (if needed)

Documentation undertaken by the on-going Urban DP- 2019 Action of over 10 different fire incidents across the country has highlighted the effectiveness of mobilization of municipal fire brigades beyond their own jurisdiction to respond to the large scale fire incidents in the adjoining municipalities, within or beyond the district and even provinces. This pooling of resources has been practiced on an ad-hoc basis and without formal or systematic mechanisms.

- The Action urban municipalities are strategically located and serve as connection hubs to the entire region and the hinterland with flow of people and trade contributing to establishment of an inter-connected urban system. For example, Dhangadhi as the district and provincial headquarter serves as the trade and connection hub for far-western region. Likewise, Nepalgunj is the major trade and transport hub located at the intersection of North-South and East-West highways along with larger scale domestic airports connecting the hinterland of the Karnali as well as Sudur-Paschim province. These connection or transportation linkages become even more critical during emergency periods. Hence, there is the need to strengthen the urban systems and linkages to function seamlessly during emergencies. Also, the limited critical infrastructure like large hospitals are only within a few urban municipalities that are targeted by the action but will need to serve the population beyond the municipality, district and even provincial boundaries. While the health cluster has a hub-and-satellite concept for health facilities' functioning, it is not so for other critical facilities.
- Accordingly, the Action would collaborate with the provincial and local governments to identify these critical infrastructure and assist in formulating coordination mechanisms for resource pooling and sharing to handle any emergency situation between municipalities and provincial governments for emergency response.
- These arrangements can also be used in recurrent disasters like floods and landslides as well. This would also result in practical applications such as firefighters from adjoining smaller municipalities may also be trained in the larger municipality for responding to a large fire in a coordinated manner as practised.

7.3 Result (4/5)

Demonstrating specific measures for reducing disaster risk in urban municipalities and provinces through enhanced preparedness

Sector

Disaster Risk Reduction / Disaster Preparedness

Subsectors

Protection of livelihoods, assets and critical facilities

Capacity building (DRR / DP)

Estimated total amount

555.084,48

Result 4 - Indicator 1

Type / Subsector

Protection of livelihoods, assets and critical facilities

Indicator

Number of community small-scale infrastructures and facilities built or protected

Definition

This refers to small-scale infrastructure works and small installations for preparedness, emergency response facilities as well as non-structural vulnerability reduction, such as safe practice in hospitals – e.g. maintenance, siting of equipment, etc.

Source and method of data collection

The Action will conduct community consultation meeting, based on the hazard and vulnerability map, to identify the type and location of the small-scale risk mitigation measures or infrastructure. The minutes of these meetings recording decision on identifying 24 such small-scale mitigation measures and its location will be the means of verification.

The Action will prepare a field visit inspection report of the mitigation measures, that will document the completion of the activity as well as coverage and quality, which will be the means of verification.

Baseline**Target value****Comments on the indicator, baseline and target value**

The comprehensive map prepared based on overlay of hazard and vulnerability maps and RVA database will help visualize areas with high risk concentration or hindered emergency response. Hence, reports on findings of the assessment and maps will be used by ward/municipality to discuss with the community in identifying 24 critical small-scale risk mitigation measures in 6 Action wards in 3 municipalities (earthquake preparedness and Urban DP focused) that can reduce immediate risk to the community and enhance effective emergency response.

The minutes of these community consultation meetings to record location and types of mitigation measures will be the means of verification. Small scale infrastructure and facilities, as defined in indicator, are small-scale structural/non-structural risk mitigation measures to be undertaken, 8 in each municipality. The field inspection report prepared by each municipal team after completion of the activity will be a key means of verification

Result 4 - Indicator 2

Type / Subsector

Custom

Definition

Number of community volunteers, as CERT members, trained and equipped on life saving response skills and readiness

Source and method of data collection

The Action will select the participants to be trained as community volunteers/ CERT members for skills-based trainings through consultative process. The meeting minutes recording criteria and names of the selected community disaster response volunteers for the relevant trainings will be the means of verification of the process.

Ward level trainings will be organized on basic first aid, light search and rescue and firefighting, and the training report after completion of the events, with pre and posttest assessments and photographic evidences, will be the means of verification.

Likewise, after the training, the beneficiary communities will be provided with the disaster response equipment/ materials and the receipt of these materials will be the means for verification.

Baseline**Target value****Comments on the indicator, baseline and target value**

Consultation meetings will be organized with Ward DMC members and clusters to identify/select community volunteers from pocket areas with high risk of fire & earthquake. Minutes of meetings recording criteria and volunteers selected for training are means of verification. 1,600 community volunteers, selected through a community consultation in 8 wards (avg. 200 volunteers per ward) in 4 municipalities, will be trained on basic first aid, light search and rescue and firefighting.

Training event reports will be prepared at the end of each training, as means of verification. After completion of training, first responders will be equipped with gears and tools that are necessary for effective response and receipt of hand-over of equipment to wards will be means of verification. These trained volunteers will be rostered and linked to institutional responders such as fire-fighters, security forces, and NRCS for regular drills and refresher training through municipal sources.

Result 4 - Indicator 3

Type / Subsector

Custom

Definition

Community readiness attested and ensured through conduct of number of emergency simulation exercises

Source and method of data collection

The Action of conduct base (pre-training activity) and end-line (post training activity) Simex exercise at the ward level and the report on injects development, including registration of the participant in the exercise, observer's checklist and photographic evidences will be the means of verification.

The Simex event reports, both baseline and end-line, with comparative analysis on community readiness before and after various trainings will be the means to validate the effectiveness of these activities.

Baseline

0,00

Target value

16,00

Comments on the indicator, baseline and target value

Scenario-based emergency response simulation exercises (Simex) will be conducted twice in each of 8 project wards, in 4 Action municipalities, engaging all respective beneficiary community representatives. In total 16 Simex exercises will be conducted, one Simex will be conducted at beginning of the project that serves as a baseline to tailor its capacity building activities. Another Simex will be conducted after CERT training is completed at community level.

Endline Simex will be critical to test the knowledge and skills acquired by the community members, community response volunteers, ward and municipal authorities, to respond to a disaster event. The comparative analysis between the baseline and end-line Simex report will be means to attest this change.

Register maintained to record participation of the community, reports on simulation injects, observation checklist for the observers and the event reports along with photographs will be the means of verification.

Result 4 - Indicator 4

Type / Subsector

Custom

Definition

Number of security forces trained on technological solutions

Source and method of data collection

The Action will organize trainings targeting the security forces on use of new technological solutions like drone operation to expedite search and rescue. The trainings will be conducted in two batches and the training report with attendance sheet, photographic evidence, and pre and post-test assessment analysis will be the means of verification.

Baseline

0,00

Target value

60,00

Comments on the indicator, baseline and target value

The Action plans to support the security forces, who are a key responder, through the use of technology like drones during the response, to expedite search and rescue in the golden hours after a crisis. The Action will conduct trainings in collaboration with NDRRMA and Disaster Management wings of Nepal army, Armed police force and Nepal police together with trained drone operators (private institutions).

This training with security forces will help to pilot and operationalise use of drones to assess damage as well as identify critical populations in sparsely scattered or dense areas, for assessing needs, to prioritize and plan for timely response.

60 security personals will be trained in two batches, 1 covering Sudur Paschim province and another one jointly organized for Karnali and Lumbini provinces. The training reports, attendance sheets and photographs of the training will be used as means of verification.

Result 4 - Indicator 5

Type / Subsector

Custom

Definition

Number of demonstration houses retrofitted to illustrate technical solution for replication

Source and method of data collection

The meeting minutes as agreement with 8 house owner for undertaking retrofitting training on the private house will be means of verification. Also, on-site visit inspection report during and after completion of the on-site training in a particular house site along with photographs of demonstration of retrofitting solutions will be the means of verification, collected by the field team.

Baseline

Target value

0,00	8,00
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Comments on the indicator, baseline and target value

Action will retrofit existing unsafe houses vulnerable to earthquake damage, as a demonstration of practical technical solutions for mass replication in the two Action municipalities in the hilly region that are at highest risk of earthquake. 4 houses will be retrofitted in each municipality (Amargadi & Jaya Prithivi), with selection of most vulnerable house owner based on thorough consultative process. The process of retrofitting will be coupled with training of local masons and engineers on vulnerability assessment and on the job trainings for building their knowledge and skill on retrofitting, along with extensive outreach through on-site visits of other house owners and government stakeholders, including mobilization of community volunteers and other outreach mediums. On-site visit inspection reports, designs and drawing produced, minutes of the consultation meetings, photographs and case stories will be the means of verification.

Result 4 - Activity 1

Short description (for the logframe)

Increase capacities of the fire fighters and stakeholders for coordinated urban fire response and urban risk mitigation at the local level under Municipal leadership

Detailed description (if needed)

12,694 fire incidents were recorded between 1971 and 2018, as per DRR Portal of Ministry of Home Affairs- 39 incidents in a day in the month of November 2020 as per NDRRMA. The fire incidence in urban areas is rapidly increasing in recent years due to haphazard urbanization, uncontrolled densification, industrialization and lack of capacity to respond to fire incidents due to inadequate infrastructure and resources- financial, technical and human. Further, poor electrification, old wiring and minimal fire preparedness in the urban areas has also contributed to increased fire related vulnerabilities.

Under the Urban DP project - HIP 2019, the fire risk assessments were conducted to understand the target urban municipalities' fire response capacities. Several areas of concern identified were: i) limited capacity and number of the firefighters who have to work for longer shifts during fire response; ii) lack of refresher training for existing fire fighters; iii) new recruits being trained on ad-hoc manner based on only practical experience of the existing fire fighters; iv) lack of standardized training curriculum for the firefighters- most of which were also highlighted by the authorities in MoFAGA and NDRRMA.

Hence, the Action will:

- Support formation of a technical working group with MoFAGA, NDRRMA, engaging expert firefighters and DRR practitioners with involvement of provincial and municipal authorities to develop a standardized training curriculum for providing refreshers training for the existing firefighters as well as regular training to the new recruits.
 - Support municipality to assess existing municipal fire brigade capacity and operating systems, ensuring that key operational elements/requirements are met by respective fire brigades with municipalities' resource allocation. The review will assess human resources capacity, operational gears, maintenance of fire fighting machinery, equipment, information management and coordination with communities and other stakeholders to strengthen the fire response system linked with training and capacity building.
 - Municipal leadership will roll out a standardized training curriculum designed by the Action for the firefighters in all target municipalities to build their capacity and confidence to respond to fire incidents. The action will also establish coordination between the CERT trained on fire response with the municipal firefighters for efficient and coordinated fire response that will also help fulfill the gap in human resources within the fire brigade.
 - Advocate with municipal and provincial governments for resource allocation to conduct regular drills and refresher's training for the firefighters from across the province, with focus on streamlining inter-municipal coordination for joint responses, which is a common practice.
 - Support municipalities to rollout updated training curriculum of the three months' formal courses for electricians which currently does not include a crucial component of fire risk due to short circuit (to be updated in the current Urban DP Project-HIP 2019). Local electricians and electrical equipment shop owners, will be trained with engagement of Nepal Electricity Authority, local authorities and the fire brigade.
 - This activity will be undertaken building on the learning from ongoing Urban DP Action, that highlighted lack of knowledge on electrical fire prevention among the electricians and electric equipment suppliers, and that majority of fire incidents are due to short-circuits, mainly caused by poor electrification, old wiring system, use of substandard electrical fuses and items, lack of regular repair/ maintenance of electrical system as electrification in households as well as small or middle scale industries are mostly carried out by electricians without formal trainings.
-

Result 4 - Activity 2

Short description (for the logframe)

Build capacity of the Community Emergency Response Team volunteers for effective emergency response at the local level

Detailed description (if needed)

For effective response, Action will:

- Support municipalities to identify CERT volunteers from existing TLOs, women groups, guthis, members of scouts, youth clubs and Red Cross volunteers, in coordination with NRCS, ward and municipal stakeholders. SIMEX will also engage CERT volunteers based on impact modeling at municipal level that will provide baseline information of knowledge, understanding and skills, existing social capital and the gaps that can be fulfilled through various trainings.
- Based on findings of baseline SIMEX, Municipalities will be supported for training these volunteers on earthquake and fire focused SAR, First Aid and Fire Fighting. Informed by risk assessments, Municipalities will prioritise areas most at risk to select and train the CERT volunteers and the size of the team will depend on the at-risk population it will need to cover during an emergency. Further, based on learnings relating to volunteer engagement from ongoing EU Urban DP Action (Annex 7.5), selected CERT volunteers, who have excelled in the training and have shown commitment would serve as trainers for others.
- With engagement of NRCS under Municipal lead, further capacitate the most committed and expert CERT members, including from women and excluded groups and designate as DRR champions to roll out similar trainings in other communities as well. This will also lead to sustainability and continuation of the refreshers training jointly with local governments beyond the action period. Basic fire fighting training will also be conducted for hospital staff to respond if possible to fire incidents in the hospital.
- Mobilization of the trained volunteers will be integrated with the formal response teams: fire fighters, municipal police and security forces for coordinated response and will be practiced through joint drills to formalize the mechanism. Likewise, the first aid training will seek engagement of the local and hub hospitals, NRCS trainers in providing technical support on better understanding the mass casualty management and triage that is critical for the life saving decisions to be made when there is a large number of affected populations. The second and endline SIMEX will help in verifying the understanding and capacities of these mechanisms.
- Linking with Activity 7 of Result 2 on an enabling environment, the Action will jointly with NRCS (as it is part of the Local and District DMCs) advocate for development of the volunteer rosters and their institutionalization at the municipal level with allocation of dedicated resources for providing refreshers' training and incentivizing continued engagement of the volunteers including through their formal acknowledgment and appreciation.
- Training of the CERT volunteers will be followed by pre-positioning of the Light Search and Rescue equipment at the municipal and ward level together with fire fighting kits and basic first aid for emergency response to any incident at the local level. Special attention will be on making the SAR and fire fighting user friendly for elderly, children and Persons with Disabilities.

To ensure that volunteers are seen as key support to local government and their communities for an effective disaster preparedness and response, the Action will prioritize on inclusive volunteer selection in close coordination with local governments such as volunteers with least risk of leaving local area, establishing volunteer data base at LGs in the BIPAD. Recognizing their contribution annually including best volunteer / group award, exposure opportunities and refresher trainings under LG annual program and budgets. An incentive mechanism for their work during crisis would also be explored with LGs, for which the Volunteer mobilization guidelines being formulated by NDRRMA will also be a major support.

Result 4 - Activity 3

Short description (for the logframe)

Build Provincial and Municipal government and public understanding on earthquake risk and create a conducive environment for the people to undertake earthquake safe construction practices and risk reduction measure

Detailed description (if needed)

A key learning from the 2015 earthquake and other past earthquakes is - *"Earthquakes do not kill people but unsafe buildings do"*. According to the data from the Central Bureau of Statistics in Nepal, more than 74% of the buildings damaged in the 2015 earthquake was of low strength masonry typical in rural Nepal. 3.3 million similar housing stocks are spread across Nepal, beyond the 31 districts affected by the 2015 earthquake, and of which over 1.6 million, ie. 48% are now mostly concentrated in Action areas of the western region that emphasizes the urgent need for retrofitting of these houses to reduce risk, as highlighted in the contingency plan, and ensure life safety thus preventing humanitarian crisis. Hence, the Action will:

- Engage with, and facilitate the two target municipalities of Amargadi and Jaya Prithvi, relatively at higher risk of earthquake, on supporting municipalities to achieve and accept the importance of retrofitting as a viable risk reduction option for enhancing life safety and in formulating policies and tools at the municipal and provincial level for promoting retrofitting to that end.
- Sensitize under Municipal leadership all the stakeholders, including the house owners, on the risks posed by the current unsafe non-engineered housing stock to life that is the single biggest contributor to the humanitarian crisis as witnessed in the 2015 earthquake. The Action will conduct exposure visits of the key stakeholders and decision makers to the districts where previous successful retrofitting initiatives have been implemented, including the shock table research center established at Pulchowk Campus in Kathmandu to equip them with information, tools and technologies to address their immediate risks posed by these houses.
- All possible tools such as conducive policies to promote retrofitting, tied with incentives, approach for incremental retrofitting to gradually enhance safety will be advocated and supported at the municipal and provincial level. As technical solutions, UNDP will promote the tested retrofitting solution, approved by GON, and implemented as practical and viable solution in Gorkha district after 2015 earthquake.
- Dedicated awareness campaigns on retrofitting at the household level, will be conducted to strengthen owner driven processes. Various outreach means including mobile technology clinic vans would be used, that would take the information at the doorstep of the house owners, which has been proven effective in post 2015 reconstruction projects.
- Training of the local masons through demonstration of retrofitting solutions based on the tested technologies will be critical inputs from the Action for convincing municipal and provincial stakeholders about viability of retrofitting as an apt solution for adoption by them to reduce the earthquake risk.

Action targets to retrofit 8 demo houses through training, with expectation that it will be replicated by the municipality, through using various tools and own resources, to retrofit at least 16 more houses in the Action area, and based on their own engagement and

leadership of the process, in due course. Further rationale and approach for implementation of this activity is explained in Annex 7.5.

Result 4 - Activity 4

Short description (for the logframe)

Demonstration under Provincial and Municipal leadership of disaster preparedness and risk mitigation actions in most at-risk communities for ensuring and enhancing emergency services and response

Detailed description (if needed)

The series of risk assessments conducted in Result 1, GESI analysis and the needs identified in EPRP will help demarcate the most at-risk areas with a high concentration of risk and vulnerability that can amplify the impact of earthquakes and fire dramatically, where municipalities need to be supported by the Action to prioritise and demonstrate risk reduction/ mitigation measures. To this end, the Action will:

- Support municipalities in demonstration of innovative small-scale risk reduction/ mitigation measures at the community level or at critical infrastructure like hospitals, that directly address the risks and minimizing its impact while simultaneously advocating and supporting the local and provincial governments to replicate or upscale them through their own resources. This could include small infrastructure to ensure GESI responsive access for rescue, response and relief distribution, such as trails, rope bridges in the remote areas. Conservation of community ponds or installation of fire hydrants for firefighting and water tanks for refilling of fire trucks for fire fighting and non structural mitigation measures for fire and earthquake safety in the hospitals.
- One of the other learnings from the 2015 earthquake is that emergency evacuation is critical for saving lives by creating avenues for safe escape from high risk areas where buildings are likely to collapse. The old and at-risk structures within the emergency evacuation routes in densely populated urban areas thus require preparedness such as widening of the space, demarcation and clearing of the evacuation routes, development of a gender-sensitive and socially inclusive evacuation plan, among others. These schemes will be model/ pilot mechanisms that are GESI-informed, are simple with high potential impact (can cater larger numbers of people) and have joint ownership/ engagement of the communities and the government. The Action will also engage with the private sector to partner for the demonstration of disaster preparedness in collaboration with the municipal and provincial stakeholders.
- The Action will also establish a GESI-responsive resilience fund to undertake identified risk reduction/transfer/ mitigation activities that will showcase, motivate and advocate for the need of resource allocation by the provincial and municipal government (leveraged as a matching fund) for use even prior to a disaster in mitigating the risk of humanitarian crisis.

All subactivities in this Activity and all other activities under this Result will be implemented in a COVID-cognizant manner, ensuring safe physical distancing, use of masks, minimizing gatherings, ensuring availability of easy handwashing/ sanitizing facilities at all events. In event of lockdown or movement restrictions, all activities will be readjusted as per Contingency plan (Section 7.6) to ensure that they can be continued in a manner that is most appropriate to the local context, including via virtual means.

Result 4 - Activity 5

Short description (for the logframe)

Support to local levels to enhance COVID-19 Preparedness

Detailed description (if needed)

With the second wave in the country affecting huge number of populations on a daily basis, the action aims to support the local government in COVID-19 preparedness in practical, meaningful ways to facilitate Action implementation, building on learnings from the ongoing Urban DP Action where such support was greatly appreciated by the Municipalities:

- The IEC materials prepared from Ministry of Health and Population will be used in print and other media and repackaged for social media platforms (graphics and short videos) and disseminated through official accounts and community-based Viber/Facebook messenger groups. COVID-19 messaging focussing on preventive, protective and other social aspects will be supported through specific IEC.
 - COVID-19 preparedness and prevention for the front-line workers will be prioritized, to tackle increasing cases, through material support such as masks, sanitizers, PPEs and infrared thermometers.
 - In a worst-case scenario with surging number of caseload and isolation centres running out of beds, then upgradation of these centres by supporting WASH facilities and/or additional 8-10 beds if required.
 - Based on the learnings from current action, contactless handwashing stations will be installed in government offices, schools, hospitals and other strategic public locations (maintenance and operation to be handled by municipalities) along with improving infection prevention and control measures.
 - Further, after decrease in caseload, the Action will support review of COVID-19 preparedness actions and initiatives carried out by the municipal authorities and stakeholders, for capturing the lesson learnt and challenges. This review is critical to make the authorities internalize the importance of preparedness to any hazards to minimize its impact on the citizen and specially the most at-risk population. Any additional resources required for COVID preparedness beyond the budgeted figure could be managed from the balance budget from other activities that may be impacted due to COVID-19 restrictions, in consultation with ECHO
-

7.3 Result (5/5)

Advocacy and Policy Engagement for enhancing humanitarian preparedness and reducing disaster risk

Sector

Disaster Risk Reduction / Disaster Preparedness

Subsectors

Institutional linkages and advocacy

Other (DRR / DP)

Estimated total amount

96.560,63

Result 5 - Indicator 1

Type / Subsector

Custom

Definition

No of Shared Learning Dialogues with provincial, local level and private sectors

Source and method of data collection

The Action will organize series of learning sharing workshops at the national, provincial and municipal levels to disseminate learnings and advocate for policy level interventions. The reports prepared as proceedings to document the agenda, attendance of participants, presentations, key discussions and conclusions will be the means of verification.

Video recording and photographs of workshops organized for the shared learning dialogues will also be the means of verification.

Baseline

0,00

Target value

10,00

Comments on the indicator, baseline and target value

The action will derive key issues for shared learning dialogues from the consultation with various stakeholders, activities implemented and risk assessment conducted at local level. These shared learning and dialogues support efforts to replicate upscale initiatives from local level to other municipalities at the provinces.

Further, good practices identified at provincial level could be disseminated through shared learning dialogues along with identification of policy level bottlenecks. Key stakeholders from private sector, provincial and local authorities together with NDRRMA and MoFAGA officials will be part of the shared learning dialogues.

10 such learning and sharing workshops will be conducted at national, provincial and municipal levels. Event reports, documentation on key issues from shared learning dialogues will be the key source of verification.

Result 5 - Activity 1

Short description (for the logframe)

Advocate for upscaling, replication and sustenance of disaster preparedness and risk reduction actions

Detailed description (if needed)

The Action though directly working in limited areas of three provinces, will continuously engage with the municipal, district and provincial level stakeholders to replicate the initiatives across the provinces. Building on engagement in the planning and implementation process, the action will rigorously advocate for upscaling of the initiatives through mobilization of their own resources. Based on the result areas and activities to be undertaken by the Action, some of the key areas for advocacy that are pre-identified as having greater potential/need of replication are as below.

1. Increased investment in gender and socially inclusive disaster preparedness, through allocation of a portion of the existing Disaster Fund, that is reserved only for response, to be mobilized before disaster to reduce the risks of humanitarian crisis that entails allocation of resources for preparedness and risk reduction measures.
2. Scaling-up of GESI informed preparedness measures based women safety audits and recommendations emanating therefrom to guide advocacy and strengthened monitoring from GESI perspectives.
3. Allocation of dedicated resources for continued capacity building of human resources who play key roles in disaster management: information management officers, EOC operators, fire fighters
4. Institutionalization and allocation of resources for providing refreshers training to existing personnel and regular training to the new volunteers and emergency responders at the community level while ensuring equal/ leadership role of women and socially excluded groups. Based on the local context and existing calendar, the action will advocate for formalization and marking at least two days in a year as 'disaster preparedness/earthquake safety day' to rally all stakeholders around the agenda. This may link with the nationally celebrated Earthquake Safety Day (1934 event commemoration) or the 2015 Gorkha earthquake anniversary, or commemorate a locally significant disaster/ incident. These days will be marked to organize events for felicitation and training of the CERT volunteers and conducting earthquake simulation exercises with participation of inter and intra provincial stakeholders
5. Emergency Health Preparedness Action (WHO):i) resource allocation for structural safety of hospitals at risk; ii) enhancing emergency health preparedness through increased resource allocation; iii)

6. DIMS Action (Red Cross): i) use of Data by municipalities/District and provinces for decision making; ii) rolling out DIMS at provincial, district and municipal systems; iii) Continuing current support to provinces/municipalities to use the BIPAD system (with IMOs); iv) strengthening horizontal linkages among government systems and NRCS systems
7. School Disaster Preparedness Actions in Western Provinces (UNICEF): i) School safety should be integrated into education plan; teacher & SMC training; and curricular and cocurricular activities for children. ii) Sensitizing/ orienting provincial and local govt on comprehensive school safety and minimum school safety package; iii) resource allocation for school retrofitting and for adhering to the building code for new construction
8. Shock -Responsive Social Protection: i) Concept of SRSP as risk reduction strategy; ii) Learning events to share UNICEF, DRC and other experiences; iii) Development and roll out of SRSP national framework/roadmap, local and provincial policies and plan

Result 5 - Activity 2

Short description (for the logframe)

Advocate for policy level measures based on evidences of assessments and demonstrations of disaster preparedness and risk reduction actions, including on private sector engagement

Detailed description (if needed)

The action will continuously advocate for institutionalization of the initiatives via policy level measures that are backed by evidence of risk, vulnerability and capacity assessment and demonstration of disaster preparedness and emergency response activities. The policy level interventions would be critical for sustenance in the longer run as well as for the wider coverage in terms of jurisdiction and population.

Private sector engagement is critical in most phases of the disaster management cycle, and as borne out during the 2015 Earthquake, particularly in the response. Yet, private sector involvement is not systematic- in fact the myriad roles in which private sector already engages for (and has potential for) positively affecting lives of the citizens though acknowledged is not well understood. There is potential to map their potential engagement systematically and thereby advocate with the provincial (and municipal) authorities for formalizing cooperation with the private sector for streamlining their engagement and mobilization of private sector the resources for disaster preparedness, emergency response and risk transfer.

In addition to the private sector engagement, other key areas that could be considered for advocacy by the Action for policy level interventions are:

- Based on the vulnerability assessment, policy aimed at vulnerable population particularly reducing their risk to multi-hazards with integration of protection for safeguarding the rights and addressing the needs of the vulnerable people
- Accountability frameworks to meet GESI provisions, as reflected in the Constitution of Nepal, CEDAW, and Leaving No One Behind in Agenda 2030 are in place in DRM legal, policy and planning frameworks, and their adequate financing and monitoring; Scenario-based, gender-responsive costing for evidence-based advocacy.
- Policies for incentivizing, disincentivizing, certification based on rectification or risk mitigation measures undertaken in hospitals, hotels, petrol pump, fuel shops, schools, business holders, etc.
- Policies for allocation of government resources and incentives for addressing immediate risks posed by unsafe houses or commercial buildings through retrofitting measures, that are linked with service delivery, insurance schemes, rebates, top-ups, etc.
- With a view to reduce humanitarian impacts through mitigating future risks, advocate for policies on risk informed development such as enforcement of the building code and bye-laws, provincial and municipal level Risk Sensitive Land Use Plan (RSLUP) to safeguard lives of people, infrastructure and investments. At present, UNDP is supporting Karnali province to formulate a provincial RSLUP that has high potential of replication in other provinces, while its experience of supporting Kathmandu Valley and Chautara on RSLUP can be replicated at the municipalities.
- Engage and advocate for continued resource allocation for upgrading and formulating Provincial Disaster Response Framework to cover multi-hazards beyond the earthquake plan supported under this Action and encompasses related stakeholders at all three levels in the province

In all these thematic areas, based on the interest and uptake of the 4 municipalities and 3 provinces, Action will assist them in evolving specific evidence-, and, practice-based plans and strategies to implement these policies for enhancing disaster preparedness.

Result 5 - Activity 3

Short description (for the logframe)

Regular dissemination and learning sharing workshops at the municipal, provincial and national levels, including exposure visits for cross learning

Detailed description (if needed)

- The UN Consortium together with UNRCO, Red Cross and other ECHO Consortium partners will pool issues and evidence for joint advocacy at the national level engaging with NDRRMA, CBDRM platform to scale up the best practices in the area of policy interventions, DRR funding, inclusion of women, girls, socially excluded and vulnerable population, private sector engagement, incentives/penalties, and tools to enhance preparedness, risk informed development, towards sustainable engagement on disaster preparedness and risk reduction.
- The advocacy notes on various issues/bottlenecks with learnings and good practices, developed in consensus with the municipal and provincial stakeholders, will be shared with NDRRMA, line agencies and other stakeholders on a periodic basis. The Action will organize sharing workshops jointly with the municipal, provincial and national level government to disseminate the learnings, issues and best practices.
- Exposure visits will be supported for cross learning of the municipal, district, provincial and/or national stakeholders, such as elected representatives, government officials from line agencies, donors, and partner organizations on a periodic basis. These exposure visits will be an advocacy medium to create awareness on issues and good practices collected during project

implementation. The exposure visits will entail direct interaction with the beneficiaries, various committees and stakeholders that will strengthen evidence and connect the decision makers to the field reality, thus motivating them to undertake necessary actions.

- Action will support municipalities and provinces to promote dialogue with women and socially excluded groups and enhance participation of diverse genders and excluded groups in training programs undertaken, including nontraditional occupations/skills including - mason training, electrification, plumbing, painting CTEVT courses, firefighters, among others.
- Acknowledging the significant role of media in advocacy, Action will support training and orientation to the local media personnel for sensitizing them on humanitarian reporting, prevalent urban risks and issues related to emergency preparedness leading to thought-provoking coverage on humanitarian issues, which could be powerful means of positively influencing decision-makers to take necessary actions. Media visits of the local and national media will be organized to capture the issues and good practices for wider sharing and outreach to wider population and stakeholders and sustained advocacy. Various media (FMs, Radios, print, videos, blogs, web-news, social-media platforms, etc.) will be used as a communication and advocacy tool, with assured visibility of ECHO. This activity will help foster private sector engagement in the Action through the private news media at national and local levels.

All subactivities in this Activity and all other activities under this Result will be implemented in a COVID-cognizant manner, ensuring safe physical distancing, use of masks, minimizing gatherings, ensuring availability of easy handwashing/ sanitizing facilities at all events. In event of lockdown or movement restrictions, all activities will be readjusted as per Contingency plan (Section 7.6) to ensure that they can be continued in a manner that is most appropriate to the local context, including via virtual means.

7.4 Results Context and Conditions

7.4 Preconditions

The federal, provincial, and municipal governments will be consistent in their policies and procedures, without any drastic changes that adversely affect the project implementation including municipal financing on DRRM.

The GON will continue to prioritize and allocate resources for rolling out the national and provincial DRRM policy and Action plan with municipalities firmly placed as the last mile government structure with clear roles, responsibilities and back up support mechanism.

The provincial governments prioritize continuous efforts in delivering on their DRR policy and action plan priorities with improved synergies with local governments.

7.5 Assumptions and risks (including risk of fraudulent activities and environmental risk)

Assumptions:

There will be a conducive security situation in the Action municipalities, province and in the country.

Other DRRM stakeholders in the provinces and local levels (particularly engaged in the priority clusters) are willing and cooperate in the humanitarian preparedness and response initiatives of the Action.

Political instability or the COVID-19 pandemic will not delay or hinder project implementation

Provincial and local governments of the Action areas are committed in their efforts and prioritize allocation of resources for supporting DRRM intervention with focus on emergency preparedness for effective response to an imminent earthquake.

There is a high level of interest and commitment from the private sector, provincial and elected authorities in the action municipalities for the participation and engagement in project initiatives including investment in preparedness

Communities are willing to take part in DRR initiatives and emergency preparedness efforts Communities will face no major population movement, including migration of members of task teams / volunteers.

The COVID-19 pandemic would not spiral out of control resulting in lockdowns and movement restrictions.

Risks are that any other large-scale disasters will hinder implementation of the project activities, and that COVID-19 pandemic escalation may result in national / provincial / local governments imposing lockdowns with shift in priority of the national, provincial and municipal level government to respond to COVID and pushing down the risk of earthquakes and fires far lower in their priority.

The upcoming elections across the country at local and national levels in 2022 may impact certain activities due to Election Code of Conduct and other restrictions, necessitating careful planning to accomplish those activities prior to mitigate any delays or adverse impacts

7.6 Contingency measures taken to mitigate the risks described in the section 7.5

Use the scientific research findings to advocate at the highest levels in the provinces and the municipalities and obtain their support to continue to prioritize the Action agenda of earthquake and urban preparedness, highlighting the serious repercussions if not addressed even during the COVID-19 pandemic

Based on experience from on-going ECHO-funded initiative on Urban Disaster Preparedness -HIP 2019, Action will evolve alternate strategies and a detailed contingency planning for all Action activities to be implemented even in a worsened COVID-19 pandemic, including facilitating virtual consultation meetings with the communities and the stakeholders, field mobilization and organizing multiple meetings in small groups as permitted by the government's protocol, insuring safety of the staff and stakeholders, including support the municipalities in COVID preparedness to lessen its impact that could derail other activities. (Annex 7.6 illustrates a sample COVID-19 response and Contingency plan developed for on-going Urban DP Action which will guide formulation of a similar one for this Action). Integrate COVID related sensitization outreach with on-going Action's outreach means and mechanisms. The effort would be to continue to advocate for recognizing the significant omnipresent threat posed by earthquakes (and fires) in Western Nepal amidst the pandemic,

In addition, strive to: engage all key stakeholders including NDRRMA and HCT from federal level in key learning, sharing and strategic review processes of the Action; enable provincial and municipal governments in establishing systems and mechanisms to manage risks effectively so as to upscale / replicate and sustain the systems beyond the Action; coordinate with and support

provincial and local governments while emphasizing the benefits of the practical measures to reduce and manage risks and demonstrate them through specific interventions during the Action period

Pursue synergy on these risk mitigation measures with provincial and local governments' annual development budgets, policies and implementation plans.

Key activities and consultation meetings with key stakeholders restricted by election code of conduct would be prioritized and conducted before the codes are enforced.

8. Resilience Marker

8.1 Resilience

Q1: Do the proposed project activities adequately reflect an analysis of risks and vulnerabilities (including conflict, environment and climate risks)? Yes

Provide details

The action has considered possible risk and vulnerabilities that may affect the implementation of the activities and achievements of the results. The action is risk informed as needs assessment identified, analyzed and prioritized- a) key natural hazards to which proposed locations are exposed to, (b) possible risks to urban communities from these hazards and (c) specific groups of people that are more vulnerable than others. The Action has further presented an analysis of risks due to political instability largely due to faction within different political parties as well as conflict that may arise during the election of local and national government.

Q2: Does the project adopt a "do no harm and conflict sensitivity" approach, include specific measures to ensure that the identified risks and any environmental impacts of the project are addressed to the extent possible, and are not aggravated by the action? Yes

Provide details

This action proposes interventions that contribute to reduction of risks- including environmental hazards- and interventions are identified based on thorough consultative, participatory processes, which minimizes any potential strife or discord about the interventions. System strengthening, cluster preparedness and use of technology are all anticipated to reducing existing risk and vulnerabilities. Any possible risk that may arise during demonstration for fire preparedness will be addressed putting in place the safety teams comprising members from fire brigades and medical team. The action will carry out participatory selection of priority mitigation measures based on comprehensive risk assessment. This will reduce the possible conflict between communities in regard to selection of locations. Further, the action will also demonstrate structural and non-structural mitigation measures focusing on fire and earthquake which will support to reduce existing vulnerabilities at the urban areas and most at risk communities. In addition, any emerging risk not foreseen during the action design will be monitored and necessary mitigation actions will be undertaken.

Q3: Does the project include measures to strengthen local preparedness capacities (of individuals and national or local institutions or organisations) to respond or adapt to identified risks? Yes

Provide details

The action based on sound analysis of problems, needs has proposed activities to strengthen the capacities of most at risk communities and vulnerable populations in anticipation of fire and earthquake risks in urban and rural areas of Western Nepal. The action will also prioritize building capacity and awareness raising of vulnerable and most at-risk urban communities, strengthening information management system at the municipal and provincial level and building

capacities of private sectors, all contributing to urban disaster resilience. Based on the risk identified from risks analysis and learnings from current Urban DP including earthquake 2015, trainings will be provided to vulnerable population and members of most at risk communities in first aid, fire response and search and rescue. Fire fighters from local level will also be trained on advance firefighting in urban areas, which will contribute in effective response and contribute towards saving lives. The action will strengthen disaster risk governance through support for functioning of cluster mechanism, emergency response frameworks to plan, prepare and cope with shocks and stresses to reduce future risks. Thus the Action is designed entirely around strengthening local preparedness capacities to the identified risks.

Q4: Does the project contribute to long-term strategies to reduce humanitarian needs, underlying vulnerability and risks or identifies modalities to link up with ongoing development interventions (national or international stakeholders)? Yes

Provide details

The number of affected population due to fire and earthquake will reduce with action's focus on heightening awareness and understanding of risk leading to behavioural change, strengthening of disaster risk governance, enhancing cluster preparedness. The capacity building initiative envisaged by the action will assist at-risk communities to take anticipatory measures/ preparedness measures that are foreseen to reduce overall caseloads during humanitarian crisis. Activities like risk assessments, identification and engagement with vulnerable population provide opportunities for municipalities/ municipal governments to use this information to take preventive actions to reduce the vulnerabilities. The information acquired from risk assessment will support to understand the existing risk and inform the planning and implementation of development programmes.

The retrofitting of most vulnerable households and a conducive policy for its replication could result substantive reduction of humanitarian needs during an earthquake. The action also aims to partner with private sector on various aspect of fire and earthquake preparedness including capacity building, and could possibility be mainstreamed into normal business processes- strengthening their resilience.

The action aims to address the underlying risk factors by building shared understanding of risk leading to system strengthening for taking anticipatory actions, and promote risk transfer through insurance mechanism, demonstrate mitigation measures at most vulnerable locations directly contributing to underlying risks and vulnerabilities

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

9.1 Complaint mechanism

The Action will set up a complaint reporting and handling mechanism primarily at Action municipalities and provinces to complement the existing grievance mechanisms of UNDP (and other Consortium members) at national levels. As a very first step proactively, Action will invest efforts to disseminate Agency (Consortium) Code of Conduct with Do's and Don'ts, Operating Guidelines including on issues of sexual and gender-based violence among the stakeholders, staff and beneficiaries, as well as any service providers, vendors. Strict, confidential and immediate case handling practice that is in place at UN agencies against SGBV, harassment will be operational. All Action staff would be oriented on the Complaint and Grievance handling and redressal mechanisms detailed here through staff induction/ orientation and training at the outset. Complaint Response Mechanism focal persons from at least one of Consortium members would conduct a session on the complaint response mechanisms planned and that need to be ensured by Action at various levels. Proactively, the action intends to embed such mechanisms also into regular review and monitoring, that will provide an opportunity to vulnerable communities, persons with disabilities, women and children who may not be able to access the other mechanism to put forth their views or complaints during monitoring and spot checks.

Focal points to report to, including an alternate will be identified- if any complaint or grievance is against the focal points, the next higher level staff could be reached- and their contact details will be shared in project information sheets, visibility banner and other means including via radio through IEC programmes of the Action to make people aware of the recourses available to them when the Action has failed to meet a stated commitment or any other issue, which may relate to a programme or project plan, beneficiary selection, an activity schedule, a standard of technical performance, an organizational value, a legal requirement, quality or performance, fraud, abusive behavior or sexual exploitation. Printed IEC on these would be posted at each Action Ward.

To facilitate easy access at community level, complaint boxes will be placed at the Action field office at the provinces and municipalities, including at Action ward offices and also at consortium member agency offices to supplement more open complaint (and compliments) register, and will be monitored at the minimum on a weekly basis. The opening of collected complaints (if any) will be carried out by a minimum of two staff. These provisions will be well disseminated to the beneficiaries, communities and related stakeholders assuring of confidentiality of the complainant. All reported cases will be treated with utmost confidentiality and priority. Any complaint would be dealt at the next higher level and will not be dealt at the same level to which it pertains- eg: ward level complaint would be dealt at Municipality, and a municipality level complaint at the Province and so on. A senior staff team formed of maximum three senior staff ensuring representation of at least female staff would be formed for each such complaint as needed. Action taken, initiated or findings of investigation against any of the reported complaints will be communicated back to the respective complainant (if not anonymous) /community where required.

Proactively, a feedback and complaint box will also be placed at every Action event venue, ensuring confidentiality of complainant. In addition, regular feedback processes at each event organised by the Action will be given equal attention for concurrent course-correction as needed. The Action, through the bimonthly Consortium meetings and more frequent Action level meetings, will regularly review and analyse feedback and complaints data and guide it and partners, vendors, service providers to incorporate into decision-making and for changes as may be needed.

9.2 Monitoring of the action

The Action will be monitored by the Consortium national team led by UNDP on a periodic basis - at least monthly- as a minimum monitoring benchmark directly working on the action against the identified criteria and indicators, adopting relevant tools and techniques. This will be carried out by devising a monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning (MEAL) plan for the Action to monitor, evaluate and document lessons learned from the Actions on a regular basis with means of verification articulated in the Action serving as the key elements. Detailed roles and responsibilities have been identified (refer Annex 9.2) against each of the activities and sub-activities for ensuring well coordinated consortium action.

The monitoring will entail two key aspects: process monitoring and result monitoring. Technical assessment (including an internal evaluation) and monitoring missions are also included in the budget and work plan. M&E plan will be finalised within 1 month of project initiation to provide opportunity for the project staff to contribute to, and own it. M&E focal point(s) will lead collection of data on physical progress, ensure quality in execution of the activities and provide constant monitoring of the field activities. Standardized data collection tables will be prepared and used for uniformity, ensuring SADD in data collection. Meetings with local implementing partners and Consortium will be held on a quarterly basis, to review, monitor, reflect and plan for the next quarter. Monthly updates on the activities will be prepared by the national team based on the inputs from the field teams for the Consortium partners to engage, while quarterly reports on physical and fiscal progress and achievements will be monitored. Interim and final reports as required by EU/ECHO will be planned, discussed, prepared and submitted by UNDP with inputs from Consortium partners.

During field monitoring, representatives from the key government and non-government stakeholders (provincial governments, municipality, ward, any other humanitarian actors) will also be invited to participate in the joint monitoring events. Findings from each of the field monitoring visits/missions will be shared and discussed at field level and at national level, and any required corrective measures identified will be implemented immediately. If any adjustments or additional requirements are identified in the activities through the monitoring process, it will forthwith be shared with EU/ECHO local office or on a periodic basis or through regular Consortium meetings. The results of the actions will be overseen also by the UNDP Country Office unit responsible for Strategic Planning and Development Effectiveness (SPDE) which will also be complemented by similar expertise from the consortium members on as needed basis.

Regular consultations and informal or formal discussions with beneficiaries and relevant provincial and local authorities will be held to ensure that the intervention is responsive to actual needs and the local context and that findings and lessons learned are properly captured. This engagement with communities and beneficiaries during monitoring will also serve to reinforce the complaints process as in Section 9.1.

Throughout the project, progress will be monitored in accordance with EU Humanitarian Aid reporting criteria collecting both quantitative and qualitative data including case studies, lessons learned and good practices. Such information will be used to report

progress in the implementation of the project against planned results and the overall objective. Last but not least, Monitoring of the Action will be also carried out by EU Humanitarian Aid representative(s) through missions/ visits that will also support and maintain the quality of the Action. Feedback from these visits would be integrated as a part of learnings and for making necessary changes during the implementation phase.

9.3 Is this action remotely managed? No

9.4 Which of the following evaluations will be undertaken and charged to the action?

Internal evaluation of the action's results Yes

External evaluation of the action's results No

External audit (only if it is a legal obligation) No

9.4.1 Further details on each evaluation / justification for external audit

The internal evaluation will be led by the national team with support from UNDP CO's SPDE Unit on designing the evaluation process. The evaluation will address the five criteria: relevance, efficiency effectiveness, sustainability and impact. Regarding the last two criteria, the process will assess how the Action's results have contributed to them and provides future direction. Consultation with the beneficiaries, relevant government agencies at the four municipalities, three provinces and national levels will be a key part of the evaluation process.

9.5 Studies carried out in relation to the action (if relevant) No

10. Implementation

10.1 Human resources and management capacities

The Action will be implemented through a consortium led by UNDP with UNICEF and UN WOMEN. Within UNDP the Action will be part of its flagship program on DRRM- Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Program and will be implemented with active engagement of UNICEF and UN Women. Geographically, UNDP would be responsible for Action implementation in Sudurpaschim and Karnali provinces as well as municipalities of Dhangadhi, Amargadhi, while UNICEF would be responsible for Lumbini Province and its Nepalgunj Municipality and Jay Prithvi municipality in Sudurpaschim. Thematically, cluster/ humanitarian level engagements would be led by UNICEF, while urban and other earthquake preparedness are led by UNDP, with UN Women being overarching lead on GESI. The Action will have a single project team comprising personnel from UNDP, UNICEF and UN Women, working at the national, provincial and municipal levels led by a National Project Coordinator for the entire consortium.

From UNDP: 1 Project Coordinator (National, full-time-24 months) based in Kathmandu is responsible for overall project management and quality assurance, oversight and donor reporting, liaison with consortium members and other associated partners. 1 Disaster Risk Management Program Specialist (International, part-time-24 months) based in Kathmandu will provide necessary technical backstopping to ensure adequate integration of earthquake preparedness and urban preparedness, needs and issues into the project activities both at provincial and local levels; 1 Senior Project Officer-Seismic Risk Reduction (National, part-time-24 months) will provide inputs on earthquake preparedness in urban context; 1 Database Officer (National, full-time-24 months) and while 1 Administration & Finance Officer (National, full-time-24 months) and 1 Administration & Finance Associate (National, part-time, 24 months) based in Kathmandu will provide project operation support including financial, administrative and logistics management. These staff will be from UNDP.

From UNICEF: 1 Chief -Emergency and DRR (International, part- time- 24 months), 1 Emergency Officer (National, part- time- 24 months), 1 Program Associate (National, part- time- 24 months) based at Kathmandu will provide technical inputs on emergency preparedness and program support.

From UN Women: 1 Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Specialist (National, part-time- 24 months) based in Kathmandu from UN women will provide technical inputs on GESI in all project activities with frequent travels to the field.

At the provincial level, 3 Provincial Project Coordinators (Local, full time, 24 months), based at province headquarters will lead the overall project implementation at the province level also guiding respective municipal team / s, aided by a Provincial Technical Officer each (Local , full time, 24 months), while 3 Municipal Technical Officers (Local, full time, 24 months) based in each of the 3 urban and earthquake preparedness focussed municipalities as well as 1 Municipal Officer (Local, full-time, 24 months) based at Jayaprithvi Municipality will focus on municipal level emergency preparedness and risk reduction activities.

The project will benefit from province level coordination and networking support from UNDP's provincial office based at Dhangadi for Sudur Paschim province and at Birendranagar for Karnali province while UNICEF office based at Butwal will be providing similar support to Lumbini province team and also for Nepalgunj sub-metro. The project will also bring on board additional personnel, external technical experts and specialists based on the Action needs at provincial and local levels who will provide necessary backstopping support in respective areas. UNDP's in-house quality assurance team will provide technical assistance and oversight and the Senior Management Team will provide monitoring and mentoring support.

10.2 Do you intend to deploy EU Aid Volunteers in the framework of this action? No

10.3 Logistics

10.3.1 Are you overseeing your entire supply chain? Please answer "No" if you are relying on other entities to do this either fully or partially (e.g. Humanitarian Procurement Centre, Global Logistics Cluster, through joint procurement initiatives etc.)? Yes

10.3.2 Please describe shortly the approaches you are using. If used, please also provide details on the Humanitarian Procurement Centre

No major procurements by the Action are foreseen- but some equipment and services could be procured via the UNDP Procurement Team in the CO relating to:

- i) Radio communication equipment for the EOCs
- ii) Rental of 2-4WD off-road pick up van for monitoring and supervision of field activities
- iii) Solar powered inverters with UPS (for 3 EOCs)
- iv) 7 Laptops
- v) 3 Photocopy/print machines
- vi) 8 cameras, 20 phones to collect photographic evidence and for making documentary and voice clips.
- vi) Materials and equipment will be estimated and purchased as needed for structural /non-structural mitigation activities

10.4.1 Do you anticipate any implementation challenges in the supply chain? No

10.6 Are there any other participants in the action? Yes

11. Field Coordination

11.1 Operational coordination with other humanitarian actors

The Action will coordinate with other humanitarian actors working in the Action area (Annex 11.1) through regular sharing meetings organised with engagement of Provincial governments and municipal governments where possible, the UNDP Field Offices, priority cluster co-leads (UNICEF, WFP, WHO and IFRC) where relevant.

In Karnali province, several agencies including USAID (Tayar Nepal) are working at provincial (and some municipal) levels, eg: in Birendranagar on preparedness initiatives, Tayar supports formulation of municipal level risk sensitive land use plan and strengthening local EOC at municipal level, hence coordination will focus on identifying unmet needs in municipal disaster preparedness, volunteer mobilization, developing overall synergy, capacity building at community and municipal level, conducting emergency response simulations. The coordination will also focus on provincial level initiatives of the Action, and mitigating any duplication risks.

Save the Children, Mercy Corps, Practical Action, VSO, WFP and UNFPA have initiatives across various locations in Karnali, so coordination will focus on developing synergy where possible, in consolidating available capacities and resources for province level preparedness planning and cluster system strengthening. Coordination with WFP as Logistics Co-Lead and Provincial Focal agency will be instrumental on logistics sector/cluster for all 3 Action Provinces- having set up HSA at Bhairahawa (Lumbini Province), at Dhangadi (Sudur Paschim province) and at Birendranagar (Karnali province). Likewise, establishment of forward logistics base at Khodpe in Baitadi district from Sudur Paschim province and Jumala from Karnali province are under progress, will be very useful for preparedness and response planning. WFP's mapping of access roads and trails to remote areas in these provinces will be excellent information to be integrated for emergency response planning and service delivery.

Coordination at Sudur Paschim province will be with Mercy Corps, Oxfam, LWF and DCA at municipal and where relevant at provincial level as well. Mercy Corps has DRR focused activities at Dhangadi. LWF has livelihood focused interventions at Amargadi municipality for vulnerable families. Oxfam has interventions on WASH in Dhangadi and Amargadi initiated during COVID-19 response. Operational level coordination and synergy will be developed with these agencies for better utilizing available resources to create added positive impact on targeted population.

In Lumbini province, agencies with projects on DRR are CARE, USAID TAYAR, Save the Children, Practical Action, Action Aid, UMN, Tear Fund and Misserior Germany, UNFPA and WFP so Action will be part of coordination efforts at province and local levels. With Action engaging Red Cross as an Implementing Partner for several activities, also having their strategic warehousing capacities throughout the provinces, a number of trained volunteers and also presence at community level will have added value in implementation and coordination efforts.

These actors will be informed about objectives, approach and activities of the project, to ensure proper and timely coordination. Key learnings, issues and concerns will also be shared to enhance synergy in implementation. (Annex 11.2 provides Tracking Matrix: Synergy with ongoing initiatives and previous outputs). Similarly, provincial governments and municipalities will be facilitated in organizing coordination meetings between/among various actors working in the areas which will be key in avoiding duplication, promoting synergy and ensuring smoother implementation.

UNDP (and the Action) will work in close coordination with other ECHO partners. The ECHO-Consortia meetings will help in establishing coordination between the partner organizations, for sharing project activities, updates, findings, consolidate learnings for wider sharing and seek collaboration where relevant.

11.2 Action listed in

Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) No

UN Flash Appeal No

Red Cross / Red Crescent appeal No

11.3 Coordination with national and local authorities

The Action will work in close partnership with GON and its structures at federal, provincial, and local level, as well as district level which is critical for disaster response.

UNDP, as Consortium lead will continue to maintain regular dialogue and align implementation strategy with relevant entities including NDRRMA, MoFAGA, provincial ministries among others. UNDP also as Provincial focal point agencies for Sudur Paschim, and UNICEF for Karnali, have been engaged with provincial authorities on a regular basis. With provincial officials owning and leading all provincial level activities, the Action will ensure they will be fully engaged in project implementation and receive formal periodic sharing of project progress and planning. They will be supported via the Action in several activities from risk realization to formulation of provincial earthquake response framework, formalized mechanism for disaster preparedness and resource pooling and inter-provincial coordination.

Ward and Municipalities will lead risk and vulnerability assessments, development of EPR Plan and structural/ non-structural measures for effective emergency response and benefit from training on various assessment tools to replicate interventions in other wards not covered by the Action. They will be formally updated on progress, plan, and issues/concerns on a timely basis to ensure that the interventions are locally owned for sustainability. The consortium will actively involve municipal authorities, communities, and partners so that solutions proposed are responsive to local needs and complement their activities and initiatives in the community. Close linkages and coordination with DDMC chaired by Chief District Officer, with representation of all local governments in the district will be maintained as DDMC will be instrumental for mobilizing district based capacities- from security forces on search and rescue and relief in the initial stage of a disaster.

11.4 Coordination with development actors and programmes

The action will coordinate with the development programmes being implemented at the Municipality and Provincial Level to avoid duplication and complement the activities for better synergy. The Action will contribute to the Province's and Municipality's mandate for DRM and emergency response and provide impetus to streamline development activities, towards minimizing amplification of existing and potential future risks.

In Karnali Province, the Action will coordinate with the provincial administration which is leading the formulation of a Risk Sensitive Land Use Plan for the entire province with technical support from UNDP, which will help in a realistic assessment of potential impacts, enriching the provincial earthquake response framework. The planning process for implementation of actions, development of earthquake response frameworks and response guideline, coordination platform, strengthening of PEOCs and MEOCs will enhance leadership from community to municipal, provincial and national level. It will contribute to strengthened governance capacities, in the long-term, to undertake risk-informed planning and development, in accordance with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

Bearing in mind some of key findings of the needs assessment in the selected municipalities in Province 7 were the absence of systematic training on Disaster Risk Management and Emergency preparedness to the elected officials at both provincial and municipal level, and that elected officials' have limited understanding on response frameworks and sectoral mainstreaming of DRR into development programs, the Action will aim to initiate discussion and demonstrate practical aspects for mainstreaming DRR across the Provincial and Municipal Development Plans. UNDP with consortium members have been working closely with provincial MoIAL, MoSD, Provincial Planning Commission through their other programmes, as well as providing policy inputs particularly on mainstreaming DRRM at national, provincial and local levels, which will better inform the Action and vice versa.

The Action draws lessons from previous ECHO projects and ongoing urban DP projects, and integrates the issues of the most poor and vulnerable, thus mitigating the risk of future disasters and building resilience of the community.

12. Visibility, Communication and Information Activities

12.1 Standard visibility

A. Compulsory display of EU Humanitarian Aid visual identity on (all points required):

A1: Building signage (e.g. partner office buildings, health centers, distribution points)	Yes
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A2: Equipment (for e.g. vehicles, water tanks, containers)	Yes
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A3: Shipments and goods for distribution as part of the humanitarian response (e.g. blankets, sacks, tents, buckets, hygiene kits, debit cards)	Yes
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A4: Branding of the operational materials/outreach materials addressing beneficiaries (e.g. training materials, flyers, notebooks, posters etc.)	Yes
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A5: Clothing items worn by project staff (e.g. T-shirts, field vests, caps)	Yes
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B. External communication of EU funding and partnership through (select at least 5 points):

B1: Press releases, press conference, other media outreach	Yes
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B2: Videos	No
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B3: Photos	Yes
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B4: Human interest stories with visuals	Yes
B5: Social media posts	Yes
B6: Events	Yes
B7: Print materials (e.g. brochures, factsheets etc.)	No
B8: Others	Yes

Specify for each communication action: frequency, scope, timeline, channels to be used and number of people to be reached. If less than 5 options are selected, please justify:

UNDP will strictly adhere with Joint visibility guidelines for EC-UN actions in the field, provisions of FAFA, General Conditions, eg: EU Humanitarian Aid's logo will feature prominently on: Hoarding boards and panels- placed at strategic locations in project area displaying maps and information; Information board - installed in public spaces, government offices, at fire brigades and emergency service providers being supported; Banners- displayed during handovers, consultations, training and capacity building sessions, learning and sharing workshops; Jacket/caps/bags- provided to field staff; Information, Education and Communication materials- widely circulated in the communities. Goods and equipment purchased will carry EU Humanitarian Aid's logo. Press releases on achievements of Action, Training material, related publications, flyers, brochures will carry EU Humanitarian Aid's logo. UNDP (and consortium partner) websites, UNDP social media like Facebook and Twitter, national/local media coverage will highlight the Action, activities/achievements as funded by EU Humanitarian Aid. Photos, videos beneficiaries' testimonials, blogs and case studies acknowledging EU will be compiled and disseminated.

While the population of working wards are all beneficiaries, through IEC, Action will reach out to 75% of this population, considering diversity in terms of age, gender, location, language and extent of vulnerability. Awareness products would be simple and easy to comprehend for a wide audience to internalise risks and hazards related to fire/earthquake safety, and motivate them to take steps for effective preparedness, response. Innovative technologies will be used, based on communication advancement, to disseminate information using popular social media platforms. Print materials, videos, hoardings, radio/TV jingles and PSAs will be developed as means to outreach and aware communities including via social media. Instruction for distribution and use of IEC materials will be prepared with focus on target audience, their need, message to be conveyed along with a system to record and report distribution of IEC materials on monthly basis. End-line KAP will examine relevance, effectiveness of IEC produced and also number of people outreach through these tools and audio-visual materials. Hazard, risk and vulnerability maps will be used as evidence-based tools for dissemination of disaster risk information to individuals, communities and stakeholders at various levels. Community-led awareness campaigns will be organized to outreach and disseminate information using multiple channels like Tole Lane Organizations (TLO), women's groups, youth groups among others. Various publications and policy briefs would be developed during the action period to capture learnings and recommendations for policy advocacy. Dissemination workshops will be organized for different stakeholders to share data analysis, publications and maps prepared.

12.2 Do you foresee communication actions that go beyond standard obligations? No

13. Financial Overview of the Action

13.1 Estimated costs

	<i>Initial budget</i>	<i>Revised budget</i>	<i>Interim report incurred costs</i>	<i>Final report incurred costs</i>	<i>[RCI] Final update</i>
Total direct eligible costs	2.222.100,06	-	-	-	-
% of indirect costs (max 7%)	7,0	-	-	-	-
Amount of indirect costs (cut after 2nd decimal)	155.547,00	-	-	-	-
Total costs	2.377.647,06	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00

13.2 Percentage of direct eligible costs allocated to the support costs

	<i>Initial budget</i>	<i>Revised budget</i>	<i>Interim report incurred costs</i>	<i>Final report incurred costs</i>
% of support costs	0,00	-	-	-

13.3 Funding of action

	<i>Initial budget</i>	<i>Revised budget</i>	<i>Final budget [RCI]</i>	<i>Final update</i>
<i>Direct revenue of the action</i>	0,00	-	-	-
<i>Contribution by applicant</i>	377.647,06	-	-	-
<i>Contribution by other donors</i>	0,00	-	-	-
<i>Contribution by beneficiaries</i>	-	-	-	-
<i>Contribution requested from ECHO</i>	2.000.000,00	-	-	-
<i>% of total funding</i>	84,1167	-	-	-
<i>Total funding</i>	2.377.647,06	0,00	0,00	0,00

13.7 Financial contributions by other donors

The costs estimated under section 13.2 are quantified as 0% pending clarifications requested by UN agencies from DG ECHO

13.8 VAT exemption granted (including to the implementing partners)?

Yes

13.10 Do you intend to involve and charge HQ staff costs to project?

No

14. Requests for Alternative Arrangements

14.3 Permanent derogations

Derogation

- 1 Where the communication of specific information to the Commission under Article 8.1 of the General Conditions would raise difficulties in light of the internal rules of the International Organisation, both Parties commit to consult each other with a view to finding a mutually acceptable solution.

15. Administrative Information

15.1 Name and title of legal representative signing the Agreement

Ms Barbara Pesce-Monteiro - Director of UNDP Brussels Office

15.1 Name and title of legal representative signing the Agreement

<i>Name</i>	<i>Office location</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>E-mail</i>
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16. Conclusions and Lessons Learned

16.1 Comments at proposal stage

The Action at local level will be implemented in selected core urban areas in the identified/targeted municipalities, comprising 2 wards each across four municipalities: Dhangadi sub-metropolitan city, Amargadi and Jay Prithvi municipalities from Sudur Paschim province, and Nepalgunj sub-metropolitan city from Lumbini province. All 3 municipalities (other than Jay Prithvi) will have a blend of urban DRR and Earthquake Preparedness components while Action efforts in Jay Prithvi will be focused on earthquake preparedness given the magnitude of risk and needs in the respective areas. At the provincial level, the Action will, in Sudur Paschim, Karnali and Lumbini provinces, focus on strengthening earthquake preparedness from enhancing understanding, strengthening systems for preparedness, response and coordination within the province and with neighbouring (inter-connected) provinces as well as ensure effective engagement of the humanitarian stakeholders.

The Consortium will adopt inclusive and participatory processes and a focused approach ensuring engagement of most at-risk

population and all concerned stakeholders at various levels. The project will build upon past learnings from ECHO funded DRR projects, DRR projects implemented by UNDP and the Consortium members, and urban initiatives of other stakeholders in developing disaster risk reduction and disaster response capacities of target communities, municipal authorities, emergency service providers and duty bearers and of the provincial governments and stakeholders. Recent key learnings at national level, mostly from 2015 Gorkha earthquake response: overall learning as well as cluster specific learnings, and from different levels of preparedness and response planning exercises will be best utilized in the Action delivery. Recent learnings from COVID-19 response in relation to cluster approach and engagement of local, provincial and federal governments will serve as a point of departure in best directing the Action to achieve targeted results efficiently. The Action will also benefit from innovations at national and international levels including in the field of Artificial Intelligence (crowd and vehicle management during crises), digital solutions and local and provincial governments engagements with a synergetic approach to strengthen risk mitigation and effective preparedness for disaster response. Reflection, learning collection and adjustment will be adopted as a regular change phenomenon in achieving set targets. The Consortium will implement the Action with a firm commitment on quality, efficiency, value for money and will ensure visibility to EU/ECHO's contribution and support in all activities. Action will also lead to a shared learning and mobilization process that will emerge as an outcome among respective provincial ministries, local governments, NDRRMA and MoFAGA.
