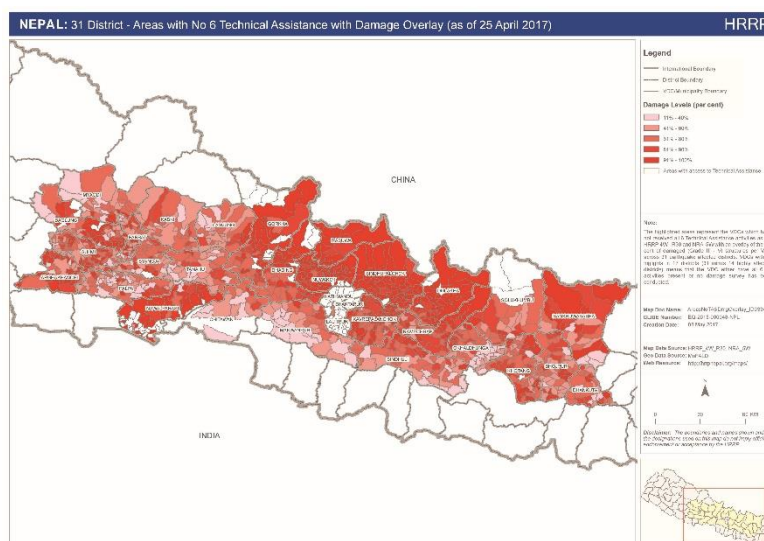


WEEKLY BULLETIN

8 May 2017

This Week's Highlights

- As of 8th May 2017, 19,005 houses have been approved to receive the 2nd tranche and 806 houses have been approved to receive the 3rd tranche. These [updates have now been mapped by MoUD CL-PIU](#).
- New maps for the 31 districts; [Building Points with Damage Grade](#) and [Technical Assistance Coverage with Damage Overlay](#)
- [HRRP 4W Dataset R30, 25th April 2017](#)
- Request for logistics/transport support for MoUD DL-PIU engineers, please write to moudclpiu@gmail.com if your organisation can help
- [Information booklets for households on Minimum Requirements \(MRs\) for load bearing masonry and RCC](#), prepared by JICA, MoUD CL-PIU, and NRA
- Reminder and Change of Date, Taking Action Based on Community Feedback, now on [Tuesday, 9th May, 11 AM, NRA Conference Hall](#)
- [Common Feedback Project Reconstruction Report, April 2017](#)
- Election Commission of Nepal has launched an app, available on [Google Play](#) and [iTunes](#), and a toll-free number – 16600144222 – to share information on the elections.
- [Milijuli Nepali, Episode 626](#)
- Election Code of Conduct, [Nepali and unofficial English translation](#)
- [HRRP Facebook page](#) launched – please like and follow the page!
- **Notice:** due to some changes as part of setting up the new HRRP website, some links may no longer work and we are working to resolve this. If you have difficulty accessing any links please contact info@hrrpnepal.org



Technical Assistance Coverage with Damage Overlay, 31 districts: highlighted areas represent VDCs which have not received the full package of 6 Technical Assistance activities as per HRRP 4W - R30 and NRA 5W, with an overlay of the per cent of damaged (Grade III - V) structures.

General Updates

REQUEST FOR SUPPORT: MoUD CL-PIU is requesting support from partners to assist with logistics/transport for the ongoing monitoring and inspection activities being carried out by MoUD DL-PIU engineers at field level. If your agency can provide some assistance, please write to moudclpiu@gmail.com.

NRA Technical Working Committee: the committee has finalised the update of the inspection guideline based on the 'Corrections and Exceptions' manual. The committee is now working to prepare for training technical staff on the manual and updated inspection process. Partners interested to get further information, or to support the committee, may contact Narayan Marasini, HRRP National Technical Coordinator, techcord.national@hrrpnepal.org.

District Support Engineers, Training and Deployment: NRA, with support from UNDP, are preparing to deploy 27 'district support engineers' to the 14 earthquake affected districts. Training for the engineers will be taking place on 8, 9, and 10 May and they will then be deployed to their working areas by Sunday 14 May. They are senior structural engineers who will provide guidance and back up for the MoUD DL-PIU engineers.

HRRP Media Digest, some interesting articles include:

[NRA gives additional Rs 4 billion of spending authority to MoFALD:](#) MoFALD CL-PIU have been authorised to spend the additional funds on the provision of the housing reconstruction grant in earthquake affected districts.

[Documentary on quake survivors screened in UK parliament:](#) A Nepali documentary titled 'Bhagya Le Bacheka Haru', based on survivors of 2015 Gorkha earthquakes, was screened in the British parliament on the 24th April. The documentary has already been screened in more than 32 countries and has won 15 international awards, including the Best Documentary Award at the Public Choice Award in the [KIMFF Festival](#) in Kathmandu.

[Subsidised housing loan scheme for quake survivors falls flat:](#) according to the central bank, 264 families affected by the 2015 earthquake have borrowed a total of 526.2 million NPRs under the subsidised loan scheme with 2% interest rate. The low take up of the loan scheme has been linked with complaints that the borrowing process and documentation required is cumbersome and discouraging but the banks have been very clear that banking rules must be followed when awarding the loans.

[700,000 cubic feet of wood distributed \(Nepali\):](#) the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation has distributed 727,208 cubic feet of wood from community and government forests for reconstruction in the past two years. The Ministry has previously estimated that 51,824,122 cubic feet of round-wood logs would be required for the reconstruction of private houses, government buildings and heritage structures (30.7% for urban areas and 69.3% for rural areas).

[A huge destruction looms ahead if we do not change the current construction practices \(Nepali\):](#) a government-led assessment team, including Japanese experts, has projected that if the current construction practices continue then vulnerability to earthquakes will remain high. The team concluded that with strict implementation of the building codes and wider adherence to engineering principles, the vulnerability can be minimised.

[Preying on disaster: How human trafficking has spiked in quake-shattered Nepal:](#) during the year following the 25th April 2015 earthquake saw a spike in desperate people falling into the clutches of human traffickers. NGOs say that human trafficking continues to be on the rise with many people migrating being trafficked into unpaid labour or sex slavery.

REMINDER, NRA 5W Reporting: to date only 90 out of 136 partners (66%) have reported to the NRA 5W system. We urge partners who have not reported to share their data as soon as possible. Please contact Gaurab Pradhan, gaurab@hrrpnepal.org, for more information. Once the NRA 5W is fully up and running the HRRP 4W will be phased out.

Milijuli Nepali, Episode 626: this episode focuses on the *parma* system, a reciprocal labour exchange system, practiced primarily in rural Nepal, and how this has contributed in the reconstruction of private houses destroyed by the earthquakes. In addition, it also includes technical advice from an expert. *Milijuli Nepali* brings you stories about people involved in reconstruction, who are contributing to little changes in the society by embracing changes themselves.

Himalayan University Consortium (HUC), Institutional and Individual Grants 2017-2018, Call for Applications: as part of the World Bank grant made to ICIMOD for HUC, aimed at strengthening partnerships of research institutions in the Hindu Kush Himalayan region working on issues of significance to regional water resource management. Proposals should focus on the trans-boundary, comparative, and/or multi-disciplinary aspects of the following areas:

- Water resource studies (monsoons, snow cover, permafrost, glacial lakes, wetlands, springshed, ground water, city/urban water, etc.)
- Climate change impact on water resources
- Water resource management
- Disaster and risk management
- Water, food, and energy security
- Upstream-downstream linkages and policy implication

The original deadline for institutional grant application, 05 May 2017, is now extended to 15 May 2017 and more details can be downloaded [here](#).

Sphere Standards 2018 Revision, comments on draft 1: the deadline for providing feedback is the 31st May 2017 and all are encouraged to share their experience and expertise in relation to the draft. Further information can be found on the Sphere Standards website [here](#).

Vacancy Announcement for NSET's Baliyo Ghar Programme: applications are invited for 6 technical officer – engineers, ten civil engineers, six On the Job Training (OJT) supervisors, one structural engineer, and one computer / software engineer, and must be submitted no later than 5:30pm on 9th May 2017.

Meetings and Events

NRA Housing Thematic Group Meeting, 5th May: the meeting was chaired by Dr. Hari Ram Parajuli, NRA Executive Member for Housing, and Mr. Dwarika Shrestha and Mr. Prakash Thapa, Technical Joint Secretary at NRA. Representatives of MoUD CL-PIU, MoFALD CL-PIU, HRRP, UNDP, and JICA attended.

Dr. Parajuli updated on recent initiatives taken by NRA to overcome challenges in disbursing the 2nd and 3rd tranche of the reconstruction grant including, the preparation of the correction and exception manual, update of the inspection checklists, and simplifying the damage assessment checklist to facilitate identification of the appropriate retrofitting technique. Dr. Parajuli also informed that 27 'district support engineers' will be deployed, with support from UNDP, to the districts by 14th May and a further 45 engineers are being deployed, with support from UNOPS, to support the grievance process at district level.

Mr. Narayan Shrestha, Deputy Director of MoFALD CL-PIU informed that 95% of eligible households in the 14 districts have received the first tranche of the grant. In the 17 districts, 98,000 eligible households have now been identified and the disbursement of the first tranche has started. As most local government staff, including district NRA staff, have been deployed to support the election they have limited time to work on reconstruction activities at the moment. Mr. Shrestha highlighted that households are waiting for technical assistance support before they start reconstructing their

homes and that technical assistance staff urgently need to be deployed to the field. After the election, it is expected that reconstruction will again speed up in advance of the monsoon so Mr. Shrestha urged all partners to be prepared to support across all 31 districts.

Mr. Suresh Wagle, Deputy Director of MoUD CL-PIU, informed that training for MoUD DL-PIU engineers on the correction and exception manual and the latest updates to technical guidelines and policies will start very soon and will be completed across the 14 districts within one month. In the 17 districts, DUDBC have 7 divisional offices and will support with technical assistance through a cluster approach with teams of 1 engineer, 2 sub-engineers, and 2 masons.

A training coordination meeting will be organised by Dr. Parajuli this week with support from Mr. Bishnu Bhandari, Executive Member NRA, and Mr. Prakash Thapa. The ToR for the thematic Sub-Committee on Housing under the DACFC (Development Assistance Coordination and Facilitation Committee) was also discussed.

[Taking Action Based on Community Feedback, Reminder and Change of Date, now Tuesday, 9th May, 11 AM, NRA Conference Hall:](#) the meeting will be chaired by Mr. Prakash Thapa, NRA Joint Secretary, Housing Division and will be the second meeting jointly organised by the [Common Feedback Project \(CFP\)](#) and HRRP to discuss what programme adaptations / additions are required based on the [most recent round of feedback from communities](#). The summary of the first meeting held on 22nd March is available [here](#).

[Door to door technical assistance reflection and strategic planning session, Gorkha, 4th May:](#) the session was organised by CRS and supported by MoUD DL-PIU, DUDBC, NRA, and HRRP with the objective of developing a VDC level coordination and communication mechanism in 9 VDCs (Bungkot, Taple, Aaruarbang, Aarupokhari, Aaruchanaute, Tandrang, Manbhu, Thumi, and Lapu). Session included presentations on field issues from each VDC, encouraged all stakeholders to work together to develop common understanding and to maintain uniformity in technical assistance and communication in each VDC. A common action plan and reporting mechanism in those 9 VDCs was jointly developed by the participants.

[Meeting of Cluster Leads and Co-Leads, 4th May:](#) the meeting was led by the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) and discussed the forest fire and monsoon preparedness and response plans presented by different agencies and clusters. These plans will now be consolidated for implementation. The Nepalese Army, Nepal Police, Armed Police Force, NRCS, and I/NGOs involved in humanitarian work to remain alert and available to respond to possible fire hazards and remain active in the lead up to the monsoon and implement the contingency plan if required. UN agencies agree to share details of their stockpiles through UNRCO office, and NRCS to the NEOC/MoHA within 7 days.

[Public Buildings and Community Infrastructure Coordination Meeting, Nuwakot, 5th May:](#) the meeting was chaired by Dr. Chandra Shrestha, NRA Executive Member, and co-chaired by Mr. Ved Prasad Gaudel, Acting Chief, NRA Nuwakot. Reconstruction challenges were discussed and some solutions were developed.

[Moving Stories Training of Trainers:](#) two ToTs will be taking place at the HRRP Office in Jwagal on the 31 May, 1 & 2 June, and the 5, 6 & 7 July. Twelve places are available in each ToT, but some places have already been booked so please do write to Siobhan Kennedy, HRRP Recovery Advisor, siobhan@hrrpnepal.org, by [Wednesday 10th May](#) if you are interested to attend.

[10 day photography training:](#) Transformation Training and Research Centre in collaboration with local NGO is organizing 10 days' photography training (beginner level) from 22nd May to 2nd June. The training costs 2,000 NPRs. Please contact the training provider at 01-6639612/9849656451 or email vtc@tfn.org.np for registration and further details.

Useful Documents

[NRA Newsletter April 2017, Nepali and English](#)

[Information booklets for households on Minimum Requirements \(MRs\) for load bearing masonry and RCC](#): prepared by NRA and MoUD CL-PIU, with support from JICA. An earlier version of these booklets was shared previously. Before printing the booklet partners are requested to add [this logo](#) to the last page and submit a sample copy to MoUD CL-PIU or DL-PIU for approval before finalising the mass printing.

[Common Feedback Project Reconstruction Report, April 2017](#): the report reflects a significant improvement in the perceptions of communities on reconstruction issues but issues with access to water have now surpassed all other community recovery issues in every district, among all caste/ethnic groups, and with both genders. Concerns also remain with respect to differences in the way the reconstruction process is unfolding for vulnerable groups who have significant challenges in accessing and understanding required information.

[Disaster Preparedness and Response During Political Transition in Nepal, Asia Foundation Report](#): using the 2015 earthquake response as a case study, the policy brief highlights the key factors that affected coordination between security-related agencies and the civilian agencies of the Government of Nepal, and identifies potential ways to improve future disaster responses. The paper also looks at ways that international organizations can support future efforts to improve the effectiveness of coordination in disaster response.

[Determining the Value of Cash Grants in Remote Access Areas](#): developed by 'The Remote Cash Project' to provide a comparative analysis of different means of determining the size of cash grants, with the development of practical recommendations for approaches that can be used in hard to access areas. The Remote Cash Project also has several guidance and training documents available [here](#).

[Seismic Retrofitting Guidelines of Buildings in Nepal: Compilation of Adobe, Masonry and RCC](#)

[Election Code of Conduct, Nepali and unofficial English translation](#): any partners experiencing any delays / challenges due to confusion around the application of the code of conduct are requested to inform either the relevant HRRP district coordinator, or the HRRP National Coordinator, Loren Lockwood, loren.lockwood@hrrpnepal.org.

[Functional Unbundling Report](#): sets out, in more detail than the constitution, which functions and responsibilities will sit at which levels of government, after federal restructuring. It is being used as the basis for draft legislation on local governance, a new inter-governmental fiscal transfer system and a new civil service act. Please feel free to contact the HRRP National Coordinator, Loren Lockwood, loren.lockwood@hrrpnepal.org, if you are experiencing any challenges with recovery and reconstruction works because of the new administrative divisions.

[NRA MIS Training Reporting Format](#): partners are requested to use the format for training records and to submit one copy to MoUD DL-PIU, and HRRP district team who will submit to NRA MIS. For already complete trainings, the HRRP district team are converting existing records to the new format.

[NRA Grievance Handling Reports](#): for each of the fourteen districts, updated on a regular basis. An English summary table is available [here](#).

[MoUD CL-PIU MIS portal](#): district-wise overview of inspection and reconstruction progress from DL-PIU engineers' reports. A translation of the headers is available [here](#).

[Contact details for District Focal Points for DL-PIU engineers:](#) district focal points will be able to provide contact details for DL-PIU engineers at VDC level.

[HRRP Briefing Pack:](#) highlights particularly useful documents to support people and organisations new to the Nepal earthquake recovery and reconstruction understand the context, the actors involved, and the standards to be followed.

[FAQ section of HRRP website:](#) community FAQs available in English and Nepali. New questions to be included can be shared to info@hrrpnepal.org or through the HRRP district coordinators at any time.

Information Products

[HRRP 4W Dataset R30, 25th April 2017](#)

Coverage of Technical Assistance in the 14 districts based on HRRP 4W R30:

- [Coverage of 6 Activity Technical Assistance Package](#)
- [Areas with no Technical Assistance, with Damage Overlay](#)
- [Vocational Training \(50-day CTEVT curriculum\) Coverage](#)
- [Short Training \(7-day DUDBC curriculum\) Coverage](#)

[Technical Assistance Coverage with Damage Overlay, 31 districts:](#) highlighted areas represent VDCs which have not received the full package of 6 Technical Assistance activities as per HRRP 4W - R30 and NRA 5W, with an overlay of the per cent of damaged (Grade III - V) structures.

[Building Points with Damage Grade, 31 districts](#)

District profiles, based on 10th April 2017 HRRP 4W data:

[Ramechhap](#)

[Rasuwa](#)

[Okhaldhunga](#)

[Dhading](#)

[Dolakha](#)

[Makwanpur](#)

[Kavrepalanchok](#)

[Gorkha](#)

[Sindhupalchok](#)

[Kathmandu Valley](#)