

ASIA
SHELTER FORUM
2020

VIRTUAL & ABRIDGED

ASIA SHELTER FORUM

Sunday, 29th November 2020

January 2021



Asia Shelter Forum

Introduction

The Asia Shelter Forum is an informal forum for exchange of ideas and lessons learned for humanitarian shelter & settlement practitioners in Asia and Pacific. The Forum is established with the objective of coordination, collaboration, learning and sharing of the experiences on the shelter sectors and to inform, provide updates on various on-going initiatives on shelter interventions in areas of disaster response, recovery, and preparedness to address particularly identified needs based on successes and lessons during implementation in the field.

In the previous Second Asia Shelter Forum that was held in Indonesia, the half day virtual workshop drew the attention of Government, international practitioners and donor agencies on

the lessons and experience of recent disasters as well as the wider experience of shelter response in the region. The workshop was able to explore the best practices in achieving safe, adequate, dignified implementation of shelter programs that supports community engagement, community driven shelter initiatives and also for bringing global participants in an Asia Shelter Forum in April 2021.

The third Asia Shelter Forum was hosted by Nepal and was led by the HRRP for coordination with higher level officials and executives of Government of Nepal, delegates of international countries, authorities of multilateral, and bi-lateral donors, and the representatives of different I/NGOs within and outside the country.


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ASIA

SHELTER FORUM

2020

Sunday, 29th November 2020

Organizers:



Government of Nepal
Ministry of Urban Development
Singhadurbar, Kathmandu
Nepal



Government of Nepal
National Reconstruction Authority
Singhadurbar, Kathmandu
Nepal



Government of Nepal
**Department of Urban Development &
Building Construction**
Babarmahal, Kathmandu
Nepal

Supporting Partners:



Global Shelter Cluster
ShelterCluster.org
Coordinating Humanitarian Shelter



HRRP Housing Recovery and
Reconstruction Platform

January 2021



ACRONYM

ADB	Asian Development Bank
ASF	Asia Shelter Forum
CCCM	Camp Coordination and Camp Management
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
COVID	CoronaVirus Disease
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
DLPIU	District Level Project Implementation Unit
DOST-PHIVOLCS	Department of Science and Technology, Philippines Institute of Volcanology and Seismology
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DUDBC	Department of Urban Development and Building Code
EU	European Union
GSC	Global Shelter Cluster
HRRP	Housing Reconstruction Recovery Platform
ICNR	International Conference for Nepal Reconstruction
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IOM	International Organization of Migration
KMSS	Karuna Mission Social Solidarity
MoUD	Ministry of Urban Development
NDRRMA	National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Authority

ACRONYM

NGO	National Government Organization
NRA	National Reconstruction Authority
NSET	National Society for Earthquake Technology
PDNA	Post Disaster Needs Assessment
PDRF	Post Disaster Recovery Framework
PIN	People in Need
STA	Socio-Technical Assistance
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Asia Shelter Forum is a forum of practitioners that allows sharing of experiences and learnings across the Asia-Pacific thereby fostering an environment to support and collaborate. Due to COVID-19 related restrictions, ASF 2020 was planned virtually as a half day workshop in November 2020 to be followed by an extended event in April 2021. The Virtual and Abridged Asia Shelter Forum 2020 provided a great platform to share best practices, lessons learnt, innovations, and other priority topics for the governments from Asia-Pacific as well as donor and regional, national and international humanitarian actors, academic institutions, and civil society.

This Asia Shelter Forum aims at creating a platform that builds professional connections and understanding of best practices in shelter and settlements programming in the Asia Pacific Region. The forum was started by the shelter practitioners in 2015 as the shelter meet for practitioners in Bangkok, followed by 2018 in Bangkok and 2019 in Indonesia. The main objective of the forum is to bring the shelter and settlement practitioners together to create safe space to share experiences and learn from each other. The past forum activities had proven well to engage the participants and strengthen the capacity of the practitioners to explore more technical solutions to serve the community we work. Similarly, from the past forum we have seen Government leading the forum and every year more and more governments from the region are coming together to facilitate the discussion among the practitioners.

The ASF 2020 was successfully hosted by MoUD-Nepal, NRA and DUDBC and supported by the HRRP and the organizing committee members namely CRS, IFRC, GSC, Habitat for Humanity, IOM, EU, and NGO Federation of Nepal as the major contributors for Asia Shelter Forum in Nepal. The Forum explored best practices and shelter approaches and initiatives that are community-driven, urban focused, retrofitting oriented, considerate of the multi-hazard risk and

appropriate shelter needs and even more contextual in the face of COVID-19.

On 29 November 2020, ASF 2020 hosted more than 300 participants from around the world in a hybrid setting consisting of virtual participants (Zoom and Facebook) together with in-person meeting participants following COVID-19 safe protocols. Er. **Mani Ram Gelal**, Director General, DUDBC Nepal welcomed the participants and the dignitaries which was followed by remarks from the following four regional government dignitaries highlighting the emerging needs of the shelter across Asia Pacific Region.

- Mr. **Md. Atiqul Haque**, Department of Director General, People's Republic of Bangladesh
- **Rento U. Solidum Jr.**, Officer In-charge, Under Secretary, The Republic of Philippines
- Mr. **Jen Galfand**, IFRC, Head of Office, Indonesia
- Mr. **Muhamad Safii Nasuton**, Director, Ministry of Social Affairs, The Republic of Indonesia

All statements from dignitaries stressed the need to leverage resources from the government to strengthen shelter management and establish stronger institutional mechanisms for effective shelter response. There were five sessions in the event:

1. **Shelter Cluster Coordination Mechanism and its initiatives in the region**
2. **The Role of Shelter & Settlements in Response to COVID-19**
3. **Urban Housing Recovery in Nepal**
4. **Nepal Retrofitting & Regional Experiences**
5. **Multi-Hazard Shelter Needs and Response**

In the first session, an update on the global shelter cluster mechanism was provided. The role of GSC for coordination, response, and capacity building of different government and non-government organizations for humanitarian assistance was made clear among the participants. Various ongoing initiatives of its working groups with brief updates from Construction standards, inclusion of persons with disabilities, promoting shelter projects, settlement approaches in urban settings were highlighted. Participants also understood that GSC provides in-country and remote support to the country level clusters on the need basis.

Second session proposed four emerging shelter issues to be addressed in the context of COVID-19. Linking health and living conditions was the first emerging

shelter issue identified, where the speaker stressed on the need for adequate housing facilities for overall well-being of humans. Importance of adequate shelter was also discussed to prevent the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19. Eviction was the third emerging shelter issue. Regular tracking of eviction data and monitoring is helpful to figure out the underlying cause of evictions and homelessness. Regular tracking and analysis of eviction data also prevent eviction of underprivileged communities, and targeted groups like health workers/frontline workers in times of outbreak of infectious diseases. Economic Recovery should be mainstreamed in shelter programs to improve income of people and sustain their livelihood through income generation employment opportunities.

Third session offered participants to gain insights from experiences and learning on urban recovery and housing shared by speakers and panelists from India, Chile, Nepal and Sri Lanka. The speaker from Nepal compared the rural and urban reconstruction and stressed on slow urban recovery. Findings from combined study (qualitative & quantitative) revealed housing finance, financial process and policy, and land etc. has made urban housing recovery complex. The panelist from Chile summarized various challenges dealt in the post-disaster phase; houses need estimation and setting eligibility criteria for government support, relocating displaced from temporary camps, and building common indicators for urban recovery. The panelist argued that public and private intervention requires holistic urban resilience and regeneration. Incorporation of risk reduction approaches and adjustment in policy and legislation based on empirical data is needed to swift the recovery process. People centered approach for recovery and reconstruction was emphasized through the panelist from India. The success of recovery and reconstruction should be examined with the lens of social capital to get overall well-being of people. The speaker representing the Urban Settlement Working Group proposed that threats from disaster at current and in future situations should be analyzed and embedded into contemporary housing practices. The link between planning and budgeting decisions for safe and affordable housing need to be strengthened.

Fourth session covered experience sharing of retrofitting practitioners from Asia Pacific region; Nepal, Bhutan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia, and Philippines. Nepal endorsed retrofitting initiatives effectively post-earthquake 2015 to control the haphazard building practice. Both hardware and software activities for retrofitting have been implemented by governmental and non-governmental organizations. Those activities include retrofitting of school

building, governmental building, capacity building of stakeholders and public awareness raising. In Pakistan, retrofitting curricula were developed, engineers and mason were trained, and provided on the job training to mason. Similarly, in Bhutan, guidelines for assessment and retrofitting were developed, public and private buildings were assessed, engineers and mason were trained, and on-the-job training for mason was provided. In Bangladesh, engineers and masons were trained and after that, the local organizations developed and implemented retrofitting designs. The importance of physical demonstration to help people to understand retrofitting. Technical complexity and limited provision for retrofitting in building code and generally low confidence among the technical professionals were some of the major challenges that need to be overcome from retrofitting issues. Common housing typologies in Indonesia are unreinforced masonry, confined masonry, timber-framed on stilts/over masonry skirt base etc.. Technical defects in such housing typology make the retrofitting process complicated. The Homeowner Retrofitting Program was implemented in the Philippines to strengthen the housing structures. By providing homeowners with access to financial resources and creation of market-demand, program implementation becomes easier.

Fifth session underlined the importance of integrated assessment of multiple hazards for effective shelter management. Philippines's Geo-Risk Philippines initiatives were shared. This initiative has two platforms: Physical and Governance platforms. In the physical platform, tools are developed for data integration, management, analysis, and assessment of information and in the governance platform, stakeholders can collaborate to share optimum use of the information necessary for risk governance. Different platforms under GeoRiskPH are GeoMapper, GeoAnalytics, and HazardHunterPH. The GeoMapper allows collecting field and off-line surveys. The GeoAnalytics application is designed for visualization and analytics purposes. The HazardHunterPH offers 24/7 hazard assessment services. Major achievement and learning of the Durable Solution-II project implemented in Nepal through the funding of UKAID was presented, funded by UKAID. The project has four core thematic areas for project implementation: implementation & coordination, geo-hazard assessment, policy development support, and resilience building. From Bangladesh, Caritas Bangladesh presented learning and achievement on resilient and climate Smart Design and response through a community-led approach project. Community engagement in the construction designing phase was stressed to ensure sustainability and maintain social cohesion. Discussion on different technical solutions for low housing such as strong resilient design, inclusive local practices

and culture were made. The framework of the community-led settlement project implemented by KMSS, Myanmar was presented which has social, environmental, and economic dimensions for project intervention.

Mr. **Marc D' Silva**, Regional Director, CRS bridged Asia Shelter Forum 2020 & 21. The Asia Shelter Forum reflects the importance of government leadership to bring CBOs and I/NGOs together to share, reflect and identify the most appropriate housing solutions, especially for the most vulnerable in our societies. Key ASF working groups came together on areas of urban issues, retrofitting, COVID-19 settlement response, and multi-hazard response. He clarified that the outcomes of these working groups will form the basis of the ASF 2021. He encouraged active participation in one or more of the working groups, so that the key points for scaling next year and beyond.

Mr. **Chandra Bahadur Shrestha** shared a presentation to invite participants to ICNR 2021. ICNR will be hosted from 23 April 2021 to 25 April 2021, and the 26th will be ASF. He requested all the participants to block 4 days for shelter week. Participants are expected from across the globe, especially disaster-prone countries. international, national, invited guests, and high-level dignitaries will be invited based on the situation. There is a higher possibility that the conference will as well be organized in a hybrid model; physical and virtual.

Representatives from key organizations working in the disaster and shelter recovery sector marked their presence in ASF. Feedback collected via zoom & feedback indicated that participants were raised more questions on shelter response to disasters that are common across the Asia region. Need of multi-sectoral collaboration for raising awareness at ground level is best understood by participants and they also recognized the importance of designing effective plans for recovery of disaster affected populations.

The Chief Guest, Er. **Sushil Gyewali**, Chief Executive Officer, NRA, and Er. **Surendra Mohan Shrestha**, Joint Secretary, MoUD-Nepal provided a solid overview of the forum and briefly outlined deliberations of each session. Their closing remarks reiterated Nepal's commitment for continued support in such regional collaboration and showed dedication for holistic development that enriched best ideas of shelter allocation. They also made clear that shelter is multi-disciplinary efforts and strong commitment and collaboration from all the sectors; governmental, non-governmental, and private are required for better shelter and its emergency response.



2. OPENING CEREMONY

2.1 Welcome to participants

Er. **Mani Ram Gelal** thanked all the dignitaries, donor representatives, participants from different I/NGOs, and other stakeholders for their participation. He emphasized the multi-disciplinary and collaborative efforts for urban housing recovery. Housing demand of the growing population can be achieved through the effective mobilization of financial resources and institutional reforms. Shelter provision is an integral component to alleviate poverty targeted towards the poor and marginalized community. He also shared some of the successful

urban housing interventions by the Government of Nepal where they have successfully constructed 2000 safe housing units for the poor and marginalized communities across the country under a housing program, improvement in the housing standards by replacing straw-based temporary roofs with CGI sheet roofs, housing for civil employees, and other community housing in an emergency contributing to poverty alleviation in the country. He also pointed out that haphazard and scattered settlement, poor socio-economic conditions, lack of resources, policy gaps, and implementation challenges are some of the major issues of urban recovery and impediments to safe and resilient communities.



ASIA SHELTER FORUM - 2020
Welcome to participants

Er. Mani Ram Gelal
Director General, DUDBC



2.2 Key messages from dignitaries

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH

Department of Director General

Mr. **Md. Atiqul Haque** applauded the forum's capacity to share experiences and learning on the expansion of urban housing and settlement, and also stressed the need for multilateral dialogue on urban housing and shelter. He gave an overview of Bangladesh's vulnerability to the natural disaster including floods, cyclones, river bank erosion, typhoons. These are the major cause of distress, displacement, and vulnerability of a large number of people in both urban and rural dwellings. Forums and platforms like ASF need to be strengthened from country to country, cluster to cluster and from community to community. Accountable assistance for disaster affected populations is possible through effective partnership and more collaboration, accountable assistance can be provided to people suffering from disaster. Immediate recovery relies on humanitarian assistance. Role of humanitarian organization becomes paramount in crisis situations. In partnership with the government, humanitarian actors can reach the most vulnerable population like people with disabilities, pregnant and lactating mothers, female-headed households, senior citizens, marginalized castes, and, disaster and conflict affected populations. Issues of vulnerable people and underprivileged communities, disaster-affected people, and conflict-affected people need to be addressed accordingly and discussed in different forums. Humanitarian actors need to contribute in formulating humanitarian assistance policy. ASF is a milestone to enhance knowledge of shelter practitioners through sharing of capacity building initiatives on disaster preparedness and response. He is assured ASF will continue to build stronger shelter communities of shelter practitioners of Asia Region to contribute to the global shelter forum. He expressed People's Republic of Bangladesh's interest in organizing the future Asia Shelter Forum.



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Government of Bangladesh

Mr. Md. Atiqul Haque

DG, Department of Director General



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2.2 Key messages from dignitaries

MESSAGE FROM THE REPUBLIC OF PHILIPPINES

Officer Incharge, Under Secretary

Mr. **Renato U. Solidum, Jr.** stated that Asia is prone to natural hazards and global warming. Every year disastrous events are reported in many zones of the Asia-Pacific region. Many people lose their lives, get injured, and are displaced. Physical and social infrastructure of the nation gets disrupted and also severely affects public service. He suggested three action points to make a resilient community, and also to reduce the heavy losses from the disaster; reduce the potential risk of hazards or global warming, needs to have an effective and efficient response, which requires preparedness, and doing many simulation exercises, and appropriate and prompt response to the disaster. There can be lingering horizontal impact and risk, though the possible damages and loss from hazards are minimized from better preparedness and response. Hence, they need prompt response and immediate recovery from the disaster. Lessons from the past disaster should be mainstreamed into the recovery program. Every individual needs to know how to survive before, during, and aftermath of disaster. There should be easy and prompt access to basic access services such as health, schools and most importantly shelter aftermath of disaster. Inter community support should be guided by national policies. Contribution of every sector helps in achieving resilient communities. In particular for shelter, he further suggested to consider the followings three points:

1. make sure settlement is in the safe location
2. follow the safe construction standard, and use quality construction materials
3. community must be aware of what to do before, during, and aftermath of the disaster



ASIA SHELTER FORUM - 2020

The Republic of Philippines

Renato U. Solidum, Jr.

Officer Incharge, Under Secretary



2.2 Key messages from dignitaries

MESSAGE FROM INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS

Head of Office, IFRC Indonesia

Mr. **Jan Gelfand** stated Shelter as the process beyond the product. It is more than a technical endeavor. Shelter intervention needs standard, law, policy, finance and skilled human resources. Recent COVID-19 pandemic further sensitized the importance of shelter to deal with stresses and shocks due to multitude disasters. Shelter and settlement give a sense of belonging, safety and security, in our sense of belonging. This is important to build and nurture relationships with the fundamental building blocks of community. He highlighted the role of government and political will for sustainability of shelter intervention because shelter requires law, policy, guidelines, budget and skilled human resources. Sustainable shelter intervention should be guided with an anticipatory method to reduce vulnerability, use of cash grants and most significantly community engagement for accountability.

He thanked all the organizations for engaging in creative dialogue in shelter. He encouraged participants to push limits and think globally. Learning from each other is vital to promote innovation and creative thinking. Coordination events like ASF need to take place in the field to measure success and get realistic feedback. He acknowledged that shelter is fundamental to any agenda of localization, and also expressed IFRC commitment to continuously support and coordinate in shelter before, during, and aftermath of disaster.



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Int'l Federation of Red Cross

Mr. Jan Gelfand

Head of Office, IFRC Indonesia



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2.2 Key messages from dignitaries

MESSAGE FROM REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

Ministry of Social Affairs

Mr. **Muhamad Safii Nasuton**, delivered a message to the Government of Nepal for recognizing role of the local government as a first responder to disaster. The local government has diverse experience in shelter response. Therefore, it is critical to facilitate collaboration between local governments with other shelter actors across the Asia region to strengthen shelter capacity. Threats imposed due to COVID-19 pandemic have restricted the mobility of human beings. This has amplified the need of shelter and also provided more opportunities to explore and examine to create breakthroughs on shelter response. In times of disasters, there is substantial demand for shelter. So, it requires collaboration among humanitarian organizations. Coordination is key to ensure that affected families receive humanitarian assistance.



ASIA SHELTER FORUM - 2020

Republic of Indonesia

Mr. Muhamad Safii Nasuton

Ministry of Social Affairs



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He highlighted that Ministry of Social Affairs is standby as the coordinator of shelter sub-cluster to orchestrate a smooth transition for better life of the affected population. He mentioned that shelter sub-cluster have supported humanitarian actors in assisting over one million disaster affected populations in Indonesia. Shelter sub-cluster is currently supporting coordination for COVID-19 situation to commence interagency collaboration that is strengthening the capacity of cluster members over 30,000 volunteers of the Ministry of Social Affairs across Indonesia. They have also facilitated the development of policy, guidelines and tools at national and local level for shelter assistance. This policy and guidelines include humanitarian shelter guideline, guideline on construction during COVID-19 situation, standard for temporary shelter etc. He handed over ASF certificate to the joint panel of National Reconstruction Authority and Government of Nepal - Ministry of Urban Development on behalf of Republic of Indonesia.



The opening ceremony concluded with an ASF certificate handing over from the **Republic of Indonesia - Ministry of Social Affairs** to the joint panel of **National Reconstruction Authority** and **Government of Nepal - Ministry of Urban Development**. On behalf of Republic of Indonesia, Mr. **Muhamad Safii Nasuton** (Director General - Ministry of Social Affairs) congratulated Nepal on the success of the event for 2020 & 2021 and wished all for a fruitful and productive firm.

3. SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

3.1 Shelter Cluster Coordination Mechanism and its initiatives in the region



Facilitator

Mr. **Sanjeev Hada**

Shelter Cluster Team (IFRC)
Ops. Coordinator - Indonesia



Speaker

Mr. **Pablo Medina Asensio**

Deputy Global Shelter Cluster
IFRC, Geneva



PLAY VIDEO



PRESENTATION

The first session offered update on global shelter cluster coordination mechanism, its functions, set up, who it is for, its presence in the region and what it does to assist the governments, humanitarian agencies and the communities affected by disasters. The presenter stressed 'GSC' as a coordinating body that brings all humanitarian actors together for a response that is effective, timely and transparent. But also pointed out that the GSC is not a fund-raising mechanism nor an implementer of programs, but a body that supported agencies with coordination, technical support, and information management to strengthen their emergency response. For the shelter sector, IFRC is the identified agency to lead emergency shelter response in natural disasters with UNHCR taking the lead in conflict situations. The scope of work was also presented by introducing the GSC strategy (2018-2022) with the four pillars aiming to strengthen

shelter and settlement response for building resilient communities through coordination, advocacy, evidence-based response, and capacity building. It also outlined various ongoing initiatives of its working groups with brief updates from Construction standards, inclusion of persons with disabilities, promoting shelter projects, settlement approaches in urban settings were highlighted. It was also mentioned that the GSC provides in-country and remote support to the country level clusters in making its preparedness plans, technical support and capacity building support if requested. The takeaway from this presentation was how effective coordination can make a difference in the ways we operate, how lives can be saved, families reunited, dignity restored by simply sharing information.

3.2 The Role of Shelter & Settlements in Response to COVID-19



Facilitator
Mr. **Seki Hirano**
Sr. Global Technical Advisor
Catholic Relief Services, USA



Facilitator
Mr. **Gregg McDonald**
Assoc. Director for Operations
Habitat For Humanity, Manila



Speaker
Ms. **Susannah Webb**
Oxford Brookes University
CENDEP, UK



Speaker
Ms. **Claire O'Reilly**
Arup Int'l Development
UK



Speaker
Ms. **Pauline Caspellan**
SE Asia Disaster Law Adviser
IFRC, Philippines



Speaker
Ms. **Enid Madarcos**
Urban Policy Manager
HfH, Philippines



Speaker
Mr. **Ramesh Ghimire**
Shelter and CVA Coordinator
NRCS, Nepal

[PLAY VIDEO](#)[PRESENTATION](#)

This session highlighted the importance of social behavior in space, physical distancing, and the sacredness to avoid spreading of COVID-19. With differing scales of lockdowns across the region housing has become the front-line defense against COVID-19. This session further explored how the skill sets from this sector (as built environment professionals, coordinators and policy maker, field worker, community mobiliser) has contributed to date and looking towards the future on emerging issues to the effects of pandemic. The session presented examples of member organizations:

- 1. Adapting COVID safety Measures for distributions sites and construction sites.**
- 2. Providing temporary accommodation to groups such as health workers.**
- 3. Providing design and construction support to isolation, quarantine, and medical facilities.**

During the session a live participants polling showed that there were many who also have been involved in the above types of work, however it was interesting to learn no organization in the forum was tackling evictions due to COVID and a limited experience in decongesting and managing settlements. Report out from Nepal where Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC) is shelter cluster lead together with NRCS and IFRC. Where actors such as NRCS actively engaged in establishing quarantine centres jointly with local municipalities, distributing shelter items such as blankets to quarantine/isolation centers. The challenge remains to provide shelter assistance to people living in home isolation.

The second half of the session explored four **emerging sheltering issues in context of COVID-19:**

- i. Linking health and living conditions,
- ii. Adequate ventilation,
- iii. Evictions,
- iv. Economic recovery.

Inadequate housing is linked with a range of physical and mental health issues including:

- Vector borne diseases such as malaria.
- Respiratory infections, particularly pneumonia caused by indoor air pollution.
- Diarrhoeal diseases caused by poor water and sanitation.
- Parasitic infections and anaemia linked to inadequate flooring.

- Cardiovascular conditions caused by stress, overcrowding, extreme heat and cold. (Extremes of heat are likely to become more frequent with the climate emergency)
- Mental health conditions caused and exacerbated by trauma, evictions and loss of livelihoods.

The main causes of housing-related mortality and illness are overcrowding, lack of clean water and sanitation, poor ventilation and related indoor air pollution and lack of protection from disease vectors. Adequate ventilation can help mitigate the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19 indoors. Three things to be considered for adequate ventilation include:

- The number and size of openings that determine potential airflow,
- The size of space and location of windows that influence where air goes
- Available ventilation can determine how many people can be accommodated in the space.

Eviction is the permanent or temporary removal against the will of individuals, families, and/or communities from their homes and/or land, which they occupy, without the provision of, and access to, appropriate forms of legal or other protection such as relocation or resettlement. Labor migrants, informal settlers, minority groups, and in the context of COVID, health workers are targeted. The shelter agencies can assist in preventing evictions and homelessness and overcrowding during pandemic through regular tracking of eviction cases, financial assistance to the proprietor, tracking cases of the stigma against health workers and those infected with COVID-19, and advocacy for moratorium and extension of rent payment.

Economic recovery: Asia Development Bank conducted a survey in 2020, which shows a prediction of the lowest regional economic outcomes in 60 years, clearly indicating between 109-167 million people losing their jobs. Therefore, the major shelter programs for economic recovery are housing construction, improving the security of tenure, and slum upgrading and provision of basic services. This will contribute to job creation; generate demand for construction and services materials, and overall increased productivity.

As the pandemic prolongs and the effects extend beyond health and sanitation, the shelter sector can make further contributions by becoming involved in more of the emerging issues and to champion adequate home as the first line of defense against COVID 19.

3.3 Urban Housing Recovery in Nepal



Facilitator
Mr. **Minar Thapa Magar**
HRRP
Nepal



Speaker
Dr. **Chandra B. Shrestha**
National Reconst. Authority
Nepal



Panelist
Mr. **Mohamed Hilmi**
Humanitarian Policy & Practice
Srilanka



Panelist
Mr. **Pablo Allard Serrano**
Universidad Del Desarrollo
Chile



Panelist
Mr. **Kirttee Shah**
Ksa Design Planning Services
India

[PLAY VIDEO](#)[PRESENTATION](#)

Disaster affects communities at varying levels: resulting in loss of critical infrastructures, loss of social capital, loss of economic resources, and above all else, loss of human life. The length of the recovery period is determined by the nation's economic and environmental capacity as well as socio-cultural aspects. In this session, the four speakers from different zones exchanged their overview on challenges and learnings in recovery, particularly focusing on the urban perspective.

3.3.1 Urban Housing Recovery in Nepal

Speaker: *Dr. Chandra B. Shrestha, NRA*

This session outlined the context of urban housing recovery in Nepal post-earthquake 2015. In comparison to rural reconstruction, urban reconstruction is lagging. Only 60% of the urban reconstruction is completed so far, where the progress of reconstruction in Kathmandu valley (36%) is quite slow. The NRA including Central and District level project implementation (CLPIU/DLPIU), urban municipalities, and wards, partner organizations (PO), private sectors, and households are the major actors in urban housing

recovery. Two hundred sixty seven partner organizations are working in the reconstruction including both urban and rural areas. However, only seven partner organizations are working in urban housing recovery, where they are doing urban recovery research, assistance, training, and capacity building on urban retrofitting. The partner organization's low preference for engagement in urban housing recovery is based on the assumption of privileges of urban areas' ease of access to markets, financial services, and construction materials. NRA, HRRP, and Urban Recovery Technical Working Group (UR-TWG) conducted the qualitative and quantitative study to identify the issues on the urban housing recovery across ten earthquake-affected districts. Both studies reflect housing finance as the most pertinent issues in urban housing construction. The qualitative study further reveals financial process and policy, and land as the prevalent barriers for an urban housing recovery. In the context of retrofitting, quantitative study identifies high cost and inadequate tranche as the major barriers. Dr. Shrestha proposed the following way forward for urban housing recovery:

- i. Condition of house determines the action for disaster preparedness, so it requires a nationwide household health survey,
- ii. Improving access to low-cost loan
- iii. Research on urban technology,
- iv. Conservation of traditional architecture,
- v. Enhanced research capacity of Nepal in the housing sector,
- vi. Promotion of legislative and institutional measures for introducing an effective renewal model.

3.3.2 With Lens from Global Shelter Cluster-Urban Settlement Working Group

Panelist: *Mohamed Hilmi, InterAction*

Mr. Hilmi stressed the need for more disaggregated data for generating more learnings on housing recovery. For instance, gender access to housing and assistance. The recent COVID-19 pandemic signifies wider importance of housing, which is directly linked with physical and mental well-being of people, their livelihoods and employment, and other multiple things like disaster risk reduction, accessibility for people with disability, and gender equality. Intensive advocacy by the shelter groups is required for mainstreaming the adequate, safe, and affordable housing practice in the national policy and allocation of the budget for the same. Resilience of the community is weakened over time due to the frequent and minor hazards/ disasters like floods, landslides, etc. Hence, it should be instilled with good construction. Consideration of the current and impending situation that

can arise due to disaster should be incorporated in contemporary housing practices.

3.3.3 Lessons from National Urban Housing Reconstruction of Chile

Panelist: *Pablo Allard Serrano, Universidad Del Desarrollo*

Mr. Serrano appreciated Government of Nepal's approach to the qualitative and quantitative survey analyzing urban recovery issues. He further recommended applying this study approach for the future and post-disaster to make an informed decision. Chile government's main priorities post-earthquake were on physical recovery, access to shelter and housing, access to funding for housing, economic development, and planning for resilience and reduction. Those priorities neglected an approach of holistic recoveries like economic reinvention, community strength, gender issues, and psychosocial well-being. Numerous challenges were encountered during the recovery and reconstruction phase like estimating the housing need and setting eligibility criteria for government support. Although, managing nearly three hundred sixty thousand destroyed households was a foremost challenge, and the government was only able to support around two hundred twenty thousand families. This brought the next major challenge of relocating displaced from temporary camps. Building common indicators for urban recovery was a further challenge that came across during the recovery process. The panelist proposed following major learnings from Chile Earthquake:

- Need proper communication of complexity of the task to affected families,
- Engagement and commitment of local leaders, municipalities, and local government
- Integration of public and private collaboration
- Incorporate people participation in an alternative solution
- Promotion of holistic urban resilience and regeneration
- Incorporate risk reduction
- Build policy and legislation based on shared experience and data

3.3.4 Learning from various urban recovery from India

Panelist: *Kirtee Shah, KSA Design Planning Services Pvt. Ltd., India*

Mr. Shah urged participants to consider people as the main actor for recovery and reconstruction. Although people suffer, become helpless and victims of disasters, the will of people give a pathway for recovery. Reconstruction plus approach should be promoted in the post-disaster

phase. Reconstruction plus approach promotes well designed shelters and infrastructures, and enhanced resilience, etc. Transit shelters should be a vital part of the emergency shelter response, as poor transit shelters hamper the recovery process. Indicators of social capital should also be examined to measure the success of recovery and reconstruction. Improved social capital offers people to live life in a dignified manner and improves psychosocial wellbeing of human beings.

3.4 Nepal Retrofitting & Regional Experiences



Facilitator
Ms. **Bhubaneswari Parajuli**
HRRP
Nepal



Facilitator
Mr. **Deepak Saud**
HRRP
Nepal



Speaker
Mr. **Manoj Nakarmi**
Ministry of Urban Development
Nepal



Speaker
Dr. **Ramesh Guragain**
NSET
Nepal



Speaker
Ms. **Danni Rossa Wahyuningdita**
Build Change
Indonesia



Speaker
Ms. **Kim Acupan**
Build Change
Philippines



PLAY VIDEO

The four speakers from Asia-Pacific regions including Nepal presented their experience in retrofitting. The speakers shared different challenges tackled in

the implementation of hardware and software retrofitting activities. Learnings on retrofitting were also provided, which will further subsidize in widening the scope of retrofitting.

3.4.1 Retrofitting Experience in Nepal

Speaker: *Mr. Manoj Nakarmi, MoUD Nepal*



Mr. Nakarmi shared a collaborative experience of retrofitting in Nepal. To control the haphazard building practice post-Nepal Earthquake 2015, various retrofitting initiatives were endorsed. So far, the government has operated both hardware and software activities. In the software portion, retrofitting manual, capacity building of stakeholders (engineers, artisans, and govt. officials), public awareness raising, and policy documents (National Plan of Action) were developed. In the hardware part, retrofitting of schools, government, and residential housing is going-on. Two-Thousand classrooms are retrofitted and retrofitting of six hundred sixty houses is completed. Some of the major learnings and ways forward from retrofitting projects are requirements of a specific strategy for retrofitting of clustered and isolated housing, the necessity of trained engineers/craftsmen on retrofitting construction, and the requirement of documentation and research on retrofitting along with a policy for enforcement.

3.4.2 Regional Experience on Retrofitting

Speaker: *Dr. Ramesh Guragain, NSET, Nepal; Danni Rossa Wahyuningdita, Build Change, Indonesia; Kim Acupan, Build Change, Philippines*



Dr. Ramesh Guragain shared the experiences of retrofitting in Pakistan, Bhutan, and Bangladesh. In the beginning phase of retrofitting implementation, questions on retrofitting were raised by communities, masons, leaders, and even engineers, as they argue if the building is already there, why there is a need to demolish part of the building and add new features/technologies to existing buildings. To convince people, the physical demonstration of retrofitting was the best way than providing theoretical explanations and training. In Pakistan, retrofitting training curricula were developed; engineers and mason were trained, and on the job training

were provided to masons. The retrofitting experience in Bhutan is more comprehensive as retrofitting was performed thoroughly. At first, guidelines for assessment and retrofitting were developed, the number of public and private buildings were assessed, engineers and masons were trained, and provided on-the-job training to masons. In Bangladesh, the software activities were conducted for retrofitting. In the beginning, engineers and masons were trained and after that, the local organizations prepared and implemented retrofitting designs. During the session, he emphasized the importance of physical demonstration to help people to understand retrofitting. According to him, this type of demonstration helps to explore social acceptance, economic affordability, and technical feasibility of retrofitting. Similarly, the sharing experiences from neighboring countries with similar socio-economic support to execute retrofitting, but the process should be customized according to local context. He further advocated that retrofitting is technically feasible, economically affordable, and doable in most cases. However, there are several challenges associated with retrofitting such as technical complexity, limited provision for retrofitting in building code, limited awareness, information and experience, and generally low confidence among the technical professionals.

Ms. Danni shared retrofitting experiences of Indonesia. She highlighted the disaster overview of Indonesia, quoting that the nation is located in an active seismic region. The Build Change works mostly in informal housing in Indonesia since 2004. Mainly, six common housing typologies were identified : unreinforced masonry, confined masonry, timber-framed on stilts/over masonry skirt base, timber-framed with masonry infill, timber-framed with light material infill, reinforced concrete frame with masonry infill. Such housing typologies have many technical challenges because of which retrofitting is more complicated. The building code of Indonesia also lacks provision for retrofitting. Public distrust with new construction practice sum-up more challenges in the retrofitting process. The speaker recommended regular public communication and information sharing and training provision to builders & homeowners to ease retrofitting works.

Ms. Kim Acupan presented retrofitting experiences of Build Change in Philippines. Earthquakes and typhoons are frequent hazards of the country. An estimated one hundred ten million people live in substandard housing and they are highly vulnerable to such frequent hazards. The Homeowner Retrofitting Program was implemented to strengthen the

housing structures. The speaker mentioned that homeowners and builders should be provided with proper technical materials for retrofitting. Access to financial resources and the creation of market-demand also helped to ease program implementation.

3.5 Multi-Hazard Shelter Needs and Response



Facilitator
Ms. **Wan Sophonpanich**
IOM
Switzerland



Facilitator
Mr. **Mehul Savla**
Catholic Relief Services
Bangladesh



Special Guest
Mr. **Anil Pokharel**
NDRRMA, GoN
Nepal



Speaker
Mr. **Renato U. Solidum, Jr.**
DOST-PHIVOLCS
Philippines



Speaker
Mr. **Gaurav Thapa**
People In Need
Nepal



Speaker
Mr. **Meshba Uddin Ahmed**
Caritas
Bangladesh



Speaker
Fr. **Michael Tang Gun**
Karuna Miss. Social Solidarity
Myanmar



PLAY VIDEO

The four-speakers from various countries portrayed the need for effective shelter preparedness and response planning and capacity to manage the disaster risk. Effective shelter management needs integrated assessment of multiple hazards, as well as structural and non-structural elements. The speakers emphasized the role of community and integration of local need in shelter response for

sustainability of intervention.

Chief guest for session, Mr. Anil Pokhrel, CEO of NDRRMA emphasized Nepal's commitment to reduce risk and manage emergency response including reconstruction and recovery. He emphasized the need for strong coherence among government, non-government, and humanitarian actors managing and addressing disaster risk that include shelter response also.

3.5.1 Hazard Hunter PH: A one-stop-shop for assessment

Speaker: Renato U. Solidum, Jr, Department of Science and Technology, Philippines



Hazard Hunter

The presenter informed us about the Philippines' high exposure to hydro-meteorological, geological, and climate-induced hazards. The multi-agency project is implemented, which is led by the Department of Science and Technology, Philippines Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (DOST-PHIVOLCS) to address the gaps in hazard, risk, and data access and assessment. Through the project, geospatial information is standardized, and a database system is developed to facilitate efficient hazards and risk assessment so that data is easily accessible to all. Philippine has started Geo-Risk Philippines initiatives, tagged as Innovation for Resilience, has two platforms: Physical and governance Platforms. The Physical Platform is a whole of government ICT system where tools are developed for data integration, management, analysis, and assessment of information. The Governance Platform provides an avenue for stakeholders for collaboration to share for standardization and optimum use of the information necessary for risk valuations, and consequently for promoting disaster risk governance. The GeoRiskPH Integrated system consists of a participating organization that has its database servers and integrates data from various servers. A 16 digit numerical code is also developed that allows data to be updated automatically. Different platforms under GeoRiskPH are GeoMapper, GeoAnalytics, and HazardHunterPH. The GeoMapper is the national exposure database, which is used by government agencies and local government units with credentials. The GeoMapper allows collecting field and off-line surveys. The GeoAnalytics application is designed for visualization and analytics purposes. Using this GeoAnalytics application, evaluation of the land area, population, and demographic and other information critical

for development planning can be easily visualized by the public. The HazardhunterPH is the country's one-stop for hazard assessment tools. It offers 24/7 hazard assessment services and provides reliable analytical information.

3.5.2 Achievement and Lesson Learned in Durable Solution II Project

Speaker: *Gaurav Thapa, PIN, Nepal*



PRESENTATION

Durable Solution II is the UKAID funded project that aims to facilitate the implementation of NRA settlement programs for households at risk of or displaced by geo-hazards. The project has four core thematic areas for project implementation: implementation & coordination, geo-hazard assessment, policy development support, and resilience building. The project completed a 1,053 geo-hazard assessment. Three categories are made in the assessment. 419 sites belong to the category I households indicating that households can return to the place of original residence, 320 sites are belonging to the second category, which means the site is unsafe from geo-hazard, however, reconstruction can be conducted after the mitigation of possible geo-hazard risk. 314 sites are categorized in the third rank, which indicates that the location is at risk of geo-hazards, and mitigation measures cannot prevent the threats from geo-hazard. The project identified 12, 809 landless, out of which, 701 HHs are relocated and 10,938 households got approval to stay in the existing places where they have been living for generations. Of 4,124 households belonging to the third category, the project also facilitated relocation of 2,571 households in safe locations. The 16 Detailed Project Reports for integrated settlement and four-site improvement plan is finalized. The 185 community-driven social protection programs was completed in 37 sites.

3.5.3 Resilient and climate Smart Design and Response through a community-led approach

Speaker: *Meshba Uddin Ahmed, Caritas Bangladesh*



PRESENTATION

The project studied the local context before the start of activity. They did piloting of the design and technical solution with community engagement.

The process and tools were developed, and learning was disseminated to local, national and international stakeholders. In the construction design phase, all aspects of community such as natural and built environment, behaviors, natural hazards, and climate were ensured to maintain social cohesiveness. Community was engaged throughout the construction-designing phase. So far, 326 multi-purpose disaster shelters were constructed, and 4,000,000 resilient shelters were built across 50 districts of Bangladesh. As a response to the Rohingya crisis, 16,000 resilient shelter assistance were provided, and 4,000 emergency shelters were constructed. Different technical solutions for low-cost housings are pointed out such as strong resilient design, technical capacity building of local artisans, safe accessibility, and inclusive local practices and cultures.

3.5.4 Community-Led Settlement Pilot Project Kachin, Myanmar

Speaker: *Fr. Michael, KMSS, Myanmar*



The Community-Led Settlement Pilot Project aims to contribute towards the process of establishing “durable solutions” for IDPs in Kachin State. The project facilitated capacity building of communities and individuals that contribute to create a sense of belonging and ownership of their integration pathways. The project put people and communities at the core of decision-making and implementation. The framework of the project looks at the social, environmental, and economic dimension that further provides community, hybrid and individual HHs paths for implementation of the project. Strong coordination with government and religious leaders also in shaping the project.

4. BRIDGING ASIA SHELTER FORUM 2020 & 21

4. Bridging Asia Shelter Forum 2020 & 21

The Asia Shelter Forum reflects the importance of government leadership to bring CBOs and I/NGOs together to share, reflect and identify the most appropriate housing solutions, especially for the most vulnerable in our societies. CRS reaffirms its commitment to governments and civil society organizations across Asia to support your goals for safe & dignified homes for vulnerable households in the countries. This partnership has already moved forward in Nepal, Bangladesh, Philippines, and Indonesia, and this needs to replicate in other countries like India, Vietnam and Myanmar, where there are high shelter needs as well. Last year CRS identified Homes and Communities all other aspects of shelter beyond brick and mortar, to make a house a home and a settlement a community. Homes and Communities is a priority global program area, through which we intend to help at least 10 million to safeguard safe homes and communities by 2030. This is a long-term process requiring coordination between many stakeholders and led by the governments. Mr. D'Silva added work is just beginning on how to use the unique platform of ASF for dialogue between governments, organizations, and civil society, and continue dialogue. He encouraged participation in one or more of the working groups, so that the key points can be taken to next year and beyond.



ASIA SHELTER FORUM - 2020
Bridging ASF 2020 & 21

Mr. Marc D'Silva
Regional Director, CRS





5. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NEPAL'S RECONSTRUCTION

5. International Conference on Nepal's Reconstruction

The purpose of this presentation is to invite participants to ICNR 2021. Mr. Chandra provided a brief structure of ICNR, where the Prime Minister of Nepal chaired the steering committee and the Chief Executive Officer of NRA chaired the organizing committee. There are four different documentation routes: the first one is the scientific route. There are 60 scientific papers in the final stage. Approximately 20 articles will be published in the Elsevier Journal: Progress in Disaster Science. Around 40 articles will be published by NRA in the National Planning Commission

Journal. These will be published in January/Feb 2021. There will be 2 Volumes with 7 Chapters, and volume of work is currently being assessed. There is also the route of institutional papers and open source papers. The timeline for the first meeting was on 15th November 2019. Originally, ICNR was planned to take place in November 2020. It has been postponed to April 2021 due to COVID-19. ICNR will be hosted from 23 April 2021 to 25 April 2021, and the 26th will be ASF. He requested all the participants to block 4 days for shelter week. Participants are expected from across the globe, especially disaster-prone countries. There will be international, national, invited guests, and high-level dignitaries based on situation. ICNR has planned to organize the conference physically, but due to COVID-19, hybrid structure; physical and virtual, can also be adopted.



ASIA SHELTER FORUM - 2020
Int'l Conference on Nepal's Recons.
 Dr. Chandra B. Shrestha
 NRA, Nepal





Photo: Pramod Khatiwada, Baliyo ghar

6. CLOSING CEREMONY

6.1 Remarks from Chief Guest, Er. Sushil Gyewali, CEO, NRA

Mr. Gyewali appreciated the forum's capacity to know about activities of ASF in networking and extending of learnings by various institutions working in shelter and related components. In the 2015 earthquake, 8790 people died, almost 22,300 were injured, there was damage to 800,000 houses, 10,000 schools, 1,200 health facilities, 415 govt buildings, 300 local governments, 1500 water supply schemes, and 2200 heritage monuments and monasteries. The Post Disaster Needs Assessment estimated an economic loss of 7.1 billion USD.

Five and a half years after the earthquake, the progress has been remarkable. Nepal has received huge support, locally and internationally. NRA has completed 80% of the private housing reconstruction. There were many challenges in the reconstruction process as the NRA was moving forward for instance the country itself was transitioning from unitary to federal political system, constitution drafting process, general election including difficult geographical terrain of the country, lack of human and financial resources among others. Nepal has gained extensive lessons, especially in shelter. Some of the major lessons are as follows:

- Owner-driven reconstruction and community settlement approach are key approaches
- Special purpose vehicle like the NRA is needed for guiding, leading,



ASIA SHELTER FORUM - 2020
Remarks from Chief Guest

Er. Sushil Gyewali
CEO, NRA, Nepal



coordination, and ensuring the reconstruction process

- Post Disaster Needs Assessment and Post Disaster Recovery Framework (PDNA and PDRF): the overall frameworks are vital for resource allocation and timely completion of recovery tasks
- Tranche-based financial assistance, blended with STA and monitoring are the main building blocks of the success of the reconstruction program
- Engaging local governments not only helps in faster recovery, but ensures sustainability and institutional memory of the learnings
- Urban housing recovery is more complex and more time consuming than rural housing recovery
- Opportunity of socio-economic recovery embedded in housing recovery program
- On site development training is a huge opportunity for employment of the local population. 100,000 skilled masons were trained and almost 166,000,000 NPR was gained
- Resettlement of vulnerable households shall be considered with multiple optional; 299 vulnerable settlements have been relocated
- Land is an integral component of housing reconstruction
- Technological considerations and Build Back Better are key to successful housing recovery

There are many more lessons that need to be shared. For this, the documentation process is ongoing, through various routes. The NRA timeline is till the end of 2021, after which it will be handed over to concerned government agencies. The Parliament has provided the legal framework for establishing the National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Authority (NDRRMA). The NRA has already started collaborating with the NDRRMA so that the NRA's learnings and remaining tasks can be handed over to NDRRMA smoothly. He concluded his closing remarks by stating that intensive discussion will be required on multi-hazard Shelter Response, Localization, Urban, Retrofitting and Area-Based/Settlement Approach in the next ASF 2021.

6.2 Closing Remarks from Event Chair. Mr. Surendar Mohan Shrestha, Joint Secretary, MoUD

Mr. Surendra Mohan Shrestha offered a vote of thanks on behalf of the Minister, Mr. Krishna Gopal Shrestha, Ministry of Urban Development. He praised the beauty of this forum to discuss challenges and identify solutions for our communities. He also expressed his commitment to ensure continued support

in such regional collaborations and highlighted that such networks are important for regional learning. ASF needs to foster all countries in Asia-Pacific region to enhance its partnership and collaborations. He stated that the technical support would be essential as Nepalis advancing towards building resilient communities and much of the work remains to be done in the housing recovery of vulnerable households, urban areas and retrofitting , to ensure that no one is left behind. He further reiterated that MoUD remains committed to contributing

to remaining reconstruction, preparedness and regular development works and ASF could play an important role to enrich knowledge transfer to policy makers and practitioners as it continues to expand in the region with robust support systems to coordinate, share ideas and implement best practices at all levels from grassroots level to regional, national and global shelter cluster.

**ASIA SHELTER FORUM - 2020****Closing Remarks from Event Chair**

Mr. Surendra Mohan Shrestha
Joint Secretary, MoUD

[PLAY VIDEO](#)



7. WHAT'S NEXT



- The working group will work together to engage more practitioners and organizations to continue discussion on urban recovery, retrofitting, multi-hazard shelter needs and response, and shelter and settlements response in COVID-19. The working group will prepare an action plan to work together and plan together for a longer session in 2021.
- Encourage active engagement of the participants and working group in the next Asia Shelter Forum. Invite other governments from the region including India.
- Multi-hazard Shelter Response, Localization, Urban, Retrofitting and Area-Based/Settlement Approach are the popular topics/issues participants choose to cover in ASF
- NRA is hosting International Conference on Nepal's Reconstruction from 23-25 April 2021
- NRA will propose an ASF organizing committee to organize the next Asia Shelter Forum in 2021 in Nepal together with ICNR to design more as a shelter week event.



Photo: Sachin Malego, HRRP-Nepal

8. PARTICIPANT'S FEEDBACK & REFLECTION ANALYSIS

8.1 Feedback

Huge diversity of participants participated in ASF, along with focal persons from key organizations working in the disaster and shelter recovery sector. Majority of the feedback questions raised by participants were encircled around disasters that are common across the Asia region. Participants were curious to learn on how quick disaster countries such as Indonesia and Philippines have addressed recovery programs. Speakers put untiring efforts to showcase the outcomes of appropriate coordination initiatives that focused on capacity building of both governmental and non-governmental focal points. Speakers stressed for multi-sectoral efforts for raising awareness at ground level, while humanitarian organizations and government agencies must work coordinated but in parallel roles whereby designing effective plans that recovers livelihoods of affected population.

8.2 Reflection

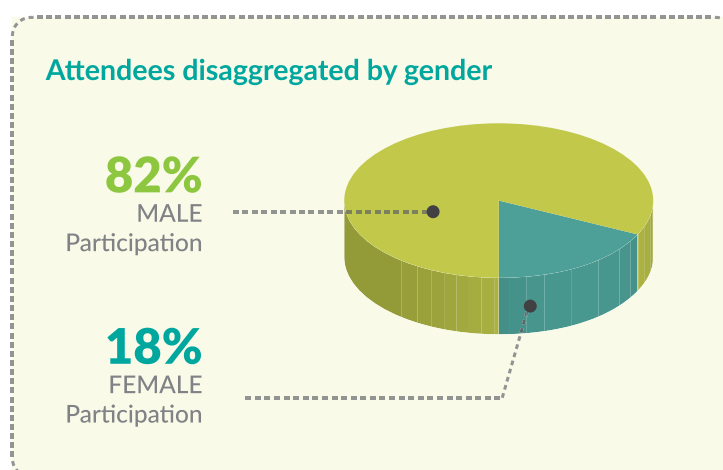
- Learning from each other across countries in Asia can go on cross sharing this kind of platform to address challenges and opportunities in the disaster management and recovery sector.
- Coordination is crucial in all phases of disaster, so that clusters are not only activated after a disaster occurs. On top of this, government and non-governmental staff need capacity building for implementing good coordination.
- Proper strategy and policy design are needed to address the different needs and understand the vulnerabilities of the affected population as per resources available and capacities.
- In post disaster situations, governments should proactively enable themselves to connect affected people to their regular livelihoods so that

better lives of communities are ensured.

- There can be many challenges depending on the context of the country, some of which would be sharing of data, data quality and integration, keeping focus on mind user experience is important while forwarding localization of interventions.
- At the scale of possible multi-hazards scenario, we must have localized the operations and coordinated the hazards to address at national level for better response.
- Need to engage those who can further engage people in the communities longer.
- In techno savvy context, tools on disaster teaching guides from individuals to communities' ranges from simple brochure, maps, flyers, jingles etc to mobile apps too.

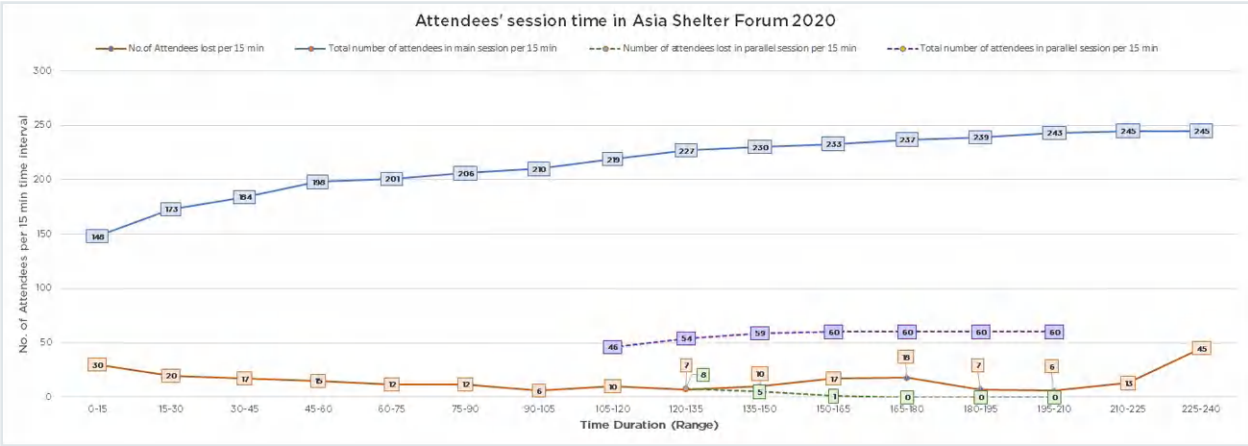
8.3 Participants/Attendees activity analysis

Of the total 245 participants in the Zoom webinar 44 females and 201 males participated. Along with this most other participant participated from various social media platforms such as Facebook and YouTube, which added up the total number of participants to more than 300.



If we have a look at the joining and leaving time of the participants as per the Zoom participants activity data, we find a total of 145 participants joining in throughout the session.

The graph below depicts the top number of participants in the main session were 245 whereas a consistent 60 participants joined in the parallel session. We can also see the fluctuation of participants in every 15 minutes of the session. If we look closer in the graph data, we can clearly see and conclude that if the session is made interesting and appealing it will be easier to hold the participants. In case of webinar and other virtual sessions it is highly recommended to make the welcome and other speeches as short as possible as we can see that there was a loss of 50 participants in the first 30 minutes of the session. We can see



[CLICK TO ACCESS GRAPH](#)

a trend that in virtual sessions participants want to get into the topic as soon as the time starts and want the session to be more interesting and interactive. It is also recommended to allocate enough time for Question & Answer sessions where participants can interact with the speakers, presenters, and panelists and put forward their questions as well as suggestions. The use of new mentimeter presentation in interaction proved to be a new medium for faster interaction for getting feedback from the participants.

Attendees' distribution as per geography





9. ANNEXES



9.1 Questions & Answers (Q/A)

Q. What is that they find most challenging in coordination of (international) partners? How do they think that the GSC can support them in overcoming these challenges?

Answered by Muhamad Safii Nasuton, Ministry of Social Affairs, Indonesia:

The Indonesian government interprets coordination in all phases of a disaster, so that clusters are not only activated after a disaster occurs. Because one of the important things is related to capacity building for coordination, both for government and non-government staff, to support the implementation of good coordination.

Q. There was an issue in post tsunami reconstruction resettlement in Indonesia, especially fishing community households in Lhokseumawe in Aceh did not want to stay in the newly built shelters outside of the coastal line. It was because fishermen had to stay far from the sea. Just curious to know what the current situation is and how this situation is resolved.

Answered by Muhamad Safii Nasuton, Ministry of Social Affairs, Indonesia:

As one of the cases on the island of Mentawai; programs from the Indonesian Government by moving their farming area further to the land, so that there is sufficient distance from the sea, after all their lives are more important - by providing security to the community - The government also provides good path to access so that fishermen can connect to their livelihoods quickly. The government will always double check the affected areas, to then ensure a better life of the community.

Q. To minimize the gap of knowledge at the global level and “grass-root” practitioner and vice versa, is there any strategy from GSC for that?

Answered by Pablo Medina Asensio, Global Shelter Cluster:

We have established an academic-practitioners forum that tries to bridge some of that gap, but we welcome any suggestions you may have. Also, the CRATerre initiative of Shelter Response Profiles tries to compile and improve that local knowledge for a more effective and appropriate response.

Q. Is there already a mechanism set up for sharing information, coordination among Asia Pacific countries?

Answered by Pablo Medina Asensio, Global Shelter Cluster:

We have over the past three years used this Asia-Pacific Shelter Forum to share information and lessons learnt and have added a day to it focusing on regional shelter cluster activities. We could consider a more sustained engagement mechanism for the region throughout the year.

Q. Since poor accommodation contributes to pneumonia and other diseases accounts for far higher annual numbers than those killed by disaster (collapse / safety) , has anyone looked into health outcomes due to accommodation in temporary shelter and in newly reconstructed houses. Not necessarily deaths, but also rates of respiratory and other illnesses? Maybe due to overcrowding and small size, or new thin walls and lack of insulation.

Answered by Ms. Susannah Webb - Oxford Brookes University:

I know of very few studies that have managed to capture health outcomes of different temporary housing that is a real gap. There is one from Moria camp in Greece that did have access to health data. But usually there's a disconnect between the health sector who may have health data and the shelter sector with more knowledge of different types/conditions of shelters. And that evidence gap of causal connections is a current barrier to shelter practice changes. Am very keen to gather more data when it is available! There is this on flooring and sleep/wellbeing...

<https://www.bretrust.org.uk/knowledgehub/the-cost-of-poor-camp-design-on-refugee-health/>
<https://jhe.ewb.org.au/index.php/jhe/article/view/102/97>

Q. How can we promote cultural friendly safe and resilient shelter ? If we investigate the houses of minor communities, they have small ventilation windows per room.

Answered by Enid Madarso - Habitat for Humanity:

I think this is an area where more focused guidance is needed. The existing studies and guidance seems to neglect lower resource contexts and doesn't give practical, easily applied advice.

Q. Could you clarify loss of jobs or workdays as per your slides?**Answered by Enid Madarso - Habitat for Humanity:**

This is the number of individuals that will lose their jobs because of the pandemic. No estimate of workdays was mentioned in this estimate by the Asian Development Bank.

More info here: <https://www.adb.org/publications/navigating-covid-19-asia-and-pacific>.

Certainly, an interesting piece on covid-19 and economic impact to the Asia Pacific region.

Q. Usually in a disaster-affected area, the immediate needs of the affected communities or people vary greatly. Under such circumstances, how do you handle the situation with one issue, one principle, one team & one policy?**Answered by Pablo Allard Serrano - Universidad Del Desarrollo:**

There is no solution that fits all so it's important to design a strategy that addresses the different needs and vulnerabilities of the affected population. Policies can provide the overall framework and they must enable a variety of options for the response that consider the wide diversity of needs, resources, and capacities of the affected population.

Q. What about gender access in housing recovery?**Answered by Pablo Allard Serrano - Universidad Del Desarrollo:**

More than one third of households in Chile are led by women. Unfortunately, in the 2010 post earthquake recovery in Chile we didn't consider the different needs and solutions associated with it. A gender-based recovery plan would have been much more successful.

Q. People are not interested in retrofitting. How can this problem be solved?**Answered by Facilitator:**

Multi sectoral efforts (government, partner organizations, private sector, local government bodies) need to raise awareness level. Further, orientation programs and model houses with costs comparison are effective methods for convincing people.

Q. Independent but interdependent clusters are designed to work immediately after a disaster. How do you decide which cluster is to go for more strengthened/prioritized involvement in the disaster-prone areas? How do you coordinate and collaborate among clusters?**Answered by Pablo Allard Serrano - Universidad Del Desarrollo:**

We must separate emergency management from long-term recovery planning.

Emergency always comes first, but Humanitarian Organizations and Government agencies must work coordinated but in parallel roles. There will always be clusters and institutional silos that will work against collaboration, but having a clear plan and leadership is key.

Q. Does the group of local women can increase the effectiveness of the programs?

Answered by Danni Rossa Wahyuningdita - Build Change:

Yes of course they do. They are influencing the effectiveness on this construction practice in local community scope, in particular in homeowner driven conditions.

Q. Could I get materials presented in this programme?

Answered by Seki Hirano - Catholic Relief Services:

Yes, we will share ppt and all links in the report.

9.2 Feedback as received in Mentimeter

Improvements that you would like to see in next ASF 2021?
(one or two word)

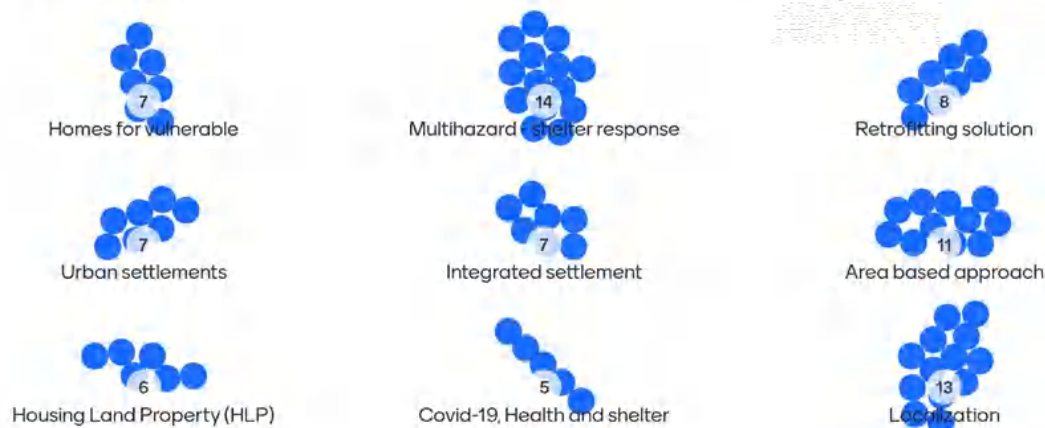
Mentimeter



24

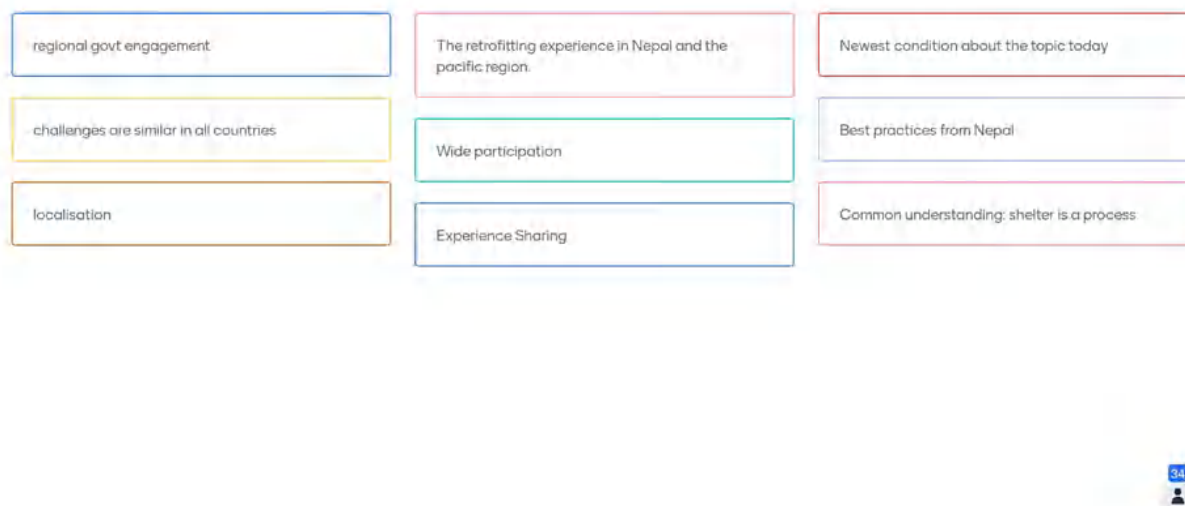
Which topic/issue you would like to cover us in April 2021?
(Select any 2)

Mentimeter

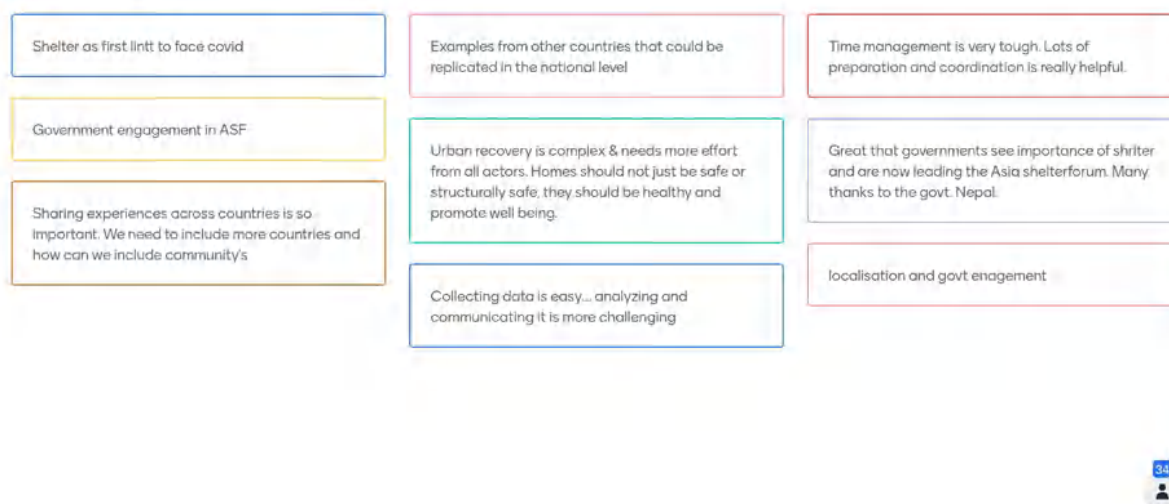


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What was your biggest take away from ASF 2020?



What was your biggest take away from ASF 2020?



What was your biggest take away from ASF 2020?



What was your biggest take away from ASF 2020?



9.3 Speakers and Panelists Contact Details

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9.4 Schedule

29 November 2020 (GMT +5:45). Location: Zoom.		
Asia Shelter Forum 2020 (Abridged)		
Main facilitator: Er. Minar Thapa Magar, HRRP; Co-facilitator: Sanjeev Hada		
12:30-13:15	Opening Ceremony (45 mins)	
	<p>Welcome and Introduction (5 mins) Chair: Dr. Ramesh Prasad Singh, Secretary, MoUD; Chief Guest: Er. Sushil Gyewali, CEO, NRA. Guests: Er. Ram Krishna Sapkota, Dr. Chandra B. Shrestha, Mr. Dhruva P. Sharma, Dr. Bishnu Bhandari, Dr. Hariram Parajuli, Er. Mani Ram Gelal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening Remarks and welcome from the Government of Nepal: DG (5 mins) • Program objective: Minar Thapa Magar, HRRP (2 mins) • Remarks from Government of Bangladesh and Government of Philippines (10 mins) • Experience sharing from The Government of Indonesia/Official Handover (15 mins) • Official Opening of the ASF by the Government of Nepal representative, Chair (5 mins) 	
13:15-13:45	Updates on global shelter Cluster Coordination (30 mins)	
	<p>Presentation: Global Shelter Cluster Team; Facilitator: Sanjeev Hada</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelter Cluster Coordination • Working groups 	
13:45-14:40	Shelter & settlements response to COVID-19 (45 mins) + Q&A (10 mins)	
	<p>Shelter and settlements responses to COVID-19 Moderator: Seki Hirano, Global Shelter and Settlement Advisor, CRS Gregg McDonald, Associate Director, Operations, Asia-Pacific Office, Habitat for Humanity</p>	
14:40-15:55	Breakout group discussions: Experiences from the region (60 mins) + Feedback (15 mins)	
	Introduction to the breakout groups: Moderators - 1 min each	
	Breakout session (60 mins)	
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td> <p>Group 1: (60 mins) a) Urban settlements: challenges/ way forward for recovery (30 mins) Dr. Chandra Bahadur Shrestha, NRA b) Retrofitting as efficient solutions for risk mitigation (30 mins) (Chakravarty Kantha Joint Secretary, MoUD and Dave Hodgkin)</p> </td><td> <p>Group 2: (60 mins) Multi-hazard shelter needs and responses (coastal and in-land) / Integrated settlement response) Facilitator: NDRRMA-Nepal, Ariel Sadural and IOM</p> </td></tr> </table>	<p>Group 1: (60 mins) a) Urban settlements: challenges/ way forward for recovery (30 mins) Dr. Chandra Bahadur Shrestha, NRA b) Retrofitting as efficient solutions for risk mitigation (30 mins) (Chakravarty Kantha Joint Secretary, MoUD and Dave Hodgkin)</p>
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15:55-16:15	Announcement for Shelter week - April 2021 (20 mins)	
	Part A: Roll out Survey (10 minutes) Feedback and What's next?	
	Part B: Update (10 minutes) Bridging Asia Shelter Forum 2020 & 21: Marc D'Silva, Regional Director, CRS (From the ASF organizing team) (5 minutes) International Conference on Nepal's Reconstruction, Dr. Chandra B. Shrestha, Executive Member, NRA (ICNR convener) (5 minutes)	
	Closing (15 mins)	
16:15-16:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remarks from Chief Guest, Er. Sushil Gyewali, CEO, NRA • Closing remarks from Event Chair, Dr. Ramesh Prasad Singh, Secretary, MoUD 	



Organizers:



Government of Nepal
Ministry of Urban Development
Singhadurbar, Kathmandu
Nepal



Government of Nepal
National Reconstruction Authority
Singhadurbar, Kathmandu
Nepal



Government of Nepal
Department of Urban Development & Building Construction
Babarmahal, Kathmandu
Nepal

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