

A Report on CSRC's Earthquake Relief Action

It has been a devastating tragedy, the earthquake that shook Nepal on the 25th of April, 2015. Community Self Reliance Center (CSRC) in collaboration with National Land Rights Forum (NLRF), has spread its working area up to 54 districts. However, out of those 54, there are 8 working districts of CSRC and NLRF that have been majorly affected by the earthquake. Here is a list with the victims and damage update in the eight districts. . The information has been obtained through information provided by the District Land Rights Forums' members.

List of victims and damage update (work in progress) per VDCs / Districts and mobility short term and long term

S.N	District	Total VLRFs	Total VLRF members	Affecte d VLRFs	Affecte d members	No. of death (including family members)	Injur ed	Houses that are completel y destroyed
1.	Sindhupalchok	41	1273	41	1273	77	79	1273
2.	Lalitpur	21	359	21	359	3	2	247
3.	Nuwakot	22	502	22	497	12	45	456
4.	Rasuwa	22	612	17	521	11	21	512
5.	Ramechhap	23	457	23	294	0	0	294
6.	Okhaldhunga	26	527	26	202	1	2	202
7.	Khotang	24	422	24	241	0	0	241
8.	Sindhuli	22	138	6	50	0	2	5

A heartfelt condolence to Maiya Shrestha

Maiya Shrestha, frontline leader out of the 32 members in Samaveshi VLRV Chyanam VDC, Okhaldhunga lost her life in the earthquake that occurred on 25th April 2015. She was on a Community Led Land Reform learning visit with the DLRV Okhaldhunga team including 17 other members at Ramche, Sindhupalchok. Shrestha had a lot of contribution as a member of the VLRVs. She was actively involved in the Joint Land Ownership campaign as well as Community Led Land Reform. Shrestha is survived by a daughter and 2 sons. She was 37 years old.

Overview of relief and rehabilitation support till date

Relief package distribution

CSRC has been providing relief action including food packages lasting for 2 weeks for each household. Our focus areas are Sindhupalchok, Rasuwa, Nuwakot, Lalitpur, Ramechhap, Okhaldhunga and Khotang.

CSRC and Action Aid jointly organized a relief package distribution from the 1st of May 2015 to 2825 households at 5 VDCs of Sindhupalchok which are Kiul, Helambu, Ichok,

Mahankal and Talamarang. A meeting was held with the VDC representatives, Ward Citizen Forum and teachers. Relief package included food materials such as rice, pulses, sugar, cooking oil and salt. The major priority was given to people from Dalit communities, ethnic minorities and low income laborers in the remote areas where there was little access to transportation.

Similarly, CSRC and Action Aid jointly organized a relief package distribution for 2700 households at Laharepauwa and Dhaibung VDC. This has been in coordination with District Land Rights Forum, Rasuwa, Women Rights' Forum and Nepal Agro Forestry Foundation. Relief Package has been provided from District Land Rights Forum, Dang, CSRC and NLRF. 9 quintals of rice, 50 kgs of wheat, 40 kgs corn, 90 kgs vegetables and cash Rs 3200 has been provided to Nuwakot which has been severely affected by the earthquake.

CSRC, DLRF Lalitpur and Lutheran World Federation provided relief package distribution. 3,410 kgs of rice was distributed along with 22 blankets to 335 households at 20 Village Land Rights Forum at Daibichaur, Bhardeu, Bhattedada, Malta, Ashrang, Ghusel VDCs of Lalitpur. 'Freed Kamlari Development Forum' has provided 31 quintals of rice and 100 pieces of blanket which was distributed to VLRF members of 3 VDCs (Bhimtar, Badegaun and Shikharpur).

Freed Kamlari Development Forum distributed 31 quintals of rice, 100 blankets and Ex Constituent Assembly Member Shanta Chaudhary, through her coordination with Commercial Training Centre, Butwal distributed 735 pieces of readymade clothes for women and children. This distribution was done in 4 VDCs of Sindhupalchowk- Ichok, Bhimtar, Badegaun, Shikharpur.

VLRF Families whose houses had been completely destroyed in Ramechhap, Khotang, Okhaldhunga were provided tarpaulins, blankets and rice. In addition, women who had recently given birth were provided with special packages.

Relief Package received from District Land Rights Forum, Dang, CSRC and NLRF.

9 quintals of rice, 50 kg of wheat, 40 kg corn, 90 kg of potatoes and cash Rs 3200 had been provided to VLRF members of Nuwakot district. Similarly, Freed Kamlari Development Forum further provided 100 blankets, 100 mosquito nets and 173 pieces of women's clothing. These distributions were done in 5 VDCs of Nuwakot where VLRF members reside- Raatmate, Ghorsyang, Duipipal, Khadgabhanjyang and Jiling.

540 kgs of rice was received from DLRF Nawalparasi and further 720 kg provided from CSRC was distributed to 2 VLRFs in Lalitpur- Chaarghare VLRF and Kisaan VLRF.

Social activist and CSRC supporter Mr.Subhash Kattel supported with estimated contribution of Rs. 1, 304, 794. Through his support, 333 tarpaulins, 107 sacks of rice, packages for 25 women who recently gave birth were distributed in Ramechhap. Similarly, 75 bundles of zinc sheets, 75 kgs of pulses, 35 packages for women who just gave birth were distributed in Sindhupalchowk.

Support could not be reached to DLRF Ramechhap

Child Welfare Nepal, Hetauda had brought 294 sacks of rice (30 kgs) for DLRF, Ramechhap, however, National Trading registered the materials in the name of District Administration, Ramechhap. Due to this, the materials could not be reached to VLRF members of Ramechhap.

Rehabilitation Support

So far, CSRC has provided 75 bundles of zinc sheets to 81 families/ Village Land Rights Forum (VLRF) members of Sindhupalchowk. The most significant achievement so far in terms of shelter has been the reconstruction of 200 houses in two Village Development Committees (VDCs) of the most affected district by the earthquake, Sindhupalchowk, (Kiul and Mahankal).

Additional Supports

CSRC with the support from Governance Facility (GF) also provided support to a local FM station in Sindhupalchowk. Melamchi FM was partially destroyed with all the computers broken. However, the transformer was not damaged. With CSRC's support, the FM has fully begun its operation since 29th April, 2015. The FM station has regularly been updating the local citizens with required news and information. Rs 50, 000 have been invested in repairing the required parts of the station and providing fuel for generator. As only one staff is currently working at the station, volunteers have been arranged and they have been supported for food. Survey and assessment were carried out in Sindhupalchowk by the District land Rights Forum members analyzing the requirements in the community. Melamchi FM of Sindhupalchowk which has been functioning fully through CSRC's support has been providing factual news and information about the earthquake updates throughout Sindhupalchowk district.

CSRC through the support of GF has provided treatment support for two members (Binda Bhujel and Tulsiram Dhakal) of Okhaldhunga for treatment such as transport, medicine purchase and food who fell in Tatopani landslide during learning visit.

Support for the elderly

Help Age International in coordination with CSRC and DLRF Nuwakot distributed cash to families of the elderly above 60 at Gorsyang VDC of Nuwakot. Rs.7, 500 was provided to the families. 781 households with elderly from three VDCs of Nuwakot(Gorsyang, Raatmate and Gerku) will be provided cash.

Response and representation in the District EQ response committee

CSRC has been coordinating with the District Disaster Relief Committee (DDRC) at Sindhupalchowk and have gained approval to carry our relief action. Similarly, a District Disaster Relief Committee has also been formed at Rasuwa under the participation of representatives from District Land Rights Forum Rasuwa for the relief, aid and rebuilding of the earthquake affected areas. Bhawani Prasad Neupane, ex Chair of DLRF Rasuwa has been appointed as the coordinator. CSRC is also involved with 2 Shelter Clusters at the moment which are Food Security and Shelter.

VDC secretaries' response to the new crisis and how it is affecting the distribution of existing local services

VDCs have been very supportive so far. CSRC has approached the VDC for various purposes post the earthquake. The VDCs have been collecting data and distributing accordingly. Prior to any major earthquake relief action or during such action, CSRC has conducted meetings with VDCs in all the districts and informed them accordingly.

In Nuwakot, a rescue, relief and reconstruction committee has been formed through the VDC in which the current DLRF Nuwakot Chair has been appointed as the Under Secretary and Bilbhadra Nepal as member.

Space to support innovative intervention

CSRC plans to conduct meetings at local level including the involvement of local clubs, teachers, Village Land Rights Forums and various groups such as mothers' groups.

CSRC also plans to mobilize frontline leaders and members from DLRFs of the least affected districts to help the more severely affected districts especially in reconstruction of houses. Vulnerable people such as the elderly require assistance in rebuilding their houses, in such cases, the frontline leaders and members can be utilized.

When it comes to coordination with VDCs, CSRC plans to work more closely by creating a format for data collection in such a way that it has to be done together.

Sensitization and preparedness for disasters through the provision of awareness materials is another activity CSRC is committed to.

CSRC further plans to conduct meetings with various stakeholders regarding various methods of constructing shelter through consultations with engineer. Sustainability in terms of prevention and mitigation measures is essential for the population affected by this particular event. In future, disaster preparedness could be taught not just for a particular event, but in terms of other natural disasters such as floods and landslides.

Future plans and way forward

CSRC has some major plans to move forward with the earthquake relief action. Shelter for the VLRf members remains the major focus in future as soon as possible with monsoon approaching soon. Support is being received for shelter. World Jewish Relief (WJR) has provided Rs. 31, 00000 which is to be utilized for shelter for 406 VLRf households in Rasuwa district. For this purpose, CSRC has already conducted the household survey to specify need assessment on temporary shelter of 406 earthquake victims who are affiliated with 16 Village Land Right Forums (VLRfs). WJR is also willing to provide long term support through livelihood support as well as Safe Demolition & Earthquake Resilient Construction Training & Facilitation. Similarly, with support from Action Aid, CSRC plans to build semi permanent homes as shelter for 3600 families in Sindhupalchowk.

In addition, CSRC plans to organize massive discussion and consultation about reconstruction, provide education materials on land use planning, community and public land and adequate housing.

CSRC further plans to organize an advocacy campaign to pressurize the government to endorse the law regarding land use bills. CSRC staff are showing their presence in the media as CSRC and NLRf staffs have been writing articles in national dailies regularly.

Funds received so far nationally/ internationally by individuals/organizations that have had a close association with CSRC over the years.

S.N.	Person/Organization	Amount
1.	CSRC	1, 00000
2.	CSRC Staff	21,191
3.	Governance Facility	1,50,000
4.	Phulkumari Mahato Memorial Hospital	41648
5.	Australian Rotary Club	9582
6.	Sila Oum	30720
7.	Asian NGO Coalition and ALRD Bangladesh	22, 0160
8.	Association Voix Libres	1015973

9	Chhaya Austria (Kamal Thapa)	200000
10.	Asian Farmers Association (AFA)	91,440
11.	Marcelle Meylan-	15,036
12.	Rahul Reddy Goturi	102250
13.	Subhash Chandra Kattel-	50000
14.	Takeshi Ikeda	20000
15.	ILC Global Assembly Senegal	77856
16.	CDS Bangladesh	10145
17.	Zebra Campervans Limited (Simon Paul)	3,10,360
	Total	24, 66, 361

S.N.	Details	Amount
1.	Income	24, 66, 361
2.	Expenditure	13,72,854
	Remaining Budget	10,93,507

Relief Update Summary

S.N.	District	VDC	VLRFs	Households	Materials
1.	Ramechhap	3 VDCs(Khimti, Sukajor, Chisapani) Ramechhap municipality	26	336	Rice (107 sacks/25 kgs) Tarpaulins-333 25 packages for women(pregnant and who recently gave birth)
2.	Okhaldhunga	3 VDCs (Chyanam, Katunje, Kuntadevi)	26	212	168 blankets, 44 Tarpaulins
3.	Khotang	3 VDCs (Durchhim, Haleshi, Badahare)	24	259	259 Tarpaulins
4.	Sindhupalchowk	9 VDCs (Helambu, Kiul, Ichok, Talarang, Mahankal, Shikaharpur,	7	2943	2943 sacks of rice / 84 kgs, 118 blankets, 139 kgs of pulses, 137

		Bhimtar, Badegaun, Ramche)			pieces of women's clothing, and 74.5 bundles of zinc sheets.
5.	Nuwakot	5 VDCs (Duipipal, Raatmate, Jiling, Khadgabhanjyang, Gorsyang) Bidur municipality	9	200	Rice (21.1 quintals) Wheat- 50 kg, corn- 40 kg, potato 90 kgs, 35 packages for pregnant women and women who recently gave birth, 100 blankets, 100 mosquito nets, 173 pieces of women's clothing,
6.	Lalitpur	2 VDCs	3	48	48 sacks of rice
7.	Sindhuli	Bhimaan municipality	1	7	7 bundles of zinc sheets
Total	7	25 VDCs 2 municipalities	97	4080	3218.5 sacks of rice/ 2924 kgs, 636 tarpaulins, 60 kits for pregnant women and women who recently gave birth, 386 blankets, 635 clothings for women and children.

Some glimpses of CSRC's Earthquake Relief Action



Elderly woman from Ramechhap receiving tarpaulin for shelter



CSRC distributes zinc for temporary shelter at Sindhupalchok district



Relief distribution at Rasuwa district

