



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



NEPAL FACT SHEET

BUILDING CODE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM IN MUNICIPALITIES OF NEPAL (BCIPN)

BCIPN supports municipal governments in Nepal to develop and administer building permits and control systems in order to improve seismic performance of new building constructions.

The majority of the buildings in Nepal are extremely vulnerable to earthquakes. While legislation makes compliance to building codes mandatory, many municipalities lack the appropriate mechanisms and capacities necessary to strictly implement building codes. This challenge was clearly demonstrated by recent survey results, which showed that on average only two engineers are available to a municipality that issues approximately 400 new building permits each year. Effective building code implementation is one of the most effective ways to reduce the risk of earthquake damage. For this, appropriate interventions are necessary to ensure that safer construction practices become the norm.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

USAID's \$1.72 million, 4.75 year BCIPN project provides training courses on seismically safer construction practices for technical personnel, including building contractors and masons, and helps build the capacity of municipalities to implement and enforce building codes. Project objectives include:

- Raising public awareness of building safety regulations.

- Developing the capacity of concerned stakeholders (Mason, Engineer, Municipal Staffs, House Owners) to effectively implement the building code.
- Emphasizing on institutionalization of methodology and process for long term sustainability of building code implementation.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

- Assisting municipalities to strengthen building code implementation through certification and registration of trained masons, develop municipal policies, and a field monitoring system
- Providing training to masons, house owner, engineers on earthquake-resistant construction.
- Conducting building code orientation programs for homeowners
- Preparing action plans for risk management in post-earthquake scenarios
- Conducting exposure visits for municipal officials to other municipalities
- Organizing workshops to share lessons learned from earthquake-resistant construction practices.

RESULTS ACHIEVED

- 700 engineers and junior engineers trained in earthquake-resistant construction
- 4600 masons trained in earthquake-resistant construction
- More than 95000 individuals have participated in earthquake awareness and orientation programs
- 35000 houses have incorporated hazard mitigation measures
- Approximately 150000 people now living in earthquake-resistant buildings
- 20 municipalities with building code implementation systems established

IMPACT ACHIEVED

- More than 70% of new buildings application is compliance to building code.
- More than 50% of new building construction is compliance to building code.
- Sustainability of sound building permit process is reflected in periodic plan and budget of municipalities.