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FACT SHEET

Disaster Risk Reduction Office

COMMUNITY ACTION FOR DISASTER RESPONSE (CADRE)

The project aims to reduce the number of deaths and injuries and the negative socio-economic impact caused by disasters by building the response capacity of the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) and communities in Nepal.



Participants of CADRE Training in Banepa

BACKGROUND

Nepal is one of the 20 most disaster-prone countries in the world. It is ranked 11th in terms of risk from earthquake, 30th in terms of flood risk, and 5th in terms of risk from the impacts of climate change. A World Bank study in 2005 classified Nepal as one of the global “hot-spots” for natural disasters.

Nepal has both high exposure and high vulnerability to natural hazards, thereby creating high risk of loss of life and property. It is estimated that annually, of the total population of 28 million, various disasters affect approximately 42,240 people. Almost 80 percent of those are affected by floods and landslides, which cause 29 percent of total annual deaths and 43 percent of total loss of property, and leave 2,000 homeless each year. Epidemics (9 percent), fire (5 percent) and famine (2 percent) also affect the people of Nepal, though in lesser numbers. Earthquakes, floods, landslides and epidemics are the biggest risks in terms of potential mortality, affected population and economic losses.

Following major earthquakes and other disasters, community members play a critical role as first responders, particularly as gaining access to affected locations can often be difficult for emergency responders from other locations. This is especially true in Nepal, where geography and poor infrastructure can impede access to more remote areas. If community members are prepared as first responders, they can play a vital role in reducing the impact of disasters by providing light search and rescue as well as first aid services immediately after and during the relief phase of the disaster.

SNAPSHOT

Life of Project: April 2012 – March 2015

Goal: Prepare community level first responders in disaster-prone communities

Implementing Partners: Nepal Red Cross Society

Geographic Focus: Saptari, Kavre, Dhading, Surkhet, Kanchanpur, Doti, Rupandehi and Bardiya districts

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Implemented through a “training of trainer” approach, the CADRE trainings teach basic life support skills, such as triage, mitigation measures, community incident command systems, light search and rescue, and management of dead bodies. CADRE trainings focus on specific local hazards relevant to vulnerable communities. The project aims to:

- Enhance community-level first responder capacity in disaster-prone communities in Nepal.
- Reduce the number of deaths and injuries and the socio-economic impact caused by disasters by building the response capacity of the Nepal Red Cross and communities in Nepal.

The project is supported by the Government of Nepal’s Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Health’s Disaster Management Sections, as well as the Nepal Army, Nepal Police, Armed Police Force, and Nepal Red Cross Society. The National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal’s network of trainers and technical human resources, whose capacity USAID helped develop through previous projects, is also utilized during the course of this project.

NRCS selects the vulnerable communities based on hazards, frequency, disaster impact, and local response capacity. Six participants from each community are trained and after the training, one response team is formed. The project coordinates with local government authorities to align the local response teams with official response mechanisms. The role of CADRE is also defined in local disaster preparedness and response plans developed by the government. The Nepal Army, Nepal Police, and Armed Police Force participate in CADRE training in order to facilitate knowledge sharing among the stakeholders.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

- CADRE manual translated and edited into Nepali language.
- Basic three-day CADRE trainings for 24 participants and eight instructors.
- Six participants from each 96 vulnerable community will be trained.

PLANNED RESULTS

- 24 CADRE trainings conducted during the project period
- Identification and training of 576 CADRE volunteers from 96 communities
- One response committee will be formed in each community
- 42,240 people (7,680 households) benefit from the program

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