

WEEKLY BULLETIN

17 April 2017

This Week's Highlights

- Happy Nepali New Year 2074 to all our partners!
- 89% of eligible households are now enrolled, and of these 98% have received the 1st tranche
- 13,095 houses have been approved to receive the 2nd tranche, 524 houses have been approved to receive the 3rd tranche
- The NRA technical working committee finalised the 'Corrections and Exceptions' Manual during a meeting on 13th April, and it is expected to be formally endorsed and published within one week
- **CHANGE OF TIME:** HRRP General Meeting, Anniversary Edition, Friday 21st April, **now at 1pm**, [Dhoikhama Café](#)
- [Financial capability resources](#) from the DFID funded [Sakchyam Programme](#), [mapping of financial institutions prepared by HRRP in May 2016](#)
- New and improved [HRRP website](#) launched over the weekend
- [Bijita Bista, from ward 5, Kamalamai Municipality, Sindhuli district shares her story of recovery following the April 25th Earthquake](#)
- HRRP will be holding public screenings of digital stories in a number of districts around the 2nd anniversary
- [HRRP Facebook page](#) launched – please like and follow the page!
- [Milijuli Nepali, Episode 606, Real Life KathaMaala](#)
- Election Code of Conduct, [Nepali and unofficial English translation](#)
- **Notice:** due to some changes as part of setting up the new HRRP website, some links may no longer work. If you have any difficulty accessing any links, please contact info@hrrpnepal.org

Please follow the link for animated Technical Assistance image.

https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B1aj_HQvgE5rU1ZZQ1l00TVHaVU

This animation shows the trend in Technical Assistance (TA) coverage for each month from November 2016 to March 2017. Whilst coverage of TA remains low, with only 4% of VDCs fully covered, there has been a positive upward trend each month, and the number of VDCs with no TA has reduced from 296 in November 2016 to 150 in March 2017. We need to continue to work on expanding the coverage and quality of TA to support households with their reconstruction.

General Updates

[HRRP Media Digest](#), some interesting articles include:

[NRA distributes 1st tranche of housing reconstruction grant in Tanahun District](#): the CDO disbursed the first tranche of 50,000 NPRs to the eligible families from ward 9, Tanahunsur VDC, at a public function held in Ghansikuwa on Monday 10th April.

[NRA preparing to deploy civil engineers to support grievance mechanism at district level](#): two to three engineers will be deployed to each of the 11 District Administrative Offices (DAOs) outside of the Kathmandu Valley, and the engineers will complete required training within a week.

[Shortage of timber affects reconstruction in Ramechhap](#): reports that district forest officials are not offering timber, which is used widely for building houses, at the subsidised rate promised by the government.

[Nepal to set up 18 more seismic stations](#): preparation is underway to set up the stations for micro seismic monitoring by 2018, to complement the existing 21 short period seismic stations and seven accelerometer stations.

[Interview with Sakuma Jun, Chief Representative of JICA Nepal](#): topics discussed in include JICA's assistance strategy in Nepal, the ongoing reconstruction process, and the future of JICA's assistance to Nepal.

[Mismatch in Nepal-India trade figures indicates huge informal trade](#): a recent study by Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB) found that a large volume of cross-border trade between India and Nepal is done through informal channels.

[Government prepares to launch Air Pollution Control Action Plan](#): according to the Department of Environment, the action plan will have not have immediate solutions, but will form a guide to short-term, mid-term, and long-term solutions to combat the Valley's increasing air pollution.

[Guardian names Nepal as No 1 travel destination](#): in a list of the 10 best places to travel, based on Nepal being a country with a huge amount to offer: its mountain ranges, a wealth of wildlife, temples, ancient towns and colourful culture.

[Global Nepal Fest-2017 to be held in US cities](#): taking place in Washington DC on April 16 and in Baltimore on April 29 with a view to promoting Nepal to the global community through art, music, culture, food, tourism and handicrafts.

[NRA CEO Visit to Selang VDC, Sindhupalchowk](#): on 11th and 12th April, Dr. Govind Raj Pokharel, travelled to Selang VDC, Sindhupalchowk where he stayed overnight with a family who have been affected by the earthquake. The local community informed Dr. Pokharel of their dissatisfaction with what they perceive as a slow reconstruction process, and Dr. Pokharel apologised on behalf of the government. He assured the community that the grant process will speed up, and that he will work to address their land issues. Many displaced people have migrated to Selang from nearby VDCs where settlements have been considered geologically unsafe. Dr. Pokharel also agreed to talk with the relevant authorities to make the forest land, where some of the displaced families are currently living, available for these families permanently. He met with the Sindhupalchowk CDO and requested that the district authorities make facilitating and supporting reconstruction a priority. Dr. Pokharel was accompanied by Mr. Rudra Malla, Secretariat of NRA Coordination Office, and Dr. Youb Raj Poudyal, District Engineer Sindhupalchowk, on his field visit. The BBC Media Action [Saiha Sawal](#) team joined the trip and filmed an episode of the talk programme which will be aired soon.

[Sindhupalchowk, Election Code of Conduct](#): the CDO has instructed all agencies working in the district to abide by the election code of conduct, and that prior to the elections no new interventions should be implemented, no cash / in kind materials are to be distributed in communities, and no activities that require mass gatherings in communities should be planned. Please contact Rup Kumar BK, rupkumar@hrrpnepal.org, the HRRP District Coordinator in Sindhupalchowk, if you require further information on this.

Support to MoUD CL-PIU for typical non-compliance review: HRRP technical coordinators, as well as a structural engineer from Build Change, have completed a structural analysis of 19 typical non-compliant RCC structures with MoUD CL-PIU. MoUD CL-PIU architects are now preparing the structural drawings for these structures and will present them for review and approval at the next meeting of the NRA Technical Working Committee. Partners interested to get further information or to support the process may contact Narayan Marasini, HRRP National Technical Coordinator, techcord.national@hrrpnepal.org.

Reminder – NRA Communications Activities Mapping: the NRA Communications Working Group are rethinking the way communications for the reconstruction are being conducted and working to improve the dissemination process to enhance its effectiveness. A mapping of current communications activities is being carried out and all POs who are conducting such activities are requested to complete the following table and send to Dinesh Pande, NRA Communications Focal Point, dineshpandeya52@gmail.com:

Name of organisation	Areas/sectors of communication support	Coverage	Type of communication materials produced	Means of dissemination	Period of support

REMINDER, NRA 5W Reporting: to date only 82 out of 131 partners (63%) have reported to the NRA 5W system. We urge partners who have not reported to share their data as soon as possible. Please feel free to contact Gaurab Pradhan, gaurab@hrrpnepal.org, for more information. Once the NRA 5W is fully up and running the HRRP 4W will be phased out.

Milijuli Nepali, Episode 606, Real Life KathaMaala: in this episode we meet, Sharada Danuwar, who decided to train to become a mason after listening to the BBC Media Action drama [KathaMaala](#). Sharada has now worked on the construction of 86 houses. She considers herself to be the real life KathaMaala!

[CARE Nepal Update and Case Studies](#)

[13th Emergency Appeal Operation Update, Nepal: Earthquake Recovery, IFRC](#)

Meetings and Events

CHANGE OF TIME, HRRP General Meeting, Anniversary Edition, Friday 21st April, now at 1pm, Dhoikhama Café: this will provide a chance for reconstruction actors to come together and reflect on the last 2 years, and to hear some updates from HRRP, NRA, MoUD and MoFALD.

HRRP Public Screenings of Digital Stories are planned for the following locations and dates:

- Patan Durbar Square, Friday 21st April, 6:30pm
- Kathmandu Durbar Square, Saturday 22nd April, 6:30pm
- Bhaktapur Durbar Square, Sunday 23rd April, 6:30pm
- Plan International Nepal Office, Sangam Chowk, Hetauda, Makwanpur, Tuesday 25th April, 8 – 9:30am

NRA Technical Working Committee: the committee met on the 10th and 13th April to review and finalise the ‘corrections and exceptions’ manual. The manual has been designed to support the MoUD DL-PIU engineers with the process of identifying correction measures required for specific non-compliances and has four parts:

- **Part A:** correction/exception issues on site selection, shape and size of building, materials, foundations, vertical members, plinth, walls, openings, horizontal bands, and roof.
- **Part B:** remedial measures for each of the correction/exception issues identified in Part A
- **Annex 1:** six broad remedial measures for houses constructed missing all earthquake resistant elements
- **Annex 2:** retrofit option provided by Build Change

It is expected that the corrections and exceptions manual will be approved within one week, and will be available after this. The technical working committee is led by Dr. Hari Ram Parajuli, Executive Member, Rural Housing and Community Infrastructure Division NRA, and includes experts from NRA, MoUD CL-PIU, MoFALD CL-PIU, IOE, Private Consultancy Firms, JICA, HRRP, NSET, and Build Change. Partners interested to get further information or to support the committee may contact Narayan Marasini, HRRP National Technical Coordinator, techcord.national@hrrpnepal.org.

[Coordination workshop to accelerate the reconstruction of the houses in the community, Sindhupalchok, Monday, 10th April:](#)

the programme was supported by SABAL, and the formal inauguration was attended by the CDO, LDO, Chief of the NRA Coordination Office, MoUD DL-PIU Chief, Army Chief, APF Chief, and the District Police Chief. JICA, Save the Children, UNDP, Caritas, and Tuki also took part. The programme provided orientation for the MoUD DL-PIU engineers, newly appointed Executive Officers and Ward Secretaries, and POs staff from Bahrabishche Cluster (1 Municipality and 4 Rural Municipalities). The focus of the programme was to identify ways to ensure that staff working in the cluster can effectively support to accelerate the release of subsequent tranches of the housing reconstruction grant. Please contact Rup Kumar BK, rupkumar@hrrpnepal.org, the HRRP District Coordinator in Sindhupalchowk, if you require further information on this.

[Presentation of Emergency Cash Transfer Programme \(ECTP\) endline results, Hotel Himalaya, Thursday 27th April, 12:30-3pm:](#)

the programme was implemented by the Government of Nepal through the Department of Civil Registration, and together with UNICEF, in response to the 2015 earthquakes. The ECTP was one of the largest post-earthquake responses in the country, with a total budget of \$25.5 million. During the meeting on the 27th, findings from the independent assessments and the full evaluation of the programme will be presented.

[Shelter Cluster Nepal, Monsoon Preparedness Meeting, Tuesday, 11th April:](#) sharing meeting minutes, draft contingency plan for monsoon, and REACH assessment report from July 2016. Please contact Deepika Bhardwaj, deepika.bhardwaj@ifrc.org, for further information.

[Call for applications, UNESCO Capacity Building Workshop on Nature-Culture Linkages in Heritage Conservation in Asia and the Pacific:](#)

taking place on the 15-26 September 2017, and with the theme of “Sacred Landscapes”, participants will explore the nature-culture linkages in sacred landscapes and the possibilities of developing comprehensive approaches that consider the cultural values of natural areas and the cultural practices of sacredness as tools for the conservation of cultural and natural heritage. The workshop is open to a maximum number of 15 young professionals from Asia and the Pacific region (including Nepal) involved in the management of cultural or natural heritage sites. The application deadline is the 7th May 2017.

[Roundtable discussion on promoting safer building and supporting safer self-recovery in Nepal:](#) organised by the [Promoting Safer Building Programme](#), a multidisciplinary research study being carried out by an alliance between CARE International UK (CARE UK), Overseas Development Institute (ODI), University College London-EPICentre and the British Geological Survey (BGS). The roundtable is taking place on the 1st May, from 9:30am to 5:30pm at the Hotel Himalaya. Anyone interested to attend can register for the event [here](#).

[Naya Surya ‘Nettle Concrete’ Workshop:](#) taking place in Bhaktapur on May 1st and 2nd. Please contact info@nayasurya.org for further details.

Useful Documents

[Cash preparedness in Nepal – Lessons from the 2015 Earthquake:](#) draft final copy of a report prepared by a sub-committee under the Cash Coordination Group (CCG)

[NSET, Baliyo Ghar TV Programme](#)

[Financial Capability Resources:](#) provided by the [DFID funded Sakchyam Programme](#), and include radio jingles, a brochure, key messages, and PSA contents. The [Sakchyam Programme You Tube channel](#) also has many resources available.

[BBC Media Action Data Portal](#)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[Q&A:](#) new questions to be included can be shared to info@hrrpnepal.org or through the HRRP district coordinators at any time. Nepali version of Community FAQs also [available](#).

Information Products

Technical Assistance Maps: four maps illustrating coverage of technical assistance and training have been prepared based on the March 25th HRRP 4W data.

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

[Mapping of financial institutions prepared by HRRP, May 2016](#)