



FEATURE STORY: WOKSHOP ON MODELING EXPOSURE THROUGH EARTH OBSERVED ROUTINE (METEOR) HELD IN NEPAL

A workshop on "**Modeling Exposure Through Earth Observed Routine (METEOR)**" held in Nepal during November 13-14, 2019. NSET in collaboration with other international partners jointly organized the Workshop with the prime objective to understand the METEOR work and its targeted outcomes in Nepal.



National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET) has been collaborating with various national and international organizations to enhance the knowledge on hazard, risk, vulnerabilities, and the possible risk reduction measures in Nepal.



In this context, focusing on earthquake, landslide and flood hazards in Nepal, NSET in collaboration with other international partners (BGS, FATHOM, GEM, HOT, ImageCAT, OPM) with funding support from the UK Space Agency is developing innovative application of Earth Observation (EO) technologies to improve understanding of exposure under "Modeling Exposure Through Earth Observed Routine (METEOR)".

METEOR takes a step-change in the application of EO exposure data by developing and delivering rigorous and open routines (protocols) and standards to allow quantitative assessment of exposure, with explicit uncertainties. METEOR will deliver country-wide openly-available exposure data, which will help in DRM decision making for the government.

The workshop Day 1 was focused on planning and policy level where the METEOR national scale hazard (earthquake, flood and landslide) model and the national scale exposure model can be used in disaster risk management in Nepal and how it can be used in the country by different stakeholders. The workshop focused on the data validation, ownership and its importance.

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The participants of the workshop highlighted the usefulness of the data in the context of Nepal since there are no any national scale hazard map for landslide and flood and the national scale exposure model.

The METEOR teams requested the participants to provide the data other than METEOR data if any to make the product more robust and more validate. Some of the stakeholder assured to collaborate with METEOR and integrate their data into METEOR products. Some of the METEOR hazard data are already on the MOHA [portal](#) where we can view and provide feedback to the team. In the workshop the consensus development among the Nepali stakeholders in each hazard and exposure model is very key in validation of these data were highlighted.

The second day was focused on understanding the process and methodology of developing the exposure model from EO data and hazard model with the technical participants of the workshop and how it can be integrated into national DRM policy and planning. The second day was more focused on the technical detail of the data generation process. The participants of the workshop were form different government and non-government organizations mainly focused on disaster management and METEOR hazards (earthquake, flood and landslide).

- ✓ Ministry of Forest and Environment (MoFE);
- ✓ National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET);
- ✓ Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST);
- ✓ Nepal Geographical Society;
- ✓ Oxford Policy Management;
- ✓ Practical Action;
- ✓ The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD);
- ✓ Youth Innovation Lab (YI-Lab)

Earlier, the METEOR team had



Following organizations participated in the workshop:

- ✓ British Embassy;
- ✓ Central Bureau of Statistics;
- ✓ Department of Hydrology and Metrology;
- ✓ Department of Hydrology and Metrology (DHM);
- ✓ Department of Mines and Geology (DMG);
- ✓ Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC)
- ✓ DFID Nepal
- ✓ Disaster Preparedness Network Nepal (DPNet);
- ✓ Earthquake Safety Solution (ESS);
- ✓ Institute of Engineering, Tribhuvan University-CDS, TU;
- ✓ Kathmandu Living Lab (KLL);

visited related stakeholders in the country and presented the METEOR objective and outcome and discussed on how the METEOR product can contribute on DRR in Nepal. The ownership of the product and the validation was discussed in the meeting with the stakeholders. For this meetings METEOR team had visited MOHA, MOFAGA, NPC, DMG, DUDBC, DHM, CBS, IOE-CDS, NAST, and ICIMOD.

MAKING RESILIENT CITIES: TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO MUNICIPALITIES FOR BUILDING CODE IMPLEMENTATION

Three-day training on Land Pooling held in Vyas Municipality

A three-day training program on Land Pooling was conducted from November 22nd to 24th in Vyas Municipality. The training program consisted of a mixed participation of 34 stakeholders consisting of representatives of user committees, representatives of the concerned wards, engineers, architects, sub-engineers and social mobilizers of project implementation unit and other technical staffs of the municipality.

The main purpose of the training was to train the stakeholders about the process of feasibility study and share information on introduction, national and international practices, preliminary planning process, development of concept plan, existing legal provisions, land pooling project approval process, detail planning report and implementation process of land pooling.

Earlier, a formal agreement was signed between Vyas Municipality and National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET) for the preparation of land pooling regulation in Vyas Municipality. Hence, with the technical assistance of engineers from NSET, Vyas Municipality has started the feasibility study of three different areas of Vyas Municipality.



Kushma Municipality conducts first ever mason training

With the view of making effective implementation of National Building Code, Kushma Municipality of Parbat district has conducted first ever mason training on earthquake resistant construction during December 4-10, 2019. The 7-day mason training was conducted with the technical support of USAID/OFDA funded and NSET implemented TSBCIN program.

A total of 33 masons including 32 male and 1 female, who are active in the municipality area, participated at the training.

The training, organized at the auditorium of Parbat District Chamber of Commerce and Industries, was inaugurated by Ms. Seeta Kumari Kaphle.

On the occasion, Mr. Dhruba Raj Paudel, CAO at the municipality, senior structural engineer Ram Kumar Shrestha and others were also present.

The training was conducted resource persons from NSET and engineer from Municipality.



House-owner Orientation program conducted in Bharatpur Metropolitan City

A 'House-owner Orientation' program on earthquake resistant construction practice was conducted at Bharatpur Metropolitan City (BMC) on November 15, 2019.

This program was organized by Bharatpur Metropolitan City (BMC) with technical assistance from United Technical College (U-TEC) and National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET)/TSBCIN. The program is jointly funded by BMC and USAID/OFDA.

Earlier, a Letter of Understanding (LOU) was signed between BMC, U-TEC and NSET. According to the LOU, U-TEC will be conducting altogether 25 orientation programs for house-owners twice in a month. Remaining 24 orientation programs will be conducted by BMC and U-TEC.

A total of 58 house owners who were in the process of constructing

new houses/buildings in the municipality areas participated in the orientation. During the program, representatives of Tole Bikas Sanstha and municipality staffs were also oriented. The program was facilitated by Bijay Krishna Upadhyay and Darshan Malla from NSET and Rabi Thapa Magar from BMC.

MAKING RESILIENT SCHOOLS: EFFORTS ON SCHOOL SAFETY

Inter-School Quiz Contest focusing on School Earthquake Safety held in Lalitpur

A Quiz Contest focused on School Earthquake Safety has been conducted in Lalitpur on October 1, 2019. The main purpose was to help enhance level of understanding and promote awareness of school level students on School Earthquake Safety. Shanti Bidhyashram Secondary School, Lalitpur grabbed the title. Saraswati Niketan Secondary School, Kathmandu and Prabhat Secondary School, Lalitpur secured second and third position while Mahendra Saraswati Basic School, Kathmandu placed in 4th position.

The Quiz Contest was jointly organized by Shapla Neer, Society of Urban Poor (SOUF) and National Society of Earthquake Technology (NSET).

Addressing the brief concluding ceremony, Ms. Hiromi Katsui, Country Representative of Shapla Neer, extended his sincere thanks to the participants and appreciated the students for having vast knowledge in regard to earthquake safety.

Ms. Omkala Khanal of NSET remarked that goal of quiz competition was not limited to securing the 1st and 2nd position only. She further urged the students to internalize and utilize their learnings of quiz competition in their day to day life.

The quiz competition was conducted at Shramjit Kishore Secondary School, Lukhushi, Lalitpur. Participating teams were the students of Grade 5, 6 and 7 from 8 schools in Metropolitan Cities of Kathmandu and Lalitpur, namely Shramjit Kishore Secondary School and Prabhat Secondary School of LMC-17; Shree Shanti Bidhyashram Secondary School and Lalit Bikash Lower Secondary school of LMC-8; Ajad Basic School and Nawayug Secondary School of KMC-21 and Shree Saraswati Niketan Secondary School and Shree Mahendra Saraswati Basic School of KMC-12.



MAKING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES: COMMUNITY FOCUSED DRM EFFORTS

Non-Structural Mitigation Refresher Training Course conducted in Kirtipur

A Non-Structural Mitigation (NSM) Refresher Training course has been conducted in Kirtipur Kathmandu on Tuesday, December 17, 2019. The training was organized by Kirtipur Women Network (KWN) with the support from Kirtipur Municipality. National Society for Earthquake Technology- Nepal provided technical assistance for conducting the course. The main objective of the training was to enhance the capacity of women in non-structural mitigation activities and develop the hand on practice to the mitigation activities. Altogether 36 members from KWN participated in the program.

The program started with a formal program where Mr. Ganga Ram Maharjan, Ward Chair of Kirtipur Municipality-9 and Coordinator of Disaster Risk Management Committee of the Municipality inaugurated the program. On the occasion, Mr. Maharjan also wished the participants for the success of the training.

Mr. Harshaman Maharjan, the Disaster Expert of Kirtipur Municipality and Member of DPNET, Ms. Hasana Maharjan and Ms. Shuvlaxmi Shakya, Current and Former President of KWN respectively, were also present at the program. Speaking at the program, Ms. Maharjan remarked that participation of women in NSM training is important as they are limited within their homes most of time and could become victim due to fall of such NSM elements during even minor earthquake.

The training was focused on the theoretical aspects of NSM as well as practical exercise where different methodologies were used including field exercise and hand-on practice. All the participants actively engaged

in the training and got opportunity to learn about the ways of non-structural mitigation.

The program was concluded with brief closing ceremony wherein Ms. Shuva Laxmi Shakya expressed her sincere gratitude towards Kirtipur Municipality and NSET for their support in the training. Also, she thanked all the participants for their active participation in sessions.

Kirtipur is one of the historical cities of Kathmandu Valley and it has typical housing construction practice. The Municipality is also rich from the point of view of socio-cultural and historical lenses. The beautiful artistic temples, typical Newari building, art, architecture and culture are the inherent assets of the Municipality. Non-structural risk is prevalent in both traditional as well as in the newly constructed buildings. This training is believed to help mitigate such risks.



ENHANCING PREPAREDNESS AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE CAPACITY

Instructors' Workshop for CADRE Course conducted in Islamabad

National Society of Earthquake Technology – Nepal (NSET) in collaboration with Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) conducts

Community Action for Disaster Response – Training for

Instructors/Instructors' Workshop (CADRE-TFI/IW) from November 21 – 28, 2019, in Islamabad. This CADRE-TFI/IW is supported through the Program for Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER) Stage 4 (2014 - 2020) funded by USAID/Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA).



PEER CADRE-TFI/IW is an eight-day course for training the most qualified CADRE graduates to become effective instructors in delivering the CADRE basic course, in the future. Course trainees are evaluated in individual lesson and practical skills presentations.

Twenty-five candidates from different organizations in Pakistan, who are also graduates of CADRE basic course, are participating in the ongoing CADRE-TFI/IW. These participants are mainly from Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS), German Red Crescent, Rescue 1122 (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa), State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA), Baharia College and Network of Disaster Management Practitioners (NDMP). The course is being facilitated by instructors from PRCS, NDMP and Nepal Police; and monitored by senior PEER CADRE instructor from Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS).

PEER CADRE Course Review Workshop held in India

National Society for Earthquake Technology Nepal (NSET) through Program for Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER) Stage 4 (2014-2020), in collaboration with National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), conducts in-country level Community Action for Disaster Response (CADRE) Course Review Workshop at 03 Battalion of NDRF, Mundali, India. The five-day workshop runs from November 18-22, 2019, highlighting updates and regional consensus on the PEER CADRE curriculum, with contextualization to the prevailing needs of India. The course materials will be updated in such a way that can be used for the local communities of India, in the future.

The CADRE Course Review Workshop will be followed by two CADRE

courses with the participation from different battalions of NDRF. CADRE course experts from NDRF, Nepal Police and NSET are engaged in said workshop. PEER Stage 4 is being implemented by NSET with core funding support from USAID/Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA).

BUILD BACK BETTER: ASSISTING POST GORKHA EARTHQUAKE RECONSTRUCTION

Community Orientation on Retrofit in Square hit Districts

Baliyo Ghar program in earthquake hit areas conducted orientations for the affected people to aware them about the safer reconstruction techniques and ideas. In the previous years, the orientation package included the subjects like; earthquake cause and effect, preparedness, non-structural mitigation and tips for safer reconstruction. But now the orientations have been targeted to aware people regarding retrofit and importance of building seismic resilient structures.

The orientations were conducted through classroom-based power point presentations, using flex in Chautara and Tea Shops and as well as

using flip charts. Orientations were targeted for the retrofit beneficiaries to convince them on the technology and help them plan retrofitting in their partial damaged houses. After the orientation, many retrofit beneficiaries showed their interest, and some have finished retrofitting their house.

Training on Building Code Implementation for technical professionals

NSET under its USAID supported Baliyo Ghar Program conducted a 3-day Training on Earthquake Resistant Building Construction and Building

Code Implementation for Technical Professionals at Kathmandu.

Engineers and sub engineers from HRRP, NSET and various rural and urban municipalities in Dolakha, Dhading, Nuwakot and Kathmandu participated the training. The training is seen as a stepping stone in institutionalizing the efforts of reconstruction practices by enhancing capacities of local



governments to continue the practices of safer construction in their administrative boundaries by establishing building permit process and enacting the National Building Code.

In the three-day training, the participants discussed on the philosophy of earthquake resistant design, conducted group discussions and prepared designs of residential buildings as per the NBC 202, 203 and 205. On the final day, sessions on effective implementation of building code and building permit process were conducted where Er. Manoj Kaini from Vyas Municipality, Damauli shared the mechanism, challenges, learnings and achievements of his municipality in implementing the building code. Participants also shared challenges they are facing in building permit process in their municipalities and requested the central government and NGOs to support them in this endeavor.

COORDINATION & COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

CityNet holds International Seminar in Nepal; EXCO Meeting and Nepal National Chapter Meeting hosted

CityNet has organized series of sharing & learning events and discussions in Nepal. The 38th Executive Committee Meeting held in during November 6-7, 2019 in conjunction with the International Seminar on November 8, 2019. Lalitpur Metropolitan City (LMC), a member of the CityNet Executive Committee hosted the events.



Earlier, Nepal National Chapter Meeting of CityNet held on November 5, 2019 in Kathmandu. Current Chair of National Chapter, the Mayor of Hetauda Municipality and National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET) through the CityNet Secretariat, facilitated organizing of the National Chapter Meeting.

CityNet is the regional network of local authorities for the management of human settlements and is the largest association of urban stakeholders

committed to sustainable development in the Asia Pacific region. Established in 1987 with the support of UNESCAP, UNDP and UN-Habitat, the Network of cities has grown to include over 135 municipalities, NGOs, private companies and research centers.

The National Chapter concept was approved and recognized at the Seventh Session of the CityNet Executive Committee in Makati in November 1994 as the most effective strategy for CityNet to decentralize its operations and to be more responsive to the needs of its members. There are 8 countries where there are National Chapters, namely; Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Philippines and Sri Lanka.

The main objective of National Chapter is to benefit all other municipalities which cannot become member of National Chapter because of some unmet criteria. The knowledge and



practices from the global cities is shared and exchanged in the platform of national chapter. There are 10 municipalities in Nepal which are full member of National Chapter. Those municipalities whose population is less than one hundred thousand is exempted from the membership. The findings from the national chapter meeting which was conducted in 5th November 2019, will be shared in the executive committee meeting which is going to be held in 7th November 2019. The major work areas of CityNet are Climate Change, Disaster Risk Reduction, Sustainable Development Goals and rising Infrastructure demands.

Addressing the meeting, Mr. Chiri Babu Maharjan, Mayor, Lalitpur Metropolitan City briefed the involvement in CityNet and the importance of the outcome from the National Chapter's meeting. Mr. Hari Bahadur Mahat, Mayor, Hetauda Sub-Metropolitan City emphasized on the city to city collaboration for sustainable development.

Mr. Kendra Hirata, Director, CityNet Yokohama Office, shared about the importance of the local level networking, recent ongoing projects of Nepal Chapter and key points of planning along with the timeframe for the newer cities to join the memberships.

Mr. Surya Narayan Shrestha, Executive Director of NSET initially welcomed the participants and expressed his expectation to make the meeting provide comprehensive review and analysis of community-based best practices of development, identify new examples, within Nepal and beyond, of how various actors and agencies have successfully implemented interventions to reduce risks from the hazards.

Technical session then followed. Mr. Ganesh Kumar Jimjee, Director Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response (DPER), explained about cooperation and network among the cities of Nepal and various aspects of Disaster risk Reduction and management.



Mr. Surya Narayan Shrestha Executive Director NSET, drafted and proposed the short term, mid- term and long-term goals for the Nepal

chapter.

Lastly, the most important event, was to collect the issues to be discussed in the Executive Committee meeting. Various issues like Energy Generation, Solid Waste Management, Sanitation, Gender Equity, Climate Change, Education, Energy Efficient Automobiles, Financial and Economic Development, Road Safety, Emergency Communication System, and Disaster Risk Management (DRM) were raised. Further these issues which are prevalent in every municipality are planned to be discussed in the global forum and various solutions and innovations to these problems are expected to be generated from the global platform.

Participants in the meeting were Mayor, Deputy Mayor, officers and professionals from, Kathmandu Metropolitan City, Lalitpur Metropolitan City, Biratnagar Metropolitan City, Bharatpur Metropolitan City, Butwal Sub-Metropolitan City, Dharan Sub-Metropolitan City, Hetauda Sub-Metropolitan city, Nepalgunj Sub-metropolitan City, Dhangadi Sub-metropolitan City, Godawari Municipality, Bheemdatt Municipality, Tansen Municipality, Informal Sector Service Centre (INSEC), Research for Environment, Forest, Agriculture, Development Nepal, Lekhnath Small Town Water Supply & Sanitation User Committee, Municipal Association of Nepal and Lumanti Support Group for Shelter.

GNDR National Coordination Workshop Conducted in Nepal

A one-day "GNDR National Coordination Workshop" has been jointly organized in Kathmandu by Global Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR), National Society for Earthquake Technology - Nepal (NSET) and Practical Action. The Workshop was organized on Dec 31, 2019 as an event on the occasion of Earthquake Safety Day (ESD), 2020 to mark in the country with month-long activities.

The workshop focused on developing and enhancing the effectiveness in coordination among the GNDR members and CSOs working in the areas of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)



in Nepal, increasing collaboration and networking; and working jointly on DRR planning and initiatives among others.

On the occasion, Mr. Surya Narayan Shrestha, Executive Director of NSET and one of the National Focal Points of GNDR highlighted the objectives, initiatives and activities of GNDR. Mr. Bijay Krishna Upadhyay, Director of CBRDM Division of NSET and Ms. Nisha Shrestha, Manager of M&E Division of NSET, presented on Views from the Frontline (VFL) 2019 in Nepal, a GNDR program implemented in Nepal by NSET and partners.

The brainstorming session drew following conclusions regarding major issues to maximize the coordinated efforts of Nepali CSOs.

- ✓ Continue discussion on inclusive DRR
- ✓ Why GNDR? (for the unconditional support of govt or a watch dog)
- ✓ Independent of Govt and Community "Against Disaster"
- ✓ Expansion of Membership
- ✓ Support DRRMA in implementing proper plans
- ✓ Advocate / Facilitate Community, LG, GON-NDRRMA

The workshop intensely discussed the ways to increase the coordination among the civil society organizations and GNDR members in Nepal. Following the discussions, the workshop also highlighted the plan of actions for next year. They are as follows.

- ✓ Regular sharing of experiences, problems and issues through quarterly, semi-annual and annual meetings or issued based and thematic workshops
- ✓ Increase membership and regular updating it
- ✓ Creating a GNDR Nepal Page on Face Book
- ✓ Linkage/Coordination between Network of Organizations, NGO Forum, DPNET, DIMANN, AIN,
- ✓ Sharing of Strategic document

- ✓ Sharing meeting Pre and Post Cairo Meeting
- ✓ Refine VFL outcome through VFL NACWide Dissemination of final VFL Report along with GNDR Activities (to and fro)
- ✓ Propagate DRR Mainstreaming to NON DRR Organizations
- ✓ Include regular interactions with Political Leaders at all levels including Federation of Rural Municipalities and Urban Municipalities
- ✓ Prioritize issues to intervene to various organizations
- ✓ Persuade Federation of Rural Municipalities and



Urban Municipalities to be GNDR member.

The event saw the participation of total 28 people representing various civil society organizations, associations and networks working in the field of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) including GNDR, Disaster Management Network Nepal (DiMaNN), NSET, FAYA, FSCN, Nava Prabhat, FIRDO, UMN, Deprosc Nepal, SIAS, Mercy Corps, NDRC, SUM Nepal, Dalit Welfare Association, Kirtipur Women Network, Eco-Nepal among others.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT: USE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY IN RESILIENCE BUILDING

Experimental-tests conducted to study behavior of stone masonry in mud mortar wall

On Nov 8, 2019, experimental tests were conducted at NSET premises to study the behavior of stone masonry in mud mortar walls. A 1:3 plaster was applied to both the walls, replicating the field condition. Two walls were pulled and their failure patterns were observed. The test gave a very useful insight on the contribution of a strong plaster in strength, ductility and mode of failure on stone in mud masonry walls in both retrofitted and un-retrofitted

walls. This test also paves a way in improving knowledge in choosing the nature of the plaster in the field and for test models in the future.

Seminar on “Earthquake Hazard Studies for Nepal/Himalayan Region” held in Kathmandu

Underscoring the need of building consensus among the Nepali stakeholders on Hazard studies and development of hazard model, a half-day ‘Seminar on Earthquake Hazard Studies for Nepal/Himalayan Region’ has been held in Kathmandu on November 1, 2019. The seminar focused on understanding various studies related to earthquake hazards in Nepal/Himalayan region and introduced the US and Global Earthquake Hazard Studies.



The seminar was jointly organized by the Department of Mines and Geology (DMG), Government of Nepal, United States Geological Survey (USGS), Global Earthquake Model (GEM) Foundation and NSET with the support from USAID/OFDA. The main objective of the seminar was to understand the ongoing efforts of earthquake monitoring and hazard assessment in Nepal and identify the need of capacity building for Nepalese stakeholders, and potential collaborative efforts for organizing earthquake hazards studies in Nepal.

To begin with, Mr. Surya Narayan Shrestha, Executive Director of NSET had highlighted the objectives of the seminar. Total 5 presentations were made. Mr. Mukunda Bhattarai from DMG made presentation on ‘Earthquake Monitoring and Hazard Assessment in Nepal’. Mr. Bhattarai shared that assessment of seismic activities in Nepal has been strengthened with the installment of new seismic stations across the country after the 2015 Gorkha Earthquake. Dr. Sudhir Rajaure, Deputy Director General of DMG shared in his presentation about an overview of recent hazard studies in Nepal.

Dr. Mark Peterson and Dr. Kishor Jaiswal from USGS jointly made a presentation on US Seismic Hazard Mapping and relevant efforts of USGS. Providing an overview about how the Hazard Model was developed in US and its development process, they also briefed about various features and applications of US Hazard Model.

Presenting on ‘Global Seismic Hazard Map and Approaches and Potentials’, Dr. Marco Pagani from GEM Foundation highlighted GEM’s efforts on various fronts of seismic studies and activities across the world.

Dr. Susan Hough from USGS also briefed on collaboration efforts and studies being carried out between USGS and Nepali stakeholders including

government, public and private organizations in a bid to develop a Model for seismic Hazard Mapping.

After the presentations, question answer session was held where various stakeholders discussed intensively on the ways to collaborate and coordinate among various agencies and organizations in Nepal to jointly work on Hazard studies.

The seminar was formally concluded by Dr. Somnath Sapkota, Director General of DMG, where he remarked the importance of collaborative efforts in the field of hazard studies. In the seminar, total 50 participants participated representing various organizations namely, USGS, Institute of Engineering (IOE), DMG, USAID-Nepal, Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), SCAEF, SONA, NEA, GEM, NSET among others.

OTHER NSET EFFORTS

Nepal marks International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDRR) 2019

Nepal joined global communities to mark International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDRR) 2019 with awareness activities at national and local levels. The Day began in 1989, after a call by the United Nations General Assembly for a day to promote a global culture of risk-awareness and disaster reduction. Held every October 13, the day celebrates how people and communities around the world are reducing their exposure to disasters and raising awareness about the importance of reining in the risks that they face. The 2019 edition continues as part of the "Sendai Seven" campaign, centred on the seven targets of the Sendai Framework. This year will focus on Target (d) of the Sendai Framework, reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services.



Nepal marked IDRR under the leadership of Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) and coordinated by DPNet-Nepal in association with different Government Agencies, CBOs, NGOs, INGOs and professional societies.

A rally on October 13 started from world heritage site of Patan that walked along city core areas and assembled at Jawalakhel. The main objective of the rally was to initiate the week-long program for IDRR 2019 along with the dissemination of DRR messages to the public. Addressing the gathering, Ms. Indu Ghimire, Joint Secretary and Head of

Disaster and Conflict Management Division of MoHA, highlighted the importance of the Day. She remarked, "people may feel awkward about why we are talking about the disaster in this pleasant weather, but if there is heavy torrential rain the scenario might be different, so we should be better prepared for future disasters."

Ms. Gita Satyal, Deputy Mayor of Lalitpur Metropolitan City, said that disasters are inevitable so methods to reduce the risk should be identified and implemented. Deputy Mayor Satyal stressed, "our initiative should not be limited to the rallies only but also on sharing the message and sensitizing the community about DRR."

Mr. Bhagirath Pandey, Chief District Officer (CDO) of Lalitpur stated that need is to focus to ensuring services without any disruption in infrastructures.

Mr. Surya Bahadur Thapa, Chairperson of DPNet-Nepal, shared that Nepal's efforts in DRR&M are better than past and local levels are also focused on mainstreaming DRR. Mr. Thapa added that the rally was just an initiation but DRR programs would run throughout the year.

On the occasion of IDRR 2019, there were other activities also held in capital city and in various parts of the country.

For more information, please contact us:



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