

A Brief Report

Post-Earthquake Recovery and Rehabilitation

Reporting Period: April 2015 to March 2016

Report to:
IMADR

Report submitted by: FEDO

Feminist Dalit Ogranization (FEDO)

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Background:

The two major earthquakes in Nepal hit the country on April 25 and May 12, 2015. Earthquake death toll was reaches 8969, where as4956 are female, 4009 are male and 4 are unknown (***till Government of Nepal, Disaster Risk Reduction Portal-1st August 2015***) and additional 22,309 who were left injured. Over 860,000 people were in immediate need due to loss of house or shelter. More than half of those who died in the earthquakes were women. Almost half a million homes were destroyed. Many women and children are traumatized and need psycho-social support (***UN OCHA Nepal earthquake reports No 17 and18 and UNICEF Nepal, May 2015***). Moreover, in a country ranked 28 out of 199 in terms of multi-hazard risk (InfoRM multi-risk database, 2015), the earthquake has compounded vulnerability and increased risk posed by further earthquakes, floods, landslides and other shocks. These statistics show the order of magnitude of the two earthquakes' impact. They can only superficially convey the horror experienced by the survivors, but they do show that Dalit, women and children are disproportionately affected and in special and urgent need of support. This lays down the basis for a protection floor as a first among many steps needed in many areas – education, health services, and physical care and emotional nurturing for children who have lost family members, notably parents and siblings. The focus was on the people most vulnerable

because of their age, gender or caste, hence the Dalit, widows and single women, people living with disabilities, and children.

Realizing this fact and situation; with the financial support of IMADAR, Feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO) Central Office, has supported with funding provided by IMADAR.

Project Activities Overview

1. Distribution Emergency Relief Support

FEDO supported the affected families from the very beginning. We were informed that concerned authorities have been doing disparity in supplying relief support and providing the nearest one and who have access to such authorities. FEDO served the most affected Village Development Committees (VDC) of 8 districts namely: Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Bhaktapur, Kavre, Ramechhap, Dhading, Sindupalchowk and Nuwakot so far. The relief support was provided to the affected families by analyzing their immediate needs. FEDO with the collaboration with the district team provided the possible support to the neediest families. As the majority of the victims are extreme due to which it is difficult to reach to each and every individuals. Despite the hurdles, FEDO did the justice in assure that the most vulnerable ones are benefited.

The families were provided with rice, pulses, salt, edible oil, beaten rice, noodles, biscuits, medication, water purifier, hygiene kit, dignity kit, mattress, tents, buckets, blankets and clothes. The total of 1287 Households was benefited by the FEDO's support so far and also one schools.

Detailed information of the households benefited by the Emergency Support

S.N.	District	VDC/ Municipality	Date of Visit	Total Households Benefited
1.	Lalitpur	Godavari Municipality	29 April, 2015	36
		Lamatar VDC	5 May, 2015	68
		Jharuwa Raashi VDC	8 May, 2015	64
2.	Kathmandu	Tarakeshwor Municipality	30 April, 2015	36
		Kumari School Bhangal	4 May, 2015	100
3.	Bhaktapur	Gundu VDC	6 May, 2015	60
		Changunarayan VDC	7 May, 2015	60
4.	Kavre	Hokshe VDC	2 May, 2015	45

		Mahadevsthan VDC	2 May, 2015	60
		Devpur VDC	8 May, 2015	60
		Bhumidada VDC	8 May, 2015	60
		Deupur VDC Ward no. 9 & 1	20 May, 2015	60
5.	Sindupalchowk	Petku VDC	2 May, 2015	74
		Batashe VDC	12 May, 2015	150
6.	Nuwakot	Beltar VDC, Mijar Tole	4 May, 2015	49
		Kumari VDC	12 May, 2015	120
7.	Ramechhap	Sunar Paani VDC	7 May, 2015	45
		Pakarbaash	7 May, 2015	25
8.	Dhading	Katunje VDC	8 May, 2015	115
	Total			1287

2. Construction of temporary shelter

So far the uses of emergency shelter, FEDO built 150 temporary shelters to the vulnerable earthquake survivors at Koshidekha VDC ward no. 2, 3 & 5 of Kavre district. The temporary shelter was made by bamboo wood and zinc sheets. **About 600 people are living in the shelter very safely till now.** Recently FEDO team visited the same shelter and found still well.



3. Dalit Women Group mobilization in Income generating activities.



Dalit women are mostly affected physically and psychologically due to devastating earthquake 2015. They are excluded from several services provided by local government. Realizing this situation of Dalit women, FEDO formed and mobilized 12 Dalit Women Groups (DWGs) from 6 VDCs of Sindhupalchok, Nuwakot and Dhading districts during this period. The DWGs are regularly oriented on their rights to raise their voices for excessive accessibility of local

government services. Similarly, they are counselled on psycho-social to overcome from their trauma due to earthquake.

Side by side, DWGs conduct meetings regularly and collect savings as well so that they are involving in livelihood support stuffs. FEDO will provide a day Entrepreneurship Training to the DWGs and mobile fund of 20,000 for each DWG as well after the training.

4. An interaction program among local government agency, stakeholders and community people



FEDO Dhading and Sindhupalchok organized an interaction program entitled "The role of stakeholders to equally supply local government services to earthquake survivors". The chief guest of the program was Chief District Officer (CDO). The CDO stated in the program that Dalit Rights has been incorporated in the new constitution of Nepal and the assurance and monitoring mechanism should be effective to be in implementation of

Dalit provisions in the constitution. He added the marginalized and deprived earthquake survivors are mostly prioritized in the service delivery mechanism of government on resettlement and reconstruction. He again requested to the Dalit activists to be watch-dog and facilitation them in ensuring the services to the Dalit and marginalized community. Most of the key speakers from different sectors reinforced on discriminatory remains there while distributing any sorts of support by the local government and for this all the HR activists must stand together for equal distribution of the supports.

FEDO representative presented the real scenario of marginalized community and women in the district after earthquake disaster as well during the program. Dalit women and community people were actively participated in the interactive discussion delivering their real situation. This program has become a milestone because government representative and stakeholder representative sensitized directly through interaction with marginalized community people on the several issues of them.

5. Regular lobby with Non/government agencies stakeholders

The lobby meeting was conducted with Ministry of Home, National Reconstruction Authority (NRA), District Disaster Relief Committee (DDRC), District Administrative Office (DAO), District Development Office (DDC), Village Development Committee (VDC) and development agencies to draw their attention in the issues of Dalit women and marginalized communities in several dates. Still women are excluded in policy and decision making mechanism of government. Similarly, the representations of women in mechanism made for post-earthquake disaster are also excluded. They are not entrusted by the male yet. Looking this scenario, FEDO having alliance of women presented the

demand during the lobby meeting at different sectors. Basically the women issues relevantly to the earth-quake reconstruction presented during the lobby visit are as following;

1. There should be the representation of women in planning, decision making and implementation process in any mechanism developed by government.
2. In the reconstruction process, there should involve active women from women leaders, activists and several committees of women.
3. Access to information, empowerment and mobility for women.

After all, authority person from different sectors were sensitized in the issues of women and they have been positive as well. The lobby visit has resulted that the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) revised the policy and incorporated the issues of women to make the policy women and gender friendly. This has further helped to make them more accountability and responsive to increase the accessibility of Dalit women and marginalized community for the provisions of reconstruction and resettlement.



6. Leadership Training to Dalit Women

With the aim of empowering Dalit women to raise voice together for their rights at local level, FEDO provided them two days Leadership Training. 40 Dalit women of Sindhupalchwok and Nuwakot are given the training till date and FEDO planning further 20 Dalit women in Dhading this running quarter. Nepal Government has huge numbers of services towards earthquake survivors for resettlement and reconstruction. But, this is fact that the services are not distributed prioritizing those survivors who are from deprived community. Considering the fact, the training contributed Dalit women in aware of their rights and services supplied by Nepal Government. Now they are being as role model for their community people so that they are usually discussing the women issues within their groups.

7. Blanket distribution in Dolakha district.

FEDO distributed blankets to the vulnerable earthquake survivors living in temporary shelter at Namdu VDC, Dolakha prioritising elderly, single and delivery Dalit women as well as children. Considering winter session, 60 HH were distributed blankets.



8. Construction and maintenance of gender friendly toilets at government school

Most of the toilets at government school are destroyed and cracked due to massive earthquake disaster in 2015. Analysing the situation, FEDO started to need assessment to support partial grants for the construction of school toilets. FEDO has plan to support such grants for the 3 schools where is students from Dalit and marginalized community are studying. The need assessment work has been completed up to 70%. To monitor and ensure quality, FEDO will form a monitoring and evaluation committee in the support district.

9. Stationary and school dress support to ultra-poor and obedient Dalit students

FEDO has planned to distribute some stationary items and school dress to the neediest, ultra-poor as well as obedient students for 100 students from marginalized community of most earthquake affected districts. The line items will be distributed before starts of new academic year which is starting by end of April. The need assessment is being conducted to select the students in the respective districts.

10. Field Visit Monitoring and Assessment



FEDO team including treasurer visited the *Jana Jagriti Primary School* at Koshidekha VDC, Kavre on 17th March, 2016. The team also interacted with Dalit earth quake survivors who were provided emergency support material by FEDO on the same date. The main visit objective was to analyze the post-earthquake situation of Dalit and women survivors and feasibility observation of a ruined government school which was close to collapse due to catastrophic earthquake in

2015. As FEDO already distributed emergency support materials like zinc sheets for temporary shelter at Koshidekha-04, Kavre, and the visit team observed and analyzed the situation of those shelters. Similarly, the monitoring visit team physically observed a cracked school building and TLC in which 99% students were studied there from Dalit community. Some situations overviewed by visit team are enlisted as follows;

- Temporary shelters made by FEDO for Dalit earthquake survivors were still well.
- School building seems well from outside but its wall was totally cracked inside.
- According to principal, Asian Development Bank (ADB) observed school infrastructure for grants to build new school building so that almost administrative work has completed.
- Temporary Learning Center (TLC) was built at the side of forest and wasn't child-friendly



environment.

FEDO visit team supposed to support some few grant to maintain and renovate the old cracked building because the building was built in the well bounded area. Eventually District Education Office (DEO), Kavre did not give the approval for the proposal submitted by FEDO as DEO already granted approval for new building supported by ADB. Therefore FEDO could not support to the school.

11. A day interaction program on Gender Responsive Disaster Management with Policy Makers and Civil Society organization

In order to facilitate the government efforts in post-earthquake recovery and reconstruction, to hear the voices of affected women and to create a positive pressure to the Nepal Government to ensure that women's issues are properly addressed in every reconstruction efforts, FEDO Nepal in partnership with Jagaran Nepal, FWLD, Media Advocacy Group and SAATHI organized a day interaction programme on Gender Responsive Disaster Management.



The program was discussed about women issues in national and international post-earthquake recovery and reconstruction efforts and disaster preparedness. Honourable Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. Sakti Bahadur Basnet was presented the program as chief-guest. Similarly, Dr. Bishnu Bhandari, National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) Executive member, Ms. Manu Humagain, Acting President, National Women Commission (NWC) were presented as distinguished guests. Hon' Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. Shakti Bdr. Basnet said women's representation in NEA was a must to address issues specific to women. He said he will raise the issue of women's representation in the NRA in the cabinet. Dr. Bishnu Bhandari, in his motivating remarks, informed about the structure of NEA, its functions and the challenges that NEA faced so far. He reiterated that without the involvement of women, reconstruction would be incomplete and they are very much serious and ensure women issues properly addressed. Ms. Manu Humagain highlighted the challenges being faced by women. She expressed her solidarity and support on behalf of NWC in these efforts of making women friendly reconstruction policies.

The women from different 14 earthquake affected districts were presented the program and shared their pain due to earthquake. On behalf of FEDO, earthquake survivor Dalit women such as Manju Rokka- Makawanpur, Nanu Roka-Sindhupalchok, Nisa Malbul-Lalitpur, Roka Maya Bishwakarma- Makawanpur and Suntali Mijar-Nuwakot were present the program and share their painfulness situation. *"I lost my home. We were nine people covered by the debris. When I came to consciousness, i saw four people died beside me. I saw only dust and destroyed-houses around there."* This painful

word shared by Krishna Kumari Bhattra, Gorkha. This painful situation represents of all the survivors more about.

The program announced the '**Kathmandu Declaration 2016**' as well. The declaration covers 15 points of women issues.

12. Vocational training to the earthquake victim Dalit girls

FEDO helped to outreach the most affected earthquake Dalit women survivors and recommended them to be included in the **"Sewing, cutting & Tailoring training"** in collaboration with SAATH Nepal. 18 Dalit women from Sindhupalchok, Makawanpur and Kavre districts are taking the training. The main objective of the training is to involve Dalit women in livelihood support and income generating activities. The trainee will learn theoretical knowledge for the first 6 months and further 6 months they will learn practical knowledge.

Some photo glimpses:



A destroyed house made by earthquake 2015



FEDO representative providing emergency support to a vulnerable woman survivor



Vulnerable survivors taking photo with FEDO team after getting Emergency support materials.

Community people after getting mattress

