



# INTER AGENCY COMMON FEEDBACK PROJECT

September 2015

## ISSUE IN FOCUS

*COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS OF  
AID DISTRIBUTION FAIRNESS*

ALL DATA FROM PERCEPTION SURVEYS AVAILABLE AT  
OPENNEPAL.NET

THIS ISSUE IN FOCUS BASED ON FEEDBACK COLLECTED IN AUGUST  
CFP REPORT FOUND [HERE](#)

COMMUNITY PERCEPTION DATA SUPPORTED BY:

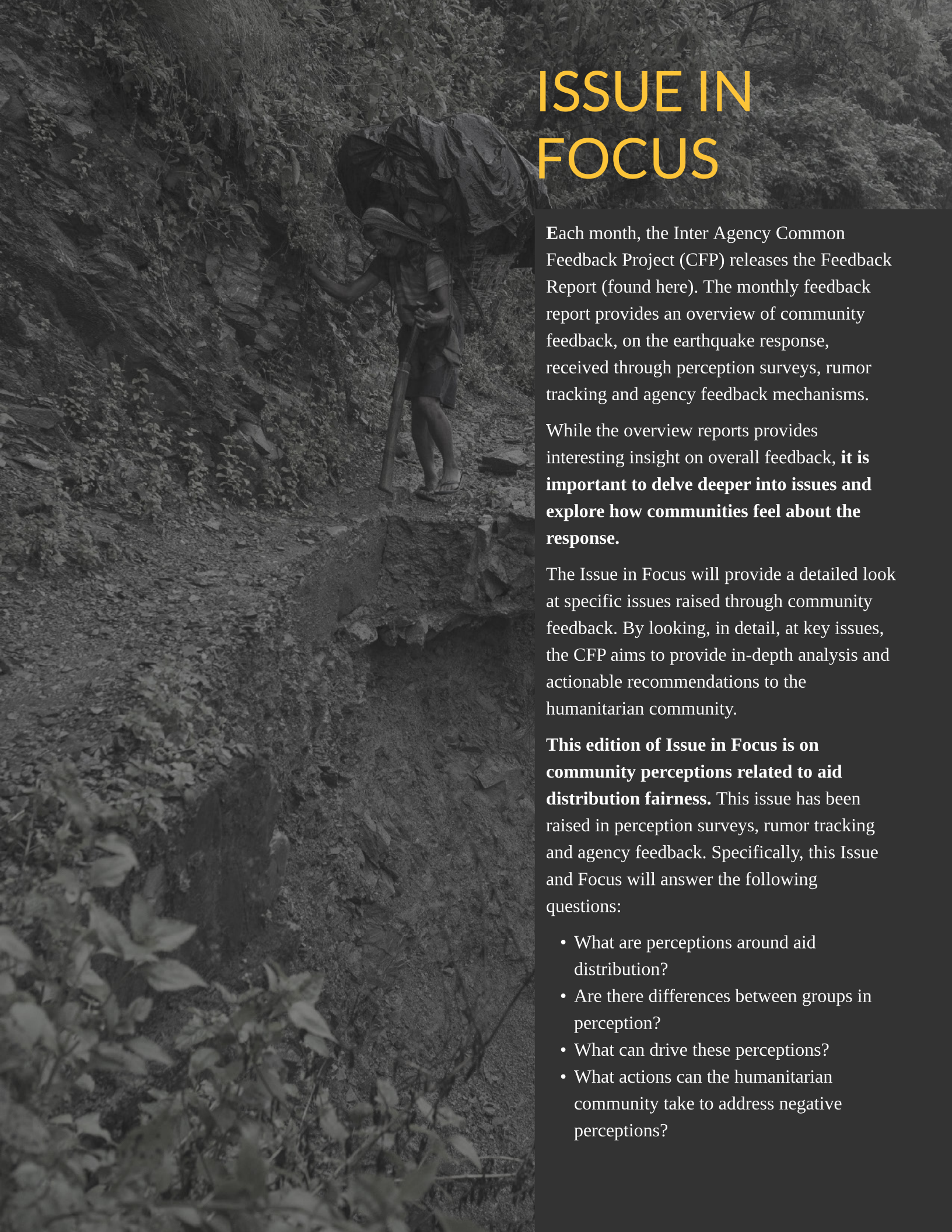


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A black and white photograph of a person carrying a large, bulky bundle on their back, walking up a steep, rocky hillside. The person is wearing a headscarf and a short-sleeved shirt. The hillside is covered in sparse vegetation and rocks. The overall tone is somber and focused.

# ISSUE IN FOCUS

Each month, the Inter Agency Common Feedback Project (CFP) releases the Feedback Report (found [here](#)). The monthly feedback report provides an overview of community feedback, on the earthquake response, received through perception surveys, rumor tracking and agency feedback mechanisms.

While the overview reports provides interesting insight on overall feedback, **it is important to delve deeper into issues and explore how communities feel about the response.**

The Issue in Focus will provide a detailed look at specific issues raised through community feedback. By looking, in detail, at key issues, the CFP aims to provide in-depth analysis and actionable recommendations to the humanitarian community.

**This edition of Issue in Focus is on community perceptions related to aid distribution fairness.** This issue has been raised in perception surveys, rumor tracking and agency feedback. Specifically, this Issue and Focus will answer the following questions:

- What are perceptions around aid distribution?
- Are there differences between groups in perception?
- What can drive these perceptions?
- What actions can the humanitarian community take to address negative perceptions?



Community Perceptions: By Numbers

# Aid Distribution Fairness



## Overall Findings

*a total of 1400 surveys completed in month of August*

45%



believe aid is not distributed fairly

39%



believe aid is distributed fairly



## Caste Breakdown

Brahmin

58%

31%

Tamang

37%

44%

Chhetri

50%

40%

Dalit

42%

38%

Gurung

67%

21%

Newar

38%

40%

other Janajati

43%

45%



# Notable District Breakdown



Highest Negative  
Perceptions



Highest Positive  
Perceptions



Makwanpur



Gorkha



Nuwakot



Rasuwa

**? Why do people believe aid is not fairly distributed?**



Respondents that have negative perceptions on the fairness of aid distribution believe that aid is distributed on a first come, first serve basis or according to network access (primarily political parties)





# PERCEPTIONS OF AID FAIRNESS

An improvement from July, but still a concern among communities

A key issue that was raised in the August edition of the Common Feedback Report was the fairness of aid distribution. The household perception surveys, rumor tracking and agency feedback collection all highlighted community concerns relating to distribution of aid.

The perception survey highlighted that 45 percent of respondents believed aid was not fairly distributed while 39 percent believed aid was fairly distributed.

In looking deeper into those figures, there is not a significant difference based on gender, age or disability. The significant difference in perceptions can be seen in caste/ethnicity.

Among those surveyed, Brahmin's and Chhetri's had the highest

negative perceptions while Tamang's, Gurung's and other Janajati's had the highest positive perceptions.

The difference in perception among caste/ethnicity may be a result of strategies in aid distribution. Traditionally, aid distributed in Nepal (during flooding season) used a blanket coverage approach, given the relatively small scale nature of those disasters. However, due to the magnitude and impact of the Nepal earthquake, a more targeted approach to distribution was essential to ensure limited resources reached those in most need.

The data suggests that those groups more positive about aid distribution also, historically, have

higher levels of vulnerability and, therefore, are more likely to access targeted distribution.

When looking at a district breakdown, the most negative districts are:

- Makwanpur with 70 percent negative perception
- Nuwakot with 62 percent negative perception

The most positive districts are:

- Gorkha with 64 percent positive perception
- Rasuwa with 59 percent positive perception

The differences in districts also highlight the role of caste/ethnicity. It seems that districts predominately populated by a specific group drive up the positive perceptions. For example, 89 percent of respondents in Rasuwa identified as Tamang. Perhaps greater homogeneity within districts results in groups less likely to perceive other groups being favored and aid unfairly being distributed.

A black and white photograph of a person sitting at a desk inside a tent. The person is using a computer with a monitor and keyboard. There is a microphone on a stand to the right of the desk. The tent has a large window in the background. The word 'RECOMMENDATION' is written in large yellow letters on the right side of the image.

## RECOMMENDATION

Feedback data suggests caste/ethnicity plays an important role in determining perceptions on the fairness of aid distribution. In particular, more vulnerable groups tend to have more positive perceptions on aid distribution while less vulnerable groups have more negative perceptions. This could be a result of targeted coverage where more vulnerable groups are prioritized for aid support.

Given this analysis, the CFP recommends that the humanitarian community:

**Strengthen community outreach and dialogue to ensure communities understand aid distribution approaches. It is critical that communities understand how aid will be distributed and the reasons for a targeted approach. This can reduce tensions within communities and improve community perceptions on how aid is being distributed. This is particularly important as agencies prepare for winterization support.**

