



# INTER AGENCY COMMON FEEDBACK PROJECT

## Issue: Reconstruction

February 2017





# THE INTER-AGENCY COMMON FEEDBACK PROJECT

Community perception surveys conducted with:



**NDRI**

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# KEY FINDINGS

This month's Reconstruction Community Perception Survey results demonstrate a significant improvement in the perceptions of earthquake affected people, in the six months since the last round of data collection in June 2016. Perceptions of progress in the reconstruction have jumped from 22 percent to 49 percent reporting to feel they have seen progress in this time. Overall, the earthquake affected communities are more positive about reconstruction efforts. This information will provide an important baseline for the perceptions of communities as the reconstruction process continues to move forward. The Common Feedback Project (CFP) monthly reports will be able to provide vital insight to practitioners as the needs and issues evolve.

While overall, this report reflects more positive perceptions, there is one significant negative point that has emerged and must be addressed. For the first time in the 18 months CFP has been collecting data and releasing Community Perception Reports, female respondents are persistently more negative than male respondents, on every single question. Women report having seen less progress, having received less support, they have less information about how to get support, less knowledge about safer building practices and they are less likely to have consulted an engineer. They are also less likely to have started, or completed, their reconstruction. This raises concerns about the marginalization and exclusion of women throughout the reconstruction process.

Some additional concerns about misunderstandings surrounding important processes and components of the reconstruction also emerge. For instance, 19 percent of respondents say that they are waiting for the second tranche to begin reconstruction. This also came up in last month's focus group discussions, where participants expressed that they did not feel the first tranche was enough to start building, and they didn't want to take the money out and accidentally use it for something else, so they planned to let the tranches accumulate in their bank account until it was enough to build with.

This demonstrates that a significant proportion of the affected population does not understand that they need to build a foundation in compliance with the National Building Code or Approved Minimum Requirements in order to get the second tranche. Partner organisations that have submitted their beneficiary feedback to the CFP have also highlighted this issue of confusion with the grant process. There is also some evidence that communities do not understand the services of government hired engineers for consultation and inspection are free to them, or even how to request technical assistance.

## Reccomendations

- Make a concerted effort to bring women into the reconstruction process as agents of their own recovery and reconstruction, not observers. This means by effectively targeting them with critical reconstruction information, ensuring they have access to support, removing barriers to accessing the grant funds and providing trainings on safe reconstruction. During last month's focus group discussions many participants requested that mason training be held in their communities for women. The logic of the communities requesting this was that women were less likely to go abroad for work, as many of the younger men who had already been trained have now done, and therefore the supply of skilled labour would remain in their community for reconstruction. Organisations that are training masons could consider adapting their training package to meet the specific needs of women, given their traditional roles in the household and community, in order to train female masons.
- Continue to combat misconceptions about the grant process through multiple communications channels that have been proven to be effective. Ensure clear messages are going out about the preconditions for the second tranche, inspections, and most importantly: how to access technical assistance.
- Technical assistance should be expanded to ensure all homeowners have access to an engineer consultant before beginning their reconstruction project. Currently, the lack of availability of engineers is cited as a major reason for delays in reconstruction. Technical assistance particularly targeting women should also be conducted, to ensure women have equal access to the information they need.

# PERCEPTION SURVEY METHODOLOGY

To undertake the Community Perception Survey, 40 enumerators were trained over five days and deployed across the 14 priority earthquake affected districts to collect data over the course of 12 days from a total of 2100 respondents using a probability proportionate to size (PPS) methodology. All data collection is completed with mobile tablets using KoBoToolbox.

## Sampling

All VDCs in the 14 priority affected districts in which 60 percent or more of the households are eligible for the housing reconstruction grant will be considered part of the survey's operating area, and eligible for random selection.

The population of each district will be considered the total population of all eligible VDCs, as per the 2011 census. The first 2000 samples of the survey will then be distributed by district proportionally.

The remaining 100 surveys will be allocated to districts where the total proportional sample size is under 100 respondents, in order to boost the population for an adequate district level analysis of the findings.

The number of VDCs selected in each district will vary, depending upon the number of samples allocated to each district. Each VDC will have a minimum of two wards sampled, and each ward a minimum of 10 surveys completed. Both VDCs and wards will be randomly selected from the list of eligible VDCs.

Twenty-five percent of the total sample will be allocated for municipalities, and municipalities will be randomly selected where there is more than one municipality in a district. In municipalities a minimum of three wards will be sampled, with a minimum of 10 surveys collected per ward.

## Selection of households and respondents

Once wards have been selected, enumerators will identify an entry point in their given ward, targeting a school, temple or other communal spot to initiate the individual interview process. At that point they will spin a bottle. The enumerator will walk in the direction the bottle points to once it has finished spinning until a home is found to initiate the interview process.

The first house selected will form a basis to identify other households to complete the survey of that ward. After identifying a first house for interview then enumerator will leave the house, turn right and skip the next two houses, completing the next interview at the third house. The enumerator will have leverage to move to next adjoining ward to complete the interview process if in the ward the sample household numbers are not covered.

Once in the household enumerators interviews an individual aged 15 years and above from the pool of all eligible respondents present in the home at the time of the survey. The enumerators select respondents from different age groups and genders at each home, to ensure the sample is demographically diverse and reflects the population from the survey area.

**2100**

Surveys completed across  
14 earthquake affected  
districts in January 2017

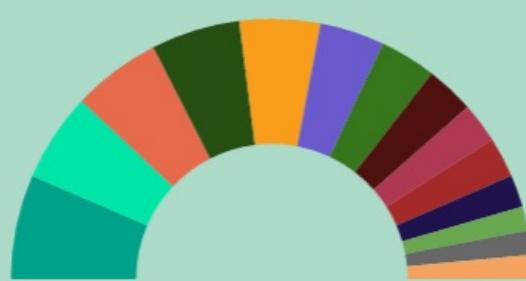


**50%**



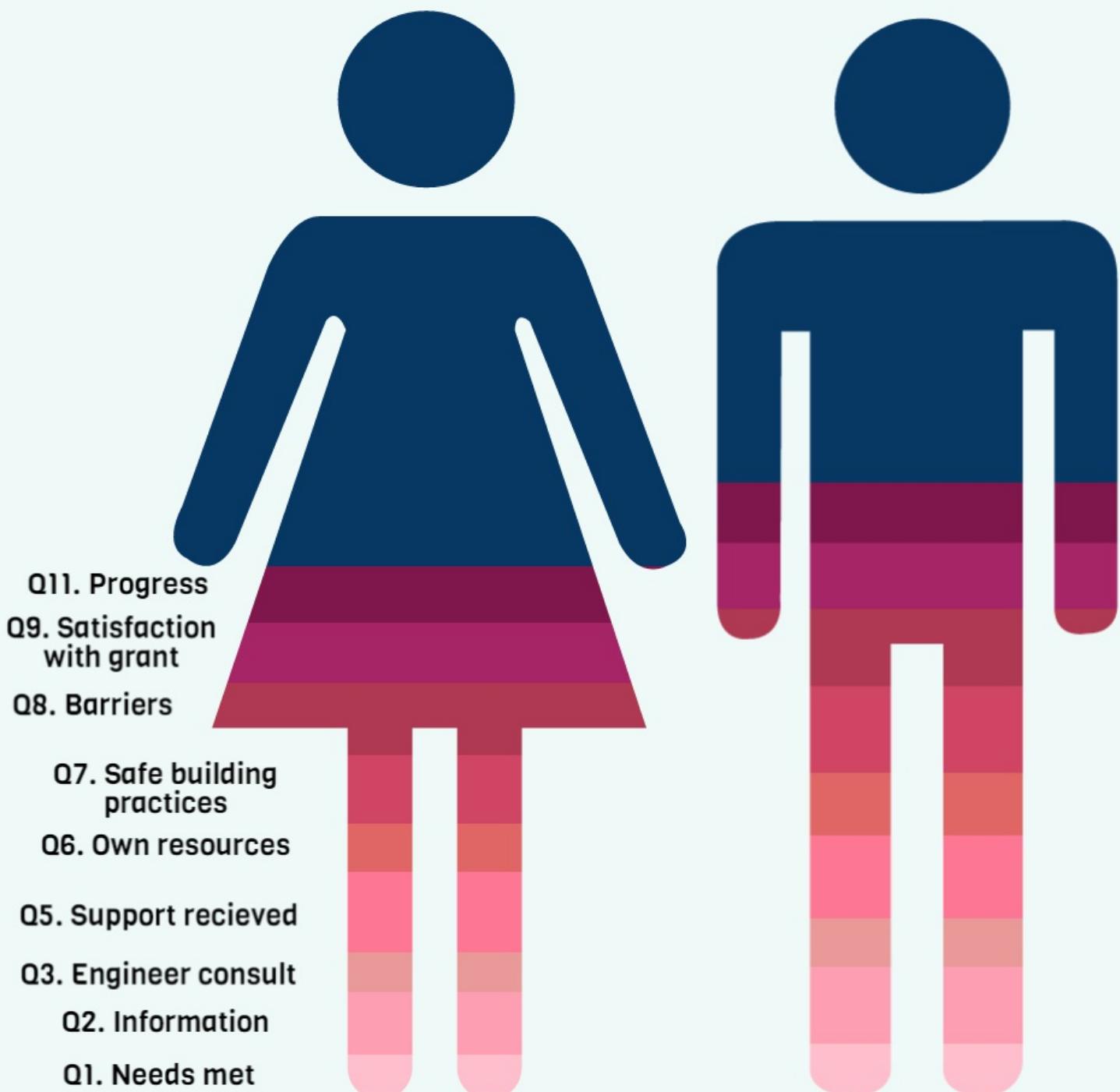
**50%**

## January 2017 Survey Overview



■ Dhading (13%) ■ Sindhupalchowk (11%) ■ Kavrepalanchowk (11%)  
■ Gorkha (11%) ■ Nuwakot (10%) ■ Dolakha (8%) ■ Ramechhap (7%)  
■ Kathmandu (6%) ■ Rasuwa (5%) ■ Sindhuli (5%) ■ Lalitpur (4%)  
■ Bhaktapur (3%) ■ Makwanpur (3%) ■ Okhaldhunga (3%)

# POSITIVE PERCEPTIONS BY GENDER



The above graphic depicts and summary of respondents overall level of positive perceptions, across all questions, by gender. The total of each positive response, across the nine subjective questions of the Community Perception Survey were summed and are represented as the pink area in each of the figures above. The remaining, blue area represents the sum of negative, neutral, don't know and refused across all questions by each gender.

# ARE YOUR MAIN RECONSTRUCTION NEEDS BEING ADDRESSED?

## What are people saying?

### Ugrachandi Nala, Kavrepalanchok

How can we get training related to house reconstruction?



### From Housing Recovery & Reconstruction Platform (HRRP)

There are three training packages: engineer 7-day train-the-trainer on earthquake resistant building technology, 50-day on-the-job training for new masons and 7-day refresher training for existing masons. Anyone who wants to get the training should contact HRRP or Department of Urban Development and Building Construction in their district.

### Batase, Sindhupalchok

Will government provide a house reconstruction loan at a minimal rate?

### From HRRP

Yes, the 'Refinancing Procedures for the reconstruction of private houses destroyed by the earthquakes, 2072' provide for loans, at 2% interest rate, of up to 2.5 million NRs. within the Kathmandu Valley and 1.5 million NRs. outside the Valley. The procedures also provide for a 300,000 NRs. loan to members of micro credit financial institutions.



## Key findings in January

A total of 40 percent of respondents feel that their main reconstruction needs are being addressed. While 55 percent feel their needs are not being addressed. This indicates a marked improvement over the past six months, from the 79 percent who did not feel their needs were being addressed in the last round of data collection in June 2016. The improvement could be attributed to the roll out of the first tranche of the housing grant.

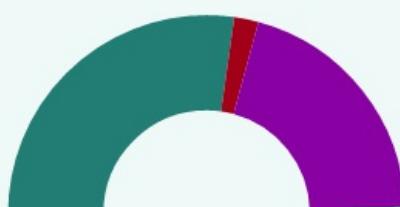
Generally, men are more likely to feel that their needs are being met than women (44 vs. 38 percent). This is not surprising as widespread issues with women being unable to access reconstruction support have been reported.

At the district level the three districts of the Kathmandu Valley are the least positive on their needs being met (84 percent negative collectively), while Sindhuli and Okhaldhunga come out as the most positive (70 and 64 percent positive respectively). As the process of assessing households, creating beneficiary lists and moving forward with the housing grant happened later in the Valley than in the other 11 priority districts, this is to be anticipated.

### Needs met by gender



## Are your main reconstruction needs being addressed?

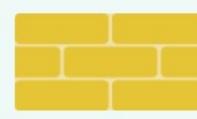


■ Not addressed (55%) ■ Neutral (4%)  
■ Addressed (41%) ■ Don't know/Refused (1%)

### Top reconstruction needs



Financial resources (93%)



Building materials (49%)



Skilled labour (16%)



Technical knowledge (12%)



Land to build on (9%)

\*respondents were asked to select their top two needs

# DO YOU HAVE THE INFORMATION YOU NEED TO ACCESS RECONSTRUCTION SUPPORT?

## What are people saying?

### Marpak, Dhading

Will government give second instalment even if we do not reconstruct our house?



### Dhunche, Rasuwa

When are we getting the second instalment and is there any pre-requisite to be fulfilled

### From HRRP

The second tranche will only be provided if the house foundations have been constructed, inspected and found to meet the minimum requirements. If the inspection finds that the construction work does not meet the minimum requirements the household will be provided with a correction order detailing the corrections required. Once the corrections are completed the work will be inspected again and if compliant the second tranche will be provided.

### Singhadevi, Okhaldhunga

When do I get second instalment? First instalment that I received is not enough even to start reconstructing my house.



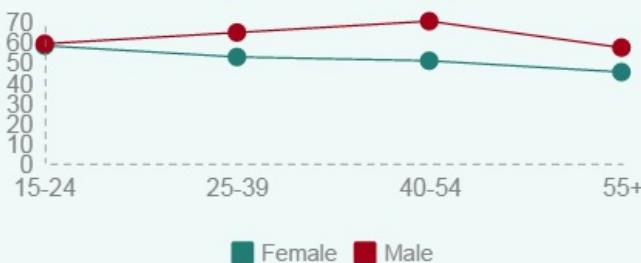
## Key findings in January

Understanding of the processes involved in receiving housing reconstruction support is also improving across the 14 priority affected districts, with 58 percent of respondents claiming they know how to get support. This is a 16 percent improvement over the past six months.

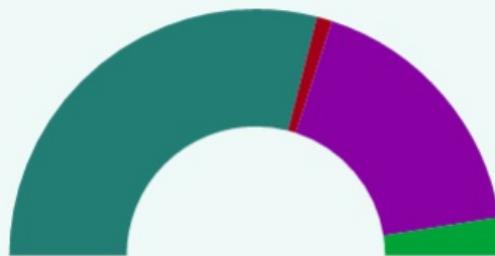
As has been observed in all previous rounds of the Community Perception Survey, female respondents were much less likely than male respondents to feel they had the information they needed to access support (52 vs. 64 percent positive respectively). Likewise, there is a negative correlation between age and feelings of having necessary information. As age increases, so does the information gender gap.

The most sought after pieces of information are details on the types of support available for reconstruction, including when it will be received and what the process is for getting it. Additionally, information about taking low interest loans or other types of finance was also a topic of great interest.

### Information gender gap



## Do you have the information you need to access reconstruction support?



■ Yes (58%) ■ Neutral (2%) ■ Yes (35%) ■ Don't know (5%)

### Top information needs



When will support come (47%)



What support is available from government (38%)



How and where to get subsidy loan (21%)



Process for getting government support (20%)

\*respondents were asked to select their top two information needs

# HAVE YOU CONSULTED AN ENGINEER FOR YOUR HOUSING RECONSTRUCTION NEEDS?

## What are people saying?

### Baireni, Dhading

Engineer never came on call for building assessment that why we haven't reconstructed house.



### Sundrawati, Dolakha

We are in a dilemma on how to start reconstruction because the engineer is not available.

### From HRRP

The beneficiaries do not have to pay the engineers or the inspection team mobilized by the Ministry of Urban Development District Level Programme Implementation Units. The technical inspection teams are composed of one or more engineers, sub-engineers or assistant sub-engineers' and are mobilised in VDCs/municipalities to inspect and certify whether ongoing house construction is according to the National Building Code or Approved Minimum Requirements.

### Jiri N.P., Dolakha

I heard a rumour that we need to pay money to engineers. That's why I haven't ask any assistance from them yet to reconstruct my house. Do we need to give additional money to the engineer?



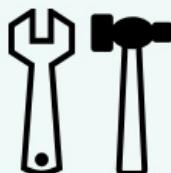
## Key findings in January

An encouraging 37 percent of respondents have already consulted an engineer about their housing reconstruction plans. A further 15 percent have plans to seek such consultation. Ninety-three percent of these were government engineers, while four percent were provided by I/NGOs, three percent came through personal networks and only one percent were hired by homeowners.

Those respondents who reported to have started their reconstruction were the most likely to have consulted an engineer (75 percent). Unfortunately, only 47 percent of those who have already completed their reconstruction have consulted an engineer. Ten percent of respondents who have had a consultation report that the engineer advised them to retrofit/repair their home.

Of the 45 percent who have not consulted an engineer, 59 percent say it is because they have not yet begun their reconstruction, while 30 percent say it is because engineers are not available.

## Why have you not consulted?

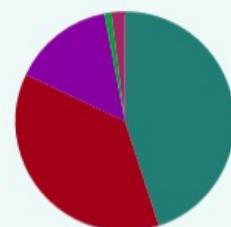


Have not started rebuilding (59%)



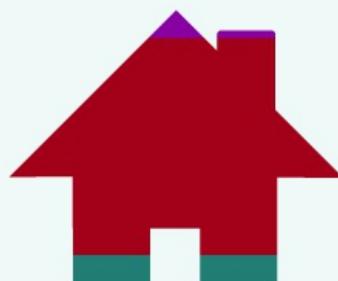
Engineers not available/too busy (32%)

## Have you consulted an engineer for your housing reconstruction needs?



■ No (45%) ■ Yes (37%) ■ Plan to consult (15%)  
■ Don't plan to consult (1%) ■ Don't know (2%)

## Advice of engineer



■ Demolish (11%) ■ Rebuild (79%) ■ Repair/retrofit (10%)

# WHAT ARE YOUR OVERALL PLANS FOR YOUR HOUSING RECONSTRUCTION?

## What are people saying?

### From HRRP

The first tranche of the housing reconstruction grant should be used to complete the foundations.



### Budhanilkantha N.P., Kathmandu

How should we utilize first instalment of money in reconstruction?

### Singhdevi, Okhadhunga

We are not satisfied with the government building design because we are a big family so how can we adjust in two rooms and where can we store harvested crop?

### From HRRP

Households are allowed to develop their own house design as long as it follows the principles of the National Building Code (NBC). The building code provides different size and layout specifications depending on the construction materials. Owner designs need to be submitted to VDC or municipality offices and get a building control approval letter. Households can request support preparing a design from Partner Organisations conducting technical assistance or from the VDC /municipality, and can call their HRRP district office for help contacting these partners. There are 17 GoN designs available with multiple rooms which can also be selected.



## Key findings in January

Fifty-four percent of respondents expect their house reconstruction to be completed within one year. Of that, 21 percent expect to complete their projects within six months. While it is good to see that the outlook of earthquake affected people is positive and hopeful, it will be important to ongoing efforts of government and I/NGOs working in reconstruction to properly manage expectations to avoid future resentment and disillusionment.

Another concern is that 18 percent of respondents stated they plan to begin construction only after receiving the second tranche of the housing grant. This idea also came out strongly in last month's Focus Group Discussion Report. Many people seem to have the misconception that if they wait the grant will accumulate in their account. They do not understand that they have to start building properly to receive the rest of the money. Clarifying the grant dispersal process should be a top communications priority for NRA and related partner organisations.

Furthermore, as reconstruction plans move forward additional effort should be invested in ensuring technical assistance is made available to all households to ensure they are building in compliance with the building code.

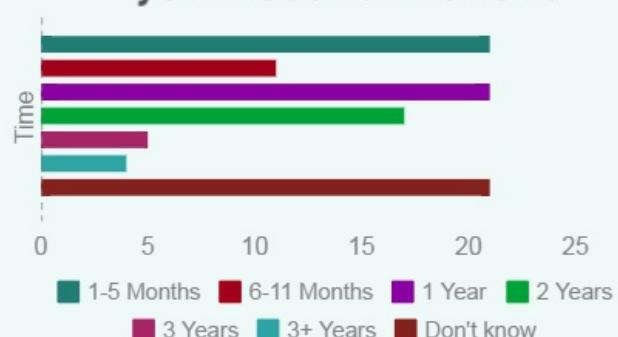


Photo by : NDRI

## Financial plans for reconstruction



## When do you expect to complete your reconstruction?



# HAVE YOU RECEIVED ANY HOUSING RECONSTRUCTION SUPPORT?

## What are people saying?

### Jeewanpur, Dhading

I have the earthquake beneficiary card, so why am I not getting cash support?



### Pachkhal N.P., Kavrepalanchok

My house is completely destroyed but I have not received any cash support yet.

### Tokha N.P., Kathmandu

We are not included in beneficiary list though we are actual beneficiaries.

### From HRRP

Households that have been assessed to be heavily damaged to completely destroyed are eligible for the housing reconstruction grant. If you feel that your house has been damaged to this extent and you are not on the beneficiary list, you could file a grievance with your VDC secretary.



## Key findings in January

A total of 69 percent of respondents reporting having received some form of housing reconstruction support, including financial, technical and material support. Ninety-seven percent was reported to be through the government reconstruction grant. Nineteen percent of those have already been through two housing inspections, while 27 percent have had one and 43 percent no inspections.

Of the 31 percent of people who have not received any reconstruction support, 39 percent attribute this to unaddressed grievances.

Ninety-eight percent of the respondents in Sindhupalchok reported having received some form of reconstruction support. This is a strong indication that the hard hit district has been prioritized by both government partner organisations. Efforts must be made now to close the gap in other districts that have received less attention, such as Makwanpur (60 percent) and Dhading (61 percent).

## Reason for not receiving housing reconstruction support



Unaddressed grievance (39%)

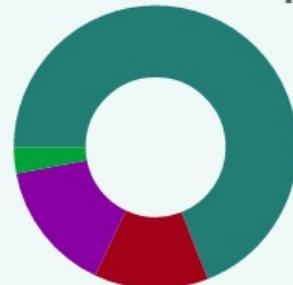


Name missing on eligibility list (29%)



Ongoing banking process (18%)

## Have you received any housing reconstruction support ?



■ Yes (69%) ■ No (13%) ■ Expect to (15%) ■ Do not expect to (3%)

## Type of support received



Cash transfer (99%)



Consultation (9%)



Info on safe building practices (7%)



Government grant (97%)

I/NGO

I/NGO (10%)



Community (4%)

## Source of support

# HAVE YOU BEEN ABLE TO COMMIT YOUR OWN RESOURCES?

## What are people saying?

### Shikharbesi, Nuwakot

I have already reconstructed my house? Will I be eligible for cash support?



### Sundrawati, Dolakha

It will be easy to reconstruct our house if construction material is available at a reasonable price.

### From HRRP

If you have already constructed your house, the inspection team will carry out a full inspection to assess whether or not it meets the minimum requirements and the building code. If it does, you will receive the next tranches. If not, you will receive a correction order detailing what work needs to be done to meet the building code requirements. Once the corrections have been completed your house will be inspected again and, if compliant, the next tranches will be approved for release.

### Dhulikhel N.P., Kavrepalanchok

We need house construction material support.



## Key findings in January

Forty-six percent of respondents report to have been able to commit their own resources to their housing reconstruction. The top resources committed by those who have been able to do so include materials, labour and savings. Gurungs and Tamangs were the most likely to have committed their own resources (58 and 53 percent respectively). Related to that, at the district level, Rasuwa has, by far, the greatest proportion of respondents who have committed their own resources to their house reconstruction at 80 percent.

The resources most reported to have been committed from the owners' side are materials such as bamboo, timber, mud and stone, labour and financial resources. The high proportion of people committing their own resources may be a result of delays that have been faced to date. It will be important to ensure that technical assistance reaches even those who are not taking the grant, to ensure their investment is equally protected.

### District highlights

**80%**

of respondents in Rasuwa have committed their own resources

**67%**

of respondents in Okhaldhunga have committed their own resources

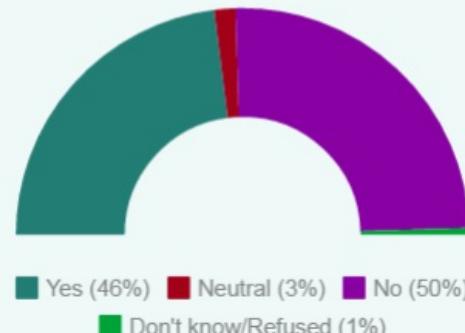
**66%**

of respondents in Dolakha have NOT committed their own resources

**61%**

of respondents in the Kathmandu Valley have NOT committed their own resources

## Have you been able to commit your own resources?



### Resources committed



Building materials  
(58%)



Labour  
(54%)



Money/  
savings  
(50%)

\*respondents were asked to list all resources they had committed

# ARE YOU AWARE OF HOW TO BUILD USING SAFER CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES?

## What are people saying?

### Jiri N.P., Dolakha

Government need to provide technical assistance to us during reconstruction. How can we get such assistance?



### Bigultar, Okhaldhunga

If a building is not constructed according to the building code, then the government will it. Is that true?

### From HRRP

Technical assistance should be available from Partner Organisations working in your VDC. Where not present, technical assistance can be requested through the VDC / municipality. Contact your VDC/municipality or district HRRP team for instructions on the process to request technical assistance. The VDC / municipality should then inform households about the arrival date of the Technical Assistance team.

### From HRRP

No, if a building is not constructed as per the building code the inspection team will provide a correction order to the household detailing the issues that need to be addressed and providing information on how to address these issues. The household can choose to implement the corrections in order to receive the next tranche of the housing grant. If the corrections are not made the household will not be eligible to receive the remainder of the grant.



## Key findings in January

A total of 64 percent of respondents reported having some knowledge of safer building practices, with 11 percent of those expressing complete confidence in their knowledge. Once again, as with other information questions, we see a significant difference in the reported knowledge of male (72 percent) and female (56 percent) respondents.

The primary sources of this information were cited by respondents to be: radio, VDC offices as well as leaders and members of communities and families.

While it is encouraging that awareness of safer building practices is spreading, it remains important to ensure that the information being spread is correct and consistent. Though informal networks are a traditional and trusted information source, there is always the risk of complicated messages becoming confused and distorted.

## How do you plan to use these practices?



Consulting engineer before building (75%)



Employing trained masons (53%)



Use all safer building practice elements (33%)



Apply few safer building practice elements (16%)

## Are you aware of how to build using safer construction practices?



■ Yes (64%) ■ Neutral (3%) ■ No (28%)  
■ Don't know/Refused (5%)

## Where did you get this information?



67% got safer building practice information from a community or family member/leader



52% got safer building practice information from the radio



40% got safer building practice information from their VDC



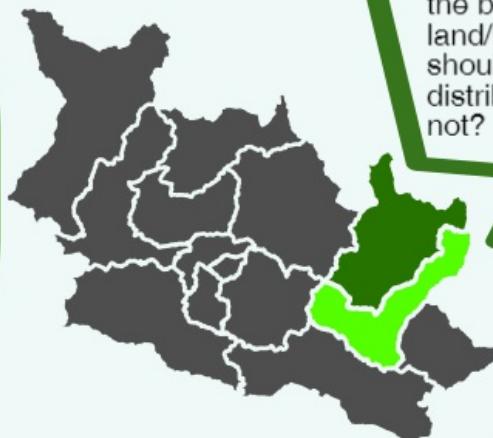
28% got safer building practice information from television

# DO YOU FACE ANY BARRIERS TO RECEIVING SUPPORT?

## What are people saying?

### From HRRP

Anyone who feels that they should be on the list but are not can file a grievance with their VDC secretary / municipality / district authorities / NRA. They should also go through the process of securing land ownership documents.



### Bhirkot, Dolakha

Those beneficiaries who are not on the beneficiary list due to no land/house ownership document should be included in cash distribution process. Why are they not?

### From HRRP

Households that nominated someone other than a male head of household to represent them during the enrolment process have been unable to access the first tranche of the grant because banks were not formally informed of nominated representatives, and bank accounts were opened in the names of the head of household. VDC/DDCs are collating these cases now to be submitted to the NRA so that a formal letter can be sent to each bank requesting the name on the account be switched to the nominated representative. If you are having this problem, ensure that your VDC/DDC office is aware of your case.

### Khimti, Ramechhap

My husband is out of country and they won't give me the government grant for our household?



## Key findings in January

While an encouraging 62 percent of respondents feel they face few to no barriers to receiving reconstruction support, a significant 30 percent of respondents do feel they face such barriers. Main barriers cited by respondents include not being on the beneficiary list, delays in addressing grievances, unfair selection criteria for grant and barriers to accessing additional finances.

Outside of the Kathmandu Valley, respondents in Dolakha (42 percent), Makwanpur (40 percent) and Rasuwa (39 percent) feel they face the greatest barriers. Respondents in Sindhupalchok are the most confident in their ability to access support without barriers.

### Barriers faced



No access to additional finance (47%)



Delay in addressing grievance (26%)



Not on eligibility list (35%)



Unfair selection criteria (26%)

## Do you face any barriers to receiving reconstruction support?



■ No (62%) ■ Neutral (2%) ■ Yes (30%)  
■ Don't know (6%)



\*respondents were asked to select the top two barriers they faced

Photo by : NDRI

# ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH GRANT DISPERSAL PROCESS?

## What are people saying?

### Dhunche, Rasuwa

When will my grievance be addressed?

### From HRRP

The office where a grievance is registered has to review the grievance and address it or forward it to the relevant agency within 15 days of the grievance being registered. The office where the grievance was registered must inform the grievant if the grievance is forwarded. If you have not received any information on your grievance and it has been more than 15 days, you could follow up with the office where you registered your grievance.



### Jiri N.P., Dolakha

Why does government not give us 3 lakhs in one instalment?

### From HRRP

The reconstruction grant is provided in instalments in order to make sure house construction is compliant with the building code. Households who have received the reconstruction grant must build their house by employing earthquake resistant technology and using a design approved through the catalogue or

VDC/municipality. The grant is split into tranches to allow for inspection at key points in the construction where compliance can be checked and corrections can be implemented if required. Households can also claim the full 3 lakhs after the reconstruction of the house if construction has been inspected and found to meet the minimum requirements by deployed engineers.



## Key findings in January

Fifty-two percent of respondents are satisfied with the grant dispersal process. The biggest complaints with the process among the 38 percent who were not satisfied included the time consuming and lengthy process involved, the complexity of the system and the difficulty of beginning work with the small first tranche.

Generally, younger people are more satisfied with the process than older people. This could be attributed to the fact that younger people are often more connected to different streams of information, and therefore may have better knowledge and understanding of the grant procedures, making it easier for them to expedite the process.

Perhaps further communication efforts to clear up misunderstandings on the procedures and criteria for discernment will help to further improve perceptions of the grant process going forward. However, this should be taken as a positive baseline satisfaction figure.

## District highlights

**72%**

of respondents in Sindhupalchok and Sindhuli are satisfied with the grant process

**58%**

of respondents in Dolakha are NOT satisfied with the grant process

**52%**

of respondents in Makwanpur are NOT satisfied with the grant process

## Satisfied with grant process?



■ Yes (52%) ■ Neutral (8%) ■ No (38%)  
■ Don't know/Refused (2%)

## Why are you not satisfied with the grant dispersal process?



Lengthy/time consuming process (93%)



Complicated in nature (42%)



First tranche insufficient to begin work (31%)

# BESIDES BUILDING YOUR HOME, WHAT IS YOUR BIGGEST RECONSTRUCTION PRIORITY?

## What are people saying?

### Gumdi, Dhading

Good access to road is our biggest concern



### Chandeni Mandan, Kavrepalanchok

It is difficult to reconstruct our house due to lack of water resources and road.

### Nilkantha N.P., Dhading

More priority needs to be given to educational institutes like schools

### Manthali N.P., Ramechhap

I cannot reconstruct my house because of scarcity of water. Government should manage water for us.

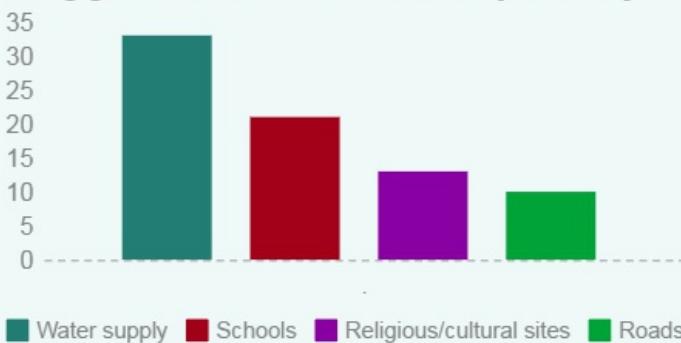


## Key findings in January

When it comes to the reconstruction of community infrastructure, water supply emerges as the clear priority across all 14 survey districts. Given the large volume of feedback data that has been received by the Common Feedback Project, as well as many donors, I/NGOs, government and other partners on the water crisis many earthquake affected communities are facing, this should come as no surprise.

When it comes to ethnicity some interesting results are observed. Water is by far the most important community resource for Tamangs (41 percent) and other Janajati (39 percent); however, Gurungs prioritized schools and religious/cultural heritage sites (27 percent each). Newars have also prioritized cultural heritage sites (30 percent) and Magars, while prioritizing water, have put the greatest emphasis on roads of any other ethnic group (21 percent).

## Besides your home, what is your biggest reconstruction priority?



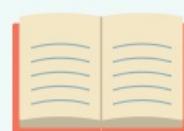
## District highlights



Respondents in Nuwakot (47%) and Dhading (46%) prioritized water most strongly among all districts



Respondents in Dolakha (24%), Okhaldhunga (21%) and Ramechhap (21%) prioritized roads most strongly among all districts



Respondents in Gorkha prioritized schools most strongly among all districts (46%)



Respondents in Bhaktapur prioritized religious/cultural sites most strongly among all districts (63%)

# OVERALL, IS POST-EARTHQUAKE RECONSTRUCTION PROCESS MAKING PROGRESS?

## What are people saying?

**Dhulikhel N.P., Kavrepalanchok**  
What investigation will be done into fake beneficiaries that are also getting support?



### Dadigarunshe, Sindhuli

Why are there delays in distributing the first grant instalment?

### From HRRP

A third party monitoring team is being established to monitor the inspection process and the disbursement of the housing reconstruction grant. This team will document any concerning issues they find, such as fake beneficiaries, and provide recommendations to address these.

**From HRRP**  
NRA was in the process of revising the existing guidelines based on the decision of increasing the grant amount and developing new guidelines to support the process, such as building type designs. In addition, delays in enrolment and verification, identifying the banks for each of the affected districts and following the procedures took time. Furthermore, issues like households in geo-hazard and road expansion areas need time to be addressed.



### Key findings in January

Nearly half of all respondents (49 percent) feel they have seen some progress in the reconstruction effort. This is a significant improvement over the past six months when only 22 percent felt they could see any progress.

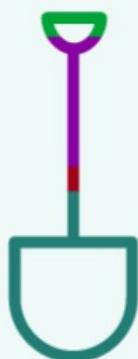
Among the various ethnic groups, Gurungs were the most positive about the progress of the reconstruction (60 percent feel there has been progress). In terms of districts, Rasuwa, Dhading Gorkha and Okhaldhunga are also all above 60 percent positive. Inversely, in Makwanpur 59 percent of people feel they have not seen progress.

Of the 37 percent who feel there has not been progress, the most significant barrier to progress they identified included: unclear government plans, delays in disbursement of funds, and lack of funds to finish their house construction. Secondary barriers included: shortage of skilled labour (11 percent), shortage of building materials (10 percent), delays in addressing grievances (8 percent) and delays in inspection team (6 percent).



Photo by : NDRI

### Reconstruction making progress?



■ Yes (49%) ■ Neutral (7%) ■ No (37%)  
■ Don't know/Refused (7%)

### Top things preventing progress



Government plans unclear (42%)



Delays in fund disbursement (32%)



Lack of money to finish house (25%)

\*respondents were asked to list all resources they had committed



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