



# NEPAL COMMUNITY FEEDBACK REPORT

## Issue: Food Security and Livelihoods

September 2016





# THE INTER-AGENCY COMMON FEEDBACK PROJECT

Community perception surveys conducted with:



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# KEY FINDINGS

In June 2016, the Inter-Agency Common Feedback Project collected feedback from communities (2100 respondents) across 14 districts on food security and livelihood related issues.

One area of life that was hit hard by the earthquake has been livelihood. The perception survey, partner feedback mechanisms, and qualitative feedback collated by the Common Feedback Project, all demonstrate that livelihood is a major concern for many in the earthquake affected districts. In this round of community perception survey little more than half (56 percent) said they have concerns related to their livelihoods which is a significant decrease from May 2016, when 67 percent of respondents reported having the same concerns.

Furthermore, 84 percent do not believe their livelihood would survive another disaster. Main livelihood related concerns cited by respondents included lack of skills and jobs. One fourth of the respondents said they have no skills, indicating a need for livelihood related capacity building.

Some of the areas mentioned by respondents as areas in which they would like to build new skills to support livelihood rehabilitation include: new farming techniques, tailoring, masonry and carpentry. Similarly, of those who expressed they were unable to meet their daily food needs, new skill was the top identified requirement (54 percent), indicating a strong desire to be self-sufficient.

As June marked the beginning of monsoon season, questions were asked about respondents feelings of preparedness to face the rainy season. Half the respondents (50 percent) said they were not prepared for monsoon. The top two barriers cited for this lack of preparedness are unsafe shelter (87 percent) and lack of financial resources (90 percent).

## Recommendations

- Consult with communities to understand their recovery ambitions and skills development needs, and support self-recovery by supporting them in the development of those skills, or the identification of training opportunities.
- In livelihood recovery programmes, ensure that communities understand how to implement resilience measures, such as preparedness and savings plans, which communities highlight as a key gap in their livelihood's ability to survive another disaster. This will help prevent further economic losses in already vulnerable communities as a result of flooding, landslide, or other common hazards in Nepal.

# PERCEPTION SURVEY METHODOLOGY

To undertake the Community Perception Surveys, 84 Community Frontline Associates (CFAs) and 12 District Coordinators across 14 affected districts were trained over three days on various aspects of the survey questionnaires and the study. In each round, a total sample size of 2100 respondents, 150 in each of the 14 earthquake affected districts are surveyed. All data collection is completed with mobile phones using KoboToolbox.

## Sampling

The study uses simple random sampling where four village development committees (VDCs) (rural sample) and one municipality (urban sample) are randomly selected from a list of VDCs and municipalities that are relatively accessible to the CFAs. District headquarters are selected as a peri-urban sample area in the district that has no municipality (such as Rasuwa). Within each VDC and municipality/district headquarter, three wards are randomly selected and in each ward, ten respondents are surveyed.

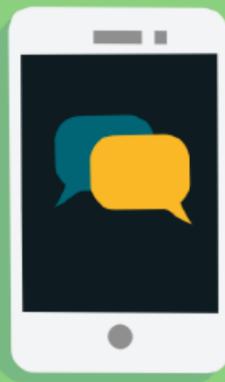
Given this sampling approach, there are some limitations that should be acknowledged. While the VDC selection is randomized, the survey does not reach inaccessible areas, particularly mountainous areas. Consequently, the perception surveys does not collect feedback from communities in these inaccessible areas; this feedback may or may not be different from that collected in the survey area. Additionally, while the sample size does provide national level representation across the 14 districts, it may only be considered indicative at the district level.

## Selection of households and respondents

On arrival in the ward of the selected VDC/municipality/district headquarter, the CFAs identify an entry point such as a school, temple or chautara to initiate the individual interview process. A spin the pen approach is used to form a basis to initiate the interview process from the identified entry point. The first house in the direction of the pen is surveyed and from the first surveyed house, a skipping pattern of two houses is followed where possible until ten surveys are completed in each ward. Temporary shelters and make-shift houses are also considered part of the regular household sample.

Once in the household, the CFA interviews an individual age 15 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.

## June 2016 Survey Overview



**2100**

Surveys completed using  
Kobo Toolbox across 14  
earthquake affected  
districts in June 2016



**51%**



**49%**

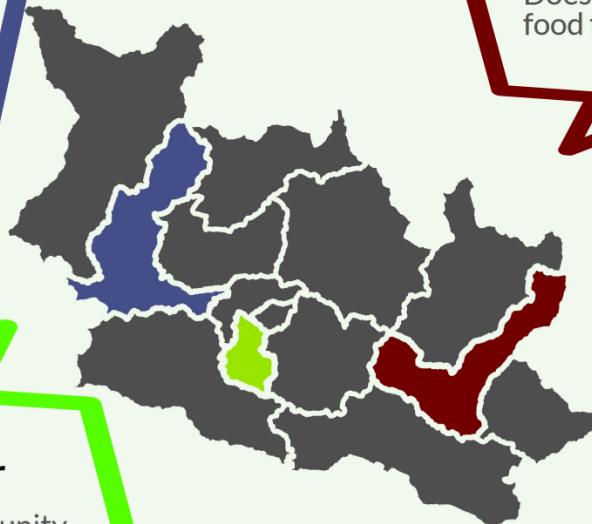
# DAILY FOOD NEEDS IN THE FAMILY



## What are people saying?

### Jiwanpur, Dhading

We are more concerned regarding what to eat rather than reconstruction as we are unable to farm because of no rainfall.



### Gelu, Ramechhap

Does government provide food for us?

### Harisiddhi, Lalitpur

Most of the people in our community are selling their field to build a new house. We are afraid that in near future there will be shortage of arable land.

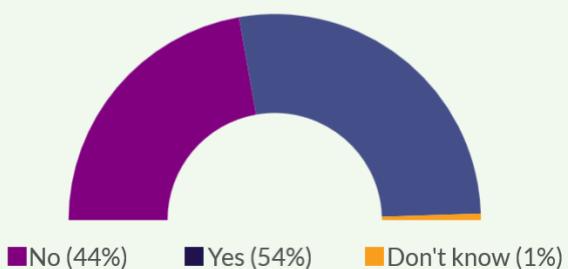


## Key findings in June

Across 14 districts little less than half the respondents said their food needs were not being met as opposed to 54 percent who said their daily food needs were being met.

Among social protection and earthquake victim identification card holders, 71 percent of those with Dalit children under 5, and 48 percent of respondents with a Class A earthquake victim card said their food needs were not being met.

## Are your daily food needs being met in your family?



## District highlights

**77%** of respondents in Sindhuli said their daily food needs were not being met

**64%** of respondents in Kavrepalanchok said their daily food needs were not being met

**63%** of respondents in Dolakha said their daily food needs were not being met

## Things needed to meet food needs



54% require new skills to meet daily food needs



50% require paid work to meet daily food needs



39% require cash support to meet daily food needs

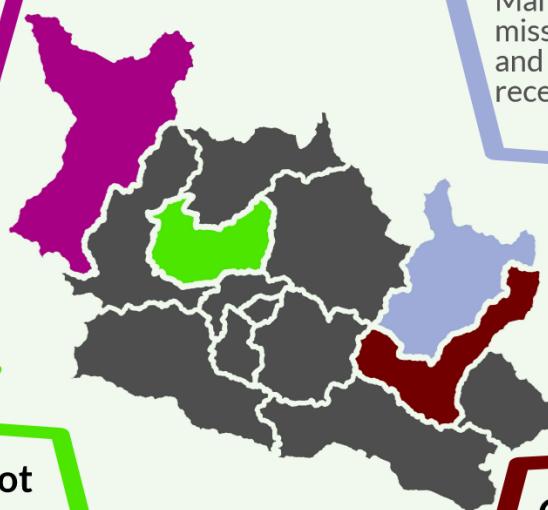
# PROGRESS IN POST-EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY



## What are people saying?

### Laprak, Gorkha

We need proper information on what type of house to construct.



### Charghare, Nuwakot

We have scarcity of water. In this case how can we construct house?

### Sunkhani, Dolakha

Many beneficiaries' names are missing from the beneficiary list and there is rumor that they won't receive cash support, is that true?

### Chanakhu, Ramechhap

To construct house, we don't have easy access to transportation to carry building materials like cement. How do we transport building materials to construction site?



## Key findings in June

A large majority of the respondents (68 percent) said there has not been progress in post-earthquake recovery. Slightly fewer female respondents (66 percent) said post-earthquake recovery is not making progress as opposed to 70 percent male respondents.

The main areas identified by respondents where progress was lacking are financial matters, housing reconstruction and livelihood recovery. As reconstruction efforts move forward, the timely disbursement of grants will play an important role in addressing these concerns.

## District highlights

**95%** of respondents in Sindhuli believe post-earthquake recovery has not made progress

**89%** of respondents in Nuwakot believe post-earthquake recovery has not made progress

**64%** of respondents in Makwanpur believe post-earthquake recovery has made progress

## Is your post-earthquake recovery making progress?



■ No (68%) ■ Yes (27%) ■ Don't know (4%)  
■ Neutral (2%)

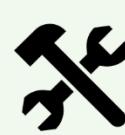
## Top areas not making progress



57% believe there has not been progress in resolving their financial matters



56% believe there has not been progress in the housing reconstruction



35% believe there has not been progress in livelihood recovery

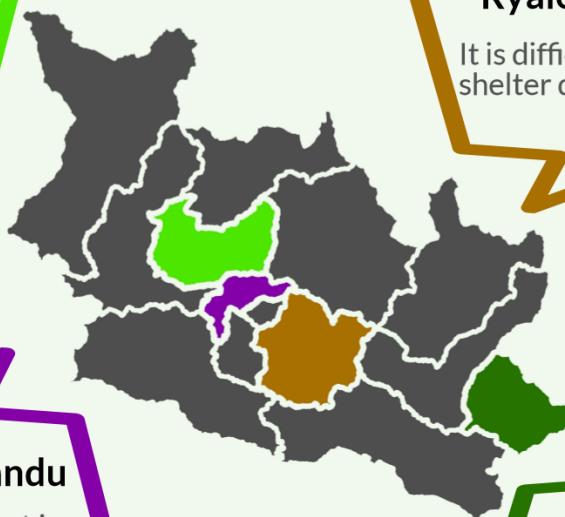
# MONSOON PREPAREDNESS



## What are people saying?

### Bidur, Nuwakot

We are facing problem on monsoon so we need cash support soon.



### Ryale, Kavrepalanchok

It is difficult to live in temporary shelter during monsoon.

### Dachi Thali, Kathmandu

We are living in a house that is not safe and how can we stay in that house during monsoon?

### Harkapur, Okhaldhunga

I don't have proper house that protects me from monsoon.



## Key findings in June

Across 14 districts half the respondents said they were not prepared for monsoon. This is slightly lower than the last perception survey, conducted in May, in which 59 percent said they were not prepared for the monsoon.

The main reasons cited for not being prepared were lack of financial resources, inadequate information and lack of building materials.

Of those surveyed, 60 percent will be living in a temporary shelter during the monsoon, and only 35 percent staying in a permanent shelter. Those living in temporary shelters feel more vulnerable to the monsoon rains, and highlighted shelter as their main barrier to monsoon preparedness.

## Reasons for not preparing



90% have not prepared due to lack of cash



37% have not prepared due to lack of knowledge



22% have not prepared due to lack of materials

## Are you prepared for the monsoon?



■ No (50%) ■ Yes (47%) ■ Neutral (4%)

## Barriers preventing preparedness



87% cited lack of proper shelter as being one of the top two barriers to monsoon preparedness



33% cited the lack of resources to help planning for monsoon as a barrier



19% believe that the lack of information is one of the top two barriers to monsoon preparedness

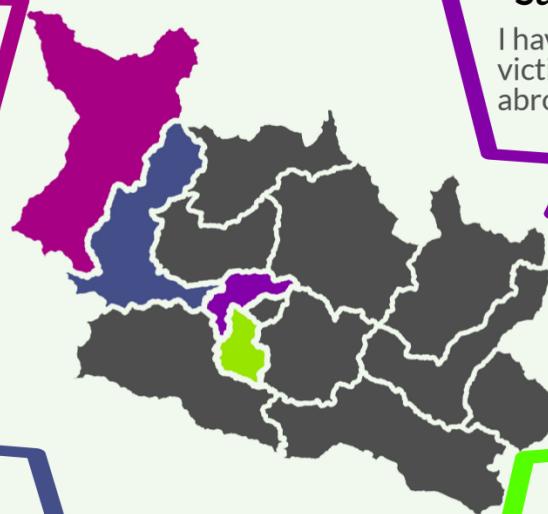
# MIGRATION TO SUPPORT FAMILY RECOVERY



## What are people saying?

### Barpak, Gorkha

Does government provide jobs to beneficiaries?



### Jiwanpur, Dhading

I have heard that employment opportunity is given to earthquake victim, where do I have to contact?

### Sankhu, Kathmandu

I have heard that earthquake victims will be migrated abroad.

### Sunakothi, Lalitpur

Most of the women in our community are unemployed so if skills training is given according to their capabilities, we will have more chances of getting a job.



## Key findings in June

Almost one fifth of the respondents said they have had a family member migrate in order to support their family's recovery.

Men, between the ages of 15 and 39 were most frequently reported to have migrated, with 88 percent of respondents who reported having a family member migrate to support their recovery, claiming the family member came from this category. Foreign employment and labour construction related labour are the top two types of employment respondents indicated their family members had migrated to work in.

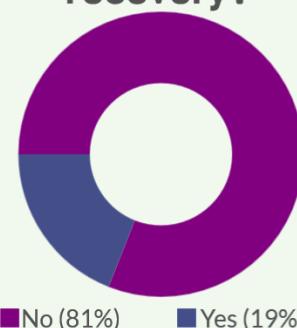
## District Highlights

**27%** of respondents in Gorkha said they have a family member who migrated for employment

**25%** of respondents in Nuwakot said they have a family member who migrated for employment

**23%** of respondents in Dhading said they have a family member who migrated for employment

After the earthquake, have any members of your family been required to migrate to support your family's recovery?



## If yes, who left and the type of employment

**62%** migrated for foreign employment

**11%** migrated for labor construction work

**88%** of respondents said it was a male member of the household who has migrated

# CONCERNS RELATED TO LIVELIHOODS



## What are people saying?

### Sunakothi, Lalitpur

There is a lack of employment opportunities, so we need skill oriented training for income generation.



### Sindhupalchowk

I want to change subsistence agriculture based farming to more commercial farming, so I need financial and technical support in strengthening agriculture and livestock extension services from government and I/NGOs.

### Rasnalu, Ramechhap

To sustain livelihood, we need agriculture related training in our village.

### Baseshwar, Sindhuli

Water resource are drying up since earthquake, does government have any plan to resolve this issue?



## Key findings in June

Across 14 districts 56 percent of respondents said they have concerns related to their livelihood. This is a slight improvement from May's perception survey, in which 67 percent respondents said they have concern related to livelihood.

Main concerns cited by respondents are lack of jobs, lack of skills and lack of resources to start a livelihood. As in the last survey, damages to water supply survey has been raised as a main concern for livelihoods.

Feedback collected from partner organizations also highlights demands from farmers for access to high yield seeds at a reasonable price to support their livelihood recovery.

## Main concerns related to livelihood



No jobs  
(46%)

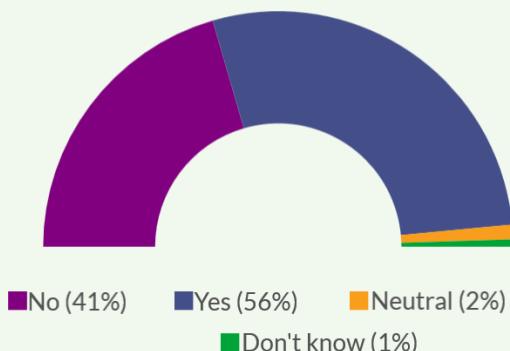


Lack of  
resources to  
start a livelihood  
(42%)



No skills  
(39%)

## Do you have any concerns related to your livelihood?



## District Highlights

**88%** of respondents in Sindhupalchok have concerns related to livelihood

**79%** of respondents in Rasuwa have concerns related to livelihood

**77%** of respondents in Gorkha have concerns related to livelihood

# RESILIENCE OF LIVELIHOODS SOURCES



## What are people saying?

### Gorkha N.P., Gorkha

It would be helpful if there were good irrigation facilities.



### Gelu, Ramechhap

We are unable to safely store crops, so there is a high chance they will decay.

### Ragini, Okaldhunga

Drought and storm has damaged the crops. How shall we sustain our livelihood?



## Key findings in June

Across 14 districts and 2100 respondents, 84 percent do not believe their source of livelihood would survive another disaster.

The main barriers to safeguarding their livelihoods, cited by respondents are lack of savings and lack of preparedness plans to respond to another disaster. Shelter was also identified by respondents as being an important barrier to protecting their livelihoods against future disasters.

The findings indicate a majority of respondents' current livelihood lack the resilience needed to adapt and recover from another disaster.

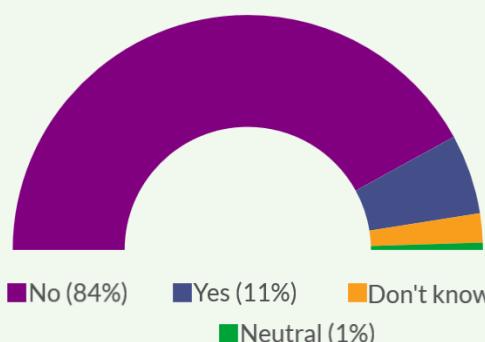
## District Highlights

**97%** of respondents in Okhaldhunga said they do not believe their livelihood source would survive another disaster

**96%** of respondents in Sindhuli said they do not believe their livelihood source would survive another disaster

**45%** of respondents in Makwanpur said they believe their livelihood source will survive another disaster

## Do you feel that your source of livelihood would survive another disaster?



## Main barriers to secure livelihood against another disaster



No savings (65%)



No preparedness plan (53%)



No place to accommodate (25%)

# CURRENT SOURCE OF LIVELIHOOD



## What are people saying?

### Pangretar, Sindhupalchok

Now we don't need relief material anymore. Give us skill development training.



### Rasnalu, Ramechhap

I feel I cannot do labor work to sustain livelihood for long time. I want to learn some skill and do some small business.

### Sudal, Bhaktapur

I have heard that government will provide grant for cow farming to all earthquake victims.

### Baseshwar, Sindhuli

How does government compensate our dead livestock?



## Key findings in June

Agriculture and livestock were the main source of livelihood followed by a small proportion of respondents who referred shop (9 percent) and cash for work (6 percent) as the main source of livelihood.

Respondents with a social protection card, such as for a Dalit child under 5, are less likely to own a shop or have government job and more likely to be part of cash for work.

In agency feedback and qualitative feedback received, respondents expressed desire to learn new farming skills and want the capacity building and skill oriented training such as tailoring, masonry, carpentry and farming to support their livelihood.

## What is your main source of livelihood (income) in your family?



Agriculture and livestock farming (63%)



Shop (9%)



Cash for work (6%)

## Desired Skills

**49%** of respondents want to learn new farming skills

**26%** of respondents want entrepreneurship training

## Current Skills

**50%** of respondents cited farming as their current skill to support their livelihood

**25%** of respondents believed they did not have any skills to support their livelihood

**12%** of respondents believed they had entrepreneurship to support their livelihood



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