

A

Report on

Nepal 2015 Earthquake Relief and Recovery Program



The Small Earth Nepal

September 10, 2015

Acknowledgement

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1. Introduction

On April 25, 2015, an earthquake, magnitude of 7.8 Richter scale, shook the country of Nepal causing massive devastation to the houses, roads, heritage sites and public buildings and causing severe landslides and took the lives of more than 8000 people, most of whom were children and the old people.

The ill-fated disaster was followed by an aftershock of the magnitude 6.8 on April 26, and even greater aftershock of magnitude of 7.4 Richter scale, on May 12, and hundreds of aftershocks afterwards. These major and minor shocks caused further damage to the already weakened infrastructures and triggered several fatal landslides in the hills and in the Himalayas claiming more lives and more physical damages. The earthquakes took the total lives of 8500, thousands of injuries and made millions homeless.

The most affected districts were Gorkha, Dhading, Nuwakot, Rasuwa, Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, Lalitpur, Kavrepalanchowk, Sindhupalchowk, and Dolakha(show these in the map)

Immediately after the earthquakes, the quick relief and recover activities were executed from national and international relief and humanitarian agencies as well as armed and police forces and the medical teams of Nepal and from around the globe. Soon several temporary shelters and medical centres were established and provided medical services and the vital supplies to the victims.

2. SEN's Earthquake Relief and Recovery Program

The Small Earth Nepal (SEN) established a relief and recovery strategic program in order to provide immediate services to the victims of the earthquakes and established a trust with the sources accumulated from SEN and from the friends of SEN in Nepal and abroad. Soon the SEN relief team initiated its ventures in some of the severely affected areas by the earthquakes.

2.1 SEN's Immediate Response to Help Out to the Victims, 4th May 2015

As an immediate relief program, SEN distributed basic needs materials to more than 500 households in most of those affected districts of Gorkha, Dhading and Sindhupalchowk. The materials included tarpaulin, blankets, and rice, lentils, and torch light, biscuits, milk and health and hygiene materials like sanitary pads for women. A health camp booth was organized in Gorkha where around 100 families benefitted with received immediate medical service. SEN's technical partners from USA and India joined hands to support the earthquake victims and raised some fund for the relief materials.



2.2 SEN's Health Camps to Help and Heal the Victims of the Earthquakes ***At Lakuri Bhanjyang, Lalitpur***

SEN, in coordination with Nidan Hospital and Norvic Hospital, organized a one-day health camp on 6th June at Lakuri Bhanjyang, Lalitpur where about hundred local residents were benefitted free medical service. The area, which lies at the border between Lalitpur district and Kavrepalanchowk district, is one of the worst hit areas by the earthquakes and also the area, least attended by the relief program due to the remoteness and also due to the geo-political division between the two districts

The medical team of four doctors, two staff nurses and two pharmacists provided the free medical services to about 65 people and distributed basic medical supplies as well.

Similarly, the team from SEN provided hand washing and water purification technique to the school children of that area. Also, SEN handed over 100 bottles of chlorine solution to the principal of school, to be distributed among the school children. SEN team also distributed handwashing soaps, tooth paste and tooth brush to about sixty children.



At Bhaireni, Dhading

The Small Earth Nepal (SEN) organized second health camp on 19th Ashad, 2072 (July 4, 2015) at Baireni VDC of Dhading district. A medical team that included four physicians, four dentists, three staff nurses and two pharmacist provided its free medical services to about 125 local people of the VDC. The medical services included free medical check-up, medical counselling and distribution of free medicines. The dentists also distributed tooth paste and tooth brushes to the local kids after the dental check-up.

In coordination of Dr Manisha Lakhey Shrestha and Staff Nurse Nistha Rai, the doctors and medical staffs from Kist Medical Hospital, Om Hospital, Nidan Hospital and medical research centre joined the team. It was observed that most of the patients who attended the camp had orthopaedic, skin and dental problem.

The Camp was organized at Baireni Health Post. SEN handed over some medicines to the health post authority. Mega College supported the camp by providing a vehicle.





2.3 SEN Helps Earthquake Affected School Children September 1, 2015

The Small Earth Nepal (SEN) provided the school uniform for the earthquake affected students of Bishwamitra Ganesh Secondary School. This school is situated in the southeast part, jyamirkot of the Mahalaxmi Municipality in Lalitpur district. The students who were provided with the uniform were from classes 4 to 10 and were the highly affected by the recent earthquakes in Nepal. Most of the students were from the minorities communities. Therefore, in collaboration with school, SEN initiated this support and was believed that the students will be able to attend the school regularly. In the uniform distribution program, the principal of the school Mr. Thakur Prasad Upadhyya thanked the SEN for such wonderful contribution for their students. In the program, Mr. Sudarshan Rajbhandari, Vice President of SEN, said that SEN will try to support the school and students in upcoming days too.



2.4 SEN Supports a Community School

11th September 2015

As the organization's response to providing supports to the disaster affected communities, The Small Earth Nepal (SEN) helped Shree Bhimsen Primary School in Nawalpur, one of the community schools in the earthquake hit zones, by constructing a toilet and also by providing a complete set of school uniform to all the 102 students of that school. Situated in Nawalpur Village Development Committee, in Sindhupalchowk district at the height of 1300 meters, this school was severely affected by the recent earthquakes with most of its buildings including toilets its totally damaged. In the program, SEN team observed the newly constructed toilet which was heavily fortified to bear the similar earthquakes in future. The team members also handed over the school uniforms to the students of different grades, from classes one to five.

The school Principal, Mr. Radhakrishna Shrestha, honoured the team members and expressed similar support in future to completely revive the school and to run its educational programs smoothly.

The earthquakes also damaged the water supply pipes causing acute water problem which is partly solved by fetching water from nearby source. Currently, the school is running its classes in temporary learning Centre (TLC) with some classes combined in a single room and with two makeshift toilets. About 102 students, most of whom were from ethnic communities of Tamang, Newar, and Dalits from around the school, are studying in this school under five government and community teachers.



3. SEN's Upcoming Programs

Realizing the immediate need of medical services at the time of disasters and in other similar situations, SEN is planning to organize a training program on basic medical treatment for the school teachers of 19 community schools of Baireni Village at Dhading. The program also plans to distribute the fully equipped first aid boxes to all the schools.

4. SEN's Rebuilding Programs

After the immediate relief and recovery works, it is essential that the damaged and devastated infrastructures should be rebuilt and reconstructed permanently. The Nepal government has made its commitment of rebuilding the private and public properties which were damaged by the earthquakes. However, it seems as it will be a lengthy process and also it is doubtful that the government brings a complete recovery program to rebuild the damaged infrastructures. Moreover, the government has shown less priority to the victims as it is only distributing a small amount of fund to the affected families. Most of the schools in the affected area are running their regular classes in the temporary learning centre (TLC) which is neither weather friendly nor has any learning environment.



In order to help schools and school children and also to compliment the government's efforts of reviving educational sectors, SEN has developed its Rebuilding Program of working with the community schools. The program includes reconstructions and providing educational materials as well as organizing awareness and capacity building programs to the community schools.

We welcome every support, technical, financial or logistic, in our endeavour of rebuilding and reviving the education sectors of the earthquake affected areas.

Together we stand for sustainable rebuilding.