

**Project Proposal
On
Livelihood Program
With
Risk Reduction**

Nepal

2008/9 – 2009/10



**Implementation Period
October, 2008 to September, 2010**

**Submitted to: IFRC
Submitted by: The Nepal Red Cross Society
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1. Problem and need analysis:

Nepal is prone to floods, landslides, fires and occasional earthquakes & droughts. The mentioned types of disasters affect approx. 10, 000 families almost every year. Among the major disasters faced by Nepal, Flood and landslides are the most recurrent claiming an average of 200 lives annually in the past five years. Earthquakes remain a major concern, especially for the Kathmandu Valley. Seismic faults pass through the country and the terrain is characterized by steep slopes.

Remote, rural, rugged and fragile, geophysical structure of the country, unplanned settlement, population pressure, weak economy, low literacy rate and lack of public awareness are the main contributing factors of natural disaster in Nepal¹.

While the physical events that can cause disasters are not increasing drastically, there is a steady increase in the vulnerability of people to disasters. As a result, disasters are becoming more frequent and more catastrophic. Again, the range of factors that cause the disasters - natural and manmade - reveal that disasters are becoming more and more complex and people have become the agents of many disasters.

Rural poverty is one of the key factors that shape risk to hazards such as a flooding or drought. The rural poor, who are most at risk, are often no longer subsistence peasants. Often the poorest in rural areas occupy the most marginal lands and this forces people to rely on precarious and highly vulnerable livelihoods in areas prone to landslide, flooding, drought and other hazards. Rural livelihoods are affected by dynamic pressures such as global climate change. Similarly, violence and armed conflict, diseases, governance and social capital are also important factors of risk²

There is a growing gap between the resources available and resources needed to reduce the impact of these disasters both in terms of tackling disaster vulnerability and improving disaster response. This has happened because the present system of disaster management focuses on preparedness for response, with a very little emphasis on hazard mitigation and reduction of vulnerabilities. Relief operations are carried out after the disaster by providing / distributing urgently required relief materials and in some

1 Shrestha and Poudyal: *Disaster Risk Reduction in south Asia* (edited by Pardeep Shani, New Delhi-110001, Prentice-Hall of India Private Limited), P. 289.

2 Reducing Disaster Risk: A Challenge for Development: A GLOBAL REPORT-2003 (UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery), Executive Summary, P.vii

cases post disaster rehabilitation / reconstruction programme. Present day relief operations are basically the distribution of a certain package of relief materials irrespective of season, geography, cultural background etc. as it is planned centrally which necessitates uniform package throughout the country due to logistics considerations. They receive what they are provided with.

2. NRCS experiences and lessons learned on DM:

The Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) has undertaken disaster preparedness and disaster response programs since its inception. In order to make its disaster preparedness activities even more effective, and using internal learning from successful program developments over the past few years, the society has constructed 27 warehouses & depots and equipped them with appropriate relief materials. It has also expanded the management, co-ordination and delegation of roles in its structures at all levels, carried out training, and conducted a wide variety of community-based awareness raising activities. Several training courses conducted to produce trained human resources and guidelines and manuals have been developed to clearly define the roles of RC organisations at various levels. NRCS has long experiences on following DP/DR activities:

- **Disaster responses operations (Flood/landslide, fire, earthquake etc)**
- **Warehouse Management**
- **Institutional Disaster Preparedness/Human Resource Development**
- **Community Based Disaster Preparedness (CBDP) program:**
- **Earthquake preparedness program**
- **Disaster Risk Reduction through Schools/academic institutions**
- **Flood Mitigation Program**
- **Publication of Information Education & Communication (IEC) interventions for risk reduction:**
- **Population Movement Program (IDPs and Refugee Assistance program)**
- **Reconstruction and Rehabilitation program:**
- **Coordination, Advocacy and Networking (DP-Net) activities**

Nepal Red Cross has learned several lessons while implementing those varieties of DP/DR program as well as recently a lesson learned report has been published regarding participatory action learning on flood/landslide -2004. Here below some of the relevant lesson learned are mentioned:

- Red Cross should not be only the **provider** of relief materials but we should be a good **partner** of vulnerable communities so that the effect of disaster can be mitigated at the root cause level.
- NRCS should shift its traditional approaches to community based (participatory) disaster preparedness programs. From the past experience on CBDP program, it is found that the burden of NRCS has been decreasing gradually in some of the vulnerable communities for disaster response from their own effort.
- Economic and social factors relating to disaster vulnerability should be addressed for reducing the disaster's risks.
- Latest technologies like as GIS, DMIS etc. should be used for effective and efficient disaster response.
- Human resource development and institutional disaster preparedness frame work are the important factors for effective and timely relief services at the community level.
- For effective disaster response there should have a coordinated but decentralized action where as formation and capacity building of Disaster Response (DR) Teams at different strategic level is needed.
- Effective disaster preparedness plan improves response: contingency plan should be prepared at district level with key stakeholders
- Mitigation and preparedness activities have great impact on community capacity to respond and cope with disasters
- Integrated programming addresses overall development issue and improves capacity building of the communities
- Advocacy and Disaster Preparedness Networking (DP-Net) activities should form a part in the disaster Preparedness program. where as coordination improves response during emergencies and could result in a wider coverage of disaster preparedness activities
- Current armed conflict situation is the emerging problem so it should be addressed at this initial stage as an emerging challenge. Keeping the present conflict situation in mind, the program should be developed and implemented by making it conflicts sensitive.

3. Rational of the program

Due to the intense torrential monsoon rainfall starting from the 10th July 2007 caused heavy floods in southern plains of Nepal and landslides in the hilly regions of the country. It continued successively for over three weeks affecting further districts apart from the previously affected ones, resulting in increased

vulnerability. It initially affected 37 districts which gradually reached 65, out of the 75 districts in the country. A total of 214 persons reported to have died and approximately 107,627 families were affected, out of which more than 25,000 families were displaced. About 75,000 houses, public infrastructure and thousands of hectares of farm land were damaged or destroyed.

Among flood affected 65 districts, Banke was one of the severely flood affected districts in western region of Nepal. As a result of the devastating disaster, altogether 8,223 households with over 49,338 people were directly affected in 45 Village Development Committees (VDC) and one municipality of the District. As per the detail assessment carried out by the district, a total of 1,095 (13.57%) families had completely lost their shelter and clothing and the food stuffs in all affected areas was either washed away or damaged. Besides, the public schools, Sub-health post and other public infrastructures were damaged. Public and private water systems were either collapsed or contaminated.

Among the flood affected 45 VDC and one Municipality of the Banke district, the magnitude of effect of the flood in different areas was diverse and the scale of damages were also dissimilar inter and intra in VDCs and Municipality. Broadly, the damages were classified in two categories as completely and moderately. Based on the relentlessness of the flood effect, one village development committee of the district as Holiya was badly affected. Consequently the people who were living in Holiya VDC were resettled from one ward to another ward.

Now, total 144 flood victims families with 738 people are living there in newly settled ward. Among them, the females are 439 and 399 are male. Their main means of living was agriculture, agriculture labour, daily wages, livestock and small trade. Due to the new settlement, their traditional means of livelihood; food related security is now challenged. Land for the resettlement has been provided by the government. They had received some assistance from different humanitarian organizations including Nepal Red Cross Society which they termed as inadequate and insufficient to run their past normal life, revealed during the community visit.

Considering the circumstances of the community, to help them in restoring, protecting and promoting their traditional livelihood activities, and also well prepared them to respond to the future disaster a short term pilot project on Livelihood activities including disaster risk reduction components is felt urgent need for them.

Besides, a model for consideration in future NRCS early recovery activities has also been a lesson learnt from the implementation of early recovery intervention during relief operation 2007.

The objective, expected result and planned activities for the short term project will be as follows.

4. Objective:

A reallocated community has restarted its livelihood activities and each well prepared to respond to future disasters and has provided a model for consideration in future NRCS early recovery activities

5 .Expected results

- The community has been resettled well in the new location.
- The community people has been supported to restart and potentially strengthen their livelihood in a sustainable manner
- The community is resilient and well prepared to respond to future disasters.
- A participatory recovery model is piloted and learning is provided for future NRCS early recovery intervention in the aftermath of disaster.

6. Activities Planned

S.N	Activities
1	Selection of the programme community
2	Identification of safe location and construction of 144 dwellings
3	Development of individual family profile
4	Conduction of survey to update family profile
5	Conduction of community need Assessment (CNA) through VCA in order to identify the livelihood support activities
6	Conduction of capacity building activities based on CAN focusing on livelihood promotion , protection and retention and risk transfer
7	Formation of CBDRR/livelihood unit
8	Support to establish CBDRR/livelihood unit
9	Development of livelihood operational guideline
10	Establishment of revolving funds and seed money support for livelihood activities
11	Knowledge sharing and exposure visit
12	Conduction of DP plan training
13	Basic DM training to the community
14	CBFA training to the community
15	DP plan preparation at the community
16	Simulation exercises, drill to test and update DP plan

17	Production and distribution of IEC materials
18	Conduction of Half yearly review meeting
19	Conduction of yearly review meeting
20	program orientation to District chapter
21	Program orientation to Community
22	Conduction of community level coordination meeting
23	Build social capital if and where necessary with the host community to ensure the resettled community is integrated and any possible tensions are mitigated
24	Pilot the participatory development of local level guidelines and criteria for recovery of this community within the framework of the overarching recovery guidelines developed
25	Organize a lesson learnt workshop mid-way through and at the end of the project to ensure that learning is captured for NRCS recovery in the future
26	Program hand over and exist strategy workshop
27	Final program evaluation

7 .Program implementation Strategies:

- The strategies and policy of the program shall be guided by the Fifth development plan and appeal documents.
- Vulnerability will be considered as the first criteria to select the beneficiary
- The specific livelihood activities will be identified through community need assessment.
- The individual family profile of all house holds will be prepared as a base line and also be helpful to identify existing capacity and genuine need of every household
- The need base capacity building activities will be carried out focusing on promotion, protection and retention of livelihood activities.
- One Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction / Livelihood unit (CBDRR/livelihood committee) will be formed and it will be the focal agency of community and it will conduct all activities as a community based independent organization
- Sub-chapters/district chapters in consultation with communities will form CBDRR/livelihood committee

- While implementing the program, side by side, the institutional development related activities will be undertaken as far as possible
- The assistance to beneficiaries will be provide in Kinds rather than cash to ensure the proper use of it
- Active participation of beneficiaries in every step (ie planning , decision making implementation , monitoring and evaluation) , their capacity building and appropriate resources mobilization will be taken as a key factor for the sustainability the program activities
- The cross cuttings issues like gender sensitivity, environmental issues, conflict sensitivity, advocacy, dissemination of RC, sustainability etc will be taken into account while implementing the program.
- After the implementation of the programme, the responsibility for continuing the programme will be handed over to the concerned communities

8.1 supervision and Monitoring:

- The Concerned program staff will conduct frequent supervision and monitoring of all activities conducted at different level. To make the monitoring system more effective NRCs will manage relevant staff. Additionally, NRCs executive members at District level and NHQs level will visit the program implementation areas from time to time.
- At the district chapter level, the district DM sub-committee will conduct monthly monitoring activities at community level
- At the community level the NRCs Sub-branch will conduct monitoring activities regularly

8.2. Reporting arrangement:

The narrative and financial report will be forwarded from concerned District Chapter to NHQ on monthly basis. The NRCS will give the narrative and financial reports to participating agency in co-ordination with Federation; SARD on quarterly basis and at the end of the program, the final report will be submitted SARD will forward to report to respective participating agency. At the District level, field staff will be responsible to prepare the report and the Program Co-ordinator will be responsible at the NHQs level. For the good coverage of activities, a standard format will be developed for reporting.

8.3. Review/ evaluation system:

- NRCS always gives priority for internal and external evaluation of programs to ensure the cost effectiveness and efficacy of its activities. Also, in this project, the internal assessment, evaluation will be conducted through review meetings, as well as frequent monitoring and supervision. At the end of the program, final review program will be organised..
- Besides, a lesson learnt workshop mid-way through and at the end of the project will be organized to ensure that learning is captured for NRCS recovery in the future

8.4. Phasing out / Perspective for follow-up of the project:

From the starting stage of the project, adequate structure will be developed at Nepal Red Cross and the necessary plans, policies and programs will be incorporated to continue the activities after the phasing out the program, by way of developing “handing over to community” strategy.

The community participation will be made at the highest degree so that the feeling of ownership is developed in the entire community people. Also the implementation capacity of District chapter, Sub-chapter and the community unit will be developed during the program so that the activities can be sustained and long lasting. The community, as the other NRCS network will be involved from the beginning in the decision making process as well as community participation will be invited in every stage of implementation. In this sense the hand over of program will start from the beginning but officially the program will be hand-over to the community after two years inputs.. The district chapter will do the regular follow-up to community at local level after phasing out the program.

To make the Community based disaster risk reduction and livelihood program sustainable the following activities will carry out:

- CBDRR/Livelihood committee will be continued after the programme period too.
- NHQ, district chapter / sub-chapter will follow-up and provide advisory and motivational support to the unit.
- Communities will be encouraged to report to district chapters regularly.
- CBDRR/Livelihood committee will launch further activities by co-ordinating with local NGOs, VDC, and District Development Office..

- The DM plan will be developed and communities will implement it .
- CBDRR/Livelihood committee will be encouraged to report to DC and NHQs regularly.
- CBDRR/Livelihood committee will launch further activities by co-ordination with local GOs and NGOs.
- Community ownership will be ensure from inception to completion phases of the program
- Managerial capacity of CBDRR/Livelihood committee will be developed

8.5. Critical assumption:

Though country has been moving forward to peace process, but it has yet to be reached in logical conclusion frequent strikes and other types of disturbances have been common phenomena due to the transitional period of the country. This situation of the country is one of the manifested threats and that might bring the discomfort to implement the program, however, yet, NRCS has not faced any major difficulty. Hence, keeping the emerging transitional political situation of the country the following point has been taken as critical assumptions

- The political instability of the country
- The chances of other large-scale disasters

8. 6. Budget and Financial expenditures:

Activity cost-NRs. 2,980,000.00

Operational cost- NRs. 1,920,000.00

Total NRs. 4,900,000.00

8.7. Audit:

The NRCS has internal audit section under the Finance and Resource Development Committee and this Section will conduct initial audit of the program. In addition, the NRCS conducts all external audits from an internationally affiliated audit firm, which is assigned by the Federation.

8.8. Logical Framework

Narration	Indicators	Verifiable sources	Assumption/Risks
Overall Goal: Enhance DM capacities of NRCS and vulnerable communities in order to reduce the impacts of disaster ¹	- 100 % vulnerable community prepared for any anticipated disaster and less socio-economic affects counted. -community response preparedness mechanism is in place	Pre and post baseline survey Programme evaluation and progress reports,	- High involvement of community people in the programme in place -Political situation remain favorable and further improved.
Specific Objectives: A reallocated community has restarted its livelihood activities and is well prepared to respond to future disasters and has provided a model for consideration in future NRCS early recovery activities ²	- A safe location is identified and total 144 families re-settled -CNA (Community Need Assessment) conducted and livelihood activities are scoped -Total 738 beneficiaries supported with livelihood options and capacity building opportunities - A recovery model is established and documented	Direct observation CAN, progress reports Progress reports Case study, success story, DM plan	A model is well established, bring replicable thoughts and disseminated
Expected Results:			
1. The community has been resettled well in the new location	- Total 144 dwellings constructed -Individual family profile of 144 dwellings prepared	Direct observation Progress reports	
2. The community people has been supported to restart and potentially strengthen their	-Community need Assessment (CNA) report in place with scoped livelihood activities	Need Assessment report	

¹ NRCS Fifth Development Plan

² No of direct beneficiaries: 738 reallocated community people of 144 households of Holiya VDC/ Elaborated in Emergency Appel-2007

livelihood in a sustainable manner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 144 community people including 40% female trained on required livelihood promotion , protection and retention trainings - CBDRR/livelihood unit established - Livelihood operational guideline prepared - Revolving funds created and seed money supported to 144 families re-settled. -20-30 community people participated in Knowledge sharing and exposure visit 	<p>Training reports</p> <p>Direct observation</p> <p>Direct observation</p> <p>Progress reports/ Direct observation</p> <p>Visit report</p>	
3. The community is resilient and well prepared to respond to future disasters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -20 community people including CBDRR/livelihood unit members trained on DP plan training -50 community people including 40% female trained on DM trainings (Basic DM, CBFA) -Response mechanism developed such as early warning system, Evacuation plan, first aid plan, relief materials, emergency fund and other resources. DR teams and conducted Simulation exercises. 	<p>Training report</p> <p>Training report</p> <p>Copy of community DP plan</p>	

	-Targeted community kept informed about effective DRR through the several IEC interventions	Copy of produced IEC materials	
4. A participatory recovery model is piloted and learning is provided for future NRCS early recovery intervention in the aftermath of disaster	<p>-At least 2 review meetings organized each year with the involvement of community, NRCS DC and NHqs. The effectiveness of program assessed, shared best practices and documented the success stories</p> <p>- At least 2 coordination meetings organized each year with the involvement of relevant Gos, NGos and CBOs.</p> <p>- At least 2 orientation meetings organized each for DC and community.</p> <p>- At least 2 case studies carried out throughout project period and documented</p> <p>- At least 1 lessons learned workshop with the involvement of community, NRCS DC and NHqs organized and findings are documented for future recovery program.</p>	<p>Review meeting's report</p> <p>Progress report and list of participants</p> <p>Progress report and list of participants</p> <p>Copy of case study</p> <p>Progress report and list of participants</p>	

Activities		
For Expected Result 1		
1.1 Selection of the programme		

community		
1.2 Identification of safe location and construction of 144 dwellings		
1.3 Development of individual family profile		
1.4 Conduction of survey to update family profile		
For Expected Result 2		
2.1 Conduction of community need Assessment (CNA) through VCA in order to identify the livelihood support activities		
2.2 Conduction of capacity building activities based on CAN focusing on livelihood promotion , protection and retention		
2.3 Formation of CBDRR/livelihood unit		
2.4 Support to establish CBDRR/livelihood unit		
2.5 Development of livelihood operational guideline		
2.6 Establishment of revolving funds and seed money support for livelihood activities		
For Expected Result 3		
3.1 Conduction of DP plan training		
3.2 Basic DM training to the community		
3.2 CBFA training to the community		
3.3 DP plan preparation at the		

community		
3.4 Simulation exercises, drill to test and update DP plan		
3.5 Production and distribution of IEC materials		
For Expected Result 4		
4.2 Conduction of Half yearly review meeting		
4.3 Conduction of yearly review meeting		
4.4 program orientation to District chapter		
4.5 Program orientation to Community		
4.6 Conduction of community level coordination meeting		
4.7 CBDRR/ livelihood case study and documentation		
4.8 conduction of lesson learned workshop		
4.9 Program hand over and exist strategy workshop		
4.10 Final program evaluation		

