
Recovery and Reconstruction Working Group

Partner Organisations Workshop

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Welcome and Presentation of Agenda

- The agenda for the workshop can be found in Annex A
- 45 organisations were represented in the workshop
- A full list of participating organisations can be found in Annex B

Session 1: Collective Approach to Technical Assistance for Housing Recovery and the Role of Partner Organisations

- Each group of participants were assigned one of the following questions to work through:
 - 1. What are the objectives and indicators for TA?
 - 2. What is the scope of TA activities?
 - 3. What are the core TA activities?
 - 4. What should the national level collective targets for TA be?
 - 5. What should the district level collective targets for TA be?
- 1. What are the objectives and indicators for TA?
 - The group had agreed that the objectives and indicators provided in the work sheet (Annex C) were appropriate but required the assumption that funds for the reconstruction subsidy are available. It was clarified that the assumption regarding the reconstruction subsidy is not necessary as Technical Assistance and Training should be available to all households regardless of whether or not the reconstruction subsidy is received.
 - The group suggested that objectives / indicators be included on:
 - Supply chain
 - Behaviour change
 - Financial access, in particular around the interface for poorer households to access the GoN reconstruction subsidy
 - Livelihoods, households will need livelihood support in order to have resources for reconstruction
 - No. of houses rebuilt that comply with the NBC
 - No. of displaced households with a house in a safe area
 - No. of people with increased knowledge on safer construction
 - No. of trained masons
- 2. What is the scope of TA activities?
 - The groups working on this question worked from the worksheet provided in Annex D
 - It was suggested that technical assistance centres should be located in strategic places where they are accessible by the highest possible number of people
 - The TA centres should provide information not only on housing reconstruction but on GoN policy, WASH, DRR, HLP, and other relevant topics

- The TA centres should be the focal point for community mobilisers and mobile teams, and from the centres they should be able to reach VDCs / wards to give on site advice and support compliance with the [Nepal Building Code \(NBC\)](#)
- Social mobilisation should be considered a key part of the reconstruction process, and include strong female representation, potentially utilising / adapting existing resources such as [PASSA](#), and should take a settlements approach, as per the [PDNA](#), and consider WASH, DRR, etc.
- Outreach activities should include FAQs collection, support for access to financial assistance, budgeting, ensuring relevant information is available at TA centres, etc.
- The group suggested that supporting village reconstruction committees would be an important consideration
- 3. What are the core TA activities?
 - The groups working on this question worked from the worksheet provided in Annex E
 - Masons training was suggested as one of the core TA activities, and in particular one that needs to be frontloaded, it was also suggested that this training needs to be accredited
 - Demonstration houses were also considered to be a core activity, and it was suggested that the designs used should be as per the local typologies, and obviously be compliant with the NBC
 - Providing information on the GoN subsidy as well as information on safer reconstruction and retrofitting were considered some of the core topics for communications and outreach
 - Communications and outreach should target a wide range of groups, not just technical people, and in particular should consider the information needs of households to support them with managing the construction of their home
- 4. What should the national level collective targets for TA be?
 - The groups working on this question worked from the worksheet provided in Annex F
 - Recommended spreading TA and training beyond the 14 priority districts
 - Suggested that targets would evolve geographically and over time
 - Targets would be around the no. of TA centres, no. of engineers trained (engineers would be trained at district / national level), no. of masons trained (masons would be trained at district / VDC level), no. of trainings happening in each district, and that an IM system will be required to coordinate and track all of the different activities and progress towards the targets
 - At national level would need to ensure consistent technical, social mobilisation, and outreach information is prepared e.g. technical manuals, curricula, brochures, video, info material, media campaigns, etc.
 - Technical information prepared at national level will need to reflect the different architectural and building typologies across different districts and VDCs
 - Would need to work to ensure that the information prepared at national level spreads to district and VDC level and remains consistent across the working areas and partners
 - District level coordination will also need to be very strong
- 5. What should the district level collective targets for TA be?
 - The groups working on this question worked from the worksheet provided in Annex G
 - Collective reporting and monitoring at VDC level will be required to check progress against targets
 - One TA centre at district level in each district, should provide a wide range of information / service and should not just be restricted to housing, suggested that a grievance redressal mechanism should be included at this level
 - Training of Trainers
 - Construct one demo house in each VDC / ward
 - Training of POs staff on social mobilisation
 - Community orientation sessions in each ward
 - Household visits by mobile teams
 - Collective approach will support quality assurance in delivery of TA and training

- Should also consider inclusion of DRR activities

Session 2: Prioritisation of Topics for Technical Working Groups

- The groups were tasked with:
 - Prioritising topics for TWGs in terms of time (e.g. which TWG needs to launch first, second, etc.)
 - Suggesting three outputs for the top three prioritised TWGs
 - Proposing any additional TWG topics that may be required
- The groups all worked from the worksheet included in Annex H
- Two additional topics were suggested; operational setup and HLP (including relocation)
- It was recommended to have an 'operational setup' TWG to consider the payment flow, quality assurance mechanisms, act as an interface with the GoN, consider a grievance redressal mechanism, etc.
- It was recommended that urban should be a separate topic, instead of being part of 'technical standards and guidance', given the different organisations involved, different challenges, etc. It was also suggested that to date, urban has been side-lined slightly with the majority of the focus on rural areas. There are questions around the newly created municipalities and how support will be provided in these areas. Partners were urged to participate in the valley cluster meetings which are the current forum for coordination of shelter response in the three valley districts.
- It was also suggested that winter should be added as a topic, but it was clarified that the Shelter Cluster is already running a TWG on winterisation and the products of this TWG are almost complete and will be shared with the SC partners very soon
- Overall, the topics most prioritised by the groups were social and community, technical standards and guidance, technical training, and communications and outreach. Several groups combined technical standards and guidance and technical training, or social and community and communications and outreach.
- Finance and supply chain were also included in the top three topics prioritised by several groups
- For social and community, some of the suggested outputs were as follows:
 - Guidance on social inclusion, support to vulnerable households
- For technical standards and guidance, some of the suggested outputs were as follows:
 - Repair and retrofit guidance
 - Preparation of technical manuals
 - Guidance for a settlement approach
 - Safe siting standards, techniques
 - Support POs to align with GoN regulations and advice
- For technical training, some of the suggested outputs were as follows:
 - Demonstration houses in communities, practical training for masons while constructing, community / household training included also
- For communications and outreach, some of the suggested outputs were as follows:
 - Complaints / feedback mechanism
 - Communications and outreach strategy
- For supply chain, some of the suggested outputs were as follows:
 - Price monitoring matrix
 - Market mapping
 - Guidance on natural resource management

- Participants were reminded that this is a working group and all of the topics listed, and suggested outputs, require input from the organisations involved.
- It was raised as a concern that the list of topics may lead to many meetings, but it was agreed that for each output / topic there is not necessarily a need to have many meetings. Instead the responsibility for that output / topic will be with a group of people, or even one person, with the skills required to complete that piece of work. The wider group can then review the pieces of work and finalise jointly.

Collection of Questions

- In advance of the Recovery and Reconstruction Working Group (RRWG) Partner Organisations (POs) were invited to send questions for a Q&A session during the workshop and further questions were collected during the workshop.
- A 'Q&A' document is being produced based on the questions collected, and will be shared soon. The information provided in the document is based on the most up to date information available at the time of preparing the document. It is planned that as the situation evolves, further questions will be collected and the document will be updated periodically.

Closing Remarks and Next Steps

- The participants were thanked for their participation in the workshop and for ensuring that it was a useful and productive session
- The next steps were outlined as follows:
 - The launch meeting of the RRWG was held in the afternoon on the 10th September
 - Development of a work plan for the RRWG based on the discussions in the workshop
 - Prepare a 'Q&A' doc to answer the questions collected prior to, and during the workshop
 - **The next meeting of the RRWG will be held on 30th September at 11am in Bagaicha Restaurant, Jawalakhel.**

Annex A: Workshop Agenda

9-9.15	Welcome and Presentation of Agenda
9.15-10.15	Session 1 - Collective Approach to Technical Assistance for Housing Recovery and the Role of Partner Organisations
9.15-9.30	Presentation (based on discussion paper)
9.30 - 9.50	Tables assigned one of the following to discuss and prepare suggestions, recommendations, and questions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the objectives and indicators for TA? - What is the scope of TA activities? - What are the core TA activities? - What should the national level collective targets for TA be? - What should the district level collective targets for TA be?
9.50 -10.15	Summaries of table discussions, time for questions and group discussion
10.15 - 10.30	Break
10.30 - 11.40	Session 2 - Technical Working Groups
10.30 - 10.40	Introduction to session
10.40 - 11.10	Tables provided with list of topics Task: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prioritise in terms of time (e.g. which TWG needs to launch first, second, etc.) - Suggest three outputs for top three TWGs - Propose any additional TWG topics that may be required.
11.10 - 11.40	Summaries of table discussions, time for questions and group discussion
11.40-11.50	Brief Q&A session based on questions received with RSVPs and other questions collected during the day
11.50 - 12.00	Closing remarks and next steps

Annex B: List of Participating Organisations

Aashish	JICA
ADRA	MCC Nepal
All Hands Volunteers	MinErgy
Architectures & Developpement	Namaste Nepal
ASF Nepal	NSET
BBC Media Action	OCHA / Cash Coordination Group
Build Change	OM Nepal
CARE Nepal	People in Need
Centum Learning	Phase Nepal
Cesvi	Plan International
Christian Aid	Polish Humanitarian Action
Concern Worldwide	Save the Children
Cordaid	SDC
CRS / Caritas Nepal	Swisscontact
DCV	Tevel Nepal
Emergency Architects	The Lutheran World Federation
Engineers without Borders	TLM Nepal
Green Tree Developers	UN Habitat
Habitat for Humanity	UNDP
IMC Worldwide	USAID
IOM	World Jewish Relief
ISAP	World Vision
IsraAid	

Annex C: Question 1 Worksheet, Session 1

1. What are the objectives and indicators for TA?

Aim: All affected households reconstruct or rehabilitate their homes and communities compliant with standards within 5 years.

Number x Quality x Time
Coverage x technical assistance x speed

Objectives:

All families and communities reconstructing and repairing their homes will have access to timely, appropriate advice to build back safer and more sustainable houses and human settlements
The availability of skilled construction workers will be increased and improved to facilitate reconstruction.
Reconstruction will build long term community resilience.

Indicators:

Number of households and communities assisted with information, advice, facilitation
Number of construction workers trained to agreed standards

Annex D: Question 2 Worksheet, Session 1

2. What is the scope of TA activities?

Technical	<p>No of TA centres Engineers trained Masons (skilled) trained Masons / owners trained Demo houses Community Resilience Projects Village and house on site demo / QA</p>
Social Mobilisation	<p>Community committees PO staff trained PASSA Community orientation sessions Village and house visits</p>
Outreach	<p>Demo event participants Information fairs FAQs collection sessions Media listenership / readership</p>
Other	

Annex E: Question 3 Worksheet, Session 1

3. What are the core TA activities?

Technical	<p>No of TA centres Engineers trained Masons (skilled) trained Masons / owners trained Demo houses Community Resilience Projects Village and house on site demo / QA</p>
Social Mobilisation	<p>Community committees PO staff trained PASSA Community orientation sessions Village and house visits</p>
Outreach	<p>Demo event participants Information fairs FAQs collection sessions Media listenership / readership</p>
Other	

Annex F: Question 4 Worksheet, Session 1

4. What should the national level collective targets for TA be?

Topic/Theme	Activities	Target Year 1	Target Total
Coordination	No of District Plans No of VDCs with TA No of POs No of VDCs with Reporting, M&E systems		
Technical	No of TA centres Engineers trained Masons (skilled) trained Masons / owners trained Demo houses Community Resilience Projects Village and house on site demo / QA		
Social Mobilisation	Community committees PO staff trained PASSA Community orientation sessions Village and house visits		
Outreach	Demo event participants Information fairs FAQs collection sessions Media listenership / readership		
Other			

Annex G: Question 5 Worksheet, Session 1

5. What should the district level collective targets for TA be?

Topic/Theme	Activities	Target Year 1	Target Total
Coordination	No of District Plans No of VDCs with TA No of POs No of VDCs with Reporting, M&E systems		
Technical	No of TA centres Engineers trained Masons (skilled) trained Masons / owners trained Demo houses Community Resilience Projects Village and house on site demo / QA		
Social Mobilisation	Community committees PO staff trained PASSA Community orientation sessions Village and house visits		
Outreach	Demo event participants Information fairs FAQs collection sessions Media listenership / readership		
Other			

Annex H: Worksheet, Session 2

Prioritisation of Topic (1-7)	Topic	Outputs (suggest three for top three priority topics)
	Finance, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Banking inclusion, credit, cooperatives, savings, remittances - Financial inclusion 	
	Supply Chain, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Livelihoods and local business - Quality assurance measures - Natural resource management - Logistics, vendors, access, price monitoring 	
	Technical standards and guidance, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Materials specs - New construction - Urban - Repair and retrofit - Settlements approach - Conservation and heritage 	
	Tech training, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Field training - Vocational training 	
	Social and Community, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social mobilisation training - Inclusion and vulnerability - Community activities - PASSA 	
	Communications and Outreach, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mass communications for safer and sustainable reconstruction - Field communications for safer and sustainable reconstruction 	
	Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IM system - Evaluation of TA activities 	
	Other	
	Other	