

## A REPORT ON EARTHQUAKE RELIEF MATERIALS DISTRIBUTION

Banjakhhet VDC, Lamjung, Nepal

13<sup>th</sup> May 2015

Nepal was hit by 7.8 magnitude earthquake on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2015 that took the lives of more than 10,000 people, thousands are injured and millions became homeless and bound to shelter in the open sky in the most earthquake affected area in 10 districts: Sindhupalchowk, Kathmandu, Nuwakot, Dhading, Rasuwa, Gorkha, Bhaktapur, Kavre, Lalitpur and Dolakha, which lie on the mountain and hill regions of Nepal. However, other neighboring districts like Lamjung, Tanahu, Chitwan and others were also not free from the impacts of earthquake and thousands of villagers now live in the temporary shelters in the open space. Threat has been severe because of the recurrent after shakes by the earthquake. Even after 18 days of the devastating earthquake, on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2015, another shocks with magnitude of 7.1 took the additional lives of 110 people and thousands injured in Nepal. This has added more threat to the people who have been trying to adjust their daily activities.

Three Village Development Committees (VDCs) of Lamjung: Banjakhet, Neta and Sindhure, where Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities, Climate Change Partnership Program (NEFIN CC PP) has been working in the Community Based REDD+, Livelihoods and Community Based Monitoring and Information System (CBMIS) projects since 2009 in partnership with TEBTEBBA in collaboration with Center for Indigenous Peoples' Research and Development (CIPRED) and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) among those VDCs, the earthquake mostly hit in Banjakhet.

During the earthquake hit, Dr. Pasang Sherpa, chairperson of CIPRED, Indira Lama, and Jibaraj Ghale from NEFIN CC PP were having meeting with the communities from Pangreque and Khanche and have been the first witness of the impacts brought by the earthquake. Therefore, with the prior communication with TEBTEBBA, we have decided to support the victims of two villages: Khanche and Panreque. However, we could not ignore the demand from the other villagers, whose houses were badly damaged. Therefore, we finally came to the decision to support only the households whose houses were badly damaged and people sheltering in the open sky.

A joint team of CIPRED and NEFIN CC PP made a plan to visit the earthquake-affected area on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015 with the relief materials: tents, mattresses and food. However, due to the shortage of tents in the markets, we had to postpone further two days. On 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015, they visited Banjakhet VDC bringing 60 tents, 126 mattress, 250 kg bitten rice and 150 packets of salt and biscuits. Since it was not possible to distribute the limited materials to all households, we prioritized houses in three categories: fully damaged, partially damaged and slightly damaged. On the first day, distributed tents, mattress and foods for 19 households, whose houses were badly damaged and mattress and foods for other 90 households, whose houses were partly damaged in 5 villages: Ratamata, Banjakhet, Pangreque, Gharedi and Kupling with the approval from the chief district

officer and in coordination with community leaders and youth. All the villagers were gathered in the school, where the relief materials were distributed.

On the following day, the team headed to Khanche, where they distributed 41 tents, 36 mattress and food to the earthquake victims. The expenses of tents and mattress were covered by NEFIN CC PP livelihood project activities in partnership with TEBTEBBA and expenses of foods were covered by fund raised by CIPRED.

All CIPRED members and staff of NEFIN CC PP personally contributed for the earthquake victim fund, which has been added by other friends and well-wishers in Nepal. On 4<sup>th</sup> April, CIPRED made a call of appeal through website ([www.cipred.org](http://www.cipred.org)) to friends and colleagues living abroad to extend their helping hands to earthquake victims in Nepal. We are thankful for the great contributions and support from Suchitra Changtragoon from Thailand, Kim Gottschalk from USA, Francesco Forzani's parents from Italy, Esther and Degio from Italy and active engagement towards Francesco Forzani from Italy and Elke Falley-Rothkopf from Germany and other friends for their continuous helping hands to raise fund and support to the earthquake victims in Nepal. Transparency and accountability of all the expenses of the fund are maintained by CIPRED.

#### Glimpses of relief materials distribution in Banjhakhet VDC, Lamjung



*Volunteers bringing the relief materials to the communities*



*Communities from Ratamata, Banjakhet, Pangreque, Gharedi and Kupling villages waiting to receive the relief materials at school*



*Dr. Pasang Sherpa, chairman of CIPRED distributing the materials*



*Villagers from Ratamata, Banjakhet, Panreque, Gharedi and Kupling villages*



*Damaged houses in Khanche village, which got flat later on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2015, 7.4 magnitude of earthquake*



*Dr. Pasang Sherpa sharing the sympathy with villagers from Khanche*



*Temporary shelters in Khanche Village*

Next Phase:

NEFIN CC PP will be sending 25 more tents for villagers from Sandhu, where till the date they have not received any kinds of support from government or other organizations.

CIPRED board has decided to send 100 tents for earthquake victims of Magapouwa village in Dolakha and Mudhe village in Sindhupalchowk districts, the highly affected districts by the earth quake, where all most all houses are completely damaged and thousands of people were died and injured. We will continue further support for rehabilitation and reconstruction phases in the most

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