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## Debriefing on “Agency Mapping Report on Post-Quake Reconstruction”& Policy Dialogue on Role of CSOs

Humanitarian Accountability Monitoring Initiatives (HAMI) organized Debriefing on “Initiative to Promote Access to Justice of Earthquake Affected People: Agency Mapping Report” on September 16, 2018 in Sindhupalchok district. Representatives from post-quake reconstruction stakeholders of the district were present in the program.

Gopal Tamang, Chairperson of District Coordination Committee (DCC) Sindhupalchok was the chief guest in the program. Guests from the government bodies and CSOs working in the district were present in the program.

Bidur Subedi, on behalf of HAMI presented report on “Post-Quake Reconstruction Progress: Agency Mapping on Social Justice Perspective”. The presentation was concerned with assessing the status and gaps observed in the reconstruction process; specifically, in Sindhupalchok so that accountability of government, donor agencies, national and international civil society organizations and private sector on post-quake reconstruction

for ensuring social justice based post-quake- reconstruction could be maintained.

In the program, feedback and suggestions based on the report were provided by the guests and participants. Krishna Gopal Tamang, Chairperson of DCC Sindhupalchok asserted some technical difficulties for completing reconstruction on time as pace of reconstruction in the district has not been up to the expectation. Documentation of reconstruction for archiving purpose so that it could be reference for coming generation has not been prioritized so far; hence, it has generated problem of getting consolidated data on reconstruction.

Laxmi Prasad Niroula, Financial Comptroller General Office, Sindhupalchok accepted that reconstruction of individual housing is quite slow due to lengthy process as beneficiaries have to go with several layers of processes before receiving the grant. This should have been made quite comfortable by assigning to the local level. Payment to the beneficiaries should have been from the local level because they know better about the beneficiaries.



## Policy Dialogue

HAMI organized Policy Dialogue on “Role of CSOs in Post-Quake Reconstruction” on September 16, 2018 at Chautara, Sindhupalchok. Gramin Mahila Srijanshil Pariwar (GMSP), Sindhupalchok and Human Rights Alliance (HR Alliance) were co-organizers of the Dialogue. The aim of the dialogue was to gather policy related issues and gaps so that they could be shared with the stakeholders after incorporating in the agency mapping report. Representatives from post-quake reconstruction stakeholders in the district were present in the program.

The policy dialogue paper on “Role of CSOs in Post-Quake Reconstruction in Sindhupalchok” was presented by Nani Maya Thapa, Executive Director, (GMSP). It covered overall status of reconstruction progress including the reference of overall loss



or damages in the district caused by the April 2015 earthquake. Challenges and gaps faced in the reconstruction in the district by beneficiaries, government units and other stakeholders were presented.

Som Sapkota, NGO Federation, Chairperson District Chapter Sindhupalchok reminded data

management regarding reconstruction progress and process in the district has been quite pathetic till the data; hence, there is need of making unified data base including all aspects of reconstruction in the district. Sita Thapa chairperson of HR Alliance, Sindhupalchok conducted the formal ceremony of the event.

## Policy Dialogue on “Reconstruction after Earthquake and Disaster Management: Issues of Human Rights and Social Justice”

Policy dialogue on “Reconstruction after Earthquake and Disaster Management: Issues of Human Rights and Social Justice” was collaboratively organized with National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on July 9, 2018

in Lalitpur. The dialogue program was intended to explore and assess the issues ensuring human rights and social justice to the people affected by earthquake and other natural calamities in the country.

In the program, Dr. Tikaram Pokhrel, Deputy Director of NHRC presented a paper on roles and recent initiatives of NHRC about monitoring activities and provided recommendations to the concerned stakeholders with regards to reconstruction and disaster management from the perspectives of human rights and social justice.

Dr. Padma Prasad Khatiwada, General Secretary, HR Alliance also presented a presentation covering the issue and policy concerns on reconstruction after earthquake and disaster management in Nepal from the perspective of human rights and social justice.

The chief guest, Mr. Govinda Raj Sharma, Hon’ble Member of NHRC



briefly shared about recent monitoring visits to different parts of the country concerning with identifying the status of affected people. He also informed about submitted recommendations through reports to the government, political parties and other concerned stakeholder after visiting the earthquake affected areas.

Manohar Ghimire, Under Secretary, NRA assured for acknowledging raised issues with regards to emerging policy and implementation gaps in

reconstruction and recovery. There has been some noticeable progress in reconstruction. He also informed that NRA being well aware about the human rights and social justice; hence, it has declared constructing buildings of 18,505 identified the most vulnerable including single women, senior citizen, orphans, and physically challenged (those red and blue card holders).

All the participation asserted for gearing up the pace of reconstruction process led by NRA by making it more

strong and effective body; meanwhile, all the stakeholders have to support in the process.

Necessary policy, guidelines revisions have to be made including the policies related to disaster management, disaster preparedness. Representatives from Federations of local municipalities, Metropolitan City and CSOs were participated on the dialogue. The programme was chaired by Samir Nepal Senior Vice Chairperson of HR Alliance and moderated by Bidur Subedi.

## Policy Dialogue on “Reconstruction and Inequality”

Policy dialogue on “Reconstruction and Inequality” was collaboratively organized by HAMI and Jagaran Media Centre (JMC) on July 29, 2018 in at Union House, Anamnagar, Kathmandu. The dialogue program was intended to assess the issues related to inequalities in the post-quake reconstruction. Challenges or difficulties faced by Dalits, vulnerable and marginalized people from the earthquake affected districts over the last three years were reflected during the program caused due to policy hurdles as well as inadequate level of execution of addressing those challenges/problems.

Members from the House of Representatives of Nepal; Hon’able Nira Devi Jairu, Bimala BK and Anjana Bishankhe, Parbati Bishankhe were present in the program. Guests asserted for prioritizing the earthquake affected families those are from Dalit and other marginalized communities as they need special support. They added that guideline of ‘identifying vulnerable group’ has prioritized only the age and disability criteria; however, it has missed out the criteria of class and poverty criteria. All of them assured raising voice at the parliament concerning to Dalit and



marginalized communities to provide special support so that they could be return back to the permanent shelter.

As part of issue raising concern, a presentation entitled, ‘Inequality, policy dialogue and issues of marginalized communities in reconstruction process’ was presented by Rajan Kumar Pariyar, Research Officer at SAMATA Foundation. The presentation covered issues of policy gaps appeared in the process of reconstruction led by NRA aligned with the phases of relief- almost equitable distribution causing inequality that was apparent in recovery phase as discrimination started prevailed based on caste and economic status of the earthquake affected households; and

in this reconstruction stage, the gap is widening between mainstreamed and marginalized community.

Bidur Subedi, behalf of Human Rights Alliance reminded those past recommendations and suggestions made by concern stakeholders need to be implemented.

Suresh Bahadur B.K., NNDSWO, Moti Lal Nepali, Dalit Welfare Association shared power dynamics that has been concealed in this reconstruction process most of the Dalits and other marginalized groups are still living in dilapidated condition. The program was facilitated by the Rem Bahadur B.K., the president of the JMC and Core Committee member of HAMI.

## Sectoral Issues Sharing and Interaction Program on Reconstruction from Human Rights and Social Justice Perspectives

Sectoral issues sharing cum interaction program on reconstruction from human rights and social justice was organized on the occasion of 18th establishment day of Human Rights Alliance on July 13, 2018 in Kathmandu. Several representatives from organizations working in human rights, government and CSO community especially in post-quake reconstruction were present in the program. Hon'ble Min Bahadur Shahi and Hon'ble Ram Kumar Phuyal, Members of National Planning Commission were the guests of the program.

All the guests and participants congratulated for entering into its 18th year making its strong

network presence in the country working in human rights and social justice. They also wished for seeing HR Alliance working in the sector with even more constructive and effective ways.

In the program, interaction among the participants including representatives from civil society, NRA, NHRC was conducted. Emerging sectoral issues on reconstruction after earthquake i.e. shelter, cultural heritage, infrastructure, education, health areas were shared and discussed among the participant from the perspectives of human rights and social justice. Bidur Subedi presented the key issues emerging in reconstruction process. The

presentation was intended to explore and assess the issues ensuring human rights and social justice to the people affected by April 2015 earthquake from the point of view of existing status of reconstruction led by NRA. Hon'ble Min Bahadur Shahi, asserted that critical and constructive engagement of CSOs has been major concern at the moment for ensuring human rights and social justice in reconstruction process. Since, NPC is working on for forming "CSO Partnership Roadmap" as umbrella guideline with the aim of effective implementation of foreign aids that will also help for reconstruction.



Manohar Ghimire, Spokesperson of NRA addressed queries and presented that updates from the NRA concerning with reconstruction process. He asserted that actual reconstruction has begun from the last two years; hence, overall achievement has been recognizable. Since, there are several challenges for concluding

reconstruction on time, all the stakeholder; especially, CSOs have to play key role in coming days. Both, Hon'ble Lal Bahadur Khadka and Hon'ble Prakash Rawat, Members of Provincial Assembly, Province 7 shared learning from the 2015 earthquake has to be addressed in coming days so that Province 7 would not go through

similar challenges if any disasters hit the region realizing from need of disaster management.

The program was chaired by Lal Bahadur Oli, Vice-Chairperson of Human Rights Alliance and moderated by Dr. Padma Prasad Khatiwada, General Secretary of the Alliance.

## **HAMI Initiative: Capacity Building to Local Level Representatives on Accountability of Civil Society and Governance**



HAMI has also been working in the area of capacity building to the local level representatives in the governance and accountability in the service deliveries by forming Civil Society Organization and local government alliance. The trainings conducted in five local units of Sidhupalchok district, namely, Helambu, Bhotekoshi, Jugal Tripura Sundari, Indrawati Rural Municipalities. All the trainings were coordinated by the respective local levels. In the each training,

15 local level representatives as participants from each local level unit took local part.

Two day training has intended to make the CSOs representatives aware on good-governance and accountability. This training was also concerned with making accountable to all the service provider who are working at local level. Participants were able to learn principle and methods of promoting accountability, good-governance

in the local level. Participants were aware on the accountability tools i.e. citizen report card, exit poll, public hearing and so on. Training also covered approaches of social audit, public audit, citizen charter, right to information, complaint management, and public expenditure tracking methods.

During the trainings, participants prepared action plans and they committed to work together among a group in their respective local government.

## HAMI Core Committee Meeting

HAMI Core Committee meeting was held on 4th July in Lalitpur to discuss with the committee members about update on the status of HAMI and explore possible ideas for carrying out initiatives in coming days. In the meeting, Core Committee members Min Bahadur Shahi, Fatik Thapa, Subash Khatiwada, Suman Basnet, Dr. Padma Prasad Khatiwada, Rem BK, Tilottam Poudel, Gobinda Shahi were present.

The presentation was shared aiming to update briefly on the status of ongoing and upcoming initiatives. Members discussed suggested carrying out follow up on previous decisions made by HAMI.

The meeting made key decisions after the discussion on the agenda. Bimonthly discussion will be carried out on different thematic areas on reconstruction and engage

different stakeholders in different thematic areas. Each discussion will be led by the core committee member organizations lead by the member and develop thematic bimonthly paper on the basis of those discussions. The meeting also discussed on AGM of HAMI completed three years of its establishment.



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