



Government of Nepal
Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment
Pilot Program for Climate Resilience

Message from the editor

In its first post-earthquake issue, the editorial team of the MCCRMD eBulletin would like to express its deepest sympathies to all those people affected directly by the disaster. We would also like to express our appreciation and admiration to all civilian, non-civilian and civil society relief workers that mobilized to assist those affected. Colleagues in the Ministry of Science Technology and Environment (MoSTE) were among those to join centrally organized disaster relief teams, and supported fund-raising to assist affected people. The Mainstreaming Climate Change Risk Management in Development (MCCRMD/PPCR) team members have contributed to MoSTE's fund-raising efforts for the Prime Minister's Relief Fund, mobilizing NPR 224,821 in donations from its national and international team members. Secretary Dr. Krishna Chandra Poudel/MOSTE in presence of NPD/TA 7984-MCCRMD and Joint Secretary/MOSTE Mr. Mahendra Man Gurung thankfully accepted the donation on behalf of the PMRF on May 26 2015.



Sharing knowledge on resilience for Nepal's recovery and reconstruction

After facing two devastating earthquakes and enduring daily tremors, Nepali people have demonstrated the real meaning of resilience. Minutes after the April 25 2015 earthquake struck, neighbors were helping one another to find safe places to shelter themselves and their families. Volunteers, including many youth groups, organized to bring supplies to affected areas. The entire world was awed by news clips showing streams of people with relief supplies heaped on their backs steadily climb mountainous paths to reach remote communities affected by the earthquake.



Now, as the country shifts toward recovery and reconstruction, understanding and applying techniques for resilience will be an important step in national efforts to build back better. Under the Mainstreaming Climate Change Risk Management in Development (MCCRMD) project, the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment has cooperated with diverse sector departments over the past two years to generate new knowledge on climate resilience in infrastructure development. Applying this learning has become even more critical now that the Nepal government must invest hundreds of millions of dollars in reconstructing roads, bridges, water supply systems, irrigation canals, schools and public buildings.

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Planning for a changing climate in Nepal



Climate resilience poses deep challenges for Nepal with its complex, extreme topography and intense variability in rainfall. Nepal's communities vary from densely populated villages in its southern plains to settlements scattered across mid to high mountain regions. Droughts, extreme floods, landslides, and storms are just some of the things communities need to cope with. These events will be exacerbated as global climate change destabilizes the Indian monsoon and accelerates glacial and snow melt.

Joining the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience was a key element of Nepal's response to these challenges and three years have now passed since Nepal launched its country specific response, the Strategic Program for Climate Resilience (SPCR). During this time, a number of government and non-government partners have come on board to work with the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment (MoSTE) to advance concrete actions for climate resilient development in Nepal.

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MOSTE Undertaking Rapid Environmental Assessment of recent Earthquake

On 25 April 2015 a 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal with the epicentre in Gorkha district located 81 km northwest of the capital city of Kathmandu. This disaster was followed by strong aftershocks, including a quake reaching 7.3 magnitude on May 12 2015. The earthquake severely impacted 14 out of the 75 districts in the country, and left over 8,500 people dead and over 17,000 injured. The earthquake destroyed over 480,000 houses and damaged 200,000 more. A large number of people are displaced, some living in temporary camps.

The Government of Nepal is prioritizing relief and recovery efforts in severely affected areas and a number of initiatives have been launched to deal with immediate and short term needs. As part of these efforts, the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment, with the technical assistance from WWF Nepal, is undertaking a Rapid Environmental Assessment for the 2015 Earthquake.

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PPCR 1 - BCRWME

A two-day orientation program for the second batch of Field Technical Team

A two-day orientation program for the second batch Field Technical Team members was held on 19-20th April 2015 at the Building Climate Resilience at Watersheds in Mountain Eco-region (BCRWME) Project Management Unit, Dadeldhura. The program was organized by the BCRWME Project Management Unit (PMU) with support from the Project Management and Implementation Consultant (PMIC).

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PPCR 2 - BRCH

Grievances management training completed

Building Resilience to Climate-Related Hazards Project has established a district and station level mechanism to listen and manage possible personal and institutional complains to the project during the implementation stage. The Chief District Officer is designated coordinator for the district level and concerned VDC Secretary to coordinate village/settlement level stations.

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PPCR2 AIMS on facebook: For news and update on PPCR2 AIMS activities, please visit its facebook page : <https://www.facebook.com/NAMIS.GOV.NP>



PPCR 4 - BCRC through PPP

Promoting Climate Resilient Agriculture in Nepal

Nepal is one of the countries receive PPCR (The Pilot Program for Climate Resilience) funds from the Climate Investment Funds. The Government of Nepal, in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), International Finance Cooperation (IFC) and the World Bank (WB), prepared and presented a Country Plan (Strategic Programme for Climate Resilience) to the Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (PPCR) Sub-Committee. One strand of IFC's PPCR is the project, "Promoting Climate Resilient Agriculture in Nepal", implemented by Practical Action Consulting (PAC) in partnership with Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS) from July 2013. This project has a four year time horizon from July 2013 to June 2017 covering a total of 15,000 farmers with 3 lead firms engaged in rice, maize and sugarcane crop sectors. The project aims to develop and demonstrate climate-adaptive methods, practices and technologies in selected locations for three crops — rice, sugarcane and maize — and to result in farmers' adoption of adaptive practices and long term improvements in their resilience and productivity.



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PPCR 3 - MCCRMD

Nepal PPCR representatives attend PPCR stocktaking event in Tajikistan

Mr. Akhanda Sharma, Under - Secretary Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment and National Project Manager (Output 1) - Mainstreaming Climate Change Risk Management in Development (MCCRMD), and Ms. Nabina Shrestha, Deputy Team Leader – MCCRMD participated in the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience Stocktaking event in Tajikistan organized by the Asian Development Bank in cooperation with Tajikistan's Committee of Environment Protection on May 5 2015. The event was attended by approximately 70 participants from key ministries and institutions, multilateral development banks, national and international non-governmental organizations. This conference provided an opportunity for the MCCRMD team members to exchange experiences and learning from the implementation of PPCR with counterparts from Tajikistan.

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Plastic bag ban in Kathmandu Valley

The Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment (MOSTE) has declared the Kathmandu Valley a polythene bag free area from 14 April 2015, the Nepali New Year BS 2072 in a program organized in Bhrikuti Mandap, Kathmandu. Notice regarding the government decision to ban plastic bag was published on 1 April in Rajapatra (Government official news bulletin). The Parliamentary Committee on Environment Protection had also instructed the government to ban plastic bag on 25 August 2014 (9 Bhadra 2071).

As per the government's direction, sales and use of plastic bags upto 40 micron and size of 25 x 30 inch is prohibited inside the Kathmandu Valley from April 14.

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This e-bulletin is produced monthly and coordinated by MCCRMD. Please send your contribution to be included in e-bulletin to Dilip K. Munankarmi <dilip.muna@gmail.com>

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