

"Inclusive Post-Earthquake Reconstruction: Public Buildings Safe and Accessible for all"

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Nepal

Parallel Session: Inclusive Humanitarian Aid





Organizational Background

- Rights based development Organization of persons with disabilities established in 2008.
- The public advocacy pushed for the CRPD ratification and transforming disabilities into development agendas.
- Promoting Accessible Publishing through DAISY and Epub books
- Collaboration for achieving disability targets and indicators in SDG.
- Has own ABC excellence Award in 2016
- Awarded for Accessible ICT in Education in Zero Project Conference 2016.



Project Background

- There was devastating Earthquake on 25 April 2015 in Nepal,
- 4500 persons Acquired disabilities due to Spinal Cord Injury and Amputation.
- Persons with disabilities faced hardship condition during rescue and relief action.
- Deprived of Access to justice
- Transforming rights in real life is critical though Nepal is the state party of UNCRPD.
- The violation of basic human rights with the consequences of inaccessible infrastructure in public places.
- ADRAD intended to push for disability inclusive post-Earthquake reform.



The Essence of the Project

- Accommodated persons with disabilities providing access to services in post-earthquake reform
- Mobilization Paralegals amongst persons with disabilities
- Engagement in planning, monitoring the execution of PDRF
- Mapping of accessibility measures and legislation and collaborated with reconstruction authority for meeting accessible standards.
- Public Accountability through accessibility auditing.
- Follow-up for ensuring accessibility standards in public places
- The project execution is based on active engagement of persons with disabilities



The innovative aspect of the project

- Inclusive post-Earthquake reconstruction: Public Building safe and accessible for all
- Implementation: Earthquake affected 14 districts
- The project intended to guarantee accessibility standards in post-earthquake reconstruction
- Establishing inter-governmental coordination supported holistic approach
- Persons with disabilities are directly engaged in monitoring
- Established indicators of accessible reconstruction
- The project influenced the concerned Authorities for ensuring accessibility standards in Post-earthquake reconstruction.



The Impact Created by the Project

- The newly amended act has covered accessible standard in line with CRPD article 9.
- 6765 persons with disabilities and their families received first phase amount of NPR. 50,000 for the building reconstruction
- 72 meetings of the district disasters committee have been attended by the paralegals
- 780 persons with disabilities trained for monitoring the accessible standard.
- 87 public places made accessible during post-earthquake reconstruction.
- 145 construction workers orientated about Accessibility standards
- 38 new public places are under construction beyond project districts.



The Success Factors

- The accessible reconstruction covered in the planning of public buildings.
- The project has now being replicated in other districts beyond project scope.
- The Government has assigned representatives of DPOs for the planning and designing the accessible public places.
- The newly elected Municipalities are also adopting the accessible standards developed by the Government through the execution of the project.
- The public places in 17 other districts are under construction of public buildings as post-earthquake reconstruction where accessible standards are implemented.
- The project influenced positively to developing public policy
- The practice can be replicated by accommodation of disability inclusive issues in the post-disasters reform Framework



Successful Story of Gunaraj Khatiwada



Gunaraj is monitoring the accessibility compliances of the public building



Financing Issues

- Civil society funding (from Foundation Open Society Institute): US\$ 56,000
- Non-financial support: US\$ 24,000
- Other forms of funding/support: Contribution from local network
- The project execution was based on active engagement of local DPOs under ADRAD's network.



Sustainability & Challenges

- Asia-pacific plan of action on Disability has been followed while developing the indicators of accessible standard by the Ministry.
- Taskforce led by Ministry and promoted accessibility standard and collaborate with the DPOs.
- The practice is potential replicable to ensure accessible public places in the sub-region so that all services will be further accessible for persons with disabilities.
- The provision of accessible schools has not been implemented though it is mentioned in the newly adopted "Inclusive Education Policy in January, 2017.



The Next Steps

- Capacity building of construction workers is necessary to developed knowledge and skills for meeting accessible standards
- The result has been learning to the Government to maintain accessibility standards in the newly building schools and the public places.
- The project has provided insight to the local bodies for the fulfillment of accessibility compliances in line with CRPD.
- The local bodies should allocate fund for making accessible public places thus the project result will be sustained.
- The active role of paralegals to be enhanced to support persons with disabilities to get state service and benefits without discrimination.



Thank You