

## DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION

### A. Major Development Partners: Strategic Foci and Key Activities

1. The Government of Nepal promulgated the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act in 2017 to amend and unify prevailing laws related to disaster risk reduction (DRR) and disaster risk management (DRM). The act aims to integrate DRM into the school education curriculum. The DRR policy and strategic action plan approved in 2018 outlines the activities in different sectors including education. The Safe School Policy (2017) provides guidance to ensure school structures, services, and facilities are safe from all kinds of risks. The School Sector Development Plan (SSDP), 2016–2023 seeks to mainstream comprehensive DRR by strengthening school-level DRM and resilience and continuation of the recovery efforts to the 2015 earthquake as guided by the Post Disaster Relief Framework.<sup>1,2</sup> The draft comprehensive school safety master plan will be the reference to support nationwide safe, disaster-resilient physical infrastructure and inclusive learning environments for schools. The proposed Disaster Resilience of Schools Project contributes to pillar 1 (safe infrastructure) and pillar 2 (strengthened DRM) of the master plan. The table provides details on school resilience and reconstruction projects supported by Nepal’s major development partners.

#### Major Development Partners

Development Partner	Project Name	Duration	Amount
ADB and DFAT	School Sector Program	2012–2014	\$9.0 million
ADB	Earthquake Emergency Assistance Project	2015–2019	\$202.1 million
ADB	Disaster Risk Reduction and Livelihood Restoration for Earthquake-Affected Communities	2015–2019	\$15 million
ADB	School Sector Development Plan (budget support through SWAp for school safety improvement)	2016–2022	\$20 million
ADB	Rural Sector Development Cluster Program (budget support through tranche release for rural finance)	2015	\$28 million
ADB	Nepal Earthquake Disaster Response Humanitarian Assistance	2015–2016	\$3 million
JICA	Emergency School Reconstruction Project	2015–2020	\$115 million
JICA	School Based Sustainable Disaster Risk Reduction Education and Material Development Project	2017–2018	¥10 million
JICA	Emergency Support of Providing Teaching and Learning Materials, Support for Improvement of School Management Project Phase 2	2015	\$0.1 million
JICA	School Earthquake Safety Program	2011–2015	\$0.2 million
JICA	School Sector Development Program	2017–2023	\$2.74 million
Government of India	Reconstruction of Schools	2016–2021	\$50 million
Norway	Reconstruction of Schools Damaged by Earthquake	2016–2018	\$2.3 million
Multi-donor	Supporting MOE/DOE to Operationalize Cluster Management to Provide Education Response During Emergencies	2008–2015	\$0.5 million
Norway	Reconstruction of Schools Damaged by Earthquake	2015–2018	\$2.4 million
Norway	Reconstruction of Schools Damaged by Earthquake in Northern Dolakha	2016–2019	\$3.7 million

<sup>1</sup> Nine development partners—the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Australia, the European Union, Finland, the Global Partnership for Education, Japan International Cooperation Agency, Norway, United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and the World Bank—are supporting SSDP through a sector-wide approach.

<sup>2</sup> Government of Nepal. 2016. *Post Disaster Recovery Framework*. Kathmandu.

Development Partner	Project Name	Duration	Amount
ADB and USAID	Earthquake Emergency Assistance Project	2018–2022	\$10 million
EU	School Sector Development Plan (budget support through SWAp for school safety improvement)	2017–2022	€13.12 million
EU	Promoting and strengthening school safety in Nepal through operationalizing the Comprehensive School Safety Framework	2015–2016	€0.85 million
EU	Promoting and strengthening DRR and school safety throughout the education sector in Nepal	2017–2018	€0.75 million
USAID	Nepal Community Reconstruction Project (Kathmandu Valley, Sindhuli, and Makwanpur)	2019–2020	\$14.8 million
UNICEF	Education System Strengthening including DRR/CCA and SZOP	Jul 2017–Jul 2022	\$7.3 million
DFID (through UNDP)	Support to Build Earthquake Resilience in Nepal (Early Recovery Activities in Eastern Nepal in the Aftermath of the Sikkim Earthquake)	2012–2015	\$1.2 million
DFID	Nepal Safer Schools Project	2018–2022	£12 million
DFID	Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Programme	2012–2016	\$2 million
WFP	Augmentation of National and Local Level Emergency Logistics Preparedness in Nepal	2016–2020	\$7.2 million
DFAT	Building Back Safer Schools for All	2015–2017	AUD5 million
World Bank	Structural Integrity and Damage Assessment Project	2015–2018	\$2 million
Finland	School Sector Development Plan	2016–2020	€20 million
UNDP	Support to prepare the National DRR Policy and Strategic Action Plan in line with SFDRR for the Government of Nepal with MOHA and supported to prepare National DRR CCA Mainstreaming guideline for the Government of Nepal with NPC.	2016–2017	\$0.12 million
UNICEF	Capacity Building of the Education Stakeholders and Integration of the DRR Contents in Formal, Non-Formal, and Local Curriculum	2009–2015	\$3.1 million

ADB = Asian Development Bank, CCA = climate change adaptation, DFAT = Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia, DFID = Department for International Development of the United Kingdom, DOE = Department of Education; DRR = disaster risk reduction, JICA = Japan International Cooperation Agency, MOE = Ministry of Education; MOHA = Ministry of Home Affairs, NPC = National Planning Commission, SFDRR = Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, SWAp = sector wide approach; SZOP = School as Zone of Peace; UNDP = United Nations Development Program, UNICEF = United Nations Children’s Fund, USAID = United States Agency for International Development, WFP = World Food Programme.

Source: ADB and development partners.

## B. Institutional Arrangements and Processes for Development Coordination

2. Before the 2015 Gorkha earthquake, the government and its development partners coordinated DRM activities through an education cluster, Nepal Risk Reduction Consortium (NRRC),<sup>3</sup> and the DRM platform. The education cluster coordinates relief operations, immediate humanitarian response, and short- to medium-term recovery activities.<sup>4</sup> Led by the government and its development partners, the NRRC (2009) focused on strengthening preparedness, the response framework, early recovery, and the overall policy framework (including land use planning, mainly in terms of allocating open spaces). The Asian Development Bank (ADB) with the Ministry of Education led the coordination of school safety. The Ministry of Home Affairs with

<sup>3</sup> United Nations Development Programme. 2010. <http://un.org.np/coordinationmechanism/nrrc>

<sup>4</sup> The education cluster group comprises ADRA Nepal, Care International, Centre for Mental Health and Counseling, Community School Management Committee Federation Nepal, Educational Pages, FINN Church Aid, Mainstreaming Disaster Resilience Centre, National Campaign for Education-Nepal, National Society for Earthquake Technology, Plan Nepal, Restless Development, Save the Children, UNESCO, UNICEF, World Education, and World Vision.

support from United Nations Development Programme established the DRM platform. A DRR technical thematic group was formed under education sector wide approach program. After the 2015 earthquake, the government conducted a post-disaster needs assessment (PDNA) with help from development partners. The sector work plan developed under the PDNA guided the rehabilitation and reconstruction work. For school reconstruction and rehabilitation, ADB and JICA aligned their activities in the 14 affected districts.<sup>5</sup> In 2016, United States Agency for International Development provided \$10 million in cofinancing to ADB's Earthquake Emergency Assistance Project (EEAP).<sup>6</sup> To avoid duplication, the Project builds on the World Bank's 2016 Structural Integrity Damage Assessment. The National Reconstruction Authority established the Development Assistance and Coordination Facilitation Committee to serve as a platform for coordination. It meets every 3 months to discuss operational challenges and issues and has helped fill the void created with the expiration of the NRRC in 2015. ADB will continue to coordinate with Nepal's other development partners through existing mechanisms and bilaterally as required.

### **C. Achievements and Issues**

3. Two ongoing ADB-assisted reconstruction projects—EEAP and Disaster Risk Reduction and Livelihood Restoration for Earthquake-Affected Communities—have progressed well after they faced initial challenges due to delays in the establishment of NRA and completion of building assessments and designs.<sup>7</sup> Government agencies and development partners have coordinated on preparedness, response, and the overall DRM policy framework; good coordination was demonstrated during the 2015 earthquake PDNA. Under the new state restructuring, DRR implementation activities have been delegated to local and state institutions, and the jurisdiction of operations of schools has been shifted to municipalities. As the new municipalities may lack sufficient capacity to implement school DRR projects, capacity building may be needed to continue the work.

### **D. Summary and Recommendations**

4. The government's major challenge may be to continue the current momentum of reconstruction and rehabilitation. While the current focus is on reconstruction, attention must also be given by the government on preparedness and mainstreaming DRM. The government must effectively implement the comprehensive school safety master plan as it will serve as a main reference for school safety. As Nepal is among the most hazard-prone countries in the world, mobilizing disaster risk financing, such as a disaster risk insurance facility to help provide some short-term liquidity to swiftly respond to disasters, is being explored. ADB has financed regional technical assistance to conduct a diagnostic assessment of the current landscape and enabling environment for disaster risk financing in Nepal.

---

<sup>5</sup> JICA and ADB coordination was formalized through a collaborative cofinancing agreement signed in 2016 for the EEAP (\$200 million) and Emergency School Reconstruction Project (\$115 million). ADB's support covered eight districts and JICA covered six districts of the fourteen affected districts.

<sup>6</sup> ADB. 2015. *Earthquake Emergency Assistance Project*. Manila.

<sup>7</sup> ADB. 2015. *Disaster Risk Reduction and Livelihood Restoration for Earthquake-Affected Communities*. Manila.