

February 2022

Project Report: Post-disaster Recovery Project

Provision of Emergency shelter, CFW and Agriculture input to the most vulnerable landslide affected households and individuals in Sindhupalchowk district of Nepal



Submitted to: **Sowers Action, Hong Kong, China**

Submitted by: **Volunteer Corps Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal**

From the President

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Sowers Action, Hong Kong, China for your contribution in support of 25 shelters construction, cash for work and distribution of agricultural items for the victims of flood in Helambu Rural Municipality, Sindhupalchowk district of Nepal. Volunteer Corps Nepal has been relentlessly working to aid the people affected by disaster through rescue, relief and rehabilitation. This effort of helping people of Helambu to recover from their trauma has been possible only because of your financial contribution, which has supported us to continue our mission of serving communities in times of need. With your financial input, we were successful in construction of 25 shelters, implement Cash for Work scheme equating to 4,000 man days and provide 125 households with agricultural toolkits and seeds of 4 different vegetables.

Every beneficiary of the project has been happy to the support they have received because of Sowers Action. The shelter handover was carried out in two phases: the first handover of 10 shelters was carried out on 8th December 2021 and the last handover of the remaining 15 houses was carried out on 12th January 2022. The distribution of agricultural input was carried out on 12th January 2022. The beneficiaries, stakeholders and the local authorities are eminently obliged for your assistance. The joy and happiness you have spread in people's lives are priceless.

Thank you Sowers Action for your faith upon us. We are looking forward for more opportunities to work with you.

With all our gratitude,

Volunteer Corps Nepal

PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT TITLE: Post-disaster Recovery Project

DONOR: Sowers Action, Hong Kong, China

TARGET AREA: Helambu Rural Municipality, Sindhupalchowk, Nepal

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER: Volunteer Corps Nepal

PROJECT PERIOD: 3 Months (August 2021- December 2021 - 2 Months Extended)

TOTAL BENEFICIARIES: Shelter - 25 Households (125 Individuals), Agricultural Input - 125 Households (625 Individuals), CFW – 4,000 man days = **4,750 Individuals**

TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET: NPR 16,475,000

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the monsoon of the year 2021, Melamchi River inundated the settlements of Helambu and Melamchi area of Sindhupalchowk district of Nepal. It was a flash flood, and one of a kind. The river had brought down a huge amount of debris from its source. The sudden occurrence the flood destroyed nearly 500 houses in Melamchi and Helambu. The flood occurred twice on 15th June and 31st July 2021. Around 317 households were damaged by the flood in Helambu Rural Municipality.

An immediate Emergency Response was carried out in the financial support of Sowers Action, Hong Kong, China following the flash flood, in which 124 families were supported with food and non-food items. A dire need for recovery for the flood affected households was then witnessed in Helambu Rural Municipality, after which “Post-disaster Recovery Project” was introduced to construct shelters for 25 severely affected families, provide the vulnerable and needy people with Cash for Work (CFW) initiative, and distribute 4 seasonal high quality vegetable seeds and agricultural toolkits. The project was financially supported by Sowers Action, Hong Kong, China, and implemented by volunteer Corps Nepal as a local implementing partner for Nepal.

With an aim of improving housing conditions of people, introducing short term job opportunities and reviving the agriculture in the rural municipality, the Post-disaster Recovery Project was implemented. The project resulted into completion of constructions of 25 shelters, benefitting 375 people through Cash for Work scheme with total 4000 man days of work, and supporting 125 household with seeds and agricultural tool kits with touching lives of 4,750 individuals.

The handover ceremony for 25 households was carried out on 12th January 2022, and the seeds and toolkits were distributed on the same day. The overall budget of the project was NPR. 16,475,000. The handover and distribution was carried out in the presence of Former Information and Communication Minister of Government of Nepal, Chairperson of Rural Municipality, Chairpersons of ward, other local authorities, VCN’s team and beneficiaries.

Project Background

Every year monsoon season comes with landslides and flashfloods affecting settlements in Hills and Terai regions of Nepal. The monsoon of 2021 portrayed extra intensity, and rainfall localization along the high elevated regions, causing destructive landslides and flash floods (including Melamchi and Marshyangdi disasters) that affected hundreds of households. Melamchi Municipality and Helambu Rural Municipality in Sindhupalchowk experienced hits by the intense flood disaster (debris flow events) on June 15 and July 31, 2021. On 15 June 2021, exceptional flash flood occurred in the Melamchi and Indrawati rivers resulting heavy damage to the settlements on the banks of Melamchi River including the Helambu Rural Municipality (Chowkphu, Chusamani, Nakote, Fupkang, Kharchun, Chadani, Rival, Sarkathali, Ambathang, Dhuring, Timbu, Sene, Haldhe, Chasam, Kiwul, Chanaute, Gaylthumg and Tamarang settlements) and Melamchi Municipality (Tamarang, Fatte, Kattike, Purano Bazar and Melamchi bazar). It has damaged 317 households in Helambu and 287 households in Melamchi municipality along with heavy damage to the Melamchi water supply project (MWSP) and cut off road access to several settlements. Along the way, the debris mixed flood destroyed the Melamchi Water Supply Project's road network, bridges, transmission line and intake structure, as well as agricultural land. The disaster killed 5, left 20 missing and left pile of more than 10 m debris at Melamchi bazar. On July 31, 2021, a similar debris flow event occurred in Melamchi River, sweeping the already damaged buildings, concrete motorable bridge, and suspension bridge at Chanaute (*Rato pull*), which connects Helambu and Gyalthum Bazaar. Apart from the settled area, the Melamchi disaster has put the Melamchi Water Supply Project and the Melamchi bazar's future in jeopardy.

After an immediate Emergency Relief Project carried out by Volunteer Corps Nepal (VCN) with support of Sowers Action, Hong Kong, China, a need for recovery and rehabilitation of the victims was realized. Considering the same “**Post-disaster Recovery Project**” was formed. The project consisted three major strategies for the disaster recovery. They were:

1. Construction of Shelters for 25 most affected victims of the flood
2. Introducing and implementing Cash for Work (CFW) Scheme to improve short term income of the people
3. Distribution of agricultural toolkits and seasonal seeds to help the flood affected households revive their agricultural activities.

Thus, in support of Sowers Action, VCN has constructed twenty-five shelter for the victim of Melamchi disaster around the Gyalthum Bazar of Sindhupalchowk under Post-disaster Recovery Project. Along with this, 125 households were distributed with seeds of four different vegetables

and agricultural toolkits including 4,000 man days of work with an objective of empowering the people affected by this devastation.

Update on the Situation:

Sindhupalchowk is the largest district among 13 districts in province 3 (Bagmati Province). Located at the east of the capital of Nepal, Kathmandu, Sindhupalchowk district has an area of 2,542 sq. km. Sindhupalchowk is divided into 12 administrative divisions, with 3 municipalities and 9 rural municipalities. Helambu Rural Municipality is one of them.

The total population of Sindhupalchowk is 287,798 including 138,351 males and 149,447 females. The average literacy rate is about 59.58% (51.88% female and 67.97% male). Sindhupalchowk has a multi ethnic composition with Tamang, Chhetri, Brahman, Newar, Bishwokarma, Sanyasi, Sherpa, Darji/Pariyar, Majhi, Magar, Gurung, Hyolmo, Thami, Mijar/Sarki, Danuwar, Pahari, Ghale and others. The dominant language is Nepali (55.31%) followed by Tamang (31.26%), Newari (6.71%), Sherpa (2.86%), Hyolmo (2.11%), Thami (0.99%) and others (0.76%).

Agriculture is a major source of income for the people in Sindhupalchowk. However, only 13.30% of the land is now cultivated due to displacement of people due to disasters, low fertility of land and migration of people to third countries. Sindhupalchowk is one of the fairly poor district of Nepal. The Multidimensional Poverty Index of the district is 0.17.

Sindhupalchowk has been categorized as a high risk district for disaster in 2020. According to a survey in the same year by Home Ministry, 11,109 families in Sindhupalchowk are under a high risk of flood and landslide, requiring immediate relocation. Among those 21 settlements were from Helambu.

One of the 12 administrative divisions in Sindhupalchowk is Helambu Rural Municipality, which is again divided to 7 wards. With a total population of 17,671 population residing in the rural municipality, Helambu is one of the famous tourist destination of the country. The major source of income for the people is agriculture. Majority of population in Helambu belongs to Holmo caste, however the area shows diversity in the social composition.

Regarding the risk of disaster in Helambu, the risk has increased since the flash flood in June 2021. Because of huge amount of debris being stored in the source of Melamchi River, which flows through Helambu, the risk of greater devastation to the downstream settlements in Helambu and Melamchi bazar has risen.

Few families are still living in makeshift tents and temporary shelters, after 6 months of the disaster. They have lost their land, source of income and shelters. Winter has started and the families have not received any relief support from the government. People have started fearing for the next Monsoon. The risk of another destructing flood has been speculated by the experts, however no concrete decisions for the safety of people have come forward from the side of authorities.

Third wave of COVID-19 “OMICRON” has started in Nepal with more than 10,000 cases being detected on a daily basis. The number of total cases has reached 959,775 till 2nd February 2022. The highest number of cases have been recorded in Bagmati province. Sindhupalchowk district is also one of the high risk districts. Cases have started to appear in rural villages of Sindhupalchowk. Helambu Rural Municipality is also recording increasing number of cases. Smart lockdown measures have been implemented in Helambu by the local authorities. Mobility of people has been compromised, schools are closed and market has been partially shut down. Tourism industry in Helambu has been affected because of the pandemic and the flood. Many parts of the rural municipality are still disconnected from other parts of the district because of damaged road network.

Social Impact Results

Melamchi flash flood in June 2021 was an astonishing event for every expert and people in the country. The river had carried a huge amount of debris downstream, affecting 317 households in Helambu Rural Municipality. The houses were filled with concrete like materials, and roads, bridges and other infrastructures were swept away by the flood.

Devastation is always a part of disaster. People's lives have been impacted, and there has been a significant loss of property and infrastructure due to the flash flood. To mitigate the social consequences of a disaster on a community, significant effort and time are required. The social impact of flood in Helambu, Sindhupalchowk, can be pointed out as follows:

- 1. Loss of lives:** The greatest impact of the flash flood was the death of individuals. 5 people died, while 20 others are still missing. It's an intangible loss with irreversible consequences. This results in social trauma, and the psychological damage on family members is deep. In addition, with increasing cold, other health risks have grown.

2. Destruction of property: Around 317 families were displaced from their houses. Most of them have lost their homes, lands and businesses they owned. Agriculture and tourism are the major source of income in Helambu, and both have been affected by the disaster. This had left people economically vulnerable.

3. Infrastructure damage: Helambu had lost all its connection to the outer world due to flood, during the rainy season. 7 roads and 13 suspension bridges have been damaged completely. A building with radio station was uprooted by the flood. Dirt roads have been operated for now, but they will turn useless during the monsoon. Only one bridge is now under construction.

4. Limited purchasing and production power: Since there have been huge loss of lands and property, the economic status of people have lowered. Price hike in the basic necessities are possible during the aftermath of the disaster. People have low economic capacity and decreased purchasing power. Markets have also not revived fully and is not as lucrative as it was earlier.

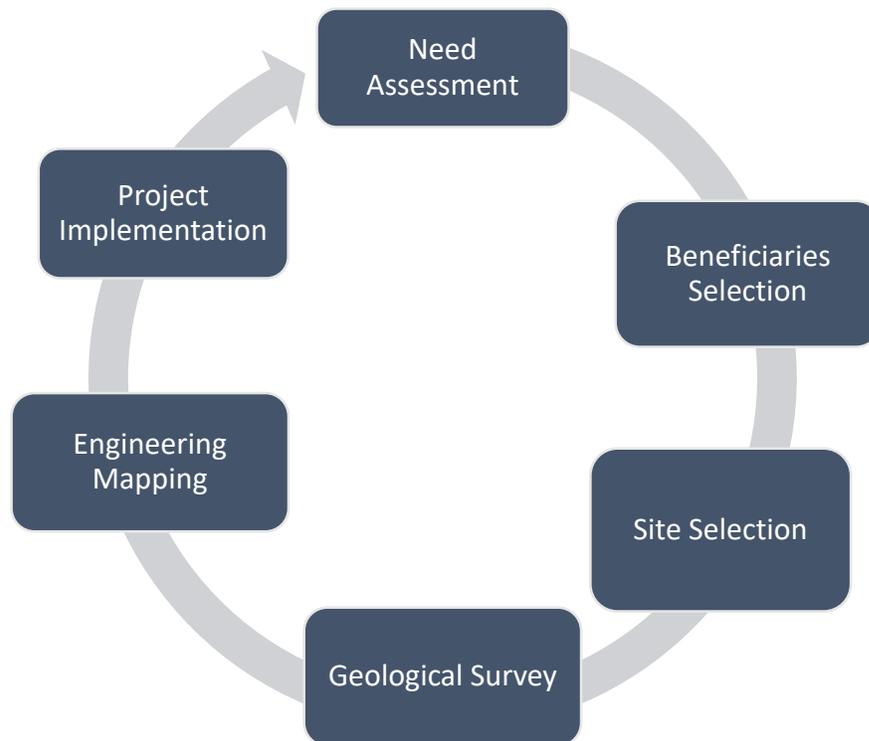
Project Goal

Many people in the affected areas live in insecure, subsistence situations. And, for individuals from low-income families, the crisis has compounded their social and economic disadvantages. The goal of the project was to mitigate those drawbacks.

The major objectives of the project was:

1. To improve housing conditions of the population most affected by the Landslide, and provide short term job opportunity through Cash for Work to the affected community individuals for emergency source of income.
2. To provide short term sources of income for population most affected by the landslide.
3. To support the beneficiaries with agricultural seeds and toolkits.

Project Implementation Methodology



A. Need Assessment

Need assessment was carried out in four phases by the Emergency Response Unit of VCN following the flash flood. Several interviews, group discussions and conversations were carried out with the victims of flood, and the government authorities. Based upon the assessment, three different needs were identified in coordination with the rural municipality and ward offices. The identified needs were shelters for people whose houses were destroyed by the flood, short income generating opportunities for stranded communities, and a means to get people back to their normal life. Thus, according to the needs identified a decision was taken for construction of 25 households, providing people an employment opportunity through Cash for Work scheme, and providing households with agricultural toolkits and seeds to help them revive their normal life.

B. Beneficiaries Selection

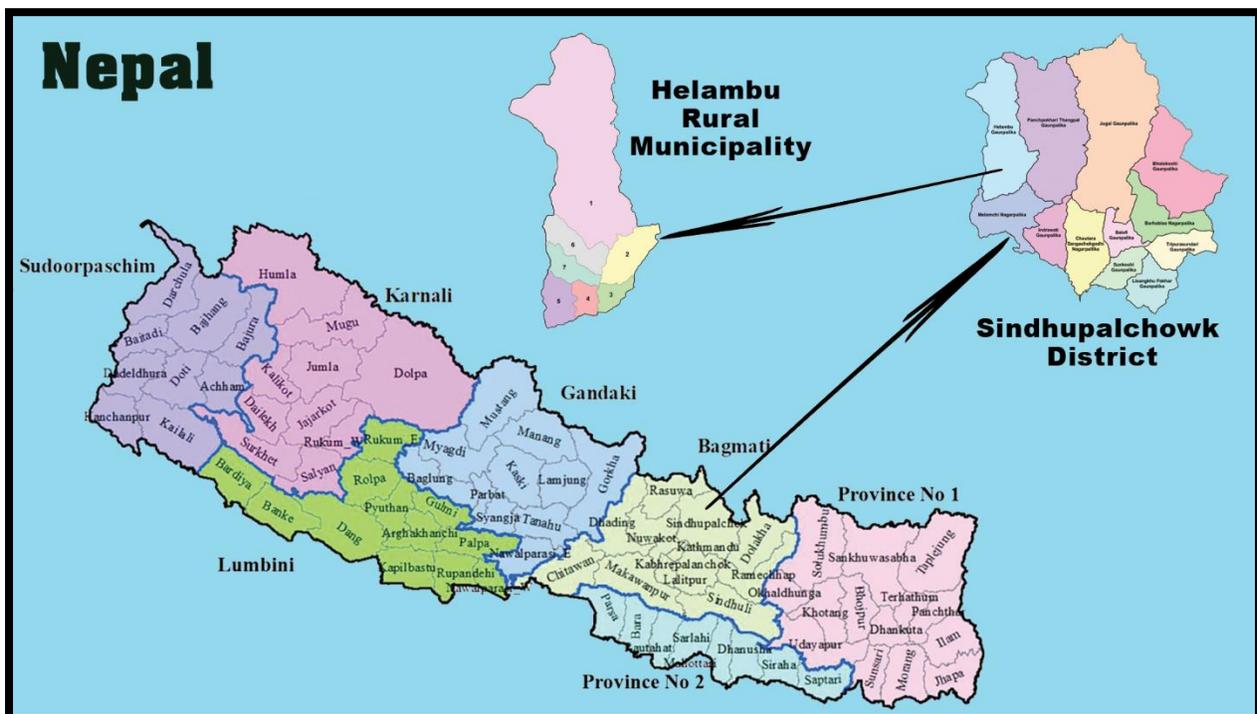
The ward offices listed out the most affected 25 households for whom the shelters were constructed and the list of 125 beneficiaries for the distribution of agricultural toolkits and seeds. The beneficiaries list was verified by the VCN team and volunteers. The people for cash for work

scheme were selected through community led process with the involvement of community leaders, considering both ability and vulnerability.

The selection process were coordinated by the Mr. Raj Kumar Lamichhane and Mr. Khetnath Ghimire, ward Chairpersons of ward no. 4 and 7 respectively in close coordination with Chairperson of Rural Municipality Mr. Nima Gyalgen Sherpa.

C. Site Selection

Among all the settlements affected by flood, Gyalthum bazar was one of the worst hit area by the flood in Helambu Rural Municipality. Following our need assessment in different wards, ward no. 4 and 7, in were selected for the project implementation. The selection process was carried out in coordination with Chairman of Rural Municipality and Local Government Authorities.



D. Geological Survey

The geological survey was carried out in the target area before the construction of shelters for the systematic examination of the area to determine the character, relations, distribution, and origin / mode of formation of its rock masses, mineral resources and land topography. The

survey was conducted in order to find the stable area for the construction, and to access the geology related properties of the ground and make suggestion and recommendation whether the area is hazardous or not. The geological survey was carried out in two phases: the first one was for 10 houses and the second one was for remaining 15 houses. Geological survey reports for both phases have been submitted to Sowers Action.

E. Engineering Mapping

All shelters constructed were designed following proper engineering process. The sites were regularly visited by the site engineer, and monitoring of the shelters were carried out. Workers were supervised during three stages of the building: the foundation phase, the development phase and the completion phase. Engineering reports of three phases (foundation, development and completion) of all 25 shelters were submitted to Sowers Action.

F. Project Implementation

I. Shelter Construction

Upon receiving the recommendation letter from ward no. 4 with the name of beneficiaries on 3rd September 2021, the construction of shelters was initiated. 25 beneficiaries were identified from two wards, 21 households from ward no.4 and 4 households from ward no. 7. 2 shelters of the beneficiaries from ward no. 7 were constructed in ward no.3. Our beneficiaries for shelter constructions are:

1. Aasha Ram Tamang

Aasha Ram Tamang lives in a joint family of 11 members including his 85 years old mother, his 74 years old father, wife and 7 daughters. The family lost a 2 storey house in Gyalthum bazar and land around 1 acre.

2. Loknath Lamichane

38 years old Loknath Lamichhane has a family of 5 members. They used to live in Gyalthum bazar. The flood destroyed their house and 2 *ropani* agricultural land adding to the loss of around 12 million.

3. Sancha Man Tamang

Sancha Man Tamang lost his house to the flood on 31st July 2021. He has a 4 members in his family. The house was their only possession. Sancha Man Tamang also lost his job in Melamchi Water Project due to the flood.

4. Krishna Murari Lamichhane

Krishna Murari Lamichhane lost a 2 storey house in the bazar area, and a large plot of agricultural field of 3 *ropani* by the side of main road of Helambu. He has two small children and wife in the family. They lost the property of worth millions of rupees.

5. Sudip Lamichhane

Sudip Lamichhane lives with his wife and two sons in Gyalthum, Helambu. They have lost a house and 4 *ropani* land worth rupees around 15 million rupees in the flood.

6. Chandra Bahadur Thapa

65 years old Chandra Bahadur Thapa is a resident of Helambu-04 Shera. He has 5 members in his family. During the flood, they have lost their home and 3 *aana* land. They do not have any property remaining now.

7. Ramesh Tamang

Forty eight years old Ramesh Tamang lives in Gorekhola - 04 Helambu with a family of 6 members. The family lost a house in Dhungribazar and 6 *aana* land, which were worth around 15 million rupees.

8. Jit Bahadur Tamang

A resident of Gyalthum-04, Helambu, Jit Bahadur Tamang is 51 years old. He lives with his wife, a son and 2 daughters. They had a 2 storey house in Gyalthum bazar built in an area of 3 *aanas* (1026 sq. ft.), which was swept away by the flood. Their house was their only possession. They bore a loss of about 10 million rupees due to the flood.

9. Malangai Tamang

Fifty three years old Malangai Tamang, was a resident of Shera, Gyalthum. He used to live with his daughter, son-in-law and a grandson in 3-room concrete house in Gyalthum bazar. He owned another 5 *aanas* (app. 1711 sq. ft.) of land in the same area, where they used to have a poultry farm. They have lost their house and farm due to flood on 31st July 2021.

10. Subai Tamang

51 years old Subai Tamang is a wage worker, and the sole earner of the family of 4. His son and daughter-in-law are students. Before flood, they used to live in Dhungri Bazar. They also owned 1.5 *ropani* of agricultural field. Both their home and land have been washed away by the flood.

11. Tika Prasad Lamichhane

Working as a security officer, Tika Prasad Lamichhane never thought that a dreadful flood would wash away every penny he had earned till the 35 years of his life. He used to live in Baluwa in ward no. 4 of Helambu Rural Municipality. Fortunately, none of his family members were hurt during the flood. He has 6 members in his family. The family used to have a 3 storey concrete house worth of around rupees 8 million and 4 *ropani* of agricultural land. Overall, they lost about Rupees 30 million worth of property.

12. Lekhnath Lamichhane

Lekhnath Lamichhane lives in Bista Tole, Helambu and used to own 7 *ropani* of agricultural land and a house in Baluwa. The flash flood destroyed all of the property they had, and resulted into their homelessness. The total loss summed up to around 30 million rupees, according to his wife Apsara Lamichhane.

13. Rajesh Lamichane

Rajesh Lamichhane is a driver by profession, and the sole earner of the family of 6. They lost their home in Baluwa and 2 *ropani* land to the flood that occurred on 15th June and 31st July 2021. Their loss approximately accounted for 10 million rupees.

14. Juthe Sunar

Fifty years old Juthe Sunar is a blacksmith by profession. He is the only person in the family who earns. He has a large family with 7 members. Initially they used to live in rent, but recently they had bought a land with all their earning and savings. They had built a small house with 2 rooms in that land. But, the only land and house they possessed was taken away from them by the flood.

15. Yagaar Tamang

Yagaar Tamang is a 64 years old woman living in Gyalthum-04, Helambu. She used to live in Dhungebazar with her son, daughter-in-law and granddaughter. The flood swept away her 5 *anna* land, her house and 2 *ropani* agricultural field, summing up to about 15 million rupees.

16. Tarsing Tamang

35 years old Ashish Tamang has taken the responsibility of taking care of his father-in-law Tarsing Tamang. They used to live in Baluwa, Gyalthum in a 2 room concrete house. The house and the land on which it was built, was only the property they had. It was worth around 3 million rupees. Ashish Tamang is a welder and the sole earner of the family. When the flood destroyed their house and land, they were left homeless.

17. Devi Raman Lamichhane

Devi Raman Lamichhane is a 53 year old man is a resident of ward no.4- Chilauneghaari, Helambu rural municipality, Sindhupalchowk district. He has a family of 6 members with wife, two sons, daughter-in-law and a granddaughter. Teacher by profession Devi Raman Lamichhane has lost around 6 *ropani* agricultural land and a house worth above 20 million rupees in the flood of 15th June 2021.

18. Jhalak Pandit Chettri

Jhalak Pandit Chhetri is a farmer by profession. He has 2 sons, his old father and wife in his family. They used to have 4 houses which used to harbor 16 shops. They used to earn a good amount of money from those shop rent. The houses have now vanished underneath the debris brought by the flood. Jhalak Pandit has lost around 20 million rupees worth of property during the flood. They are struggling to meet their ends after the flood.

19. Ganga Kumari Khadka

Ganga Kumari Khadka is a housewife. She lives with her husband, 2 children and father-in-law. The family used to own 3 houses in the market area, which were given in rent to shops. They were building a new house which would have completed in a month, if it wouldn't have been destroyed by flood. All of their 4 houses were lost to flood.

20. Thuli Tamang

Resident of Dhungribazar, Thuli Tamang is more than 70 years old. She has 2 daughters in her family and their children. They used to own a 4 rooms house in Dhungribazar, through which the river flows now. The house was the only belonging she had, which was vanished to flood.

21. Somar Tamang

Fifty four years old Somar Tamang has an extended family of 14 members. He used to have an 18 pillared 3 storey house with 8 rooms in Gyalthum-04, Helambu, which was destroyed by flood on 31st July 2021. Somar Tamang had taken a loan to build that house back in 2013. He's still under the debt for the house, but has lost the house.

22. Goma Dangal

53 years old Goma Dangal used to live with her sons and daughter in law, in Chanautey bazar. They owned two houses, one was a 2 storey house and another was a 1 storey concrete house. 10 shutters of 2 houses were rented to shops of different kinds and they used to earn about 40,000 rupees a months through the rent. They used to have 2 goats with them before the flood. The flood destroyed both of their houses and killed their goats too.

23. Guna Maya Dangal

Forty years old Guna Maya Dangal is single handedly looking after her old parents and her children. She is a single mother. The family used to live in Chanautey Bazar in their 1 storey concrete house before the flood. They used to own agricultural fields too. The land and house, both have been taken away by the flood.

24. Saraswati Tamang

Saraswati Tamang is a 29 years old woman having a family of 3 members in Majhitaar, Helambu. She works for a small cooperative in the village, and hardly earns enough for her family. Their financial condition was already weak before flood. The flood has aggravated her difficulties by destroying her house, which was their only possession. The family is facing miserable situations since the flood.

25. Sanu Tamang

Sanu Tamang is a resident of Gyalthum-04, Helambu. He is a farmer by profession and before flood used to rear goats for living. He has a family of 4. They owned a house and goat shed in Gyalthum, which was destroyed by the flood on 31st July 2021. The loss was summed up to around 7 million rupees for Sanu Tamang. The house and goats were his only possession.

II. Cash for Work

Cash for Work (CFW) intervention was introduced to provide employment to unskilled and semi-skilled workers on Shelter Construction. It was implemented with an objective of providing income support to poor, vulnerable men and women through short term, intensive and unskilled so they can meet their essential needs. Cash for Work program can address basic needs, prevent negative coping mechanisms, while building or rehabilitating productive assets, reduce the impact of natural hazards and promote climate change adaptation and mitigation, enhance livelihoods resilience to shocks and crises and thus help to address food security in the medium and long term.

The CFW scheme was applied based on the certain prerequisites such as:

- Identified humanitarian needs, gaps and target groups
- Functioning market
- Reliable and safe payment system
- Political acceptance and community preference

- Assets and infrastructure to be built or rehabilitated will meet the basic needs of the target population, are useful to the community and can be maintained.

CFW scheme involved 375 people for the construction of 25 shelters for 4000 man days' work. Based on the expertise and technicality, minimum wages in total of NPR. 6,000 and Maximum wages of NPR. 11,000 was received by individuals during the construction of each shelters.

III. Agricultural Input Distribution

A. Procurement

The procurement of seeds and agricultural tools was carried out by direct purchase process. Khanal Agro Trading was designated for the procurement, organizing and packaging of the agricultural items. All goods were duly checked, sorted out and turned into packages. The company is VCN's standby vendor for agricultural materials.

B. Distribution

Distribution of agricultural toolkits and seeds was carried out to 125 households to revive normal life of the flood victims. After the completion of shelter construction, cash for work scheme, agricultural tools and seeds were distributed on 12th January 2022 during shelter handover ceremony.

The distribution materials included the following:

- i. Seeds (per households)
 - Cabbage - 1 Packet (100 grams)
 - Cauliflower - 1 Packet (100 grams)
 - Cow Pea – 900 grams
 - Lattice (Green Leafy Vegetable) – 900 grams
- ii. Agricultural Tool Kits (for 2 households)
 - Sickle - 4
 - Hoe - 1

The distribution was carried out in the presence of Communication Minister of Government of Nepal, chairperson of rural municipality, ward chairpersons, government authorities and VCN team. Banner portraying our project was displayed during distribution and items were displayed with donor and partner's logo.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The monitoring and evaluation of the project was carried out in the presented framework:

	Indicator	Definition	Target	Achieved	Data Source	Frequency	Responsible	Reporting
Goal	Improving housing conditions, short term employment and agricultural activities of household affected by flood in Helambu Rural Municipality.	Constructing houses and toilets, distributing agricultural tools and seeds for families affected by flood and providing the vulnerable people with short term employment opportunities through CFW.	Improved shelter and sanitation of 25 families, employment to vulnerable group and revival of agricultural activities in Helambu Rural Municipality	Constructed 25 shelters, provided 375 individuals with employment opportunities (4,000 Man Days work) and 125 households with seeds and agricultural tools.	Handover Letter by the Rural Municipality (RM) / Ward office, Daily Wages Receipt Record Sheet for CFW, Record Sheets for distribution of agricultural items, and official letter from RM and ward office.	Twice during the handover of shelter, 25 times during the wages payment for CFW schemes, and once for the distribution of agricultural seeds and toolkits.	Project Coordinator, Distribution Officer, Geologist, Site Engineer, Finance and Logistic Officer and Volunteers	Bi- Weekly Report from the engineering end, 2 reports on Multi Hazard Risk Assessment through the Geologist, Final Program and Financial Report from the Project Coordinator and Finance and Logistic Officer
Outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of Shelters Constructed Counted Man days of work Number of Agriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sum of all the shelters constructed Total man days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25 Houses 2,500 Man Days of Work 125 Households 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25 Houses 4,000 Man Days of Work 125 Households with 4 different seasonal vegetable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual shelter ownership letter from the ward Wages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once at the handover of shelters 25 Times Once during the distribution 	Project Coordinator and Finance and Logistic Officer	Program and Financial Report

	<p>ral toolkits and amount of seasonal vegetable seeds distributed</p>	<p>of work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural seeds and tools provided to the beneficiaries. 		<p>seeds and sets of agricultural tools.</p>	<p>receipt sheet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beneficiaries receipt record sheet 			
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Households Benefitted • Individuals benefitted • Families benefitted 	<p>Total households, individuals and families got the direct and indirect benefits of the project.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 households • 3,250 Individuals • 125 families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 households • 4,750 individuals • 125 families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual shelter ownership letter • Total direct beneficiaries number from all activities • Beneficiaries receipt record sheet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once at the handover • Once at the end of the project • Once during the distribution 	Project Coordinator	Program Report

Challenges

During the implementation of this project, we came across a few challenges. Some of the major are summarized below:

1. **Change in the Construction Site:** Beneficiaries wanted to change the construction site even after the approval of sites from the geologist, which caused the delay in implementation of project. The main reason after beneficiaries wanting to change the construction site was to build their shelters near the market for easy access.
2. **Heavy Rain:** Monsoon lasts in Nepal till Mid- September. Thus, there were many instances of heavy rainfall till September in Nepal, because of which the start of project was delayed. Moreover, heavy and unusual rainfall during October also caused the hindrance in project execution.
3. **Festivals:** October and November are the months of festivals in Nepal. The two biggest festivals of Nepalese, Dashain and Tihar falls in these months. Because of the festivals our technical workers could not commit their time fully to the project during those two months.
4. **Transportation Difficulties:** The road connection to Helambu Rural Municipality was severely affected by flood in June – July 2021. Bridges (*Rato Pull*) were destroyed, and well paved roads faced irreversible damage. Continuous rainfall had made the project site further inaccessible. Reaching project site with construction materials was a huge challenge for us.

Learning

Every project is an opportunity for us to learn. This initiative was also full of learnings and new ideas. Some of the lessons learned through this project are:

1. **Beneficiary feedback loop:** Introducing beneficiaries' feedback loop increases the efficiency of the project. This mechanism ensures the accountability of the project, and helps in increasing participation and ownership of the project by the beneficiaries.
2. **Inclusion of vulnerable Group of People:** The cash for work scheme was an approach to include the economically vulnerable group of people in the community. Those with a

dire need for work were enrolled in the project. This made sure that no one in our construction site was left behind to the needy. Inclusion also ensured the better participation of people in the project.

3. **Environmental Impact:** The scope of environmental damage during a construction project is high, however a sustainable and innovative approach must be taken into account to avoid any harm to the environment. The environment – how natural resources are used, maintained, and potentially misused by the project, as well as the possible influence on community relations and sustainability – should be studied systematically and given proper attention.
4. **Engagement with local authorities is critical:** Coordination with local authorities played a great role in the success of this project. Coordination with local government, ward offices and local volunteers made it easier to for us to implement the project. The beneficiaries were identified together by the authorities and our team, which made inclusion possible. A close relationship with local authority is pre-requisite for us to advocate for the most vulnerable and for the sustainable policies.

Stories

The stories are attached separately.

Project Budget Overview

The financial report is attached separately.

Summary:

Total Fund Received: NPR. 16,475,000

Total Expenses: NPR. 16,474,382.54

Total Surplus Amount: NPR. 617.46

WAY FORWARD

After nearly 6 months of flooding and devastation in Helambu Rural Municipality, there has been a minimal effort from the government authorities in alleviating the suffering of the affected households. Still, families are still living in tent, or has sheltered in relatives' houses. The flood affected areas are in desperate need of repair. For the time being, livelihood recovery of the families is a major priority. Along with this, there are certain areas where focus is required in order to try to prevent such kind unfortunate occurrence in coming days:

- a. Establishment of early warning mechanisms
- b. Implementation of Disaster Preparedness and Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies

- c. Climate resilient development planning
- d. Insurance coverage of investments and productive assets
- e. Livelihood recovery for those who have lost all of their lands
- f. Research and processing mechanisms on Cascading Hazards

While disasters affect the entire process of living, we must focus on converting adversity into opportunity during the recovery phase. The significance of pro-poor rehabilitation must be focused considering the factors such as multi-stakeholder commitment, volunteer involvement, and sustainability considerations.

Following are attached separately:

ANNEX 1. Beneficiaries Name List

ANNEX 2. Approval Letter from Rural Municipality

ANNEX 3. Thank you letter from Rural Municipality

ANNEX 4. Shelter Handover Letter to 25 Beneficiaries

ANNEX 5. Thank you letter from Ward

ANNEX 6. Gallery of 25 shelters construction in different phases

(Note: Pictures of the distribution will be attached separately in final report)