

Press Release

The Government of the United Kingdom of the Great Britain and Northern Ireland has agreed to provide a grant assistance of £17.61 million (about Rs 2.5 billion to the Government of Nepal in the form of technical cooperation for the Support to Build Earthquake Resilience in Nepal. Agreement to this effect was signed and exchanged at the Ministry of Finance, Kathmandu Nepal today.

The main objective of this project is to strengthen Government of Nepal's disaster risk management policy, scale up community-based disaster resilience activities and improve preparedness for a national and international emergency response in the event of a major earthquake.

The expected outputs of the programme include building national resilience through policy/institutional support, community resilience through community based earthquake and disaster preparedness, protecting health services and improved preparedness for emergency response. The outcome of the programme will be: increased preparedness and improved capacity of disaster management systems and building resilience to minimize the impact of major earthquakes in Nepal.

The areas covered by the the project are school and hospital safety, emergency preparedness and response capacity, policy/institutional support for Disaster Risk Management. The beneficiaries of this project will be communities most vulnerable to disasters which include poor and disadvantaged households and hard-to-reach groups within urban areas.

The programme partners of this project will be Nepal Risk Reduction Consortium, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MoFALD) and Ministry of Physical Planning and Transport Management (MoPPTM). Implementation will be completed by March 2015.

The Grant Agreement was signed by Mr. Lal Shanker Ghimire, Joint Secretary and Chief of the Foreign Aid Coordination Division, Ministry of Finance and Mr. Dominic O'Neill, Head of the Department for International Development, DFID Nepal on behalf of their respective Governments.

The Government of Nepal has expressed its sincere appreciation to the Government of the United Kingdom of the Great Britain and Northern Ireland through the Department for International Development (DFID) for this grant assistance and for their continued support in the socio-economic development of Nepal.

Ministry of Finance
Foreign Aid Coordination Division,
4 September 2012
19 Bhadra 2069