**Annexure 2**

**ACT Alliance Joint Monitoring Visit in Nepal**

**ACT Alliance Nepal Forum**



ACT Alliance Humanitarian Assistance to Nepal Earthquake

ACT Alliance Joint

Monitoring Visit in Nepal

11-16 January 2016

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The ACT Joint Monitoring Visit Team would like to thank the ACT Nepal Forum, the implementing ACT members and their partners for preparing and hosting our visit. It was a well-planned, well executed and an interesting field visit that covered many aspects of the response.

We would like to express our deep appreciation to the Nepali communities who treated us with wonderful hospitality and warmth! There has been admirable progress in recovering from the devastating earthquake. The spirit, optimism, resilience, determination, and the tremendous willingness of Nepali communities to support each other is remarkable.

INTRODUCTION

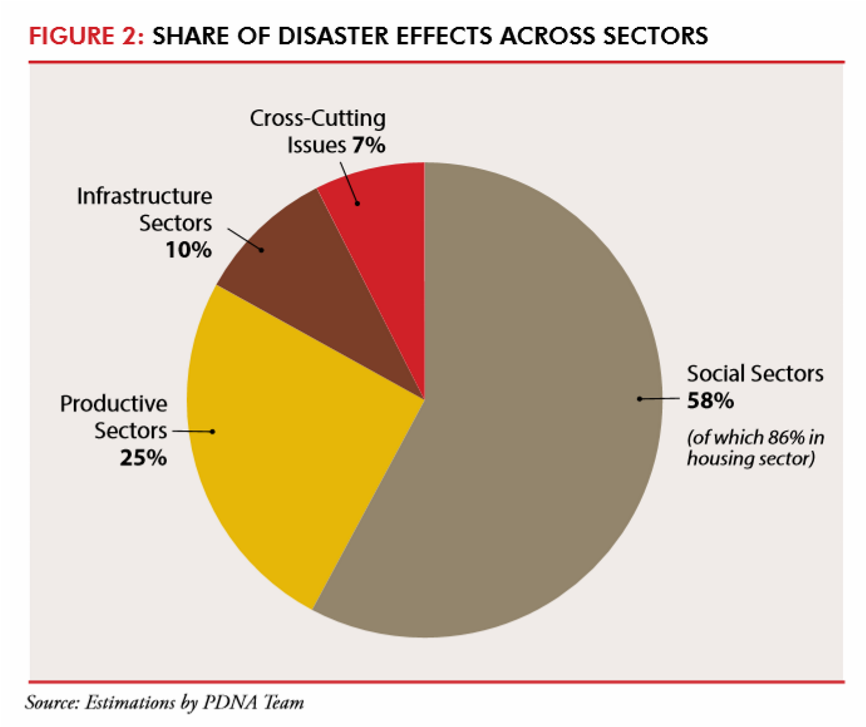
A massive 7.8 magnitude earthquake with its epicentre approximately 80 km north-west of the Nepali capital city of Kathmandu struck central Nepal at 11:41 AM on 25 April. This is the most powerful earthquake to hit the region since 1934, and its impact has been devastating in terms of loss of life and destruction of infrastructure. This has been followed by more than 400 aftershocks greater than 4 in magnitude.

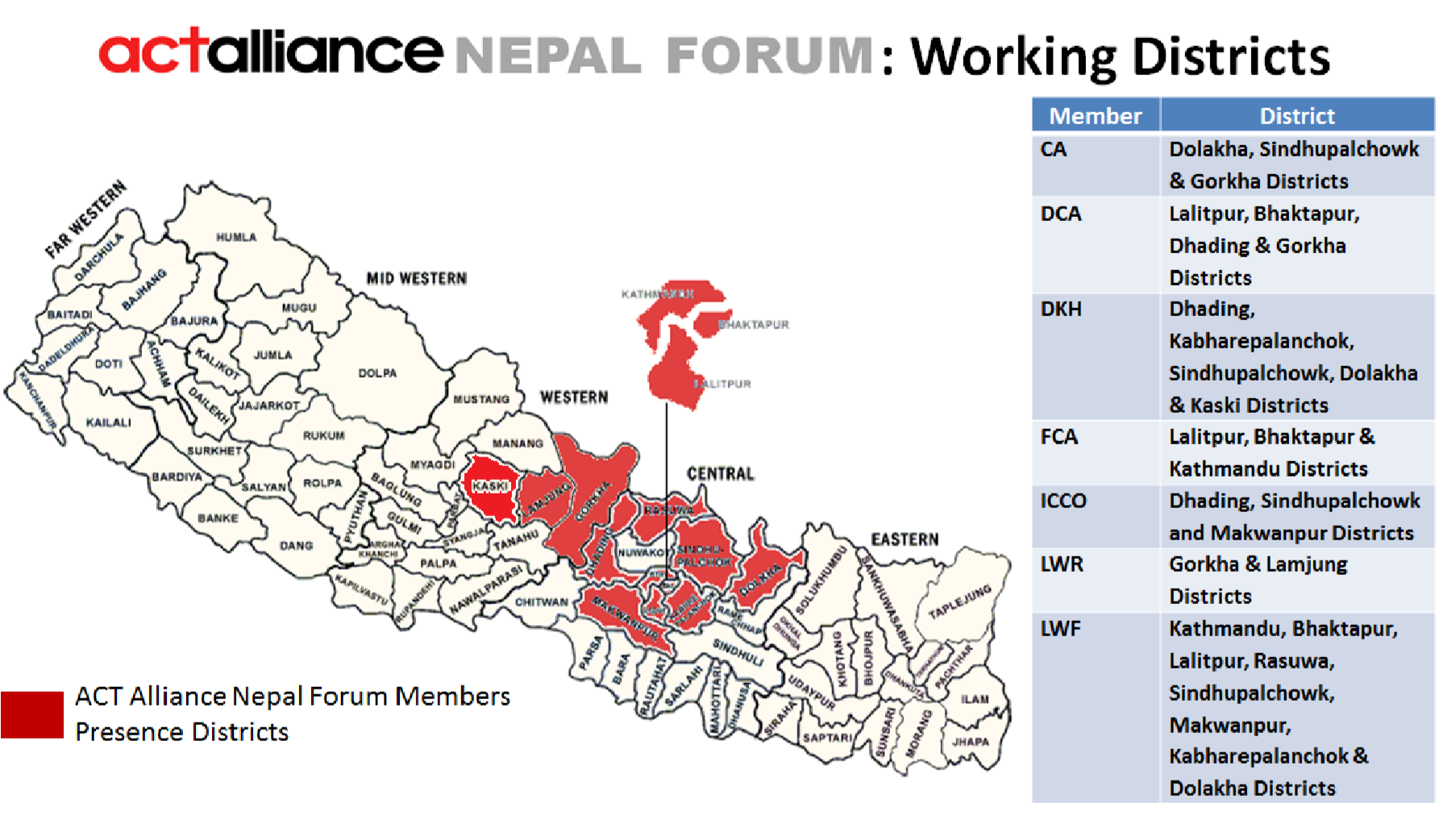
A further earthquake of 7.3 magnitude struck Nepal on Tuesday May 12th around 12:45 Kathmandu time. It was followed by six powerful aftershocks within the space of just over one hour. This has brought further death, damage and suffering to people in the districts of Dolakha, Sindhupalchowk, and Makawanpur.

As of August 18 2015, the confirmed death toll in Nepal has reached 8,790 dead, 22,300 injured, and 800,000 houses fully damaged. The UN’s Flash Appeal is 57% funded (total appeal is US$ 423,000,000).The Appeal has been revised to include more emphasis on protection issues and the rights of marginalized groups to access relief and recovery support.

On top of this tragic loss of life, massive damage to housing (800,000 houses destroyed), water and sanitation supply was partially or fully disrupted for 4,2 million people, livelihoods have been destroyed, and large numbers of people are suffering psycho-social trauma from the earthquake’s death and destruction. Likewise, 4,085 schools have been damaged. The education cluster’s estimated that 500,000 students will need temporary child learning centres to be set up.

Out of 39 districts, 14 districts in Nepal have been severely affected namely Kathmandu,

Lalitpur, Bhaktapur, Gorkha, Sindupalchowk, Dhading, Lamjung, Rasuwa, Kavre, Dolkha, Nuwakot, Makawanpur, Okardhunga and Ramechhap. As one of the least developed countries, Nepal’s capacities to respond to the massive humanitarian needs were limited, and the government of Nepal appealed to the international community to assist. 



JUSTIFICATION AND SCOPE OF THE JOINT MONITORING VISIT (JMV)

It has been ACT Alliance’s experience that, after all major disasters, such as Haiti Earthquake 2010, Pakistan floods 2010, , and Philippines Typhoon 2011, there is an influx of visitors to the response to provide direct and first-hand information to their respective constituencies. ACT evaluation reports of Haiti and Pakistan responses reveal that such frequent and uncoordinated monitoring visits take lots of time and energy of the implementing members. However, these monitoring visits are essential; therefore, a key recommendation of these evaluations was to coordinate the visits of donors to minimize the burden on the implementing organizations.

Furthermore, a joint monitoring would also ensure diverse experience and skills within the team to undertake monitoring of the appeal against all standards and benchmarks[[1]](#footnote-1).

Therefore, a Joint Monitoring Visit was recommended for the ACT Appeal Nepal Earthquake Response NPL151 and took place on 11-16 January, 2016.

JMV TEAM MEMBERS

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Group 1**  **(Central Region)** | **Group 2**  **(Eastern Region)** | **Group 3a**  **(Western Region)** | **Group 3b**  **(Western Region)** |
| **District** | Kathmandu, Lalitpur,  Bhaktapur, Rasuwa,  Makawanpur | Dolakha,  Sindhupalchowk | Gorkha, Dhading, Lalitpur, Bhaltapur | Lamjung |
| **Sector of intervention** | Shelter, ,  Psychosocial support,  Food security,  Education, NFI, Livelihood Recovery and Early recovery of Social- Economic infrastructure | Shelter, WASH, Psychosocial support,  Food Security, NFI | Shelter, WASH, Psychosocial support,  Food Security, NFI | Shelter, ,  Psychosocial support,  Food Security, NFI |
| **Requesting agency** | FCA, ICCO, LWF | LWF | DCA | LWR |
| **ACT JMV members** | Winnie Wong (HKCC) | Anne Fitzpatrick (ALWS) | Anoop Sukumaran (ACT sec.) | Jeanine Cudamore (PWSD) |
| Johanna Arponen (FCA) | Julianne Stewart (ABM) | Lisa Henry (DCA) | Madara Hettiarachchi (CA) |
|  | Brian Holmes (Anglican Overseas  Aid) | Åshild Skare (NCA) |
| **ACT NF representatives** | Prabin Manandhar (LWF) | Bidyanath Bhurtel (ICCO) | Dave Smith (DCA) | Satya Man Lama (LWR) |
| Panindra Pandey (ICCO) | Govinda Rimal (LWF) | Andrew Pearlman (DCA) | Rabinda Adhikari (ACT NF) |
| Lila Bashyal (FCA) | Dipankar Patnaik (CA) | Shreya Singh (DCA) |
| Pinar Gokgun (DKH) | Madhavee Pradhan (ACT NF) |
| Subash Gurung (LWF) |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The ACT alliance supported earthquake response involved support in 11 districts which includes 122 VDCs and 6 municipalities in Nepal. By January 2016, the response was able to reach an estimated 45,977 households, including 243,287 persons. The original appeal amount was USD 15.46 million. Total amount raised for the earthquake response from the ACT appeal was USD 14.96 million, the total amount raised including funds from outside the appeal, was USD 37.51 million. ACT members work with 21 national NGO partners in the implementation of the response.

Overall, ACT implementing members and their partners are working to meet the Sphere minimum standards, standards set by the Nepali Government and by the respective clusters.

The ACT JMV team was extremely impressed by the quality, timeliness, attention to the Code of Conduct and coordination of the ACT alliance response. There are obvious, excellent relationships between INGOs, local organizations and local communities, and also good relations with different levels of government officials and committees. ACT members were acknowledged both by the government, NGOs and sectorial clusters. UNICEF, as co-lead of the education cluster, highly appreciated FCA for being a flexible and committed partner who was willing to work in remote areas. Also in Rasuwa both government and other NGOs acknowledged LWF and Manekor for their coordinated humanitarian response and comprehensive early recovery support. DCA/NCA WASH coordinator played an important role in the national WASH cluster regarding repeal of the 50 USD limitation in the latrine support by NGOs. Inputs from DCA/ICCO experiences with mobile cash and market assessments informed wider INGO cash distribution through cash working group guidelines.

# Limitations

The ACT JMV did not involve review of finances, reports, etc. and the observations and recommendations are based on a brief visits to project areas, it was not a thorough monitoring visit.

**Main observations:**

− The ACT Earthquake response has been delayed due to several external factors, such as the fuel blockade and frequent strikes that have threatened availability as well as constrained movements of people and goods.

− Other challenges involve logistics challenges due to remote project areas; a blanket approach to permanent housing reconstruction requested by the government instead of target-based approach desired by humanitarian agencies; delays from government in finalizing directives and models for housing; new guidelines for recovery and reconstruction that are not in line with the scope and objectives of the ACT appeal; human resources constraints continuing due to large numbers of development organisations in Nepal

− In spite of the above challenges, the quality, timeliness, attention to Code of Conduct and coordination of the ACT alliance response is overall very good, and most of the planned outputs had been achieved.

− There are excellent relationships between INGOs, local organizations and local populations as well as good relations with different levels of government officials and committees

− Inclusion of women and men from the communities in the planning and implementation of projects seem to be a priority for most implementing members and partners.

− Complaints mechanisms were established in the majority of the project areas. However, a routine for systematically registration and handling of complaints was missing

− ACT visual branding was overall very good. However, the knowledge of what ACT alliance is, was not clear, either for beneficiaries nor government officials so there is a need for members to talk more about ACT Alliance among the local committees, cluster groups, and with the various levels of government with whom they work

− Staff employed by ACT Nepal Forum members and their local implementing partners seem to be knowledgeable, motivated and skilled.

− All ACT members are participating and coordinating activities in relevant national and district clusters as well as coordinating closely with the District Government Units or other relevant government counterparts on district level

− There are still huge needs that have not yet been met, especially within the shelter sectors. Emergency and temporary shelter needs are met largely. However the construction of permanent shelters have not been started yet due to delayed formation of national construction authority and formulation of relevant policies.

By and large, beneficiaries expressed that they are content with the services they have received from ACT Alliance and their members, although some had suggestions for greater flexibility of approaches to suit emerging local needs. For example, in Bramchi Sindhupalchowk, (where LWF’s partner GMSP worked), and also in Attapur, Sindhupalchowk (where Christian Aid’s partner CEN worked) community members expressed a need to be assisted to focus on rebuilding community-wide infrastructure such as irrigation works, so that people could resume earning incomes and be in better positions to rebuild homes; and they suggested a need for greater community consultation for the recovery phase. People in Attapur expressed they understood the need for targeting, but wanted to be included in discussions about how targeting would be applied. In the central region people were satisfied but asked for more support if possible also for livelihoods, irrigation, winterisation, shelter and education. Especially in Gatlang, Rasuwa community members asked that most affected areas should be prioritised.

RECOMMENDATIONS

# FOOD SECURITY & LIVELIHOODS

1. Require collaboratively developed “business plans” which encourage flexible response and “scalability” prior to releasing livelihood grants at community level to cooperatives.
2. Promote innovative livelihoods activities (not business as usual). Look for clear evidence/analysis related to market access, assess demand, do a brief cost-benefit analysis.

# SHELTER

1. ACT Nepal members to produce a statement (or work through AIN to produce a statement) which calls on the Government of Nepal to expedite the commitment to permanent shelter support as this is currently an obstacle to recovery and leaves populations vulnerable.
2. Likewise, all ACT Nepal appeal donors to advocate with their back donors and/or governments that the rights/needs of earthquake impacted-people are being affected negatively due to delays in implementation, and that the international community must take stronger action to resolve this issue.

# WASH & NFIs

1. Ensure that SPHERE standards are adhered to and all efforts are made to achieve them
2. Pressure of achieving results and figures to report on should not jeopardize the quality of the infrastructure. Ensure good quality inputs are standardized at least within a single community to avoid discontent.

# CASH & MOBILE TECHNOLOGY

1. A cash/voucher approach in relevant sectors should be considered where appropriate and feasible and should be underpinned by consultations with communities, market assessments and previous experiences from post- distribution monitoring reports.
2. Explore use of mobile technology for cash transfers, market assessments and M&E to enhance speed, quality and efficiency of programming.

# PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

1. Remind organizations that they have a duty of care to staff, especially as relates to their own psycho-social needs.
2. Include psycho-social support in education until the end of 2016.

# EDUCATION

1. Ensure Temporary Learning Centers (TLCs) are maintained to last 4-5 years and are climate adaptive.
2. Enhance engagement with local communities—schools could be more “enterprising” or innovative. The idea is that the schools should actively engage with others and make better use of the resources available in the communities or by the government. The government might not be able to provide money for school improvements but

they could provide land for school construction or the merchants in the community could provide materials or equipment.

# CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

1. Document the total number of local organizations supported through this response and their organizational growth/capacity growth (both inside and outside of the appeal) in order to articulate ACT Nepal Forum contribution to local organizational capacity development.
2. ACT Nepal Forum members should strengthen local partners’ ability to participate in national cluster meetings/influence policy through their national networks to ensure that local partner are better prepared, aware of the larger humanitarian system and well equipped for future responses.
3. ACT Nepal Forum members should actively advocate for evolving community needs and bring these into cluster discussions to inform cluster guidelines/standards (For example NFIs).
4. Apply ACT Alliance Child Safeguarding policy and guidelines at all times.

# ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS

1. Systematize collection and analysis of accountability data (for example complaints) by local organizations to identify trends and inform decisions, and to take corrective actions in all organizations.
2. Include SPHERE standards in trainings of partner staff.
3. A web-based complaint mechanism to compile and analyze data might be useful. Transparency International has developed one.

# ACT COORDINATION AND COMMUNICATION

1. Keep up ACT alliance branding!
2. Ask local organizations/ local partners to state explicitly that they are supported by ACT Alliance when producing reporting material or presenting in public.
3. Continue explaining what ACT Alliance is and how it works.
4. Increase social media products regarding the ACT Alliance response. Document our efforts to support inclusion, quality and accountability for national and international actors.
5. ACT Nepal Forum should consider/communicate their potential to scale up/or down, in order to respond to fundraising realities, with a need for greater prioritization, whilst being sensitive to donor demands and previous historical relations.
6. ACT members (donors) should be encouraged to support non-earmarked contributions to ACT appeals to enable greater flexibility.
7. ACT Secretariat should approve broad parameters for division of non-earmarked funds to requesting members to save time during the vital early stages of a response in consultation with the national forums.
8. Documented justification should be required for all ACT Forum members/ACT Alliance wishing to establish a presence in country.
9. Design a response that shares technical resources to increase quality of response, cost-efficiency and greater impact—for example shared shelter expertise, taking into account the local context. Include local partner capacity building.
10. Consider more joint programming when appropriate, eg WASH, livelihoods, improved shelter, education.
11. ACT Alliance members should actively use the supporter-focused media materials

(pictures, videos, inteviews) produced and being made available by sister ACT organizations. Need an agreement among members to facilitate sharing of media products.

1. Ensure that photos and stories are taken/written with prior and informed permission from the community and persons, with special attention in relation to taking pictures of children. The ACT Child safeguarding policy should apply to both ACT members, partners and those acting in the name of ACT members and partners.
2. Joint ACT assessment/compiled assessment reports should be combined into one ACT needs assessment report.
3. ACT Alliance members and partners should share best practice to ensure vulnerable voices (including women, people with disabilities, children etc.) are heard in decisionmaking processes.

# OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Ensure that there are working seatbelts in all vehicles transporting ACT Alliance staff and partners!
2. Solicit concrete feedback (figures) from ALL donors on potential level of support for a reconstruction/livelihoods appeal prior to drafting such an appeal. Encourage donors to be flexible (eg, reallocation of funds sent for early response to reconstruction etc.

activities).

1. Based on the feedback received in 4 above, debate the merit/cost benefit/added value of launching an ACT reconstruction appeal and/or like-minded organizations joining in a consortium application, joint programming or bilaterally to different institutional donors in the name of cost-effectiveness.
2. Increase reporting/data analysis to stakeholders around “inclusion” good practices by ACT Nepal Forum for national and international actors.
3. Kindly request those who were unable to attend the January, 2016 Joint Monitoring Visit (such as ELCA, COS, ICCO) to join the visit planned by John Nduna in March, almost a year after the earthquake.

SUMMARY OF SECTORAL OBSERVATIONS

FOOD SECURITY & LIVELIHOODS

**Food security:** In the initial phase after the earthquake, food baskets were distributed to selected beneficiaries. For instance, in Lamjung district where LWR are working with local partner COPPADES (Committee for the Promotion of Public Awareness and Development Studies), families received a one month worth of food ration soon after the earthquake. The food ration included rice, lentils, cooking oil, tea, sugar and salt. Community members the JMV met with indicated that the food packs were sufficient and that it contained essential food items that were needed in the initial days.

**Livelihood** support has been provided through a number of ways: cash for work, direct cash distribution, vouchers, agricultural inputs, restoration of water schemes and various livelihood trainings.

In the DCA/NCA program sites in the districts of Dhading, Gorkha, Bhaktapur and Lalitpur, local partners Environment and Child Organisation Nepal (Eco Nepal), Friends Service Council Nepal (FSCN) and Forum for Awareness and Youth Activity (FAYA) distributed 10.000 rupees as one time as emergency distribution, later a 2 x 15.000 rupees distribution was conducted. The latter involved a livelihood-split into two distributions with evidence of business plan. A cash distribution approach has been supported by beneficiaries and officials. The appeal targets will be met. The activities have been coordinated in cash working group and food security/livelihoods cluster.

Cash for work was part of LWR’s response in Kolki and Bichaur (Lamjung district).

Participants were paid 500 rupees per day – the government approved rate for Lamjung District. Community members in Kolki stated they participated in cash for work activities for eight days. Cash for work activities included debris clearing, restoring/rebuilding roads and rebuilding paths in communities.

Agriculture training was provided to women and men in Lamjung and in the ACT Model Village. The three day training was facilitated by agriculture extension officers. Topics included pest management, seed management, making organic fertilizer and kitchen gardens. Families received a range of seeds support including: cowpea, potato, garlic, onion, etc. There are also plans to provide some families with goats. In Kolki, community members requested support for irrigation to enable them to maximize their crop yields. While we assume obvious nutrition outcomes for the communities as a result of diversified crops, we were not able to verify this given that many families have not harvested their agriculture produce at the time of the JMV.

Masonry and carpentry training took place for five days with people who previously worked as carpenters/masons (3 people from each ward). COPPADES indicated that there are also plans to train laymen in masonry in collaboration with the local government. Trained community members will receive a certification upon completion of all the trainings. During the discussion with the community, participants indicated that they learned how to build stronger structures, more earthquake resilient houses (for instance, previously RCC material was not used). While there was appreciation expressed for the masonry and carpentry training, people also voiced concern regarding lack of available resources to build these houses. Furthermore, trained community members indicated that current village economy does not allow for rebuilding/reconstruction. All members of the community we spoke with indicated that they are waiting for clarity on the 200,000 rupees that has been agreed by the government towards permanent shelter.

In Makawanpur, Central Nepal ICCO with its local implementing partner Center for Community Development Nepal (CCDN) supported restoration of agricultural activities and water schemes for income. Multipurpose water schemes were restored by CCDN complemented by cash for work initiative by Plan International. The visited 2 water systems benefitted all the community members and one of the water schemes was a multipurpose one providing also drinking water after the former drinking water source dried up as a result of the earthquake. The government had not supported irrigation systems but since the area in question is an important source of agricultural products for Kathmandu’s markets and people are dependent on agriculture for living, the irrigation systems were of vital importance. The women said to have been fully involved in the process and felt like equals with men. The community members provided their labor and also contributed 1/3 of the cash for the water schemes and in general felt strong ownership for the irrigation systems.

The community expressed their wish for an extension of the irrigation system, improvement of drinking water supply after water sources had dried up and for more agribusiness training especially for women. ICCO has already included the irrigation channel extension plan and the additional business development training into their future plans.

In addition, plastic tunnels for seed growing were provided in 2 places visited benefitting poor families, female headed households and people with disabilities. The area in question has been approved as a seed production area due to which ICCO also recommended to the beneficiaries transferring from traditional agriculture into seed production due to better income. Beneficiaries commented that seed production will increase their annual income threefold and there is a high demand for good quality seeds since the earthquakes also destroyed the seed stores. The transfer into seed production was a good innovation from ICCO to support vulnerable members of the community to overcome their losses and to become more resilient in the future. Also 2 restored warehouses for farm products were visited. They were benefitting the whole community to store their seeds for the coming season and here also the community members contributed both money and their labour. In Dolakha, Sindhupalchowk, Lalitpur, Rasuwa districts and the ACT Model village, LWF in cooperation with its local implementing partner provided livelihood support for 6,776 severely affected households to resume their livelihood options. The support included provision of 5000 to 7500 NPR to regain family income. With the amount received beneficiaries purchased livestock, started potato, vegetable and beans cultivation, established a small shop or engaged in traditional business such as weaving traditional fabrics, shoe making etc. The beneficiaries found the livelihood support helpful but the income from these were not that significant.

In Suri, Dolakah district, community members requested a greater range of livelihood support than what was provided through such as training and inputs for growing highprofit crops such as cardamom and medicinal plants.

SHELTER

The government has committed to support the earthquake affected households with 200.000 NPR per household. This will be paid in three installments. After the first support of 15.000 NPR followed by 10.000 NPR for winterization, the further payments have been restrained. For the second payment by the government, the support was deducted for the households that have received this from INGO/NGOs.

Shelter support has been provided through a cash approach in the DCA/NCA program sites in Dhading, Gorkha, Bhaktapur and Lalitpur through EcoNepal, FSCN and Faya. Initially 15.000 NPR was distributed to each household for emergency shelter. This was done through distribution of cash. Later 10.000 NPR was distributed for winterization. The latter was done through distribution of vouchers, based on the reported different needs from the beneficiaries; some needed materials for shelter improvement while other needed warm clothes. A post distribution monitoring report has been conducted in the four district. Reportedly, the shelter and winterization support has been mainly used for cement, warm clothes, CGI sheets, as well as warm clothes and blankets. Masons/skilled technician have been trained in improved building techniques through government training programs as well as those supported by ACT members. A cash distribution approach was based on conducted market assessment. The activities were coordinated in the Shelter Cluster.

LWR’s partner COPPADES was able to procure, transport and distribute tarpaulins and blankets to the remote areas of Kolki and Bichaur within days of the earthquake. This immediate assistance was then supplemented by temporary shelter assistance which included CGI sheets and fixing kits. COPPADES reported delays in receiving the temporary shelter materials due to the monsoon season impeding transportation routes. However, the community members appreciated the timeliness of the distribution given the remote locations of their villages. Based on our observations and discussions with various groups within the community it appears that the initial shelter and NFI support was relevant, appropriate and timely.

LWR plans to provide permanent shelter assistance to targeted beneficiaries in the 3 villages. The 200 families selected were based on the DDC’s well-being ranking. Families categorised by the DDC as very poor were targeted for the 40,000 NPR. It was unclear how the various segments of the community were engaged in the decision making process, what input the communities provided for the permanent shelter support and when meetings, discussions took place and how frequently. The matter is a source of consternation for all community members as well as key community and government leaders.

LWF and its local partners were able to distribute 18,447 emergency shelter kits and transitional shelter construction support to 7,552 families. Moreover, 206 families in the ACT model village received cash support to begin permanent house construction. Likewise LWF contributed to enhance the earthquake resilient construction capacity of local skilled construction workers through capacity building initiatives at local level.

LWF plans to support 4,500 families to construct their permanent house in ACT model village, Lalitpur and Dolakha districts Provision of cash support of NPR 52,000 per households was made while developing ACT appeal. Permanent house construction modalities and cash support grant was not clear during the period when the appeal was given. Adhering to the permanent house construction guidelines of Government of Nepal, it can be seen that the allocated fund is only sufficient to cover ¼ of the original target.

The need for permanent shelters was the main concern in the visited communities in Makawanpur and Rasuwa and the delays in the reconstruction fund release frustrated the people who were living in temporary shelters not suitable for the winter conditions. People were happy with the support they had received but they wanted to start building permanent shelters. In Gatlang, Rasuwa the Tamang people specifically stated that they would like to have an earthquake resistant house design that would be suitable for their culture.

In Gatlang, Rasuwa the community members were scattered at the time of the first needs assessment and thus, 100 families entitled to the 15,000 NPR support from the government of Nepal were not listed down. This was corrected in the revised assessment but the community members have still not received the 15,000 NPR support. The 15,000 NPR support was to be provided by the government. The community was supported by LWF for temporary shelter construction.

In addition, although Gatlang was one of the most affected places, community members have not received winterization support and they did not find the transitional shelter suitable for winter.

Outside of the ACT Appeal four ACT members also applied for ECHO funding including a component on developing and constructing earthquake resistant house prototypes. ICCO and CCDN in cooperation with CA had started building 5 model houses for the most vulnerable families identified by the communities in Makawanpur. After the model houses have been built and feedback received 249 earthquake resistant houses will be built in the district.

LWF and its local partners were able to distribute 18,447 emergency shelter kits and transitional shelter construction support to 7,552 families. Moreover, 206 families in the ACT model village received cash support to begin permanent house construction. SLWF contributed to enhance the earthquake resilient construction capacity of local skilled construction workers through capacity building initiatives at local level.

LWF plans to support 4,500 families to construct their permanent house in ACT model village, Lalitpur and Dolakha districts Provision of cash support of NPR 52,000 per households was made while developing ACT appeal. Permanent house construction modalities and cash support grant was not clear during the period when the appeal was given. Adhering to the permanent house construction guidelines of Government of Nepal, it can be seen that the allocated fund is only sufficient to cover ¼ of the original target.

In Attapur, Sindhupalchowk, Christian Aid with their partner Clean Energy Nepal are supporting transitional shelter construction. Training in construction methods took place in October 2015, and CGI sheets were provided in November. Families have contributed to the costs (including through loans from self-help groups they belong to) and labour. One of the most difficult parts of the construction was reported to be sourcing and transporting timber. Some families were able to salvage timber from their damaged homes.

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH) & NFI

**WASH**: WASH services have been provided both as temporary services in the first phase and semi-permanent and permanent services. In the first phase, temporary water was provided through water trucking and installation of temporary water tanks. Cost effective sustainable water schemes have been constructed based on community participation, through technical support from the partners. Quality of the water schemes is satisfactory. Access to safe and sufficient water remains a crucial problem in many of the VDCs as water sources have dried out after the earthquake.

Hygiene kits have been distributed on household according to the WASH cluster and government approved guidelines. Each household would receive one hygiene kit and one replenishment kit. The hygiene kits are reportedly appreciated by the beneficiaries. Information and hygiene promotion were provided to the beneficiaries at the hygiene distribution point. Some beneficiaries reported that buckets (intentionally provided for storage of water and hand washing) were used transportation of water, these were broken due to heavy load. Hygiene promotion activities are ongoing, focusing on handwashing, cleaning of latrines and safe water. Hygiene promotion posters are highly visible both on community level as well as household level.

In the first phase, communal temporary latrines were installed in some areas in the DCA/NCA project sites in Dhading and Gorkha. This was not suitable for the context, as people were reluctant to share latrine facilities. However, in some communities the beneficiaries accepted to share latrine with a few families, meaning shared latrines were accepted rather than communal. Emergency latrines were installed in some schools. These are in the process of being replaced by permanent sustainable latrines. Semi permanent and permanent household latrines have been constructed on household level as well as in schools. The design is based on national standard with district adjustments. It was decided in the WASH cluster that latrine support was to be restricted to 50 USD. This was later outsourced to the district authorities to decide guidelines to be valid in the respective district. The construction work observed in the DCA/NCA project sites is solid. Latrines have been constructed through community participation and close monitoring by partner’s technical team. Partners have provided a certain amount of materials, while the beneficiaries provided local materials and labor, through close monitoring of the partners’ technical staff. Rehabilitation of water schemes have also been conducted in close collaboration with the beneficiaries. The quality appears to be very good. However, water quality testing has not been conducted in the rehabilitated schemes. This is partly due to delay as a result of the fuel crisis. This need to be conducted as soon as possible in order to ensure that water provided to the beneficiaries is safe.

In some schools in the DCA/NCA project sites in Gorkha and Lalitpur, the latrines were not gender separated. Gender separated latrines were all over included in the FCA school latrine facilities.

LWF and its local partners identified over 123 village water schemes destroyed by earthquake and resultant landslides. These water schemes are in renovation process. Renovation work has been undertaken in cooperation with village water users committee. Similarly health hygiene awareness activities have been carried out in collaboration with Female Community Health volunteers and village volunteers. Displaced families were also supported by providing gender friendly hygiene kits.

Christian Aid, and their local implementing partner in Thulopakhar, Sindhupalchowk has supported a water filtration system and construction of toilets in a secondary school. Both of these were reported to be an improvement to the old water supply system and latrines. Decisions about the design of these projects were made with input from community members, though not from children themselves. Along with this hardware support, an Environment Club had been established with students within the school to raise awareness of environmental issues.

**NFIs:** Manekor and LWF provided emergency response in 5 districts assigned by the government in Rasuwa. NFIs provided included food and winterisation support except in Gatlang which was not part of the ECHO proposal. The remote village of Langtang was inaccessible by road after the earthquake due to which aid was delivered there to 160 households by a helicopter. Manekor’s and LWF’s operations were highly appreciated because the quality relief items have been delivered in a timely and transparent manner. All relief items were delivered to the communities at the presence of media due to which Manekor’s and LWF’s transparency were praised by the government, other NGOs and communities.

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

Program activities regarding psychosocial support involved counseling, sport activities, and provision of musical instruments and game kits for schools. It was difficult to grasp the impact of these activities, though community members stated it was helpful. Pourakhi in Dhading and Women’s Rehabilitation Center (WOREC) in Bhaktapur and Lalitput were supported by COS/DCA. Psychosocial support seemed to be especially helpful where there were already strong group structures in the communities. This was the case in Sindhupalchowk with LWF’s partner, GMSP, who were a women’s empowerment NGO who had already been working in communities such as Baramchi Village, and after the earthquake were able to work with existing groups and to form new groups (eg Youth), which became the basis for psychosocial counselling. People in this village found that exercise helped them the most to recover from the trauma, and the ability to share their problems with others, and not to feel isolated. Some people in Bramchi also commented that men were often less considered when providing psycho-social support, which seemed to focus most on women and children.

In the central region of Nepal FCA in cooperation with Center for Mental Health and Counselling (CMC) carried out a needs assessment in 45 schools, trained trainers of trainers (DEO staff, head teachers and resource teachers) to capacitate teachers in the schools to respond to pupils’ post-earthquake symptoms and carried out counseling for teachers and pupils. In addition, recreational kits were distributed to the schools. In the 2 schools visited the PSS support was found to be useful because it helped the schools to get back into normalcy, restored confidence among the teachers and pupils and also prepared them for new earthquakes.

CMC is working in other earthquake affected districts outside the central region too where it has been agreed to continue PSS support until the end of 2016. Actually more cases of post-traumatic symptoms are coming up due to which it would be important to continue PSS support in central region too until the end of 2016 accordingly.

In Rasuwa PSS activities were carried out at schools and communities. The PSS activities included community PSS meetings and recreational events carried out by the local LWF partner organization Manekor. Some recreational materials were also shared with the schools and youth groups. After the earthquake the community members were scattered, sad and stressed but due to the joint PSS workshops and cultural activities they came together again and started sharing their experienced on the earthquake. The cultural activities (singing and dancing) normalized life, brought back joy to the villagers who highly appreciated the feeling of togetherness that the PSS activities helped to restore. The cultural activities were also considered important to preserve the Tamang culture. In case there is a serious post-traumatic stress syndrome case, Manekor refers it to organizations that provide counselling services.

EDUCATION

The government of Nepal ordered schools to be reopened one month after the earthquake. The Education cluster was established to coordinate the work with the lead of the Ministry of Education and UNICEF as a co-lead that also provided technical support. A Temporary Learning Centre (TLC) design made of bamboo with a corrugated iron roof was approved by the MoE to provide pupils a safe temporary learning space. In Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur FCA in cooperation with local implementing partners established TLCs including gender separated latrines and hand washing facilities. UNICEF complemented the temporary learning centres by providing educational and recreational materials. The pupils, teachers and parents were all very grateful for the safe learning environment although it was not the same as before.

The TLCs were originally aimed to last for 6 months. However, all the people met during the JMV stated that the reconstruction will take time meaning TLCs will have to last 2-3 years in the best case and 5-6 years in the worst case meaning maintenance and repair of the TLCs are important for maintain the premises until semi/permanent schools are available.

In the TLC visited in Kathmandu FCA with the support of the local partner World Vision Advocacy Forum had provided winterisation support for the TLC including doors, windows and sound proofing for the roof but in Lalitpur this was not the case and the pupils said the premises were cold in winter and they would get dusty later on. In addition, in Kathmandu the walls were protected from the rain with corrugated iron sheets whereas in Lalitpur many of the TLC’s walls were painted with colourful pictures, the compound was levelled with sand sacks and there were flower pots to make it a bit greener.

The school in Kathmandu has an excellent location in the centre and before the earthquake the school had income generating activities but they had not restored them yet. Although the community was involved in running the school, the commitment was not as strong as in the school in Lalitpur where the school was considered as a community initiative; parents, teachers and pupils all pulled together to make the school better and to last longer.

The number of pupils per class has increased due to fewer classrooms being available in the TLCs and the holidays have been shortened to keep up with the academic performance. Many TLCs are still in need of winterisation support, the MoE has still not finalised the design for the semi-permanent and permanent schools and no overall school reconstruction plan has been made by the government. The National Reconstruction Agency will have a limited budget for school construction due to which majority of the funding for building permanent schools is expected from the donors.

In Rasuwa education was one of the sectors identified as a priority especially for the displaced people. In Rasuwa there is still a lack of even TLCs and the existing ones need maintenance due to which support on education was requested for from ACT.

TLC’s constructed out of CGI sheets in a school in Thulopakhar, Sindhupalchowk (supported by a non-ACT NGO) were noted to be too cold to sit inside in the winter, leading classes to be held outside to take advantage of the warmth of sunshine when it was available.

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

**GENDER AND VULNERABLE GROUPS**

In terms of the participation of women, there was a disparity in how gender and participation and voice of women was being approached between working areas which seemed dependent on the capacity of the implementing partners. A women’s group in Pangretar, Sindhupalchowk which is supported by Christian Aid’s implementing partner, CEN, reported that they felt the leader of the group, was listened to by decision makers in the community, but the rest of them were not “outspoken” enough to have their voice heard. In Suri village (Dolokhar), where LWF’s partner, HURADEC is working, a meeting of a Surel Indigenous Women’s group was asked about women’s participation and voice in community decision making:

* Men often responded instead of women, or clarified after women spoke.
* Men said that because of the situation after the Earthquake, women were busy in homes and looking after children, which made it hard for them to be involved in things.
* Women stated that they had some participation in community forums, but were not allowed input when it came to budget/financial decisions.
* Male staff responded by telling women that they needed to be involved more (as opposed to encouraging men to make space for women’s involvement).

Additionally, “women’s participation” sometimes seems to get confused with issues of protection, and voice is sometimes ignored.

In Bramchi Village (Sindhupalchowk), where LWF’s local partner, GMSP was a womenfocused NGO, with majority female staff and a strong background and capacity in gender issues, more women were present at meetings and appeared more confident in speaking during the meetings (and men seemed more comfortable in giving them space to speak). Women shared that they had been quite active in community structures prior to the earthquake (which could be attributed at least in part to the fact that the local partner worked with the community in the past and set up and strengthened groups), they met less regularly after the earthquake but felt they had actively participated and had their voice heard within the community. Later in the meeting the VDC head shared his opinion that the community had a lot of support for women, including having a female-led cooperative and they would like to become a model VDC for women’s issues.

In the Lamjung district where the JMV took place, women were present, active and fully engaged in the community discussions. There was equal representation of women and men during the meetings. The JMV team also met a number of women leaders in the areas visited – they took active roles during the discussion and appeared to have the support of the community and appeared to closely collaborate with COPPADES.

Dalits were present in the community meetings and were active during the discussions. Some women identified themselves as Dalits. They were included in the relief distributions in the communities visited. COPPADES appeared to have a strong engagement with the Dalit community.

In Makwanpur the projects were very much seen as community projects benefitting the whole community but special attention was paid to ensure that the most vulnerable people would be included accordingly. The communities themselves identified the people most in need of support to benefit from the agricultural inputs like plastic tunnels and the prototype houses (outside of ACT appeal though). Preferences was given to female headed households, people with disabilities, poor and people with very little or no land to benefit first. For instance regarding the irrigation system management committee 3/7 members were women and women said they felt equal with men.

In Rasuwa while providing temporary shelter support priority was given to female headed households, lactating and poor women. While we only visited a sample of communities and people, we suggest that the ACT member response would benefit from analysis of female participation in working communities and an increased orientation for staff of the INGO and implementing partners on women’s participation. GMSP has significant capacity in this area and could maybe be utilised to support other partners in the ACT response in this area.

We also noted that there was not a lot of evidence of including children and youth perspectives, or even consultation and engagement of children & youth in aspects of the recovery that affects them. Consulting with children, especially in the recovery phase will ensure that hardware and software is the most appropriate and beneficial for children.

# Cash & mobile technology

A cash approach has been used in several sectors of the response. In the DCA/NCA project sites in Gorkha, Dhading, Bhaktapur and Lalitpur cash approach was used in both shelter and livelihood using 3 local actors EcoNepal, FSCN and FAYA who quickly learned new technology. Cash distribution was appreciated by the beneficiaries, as people have expressed that they liked to have the opportunity to choose the items they needed. The decision of choosing cash approach was anchored in the result of the market assessment. For hygiene NFIs, the cash approach was rejected based on the result from the market assessment. Communities in some of the remote locations in general preferred goods given lack of market/distance to market/availability of material in market.

It was noted that only a few ACT members were using mobile technology in the Nepal response. Members of the JMV emphasised the need to integrate mobile technology to increase speed and efficiency of programmes. While there were concerns over data security and data protection, these are good practices from other responses that can be replicated in Nepal. OCHA report Humanitarianism in the Network Age notes that “Concern over the protection of information and data is not a sufficient reason to avoid using new communications technologies in emergencies, but it must be taken into account.” Various guidelines exist, for instance, Code of Conduct for use of SMS in

Natural Disasters:

https://irevolution.files.wordpress.com/2013/02/dr\_sms\_220213\_spreads.pdf can be used to guide ACT agency use of mobile technology in Nepal.

# CHILD SAFEGUARDING

The JMV is aware that the ACT Alliance Child Safeguarding policy had only just been approved at the time of the earthquake. We encourage organisations to address this policy. During the monitoring trip, we found that although there was often awareness by staff in both ACT member and local partner organizations of the Child Safeguarding Policy of the ACT member (where this was in place), it seemed that most were limited in their knowledge of the details and contents of the policy and how it should be implemented in an emergency response. It may be that more needs to be done to make the new staff of the ACT member and the staff of the implementing partner aware of Child Safeguarding policies and processes, and to ensure all staff sign the Child Safeguarding Code of Conduct.

Ideally, the following should happen:

* Any advertisements for new staff for the ACT member (and once agreements were signed, also for implementing partners) should have included phrasing such as “XXXX is a child safe organization. Applicants will be expected to sign and comply with a Child Protection Policy and Code of Conduct” (to deter adults looking for opportunities to abuse children from applying).
* As part of the screening process of new staff o They should be asked to sign a declaration (ideally witnessed by an official such as a police officer or government official) that they have never been charged with child abuse offences.
  + Verbal referee checks with previous employees that specifically ask if they have any concerns with the applicant working in communities where they will have contact with children.
  + If the role involves working directly with children, behavioral-based questions regarding how they interact with children should be asked during the interview.
* All new staff (including implementing partner staff working on the project) should be orientated to and sign the ACT member Child Protection Code of Conduct. They should also be orientated to the ACT member Child Protection Policy, the Complaints Mechanism, and any Child Protection Focal Person.
* Ideally communities should be informed of expectations of ACT member/implementing partner staff behavior regarding children.
* Photos of children shouldn’t be taken or published without permission of themselves and their parents.
* A risk analysis should have been carried out looking at how the planned ACT member response may put children at risk of harm, identify the highest risks and plan how to mitigate these risks.

It is recommended that if there are gaps in implementation of the policy, that they be addressed as soon as possible to ensure that the risk of harm to children either by ACT member-related personnel, or activities that the ACT member is responsible for is reduced.

Resources specific to child safeguarding in emergencies can be found at:

http://www.keepingchildrensafe.org.uk/emergencies-toolkit

**LOCAL CAPACITIES AND COORDINATION**

ACT Alliance Nepal Forum emergency operation was coordinated from ACT Nepal Forum secretariat established at LWF premises. LWF provided coordination services to the ACT Nepal Forum from the first day of the relief operation. In the early stages, ACT Nepal forum meetings were organized daily, later the frequency of meeting changed to alternate days, then to twice a week and then weekly. LWF is the oldest ACT member organization operational in Nepal and it has operational relationship with various IASC clusters and humanitarian response related networks. ACT Nepal forum relief operation has been benefitted from this capacity. LWF provided logistic and legal support to release relief materials from humanitarian staging area to all forum members.

In the DCA/NCA joint program support have been provided to 4 local partners (non-ACT members) who played large part in immediate humanitarian response. In 3 out of 4 of the organizations, there has been growth in organizational size (technical staff with bachelor degrees have been employed-high level of motivation and tech. skills) with accompanying discussions on adjustments in management structure, staffing policies, job descriptions, recruitment, etc. All 3 organizations have made informed decisions to expand and gain additional technical knowledge of humanitarian standards and work. Capacity building of staff has been provided through relevant training. DCA partner ECONepal did not have any previous experience with WASH projects, but are now capacitated and able to act as an independent WASH actor.

It was observed that local partners (base at district level) have good national networks and often facilitate important interactions, solutions, information sharing, local political insight and cultural knowledge. INGO (base in Kathmandu) have access to UN coordination meetings in Kathmandu, funding, international decision-makers and international media. Evidence of INGO/National partner constructive critical dialogue was observed, each providing an important commodity in the partnership. Relationship is intense, given deadlines, fundraising, government interests and changing directives and local community right to life-saving assistance.

The result of the DCA/NCA section of the ACT appeal is that there are three strong national humanitarian response partners equipped to respond in future as WASH, livelihoods, cash and shelter sector, and over 100.000 people have positively supported after the April 2015 earthquake.

This was the first time LWR partner, COPPADES, implemented a relief project. This was a significant learning curve for LWR and COPPADES. Based on our brief view into the project they appear to have done a commendable job, however, further intentional capacity building needs to take place. For instance, in addition to capacity building in technical areas (humanitarian standards, M&E, etc.), attention needs to be given to ensure that COPPADES staff are provided with soft skills (facilitation, negotiation, etc.) and that COPPADES are linked into LWR networks.

Manekor in Rasuwa distributed all materials in the presence of media due to which the accountability was very high and everybody knew what was distributed. Communities also committed their labour and funds for the water schemes in ICCO's Project areas which ensured strong ownership and commitment by local communities.

FCA has also encouraged communities to paint the temporary learning spaces to make the bamboo structures to last longer.

*Best practice*

* DCA’s partner in Gorkha, ECONepal, created a Project Implementation Steering Committee (PISC) at community level composed of different stakeholders-gender balanced, representative, holds local partner to account and is additional communication/conflict resolution channel between community and local partner.
* One partner is creating a finance manual for their local partner. ● Strong community engagement created through dialogue.

*Coordination*

* DCA partners FAYA, ECONepal, FSCN and Porakhi in Gorkha and Lamjung districts are clearly working within local and district coordination mechanisms. This is essential at district level or else “no go”. Participation in food security/livelihoods clusters at district level, WASH and shelter at district level, cash working group, protection.
* Gorkha CDO (Community Development officer) and Lamjung Local Development Officer (LDO) reported good coordination and no gaps in coverage. Encouraged all players to commit to three year reconstruction/resilient livelihoods strategy.
* NCA WASH coordinator made an impact on the latrine guidelines by convincing the WASH cluster that the approved contribution of 50 USD per latrine was not realistic. The WASH cluster repealed the restriction and let it up to the district authorities to decide.
* LWF collaborate and cooperate with ward citizen forums, village disaster management committees and VDCs for the needs assessment, identification of households and rendering humanitarian support.
* Complaint handling mechanism has been established in LWF project areas.
* Water users committees were fully mobilized to identify the water sources, procurement of services and supplies and implementation of water schemes.
* Psychosocial activities have been carried out through forming and strengthening community support groups and their networks.

ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS (AAP)

*Information sharing*

ACT alliance branding is very good. Strong visibility through posters and signboards, confirmed through village meetings and district level transparency. There was prominent display of ALL relevant agency logos, including the ACT Alliance logo, on signboards, posters, clothing and even NFIs. The terminology ACT Alliance was used more often than expected but sometimes there was a lack of understanding of what exactly ACT Alliance is. Local partners use their organization’s name first, not always profiling the fact that they are supported by an ACT member partner/ACT Alliance. It was also noticed that some ACT members (non-requesting) did not have ACT Alliance integrated into their corporate logo.

There was transparency about the initial support (shelter, NFIs and food assistance) provided to the community members and the JMV team were informed that this support was underpinned by a series of rapid needs assessments in the affected areas. Communities were then informed of the various relief items they would be receiving and there was blanket coverage.

*Participation*

There appeared to be a good level of engagement by the community in relief and development projects. Many of the local partners had worked in these villages prior to the earthquake therefore, there appeared to be a close relationship between them and the community. In some others local partners identified were new to the area and had taken measures to develop rapport with the communities. There were number of groups identified by the community: citizens’ forum, mothers’ group, farmers’ group, etc. that seemed to take a lead role in various activities.

*Complaints and feedback mechanisms*

In the areas we visited in Lamjung (LWR programmes) we came across four complaints and feedback mechanisms: (1) phone/SMS; (2) complaint boxes; (3) in person (face to face); and (4) community meetings. One complaint box was seen in the communities visited. Some partners like COPPADES had pre-existing development projects in the communities prior to the earthquake therefore; it appeared that the complaint mechanism approach was more informal. We also heard form some local partners that only written complaints were registered and those which were verbal were not recorded. Given that many of the community members are not literate, the verbal complaint should be given credence and recorded. Community members stated that they would complain and provide feedback if issues arose, however, we were not able to verify this during the JMV.

We would strongly recommend that complaints and feedback even verbal are systematically logged and analysed and corrective action taken where needed. Consolidated and analysed complaints and feedback are a management tool and should be provided to management teams along with quarterly reports, etc.

Although at the organisational level, local partners clearly strive to meet Sphere standards etc., these should be included in training of partner staff.

ACT COORDINATION & COMMUNICATION

*Coordination*

A specific objective of the JMV ToR is “To consider if ACT Alliance members new to Nepal should channel their funds and resources through the existing (and present) ACT requesting members. If ACT Alliance members have come in to Nepal outside of the Appeal, what is their rationale for not supporting existing members instead?” Several ACT members previously not registered in Nepal, directly responded to the earthquake by establishing offices rather than work through an already established ACT member.

Navigating the Nepali system is not easy. Those who are already based in the country have registration, office space, access to decision makers, knowledge of “the system” and actors

This objective was briefly discussed by the JMV during the debriefing session. It was mentioned that some agencies while previously not registered in Nepal still had programming, local networks, and certain level of expectations from their supporters/donors in home countries. Furthermore, it was also highlighted that the scale of need, ability of existing/registered agencies to rapidly scale up are also key considerations. This issue was previously debated during the Haiyan/Yolanda response as similar to the Nepal response; agencies not previously registered launched their own response. Therefore, it was suggested that this issue be debated at the global level and some agreements pre-positioned for future responses.

Specific evidence shows that collaboration, joint programming related to cash distributions, livelihoods, shelter and WASH has been much appreciated, met prioritized needs and produced results under one leadership, one logistic officer and one security set up. Some of this evidence can be found in the ACT Nepal Forum report 2015.

*Monitoring & Evaluation*

There was active use of the ACT appeal log frame as a monitoring tool. A Monitoring and Evaluation specialist has been recruited for monitoring the ACT appeal. Disaggregated data is available. Post impact monitoring is also available, and there is evidence that it has been acted upon. The MTE (mid-term evaluation) scheduled for February 2016 should provide an opportunity to collect robust data across the Nepal Forum agencies, and findings (collective achievement, reach, etc.) can then be used in communication material.

JMV members also encourage the Nepal Forum members to take advantage of opportunities to share learning, look at innovations and look at options for joint capacity building.

*Communication*

There has been good level of ACT visibility and it was reported that a communication strategy and plan has been drafted.

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: TERMS OF REFERENCE ACT JMV

PURPOSE OF JOINT MONITORING MISSION

A Joint Monitoring Visit is proposed from 11-16 January 2016 to the ACT Appeal Nepal Earthquake Response NPL151. ACT Alliance members supporting this Appeal are strongly encouraged to participate in this Joint Monitoring Visit [JMV].

It has been ACT Alliance’s experience that, after all major disasters, such as Pakistan floods 2010, Haiti earthquake 2010 , and Philippines Typhoon 2011, that an influx of visitors follows the disaster to provide direct and first-hand information to their respective constituencies. The evaluation reports of the first two disasters mentioned above reveal that such frequent and uncoordinated monitoring visits take lots of time and energy of the implementing members. Since such monitoring visits are also essential, therefore a key recommendation of these evaluations was to coordinate the visits of donors from the beginning to minimize pressure over the implementing organizations.

ACT Alliance is a signatory to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and

Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief and is committed to the Sphere

Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response and the Global Humanitarian Platform’s Principles of Partnership. ACT Alliance members are expected to adhere with Code of Conduct, Sphere standards and Principles of Partnership in each disaster response. Moreover, many of the ACT Alliance member organizations are HAP certified and therefore expected to adhere with HAP Benchmarks.

A joint monitoring would also ensure diverse experience and skills within the team to undertake monitoring of the appeal against all standards and benchmarks mentioned above.

PROPOSED TOPICS FOR THE JMV

* To undertake joint monitoring of the assistance being implemented for people affected by the Earthquakes in Nepal by ACT requesting members and their partners under the ACT Appeal NPL151 to understand to which extent objectives of the proposed programmes under the ACT Appeal have been achieved to date.
* To consider if ACT Alliance members new to Nepal should channel their funds and resources through the existing (and present) ACT requesting members. If ACT Alliance members have come in to Nepal outside of the Appeal, what is their rationale for not supporting existing members instead?
* To review how ACT Alliance members but inside and outside of the Appeal have effectively collaborated in joint programs, projects, interventions, or activities and how this has ‘added value’ to the Appeal response.
* To find out how the projects are including a quality and participatory based approach, in particular how they are applying the Principles of the Code of Conduct, the Sphere standards and the HAP benchmarks in the planning and implementation of appeal activities and what are the challenges faced in the application. This would include examination of how the Appeal response has taken into account gender, inclusion, and accountability as cross-cutting issues in its interventions.
* To provide constructive feedback and suggestions, and exchange experiences and lessons learned from other contexts with a view to strengthen the on-going projects and future interventions.
* To analyse participation of ACT Alliance in the UN Cluster system and its overall cluster coordination mechanisms nationally and at district levels, INGO coordination through AIN, and especially ACT Alliance Requesting Members’ coordination and collaboration with Government of Nepal bodies and authorities, and come up with the recommendations for the ACT Nepal Forum in particular and the entire ACT Alliance in general on the Appeal Response as well as on how it links Relief to Recovery to Development (LRRD) eg through DRR or other long term strategies.

PROCESS

* This ToR will be drafted by the ACT Alliance Nepal Forum and finalized in the ACT secretariat after obtaining inputs from the funding members
* The ACT Alliance Nepal Forum and its Requesting Members as well as other members working outside of the Appeal but in coordination with the ACT Alliance Nepal Forum will be responsible for the logistics food, accommodation, in-country travelling, key contacts, detailed map, itinerary, etc).
* The monitoring team will elect a team leader for the mission who, in consultation with other members and their respective fora, will assign sector-specific monitoring responsibility to the team members. The responsibility will be assigned to the following sectors and themes: - Food security and agriculture
* Shelter and NFI
* WASH
* Livelihoods
* Psycho-Social Support
* Education
* UN relationship (including participation in working groups and cluster coordination mechanism)
* Other cross-cutting issues, such as quality & accountability, adaptation, DRR, capacity building etc.

A briefing meeting will be organized by the ACT Alliance Nepal Forum on day one of the monitoring and a debriefing on the final day.

METHODOLOGY

Literature review (see reference documents below)

Interview with opinion leaders in the select villages/urban localities

Interview with selected beneficiaries individual or groups

Observation of the procurement and distribution process, if still ongoing

Physical verification of warehouses

Interview with secondary stakeholders (e.g. cluster leaders, representative of UN agencies, relevant government officials)

Meetings with management of implementing members, project and administrative staff etc.

REPORTING

Each sectoral team will submit the sector-specific report to the team leader, who will consolidate and submit one report to the ACT Nepal Forum and the ACT secretariat.

The mission report should be up to 10 pages excluding the title page, information page and appendices, and should contain, at minimum, the following sections: title page, information page, introduction, context analysis, mission findings, conclusions/lessons learned and recommendations.

A first draft of the report should be available 10 days after completion of the visit. Members will have seven days to comment on the report after which the report should be finalized and shared with all funding members of the Appeal, requesting and implementing members, ACT secretariat **Reference documents:**

* Updated spreadsheet of funding and interventions
* Appeal NPL151
* UN Flash Appeal
* Minutes of ACT Forum Nepal meetings
* Situation Reports of ACT Forum Nepal on the Earthquake Response
* Individual Project Reports from Requesting Members
* Videos, press and other communications materials, case studies and articles on the ACT Response
* Nepal Earthquake 2015: Post Disaster Needs Assessment Report

ANNEX 2: ACT JMV ITINERARY

**Arrival:** 10th January 2016: Arrival of ACT JMV members, check-in in Shangri-La Hotel,

Kathmandu http://hotelshangrila.com/#

**Day -1: 11 January 2016, ACT JMV Kick-off**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Particulars** | **Moderator** |
| 07:30-08:30 | Breakfast at Shangri-La Hotel |  |
| 08:30-08:35 | Welcome remark by Convener, ACT Alliance Nepal Forum | Bidya |
| 08:35-08:45 | Highlights of ACT JMV objective by ACT Secretariat |
| 08:45-09:00 | Self-introduction by ACT JMV members and ACT Nepal forum members representatives |
| 09:00-10:35 | Brief presentation on   * Country context, ACT Nepal forum and it’s response by Convener, ACT Alliance Nepal Forum (15 min) * Emergency program highlight by CA (10 min) * Emergency program highlight by DCA (10 min) * Emergency program highlight by DKH (10 min) * Emergency program highlight by FCA (10 min) * Emergency program highlight by FELM (10 min) * Emergency program highlight by ICCO (10 min) * Emergency program highlight by LWR (10 min) * Emergency program highlight by LWF (10 min) |
| 10:35-10:50 | Coffee break |  |
| 10:50-11:05 | Brief highlight on Nepal earthquake relief operation by Laxmi Dhakal, Spokesperson MoHA | Prabin |
| 11:05-11:20 | Brief highlights on GoN reconstruction program role of humanitarian agencies by………….Nepal Reconstruction Authority |
| 11:20-12:00 | Q&A, open discussion |
| 12:00-12:15 | Field visit program briefing and division of groups by Gopal, LWF |
| 12:15-12:30 | Security briefing by ACT Security Manager |
| 12:30-13:15 | Lunch |  |
| 13:15 onwards | Proceed for field visit | Respective organizations |

**Day -6: 16 January 2016, Debriefing and closing**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Particulars** | **Moderator** |
| 08:00-09:00 | Breakfast at Shangri-La Hotel |  |
| 09:00-13:00 | Inter and intra group sharing and discussion | Group leaders |
| 13:00-14:00 | Lunch |  |
| 14:00-15:00 | Group presentation   * Group-1 (20 min) * Group-2 (20 min) * Group-3 (20 min) | Anoop Sukumaran |
| 15:00-16:00 | Q&A, discussion and way forward |
| 16:00-16:30 | Coffee break |  |
| 16:30-17:00 | Key notes by ACT JMV members  Key Notes by ACT Secretariat  Vote of thanks and closing remark by Convener, ACT Alliance Nepal Forum |  |
| 18:30-20:30 | Social dinner |  |

**Departure:** 17th January 2016 onwards: ACT JMV members departure to their destinations

**Field Visit Program: Group-1 (Central Region)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **District** | **Priority sectors** | **Implementing agency** |
| Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Bhaktapur,  Rasuwa and Makawanpur districts | Shelter, WASH, Psychosocial Support , Food Security, Education, NFI, Livelihood Recovery & Early Recovery of Social- Economic Infrastructure | FCA, ICCO and LWF |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Time** |  | **Program detail** | **Person responsible** |
| 11 January  2016 | 13:30-16:00 |  | Travel to Makawanpur Night stay at Palung | Bidyanath Bhurtel, ICCO |
| 12 January  2016 | 08:00-18:00 |  | Field visit at Phakhel and Namtar area  Travel back to Kathmandu  Night stay at Shangri-La Hotel | Bidyanath Bhurtel, ICCO |
| 13 January  2016 | 07:00-08:00  08:00-10:00  10:00-10:30  10:30-11:00  11:00-11:15  11:15-12:15  12:15-12:30  12:30-14:00  14:00-14:40  14:40-16:00 |  | Breakfast  School visit : meeting with SMC,PTA  Travel to Lalitpur  Meeting with UNICEF  Travel to DEO Lalitpur  Meeting with DEO  Travel  CMC meeting with lunch  Travel to Balaju  Balaju school visit (Interaction with teachers & students) Night stay at Shangri-La Hotel | Lila Bashyal, FCA |
| 14 January  2016 | 07:00-07:30  07:30-12:30  12:30-13:30  13:30-14:30    14:30-15:30  15:30-17:30 |  | Breakfast  Travel to Dhunche, Rasuwa  Lunch at Dhunche bazar  Meeting with LWF and implementing partner field team  Meeting with CDO and LDO  Travel to Chilime, Walk through Goljung village Tamang heritage trail and observe shelter and toilet support in  Golgunj  Night stay at Chilime | Dr. Subash Gurung, LWF |
| 15 January  2016 | 07:00-08:00  08:00-09:00  09:00-10:00    10:00-11:00    11:00-12:00  12:00-13:00  13:00-18:30 |  | Breakfast  Travel to Gatlang  Observation of toilets, health hygiene, PSS, livelihoods activities  Observe drinking water system  Interaction with community representatives  Lunch at Gatlang  Travel to Kathmandu  Night stay at Shangri-La Hotel | Dr. Subash Gurung, LWF |

**Field Visit Program: Group-2 (Eastern Region)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **District** | **Priority sectors** | **Implementing agency** |
| Dolakha and Sindhupalchowk  districts | Shelter, WASH, Psychosocial Support , Food Security, NFI | CA and LWF |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Time** |  | **Program detail** | **Person responsible** |
| 11 January  2016 | 13:30-16:00 |  | Travel to Charikot  Night stay at Charikot | Govinda Rimal, LWF |
| 12 January  2016 | 07:00-07:30  07:30-10:30  10:30-11:30    11:30-12:30  12:30-13:30  13:30-15:00      15:00-16:30 |  | Breakfast  Travel to field  Interaction with VDC secretary, VDRC, Civil society org, ward citizen forum Lunch at Gurumphi  Travel to field (1 hour walk)  Field observation (toilets, water system, livelihoods,  CBPS)  Travel to Gurumphi  Night stay at Gurumphi | Govinda Rimal, LWF |
| 13 January  2016 | 07:30-08:30  08:30-10:30  10:30-11:30  11:30-12:30    12:30-13:30  13:30-15:30 |  | Breakfast  Travel to Charikot  Meeting with CDO and LDO  Meeting with LWF and implementing partner field team  Lunch at Charikot  Travel to Sindhupalchok  Night stay at Mude | Govinda Rimal, LWF |
| 14 January  2016 | 08:30  08:30-09:15      09:15-09:45  09:45:10:30      10:30-11:30  11:30-12:30      12:30-13:00  13:00-14:00  14:30-15:30  15:30-16:30  16:30-17:15 |  | Arrival at CA Field Office, Thulopakhar  Introduction and debriefing about the activities and observation of CA supported Sansari School toilet.  Travel to Chipleti Village  Observation of Shelter and WASH intervention  Chipleti to Valukhopswara, Pangretar  Observation of Valukhopswara Khanepani Water schemes – Pangretar and Discussion with  Valukhopswara Khanepani WUG  Travel to Khadichaur  Lunch at Pratik Guest house  Observation of demo shelter  Interaction with VDMC Pangretar  Travel to Sukute  Night stay at Sunkoshi Base Camp Resort, Sukute | Dipankar, CA |
| 15 January  2016 | 07:30-08:30  08:30-10:00  10:00-11:00    11:00-13:00        13:00-14:00  14:00-17:00 |  | Breakfast  Travel to field  Meeting with VDRC ( VDC secretary, ward citizen forum)  Community Visit/meeting and interaction with community people/ observation of WASH, T-Shelter, livelihood and psychosocial activities.  Lunch at……  Travel to Kathmandu  Night stay at Shangri-La Hotel | Govinda Rimal, LWF |

**Field Visit Program: Group-3 (Western Region)**

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| **District** | **Priority sectors** | **Implementing agency** |
| Lamjung and Gorkha districts | Shelter, WASH, Psychosocial Support , Food Security, NFI | DCA and LWR |

*Note: Members of Group 3 will be divided in two groups and observe DCA and LWR project sites separately*

**Group 3A- DCA project area**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Time** |  | **Program detail** | **Person responsible** |
| 11 January  2016 | 13:30-15:00  15:00-15:30    15:30-16:00    16:00-17:30 |  | Travel to Ghatbesi  Travel from Ghatbesi to Chamdanda (30 minutes’ walk up hill )  Community observation and discussion (safe & warm shelter)  Travel from Chamdanda to Dhading Besi (including 25 minutes’ walk)  Night stay at Dhading Besi (Jana Jibika Hotel) | Andrew Pearlman, DCA |
| 12 January  2016 | 08:00-08:30  08:30-09:15    09:15-09:30    09:30-09:45    09:45-10:45    10:45-11:00    11:00-11:30  11:30-12:00  12:00-13:00  13:00-14:00  14:00-14:30  14:30-16:00  16:00-17:00 |  | Breakfast  Travel from Dhading Besi to Chhatiwandanda , Salang Observation of livelihood support in Chhatiwandanda  Travel from Chhatiwandanda to Tallo Gauthale  Community walk and observation of ACT intervention  (Food, Cash, WASH & Hygiene)  Travel from Gauthale to Chapati  Community discussion  Lunch in field with community  Travel from Chapati to Thati, Nalang  Handover of toilet to Sidheshowr Higher Secondary School  PSS (interview with community adult group & school teachers)  Travel back to Dhading Besi from Thati, Nalang  Night stay at Dhading Besi (Jana Jibika Hotel) | Andrew Pearlman, DCA |
| 13 January  2016 | 07:00-11:30  11:30-14:30  14:30-15:30  15:30-16:00  16:00-17:00  17:00-18:00 |  | Travel from Dhading to Tanglichowk  Visit the water schemes and Latrine construction Lunch in the community with VDC secretary and partners  Meeting with Project Implementation Coordination  Sub-Committee (PICSC) members  Cash interviews with pre-selected beneficiaries in tangli  Travel to Makaisingh  Night stay at Makaisingh (hotel-Amit) | Andrew Pearlman, DCA |
| 14 January  2016 | 08:00-12:00  12:00 13:00  13:00-14:00  14:00-17:00  19:00-20:00 |  | Field Visit (Toilets and water systems) Makaisingh  Lunch  Meeting with community members, masons trained by the project, school latrines  Travel Back to Gorkha  Dinner with CDO and ECO Nepal president  Night stay at Gorkha (Amit to confirm Miracle Hotel) | Andrew Pearlman, DCA |
| 15 January  2016 | 07:00-11:00  11:00-12:00 |  | Leave for Kathmandu Lunch | Andrew Pearlman, DCA |
|  | 12:00-15:00    15:00-16:00  17:00 |  | Visit Latrine construction in Bhaktapur and Lalitpur  Visit Bugmati water scheme  Arrive at the office  Night stay at Shangri-La Hotel |  |

**Group 3B LWR project area**

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| **Date** | **Time** |  | **Program detail** | **Person responsible** |
| 11 January  2016 | 13:30-19:00  19:30-20:30 |  | Travel to Lamjung  Dinner with CDO, LDO, Chairman of COPPADES, LWR team  Night stay at Hotel: Himalaya Gate way, Lamjung | Satya Man Lama, LWR |
| 12 January  2016 | 08:00-08:30    08:30-12:00  12:00-13:00  13:00-15:00      15:00-17:00 |  | Short presentation on Nepal Earthquake Response  Program  Travel to field (Kolki VDC)  Lunch (Pack)  Visit the project areas (shelter, livelihoods) and meeting with community and farmer groups Travel to Gauda and night stay at Gauda, local residential house | Satya Man Lama, LWR |
| 13 January  2016 | 08:00-11:00  11:00-12:00  12:00-13:00  13:00-17:00 |  | Travel to Bichaur  Meeting with farmer groups, and community members at Bichaur  Lunch  Field visit (shelter observation, agriculture input observation) and interview with farmer group and WCF members at Dudhpokhari and night stay at Bichaur local residential house | Satya Man Lama, LWR |
| 14 January  2016 | 08:00-16:00 |  | Travel back to Beshishahar  Rest at hotel and night stay at Himalaya Gate way,  Lamjung | Satya Man Lama, LWR |
| 15 January  2016 | 08:00-15:00 |  | Leave for Kathmandu  Night stay at Shangri-La Hotel | Satya Man Lama, LWR |

Annex 3

ACT National partners

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Summary of Coverage** | | |  |
| **ACT Members** | **NGO**  **Partners** | **Districts** | **Working Cluster** | **VDCs** |
| **DCA** | WOREC,  Pourakhi, FAYA, FSCN and ECO Nepal **(5 partners)** | Dhading, Gorkha,  Bhaktapur and Lalitpur  **(4 districts)** | Shelter,  WASH, Food  Security,  NFIs and  PSS | 56 |
| **FCA** | UCEP, WVAF,  CMC-Nepal,  Child  Concern  Group **(4**  **Partners)** | Lalitpur, Kathmandu and Bhaktapur **( 3 districts)** | Education and PSS | 0 |
| **ICCO** | CCDN,  ISARD, Nepal  Trust, UMN  **(4 partners)** | Dhading, Makawanpur and Sindhupalchowk **( 3 districts)** | Early Recoverty ( focuse on livelihood) | 23 |
| **LWF** | Manekor  Society,  GMSP,  HURADEC,  SOLVE Nepal, ICDO, DMC  **(6 partners)** | Kathmandu,  Bhaktapur, Lalitpur,  Rasuwa,  Sindhuplanchowk, Dolakha and Kavre **(7 districts)** | Shelter,  WASH, Food  Security,  NFI and PSS | 43 |
| **LWR** | COPPADES, SSICDC **(2 partners)** | Gorkha and Lamjung **(2 districts)** | Shelter, livelihood recovery, Food  Security, and NFI | 6 |
| **Sub Total** | **21 NGOs** | **11 districts** |  | **128** |
| **Remarks** |  |  |  | 122 VDC+6  municipality |

**ACT Alliance Nepal Forum**



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1. ACT Alliance is a signatory to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster

   Relief and is committed to the Sphere Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response and the Global Humanitarian Platform’s Principles of Partnership. ACT Alliance members are expected to adhere with Code of Conduct, Sphere standards and Principles of Partnership in each disaster response. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)