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FACT SHEET

HELPING EARTHQUAKE-AFFECTED LIVESTOCK IN NEPAL (HEAL-NEPAL) PROJECT

“Mobilizing local community based livestock service systems to help earthquake-affected households protect livestock assets.”



Livestock is an integral component of the farming system that supplements cash income, improves dietary diversity and helps increase agricultural productivity through draft power and manure.



HEAL - Nepal will link farmers with livestock service providers to help them avoid further losses due to death of livestock assets.

BACKGROUND

The massive earthquake of April 25, 2015, and its severe aftershocks devastated communities in the hill and mountain districts of Nepal, including massive loss of lives and homes. The vast majority of those affected live well below the poverty line, surviving through subsistence farming, typically on less than 1.2 acres of land. Even on such small plots, livestock is a critically important asset as it can improve nutrition, increase income, and help families cope after disasters through sales of animals and their by-products. However, the Ministry of Agricultural Development (MoAD) has revealed at least 17,000 cattle, oxen and buffalo deaths; 40,000 goat and pig deaths; and 500,000 backyard and commercial poultry deaths. Additionally, according to the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) report, 50% of animal feeds and 35% of livestock shelters have been destroyed and damaged. To ensure a quick recovery, families require support to protect the health and well-being of their valuable livestock.

SNAPSHOT

Life of project
13 July to 6 November 2015

Target

- 60,000 people
- 12,000 households
- 5 districts in Central and Western Region
- 150,000 farm families benefitting indirectly through improved accessibility of services

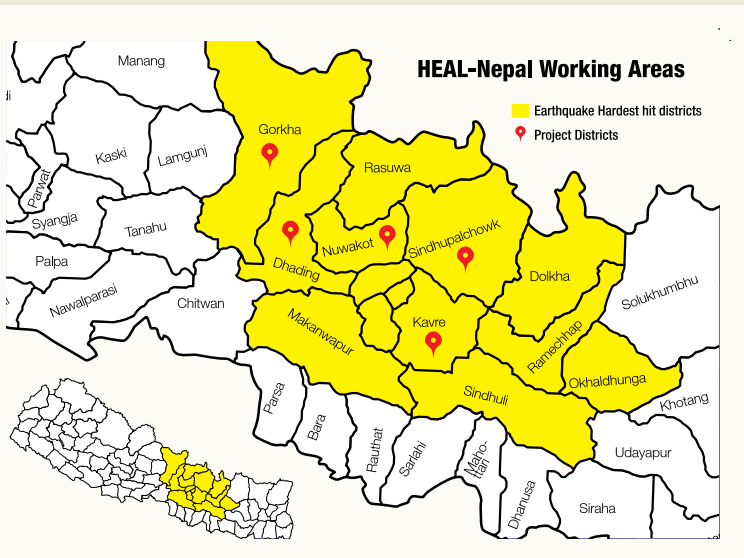
Project cost and source
US \$885,286
(US \$750,007 from USAID and
US \$135,279 from Heifer International)

PROJECT OVERVIEW

HEAL-Nepal project centers on preserving livelihood assets through restoration of disrupted livestock and veterinary services systems in five of the 14 districts most heavily impacted by the April/May 2015 earthquakes. The project will render immediately needed services and create a favorable, enabling environment at the district, village development committee (VDC), and community levels for continued livestock sector recovery. The interventions are specific and oriented around the principles of the Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS) with a programmatic focus on immediate relief measures for safeguarding livestock assets and ensuring their continued productivity.

This 90-day immediate-response project has been made possible with a generous grant of USD \$750,007 through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and USD \$ 135,279 from Heifer International.

HEAL-Nepal works in 90 VDCs of five districts: Sindhupalchowk, Kavre, Nuwakot, Dhading and Gorkha, all of which sustained heavy losses. The project works in close coordination with the Government of Nepal's (GoN) MoAD Department of Livestock Services (DLS), District Livestock Service Offices (DLSOs), VDCs and a wide-range of public, private and civil society stakeholders.



PROJECT GOAL

Support 60,000 people (in 12,000 households) to maintain healthy livelihoods in earthquake-impacted regions of Nepal by restoring disrupted livestock service systems and protecting valuable livestock assets for revival of rural household economic activities and market linkage.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Over the next 90 days, the project will:

- 1) Establish needs, gaps and requirements
 - Conduct needs assessment to ascertain gaps and needs around livestock assets.
- 2) Provide for basic livestock needs
 - Offer feed interventions around production, quality and waste reduction
 - Facilitate forage and fodder plantation as well as seed collection, processing and storage
 - Demonstrate and train on appropriate transition animal shelters
 - Restock oxen and community breeding bulls
- 3) Mobilize, train and coordinate animal health service providers
 - Link communities with service providers
 - Offer animal health provider training
 - Facilitate linkages to local livestock service providers
 - Conduct animal health camps for on the spot veterinary care to under-reached communities

PROJECT OUTCOMES

Target beneficiaries and their households will:

- 1) Receive access to improved animal feeds/fodder, etc.
- 2) Receive training on improved animal shelters
- 3) Receive improved primary animal care services from community-level service providers
- 4) Protect livestock assets
- 5) Maintain on-farm productivity

Local animal service providers will:

- 1) Improve their knowledge and practices regarding animal nutrition and care during emergencies
- 2) Increase their knowledge and skills around safe practices to prevent the spread of animal disease, including potential zoonosis



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Disclaimer:
This fact sheet is made possible by the generous support of the American people through USAID.

Heifer's mission is to work with communities to end hunger and poverty and care for the earth.