



Earthquake Recovery:

Helping Local Communities Rebuild Livelihoods in Nepal

FACT SHEET

BACKGROUND

The massive earthquake of April 25, 2015 and its severe aftershocks devastated communities located in the hill and mountain districts of Nepal, including massive loss of lives and homes. More than 8,900 people lost their lives and more than 22,000 are injured. About 600,000 houses are fully destroyed and 280,000 are partially destroyed, leaving people deprived of food, water, shelter and basic health services. Among the different parts of Nepal experiencing earthquake, the Central and Western Regions are severely affected. The impact of this earthquake in Heifer project districts is immense in these two regions. A total of 18 of Heifer's 39 working districts have been significantly impacted. Heifer is working with over 50,000 families in these 18 districts.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Earthquake Recovery project centers on supporting the earthquake affected families to rebuild their livelihoods. This project works in 25 VDCs of 10 districts: Nuwakot, Dhading, Chitwan, Nawalparasi, Palpa, Sindhuli, Kaski, Lamjung, Tanahu and Parbat. The project works in close coordination with the GoN's MoAD Department of Livestock Services (DLS), District Livestock Service Offices (DLSOs), Village Development Committees (VDCs) and wide-range of public, private and civil society stakeholders. This project has been made possible with a generous grant of USD \$2,752,000 from Heifer International.



PROJECT GOAL

Support 16,725 earthquake affected families in through community managed initiatives for addressing immediate relief and recovery needs (6,500 in initial batch and 10,225 in the second batch).

PROJECT APPROACH

The Earthquake Recovery project undertakes a community-managed approach. The project provides revolving fund which is managed through existing project structures including Heifer's Project Management Committee, Local partner NGO, Self Help group and Cooperative. Through these forums, the communities identify their most urgent needs and make joint decisions regarding how the funds are distributed and used. The fund is initially used for a list of pre-approved activities that are jointly identified by Heifer and the community including basic needs such as human and livestock shelter, livestock services, agriculture inputs, etc. This loan is interest free for 36 months. Participants can pay back the loan over the final 12 months or less, after initial 24 months. Twelve to fifteen months after the initiation of the project, a plan for further use of the fund for reconstruction and rehabilitation of livelihoods will be co-created. Thus this revolving fund will serve as a continuous support to the community as they move from relief to recovery to rehabilitation.

ACHIEVEMENTS (till September 2015)

- 11,881 families benefitted
- >400 Self-help Groups mobilized
- 68 community structures reignited and strengthened
- NPR. 17.8 million distributed as revolving fund