



Disaster Management Community



Community Update

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No.131: 01, May 2015.

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From the Resource Team

Dear Members,

At 11:56 local time, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal, with the epicentre in Lamjung District (north-west) of Kathmandu and south of the China border. Dozens of aftershocks followed, including a 6.7 magnitude earthquake on 26 April 2015 at 12:54 local time, devastated Nepal (http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/eventpage/us20002926#general_summary). According to police report the death toll in Nepal alone rose to 6200 on Friday and more than 14,000 people have been injured. There are warnings the full extent of the tragedy will not be known until rescue teams have reached "flattened" villages in remote regions (source: The Guardian and DNA). The Government of Nepal reports that 35 of 75 districts are affected in the Western and Central Regions, including the Kathmandu Valley districts. This includes mountain and hilly areas, disperse rural populations, as well as some very densely populated districts and Nepal's two largest cities – greater Kathmandu and Pokhara. The most affected districts are Dhading, Gorkha, Rasuwa, Sindhupalchowk, Kavre, Nuwakot, Dolakha, Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Bhaktapur and Ramechhap. The estimated effect of Earthquake on 25 April 2015 can be viewed at http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/reach_npl_map_earthquakeaffected_27apr2015_a3.pdf

The earthquake also shock many parts of the North Indian States - Bihar, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and other states of North India. Deaths and damages have been reported from the States.



The action of the Government of India is appreciated world over for its swift deployment of the NDRF, Indian Army and Indian Air Force to support the devastated country in rescue and relief works. Apart from that it played a major role of evacuating Indians and other national tourists stranded in Nepal through air and by road. In a major boost to render help the victims of Nepal Earthquake the Central Board of Direct Taxes has decided to fast track all applications made u/s11(1)(c) of the Income Tax Act, 1961. For details of how to apply for the same can be viewed at http://solutionexchange-un.net.in/ftp/drm/resource/CBDT_permission-under-section-11-1-c-28-04-2015.pdf

According to the Guardian, The UN has [launched a \\$415m \(£270m\) urgent appeal](#) to help estimated 8 million people affected by the earthquake over the next three months. The Guardian states that an estimated 2.8 million people have been displaced by the earthquake, hundreds of thousands of people are afraid to return to their homes and estimated 70,000 houses have been destroyed, a figure that is expected to rise. Fuel is urgently needed to pump ground water and maintain hospital services and the Hospitals capacity has been overwhelmed forcing many people to be treated on roads. Many hospitals near Kathmandu have reportedly run out of

medicines. An estimated 4.2 million people are in urgent need of water, sanitation and hygiene support. About 3.5 million people need food assistance, including 1.4 million in need of priority assistance. (source: <http://www.theguardian.com/world/live/2015/apr/29/nepal-earthquake-humanitarian-crisis>)

There is urgent need to ensure minimum basic amenities (Shelter camps, Water, Food, Sanitation, Access to Medical care, child care centres, functioning schools etc.) are in place before the monsoon season begins. All this hour it is important for all stakeholders to analyse the situation, identify needs, and adopt workable good practices and plan for deployment of resources. This could enable the process of speedy recovery and reduce the trauma of the affected people.



With warm regards,

G. Padmanabhan and Mahendra R,
Resource Team,
Disaster Management Community of Practice,
UN Solution Exchange

Members Postings

Workshops and Conferences

Recently Held

From, [Mahendra.R](#), UNDP, India.

Mock drill on disaster management held at VIT University, Vellore, Tamil Nadu on April 17th, 2015



NDRF personnel conducting a mock drill of 'earthquake scenario simulation and mock exercise on Thursday. Photo: C. Venkatachalapathy, The Hindu.

The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Arakkonam, demonstrated during a mock drill at VIT University on Thursday. About 25 personnel of NDRF demonstrated a mass casualty incident based on an earthquake scenario, which was of a collapse of a multi-storey building and how persons trapped inside are rescued. The mock drill was part of a day's workshop on disaster management organised by the Centre for Disaster Mitigation and Management (CDMM) of the university.

The university's Vice President Sekar Viswanathan released the third edition of the university emergency response plan. Mr. M.K. Verma, Commandant of 4th Battalion of NDRF, Arakkonam outlined their work and said they were involved in safe rescue of people affected in disasters such as cyclone, flood and earthquakes. The force was also conducting awareness among

Community News

New Query

[Enhancing Resilience of the Fishing Community Assam.doc](#)", seeking experiences and examples. The reply date is 15 May 2015. Please reply to mahendra.rajaram@undp.org

From Our Partners

National Institute for Disaster Management, New Delhi is conducting number of training programs, events and online courses. For more details please visit <http://nidm.gov.in/default.asp>
UN News for India and Bhutan

From [Mahendra Rajaram](#), UNDP, New Delhi

The UNIC April 2015 newsletter covers news and opinions related to World Health Day. The newsletter shares information related to how safe is our food; training to street vendors on safe food; consultation on safe food. For more information click on the http://www.unic.org.in/items/Newsletter_Apr2015.pdf

Update your Profile!

We wish to update our database and in this effort we request members to share the latest contact details to enable us to be contact. Please [click here](#) to update your contact (**Your Name, Organisation, Email Id and Mobile Number**).

educational institutions and public on how people should safeguard themselves during disasters. The mock drill was conducted at VIT for the third year, the release added. (source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news>)

Upcoming

From [Daman Dev Sood](#), *Continuity and Resilience, New Delhi*

Event : 3rd India Business & IT Resilience Summit with theme "Leadership through Resilience"

Dates : 27th-28th May, 2015

Venue: Courtyard By Marriott Mumbai International Airport, C.T.S No. 215, Andheri Kurla Road, Andheri East, Mumbai -400 059. **Organised by:** Continuity & Resilience

Chief Guest: Lt. Gen. (Retd) N.C. Marwah, Member, National Disaster Management Authority

For registration, please click on the link

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5490420475084481282>. For full details of the event click on <http://bcm-india.in/> or write directly to d.sood@continuityandresilience.com

Resources

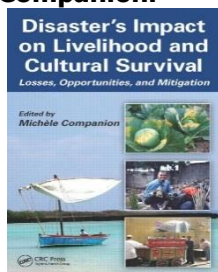
From [G. Padmanabhan](#), *UNDP, New Delhi*

Losing Ground: A documentary on climate vulnerability of two coastal cities

TERI recently released a documentary titled, Losing Ground: Two Cities and their Tryst With the Future. It highlights the climate vulnerability of two Indian coastal cities: Panaji and Visakhapatnam and was prepared as part of a study granted under the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)'s Climate Change Resilient Development (CCRD) program. Click to [Watch the documentary here](#)

From [Mahendra .Rajaram](#), *UNDP, Delhi.*

Disaster's Impact on Livelihood and Cultural Survival: Losses, Opportunities, and Mitigation, by Michele Companion.



Many facets of disasters generate interest among scholars and practitioners. However, a vital area of disaster research is consistently underemphasized. Little is written about the immediate and long-term impacts on a community's livelihood systems and the customs and practices of the culture affected.

Disaster's Impact on Livelihood and Cultural Survival: Losses, Opportunities, and Mitigation represents a broad forum to discuss the impacts of large-scale disaster events on communities.

Welcome to new Members

We thank and welcome the new members for joining the DM Community of Practice and look forward for your active participation and contribution for knowledge enhancement.

We request you to spread word within your network and to Disaster Management professionals and practitioners about Solution Exchange Disaster Management Community and ask them to write to write to: se-drm@solutionexchange-n.net.in

Job Opportunities

From [Jiji Bhattacharji](#), *UNDP, New Delhi*

The Australian High Commission, New Delhi, is seeking applications for the position of Government Relations and Research Officer (Economic) at the Australian High Commission, New Delhi. Further information on selection criteria is available on our website <http://www.india.highcommission.gov.au>.

Views

From Mahendra.R, *UNDP, India*

"Don't rush to Nepal to help. Read this first", by Claire Bennett. The article is about the need to deploy human resources in a planned manner, without causing disturbances to the ongoing rescue operations. The need of the hour is the service of skilled volunteers and aid they affected persons and families can use. Thanks.

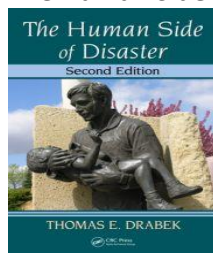
Lessons from Nepal's earthquake tragedy, by Jo Scheuer

For those of us working in disaster risk reduction and recovery, the earthquake is no surprise. Nepal's Kathmandu Valley is densely populated, seismically active and struggling to cope with weak infrastructure. Some areas remain extremely hard to reach. Over the years, numerous studies, analyses and commentaries pieces have emphasized that a major disaster is highly probable in this very vulnerable region.

The detailed views can be read at <http://asia.nikkei.com/Lessons-from-Nepal-s-earthquake-tragedy>. April 28, 2015 11:10 am JST.

Science – Disaster Management

The Human Side of Disaster, by Thomas E. Drabek



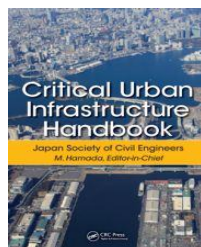
The Human Side of Disaster writes about new catastrophes that have plagued the globe, including earthquakes in Haiti and New Zealand, tornadoes in Alabama and Missouri, floods in numerous locations, Hurricane Sandy, and the infamous BP oil spill. Enhanced with new cases and real-world examples, **The Human Side of**

Disaster, Second Edition presents an updated summary of the social science knowledge base of human responses to disaster.

<https://www.crcpress.com/product/isbn/9781466506855>

Critical Urban Infrastructure Handbook, by Masanori Hamada.

Urban lifelines are buried or aboveground network systems used for water, sewerage, gas, power, and telecommunications. Dedicated to preserving the functions of lifeline systems against natural disasters, the **Critical Urban Infrastructure Handbook** is a vital compilation of urban utility management. This text utilizes the input of leading experts who have extensive experience with natural disasters, and provides a better understanding of the technical and legal framework of infrastructure construction and operation. Click on [Critical Urban Infrastructure Handbook](#) for more details.



Charles Francis Richter (April 26, 1900 – September 30, 1985) was an American



seismologist and physicist. Richter is most famous as the creator of the [Richter magnitude scale](#) which, until the development of the moment magnitude scale in 1979, quantified the size of

earthquakes. Inspired by Kiyoo Wadati's 1928 paper on shallow and deep earthquakes, Richter first used the scale in 1935 after developing it in collaboration with Beno Gutenberg; both worked at California Institute of Technology. The quote "[logarithmic plots](#) are a device of the [devil](#)" is attributed to Richter. (Source:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Francis_Richter)

News from around the world

[Assam Government constitutes special disaster management team](#)

Assam Government has constituted a special disaster management team for extending services to the quake-hit people from the state in Nepal. The team will coordinate with the Indian embassy in Nepal, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, NDRF and the Nepal Government in tracing out the missing persons, assisting the injured, evacuating stranded and injured persons as well as bodies, an official release said on 29th April 2015.

Click on http://zeenews.india.com/news/assam_govt for more details.

Two-day workshop for training Kumbh Mela officials to handle medical disasters



A two-day workshop was held on 27th and 28th of April'2015 on public health preparedness response and medical management was held at the Vasanttrao Pawar Medical College, Hospital & Research Centre in Nashik, in the backdrop of the forthcoming **Kumbh Mela**. The workshop has been organised jointly by the College, the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, USA; All-India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi; Indo-US Emergency and Trauma Collaborative, National Disaster Management Authority, Indian Medical Association and Association of Physicians.

The module and training programme is being spearheaded by the Maharashtra University of Health Sciences (MUHS). Minister of state for water resource and development Vijay Shivtare and MUHS vice chancellor Dr Arun Jamkar were present during the workshop.

<http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-two-day-workshop-for-training-kumbh-officials-to-handle-medical-disasters-held-2081305>

Many thanks to all who contributed to this issue!

If you have items to feature in this News Update, please send it to Solution Exchange for the Disaster Management Community in India at se-drm@solutionexchange-un.net.in. In case your email doesn't support viewing this news update, please visit [UNDP India website](http://www.un.org/india) to read.

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