

FOUNDATION OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE (FOSI)

Narrative Report

Grantee Information

Organization: Action on Disability Rights and Development-Nepal (ADRAD)

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Grant Details

1. Title of Grant Project: Inclusive post-Earthquake reconstruction: Public Building safe and accessible for all
2. Total Grant Received: NPR. 3,577,174
3. Grant Period: 1 January 2016- 31 December, 2017
4. Period Covered in this Report: 1 January- 31 December, 2016
5. Was this project funded by more than one funder? If so, please list organization name and amount.
NA

Project Summary

Please provide a brief (200 words) summary description of your project.

The project intended to ensure accessibility standards during post-earthquake reconstruction. To strengthen inter-ministerial coordination for the implementation of Government policies and programs concerning persons with disabilities, established 30 members joint monitoring and coordination committee. The regular meeting of the committee convened three times in quarterly basis that helped reviewing the disability related programs of different ministries and further planned for monitoring the implementation in the district levels. Two days Capacity building training for 14 focal persons from most affected districts conducted and they are mobilized to monitor the Accessible standards in the public building and push for ensuring service to persons with disabilities. Accessibility and disability Orientation to the construction workers and designers organised in 10 districts. Regular Advocacy meeting with concerned Authorities for ensuring disability inclusion in PDRF organised 5 times in Kathmandu that

sensitize the authorities about disability inclusive approach. Mapping of the provisions of the draft bill on rights of persons with disabilities was reviewed and recommended for the modification of the provisions which were in contrast to CRPD principles. The PDRF and other disasters related legislation were also mapped from the perspectives of disability inclusion carried out by the engagement of legal practitioners forming a taskforce.

Narrative Report Questions

We don't expect you will be able to answer every question here, but this guide is provided as an indication of the kind of information we seek in our narrative reports.

1) Specific Goals

a) Please list the specific goals as outlined in your proposal for the reporting period listed above.

The specific objectives of the project are to ensure at least 50 public places are made accessible for persons with disabilities during the post-earthquake reconstruction plan. The project follow the implementation of accessible standard and establishing inter-governmental coordination for following the Physical Accessibility and communication Guideline while designing, planning and construction of public buildings in project sites.

The project support for the fulfillment of Government's commitments to promote full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in development process, by mapping the post-reconstruction plan and accessible physical and communication guideline for people with disabilities 2069.

2) Methods

a) Were you able to accomplish the objectives you originally set? Were there any setbacks? Evaluate each one.

The project focused on accessible post-earthquake reconstruction ensuring accessibility standards directed by the physical accessibility and communication guideline adopted by the Government in 2012. In order to meet the project objectives, ADRAD formed project support unit within organisation and recruited the project personals in January, 2016.

In order to fulfill the objectives of facilitating the inter-ministerial coordination, 30 members joint monitoring and coordination committee (JMCC) was established in February, 2016. The regular meeting

of the committee convened three times (April, May, and November) that promoted coordination among concern Government agencies for the harmonization of disability related issues and share the best practices by the ministries. Though the strength of the JMCC is realised very effective and fulfilled the objectives, it is very hard to arrange convenient time for such a big numbers of members from relevant Government agencies consequently the meeting is always delayed.

Based on the objectives of monitoring the post-earthquake reconstruction, district focal persons were identified amongst the local leaders of DPOs in 14 most affective districts (Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Bhaktapur, Gorkha, Dhading, Nuwakot, Rasuwa, Sindhupalchok, Kavre, Dolakha, Ramechhap, Makawanpur and Lamjung) then organised two days Capacity building training for them during 24- 25 March in Kathmandu. The focal persons are mobilized in district levels to monitor the Accessible standards in the public building and push for ensuring service to persons with disabilities. The focal persons are however pushing for the accessible reconstruction as per the objectives of the project, the provision of the physical accessibility and communication guideline has not been respected by the designers and the authorities.

The project intended to sensitize the construction workers and designers about the accessibility standards thus Accessibility and disability Orientation workshop organised in 10 districts during November-December, 2016. The Designers have still not accommodated the accessible measures in their design, ADRAD is thinking to take effective measures to push for the implementation of building code during designing and construction of public buildings.

It is remarkable that the advocacy meeting with concerned persons of post-earthquake Reconstruction Authority for ensuring accessibility standards in Post-Disaster reform framework (PDRF) has been effective and towards achieving project objectives. The meeting were organised 5 times in Kathmandu. The meeting helped for accommodate disability concerns in the PDRF and sensitize the authorities about disability inclusive approach. The meeting with officer of Registrar, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of tourism, culture and civil aviation conducted for pushing the ratification of Marrakesh treaty for copyright exception to produce the accessible digital books. A Delegation meeting also conducted with the Minister of federal affairs and local development to draft policy for the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the formation of local development plan.

Mapping of accessibility measures and Post-Disaster reform Framework and other disasters related legislation carried out by the engagement of legal practitioners forming a taskforce led by the chairperson of the organisation. The project is progressively achieving its objectives however still there are more challenges to ensure the proper implementation of the policy in practice.

Amendment of DPWA-1982 is under the process through the Government which should be in line with the principles of CRPD and anti-discriminative. There were various provisions in the draft bill that should be modified thus ADRAD organised campaign to push for the modification of such weak and unbinding provisions in the new bill. ADRAD organised a workshop on 12 August, 2016 and submitted the recommendation to the parliamentary committee. At present, the bill is in parliament for final decision through the parliamentary committee of Women, Children and Social Welfare.

The project is in its path to meet its objectives despite of many challenges which are beyond the control of the organisation.

b) Have you revised your original objectives and implementation plan? Please specify any modifications to the project originally proposed to FOSI.

ADRAD has not revised its objectives however some additional objectives have been introduced such as drafting of bill for amendment of the Disabled persons protection and welfare act (1982) in line with CRPD.

Similarly, ADRAD is intensively pushing for the enactment of disability inclusive provisions in the post-earthquake reform framework and implementation of the Building code to meet accessibility standard, it is now time to go for "PIL" if the provisions of building code and the article 9 of CRPD is not respected by the authorities.

c) Were the plan, timetable, and budget feasible and adequate with the benefit of hindsight? What would you change?

The activities plan are quite relevantly designed and executed well however the work of Government for reconstruction work has been delayed which is beyond the control of the organisation. The originally planned committee for monitoring the post-earthquake reconstruction was within 15 members however the ministry of women, children and social welfare formed a committee comprising 30 members and the name of the committee is decided "Joint Monitoring and Coordination Committee" whereas the project had mentioned "National Accessibility Monitoring Taskforce" (NAMT). the originally planned schedule of the meeting of the committee was each month however the meeting has been organised quarterly though the objectives of the committee is same as originally designed.

d) Did you collaborate with any other organizations?

ADRAD has collaborated with various organisations including Government and Non-governmental organisations.

The collaboration with Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare, Reconstruction Authority, Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development are major Government entities that ADRAD has collaborated in achieving project objectives. Similarly, the collaboration with DECN, BWAN and NRCD are the organisations that ADRAD has collaborated. There is no fund application in such collaborations.

ADRAD is keen for collaborating with the Grantee organisations of FOSI thus has collaborated with DECN for facilitating the JMCC and joint monitoring activities in the District levels for the implementation of the Government's policies and programs.

e) To what extent has this program reached its intended constituency, involved them in solutions that addressed their needs, and strengthened their capacity to do so?

The methodology of the project execution is based on active engagement of the rights holders who are entitled for the benefit from the project result. Since the project initiated capacity building effort of the persons with disabilities in Earthquake mostly affected 14 Districts where they are directly engaged in monitoring of the post-earthquake reconstruction. These focal persons are also engaged in representing in the disability coordination committee in the district and functional in designing development plan in the district and village levels.

The focal persons also participated in the delegation meeting conducted with the Reconstruction Authority as well as in the relevant ministries based on their own interest to take part in pushing for disability inclusive approach while drafting the post disasters reform framework. With their built capacity, the district level intervention for addressing the rights and interest of persons with disabilities will be facilitated and they will monitor effectively as their future scope of engagement as a pertinent leader of the disability movement in local levels.

The taskforce of mapping the PDNA and disasters related legislation was also led by persons with disabilities and the DPOs representatives participated in reviewing the draft bill of Disabled Persons Protection and Welfare Act.

It is guaranteed that the project has reached its constitution and succeed to develop capacity of the persons with disabilities as primary beneficiaries.

f) Describe the support you received from your board. Describe the support you received from volunteers who are not board members.

The Board of ADRAD is quite supported in execution of the project activities. There is clear job description of the Board and program unit of the organisation. As the board is responsible for the policy formation, decision making and providing guideline to the program implementation unit whereas secretariat is responsible to execute the decision of the board, carryout project activities, reporting to the board and exploring possibilities of finding possible collaborating partners.

The board has provided mandate to the chairperson to take any decision concerning project activities on behalf of the board so that the project will implemented smoothly and achieve its objectives.

There are five units in the organisation led by each of board members and comprise the volunteers who are engaged in implementing the project activities. The volunteers are supporting for conducting project activities, communicating with stakeholders, providing assistant services to the persons with disabilities including escorting to Blind persons and facilitating the Deaf persons for sign-language communication.

3) Results

a) Do you feel the project was a success? Why?

ADRAD believes that the project is in its path to success that has been reflected in mapping the activities results with the monitoring indicators established while planning the project in the beginning which can be described as follows;

1. Establishment of Inter-Ministerial and Stakeholders Coordination for policy intervention carried out comprising the relevant Government agencies such as Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare as line ministry looking after disability issue, Reconstruction Commission under NPC responsible authority for the post-earthquake reconstruction, Ministry of housing, MOFALD, National level DPOs etc. The TOR of the committee has been adopted by the MOWCSW that include Policy reform and monitoring for ensuring accessible post-earthquake reconstruction as well as facilitating the disability inclusive development plan through various ministries.
2. Conducting quarterly meeting of the JMCC is going on. The representatives of line agencies and leading Disabled Peoples Organisations have shared the programs and policies of corresponding agencies. There were continuous dialogues with the Reconstruction Authority. As a result, the PDRF has covered the accessible reconstruction plan that should

- be in line with Accessible physical and communication Guideline. The function of JMCC has facilitated for establishing coordination amongst Government agencies and rights holders for accessible reconstruction.
3. The Capacity building of 14 Focal persons carried out and they are being mobilized for monitoring Accessible standards in the public building in the Central and district headquarters through capacitated DPOs network of these focused districts which is reflected in the monitoring reports of the focal persons.
 4. Accessibility and disability Orientation to the construction workers and designers carried out; as a result, the provisions of Accessibility Guideline and the relevant policies of accessible construction are informed to them that were reflected in the post-training evaluation of the participants.
 5. Lobby meeting with concerned Authorities for ensuring accessibility standards in Post-earthquake reconstruction in Kathmandu Valley carried-out in presence of National level DPOs, disability leaders and activists. The meeting and Interaction for accessible reconstruction carried-out in the office of Prime Minister, National Planning Commission, Committee of Reconstruction Authority, Ministry of housing and physical planning, Kathmandu Metropolitan office, Ministry of home affairs etc. The PDRF has covered disability inclusive approach during reconstruction and post-earthquake reform.
 6. Monitoring of Accessible reconstruction by the mobilization of District focal persons is going on by the engagement of DPOs and focal persons in 14 Districts with the site supervision, interaction, close monitoring are the job description of the focal persons, such engagement is being continued.
 7. Mapping of accessibility measures and Post-Disasters reconstruction legislation, directives and relevant Government documents carried out by the engagement of Relevant DPOs and legal Experts working in disability rights. PDNA and PDRF are mapped in line with the Physical Accessibility and communication Guideline, CRPD article 9 and Building code and established advocacy document for further intervention to ensure accessible reconstruction.

b) Are you able to measure the project's impact? If so, what was the result?

In this reporting period, there is no evaluation conducted and assessed the project result.

Since the first year of the project activities have been carried-out. It is realised that the project is in its path to achieve objectives. There will be project evaluation in the second year of activities execution.

c) *What are your specific plans, if any, for continuing work on this program? How will you fund your efforts?*

In the second year of project execution, ADRAD has planned to organize a sharing and learning seminar of the district focal persons so that the uniformity in their work, concept and intervention will be developed while monitoring the post-earthquake reconstruction and that help to fulfill the project objectives.

ADRAD is also planning to modify the activity of "Assessment of the post-earthquake reconstruction with Accessibility standards compliances" and go for the "Public Interest Litigation" (PIL) in the cases against the reconstruction of the building without fulfilling the "Building Code" and the "Physical Accessibility and Communication Guideline" which is realised necessary in the case of District Administration Office- Gorkha. The Chairperson of ADRAD during monitoring visit had talked with the chief district officer and the focal person in Gorkha had conducted continuous dialogues, there was verbal commitments of ensuring accessibility measures in the building, finally, the obligation has not been fulfilled thus ADRAD, in consultation with ASD and legal practitioners, is planning for filing the PIL against the inaccessible building construction of the DAO building in Gorkha.

4) Publications

Please provide two copies each of all publications: manuscripts, educational materials (course brochures and syllabi), videos, pamphlets, evaluation instruments, website materials, and press clippings that were published or printed directly resulting from this project. In addition, please provide a copy of the most recent annual report.

(Please find the Recent annual report, Audit report, Approval of the project from SWC, tools for Accessible Standard, Press statement for Accessible Reconstruction after handing over the memorandum to the Reconstruction Authority)