

2024

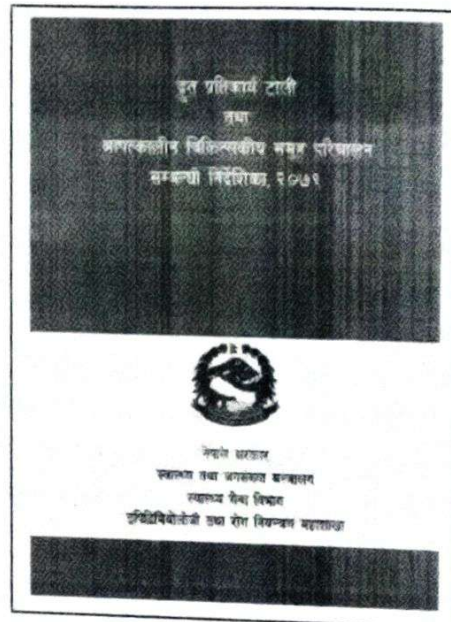
RAPID RESPONSE COMMITTEE ADVOCACY WORKSHOP REPORT

Kanchanpur District

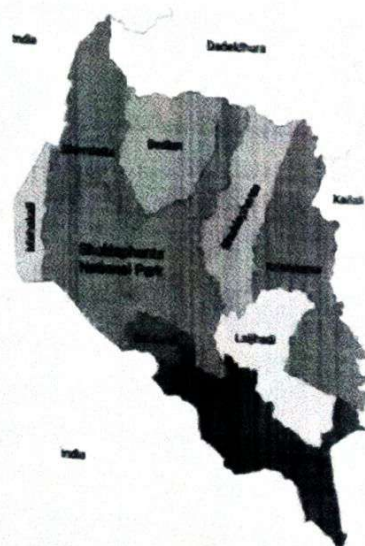
Rapid Response Committee Advocacy workshop

Kanchanpur District

Background: In Nepal, the Rapid Response Team (RRT) and the Rapid Response Committee (RRC) play crucial roles in managing and mitigating the impacts of emergencies and disasters. The RRT, composed of health workers and technical experts, provides immediate response and investigation during crises like natural disasters or public health emergencies, including medical aid, shelter, and food distribution. It operates at the central, provincial, district and local level, coordinating with various stakeholders and conducting rapid assessments. The RRC, a higher-level body, oversees strategic and operational aspects of emergency responses at the central, provincial or municipality level. It ensures coordination among response units, manages resources, and makes critical decisions to address the crisis effectively. Together, these entities enhance Nepal's capacity to respond swiftly and effectively to emergencies. The guidelines for the Rapid Response Team (RRT) and Rapid Response Committee (RRC) in Nepal were endorsed in **2022 AD**. These guidelines were developed to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of emergency responses by providing a structured approach to managing and coordinating efforts during crises and disasters.



Context: Kanchanpur District, a part of Sudurpashchim province, is one of the seventy-seven districts of Nepal. It is in southwestern of Nepal. It is bordered by Kailali district in the east, Dadeldhura district in the north and with India in the South and West. Geographically it is on the Terai, but the northern part of the districts has some higher altitudes of elevation. The economy of Kanchanpur is heavily dependent on agriculture, with crops such as rice, sugarcane, wheat, and maize being cultivated in abundance. In addition to agriculture, the district has a growing industrial sector, particularly in agro-processing and trade. Kanchanpur's proximity to India also facilitates significant cross-border commerce, contributing to its economic activity.



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Objective of the workshop:

- **To Form and or update the Municipal-Level Rapid Response Committee/Team:** If the committee/team has not been formed according to the guidelines, it should be reorganized.
- **To Discuss the Roles, Duties, and TOR:** Discuss the roles, duties, and powers of the municipal rapid response committee and team.
- **To encourage the Formation of a Health sector preparedness and response plan:** Motivate the municipality to develop an emergency action plan for the health sector.
- **Discuss and Capacity building in Surveillance Outbreak Response Management and Analysis System (SORMAS).**

The workshop was organized by Health Directorate, Sudurpaschim province with financial support from USAID and technical support from WHO. WHO, Health Emergencies Programme (WHE) team (Field medical officer and Information Management Associate) stationed in Provincial Health Emergency Operation Center (PHEOC), Sudurpaschim Province communicated and coordinated with Health Directorate Sudurpaschim, Health Office Kailali and Health Section chief of Chure Rural Municipality to arrange and fix the workshop in the mentioned date. Similarly, the team facilitated to achieve all the objectives and to conduct the program successfully.

Provincial Presentation:

Mr. Hemraj Joshi, RRT focal person of Sudurpaschim presented on the objective of the program. He presented and defined key terminologies essential for understanding disasters and disease outbreaks, including hazard, risk, disaster, emergency, capacity, mitigation, prevention, vulnerability, and preparedness. He shared definitions of "Disaster," "Epidemic/Outbreak," and "Emergency" as provided by the WHO and outlined the Disaster Risk Mitigation and Management Act 2074. He reviewed the global, national, and provincial contexts of disasters and



Caption: Mr. Hemraj Joshi, RRT focal point from province presenting in the Overview and Disaster status of the province

disease outbreaks, detailing the existing teams and committees at national, provincial, district, and local levels. He also discussed the history and key characteristics of Rapid Response Teams (RRT) in Nepal and presented a list of 52 communicable diseases published by the Government of Nepal (GoN). He urged healthcare workers to report cases and events through the Surveillance Outbreak Response Management and Analysis System. Additionally, he provided an overview of disasters and disease outbreaks in the Sudurpaschim province over the past five years.



Bedkot Municipality

Venue: Bedkot Municipality, Kanchanpur District

Date: 2 September 2024

Participants: Chief, Deputy Chief, Chief Administrative officer, Chairperson from different wards, DRR Focal person, technical officers from Municipality, Health Section Chief, Health workers, FCHVs.

Municipality Presentation

Health section chief of the Rural Municipality presented on the Overview and status of disaster of the municipality. Map, geographical location, and information of Health facilities within the municipality was presented. She presented on the updated RRC and RRT members with their contact details. Similarly, she presented on the disasters and outbreaks which have a high risk in the Rural Municipality such as earthquake, landslide, flood, drought, fire, windstorm, lightening. Additionally, she presented on the information of Ambulance service available in the municipality. She also presented on the data of Malaria, Dengue, Scrub Typhus and COVID 19 of last 5 years of the RM.

Discussion: Health workers raised the issue of ambulance in the municipality, ambulance driver doesn't respond on time which is creating difficulty in transporting the pregnant women and other patients to the health facility. Additionally, health workers pointed the issue of inadequate Stretcher and wheelchair in the health facilities.

Closing Remarks: Mr. Bhoj Raj Bohara, Chief of the Municipality, provided a detailed update on the city's preparedness for emergencies and disasters. He highlighted the proactive measures taken by the municipality including the regular updating of the Rapid Response Committee (RRC) and Rapid Response Team (RRT), and the holding of regular meetings to enhance coordination and continuous improvement among the members. He further briefed that we all must realize our roles and responsibilities as per the guideline and requested all to be



Caption: RRC Focal person of Bedkot Municipality presenting the Overview and status of Disaster



prepared and be ready to face any kinds of disasters and disease outbreaks. He also requested the in charge of the health facility to maintain the replacement mechanism of the buffer stock so that the medicines and equipment won't be damaged.

He stressed the importance of healthcare workers being well-prepared to manage various types of disasters and disease outbreaks. Furthermore, Mr. Bohara, emphasized the crucial need for effective and regular communication and coordination among stakeholders during any disaster or outbreak to ensure a well-

organized response. He concluded his address by expressing gratitude to the Health Directorate, Health Office Kanchanpur, and the World Health Organization (WHO) for their support and for organizing the program.



Caption: Mr. Bhaj Raj Bohara, Chief of the municipality providing his closing remarks

Main Bottlenecks

- Delayed response from ambulance drivers, causing difficulties in transporting pregnant women and other patients to health facilities.
- Lack of reliability in emergency medical transportation.
- Insufficient stretchers and wheelchairs in health facilities, hindering patient care and mobility.
- Challenges in maintaining a replacement mechanism for buffer stock, rising damage to medicines and equipment.
- Despite regular meetings and updates, there may still be gaps in coordinating among stakeholders during disasters or outbreaks.
- The municipality faces multiple high-risk disasters and disease outbreaks, which strain resources and preparedness.

Lessons Learnt

- Regular updating of the RRC and RRT is crucial for effective disaster and outbreak management.
- Proactive measures such as regular meetings and coordination, enhance readiness and response capabilities.
- Adequate medical equipment and reliable ambulance services are essential for effective healthcare delivery, especially during emergencies.
- Effective communication and coordination among stakeholders are vital for a well-organized response.

- Maintaining a proper replacement mechanism for buffer stock ensures the availability of medicines and equipment during emergencies.

Recommendations

- Implement a strict monitoring system to ensure timely response from ambulance drivers.
- Consider adding more ambulances to meet demand.
- Allocate funds to procure additional stretchers and wheelchairs for health facilities.
- Conduct regular maintenance checks to ensure equipment is functional.
- Establish a centralized communication system for stakeholders to ensure seamless coordination during emergencies.
- Regular review and update disaster response plans based on lessons learned.
- Continue collaborating with organizations and the health office for technical and financial support.

Overall comments and conclusion

The municipality has made significant strides in disaster preparedness and healthcare management, as evidenced by the regular updating of response teams and the identification of high-risk disasters and outbreaks. However, addressing bottlenecks such as ambulance service delays, insufficient medical equipment, and buffer stock management is critical for enhancing emergency response capabilities. By implementing the recommended measures, the municipality can strengthen its preparedness, ensure effective coordination, and provide better healthcare services during disasters and outbreaks.

Participants Gender Analysis

Male	Female	Total
17	9	26



Bhimdutta Municipality

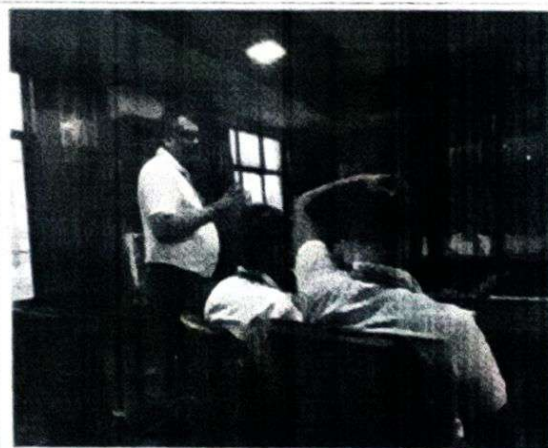
Venue: Bhimdutta Municipality, Kanchanpur District

Date: 4 September 2024

Participants: Chief Administrative officer, Chairperson from different wards, Director from Provincial Health Training Center, Acting Director from Health Directorate, DRR Focal person, technical officers from Municipality, Health Section Chief, Health workers, FCHVs.

Municipality Presentation

Mr. Narendra Raj Joshi, Health section chief of the Municipality presented on the Overview and status of disaster of the municipality. Map, geographical location, and information of Health facilities within the municipality was presented. He presented on the updated RRC and RRT members with their contact details. Similarly, he presented on the disasters and outbreaks which have a high risk in the Municipality such as the Earthquake, flood, drought, fire, windstorm, dengue, scrub typhus, pesticides, lightening. Additionally, he presented on the information of Ambulance service available in the municipality. He also presented on the data of Malaria, Dengue, Scrub Typhus and COVID 19 of last 5 years of the RM.



Caption: RRC Focal person of Bedkot Municipality presenting the Overview and status of Disaster

Closing Remarks: Mr. Mahesh Bahadur Bam, Chief Administrative Officer of the municipality provided a detailed update on the city's preparedness for emergencies and disasters. He highlighted the proactive measures taken by the municipality including the regular updating of the Rapid Response Committee (RRC) and Rapid Response Team (RRT), and the holding of regular meetings to enhance coordination and continuous improvement among the members. He requested all the health workers requested to be prepared and be ready to face any kinds of disasters and disease outbreaks. He thanked Health Directorate, Health Office and WHO Nepal for organizing the program in the municipality. Dr Khagendra Bam, Acting Director of HD briefed that Nepal is a disaster-prone country, so we must be prepared and get ready to face any kind of disasters and disease outbreaks in the region.



Caption: Dr Khagendra Bahadur Bam, Acting Director of Health Directorate giving him remarks



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From our past experiences, we have felt the gaps for effective response. Similarly, he briefed that coordination is also a major challenge and must work for proper communication and coordination between all the concerned stakeholders. Similarly, Mr. Narendra Singh Karki, Director of Health Training Center briefed that as compared to the past, the human and other resources are increasing so we must utilize the resources wisely. He highlighted the importance of RCCE during any disasters and disease outbreaks. He also requested all the health workers to update our knowledge. He gave an example



Caption: Mr. Narendra Singh Karki, Director of Provincial Health Training Center providing his remarks

that when there is heavy rainfall it may cause the water borne disease, so we are in double or triple burden and must be prepared and work for readiness activities.

Main Bottlenecks

- Delayed response from ambulance drivers, causing difficulties in transporting pregnant women and other patients to health facilities.
- Lack of reliability in emergency medical transportation.
- Insufficient stretchers and wheelchairs in health facilities, hindering patient care and mobility.
- Challenge in maintaining a replacement mechanism for buffer stock, risking damage to medicines and equipment.
- Despite regular meetings and updates, there may still be gaps in coordination among stakeholders during disasters or outbreaks.
- The municipality faces high risk disasters and disease outbreaks, which strain resources and preparedness.

Lessons Learned

- Regular updating of the RRC and RRT is crucial for effective disaster and outbreak management.
- Proactive measures, such as regular meetings and coordination, enhance readiness and response capabilities.
- Adequate medical equipment and reliable ambulance services are essential for effective healthcare delivery, especially during emergencies.
- Effective communication and coordination among stakeholders are vital for a well-organized response.
- Maintaining a proper replacement mechanism for buffer stock ensures the availability of medicines and equipment during emergencies.



Recommendations

- Invest in road infrastructure to improve access to remote areas.
- Implement a strict monitoring system to ensure timely response from ambulance drivers.
- Consider adding more ambulances.
- Develop a systematic replacement mechanism for buffers stock to prevent damage and ensure availability.
- Train health facility in charge on proper stock management practice.
- Establish a centralized communication system for stakeholders to ensure seamless coordination during emergencies.
- Regularly review and update disaster response plans based on lessons learned.
- Raise awareness among the community about disaster preparedness and their roles during emergencies.
- Encourage community participation in disaster response drills and training.

Overall comments and conclusion

The presentation highlighted the municipality's efforts in disaster preparedness and healthcare management, including the updating of RRC and RRT, mapping of health facilities and monitoring of disease outbreaks and gaps in resource management need urgent attention. The municipality has shown a proactive approach, but there is room for improvement in coordination, resource allocation, and community engagement. By implementing the recommended measures, the municipality can strengthen its preparedness, ensure effective coordination, and provide better healthcare services during disasters and outbreaks.

Participants Gender Analysis

Male	Female	Total
26	8	34



Dodhara Chadani Municipality

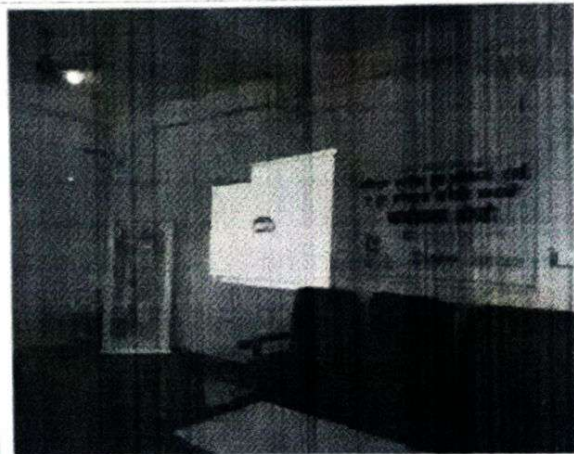
Venue: Dodhara Chadani Municipality, Kanchanpur District

Date: 3 September 2024

Participants: Chief, Deputy Chief, Chief Administrative officer, Chairperson from different wards, DRR Focal person, technical officers from Municipality, Health Section Chief, Health workers, FCHV

Municipality Presentation

Mr. Jay Bahadur Mahara, Health section chief of the Municipality presented on the Overview and status of disaster of the municipality. Map, geographical location, and information of Health facilities within the municipality was presented. He presented on the updated RRC and RRT members with their contact details. Similarly, he presented on the disasters and outbreaks which have a high risk in the Municipality such as earthquake, scrub typhus, dengue, flood, drought, fire, windstorm. Additionally, she presented on the information of Ambulance service available in the municipality. He also presented on the data of Malaria, Dengue, Scrub Typhus and COVID 19 of last 5 years of the RM.



Caption: Figure showing banner and PRS standee during the workshop

Mr. Kishor Kumar Limbu, Chief of the Municipality, provided a detailed update on the city's preparedness for emergencies and disasters. He highlighted the proactive measures taken by the municipality. He briefed, before the workshop, he was not familiar with the team, committee, or their specific roles and responsibilities. However, after attending the workshop, he gained a clear understanding of the team structure, committee functions, and the guidelines governing our activities. Our primary focus is on preparedness and readiness for disasters and disease outbreaks. He emphasized the importance of effective coordination between the teams and the



Caption: Mr. Kishor Kumar Limbu, Chief of the municipality providing his closing remarks



committee to enhance our response capabilities. Although we have been responding to past events, he pointed out that being well-prepared in advance would make it easier to handle future disasters and outbreaks. Additionally, he highlighted a current gap in our approach: we have not been giving sufficient attention to health. He stressed the need to advocate for the allocation of funds to health within the community and to promote the Health Insurance program offered by the Government of Nepal (GoN).

Main Bottlenecks

- There seems to be a gap in awareness and understanding among key decisions makers.
- There has been inadequate attention given to health preparedness and response within the municipality. This includes a lack of advocacy for health funding and promotion of the GoN health insurance program.
- There is a need for more advocacy and allocation of funds especially for health-related disaster preparedness and response.
- Although data on some of the diseases was presented, it is unclear how effectively this data is being used to inform future preparedness and response strategies.

Lessons Learned

- The workshop successfully improved the understanding of key stakeholders, such as the chief of the municipality, regarding disaster response teams, committees, and their roles. This highlights the importance of regular training and capacity building sessions.
- The municipality has taken proactive measures for disaster preparedness, but there is need to focus more on health-related preparedness and response.
- Effective coordination between teams and committees can significantly improve the municipality's ability to respond to disasters and outbreaks.

Recommendations

- Conduct regular workshops and trainings sessions to ensure all stakeholders, including municipal leaders, are familiar with disaster response structures, roles, and responsibilities.
- Allocate more resources and attention to health-related disaster preparedness, including funding for health services and promotion of the GoN's health insurance program.

Overall comments and conclusion

The municipality has made commendable efforts in disaster preparedness and response, particularly in identifying high risks disasters and outbreaks. However, there is a clear need to strengthen health related preparedness and response mechanisms. The workshop successfully improves awareness among key stakeholders, but sustained efforts are required to ensure effective coordination, resource allocation, and utilization of data for future planning.

Participants Gender Analysis

Male	Female	Total
16	4	20



Krishnapur Municipality

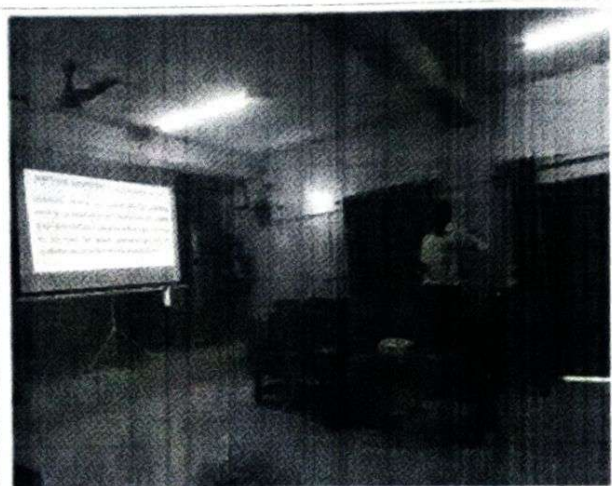
Venue: Krishnapur Municipality, Kanchanpur District

Date: 1 September 2024

Participants: Chief, Chief Administrative officer, Chairperson from different wards, DRR Focal person, technical officers from Municipality, Health Section Chief, Health workers, FCHVs.

Municipality Presentation

Mr. Ratan Singh Bist, Health section chief of the Rural Municipality presented on the Overview and status of disaster of the municipality. Map, geographical location, and information of Health facilities within the municipality was presented. He presented on the updated RRC and RRT members with their contact details. Similarly, he presented on the disasters and outbreaks which have a high risk in the Rural Municipality such as the earthquake, flood, drought, fire, rainfall, hat and cold wave, lightening, animal attack, pesticides, dengue, and scrub typhus. Additionally, he presented on the information of Ambulance service available in the municipality. She also presented on the data of Malaria, Dengue, Scrub Typhus and COVID 19 of last 5 years of the RM.

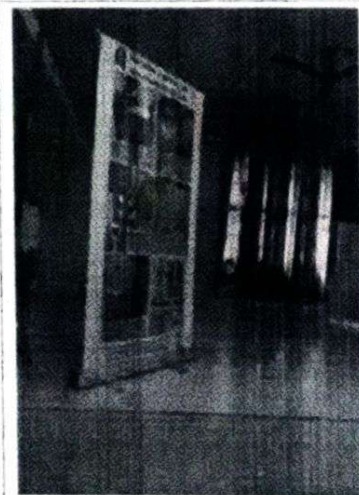


Caption: RRC Focal person of Bedkot Municipality presenting the Overview and status of Disaster

Closing Remarks:

Mr. Hemraj Ojha, Chief of the Municipality, provided an update on the municipality's preparedness for emergencies and disasters. He highlighted the measures taken by the municipality including the regular updating of the Rapid Response Committee (RRC) and Rapid Response Team (RRT), and the holding of regular meetings to enhance coordination and continuous improvement among the members.

He requested all the health care workers to work for preparedness and readiness activities to face any kind of disasters and disease outbreaks. He concluded his address by expressing gratitude to the Health Directorate, Health Office Kanchanpur, and the World Health Organization (WHO) for their support and for organizing the program.



Caption: Figure showing PRS standee during the workshop



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Main Bottlenecks

- The municipality faces challenges in procuring sufficient resources, such as ambulances, medical equipment, and funding to address emergencies effectively.
- Geographical challenges, and inadequate infrastructure in rural areas may hinder timely response during disasters.
- There are gaps in data collections, analysis, and dissemination which could affect decision making during emergencies.

Lessons Learnt

- Regular updating of RRC and RT members, along with their contact details, ensures a swift and organized response during emergencies.
- Strong partnerships with organizations like WHO and health directorate can enhance the municipality's capacity to manage disasters.
- Regular meetings and reviews of disaster preparedness plans help identify gaps and improve response strategies.

Recommendations

- Invest in infrastructure improvements, such as better roads, communication networks, and health facilities, to ensure accessibility.
- Secure funding and resources for ambulances, medical supplies, and training programs for enhancing preparedness.
- Develop a clear coordination framework among stakeholders to ensure seamless communication and collaboration during emergencies.

Overall comments and conclusion

There are challenges such as limited resources infrastructure faps, and coordination issues that need to be addressed to enhance overall preparedness. The municipality's collaboration with the health directorate, health office, and WHO is positive step during building resilience. While significant progress has bee made, there is a need for continued efforts to address bottlenecks, mobilize resources and engage the community.

Participants Gender analysis

Male	Female	Total
17	9	26



Suklaphata Municipality

Venue: Suklaphata Municipality, Kanchanpur District

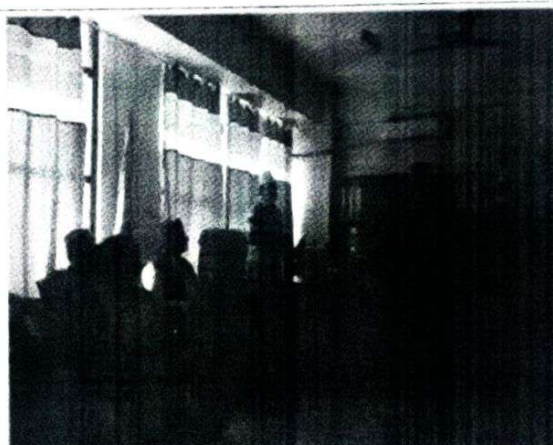
Date: 5 September 2024

Participants: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Chief Administrative officer, Chairperson from different wards, Nepal Police, DRR Focal person, technical officers from Municipality, Health Section Chief, Health workers, FCHVs.

Municipality Presentation

Mr. Pramanand Bhatt, Health section chief of the Municipality presented on the Overview and status of disaster of the municipality. Map, geographical location, and information of Health facilities within the municipality was presented. He presented on the updated RRC and RRT members with their contact details. Similarly, he presented on the disasters and outbreaks which have a high risk in the Rural Municipality such as earthquake, landslide, flood, drought, heavy rainfall, fire, windstorm, lightening, animal attack, pesticides, and dengue. Additionally, he presented on the information of Ambulance service available in the municipality. He also presented on the data of Malaria, Dengue, Scrub Typhus and COVID 19 of last 5 years of the municipality.

Mr. Ran Bahadur Mahara, Chief of the Municipality, provided a detailed update on the city's preparedness for emergencies and disasters. He highlighted the proactive measures taken by the municipality including the regular updating of the Rapid Response Committee (RRC) and Rapid Response Team (RRT), and the holding of regular meetings to enhance coordination and continuous improvement among the members. He further briefed that we all must realize our roles and responsibilities as per the guideline and requested all to be prepared and be ready to face any kinds of disasters and disease outbreaks. He also requested the in charge of the health facility for preparedness and readiness activities for any disasters and disease outbreaks. He concluded his address by expressing gratitude to the Health Directorate, Health Office Kanchanpur, and the World Health Organization (WHO) for their support and for organizing the program.



Caption: Mr. Ran Bahadur Mahara, Chief of the Municipality providing his closing remarks



Caption: RRC Focal person of Bedkot Municipality presenting the Overview and status of Disaster



Main Bottlenecks

- The municipality faces limitation in terms of financial resources, medical supplies, and trained personnel to effectively respond to disasters and disease outbreaks.
- Despite regular meetings, there might still be gaps in coordination among the RRC and RRT members, especially during large scale emergencies.
- The geographical location and existing infrastructure might pose challenges in accessing remote areas during disasters, particularly during landslides, floods, or rainfalls.

Lessons Learnt

- Regular updating of RRC and RRT members, along with continuous training and simulation, can significantly improve response times and effectiveness during disasters.
- Engaging the community in disaster preparedness activities can enhance resilience and ensure a more coordinated response.

Recommendations

- Conducting regular disaster drills, updating emergency response plans, and ensure adequate resources are available.
- Launching awareness campaigns, strengthening law enforcement, and providing rehabilitation services to address drug abuse in Dadeldhura.
- Providing regular training and resources to RRT members to ensure they are well prepared for emergencies.
- Continue collaborating with organizations to secure technical and financial support.

Overall Comments and Conclusion

The municipality is on the right track in terms of disaster preparedness and response, but continuous efforts are needed to address the existing bottlenecks. The collaboration with external organizations like WHO is a positive step, but internal coordination and community involvement need to be further strengthened.

Participants gender analysis

Male	Female	Total
17	9	26



Belaury Municipality

Venue: Belaury Municipality, Kanchanpur District

Date: 30 July 2024

Participants: Deputy Mayor, Chief Administrative officer, Chairperson from different wards, Nepal Police, DRR Focal person, technical officers from Municipality, Health Section Chief, Health workers, FCHVs.

Municipality Presentation

Health section chief of the Municipality presented on the Overview and status of disaster of the Municipality. Map, geographical location, and information of Health facilities within the municipality was presented. He presented on the updated RRC and RRT members with their contact details. Additionally, he presented on the information of Ambulance service available in the municipality. He also presented on the data of Malaria, Dengue, Scrub Typhus and COVID 19 of last 5 years of the municipality.

The Deputy Mayor of Belaury Municipality delivered an insightful briefing, outlining the major disasters that have impacted the municipality. He acknowledged the persistent challenges faced by the municipality, particularly in the face of disasters and disease outbreaks and emphasized the importance of preparedness and coordination in mitigating these impacts.

The Deputy Mayor expressed deep gratitude to the health workers for their unwavering dedication and tireless efforts during times of crisis. He recognized the significant role they play in disaster response and disease control, highlighting their commitment to ensuring public health and safety in the most challenging circumstances.

He urged all health workers to adhere strictly to the Terms of Reference (TOR) outlined in the guideline of RRC and RRT. He explained to maintain a clear and efficient approach during emergencies, ensuring that each team member fulfills their designated responsibilities, and that the response is well-organized and effective.

Additionally, he took the opportunity to extend his sincere thanks to the Health Directorate (HD), Health Office (HO), and World Health Organization (WHO) for their continued support and invaluable contributions during both disaster situations and disease outbreaks. He also expressed appreciation for their efforts in organizing the program, which plays a crucial role in enhancing preparedness and collaboration within the municipality.



Caption: RRT focal point of province presenting on behalf of HD Sudurpaschim



Main Bottlenecks

- Limited availability of ambulances, medical supplies and trained personnel during emergencies.
- Inefficient coordination among RRC and RRT members during disaster response.
- Inconsistent or delayed reporting of disease data affecting timely decision making.
- Remote and hard to reach areas within the municipality hinder quick response and service delivery.

Lessons Learnt

- The importance of having updated RRC and RRT contact details, clear ToRs, and regular training sessions for health workers.
- Active involvement of the community in disaster preparedness and disease control efforts enhance overall resilience.

Recommendations

- Launch campaigns to educate the public on disaster preparedness, disease prevention, and the importance of early reporting.
- Invest in upgrading health facilities and infrastructure to better handle emergencies and outbreaks.
- Continue collaboration with the Health Directorate, Health Office, WHO and other stakeholders to leverage technical and financial support.

Overall Comments and Conclusion

The municipality highlighted the critical challenges and achievements in disaster and disease management. While significant progress has been made in preparedness and response, bottlenecks, such as resource constraints, coordination gaps and infrastructure limitation persist. Moving forward, sustained commitment and collaboration will be essential to ensure the health and safety of the municipality's residents in the face of disasters and disease outbreaks.

Participants gender analysis

Male	Female	Total
21	8	29



Beldandi Rural Municipality

Venue: Beldandi Rural Municipality, Kanchanpur District

Date: 1 August 2024

Participants: Acting Chairperson, Chief Administrative officer, Chairperson from different wards, Nepal Police, DRR Focal person, technical officers from Municipality, Health Section Chief, Health workers, FCHVs.

Municipality Presentation

Health section chief of the Rural Municipality presented on the Overview and status of disaster of the Rural Municipality. Map, geographical location, and information of Health facilities within the RM was presented. He presented on the updated RRC and RRT members with their contact details. Additionally, he presented on the information of Ambulance service available in the RM. He also presented on the data of Malaria, Dengue, Scrub Typhus and COVID 19 of last 5 years of the RM.

Acting Chairperson of the rural municipality thanked Health directorate, Health Office and WHO Nepal for organizing the program. He requested all the health workers to work hard and be prepared to face any kinds of disasters and disease outbreaks.

Main Bottlenecks

- Inconsistent or delayed reporting of disease data affecting timely decision making.
- Remote and hard to reach areas within the municipality hinder adaptive response.
- Lack of community awareness on disaster preparedness and disease prevention measures.

Lessons Learnt

- Active involvement of the community in disaster preparedness and disease control efforts enhances overall resilience.
- Strong partnerships with organizations like the health directorate, health office, and WHO are critical for effective response.
- Prioritizing resources for vulnerable areas and ensuring equitable distribution during emergencies.

Recommendations

- Increase the number of ambulances, medical supplies, and trained personnel, especially in remote areas.
- Establish a centralized coordination system for RRC and RT members to ensure seamless communication and collaboration.
- Implement a robust digital reporting system for disease surveillance and disaster related data.



- Continue collaborating with organizations to secure technical and financial support.

Overall Comments and Conclusion

The lessons learned underscore the importance of preparedness, community engagement, and inter agency collaboration. By implementing the recommended actions, such as strengthening resources, improving data management, and enhancing community awareness, the municipality can build a more resilient and effective response system.

Participants gender analysis

Male	Female	Total
17	7	24



Laljhadi Rural Municipality

Venue: Laljhadi Rural Municipality, Kanchanpur District

Date: 1 August 2024

Participants: Acting Chairperson, Chief Administrative officer, Chairperson from different wards, Nepal Police, DRR Focal person, technical officers from Municipality, Health Section Chief, Health workers, FCHVs.

Municipality Presentation

Health section chief of the Rural Municipality presented on the Overview and status of disaster of the Rural Municipality. Map, geographical location, and information of Health facilities within the RM was presented. He presented on the updated RRC and RRT members with their contact details. Additionally, he presented on the information of Ambulance service available in the RM. The Chairperson of Laljhadi Rural Municipality provided a comprehensive briefing on the significant role of the Rapid Response Committee (RRC) since its establishment in 2075. He emphasized the importance of being well-prepared to respond to emergencies, especially given Nepal's vulnerability to natural disasters.



Caption: Chairperson of the RM giving his closing remarks

The chairperson highlighted the critical function of the Rapid Response Team (RRT) and the RRC, stressing that their success depends on clear roles, responsibilities, and effective operations. He also mentioned the operational Local Emergency Operations Center (LEOC), which is housed in a dedicated rented space, facilitating smooth information flow within the system.

Looking ahead, the chairperson outlined the municipality's plans to strengthen its preparedness strategies and improve emergency response mechanisms. He emphasized the importance of collaboration among all stakeholders, especially with the support of the provincial government and the World Health Organization (WHO).

The municipality is committed to passing necessary legislation, allocating adequate funding, and implementing comprehensive strategies for disaster and outbreak preparedness and response. He urged all health workers and involved parties to align their efforts with these objectives, ensuring a unified approach.

Finally, the chairperson expressed gratitude to the Health Directorate (HD), the health Office (HO), and the WHO for their support and for organizing the program.

Main Bottlenecks



- Inconsistent coordination among RRC and RRT members, affecting the efficiency of emergency response.
- Lack of community awareness about disaster preparedness and response activities.
- Awareness gap in the community about disaster preparedness and the role of RRC and RRT in emergency response.

Lessons Learnt

- Partnerships with the HD, Health office, and WHO have been instrumental in strengthening disaster response capabilities.
- The success of RRC and RRT depends on well defined, roles, responsibilities, and operational guidelines.
- Engaging the community in disaster preparedness and response efforts enhances overall resilience.

Recommendations

- Invest in upgrading health facilities to handle large scale disasters.
- Advocate for increased budget allocation from the provincial government and other stakeholders for disaster preparedness and response activities.
- Pass necessary legislation to institutionalize disaster and outbreak preparedness and response strategies.

Overall Comments and Conclusion

The lessons learned underscore the importance of preparedness, effective communication, and stakeholder collaboration. By implementing the recommended actions, such as enhancing resources, improving infrastructure, and increasing community awareness, the rural municipality can build a more resilient and effective emergency response system.

Participants gender analysis

Male	Female	Total
22	9	31



Punarbhas Municipality

Venue: Punarbhas Municipality, Kanchanpur District

Date: 29 July 2024

Participants: Deputy Mayor, Chief Administrative officer, Chairperson from different wards, Nepal Police, DRR Focal person, technical officers from Municipality, Health Section Chief, Health workers, FCHVs.

Municipality Presentation

Health section chief of the Municipality presented on the Overview and status of disaster of the Municipality. Map, geographical location, and information of Health facilities within the municipality was presented. He presented on the updated RRC and RRT members with their contact details. Additionally, he presented on the information of Ambulance service available in the municipality. He also presented on the data of Malaria, Dengue, Scrub Typhus and COVID 19 of last 5 years of the municipality.

The Deputy Mayor of Punarbhas Municipality provided an important update on the municipality's disaster preparedness and response efforts. He announced that the municipality has successfully updated the Rapid Response Coordination (RRC) and Rapid Response Teams (RRT) in accordance with the latest guidelines. This update ensures that the teams are better equipped and more capable of handling emergencies effectively.

She emphasized the critical role of health workers in ensuring that the municipality is well-prepared to face any kind of disaster or disease outbreak. She urged all health workers to remain vigilant and proactive, stressing the importance of continuous preparedness activities. By staying alert and ready to respond at any moment, the health workers can help mitigate the impact of disasters and ensure a swift and effective response to any health crisis that may arise.



Caption: RRT focal point of province presenting on behalf of Health Directorate

Main Bottlenecks

- Inconsistent or delayed reporting of disease data affecting timely decision making.
- Remote and hard to reach areas within the municipality hinder adaptive response.
- Lack of community awareness on disaster preparedness and disease prevention measures.

Lessons Learnt



- Active involvement of the community in disaster preparedness and disease control efforts enhances overall resilience.
- Strong partnerships with organizations like the health directorate, health office, and WHO are critical for effective response.
- Prioritizing resources for vulnerable areas and ensuring equitable distribution during emergencies.

Recommendations

- Increase the number of ambulances, medical supplies, and trained personnel, especially in remote areas.
- Establish a centralized coordination system for RRC and RT members to ensure seamless communication and collaboration.
- Implement a robust digital reporting system for disease surveillance and disaster related data.
- Pass necessary legislation to institutionalize disaster and outbreak preparedness and response strategies.
- Continue collaborating with organizations to secure technical and financial support.

Overall Comments and Conclusion

The lessons learned underscore the importance of preparedness, community engagement, and inter agency collaboration. By implementing the recommended actions, such as strengthening resources, improving data management, and enhancing community awareness, the municipality can build a more resilient and effective response system. Moving forward, sustained commitment, legislative support, and collaboration among all stakeholders will be essential to ensure the health and safety of the rural municipality's residents in the face of disasters and disease outbreaks.

Participants gender analysis

Male	Female	Total
23	7	30

