ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT
2025

Strengthening Urban Preparedness, Earthquake Preparedness and Response in the Western Region of Nepal (SUPER-II)

PROJECT PROFILE

<table>
<tr><th>About the Programme</th><th>Geographic coverage</th></tr>
<tr><td>Title: Strengthened Urban Preparedness and Earthquake Response (SUPER)
Project Atlas ID: 01002611

Web links:
https://www.undp.org/nepal/projects/strengthening-urban-preparedness-earthquake-preparedness-and-response-western-region-nepal-super-ii</td><td>National level coverage (Yes/No): No
Number of Provinces covered: 3
Number of municipalities covered: 3</td></tr>
<tr><th colspan="2">Strategic Results</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">UNDP Strategic Plan 2022- 2025 Six Signature Solutions: Resilience
Support communities in building resilience to diverse shocks and crises, including conflict, climate change, disasters, and epidemics.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">UNSDCF Nepal Priority Area 3: Environmental Sustainability, Climate and Disaster Resilience
Outcome 3: By 2027, more people, especially women, youth, and the most marginalized and poor, increasingly benefit from and contribute to building an inclusive, sustainable, climate-resilient, and green society and reduced impacts of disasters at federal, provincial, and local levels.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Country programme document (CPD) for Nepal (2023–2027): Outcome 3: Environmental sustainability, climate and disaster resilience
▪ CPD Output 3.1: Innovative resilience-building solutions introduced at all levels to reduce risk from disasters and climate change.</td></tr>
</table>

Duration (day/month/year)	Implementing Partner(s)	Implementation Modality
Start Date: 01/08/2024 End Date: 31/07/2026	***Primary Partner:*** National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA), Ministry of Home Affairs. ***Other partners:*** • *MoIAL (Sudurpaschim, Karnali, Lumbini)* • *Nepalgunj SMC, Dhangadhi SMC, Birendranager Municipality* ***Consortium partners:*** • *UNICEF* • *UN Women* • *HI* ***Local Implementing Partners*** • *NRCS* • *RoYM-Nepal* • *NIURS* • *RUDUC* • *BNA* • *CDM-Nepal*	Direct Implementation Modality (DIM)

Project Budget (US$)

UNDP Contribution:
TRAC I (UNDP Cost Sharing SUPER II): 399,004.00
TRAC I (DRM Support): 131,341.00
TRAC II: 10,000.00

Government Contribution: N/A
Other Contributions: N/A

Donor Contributions (ECHO): 1,948,474.00

Total Program Budget (2024 –2026):	US$ 2,488,819.00
Total Expenditure till 31 Dec 2025:	US$ 1,561,626.00
Budget for 2025:	US$ 1,359,401.00
Expenditure (including commitments) for 2025	US $ 1,336,506.00
Budget Utilization % (2025)	98%

Signature: _____

Siddhartha Sharma

National Project Coordinator, SUPER

Date:

Signature: _____

Julien Chevillard

Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP

Date:

TABLE OF CONTENT

Contents

1. Executive Summary 1
2. Background and Rationale 2
3. Project Summary and Objectives 3
4. PROGRAMMATIC ADJUSTMENT 5
Narrative on Key Results Achieved in 2025 6
4.1. Progress towards the UNSDCF/CPD Outcomes 10
4.2. Progress on Project Outputs 11
5. BUDGET and EXPENDITURE 19
6. Cross Cutting Issues 21
7.1. Targeting and voice/Participation of Target groups 21
7.2. Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment, and Social Inclusion 21
7.3. National Capacity Development 23
7.4. Sustainability 23
7.5. South-South and Triangular Cooperation 24
7.6. Partnerships 24
7.7. Promotion of Civic Engagement 24
7.8. Expanding Opportunities for Youth 25
7.9. Innovation 25
7.10. Knowledge Management and Products 26
7. Lessons Learned 27
8. Implementation Issues and Challenges 28
9. Priorities for 2026 29
10. Case Stories 30
11. Risk and Issue Logs 34
12. Annex: Photo Gallery 38

ABBREVIATION

BCP	:	Business Continuity Plan
BNA	:	Sundar Nepal Sanstha
CBO	:	Community Based Organization
CDM-Nepal		Centre for Development and Disaster Management-Nepal
CERT	:	Community Emergency Response Team
CHS	:	Core Humanitarian Standard
CPD	:	Country Programme Document
CSO	:	Civil Society Organization
CSSMP	:	Comprehensive School Safety Minimum Package
DAO	:	District Administration Office
DDMC	:	District Disaster Management Committee
DEOC	:	District Emergency Operation Centre
DHM	:	Department of Hydrology and Meteorology
DIM	:	Direct Implementation Modality
DIMS	:	Disaster Information Management System
DPRP	:	Disaster Preparedness and Response Plans
DRM	:	Disaster Risk Management
DRRM	:	Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
ECHO	:	European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
EOC	:	Emergency Operation Centre
EPRP	:	Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan
ERCC	:	Emergency Response Coordination Centre
FNCCI	:	Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce
FY	:	Fiscal Year
GEDSI	:	Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion
IM	:	Information Management
IPRS	:	Inter-Provincial Resource Sharing
IRA	:	Initial Rapid Assessment
LDMC	:	Local Disaster Management Committee
LEOC	:	Local Emergency Operations Centre
M	:	Municipality
MDSA	:	Monitor for Disaster Strategic Action Plan
MoIAL	:	Ministry of Internal Affairs and Law
MPRP	:	Monsoon Preparedness and Response Plan
NDMA	:	National Disaster Management Authority
NDRRMA	:	National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Authority
NIURS	:	Nepal Institute for Urban and Regional Studies
NNSWA	:	Nepal National Social Welfare Association
NPR	:	Nepalese Rupee
NRCS	:	Nepal Red Cross Society
OPD	:	Organizations of People with Disabilities
PDRF	:	Province Disaster Response Framework
PEOC	:	Provincial Emergency Operations Centre
PHEOC	:	Provincial Health Emergency Operations Centre
PPDRR	:	Provincial Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
RGA	:	Rapid Gender Analysis

RM	:	Rural Municipality
RUDUC	:	Rural Women's Development and Unity Centre
SADDD	:	Sex, Age, and Disability-Disaggregated Data
SAP	:	Strategic Action Plan
SAR	:	Search and Rescue
SMC	:	Sub-Metropolitan City
SUPER	:	Strengthening Urban Preparedness, Earthquake Preparedness and Response in the Western Region of Nepal
ToC	:	Theory of Change
UNDP	:	United Nations Development Programme
UNSDCF	:	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
VMS	:	Volunteer Management System
WASH	:	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WDMC	:	Ward Disaster Management Committee

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Result/Output and Activity Statements 9
Table 2: Progress in Country Programme Indicators 10
Table 3: Progress in Output Indicators 11
Table 4: Beneficiaries' Disaggregated Data 18
Table 5: Annual Budget and Corresponding Expenditure 19
Table 6: Sources of Fund and its Utilization Scenario 19
Table 7: M&E Expenditure in 2024 20
Table 8: Risk and Issues Log Matrix 34

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Equipment support provided to LEOC 38
Figure 2: School Drill conduction on disaster preparedness and response 38
Figure 3: Conduction of simulation exercises with the involvement of security forces 39
Figure 4: Monitoring visit from NDRRMA 39
Figure 5: Monitoring visit from ECHO 40

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Strengthening Urban Preparedness and Earthquake Preparedness and Response (SUPER) Programme, is being implemented by UNDP in collaboration with the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) as the lead agency, demonstrated robust progress and delivery performance. The substantial project interventions were carried out in 2025, marking a highly productive implementation year. During this period, the project achieved targets for 9 out of 12 indicators, while one indicator remains in progress with 67% completion to date. In terms of financial delivery, 98% (1,336,506) of the total allocated budget of 1,359,401 was utilized during the reporting period.

EPRPs for all action municipalities have been revised and updated, incorporating provisions to integrate emergency volunteers into municipal disaster response teams. The process of updating BCPs across all three provinces and municipalities has also begun, starting with initial consultations. The project not only leveraged but also increased investments in disaster preparedness and response. For instance, Birendranagar Municipality increased its budget allocation by 63% in FY 2025/26 compared to the previous fiscal year, Nepalgunj SMC increased its allocation by 7%, and Sudurpaschim Province increased its budget by 45% over the same period.

Capacity-building efforts included conducting drills and simulation exercises in 28 schools in Dhangadhi SMC, 30 schools in Nepalgunj SMC, and 26 schools in Birendranagar Municipality to enhance students' preparedness for shocks and stress. Additionally, GEDSI-focused and issue-based simulation exercises were carried out at the community level. The project also updated the roster of interns and volunteers in the NDRRMA Volunteer Management System (VMS), with 20 interns and 179 volunteers recorded to date.

Cluster and inter-cluster meetings were held to revise and update contingency plans across sectors such as health and nutrition, WASH, emergency shelter, protection, education, and ensuring the integration of GEDSI provisions. Pre- and post-monsoon cluster meetings have now been institutionalized across all working provinces and local governments. Inter-municipal resource sharing and pooling platform established in Banke district demonstrated the effective network during the crisis and disaster. Such platforms/mechanisms are being replicated in Lumbini province. Furthermore, IPRS guidelines have been drafted and are currently undergoing endorsement under the leadership of MoIAL.

Workshops on the localization of GEDSI within the DRRM Strategic Action Plan (SAP) were conducted in all municipalities. As a result, Nepalgunj has successfully prepared, endorsed, and rolled out its SAP. In addition, a DRM Roadmap and corresponding Briefing Notes for provinces and municipalities were developed and shared with assembly members and parliamentarians for validation.

The project faced a number of implementation challenges and risks during the reporting period; however, appropriate mitigation measures were identified, and key good practices were captured and shared for learning. Despite these constraints, the project successfully reached 29,304 beneficiaries, including 13,138 females and 34 non-binary individuals. Among them were 174 persons with disabilities, comprising 69 females and 105 males, demonstrating the project's commitment to inclusive outreach.

FIVE KEY RESULTS ACHIEVED IN 2025

- ✓ 28 number of non-project municipalities replicated urban preparedness with EPRP, functional EOC and LDMC and active volunteer engagement (12 in Lumbini Province, 8 in Sudurpaschim Province and 8 in Karnali Province).
- ✓ EPRPs have been reviewed in all the in all three action municipalities led by government technical task body.
- ✓ 9 Municipalities and provinces are allocating budget for disaster preparedness and response through budgetary provision and revision of plans through government led mechanism
- ✓ 10 number of simulation exercise conducted among which 3 are through co-financing mechanism.
- ✓ All three provinces have institutionalised pre and post monsoon cluster meeting. The MPRP are revised and prepared accordingly.
- ✓ The inter-cluster/municipal resource sharing and pooling network formed in the project sites have effectively strengthened coordination and collaboration across and among the local government for improved disaster preparedness and response. The inter-cluster network of Banke district, municipal members Khajura and Janaki RM supported official tools, equipment and furniture to the Nepalgunj SMC and Kohalpur Municipality, which had been damaged during the Genz Z protest.
- ✓ GEDSI Strategic Action Plan (SAP) is prepared and endorsed in Nepalgunj SMC. The plan has been rolled out with allocation of gender responsive budget for the FY 2082/prioritizing GEDSI. the SMC has initiated operationalizing GEDSI in DRRM at the community level, translating strategic commitments into practical action.
- ✓ 29,304 people including 13,138 female and 34 non-binary people have been benefitted. This also included 174 PWD with 69 female and 105 males.

2. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

Nepal is highly vulnerable zone for seismic activity. Within a decade, Nepal has experienced catastrophic earthquake events. Recently in November 2023, a magnitude 6.4 cause a significant loss of life and property in Jajarkot and Rukum district (NDRI, 2023) demonstrating gaps in the earthquake preparedness and response efforts. As a result, SUPER II project was envisioned to enhance earthquake preparedness in urban areas by strengthening response mechanisms and building resilience.

Building on past initiatives, primarily the demonstrated disaster preparedness pilot models in Sudurpashchim, Karnali and Lumbini provinces, and learnings from recent disasters, including the Jajarkot earthquake, SUPER-II aims to enhance urban and earthquake preparedness and response in the western region of Nepal. To achieve this, the project focuses on institutionalizing government-led operational systems at the provincial and local levels; strengthening coordination and information management at provincial and municipal levels, aligning with national framework for disaster risk governance; and policy engagement for upscaling disaster preparedness and response mechanisms at federal, provincial and local levels. The project emphasizes inclusion, addressing the specific needs of vulnerable groups, especially women, children, and persons with disabilities, and aims to upscale interventions in the project areas and beyond.

3. PROJECT SUMMARY AND OBJECTIVES

Strengthening Urban Preparedness, Earthquake Preparedness and Response in the Western Region of Nepal (SUPER-II) continues to play an instrumental role in promoting resilience of people and communities in Nepal against the impact of disasters and climate change and supports overall sustainable development of Nepal under the UNSDCF Nepal Priority Area 3: Environmental Sustainability, Climate and Disaster Resilience, Outcome 3: By 2027, more people, especially women, youth, and the most marginalized and poor, increasingly benefit from and contribute to building an inclusive, sustainable, climate-resilient, and green society and reduced impacts of disasters at federal, provincial, and local levels AND Country programme Document (CPD) for Nepal (2023–2027): Outcome 3: Environmental sustainability, climate and disaster resilience, CPD Output 3.1: Innovative resilience-building solutions introduced at all levels to reduce risk from disasters and climate change, CPD Output 3.2: Environmental governance strengthened at all three levels for climate-change adaptation and mitigation, sustainable watershed, ecosystem, and biodiversity management, CPD Output 3.3: Reliable, affordable, and efficient clean energy solutions promoted.

SUPER is implemented under the leadership of National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDDRMA) and funded by Directorate General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations Humanitarian Implementation Plan (DG ECHO HI). The project duration is from 1 August 2024 to 31 July 2026 with a total approved budget of USD 3.82 million. Within its scope, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Law (MoIAL) at provincial level and Disaster Management Section of the Municipality at Municipal level is leading the task team. It also involves parliamentarians, municipal associations, government training institutions, media, and the private sector. The project is led by UNDP as lead consortium with UNICEF, UN Women, and Handicap International. The project works closely with the UN Resident Coordinator's Office, all federal and provincial disaster related clusters, Nepal Red Cross Society, civil society organizations, and other development partners for strengthening a coordinated response mechanism.

The project is working in three provinces, Sudurpaschim, Lumbini and Karnali and their respective three local government units, Dhangadhi Sub-Metropolitan City (SMC), Nepalgunj SMC and Birendranagar Municipality. UNDP is leading project implementation in Karnali and Sudurpaschim and their respective local government units Birendranagar Municipality and Dhangadhi SMC, and UNICEF is leading in Lumbini Province and Nepalgunj SMC.

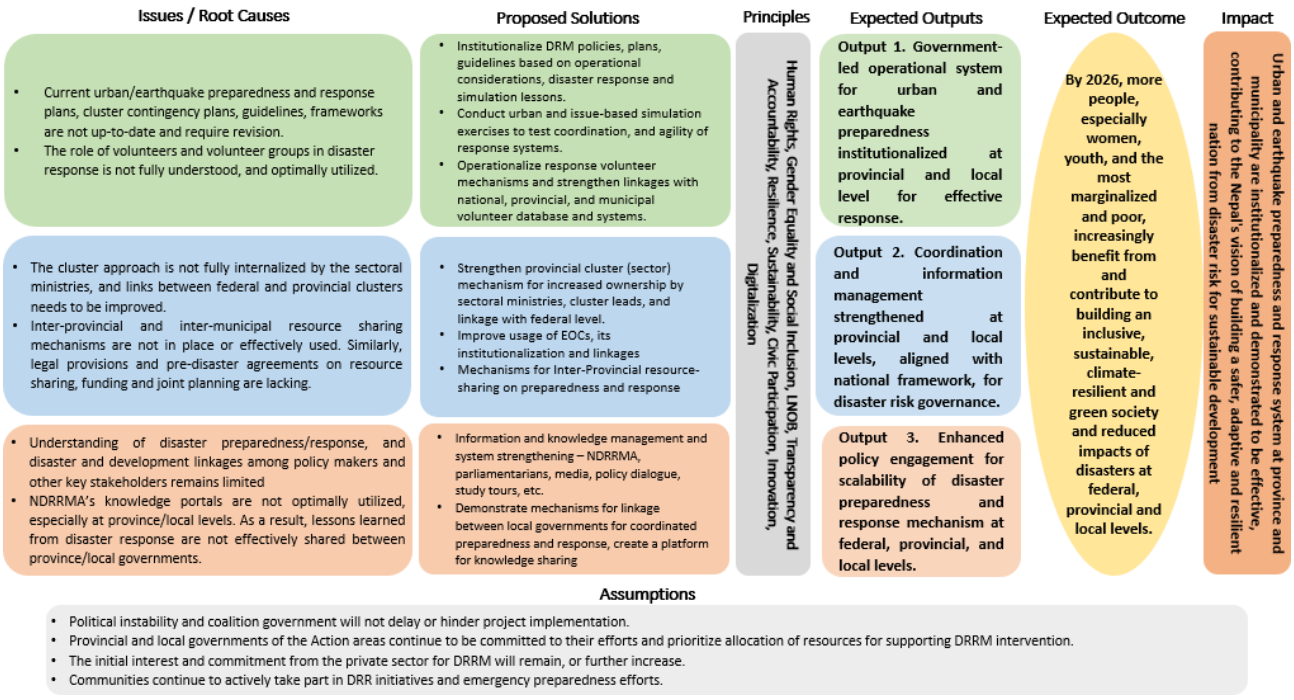
SUPER II project implemented with principal objective of institutionalizing and transferring the steward role of project to government led mechanisms as "to institutionalize demonstrated urban and earthquake preparedness and response system at province and municipality and upscale it through federal linkages, policy engagement, advocacy and system strengthening thus, contributing to the Nepal's vision of building a safer, adaptive and resilient nation from disaster risk for sustainable development, as enshrined in the Disaster Risk Reduction National Strategic Plan of Action (2018-2030)". To meet the principal objective, project is working in seven different specific objectives as; 1.To operationalize a government-led mechanism for periodic updating of earthquake preparedness and response plans and operational procedures of urban municipalities and provinces, with inclusion at core, to enable efficient and effective response, 2. To further strengthen coordination mechanism in disaster response between province and urban municipality and government and development partners including clusters and resource sharing mechanisms, 3. To institutionalize Emergency Operation Centers (EOCs) at province and municipal levels and further improve its functionality for inclusive disaster data and information management system and linkages to federal and district levels mechanism, 4. To integrate community volunteer system in disaster response in urban municipalities through integrated response planning, database and periodic skill updating, 5. To partner with NDRRMA for upgrading disaster management portals and its localization and capacity building at province and urban municipality for enhancing usage, 6. To upscale disaster preparedness and response intervention through engagement of elected representatives, study tours, media advocacy, co-

financing and partnership, 7. To promote joint planning approach among municipalities for urban and earthquake preparedness and response.

In line with objective, the project has defined three major outputs/results under which the result framework is established and activities are outlined. These three outputs/results are: Output 1: Government-led operational system for urban and earthquake preparedness institutionalized at provincial and local level for effective response, Output 2: Coordination and information management strengthened at provincial and local levels, aligned with national framework, for disaster risk governance, Output 3. Enhanced policy engagement for scalability of disaster preparedness and response mechanism at federal, provincial, and local levels.

THEORY OF CHANGE

The Theory of Change (ToC) of SUPER II project states that "IF, government-led operational systems for urban and earthquake preparedness are institutionalized at provincial and local level for effective response, IF, Coordination and information management is strengthened at provincial and local levels, aligned with national framework for disaster risk governance, and IF, policy engagement for scalability of disaster preparedness and response mechanism at federal, provincial, and local levels is enhanced, THEN, by 2026, impacts of disasters will be reduced for people and communities of the select urban municipalities and provinces of western Nepal, BECAUSE, urban and earthquake preparedness and response system at province and municipality are institutionalized and demonstrated to be effective, contributing to the Nepal's vision of building a safer, adaptive and resilient nation from disaster risk for sustainable development".



4. PROGRAMMATIC ADJUSTMENT

Project adjusted the definition of indicator 1.2. The indicator originally defined as % increase of municipalities and provinces where preparedness is institutionalized through budgetary provision and revision of plans through the government led mechanism, making it difficult to measure the increment with 0 as baseline value. Therefore, project redefined the indicator 1.2 *as # of municipalities and provinces where preparedness is institutionalized through budgetary provision and revision of plans through the government led mechanism.*

The project planned to work with Godawari Municipality instead of Dhangadhi SMC in Sudurpaschim Province and has adjusted the plan accordingly. Dhangadhi SMC, the project action area, was reluctant to implement the project activities despite continuous coordination. The municipal leadership showed less interest in cooperation and collaboration, therefore project-initiated coordination with a neighboring Godawari Municipality to implement the remaining activities within project's timeframe. This has been communicated and informed in the 1st interim report submitted in August 2025.

NARRATIVE ON KEY RESULTS ACHIEVED IN 2025

Updation of Disaster/Contingency Plans:

In the reporting year 2025, project supported to revise Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (EPRP) in all three action municipalities led by government technical task body. These EPRPs have incorporated a provision for Emergency Volunteers to be part of the task team thereby ensuring that they are formally integrated into the municipal disaster response system. These EPRPs target the population of the 3 municipalities i.e., 517,099 people which include approx. 256,068 female, 261,031 male population, and 10,110 Persons with Disability (PWD).

The revision of Business Continuity Plans (BCP) is initiated in all action municipalities of three provinces with an aim of continuing the operationalization of critical services such as ambulance, fire brigade, communication, water supply, electricity during the time of emergency. The plan will map the resources, provide the provision of engaging private sector for back up and test the capacity of Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) as a part of the disaster preparedness.

Project supported strengthening the cluster level meetings to update and revise the sectoral plan integrating disaster preparedness which has increased the ownership of sectoral ministries, cluster leads and its linkage at the federal level. The pre and post monsoon cluster and inter cluster meeting has been institutionalized in all provinces. These meetings also reviewed the Monsoon Preparedness and Response Plan (MPRP) 2082 and a cold wave contingency plan was developed for the winter period in Lumbini province. Similarly contingency plans like protection contingency plan and Health and Nutrition cluster contingency plan have been finalized in Sudurpaschim Province, while emergency communication, shelter preparedness, monsoon preparedness contingency plans are in progress. Additionally, education, protection, shelter, WASH clusters contingency plans have been updated in Karnali Province.

Replication of disaster preparedness initiatives

The non action municipalities replicated the urban preparedness in all three provinces, during this reporting period. A total of 28 municipalities (Kohalpur Municipality (M), Duduwa Rural Municipality (RM), Narainapur RM, Rapti Sonari RM, Janaki RM, Baijanath RM, Khajura RM, Kailari RM, Krishnapur RM, Godawari RM, Punarbas RM, Gauriganga RM -12 in Lumbini Province; Godawari M, Krishnapur M, Punarbs M, Gauriganga M, Ghodaghodi M, Kailari M, Lamkichucha M, Tikapur M - 8 in Sudurpaschim; and Bheriganga M, Gurbhakot M, Simta RM, Lekbeshi M, Barahatal RM, Panchapuri M, Chaukune RM, Chingad RM- 8 in Karnali Province) replicated the urban preparedness and response by preparing/revising EPRP, establishing functional EOCs and establishing Local Disaster Management Committee (LDMC).
The private school in Nepalgunj SMC initiated replicating the drill events to aware students on disaster preparedness and responses initiatives. These schools namely Shree Chandra Mewalal Secondary School, Ideal Public Secondary School, Mewalal Secondary School and Anathalaya Gausia Secondary School in particular are expected to continue disaster related drills in future incorporating these activities in their extra-curricular activities.

Capacity enhanced to face shock and stresses

During this reporting period, project conducted awareness raising activities to community and schools' teachers and students. A series of school drills, community drills, training and orientations were carried out in all action provinces and municipalities. Through these activities, a total of 6,777 individuals, including 1,690 women and 34 others enhanced their capacity to face shock and stress as a part of disaster preparedness. Similarly, disaster preparedness drills in schools helped students learn how to respond effectively to emergencies like earthquakes through practical exercises and awareness activities. A total of 22,387 students (11,360 female and 11,027 male) participated, ensuring inclusive learning. These drills not only improved students' safety skills but also promoted a culture of preparedness within schools and communities.

Project also achieved conducting 10 issue-based simulation exercises through co-financing mechanism from provincial and municipal government at provincial and municipal level. Through this initiative, 1609 people benefited, among which 462 were female and 5 were others. Besides, community-based simulations with the support of CERT were carried out in the project areas.

Resource Leverage for Disaster Preparedness and Response

The local governments as well as provinces institutionalized budget allocation for disaster preparedness and response. Within FY 2025/26, the budget allocation in Nepalgunj SMC has increased by 7%, Birendranagar Muncipality has increased by 63% and Sudurpaschim Province has increased by 45% than previous FY. In addition to this, municipalities in Lumbini Province namely Khajura RM, Janaki RM, Kohalpur M, Rapti M, Lumbini Sanskriti M have allocated budget in disaster preparedness related activities.

Inter-Municipal Resource Sharing Mechanism

Project supported establishing the inter-municipal resource sharing mechanism, with the aim of availing support within the network municipalities. The work of inter-municipal resource sharing network/platform of Banke district was exemplary during the aftermath of the GenZ protest. The municipal network members Khajura and Janaki Rural Municipalities supported Nepalgunj SMC and Kohalpur Municipality with office tools, equipment and furniture, which were damaged during the political uprising. This resource sharing and pooling network formed in the project sites have effectively strengthened coordination and collaboration across and among the local government for improving disaster preparedness and response.

Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI)

Project assisted in localization of the GEDSI in DRRM Strategic Action Plan (SAP), in coordination with the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA). The DRRM Strategic Action Plan is primarily developed in alignment with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. The GEDSI in DRRM Strategic Action Plan has been institutionalized in Nepalgunj SMC through its formal endorsement. As a result, the SMC has allocated a gender-responsive DRR budget for the fiscal year 2082/083, ensuring that GEDSI priorities are sufficiently supported within municipal planning and response mechanisms. Additionally, the SMC has initiated operationalizing GEDSI in DRRM at the community level, translating strategic commitments into practical action.

GEDSI responsive tabletop simulation exercise was conducted, following meetings, with the provincial stakeholders including provincial government, leads and co-leads of clusters, municipal government and CBO in Lumbini, Karnali and Sudurpaschim Provinces. The exercise concentrated on seven major injects and was carried out through three groups (Provincial, District, and Municipal) which collectively contributed to generating actionable recommendations for provincial and municipal disaster preparedness and response plans. The exercise resulted in development of several key outcomes, including the need for ratification of provincial Disaster Preparedness and Response Plans (DPRPs) with integrated GEDSI mainstreaming, increase awareness of the GEDSI Strategic Action Plan (SAP) at the provincial level, improve management of SADDD data, and the development of GEDSI-responsive preparedness measures.

In alignment with the GEDSI strategy 2081, provincial and municipal disaster management committees were supported in reviewing the provincial and municipal disaster plan through a GEDSI perspective. District Preparedness and Response Plan (DPRP), Monsoon Preparedness and Response Plan (MPRP), Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (EPRP) were reviewed and GEDSI provisions were integrated. Similarly, Cluster and inter-cluster meetings are carried out to advocate and integrate GEDSI provision in clusters/contingency plans like Education, WASH, Health and Nutrition, Protection, Shelter. Some of the plans have been finalized and some are in the revision process.

Knowledge Management and Visibility:

Project managed to develop case stories and success stories to capture learnings, best practices and visible outcome of the project interventions. During this reporting period, a total of four stories – 2 from UN Women and 2 rom UNICEF were published. The stories are provided in the link below.

1. *Nepalgunj pioneers inclusive disaster preparedness | UN Women – Asia-Pacific*
2. *Inclusive by design: Why gender and intersectionality matter in disaster risk reduction | UN Women – Asia-Pacific*
3. *https://www.unicef.org/nepal/stories/every-second-counts*
4. *https://www.unicef.org/nepal/stories/small-step-big-difference*

Digital media outreach of SUPER II project has been effective as the action reached over 339,500 individuals from 71 social media posts through social media platforms like X (twitter), Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram. Additionally, the IEC materials developed during the SUPER I project were used in school level drills (28 schools) focusing on earthquakes, benefiting 5,135 students. Similarly, Kohalpur Municipality, Khajura RM, and Janaki RM developed IEC materials like pamphlets, posters and disseminated during the rainy and winter seasons, benefiting approximately 30,000 people.

Project has initiated documenting the photos and photo stories. The collected visuals and narratives will be presented during photo and story-sharing events in each action municipality. The photo-journalists are set to publish their DRRM photos and stories features through provincial and local newspapers and online portals to further strengthen media advocacy.

The project strongly maintained public visibility through the local/ national newspaper, and television. During this reporting period, different media published articles, broadcasted 37 news on SUPER II project.

Following table shows the linkage of the output and activity statement of projects

Table 1: Result/Output and Activity Statements

Result/Output Statement	Activity Statement
Result/Output 1: Government-led operational system for urban and earthquake preparedness institutionalized at provincial and local level for effective response	Activity 1.1. Institutionalize DRM policies, plans, guidelines updating process based on operational considerations and disaster response (Jajarkot earthquake response) and simulation lessons.
	Activity 1.2. Conduct urban and issue-based simulation exercises to test the coordination and agility of the response system.
	Activity 1.3. Mechanism for refresher training of emergency response volunteers created and institutionalized in government system.
	Activity 1.4 Operationalize response volunteer mechanisms and strengthen linkages with national, provincial, and municipal volunteer databases and systems.
Result/Output 2: Coordination and information management strengthened at provincial and local levels, aligned with national framework, for disaster risk governance.	Activity 2.1 Strengthen provincial cluster(sector) mechanism for increased ownership by sectoral ministries, the cluster leads, and its linkage at the federal level.
	Activity 2.2 Improve usage of EOCs and its institutionalization and linkage and communication among EOCs at urban municipalities, districts, sectors, and provinces.
	Activity 2.3 Continued engagement to create mechanism for the Inter-Provincial resource-sharing to facilitate preparedness and response
Result/Output 3: Enhanced policy engagement for scalability of disaster preparedness and response mechanism at federal, provincial, and local levels.	Activity 3.1 Collaboration with NDRRMA on information management and system strengthening.
	Activity 3.2 Engaging parliamentarians for strengthening disaster preparedness and response through policy and budgetary interventions
	Activity 3.3 Media advocacy for policy dialogue on DRRM
	Activity 3.4 Study tour on disaster preparedness and response and EOC for federal, provincial and municipal officials
	Activity 3.5 Documentation of ECHO supported urban and earthquake preparedness project implementation and cataloguing knowledge products
	Activity 3.6 Demonstrate mechanisms for linkage between metropolitan/sub-metropolitan city and urban municipalities for coordinated preparedness and response and create a platform for knowledge sharing

4.1.Progress towards the UNSDCF/CPD Outcomes

UNSDCF/CPD Outcome 3: By 2027, more people, especially women, youth, and the most marginalized and poor, increasingly benefit from and contribute to building an inclusive, sustainable, climate-resilient and green society and reduced impacts of disasters at federal, provincial and local levels.

CPD Outputs
CPD 3.1: Innovative resilience-building solutions introduced at all levels to reduce risks from disasters and climate change

Country Programme Indicators
3.1.1. Number of provincial and local governments utilizing advanced Disaster Risk Management systems (IRRF-3.1.2) Baseline (2022): PG-3; LG-123 | Target (2027): PG-5; LG-143

Applicable Output(s) from the UNDP Strategic Plan:

CP Output 3.1: Institutional systems to manage multi-dimensional risks and shocks strengthened at regional, national and sub-national levels
CP Output 3.3: Risk informed and gender-responsive recovery solutions, including stabilization efforts and mine action, implemented at regional, national and sub-national levels

Table 2: Progress in Country Programme Indicators

Outcome statement	indicator	Baseline	Cumulative Target for 2024 - 2026	Total target achieved till 2024	Milestone for 2025	Achievement 2025	Source of data
	CPD Output 3.1: Innovative resilience-building solutions introduced at all levels to reduce risks from disasters and climate change						
By 2027, more people, especially women, youth, and the most marginalized and poor, increasingly benefit from and contribute to building an inclusive, sustainable, climate-resilient, and green society and reduced impacts of disasters at federal, provincial, and local levels	3.1.1. Number of provincial and local governments utilizing advanced Disaster Risk Management systems (IRRF-3.1.2) Baseline (2022): PG-3; LG-123 | Target (2027): PG-5; LG-143	BIPAD portal in regular operation.	BIPAD portal in regular operation.	BIPAD portal in regular operation.	BIPAD portal in regular operation.	BIPAD portal in regular operation.	

4.2.Progress on Project Outputs

Table 3: Progress in Output Indicators

Output statement	Output indicator	Baseline	Cumulative Target for 2024- 2026	Progress up to 2024	2025 Milestone	2025 Progress	Cumulative progress up to 2025	Means of verification
1. Government-led operational system for urban and earthquake preparedness institutionalized at provincial and local level for effective response Gender Marker: 2	1.1 No. of non-project urban municipalities replicated urban preparedness with EPRP, functional EOC and LDMC and active volunteer engagement.	0	3		1	23	23	Plans, Meeting Minutes
	1.2. Increase of municipalities and provinces where preparedness is institutionalized through budgetary provision and revision of plans through government led mechanism	0	4		2	9	9	Municipal plans (with allocation of budget for disaster preparedness and response)
	1.3. % of beneficiaries reporting that humanitarian assistance is delivered in a safe, accessible, accountable and participatory manner	0	90%		50	60%	60%	Survey using ODK. PMKOI (is integrated into the M&E process)
	1.4. Number of people covered by early action/contingency plans (including GEDSI considerations in updated EPRP, BCP)	0	517,099 M: 261,031 F: 256,068 Out of total, 10,110 will be people with disabilities (M:5524, F:4586)		250,000 M: 126200 F:123,800	517,099	517,099	EPRP

Output statement	Output indicator	Baseline	Cumulative Target for 2024- 2026	Progress up to 2024	2025 Milestone	2025 Progress	Cumulative progress up to 2025	Means of verification
	1.5 Number of simulation exercises including issue-based simulation exercises conducted through co-financing mechanism (provinces, municipalities, Chamber of Commerce) at province and municipal level.	7	17		4	3	10 (3+6)	Event Report, Database, Attendance sheets
	1.6 No. of urban municipalities where volunteers are integrated into urban/ disaster response system.	0	3		2	3	3	EPRP has provision of integrating volunteer into urban/disaster response system
2. Coordination and information management strengthened at provincial and municipal levels, aligned with national framework, for disaster risk governance. Gender Marker: 2	2.1 No. of EOCs institutionalized by creating human resource/ co-financing by local government.	0	6		3	0	0	
	2.2 Number of people reached through Information, Education and Communication on DRR (in non-project municipalities)	0	75,000		45,000	369,500	369,500	IEC campaigns, Radios, Print Media
	2.3 No. of provinces where pre and post monsoon cluster meeting institutionalized	0	3		1	3	3	Meeting Minutes

Output statement	Output indicator	Baseline	Cumulative Target for 2024- 2026	Progress up to 2024	2025 Milestone	2025 Progress	Cumulative progress up to 2025	Means of verification
3. Enhanced policy engagement for scalability of disaster preparedness and response mechanism at federal, provincial, and local levels. Gender Marker: 2	3.1 No. of times urban preparedness issues discussed substantially in federal, provincial parliaments and municipal assemblies and preparedness actions after the discussion.	0	7		3	0	0	
	3.2 No. of urban municipalities/ provinces capacitated and applied NDRRMA portals for preparedness and responseplanning	6	18		6	17	23 (17+6)	Training Reports, Attendance sheets,
	3.3 Number of people participating in interventions that enhancetheir capacity to face shocks and stresses. (At least 30% participant will be female)	500	2500		750	6,777(F- 1690, M-5053, Otehrs-34)	7,277 (6777+500)	Attendance sheets, Reports, Database

Result 1: Government-led operational system for urban and earthquake preparedness institutionalized at provincial and local level for effective response

The Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (EPRP) of all action municipalities have been revised and updated. The municipal Disaster Management Committee (DMC) task team led the revision and updation of these plans. The plans comprised of types of hazards and probable damage, capacity assessment for disaster preparedness, emergency preparedness and response plan, implementation and monitoring plans. It has also explicitly prioritized the needs of vulnerable groups including, women, child, elderly people, People with Disability (PWD) in the plan maintaining their safety and privacy ensuring Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) during emergency.

The revision and updation of Business Continuity Plan (BCP) of the 3 provinces and municipalities have initiated. The initial consultations take place in the field, primarily involving the Office of the Chief Minister and Council of Ministers at the provincial level and mayors, deputy mayors, DRR focal persons, Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce (FNCCI) chapters, Telecom operators, Electricity Authorities and other stakeholders at the municipal level. The implementation and monitoring of BCP will be carried out once it is operationalized.

The project succeeded in leveraging the government budget to strengthen disaster preparedness and response, as well as to promote scaling up at provincial and municipal level. In Sudurpaschim province, MoIAL allocated NPR 87,770,000 for FY 2082/83, representing 45% increase compared to NPR 27,526,000 for FY 2081/82. Likewise, Karnali Province allocated budget for disaster preparedness activities, including simulation exercises, community awareness events, capacity development of responders and communities, and equipment support to response teams. At municipal level, Dhangadhi SMC has allocated a total DRRM budget of NPR 54,70,000 marking 63% increase from the previous fiscal year's allocation of NPR 33,50,000. In Lumbini province, MoIAL continued allocating budget for disaster preparedness and response activities, including support to two local governments- Rapti Rural Municipality (Dang) and Lumbini Sanskriti (Kapilbastu) with NPR 500,000 each to implement disaster risk transfer schemes. Additionally, the budget allocation for disaster preparedness response interventions in Nepalgunj SMC has increased by 7% for the fiscal year 2025/2026 (Budget NPR 9,537,000), compared to the fiscal year 2024/2025 (budget NPR 8,919,449).

The simulation catalogue packaged preparation, and compilation led by NDRRMA is under progress and is expected to be completed by June 2026. Despite delays in preparation of simulation catalogue, the project conducted 12 simulation exercises at provincial and municipal level capacitating 1,838 people (1,298 male, 535 females, 5 others) during this reporting period. Among the total events, 10 events were organized through co-financing support from provincial and local government, similarly five issues based GEDSI related tabletop simulation were conducted in three provinces and three action municipalities.

School level disaster preparedness and response related drills were conducted in schools of Nepalgunj SMC, Dhangadhi SMC, and Birendranager Municipality. A total of 21,307 students (10,516 male, and 10,791 female) from 28 schools of Dhangadhi SMC, 30 schools of Nepalgunj SMC, and 26 schools of Birendranagar Municipality participated in these activities.

All 30 Schools of Nepalgunj SMC developed the Comprehensive School Safety Minimum Package (CSSMP) Plan and carried out regular preparedness activities in line with these plans. In addition, four private/religious schools, Shree Chandra Mewalal Secodnary School, Ideal Public Secondary School, Mewalal Secondary School and Anathalaya Gausia Secondary School replicated the disaster preparedness and response drill to aware and capacitate their students in Nepalgunj SMC.

Two drills of events were conducted in Nepalgunj SMC in January and November 2025 to test the response capacities and coordination between volunteers and municipal responders. A total of 117 volunteers and

municipal responders participated in these drills to assess their response capacities. The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) demonstrated a drill showcasing their ability on disaster preparedness and response during high level visit from NDRRMA and EU Ambassador to Nepal in January 2026 and February 2025, respectively. These activities supported integrated the mobilization of local CERT volunteer mobilization with municipal and provincial disaster response.

The project is currently updating the roster of the intern and volunteer. As of now roster of 20 interns and 179 volunteers have been developed in Sudurpaschim Province. The details of trained volunteers are in the process of being updated in NDRRMA Volunteer Management System (VMS), while efforts are also being made to build the capacity of local authorities to ensure regular and timely updates of the system.

Result 2: Coordination and information management strengthened at provincial and municipal levels, aligned with national framework, for disaster risk governance

Provincial and inter-cluster mechanisms coordination mechanisms were strengthened through a series of cluster and inter-cluster meetings in Sudurpaschim, Karnali and Lumbini Provinces. To enhance stakeholder' understanding of the humanitarian cluster system, orientation events were organized in Sudurpaschim (two events) and Karnali (one event) Provinces, with a total of 154 participants, including 24 females.
In addition, a several cluster meetings covering health and nutrition, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), emergency shelter, protection, education were carried out in Sudurpaschim and Lumbini Provinces engaging 871 stakeholders, including 205 female and 2 from non-binary groups. Pre-monsoon cluster and inter-cluster coordination meetings were also organized which contributed to review and updating of the MPRP.

At the federal level, a meeting was organized by the NDRRMA where clusters lead, co-leads and members from both Provincial and National level discussed coordination and collaboration among the three tiers of government. The meeting contributed strengthening coordination, particularly between provincial level clusters and federal level clusters. A total of 70 participants attended the events, including 17 females.

In Lumbini Province, following the endorsement of Province Disaster Response Framework (PDRF) the provincial ministry has been designated as the cluster lead and UN agency/INGO as co-leads. As a result, MoIAL has been conducting meetings regularly. During the post-monsoon review meeting, MPRP 2082 was reviewed and a coldwave contingency plan was developed for the winter period. During this reporting period, a total of 10 clusters (5 at the provincial level and 5 at municipal level) meetings were organized with a total of 672 cluster members participating. In Sudurpaschim Province, the protection contingency plan and Health and Nutrition cluster contingency plan have been finalized, while contingency plan for emergencies, communication, shelter preparedness, and monsoon preparedness is currently in progress. In Karnali province, the contingency plans for education, protection, shelter, and WASH clusters have been updated.

To integrate the GEDSI into cluster level plans, GEDSI Integration clusters workshop was organized in Sudurpaschim Province on July 1, 2025. The workshop aimed to integrate GEDSI considerations across humanitarian clusters within the provincial cluster coordination system. A total of 74 participants (52 males, 20 females and 2 from LGBTIQA+) attended, representing a balanced mix of duty bearers and right holders. Similarly, A two-and-a-half-day capacity-building workshop was organized in Lumbini Province for provincial and municipal stakeholders. The workshop covered key technical areas such as disaggregated data (SADDD), the BIPAD Portal, intersectionality, and Rapid Gender Analysis (RGA) in Lumbini Province. A total of 38 participants (17 Female, 19 Male and 2 Non-binary individuals) took part, including 24 government representative and 14 from Civil Society Organizations (CSO).
In addition, joint cluster meetings focusing on GEDSI thematic areas were held in Nepalgunj Sub-Metropolitan City on 12 October 2025, with 31 participants (12 females and 19 males) and, in

Birendranagar Municipality on 14 October 2025, with 42 participants (13 females, 29 males, and 2 persons with disabilities). The participants included representatives from local governments, thematic committee leads, civil society organizations, and SUPER focal people.

The capacity of Emergency Operation Center (EOCs) in Sudurapaschim, Karnali and Lumbini Provinces was strengthened through training on information management and localization of BIPAD portal, facilitated by NDRRMA. This support enhanced disaster data reporting and improved information sharing across municipal, provincial and federal levels.

To further strengthen both vertical and horizontal coordination, as well as the Disaster Information Management System (DIMS) across LEOCs, DEOCs, PEOCs and PHEOCs, DIMS training was organized. A total of 27 EOC personnel from seven districts, Achham, Kailali, Baitadi, Bajhang, Kanchanpur, Dadeldhura, and Darchula, including nine from local EOCs (Dhangadhi, Gauriganga, Punarbas, Mohanyal, Godawari, Bhajani, Chure, Ghodaghodi, and Krishnapur) of Sudurpachim received capacity building support. Following this, MoIAL conducted rollout sessions for the remaining EOC staff to further strengthen disaster information management, coordination, and operational readiness. In Lumbini Province, 32 EOCs, including 19 LEOC, 12 DEOCs and 1 PEOCs, received training in an incident reporting.

The project held a consultation meeting with municipal level stakeholders, including local government representative and Community Based Organization (CBOs), to discuss the GEDSI profile framework, data collection methodology and the support required form local government. A total of 33 participants (20 male and 13 female), participated in the consultation meeting held in Birendranagar Municipality and Nepalgunj SMC. Following these consultations and the project's planned approach, a concept note was developed to guide the production of GEDSI data profile. Additionally, the project organized meeting with three educational institutions in Sudurpaschim Province to map potential interns for the PEOC, resulting in selection of 20 interns (9 male, 11 female). A roster of 179 Red Cross volunteers (112 male, 67 female) was also developed. Coordination mechanisms between interns and volunteers have been established with MoIAL and the PEOC to ensure timely mobilization and support during emergency operations.

In coordination with the MoIAL Lumbini province, NDRRMA supported the formation of Provincial Platform for DRR (PPDRR) comprising representatives from Government, Semi-government, UN agencies, INGOs, NGOs, the private sector, media, academia and disaster affected communities. The PPDRR is expected to create multi-stakeholder coordination and effective implementation of DRR strategies and initiative across the province.

Volunteer management was strengthened through a seven-day Volunteer Management Training and orientation covering Initial Rapid Assessment, Core Humanitarian Standards, and Information Management, aligning volunteer mobilization with municipal and provincial disaster response mechanisms. A total of 24 volunteers (16 male, 8 female) in Sudurpaschim Province and 26 volunteers in Karnali Province, including community and municipal police, participated in training.

An initial meeting, led by the District Administration Office (DAO) of Kailali, was held to discuss the establishment of an inter-municipal network for collaborative DRRM and emergency resource sharing, with 73 stakeholders participating (62 males and 11 females). Furthermore, two additional meetings with key provincial ministries and stakeholders were organized, involving 78 participants (69 males and 9 females), to facilitate the preparation and finalization of guidelines for inter-municipal resource sharing.

A two-day Inter-Provincial Resource Sharing (IPRS) workshop was conducted with the representatives from Lumbini provincial governments to discuss the legal provision of IPRS, emphasizing its importnace not only on disaster management but also for broader development outcomes. This workshop resulted in the development of the final draft of the IPRS Guideline, with MoIAL taking the lead in the endorsement

process. Similarly, workshops were conducted in Dhangadhi SMC to establish a mechanism for inter-provincial resource sharing on July and November 2025.

GEDSI principles were incorporated into coordination and information management through targeted capacity building initiatives. A one-day orientation on GEDSI in DRRM, led by MoIAL to promote inclusive planning, data management, and volunteer mobilization engaged 56 stakeholders (30 male, 25 females, 1 other) in Sudurpaschim Province. Additionally, four-day GEDSI trainings on DRRM was carried out for 33 participants (Male-9, Female-23, Other-1) from various CBOs were organized to strengthen their capacities to include women, marginalized groups, and persons with disabilities in disaster preparedness and response in Sudurpaschim Province.

Result 3: Enhanced policy engagement for scalability of disaster preparedness and response mechanism at federal, provincial, and local levels.

A workshop was organized with NDRRMA on the 20th of August 2025 to jointly identify the needs on information management and system strengthening. Based on the recommendations of the workshop a visioning document has been proposed to be developed together with NDRRMA, MoHA and other development partners. As a part of localization of DRRM portals (BIPAD and other portals), trainings were conducted in Sudurpaschim, Karnali and Lumbini Provinces, capacitating 98 individuals, including 4 females. Additionally, a two-day BIPAD Portal Localization ToT was conducted to capacitate 20 EOC staffs and DRR focal persons (19 male, 1 female) from PEOC Karnali, DEOC Surkhet and LEOC of all five urban Municipalities and three out of four rural municipalities in Surkhet District to enable effective operation of the portals.

To support the localization of the GEDSI in DRRM Strategic Action Plan (SAP), under SUPER II, in coordination with NDRRMA, the project focused on facilitating local and provincial level engagement and contributions through technical and financial support. As part of this effort, a one-day municipal-level workshop was held in Birendranagar Municipality, Surkhet (Karnali Province) on 15 August 2025.

As part of this process, a one-day municipal-level workshop was conducted in Birendranagar Municipality, Surkhet (Karnali) on 15 August 2025. The workshop engaged 46 participants (24 men, 21 women and one LGBTIQA+ participant) representing both duty bearers and rights holders Participants included municipal elected officials and government staff such as mayors, deputy mayors, executive members, the Chief Administration Officer, DRR head, disaster focal persons, GESI focal persons, and LEOC head. Civil society representatives including women's groups, organizations of people with disabilities (OPDs), and LGBTQI+ groups also participated. The workshop applied a participatory facilitation approach to review and gather feedback on the draft municipal GEDSI in DRRM Strategic Action Plan. The compiled inputs and recommendations were documented to be shared with the Municipality for incorporation prior to the finalization and endorsement processes.

To support the localization of GEDSI in the DRRM Strategic Action Plan (SAP) under SUPER II, the project, in coordination with NDRRMA, focused on facilitating local and provincial-level engagement and contributions through technical and financial support. As part of this effort, a one-day municipal-level workshop was held in Birendranagar Municipality, Surkhet (Karnali Province) on 15 August 2025. The workshop engaged 46 participants (24 men, 21 women, and 1 LGBTIQA+ participant), including both duty bearers and rights holders. Participants included municipal elected officials and government staff such as mayors, deputy mayors, executive members, the Chief Administrative Officer, DRR head, disaster focal persons, GESI focal persons, and the LEOC head.Civil society representatives, including women's groups, organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), and LGBTQI+ groups, also took part. Using a participatory facilitation approach, the workshop reviewed the draft municipal GEDSI in DRRM Strategic Action Plan and collected feedback. The compiled recommendations were documented and shared with the municipality for incorporation prior to the plan's finalization and endorsement.

Beyond policy endorsement and budgeting, the municipality has begun operationalizing GEDSI in DRRM at the community level, translating strategic commitments into tangible action. . As part of this rollout, orientation sessions on the GEDSI Strategic Action Plan were successfully conducted for municipal female executive members, strengthening their understanding and leadership in promoting inclusive DRRM.

Simultaneously, DRRM orientation sessions targeting vulnerable communities have been planned to ensure that at-risk populations are informed, empowered, and actively engaged in disaster preparedness and response processes. In line with this initiative, a three-day GEDSI in DRRM capacity-building training for CSOs was conducted with 30 participants (7 males, 22 females, and 1 other), including representatives from Bheriganga and Gurbhakot municipalities in Karnali Province. Additionally, GEDSI in DRRM training for CBO members was provided to 33 participants in Sudurpaschim Province, further promoting inclusive disaster preparedness.

The DRM Roadmap and accompanying Briefing Notes for Provinces and Municipalities were developed and shared for validation with the assembly members and parliamentarians following discussions held in the first reporting period. Workshops with municipal assembly members and parliamentarians were conducted in Nepalgunj SMC and Lumbini Province, engaging a total of 174 participants, including 31 females. Similarly, a comparable event was held in Sudurpaschim Province on 24 February 2025, with 76 participants, including 49 municipal assembly members and 27 provincial parliamentarians, taking part.

A six-episode talk program has been designed for prime-time broadcast on Kantipur Television, a national television program. A DRRM Photojournalism Fellowship has been designed as a key media advocacy initiative at the municipal level. Mogul Media was competitively selected to implement the activity. The fellowship aims to engage six photojournalists two from each action municipality and two from neighboring municipalities will document DRRM-related photos and photo stories over several weeks.

Exposure visits to Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) - Brussels and National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) -India have been proposed for April 2026. The GEDSI focal point from NDRRMA and DRR officials from the municipalities are planned to participate.

Demonstration of mechanisms for linkage between municipalities for coordinated preparedness and response is being promoted through Inter municipal Resource Sharing networks. Documentation of ECHO supported urban and earthquake preparedness projects and cataloging knowledge products is ongoing.

Project Beneficiary in 2025

Under the SUPER II project in 2025, approximately 29,304 people, including 13,138 female and 34 non-binary, and 174 people with disabilities, including 69 female and 105 males, benefitted from the project activities. The age group's wise beneficiary details are given in the table below.

Table 4: Beneficiaries' Disaggregated Data

Age	Total	Female	Male	Others
0 – 59 months (A)	-	-	-	-
5 – 17 (B)	20131	10,276	9855	0
18 – 49 ©	7885	2,505	5359	21
50 and more (D)	1288	357	918	13
Total	**29,304**	**13,138**	**16,132**	**34**

5. BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

The following table shows the output-wise indicative budget and expenditure for 2025, and the sources of funds budgeted and utilization.

Table 5: Annual Budget and Corresponding Expenditure

(Amount in US$)

Outputs	Annual Target	Annual Expenditure (including Commitments) through Project	Total Expenditure	Expenditure in %
Result 1	244,069.00	264548.00	264548.00	108%
Result 2	103,136.00	96,308.00	96,308.00	93%
Result 3	130,870.00	140,242	140,242.00	107%
Project Management Cost	881,327.00	835,408	835,408.00	95%
TOTAL	**1,359,401.00**	**1,336,506.00**	**1,336,506.00**	**98%**

Table 6: Sources of Fund and its Utilization Scenario

Amount in US$

Source of Fund	Funding period (Start – End Date)	Project Budget	Expenditure	Commitment	Total Expenditure	Total Budget Utilization %
ECHO	1 Aug 2024 to 31 July 2026	978,658.00	788,654.00	170,099.00	958,753.00	98%
TRAC	1 Aug 2024 to 31 July 2026	380,743.00	351,222.00	26,531.00	377,753.00	99%
Total		**1,359,401.00**	**1,139,876.00**	**196,630.00**	**1,336,506.00**	**98%**

Table 7: M&E Expenditure in 2024

Total Expenditure on Monitoring Costs associated with UNDP/project staff, consultants, project partners, supporting national statistical systems in designing project specific data collection methodologies (qualitative and quantitative), monitoring methods including stakeholder surveys and other qualitative methods, collection of data, analysis and dissemination of the findings to inform a project, either with project partners or to fulfill specific UNDP/project requirements (preferably the former).	$29,475.84
Total Expenditure on Decentralized Evaluations Costs associated in designing, implementing, and disseminating evaluations for specific projects	
Combined Total Expenditure on M&E	$29,475.84

Narrative on Progress related to Budget and Expenditure

In 2025, DCRL allocated US$ 1,359,401.00 to implement the initiatives outlined in the approved annual work plan for that year. Of the total, US$ 978,658.00 was funded by ECHO and the remaining US$ 380,743.00 was provided by TRAC. A total of US$ 1,336,506.00 was spent, including commitments, accounting for 98% of total budget allocated in 2025. Out of the total expenditure, US$ 958,753,00 was the share of ECHO and the remaining US$ 377,753.00 was the from the contribution of TRAC.

6. CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

7.1.Targeting and voice/Participation of Target groups

SUPER II project has prioritized reaching its target groups while reviewing plans and implementing project activities. The four consortium partners are working as per their respective defined scopes and are ensuring that the needs of the targeted populations are addressed through the project interventions.

UNDP has engaged with the provincial governments in Lumbini, Karnali and Sudurpaschim Provinces, including parliamentaries to incorporate the voices and needs of target beneficiaries in the revised plans (EPRP, DPRP, MPRP) and has motivated to capacitate the groups of people for disaster preparedness and response.

UNICEF has prioritized the well of children, especially the most disadvantaged, through increased access to inclusive and improved quality health, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, education and child protection services, as well as access to social protection services and protection from disasters and other shocks. Additionally, it has prioritized eliminating discrimination and violence against children and women, gender equality and promoting human rights both in development and humanitarian context. UNICEF is the Provincial Focal Point Agency for the UN system for Lumbini Province. As a co-lead of WASH, Education and Nutrition it is leveraging urban preparedness. Consequently, various contingency plans have been revisited to include the urban preparedness and response initiatives into those documents.

UN Women focuses on gender equality and women empowerment and works in DRR and resilience sector to save lives, and livelihoods, and build resilience through gender-responsive and inclusive efforts in better informed, targeted preparedness, prevention, and recovery. It is working to leverage the voice, and leadership of women, integrating gender and inclusion dimensions into the DRM process and system, strengthening protection, delivering services, and offering support to women and vulnerable groups in areas such as humanitarian and disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate action. Un women is advocating to ensure the rights and need of women in disaster preparedness and response while revising the plans.

HI is collaborating with with local communities, civil society organizations (CSOs), Organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), and local authorities, while developing and revisiting the inclusive emergency plans and enhancing warning and evacuation systems, considering the specific needs of people with disabilities and vulnerable people. 174 people with disabilities have been benefited directly from the SUPER II project as of January 2026.

Altogether, 29,304 (13138 female, 34 others) target people have been involved and benefitted from the SUPER II project activities.

7.2.Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment, and Social Inclusion

Integration of GEDSI in revised/reviewed plans, policies and framework

Aligning the GEDSI strategy 2081, provincial and municipal disaster management committees were supported to review the provincial and municipal disaster plan from a GEDSI perspective viz. (i) a municipal-level review of the District Preparedness and Response Plan (DPRP) in Nepalgunj Municipality; (ii) a provincial-level review of the Monsoon Preparedness and Response Plan (MPRP) in Sudurpaschim Province; (iii) a municipal-level DPRP review in Birendranagar Municipality; and (iv) a provincial-level DPRP review in Birendranagar Municipality.

SUPER II project provided technical support to advance the localization of the GEDSI in DRRM Strategic Action Plan (SAP), in coordination with the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority

(NDRRMA). In line with this, Nepalgunj SMC has endorsed it and has rolled out. As a result, the SMC has allocated a gender-responsive DRR budget for the fiscal year 2082/083, ensuring that GEDSI priorities are sufficiently supported within municipal planning and response mechanisms.

Integration of GEDSI in project activities

Dedicated project activities have been designed to sensitize on GEDSI to the stakeholders and communities. A GEDSI responsive tabletop simulation simulation exercise was conducted, following the meeting, with the provincial stakeholders including provincial government, leads and co-leads of clusters, municipal government and CBO with 224 participants (69 female, 152 male, and 3 LGBTQIA+) in Lumbini, Karnali and Sudurpaschim Provinces). In terms of age, 190 participants were adults aged 18–49, while 34 were aged 50 years and above with 8 persons with disabilities (PWDs). Similarly, consultation workshop was carried out engaging a highly diverse group of 74 participants (52 male, 20 females and 2 from LGBTIQA+) representing a balanced mix of duty bearers and right holders for stewardship of women in preparedness and responses during the disaster.

The efforts to strengthen the provincial cluster mechanism in Lumbini Province resulted in meaningful progress in institutionalizing Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) within humanitarian coordination structures. A two-and-a-half-day capacity-building workshop was delivered to provincial and municipal stakeholders, covering core technical areas such as disaggregated data (SADDD), the BIPAD Portal, intersectionality, and Rapid Gender Analysis (RGA). A total of 38 participants (17 Female, 19 Male and 2 Non-binary) were engaged including 24 government stakeholders and 14 CSO stakeholders. In addition, joint cluster meetings with a focus on GEDSI thematic areas were conducted in Nepalgunj Sub-Metropolitan City on 12 October 2025 with a total of 31 participants (12 females and 19 males) and, in Birendranagar Municipality on 14 October 2025 with 42 participants (13 females, 29 males, and 2 persons with disabilities).

During the reporting period, SUPER II project provided technical support to advance the localization of the GEDSI in DRRM Strategic Action Plan (SAP), in coordination with the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA). The support is focused on facilitating local and provincial level engagement and inputs in the development of local GEDSI in DRRM SAPs through technical and financial support. As part of this process, a one-day municipal-level workshop was conducted in Birendranagar Municipality, Surkhet (Karnali). The workshop engaged 46 participants (24 men, 21 women and one LGBTIQA+ participant) representing both duty bearers and rights holders Participants included municipal elected officials and government staff such as mayors, deputy mayors, executive members, the Chief Administration Officer, DRR head, disaster focal persons, GESI focal persons, and LEOC head.

Integration of GEDSI in data collection and reporting

Project is promoting data collection, collation, compilation and analysis from the lens of intersectionality. In Lumbini Province, a GEDSI profile orientation on the management of Sex, Age, and Disability-Disaggregated Data (SADDD) was conducted in Nepalgunj Sub-Metropolitan City. A consultation was conducted with the municipal level stakeholders including local government and CBOs and further discussed the modality of the GEDSI profile, methodology of data collection and support from local government. A total of 33 participants (20 male and 13 female), participated in the consultation meeting held at Birendranagar and Nepalgunj municipalities. Select CBOs members, Municipality members, GEDSI focal points, DRR focal points and IT and Data expert of local government participated in the event. The municipality currently lacks a consolidated SADDD system and has expressed a strong commitment to developing a GEDSI profile to support disaster response planning and other municipal functions. Based on the consultation with the local government units and the plan envisioned by the project, a concept note has been developed to produce GEDSI data profile.

Project itself has designed the data collection template for collecting the disaggregated data of beneficiaries and participants. The template can record data on gender (male, female, other), disability,

age group (A 0-59 months, B:5-17 YRS, C 18-49 YRS, D: 50+). The project reports the disaggregated information of beneficiaries based on the details recorded in the template.

7.3.National Capacity Development

The project is capacitating directly and indirectly while shifting the stewardship of project to the government led mechanism in the sector of disaster preparedness and response. The municipal task team engaged is being engaged rigorously while reviewing the EPRP, DPRP and other disaster related plans. The cluster and inter-cluster meeting and workshops are carried out to discuss and review on plans like Health and Nutrition, WASH, Education, Protection and Shelter. Similarly, elected individuals and parliamentarian are engaged in consultation for developing roadmap/brief note for DRRM. The project is working towards MDSA customization of DRRM Portals for logging and monitoring projects operated around the nation. This will enhance the capacity at both institutional level as it links BIPAD system for cross-linking information with disasters. Similarly, NEOC and P/LEOC linkage is strengthened through continuous interaction and experience sharing workshops. Additionally, project supporting to update the Monsoon Preparedness and Response Plan (MPRP) of NDRRMA strengthening the institutional capacity of federal government in the monsoon related disaster. The regular workshops are being carried out to complete updation.

Besides project has planned to provide explorational and educational learning visits support to NDRRMA and NEOC staffs to ERCC (Belgium and German) and of municipal DRRM focal persons to NDMA, India in 2026 as a part of capacity development program for officials working in disaster preparedness and response program.

7.4.Sustainability

SUPER II project is designed to transfer the stewardship role of project to government led mechanisms under the leadership of NDRRMA, provincial government and municipalities. Hence, the essence of SUPER II project design is particularly for sustainability of the SUPER I and iSuper project activities. Within its scope of sustainability, project is maintaining a regular dialogue and aligning implementation strategy with NDRRMA, MoIAL. Additionally, the parliamentarians have been actively engaged, and close coordination has been maintained with security forces and municipal police. The cluster and inter cluster meeting have been institutionalized.

Inter-municipal and Inter-Provincial Resource Sharing (IPRS) network mechanism has been established to assist neighbouring local government units and provinces during the emergencies. Because of such resource sharing network, local governments like Khajura and Janaki Rural Municipality supported office supplied, furniture and equipment to Kohalpur Municipality with value of NPR 200,000, which was damaged and destroyed during the GenZ protest. The demonstration of such initiatives, MoIAL has suggested replicating the similar network in districts of Lumbini province. The initiative has already been initiated in Dang district. In addition, final draft guideline of IPRS have been developed and MoIAL is taking lead for its endorsement.

Besides, projects are also working with NRCS headquarters and municipal chapters to ensure sustainability of project interventions, through their engagement in EOCs and updation of plans and framework. Furthermore, periodic sharing of plans and issues have been aiding to aligning the plans of SUPER II project with government implementation plans while restricting duplication of activities, as a practices of sustainability.

Further, project is also supporting the non-project municipalities to replicate urban preparedness and responses by preparing/reviewing EPRP, functionalising EOCs and LDMCs, and engaging the volunteer

actively. To the date, 23 non-project local government units have been received support, helping to sustain urban preparedness and response capacities even in the absence of direct project assistance.

Provinces and local government bodies have institutionalized disaster preparedness and response by allocating budget and revision of plans through government led mechanism. As an illustration, at the provincial level, MoIAL Sudurpaschim continued to provide coordination and guidance, ensuring preparedness planning is integrated into provincial systems. Budget allocation by MoIAL in the current fiscal year (NPR 87,770,000) was increased by 45% from last fiscal year's budget allocation (NPR 27,526,000). Similarly, in Nepalgunj SMC, the budget allocation for disaster preparedness response interventions has increased by 7% for the fiscal year 2025/2026 (Budget NPR 9,537,000), compared to the fiscal year 2024/2025 (budget NPR 8,919,449). Additionally, in Birendranagar Municipality, the Local Disaster Management Committee (LDMC) endorsed decisions specifying the composition of task team members for updating the Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan (DPRP). The Forest, Environment, and Disaster Management Section led the task team and successfully finalized the DPRP update process.

Additionally, project is also working to strengthen the capacity of the communities as well as stakeholders for enhancing their capacity to get prepared for preparedness, response and resilience. The exposure visit has also been proposed to provide platform of learning and sharing for government staffs working in disaster sector. Such capacity building initiative ensures institutional sustainability and instils the sense of ownership within them.

7.5.South-South and Triangular Cooperation

N/A

7.6.Partnerships

Consortium partners of UNDP Nepal, UNICEF, UN Women and HI of SUPER II project is implementing the activities of urban preparedness and earthquake preparedness and response in western region of Nepal. UNDP is leading the project in Karnali and Sudurpaschim provinces, UNICEF is leading in Lumbini province, while UN Women and HI are supporting project in cross cutting themes like children, women, disability and GESI.

NDRRMA, provincial ministry MoIAL and Nepalgunj SMC, Dhangadhi SMC and Birendranagar Municipality is leading the project. Project is also partnering with other government agencies viz. NNSWA, DHM, DSMC, DDMC, LDMC, WDMC and other non-project local government units. Additionally, project is partnering with I/NGOs such as Mercy Corps, Practical Action, DP Net, Redcross and security forces like municipal police, Nepal police force, APF and Nepal Army to implement the project activities efficiently and effectively.

Besides, project partnered with Nepal Redcross, Rural Oriented Youth Movement Nepal (ROYM-NEPAL), Nepal Institute for Urban and Regional Studies (NIURS), Rural Women's Development and Unity Centre (RUDUC), Sundar Nepal Sanstha (BNA), Centre for Development and Disaster Management (CDM-Nepal) to implement the activities at the ground level.

7.7. Promotion of Civic Engagement

The project places a strong emphasis on people-centered and locally led approaches. Multiple activities are designed to ensure the engagement of the community and CBOs. Communities like CERT, CSO and

CBOs are engaged in simulations, trainings, orientations, workshops and awareness raising activities. School students and teachers are involved in drills and DRR trainings. The activities have built their capacity and empowered them in the disaster preparedness and response sector. CBOs like RUDWUC, National Social Welfare Association and Rural Oriented Youth Movement Nepal of UNWomen are engaged in disaster preparedness and response activities. Moreover, the consortium through NRCS, local networks such as OPDs and local chapters of the National Federation of Disabled-Nepal, local NGOs, further supported and capacitated the communities and CBOs at project site to strengthen their capacity on disaster preparedness and response.

7.8.Expanding Opportunities for Youth

SUPER II project emphasized engaging youth in project activities by designing the activities for youth. Different capacity building activities like trainings, simulation, drills are conducted to engage youth in urban disaster preparedness and response activities. The capacity building activities such as, training on Search and Rescue (SAR), Incident Reporting, GODAM management and Analysis, gender inclusive data management and reporting, risk information sharing at Province, CSSMP training for school DRR focal teacher, BIPAD Portal localization, IRA/CHS/IM Training to Provincial Stakeholders, First Aid refresher training to CERT, 7 Days training on Volunteer Mobilisation to Volunteers, Localization of DRRM Portals, GEDSI in DRRM to CBOs have prioritized the participation and engagement of youth between 18 to 49 years. Students are involved to face the shock and stress during the disaster by conducting school drills, underscoring the engagement of youth in the disaster preparedness and response sector.

The project has been monitoring the engagement of youth through age wise data disaggregation of project beneficiaries. Out of 29, 304 project beneficiaries, 20,131 individuals are between the age group 5 to 17 (B) and 7,885 individuals are between age group of 18 to 49 (C).

7.9. Innovation

The SUPER II project has supported reaching into the 11 points agreement between Karnali and Lumbini Provincial government. The ninth point of agreement exclusively states that both the provinces will cooperate and collaborate together for disaster management. Such agreement between the provinces is first with the establishment of provincial government

The establishment of Inter-Municipal Resource Sharing Platform (IMRP) is one of the innovative activities of SUPER II project. The inter-cluster/municipal resource sharing and pooling network formed in the project sites is established to effectively strengthen coordination and collaboration across and among the local government for improved disaster preparedness and response. The establishment and operationalisation of inter-cluster network of Banke district have demonstrated the effective utilization of this network. The municipal members Khajura and Janaki RM supported official tools, equipment and furniture to the Nepalgunj SMC and Kohalpur Municipality, which were damaged during the Genz Z protest.

The project is working towards institutionalizing pre and post monsoon meetings to plan and review on disaster preparedness and responses before and after the monsoon period.

7.10. Knowledge Management and Products

There is a dedicated webpage for SUPER II project within the UNDP Nepal website (https://www.undp.org/nepal/projects/strengthening-urban-preparedness-earthquake-preparedness-and-response-western-region-nepal-super-ii). UN Women and UNICEF Nepal, the consortium partner have been publishing the case/stories related to the disaster preparedness and response measures alternatively every six months. NDRRMA featured SUPER II project in its publication in June 2025.

Additionally, SUPER II project has been developing a Parliamentarian Briefs/Roadmap, a DRRM Training Curriculum, Simulation Catalogue, and Photo Stories. It has also planned to produce SUPER II Achievement Infographics, and Article on Multi-Hazard Preparedness by June 2025.

Digital media outreach of SUPER II project has been effective as the action reached over 339,500 individuals from 71 social media posts through social media platform like X (twitter), Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram.

Media engagement was strong, with extensive coverage across local/ national newspaper, radio and television. During this reporting period, different media published articles, broadcasted 37 news on conduction of training, DRR plans development in schools, simulations, risk and vulnerability assessment, visits from donors and NDRRMA, and many more.
Together, these outreach efforts significantly enhanced visibility, stakeholder engagement, and public awareness of UNDP/SUPER's work in disaster resilience, recovery, and sustainable development.

Media Coverage on News Portals, Papers and Televisions

Media Outlet	Headline (English)
Bageshwori Post	Cooperation between local governments in Banke district on disaster management
The Rising Nepal	Banke local levels form inter-municipal network for disaster management
Online Jagaran	Experience sharing on disaster management in Birendranagar
Yug News	Experience sharing on disaster management in Birendranagar
The Rising Nepal	EU Envoy Holds Meetings with Local Govt. Officials in Banke
Bageshwori Post	Meeting Between the EU Ambassador and the Mayor of Nepalgunj Sub-Metropolitan City
Bageshwori Post	Signing of the general agreement between local governments for disaster management
The Rising Nepal	Banke local levels sign deal for disaster management
Gorkhapatra	Local levels in Banke sign a deal for disaster management
Nepal Bodh	5-Day ToT on the Operation and Localization of BIPAD Portal
Aam Nagarik	Interaction on the role of parliamentarians on disaster risk reduction and management
NTV	A UNDP staff member explains the ECHO-funded SUPER project to the PM during commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the 2015 Nepal Earthquake.
Buddha Awaaz TV	Humanitarian Cluster Orientation and Lumbini Province Disaster Response Framework
Deukhuri Today	Humanitarian Cluster Orientation and Lumbini Province Disaster Response Framework
Bageshwori Post	DRR plans being developed in schools of Nepalgunj
Radio Nepal Online	Local levels in Banke to establish coordination between one another for disaster management
Bipad Uthansheel Nepal	Earthquake and other urban disaster preparedness in western Nepal
Sanchar Lens	Disaster preparedness simulations conducted in schools of Dhangadhi

Bageshwori Post	Underscored the importance of intermunicipal coordination, cooperation and partnership for disaster management
Jagaran FM, Surkhet	Search and rescue simulation during floods.
Yug News	Seven-Day Disaster Volunteer Mobilization Training
Margarekha	Schools to develop safety plans on DRR
Janaboli Khabar	Inter provincial sharing workshop on DRR
Gorkhapatra	Risk vulnerability assessment in nine wards of Nepalgunj SMC
Kantipur	Time to implement the policy provisions: Minister Sarki
Janaboli Khabar	Disaster volunteer mobilization training started in Dhangadhi
Dinesh Khabar (Nepali)	Disaster volunteer mobilization training started in Dhangadhi SMC
Dinesh Khabar (English)	Disaster Volunteer Mobilization Training Begins in Dhangadhi
Nepaliraibar	Inter provincial sharing workshop on DRR
The Rising Nepal	Mock disaster drills in community, school levels held
Bageshwori Post	Community-level rarthquake simulation in Nepalgunj
Gorkhapatra	Mock drills to raise earthquake awareness in Nepalgunj
Gorkhapatra	NCCI hands over 25 fire extinguishers
Gorkhapatra	NDRRMA Chief Executive says the risk reduction activities implemented in Nepalgunj are effective
Dainik Nepalgunj	Budget needed along with the planning
The Rising Nepal	DRR efforts in Nepalgunj proving effective
Buddha Aawaz TV	Provincial government needs to develop a clear policy on disaster management

7. LESSONS LEARNED

Key lessons learned during the project implementation highlight the importance of local leadership, collaboration, and system strengthening. Municipalities that demonstrated strong ownership such as Nepalgunj and Dhangadhi, achieved more effective and sustained outcomes, underscoring the value of locally led planning and implementation.

Regular coordination and collaboration promotes the willingness and ownership of government bodies (Province, district) which yield positive results ensuring replication of activities in non-project sites. Non-project urban municipalities replicated urban preparedness with EPRP, functional EOC and LDMC and active volunteer engagement.

Inter-municipal collaboration, as seen in the resource-sharing network established in Banke District, has proven to be a scalable model for enhancing collective response capacity.

Investments in digital systems like the BIPAD portal have significantly improved coordination and evidence-based decision-making, particularly when paired with targeted capacity-building efforts. The localization of BIPAD portals has improved information management, real time decision-making and institutionalization to enhance disaster preparedness and response.

The inclusive engagement of schools, community volunteers, and local stakeholders has ensured that preparedness initiatives are responsive to community needs and grounded in local realities. However, the institutionalization of Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) remains a critical area requiring consultations and capacity-building for stakeholders at the provincial and municipal levels, including

interns, volunteers, and civil society, have promoted policy engagement and the institutionalization of preparedness mechanisms. The regular consultation and discussion identify the gaps and issues and foster the ownership and learning environment and encourages effective implementation of emergency preparedness measures.

GEDSI focused interventions and capacity building initiatives strengthened the voice of marginalized in plans/policies/activities for inclusive institutionalization and to enhance disaster preparedness and response.

Despite the regular coordination and communication, and adjustment made to accommodate the requests beyond the approved project plan using internal budget of UNDP, the project activities were not implemented by Dhangadhi SMC. As a result, neighboring Godawari Municipality and DAO Kailai have to be engaged for implementation, learning not to encourage such requests in future rather building linkage with neighboring municipalities.

One of the key lessons is to develop deeper engagement with other stakeholders of municipality beyond senior leadership.

8. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

Following are some of the challenges encountered during project implementation.

- Operationalization of inter-province resource-sharing framework : Although the memorandum of understanding acts as an operational tool for facilitating resource sharing between provinces and municipalities, it is not a strong enough mechanism
- Project coordination among 3 tiers of government: The federal system of Nepal is relatively new, and institutional arrangements are evolving because of unclear division of roles and responsibility, weak coordination mechanism, issues on data and information sharing, limited institutional and human resource capacity.
- Engagement with Dhangadhi SMC: The municipal lead was reluctant to implement the project activities demonstrating limited ownership. Because of this, implementation of project activities were delayed due to delay in approval, change in agreed decisions, request for new activities etc.
- Turnover of key stakeholders at the sub-national level: Frequent turnover of key stakeholders within a short period creates challenges, as new personnel must start from basics to understand the work, which delays in overall implementation of project.
- Staff recruitment for field offices: The delay in hiring of project field staff delayed in project implementation.
- Ad hoc request and non-adherence to agreed decisions (Dhangadhi SMC): The untimely demand of the Dhangadhi SMC for example for conduction of Rapid Vulnerability Assessment (RVA) and training to municipal police was challenging for arranging the budget. Later project was able to utilize UNDP's internal resources to implement those activities.
- Long term engagement of IMOs at EOCs: The long-term engagement of IMOs in EOCs, in a manner that is not dependent on project funding, remains a challenge
- Staffing at EOC : The staffing of EOCs is challenging due to the limited project resources.
- Joint preparedness and leveraging the resources among municipalities is challenging
- Limited Capacity of partner: The limited capacity of partner compromised the delivery speed, quality work.

- Quarterly meeting of Working Committee: Due to implementation pressure, it has been difficult and challenging for project to organize the working committee on a quarterly basis. Both the working committee and also the PB have endorsed conducting it at least twice a year.

9. PRIORITIES FOR 2026

Following are some of the activities prioritized for carrying out in 2026. The total budget allocated for this period is approx. USD 1, 129, 390.

- *Update EPRP/DPRP, BCP*
- *Conduction simulation exercises at the municipal and provincial levels and also joint exercises involving municipality and provinces.*
- *Capacity development to institutionalize BIPAD system in SUPER II project municipalities and provinces; and support to NDRRMA*
- *Cluster meetings/ Monsoon Preparedness Plans at federal and provincial level*
- *Communication & Information Management Support to NDRRMA*
- *Final Evaluation of SUPER II*
- *Creating mechanism for managing EOC*
- *Create a mechanism for inter-provincial/inter municipal resource sharing using the framework developed under the ECHO-HIP 2021 SUPER project.*
- *Customization of DRRM portal to meet the changing needs*
- *Workshop with parliamentarians, municipal assembly members on DRRM*
- *Catalogue of urban and earthquake preparedness related knowledge products*
- *National workshop and dissemination of knowledge products*

10. CASE STORIES

Nepalgunj pioneers inclusive disaster preparedness

Published in: https://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/stories/news/2025/10/nepalgunj-pioneers-inclusive-disaster-preparedness

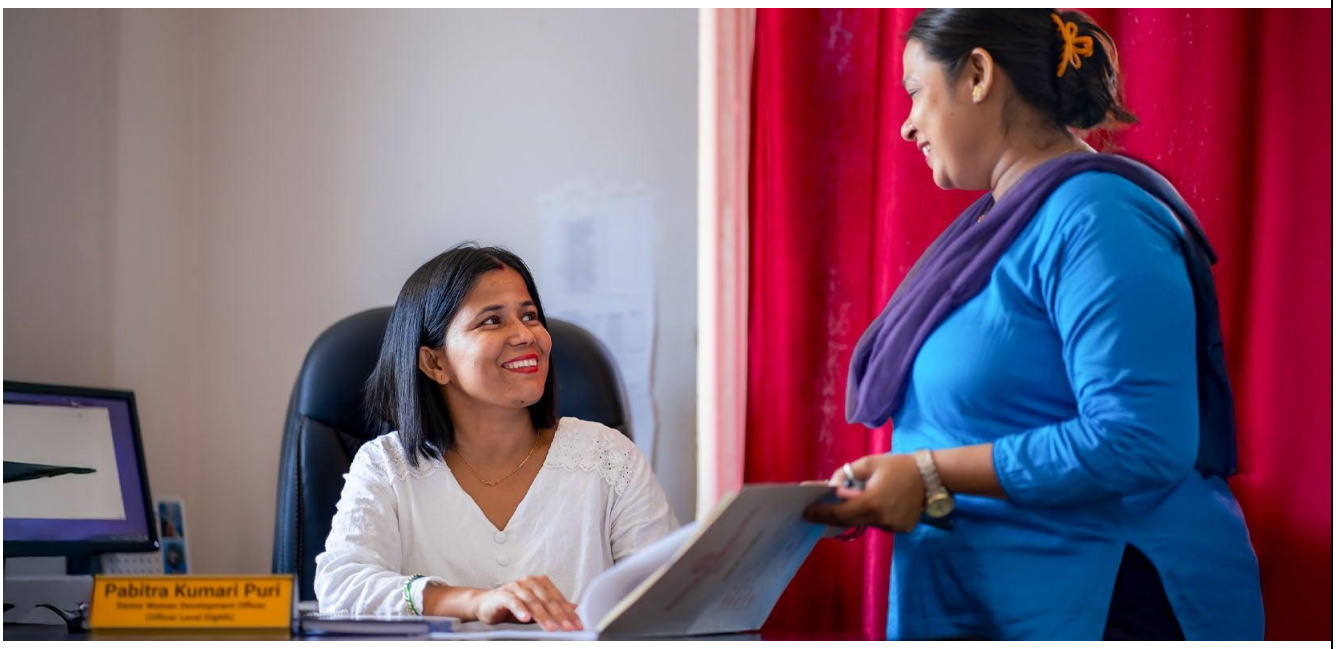
Nepalgunj, Nepal — A vibrant city in western Nepal with a dense urban core, growing population and limited resources – is redefining how local governments prepare for disasters. A long-time commercial hub at the Nepal-India border that is highly vulnerable to floods, fires and earthquakes, Nepalgunj has recognized that disaster preparedness must be inclusive.

For years, support for women, children, the elderly and people with disabilities was seen as charity.

"I used to think the same, even after two decades in this field," admits Asha Kumar Shahi, Senior Women Development Officer at Nepalgunj Sub-Metropolitan Office. "But working closely with the Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) framework changed my perspective. I now see them as equal and capable, not helpless."

This shift began after the "Strengthening Urban Preparedness, Earthquake Preparedness and Response (SUPER)" project – a joint initiative led by UNDP with UNICEF, UN Women and Handicap International (HI) with financial support from European Union Humanitarian Aid – was launched in 2021. Under the programme, UN Women in collaboration with the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) catalysed Nepalgunj to become the first local government in Nepal – and in Asia-Pacific – to adopt a *GEDSI Strategic Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM)*.

Women like Shahi played a pivotal role in advocating for institutional reforms, like a dedicated department for women, children, senior citizens and persons with disabilities within the Nepalgunj Sub-Metropolitan Office.



Pabitra Kumari Puri, Head of the Department of Women, Children, Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities, chats with a colleague. Photo: UN Women/Srijana Bhatta

"For a long time, we talked about gender and inclusion, but we hadn't truly integrated disability," explains Pabitra Kumari Puri, Head of the new department. "SUPER taught us that disability is not separate – it is deeply interconnected with gender and other dimensions of inclusion. That was eye-

opening. Having partners like UNDP, UNICEF, UN Women and HI made a difference in our internal processes. Now, the whole municipal office understands that GEDSI is not an add-on but a priority."

While leadership set the vision, implementation depended on strengthening both institutions and communities.

Dipendra Shrestha, Disaster Focal Person at Nepalgunj, shares: "We have limited resources, but we're doing our best. SUPER helped us become leaders in disaster preparedness by supporting us in policy and practical areas."



Dipendra Shrestha (left), Disaster Focal Person at Nepalgunj Sub-Metropolitan Office, explains a disaster preparedness map to community members. Photo: UN Women/Srijana Bhatta

The project created space for vulnerable groups – such as women, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex and other (LGBTQI+) communities – to shape the municipal DRRM plan.

It also enabled Nepalgunj to improve emergency stockpiles, train municipal staff and community volunteers, and strengthen coordination with civil society organizations.

Rinky Kashyap, one of the nine women disaster volunteers trained (among a total of 400 trainees), says she rearranged her home after learning earthquake safety protocols: "I feel safer now, and it's good for my mental health. I'm not afraid anymore because I'm prepared."

Her neighbour, Sunita Naagar, adds: "I care for children, my elderly mother-in-law and a disabled brother-in-law. These skills are a huge relief, like a burden lifted off my shoulders"

SUPER installed 12 new fire hydrants across the urban core and placed fire extinguishers in residential neighbourhoods. Women volunteers now practice first aid, evacuation drills and fire safety measures regularly, ensuring that preparedness is no longer an afterthought.



A local woman engages with the fire safety unit. Photo: UN Women/Srijana Bhatta

Nepalgunj's *GEDSI Strategic Action Plan for DRRM* was co-created through inclusive workshops with local duty bearers, women-led and women's rights organizations, and organizations of persons with disabilities, supported by UN Women. It considered diverse needs, using symbols for the deaf, tailored alerts for the blind, and specific guidance for pregnant women, new mothers and children.

Since its adoption, tangible progress includes a two-year work plan, allocated budgets for GEDSI-responsive community workshops, and preparations for disaggregated data collection in every Ward.



Women volunteers practice first aid techniques, including bandaging, to strengthen local disaster preparedness and response skills. Photo: UN Women/Srijana Bhatta

Encouraged by its achievements, Nepalgunj aspires to become a disaster response hub for western Nepal, leveraging its strong connectivity and history of supporting neighbouring municipalities.

“Other municipalities now invite us to share our experience, and the provincial government consults us too,” notes Shahi, with pride.

11. RISK AND ISSUE LOGS

Table 8: Risk and Issues Log Matrix

S. N	Description	Category (financial, political, operational, organizational, environmental, regulatory, security, strategic, other)	Likelihood of risk (scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the most likely) A	Impact (scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the highest impact) B	Risk factor (A x B)	Mitigation measures if risk occurs	Date risk is Identified	Last Updated	Status
1	Poor ownership and coordination among various IPs and end users	Political	Unsustainable results due to lack of ability to adjust/direct the programme results towards the needs P = 2	Regular consultations/coordination meetings with all implementers and end-users to ensure clarity of agreed results, flexibility to adjust to changing needs 2	4	Regular consultations with stakeholders were carried out, which improved the situation.	Aug 2021	September 2025	Improved
2	Difficulty in finding high quality experts on a timely basis	Financial	Delays in implementation and low quality of work P = 3	Maintain close contact with govt counterparts, donor and community of practitioners, raise the profile of disaster risk reduction with focus at consortium and try to establish new ways of mobilizing resources in partnership with	12	Sharing of updates on project's interventions, results and future potentialities with donor, Govt and stakeholders ongoing. Quality expert's	Aug 2021	September 2025	Improved

S. N	Description	Category (financial, political, operational, organizational, environmental, regulatory, security, strategic, other)	Likelihood of risk (scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the most likely) A	Impact (scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the highest impact) B	Risk factor (A x B)	Mitigation measures if risk occurs	Date risk is Identified	Last Updated	Status
				other consortium members 4		selection is prioritized.			
3.	Delays in implementing activities by IPS, private professional suppliers etc. beyond UNDP's control	Operational	Delays in overall project implementation P = 3	Maintain close contact with IPs and private professional suppliers and perform regular stocktaking of activities to be informed of any probable delay/adverse situation. Build flexibility of response to delays by identifying alternatives for IPs and private professional suppliers. 3	9	Project regularly assessed situation and adapted in the changed context.	Aug 2021	September 2025	Improved
4	Major Catastrophic event; large scale disaster/s	Environmental	Major disruption to functioning of government, civil society and stakeholders P=2	Strengthen provincial and municipal preparedness and recovery planning. Constant update with UNDMT on contingency planning 2	4	Adaptation to the changed context was followed keeping the implementation in track as far as possible.	Aug 2021	September 2025	No Change

S. N	Description	Category (financial, political, operational, organizational, environmental, regulatory, security, strategic, other)	Likelihood of risk (scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the most likely) A	Impact (scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the highest impact) B	Risk factor (A x B)	Mitigation measures if risk occurs	Date risk is Identified	Last Updated	Status
5.	Major COVID-19 pandemic disrupting people's movement	Environmental	Disruption to delivery of the project activities P=2	Maintain close contact with govt counterparts, donor and beneficiary communities, adjust plan of action as well apply possible alternate measures to deliver activities, adjust/revise plan of action 2	4	Project regularly assessed situation and adapted in the changed context.	Aug 2021	September 2025	Improved
6	Political uprising hindering smooth functioning of governmen t and public services	Political	Disruption to functioning of government, stakeholders , and delivery of project activities. P=3	Maintain close contact with govt counterparts, donor and community of practitioners. Assess the situation and apply possible alternate measures to deliver activities, adjust/revise plan of action I=4	12	Project has been regularly monitoring the political developments and communicating with stakeholders such as donors, community of practice (CoP) and program board on possibilities for disruption and modifying project	September 2025	September 2025	improved

S. N	Description	Category (financial, political, operational, organizational, environmental, regulatory, security, strategic, other)	Likelihood of risk (scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the most likely) A	Impact (scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the highest impact) B	Risk factor (A x B)	Mitigation measures if risk occurs	Date risk is Identified	Last Updated	Status
						activities to adapt to the changed context. .			

12. ANNEX: PHOTO GALLERY



Figure 1: Equipment support provided to LEOC



Figure 2: School Drill conduction on disaster preparedness and response



Figure 3: Conduction of simulation exercises with the involvement of security forces



Figure 4: Monitoring visit from NDRRMA



Figure 5: Monitoring visit from ECHO



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

www.np.undp.org


www.facebook.com/undpnepal


www.twitter.com/undpnepal



www.youtube.com/undpnepal